

O J I B W E

I N A A J I M O W I N

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



## NEW SOLICITOR SWORN IN

CALEB DOGEAGLE TAKES OATH AS BAND'S LEAD ATTORNEY

Along with Caleb (second from left), District I Rep. Sandi Blake, Associate Justice Ramona Applegate, Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin, and Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd attended the swearing-in ceremony May 1.

Caleb Dogeagle was sworn in on Wednesday, May 1, as Mille Lacs Band Solicitor General. Associate Justice Ramona Applegate of the Court of Appeals administered the oath of office: "I, Caleb Dogeagle, do hereby swear that I will support, honor, and respect the Constitution of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and the laws of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians, and I will protect the rights of Band members and others under the jurisdiction of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of the office to the best of my judgment and ability so help me gi chi ma ni do."

A full house in the Band Assembly chambers in District I attended the ceremony and congratulated Caleb, who was joined by his wife Alyssa, children River and Stella, and Alyssa's mother.

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin welcomed Caleb and his family. Caleb thanked his family and those in attendance. "We're really excited to be in this area and excited for this position. I'm very thankful to be here. It was a very warm and heartfelt welcome this morning, which I really appreciate. It makes me feel good about coming here," said Caleb. "Folks I talk to in Indian Country say the Band really treats their people well."

Caleb is an enrolled citizen of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and previously served as Supervising Attorney for the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Montana State University and a JD and LLM from the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program at the University of Arizona. Before law school, he attended the Pre-Law Summer Institute through the American Indian Graduate Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

In accordance with Mille Lacs Band Statutes, the Solicitor General is nominated by the Chief Executive and ratified by the Band Assembly and has the following responsibilities, obliga-

tions and authority:

(a) To represent the interests of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians in all legal proceedings in the Court of Central Jurisdiction and all other exterior courts of competent jurisdiction.

(b) To independently uphold the laws and executive, legislative, secretarial, and commissioner's orders, judicial determinations, policies, and the terms of domestic assistance grants and contracts of the Band when consistent with the Constitution of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and the laws of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Bands of Chippewa Indians.

(c) To initiate and defend any legal action necessary, that is or can be brought in or against the name of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Bands of Chippewa Indians, to uphold the provisions of the Constitution of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and the laws of the Band or to protect the rights of the enrolled members of the Band.

(d) To interpret all laws and executive, legislative, secretarial, and commissioner's orders and policies on behalf of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians.

(e) To aid in drafting public bills, resolutions, orders, policies, or amendments thereto on the request of the Chief Executive, Speaker of the Assembly, or the Chief Justice. To certify to the ordinances of Band government and codify said ordinances into Band Statutes.

(f) To advise and assist the Chief Executive, the Band Assembly or the Court of Central Jurisdiction in the achievement of a clear, faithful, and coherent expression of the laws and policies of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians as prescribed by the standards of the office of Solicitor General in 4 MLBSA § 19.

For more on Caleb, see page 7.

## EIGHT CHARGED IN DRUG TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACY

*Tribal Police, BIA work hand-in-hand*

On May 2, U.S. Attorney Erica MacDonald announced the indictment of eight individuals with conspiracy to distribute heroin on the Mille Lacs Reservation.

The Mille Lacs Tribal Police Department led the investigation along with the Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Law Enforcement — a relationship made possible by the Band's successful application for federal law enforcement assistance under the 2010 Tribal Law and Order Act.

"We worked hand-in-hand with the BIA DDE drug agents," said Mille Lacs Band Chief of Police Sara Rice. "They were incorporated into our department throughout the entire process of investigation during this case."

According to the ten-count indictment, from December 2017 through June 2018, the eight individuals knowingly conspired with each other to distribute more than 100 grams of heroin. The defendants are charged with conspiracy and heroin distribution.

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin said the Band is very grateful for the critical assistance provided by Bureau of Indian Affairs and federal law enforcement officers, and the U.S. Attorney. "I would especially like to thank our Mille Lacs Tribal Police force," said Melanie. "They have done outstanding work in leading this effort with our federal partners to address the drug epidemic on our Reservation."

U.S. Attorney Erica MacDonald pointed out that Native American communities have been disproportionately affected by heroin and opioid abuse. "This is unacceptable," she said. "My office and our law enforcement partners remain aggressive in our approach to stopping those who infiltrate our communities with this poison."

Several other agencies assisted in the lengthy investigation of this conspiracy case, Sara said, thanking investigators from Mille Lacs, Crow Wing, and Sherburne county sheriff's offices, Lakes Area Drug Investigation Division, Paul Bunyan Drug Task Force, Red Lake Tribal and Minneapolis police departments, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Drug Enforcement Agency, Minnesota Department of Corrections, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the U.S. Marshal's Office.

### Tribal Law and Order Act

In 2016, the Department of Justice granted a request by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for the United States to assume concurrent criminal jurisdiction on the 61,000-acre Mille Lacs Reservation under the 2010 Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA).

The decision took effect on January 1, 2017. Tribal, state, and county prosecutors and law enforcement agencies continue to have criminal jurisdiction on the reservation.

The Department of Justice has jurisdiction to prosecute certain crimes wherever they occur in the United States — including on the Mille Lacs Reservation.

The change under TLOA expanded this existing jurisdiction to allow federal prosecution of major crimes such as murder, rape, felony assault, and felony child abuse.



# M E S S A G E F R O M T H E C H I E F E X E C U T I V E

Boozhoo, and congratulations to all our 2019 graduates! This is one of the best times of the year, not just because the weather is so beautiful (though we could do without the May snow), but because so many of our Band members are reaching new heights by completing all levels of education, from Head Start to elementary, high school, college, vocational training and graduate school. Over the past decade, the number of Band Members earning Master's degrees has continued to climb, which sends the message to younger generations that they can achieve their higher education goals as well. It is always my priority to attend as many Band Member graduation ceremonies as my calendar will allow; seeing our Band Members receive their diplomas surrounded by supportive families beaming with pride is a highlight of the year.

In addition to celebrating the accomplishments of so many of our youngest Band Members, I was also able to spend quality time with Band Elders in May during the Elder meetings in Districts I, II, III, and the urban area, and during the Elder Trip to Las Vegas. I am deeply appreciative to all our Elders who attended these meetings and shared their wisdom about ways to make our tribal government work better for all Band members. It is also wonderful to hear their stories, jokes, and laughter.

The Mille Lacs Band has always placed a great deal of emphasis on our culture, our spirituality, and our treaty rights. Regarding our rights, some very exciting news came down from the U.S. Supreme Court this past month, which ruled 5-4 in favor of Clayvin Herrera, a member of the Crow Tribe, who had been prosecuted by the state of Wyoming for exercising his hunting rights in Bighorn National Forest during Wyoming's off-season hunting period. In *Herrera v. Wyoming*, the court held that hunting rights for the Crow tribe under their treaty did not expire when Wyoming became a state. The Court wrote that there isn't "any evidence in the treaty itself that Congress intended the hunting right to expire at statehood, or that the Crow Tribe would have understood it to do so." This was a critical case for all tribes nationwide with hunting, fishing, and gathering rights via treaty in exchange for ceded lands.

When the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) began discussing submitting an amicus brief to the Supreme Court on this case (which is a brief submitted for the purpose of providing the court with additional insight or information supporting one of the parties) the Mille Lacs Band offered the services of Marc Slonim to NCAI for purposes of writing NCAI's amicus brief. Marc has been our external counsel for more than 30 years and successfully litigated our 1837 Treaty rights case before the Supreme Court. In the Supreme Court's ruling this month siding with Mr. Herrera and the Crow Tribe, the Court heavily relied

upon and cited the Mille Lacs Band's 1837 case. Through sponsoring NCAI's Amicus Brief, the Mille Lacs Band directly helped our relatives across the country and ensured that our Supreme Court victory remain settled law when it comes to treaty rights cases.

Our focus on protecting public safety through battling the opioid epidemic is also making news. On May 2, the U.S. Department of Justice issued a press release regarding the federal charges of conspiracy to distribute heroin on our Reservation. Miigwech to Tribal PD and all other law enforcement agencies who were part of this effort to fight opioid trafficking in our community. This helps to protect public safety not just for the Band, but for our entire region, and was an outcome of the Band's efforts to maintain and strengthen its police department under federal, state, and tribal law.

On May 1, the Band welcomed Caleb Dogeagle, who was sworn into the position of Solicitor General of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. Caleb is a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and comes to us with a great deal of experience, education, and passion for protecting tribal rights and Indian people. You can read about Caleb on pages 1 and 7, and if you see him around the Government Center, please give him a warm welcome.

Finally, there is a bill that will be introduced in the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House soon which would impact all six Bands of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, and although it is a small change, it is important that Band members understand it. This legislation would allow for the transfer of all lands currently held in federal trust by the United States government for the benefit of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe into the name of the individual Band that already exercises jurisdiction over the land. In our case, while the Mille Lacs Band has always had lands held in trust for the Mille Lacs Band by the federal government, there are also some lands which the Mille Lacs Band has jurisdiction over which are held in trust for the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT). The bill will transfer title to these lands from the MCT to the Mille Lacs Band, and have the same impact on MCT trust lands on the five other reservations: Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Leech Lake, and White Earth. All the MCT trust lands on all the reservations will revert to being held in trust for the reservation at which the land is located.

Many have asked how this happened in the first place that our lands were placed in the name of the MCT rather than the Mille Lacs Band. As a result of the allotment policy imposed in Minnesota in 1889 under the Nelson Act, lands were taken from the Bands by non-Indians, timber companies, and others. Later, the Bureau of Indian Affairs formed the Consolidated Chippewa

Agency which provided small payments to the Chippewa Bands for lands and timber taken under the Nelson Act, including those at Red Lake. In 1934 the Congress passed the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA), and the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe was established under a 1936 IRA Constitution. Red Lake did not join the MCT.

Between 1936 and 1963, the Bands purchased lands, but the federal government put them into trust for the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe versus the individual Band. This means that the United States holds title to those lands, but it is held in federal trust status by the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (all 42,000 members). After 1963, the policy changed, and the federal government allowed lands to be taken into trust by the United States for individual Bands.

The MCT passed Land Ordinance Number 3 in the 1980s. This Ordinance, passed by all six Bands, allowed each individual Band to control the MCT trust lands on or near their respective reservations. Consequently, MCT lands at Bois Forte were controlled by the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council, and MCT lands at Mille Lacs were controlled by the Executive and Legislative branches of the Mille Lacs Band.

Over the years, all six Bands have run into difficulties arising from the MCT being named as beneficial owners of the trust lands rather than individual Bands. For example, we are unable to take advantage of certain federal housing acts that could benefit our Band members because the land is technically controlled by all six bands through the MCT. The federal government has taken the position that the only way for one Band to fully utilize these lands would be for all six Bands to agree on one uniform land-use policy, which is unlikely to ever happen because the Bands each have very different land-use policies based on their own tribal priorities, history and needs.

Although the Tribal Executive Committee of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe sought to convince the BIA to solve this problem, BIA officials decided that because it is federal trust land, an Act of Congress is required to change the beneficial ownership. As a result, all six Bands agreed to get federal legislation to change the status of the MCT trust lands from being held by six Bands to a beneficial interest held by one Band.

In short, if this legislation passes, our trust land will be our trust land — no one else will have a claim to it. This change is largely technical in nature, but I hope this helps Band members to understand it. Band members with additional questions are welcome to contact me or Commissioner Bradley Harrington to further discuss this matter. Miigwech!

*Melanie Benjamin*



## URBAN OFFICE, AANJIBIMAADIZING HOST OPEN HOUSE

The Urban Office and Aanjibimaadizing combined forces to host an open house for American Indian Month on Thursday, May 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Staff served brats, sides, drinks, and dessert to 225 guests, and 178 registered for the door prizes which included Cub Foods gift cards and a traditional basket. Attendees learned about programs, services, and eligibility requirements.



## PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM TRAFFICKING

Teachers, social workers, caregivers, and parents attended a series of human trafficking presentations hosted by the Family Violence Prevention Program in April and May. Kala Roberts, right, spoke on protecting children from traffickers. Sgt. Erik Blesener of Cloquet Public Schools talked about signs to look for in students who are in danger. Photos by Mille Lacs Band member Rhonda Mitchell.







HONORING THOSE LOST,  
CELEBRATING SURVIVORS

# FRIENDS GATHER FOR SOBER NIGHT MEMORIAM



Brad and Kevin Harrington made the rounds of local media and Mille Lacs Band communities this spring to invite Band members and the general public to a Sober Night Memoriam to honor the memory of those lives lost to the opioid epidemic and to celebrate those who survive.

The event was held at the District I Community Center May 16 and featured Indian tacos, traditional and contemporary music, and a heartfelt talk from Joe Nayquonabe Sr., who applaud-

ed the organizers and assured the audience that the Band is making progress in battling addiction.

The Red Road drum group kicked things off with a song, followed by Band member Max Blake, who played his Native flutes.

Young Tehya Nadeau shared two rap songs she had written, and the grandfather-grandson team of Brad and Kevin got things rocking with some heavy guitar riffs by the old guy and driving beats by the youngster.

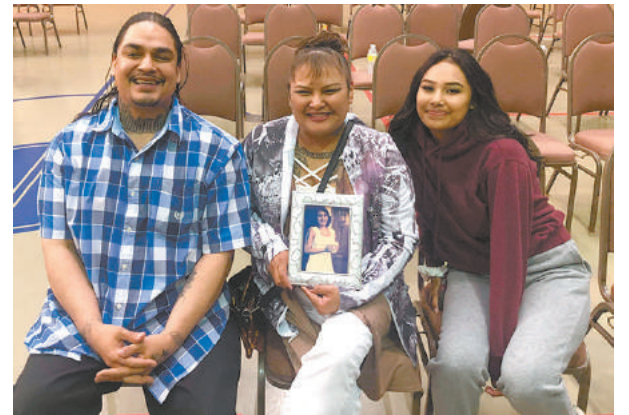


## Miigwech

Brad and Kevin said they were in awe of how people showed up and helped out, saying it is a difficult topic to draw attention to. They thanked the community and the government and said they are working on planning similar events in other areas.

They gave special thanks to John Benjamin Waabishki-gaabaw, Joe Nayquonabe Sr, Max Blake, Tehya Nadeau, Elected Officials Sandi Blake, Marvin Bruneau, Wally St John, Sheldon Boyd, and Melanie Benjamin, Brian Miner and the Mille Lacs Area Partners for Prevention (MAPP), Dawn Day, Jeff Beaulieu, Stephanie Day, Allison Clark, Joyce Shingobe, District I Community Center Staff, and Brett Larson.

And an extra-special thank you to the families that brought photos of their loved ones: the Renae Short Family, the Alena Gahbow Family, and the Philip Weyaus Family.



## UNDERSTANDING THE MILLE LACS BAND'S LAWSUIT AGAINST MILLE LACS COUNTY

The following article ran in the Mille Lacs Messenger on May 15. For an extended explanation, see [millelacsband.com](http://millelacsband.com).

Dear Neighbor,

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe would like to take this opportunity to respond to an article in the April 2019 Mille Lacs County Quarterly Newsletter regarding the pending law enforcement litigation between the Mille Lacs Band and Mille Lacs County.

The article makes several statements that are inconsistent with the Band's objectives in the lawsuit. The article also suggests various actions the Band might take against its non-Indian neighbors if it prevails in the lawsuit. The Band is very concerned that these suggestions will deepen animosity and divisions in our community.

In 2016, Mille Lacs County terminated a law enforcement agreement with the Band and launched a campaign to prevent Band police officers from exercising law enforcement authority. This led to a public safety emergency on the Band's Reservation.

The Band filed its lawsuit in November 2017 for the sole purpose of restoring the authority of its police department. The Band's police department plays an important role in providing a safe and secure environment for Band members and non-Band members and in combating drug trafficking and gang activity that has plagued our community. It does so at Band expense, saving County taxpayers millions of dollars every year.

The law enforcement authority the Band seeks is not a threat to non-Indians. The Band is not seeking authority to prosecute non-Indians. It seeks only the authority to investigate violations of federal and state law to maintain law and order. Non-Indian

offenders apprehended by Band officers will be prosecuted in federal or state court, where they will enjoy all protections afforded by the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Minnesota.

Although the Band and the County signed a new agreement in September 2018, the County insisted that it terminate 90 days after the Band's lawsuit ends. Thus, if the Band were to drop its lawsuit now, the new agreement would terminate and we would be right back where we were from July 2016 until September 2018, facing a law enforcement crisis and public safety emergency.

One of the underlying issues in the Band's lawsuit is whether the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation, as established in an 1855 Treaty, still exists. Resolving this issue is necessary to determine the scope of the Band's law enforcement authority. From the Band's perspective, if the court agrees that the Reservation still exists, the only thing that would happen is the authority of the Band's police department would be confirmed and the Band would be able to continue to provide law enforcement services to Indians and non-Indians on its Reservation at Band expense.

The Band has no other agenda in the lawsuit. The County Newsletter article seeks to justify the County's position in the litigation and the cost to County taxpayers not by pointing to anything the Band has done but by speculating about what the Band might do. Despite the article's claims, the Band is not seeking authority to try and punish non-Indians. It is not seeking authority to regulate non-Indian fishing in Mille Lacs Lake. It is not seeking authority to tax, zone, or regulate non-Indians. It is not seeking to

expand federal or Band environmental authority.

For example, the article claims the Band might claim jurisdiction over a portion of Mille Lacs Lake, including authority over non-Indian fishing. But the Band has never made any such claim and makes no such claim in its lawsuit. The Band has spent years in cooperation with the state developing a co-management protocol for fishing in Mille Lacs Lake under the 1837 Treaty, in which the Band and other tribes regulate Indian harvests and the State regulates non-Indian harvests. The Band has no intent to disrupt that protocol.

Moreover, while the Band claims a portion of Mille Lacs Lake is within its Reservation, the only practical effect that has had is that other 1837 Treaty Tribes have agreed not to exercise their fishing rights in that part of the lake. If the County succeeds in disestablishing the Reservation, the ironic effect could be increased Indian fishing pressure in the southern part of Mille Lacs Lake by other 1837 Treaty Tribes.

The County Newsletter article concludes by suggesting that if the Band prevails in its lawsuit, it might exercise "new and as-yet unimaginable" powers. This is precisely the type of fear-mongering that can give rise to hostility towards the Band and exacerbate divisions in our community.

We have provided more in-depth information on the Mille Lacs Band website at [millelacsband.com](http://millelacsband.com) which may help bring understanding that the Band's intent is to be a good neighbor and maintain a safe community for both Band members and non-Band members. If you have additional questions, please call 320-630-8195.



## STATE AND LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

**U of M study shows link between walleye decline and water clarity:** A study led by Assistant Professor Gretchen Hansen of the University of Minnesota shows that the decline of Mille Lacs walleyes in recent years is due to increased water clarity resulting from invasive zebra mussels and reduction of human-caused pollution. Walleyes prefer darker conditions, and optimal walleye habitat has declined as water clarity has improved. Water clarity improved beginning in the 1990s with a reduction of fertilizer runoff and better sewage treatment. Zebra mussels, which have been in the lake since 2005, also increase clarity by filtering nutrients out of the lake. *Source: duluthnewstribune.com.*

**Removal of Indian children continues:** According to Minnesota's Child Welfare Report of 2017, Native children in Minnesota experience the highest rates of removal by state officials. They're 18.5 times more likely to experience out-of-home care than white children, according to the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Governor Tim Walz proposed \$8.2 million in 2020 and \$18.6 million in 2022 to an American Indian Child Welfare Initiative seeking to transfer responsibilities from county to tribal governments in order to ensure American Indian children receive culturally relevant care. *Source: thecircleanews.org.*

**Lake name in limbo after court decision:** A Minnesota appellate court ruled in April that the state DNR's decision to change the name of Lake Calhoun to Bde Maka Ska was illegal. A lawsuit challenging the change was brought by an organization funded by a Minneapolis venture capitalist. Vice President John Calhoun was a proponent of slavery and of Native American removal. The Minneapolis Park Board says they have no plan to change signage back to Lake Calhoun. The Minnesota House adopted an amendment to make Bde Maka Ska the legal name, but the Senate is not expected to approve the amendment. The U.S. Board on Geographic Names has no plans to change the lake's name back to Calhoun. *Source: mprnews.org.*

**Fond du Lac Band takes over burial recovery:** The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa will see through to completion the burial recovery effort at the site of a failed highway project in Duluth. In 2017, work crews on a bridge replacement project over Mission Creek encountered burial remains. The bridge project was suspended immediately and ultimately discontinued as the state undertook the recovery and restoration effort. A small crew from the tribe had been working alongside Hamline University, which was contracted to do burial recovery work last summer. Hamline will exit the project after its contract ends May 22. *Source: duluthnewstribune.com.*

**Republicans threaten funding cut after Fort Snelling name change:** Republican lawmakers are threatening deep budget cuts to the Minnesota Historical Society because the sign outside Historic Fort Snelling now reads "Historic Fort Snelling at Bdote," referencing the Dakota word for a confluence. "We believe 'At Bdote' provides important historical context for the long history of the Fort Snelling area," Kent Whitworth, the MNHS director and CEO, told KARE. *Source: kare11.com.*



Delegates held their monthly meeting at the District II ALU on May 15 in preparation for the next Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) constitutional convention meeting in June. Clockwise from front left: Maria Costello, Danielle Smith, Birdie Roberts, Al Olson, Todd Sam, Michele Palomaki, Curt Kalk, Michael Davis, Tom Benjamin.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES CONTINUE DISCUSSION, SEEK INPUT FROM BAND MEMBERS

The Mille Lacs Band delegation to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's constitutional convention are coming together monthly to discuss progress and prepare for future statewide meetings.

At a May 15 meeting at the District II ALU in East Lake, delegates discussed their desire to share educational material with Band members in hopes of gathering opinions and ideas about possible changes to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) Constitution.

As the conventions progress, the delegates intend to use Facebook and the millelacsband.com website to share information and request feedback.

### Background

The Constitution was written in the 1930s by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and approved by members of the six member bands of the MCT.

It was later revised, but in recent years, members of the MCT Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) agreed to hold a constitutional convention to consider amendments to the existing Constitution or a new Constitution.

In 2017, the TEC scheduled meetings to be held on the six member reservations and in the urban area to gather input from MCT members about the need for a constitutional convention.

Preliminary meetings were held in 2017 and early 2018 on all six MCT reservations and in the Twin Cities. The first was held in August 2017 at Grand Casino Mille Lacs.

Six of the seven meetings were facilitated by the Native Nations Institute (NNI) of the University of Arizona with support from the Native Governance Center (NGC).

A total of 398 individuals attended the six sessions facilitated by NNI. Reports on the meetings and a final summary were prepared by NNI and NGC and are available on the MCT website at [mnchippewatribe.org/constitution\\_convention.html](https://mnchippewatribe.org/constitution_convention.html).

The Constitutional Convention officially began last fall with the choosing of 10 delegates from each reservation. Meetings are held at rotating locations on the six MCT reservations on the third Friday of each month.

### Learn the basics, offer feedback

For ongoing updates, links to helpful materials, and copies of the MCT Constitution and other documents, visit <https://millelacsband.com/government/statutes-policies/constitutional-convention-information>.

Or simply go to [millelacsband.com](https://millelacsband.com) and look for the link to Constitutional Convention Information.

## SUPREME COURT DECISION CEMENTS TREATY RIGHTS

On May 20, the Supreme Court issued its decision in *Herrera v. Wyoming*. Relying on its decision in *Minnesota v. Mille Lacs Band*, the Court held that an Indian hunting right secured in an 1868 treaty with the Crow Tribe was not revoked by Wyoming's admission to the Union or by the creation of the Big Horn National Forest.

The Mille Lacs Band prepared and filed an amicus brief in the case on behalf of the National Congress of American Indians. The Court's decision further cements the Court's 1999 decision in the Mille Lacs case as the law of the land.

Clayvin Herrera, a member of the Crow Tribe, was cited in 2014 for hunting out of season in Bighorn National Forest when his hunting party followed elk that crossed from their Montana reservation into the national forest in Wyoming. He received a suspended prison sentence, a fine, and a three-year hunting ban. A Wyoming appeals court upheld the conviction, and the state's Supreme Court left the ruling in place.

Justice Sotomayor wrote the majority opinion in which Justices Ginsburg, Breyer, Kagan, and Gorsuch joined.

The Crow Tribe gave up over 30 million acres in exchange for certain promises from the federal government, including "the right to hunt on the unoccupied lands of the United States so long as game may be found thereon" and "peace subsists ... on the borders of the hunting districts."

"[D]espite the apparent importance of the hunting right to the negotiations," Sotomayor wrote, "Wyoming points to no evidence that federal negotiators ever proposed that the right would end at statehood. This silence is especially telling."

Herrera's lawyer, George Hicks, said, "We are gratified that the Supreme Court held that the treaty hunting right guaranteed to the Crow Tribe and Mr. Herrera was not abrogated by Wyoming's admission to the union or the creation of the Big Horn National Forest."

The Supreme Court heard the case in January.

Justice Alito wrote a dissenting opinion in which Chief Justice Roberts and Justices Thomas and Kavanaugh joined. The dissenting justices did not question the result in the Mille Lacs case but read it somewhat more narrowly than the majority.



## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**Congress moves to act on crisis of violence against Native Women:** Despite the alarming number of indigenous women who vanish each year, there is no official accounting of the murdered and missing. Finally, political momentum is building on Capitol Hill to better understand the scale of the crisis by improving and increasing data collection between tribal communities and local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Earlier this year, Senator Lisa Murkowski, a Republican of Alaska, reintroduced Savanna's Act, named in memory of Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, a 22-year-old pregnant woman from the Spirit Lake Nation who was abducted and brutally murdered by her neighbor in Fargo, North Dakota, in 2017. The bill was initially introduced by former Democratic Senator Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota but was blocked by the Republican chairman of the US House judiciary committee. *Source: theguardian.com.*

**Trump attacks Warren, opposes bill to keep land in trust:** President Trump once again used the demeaning "Pocahontas" slur against Sen. Elizabeth Warren while urging congressional Republicans to vote against the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Reservation Reaffirmation Act, which would guarantee the tribe's lands can't be taken out of trust and can't be challenged by litigation. "For perspective, keep in mind that once our bill is passed, our Reservation and Ancestral Homelands are FOREVER protected ... our lands will never be under threat again," Cedric Cromwell, the tribe's chairman, said. Rep. Ruben Gallego, D-Ariz., tweeted, "It is the height of hypocrisy to say that you are in favor of treating Native Americans equally while tweeting a racial slur. This is a classic Trump move — using racism to distract from corruption." *Source: foxnews.com.*

**Lawmakers reconsider Capitol Hill representation of Native Americans:** A House Appropriations Committee report released last month highlights disrespectful descriptions of Native Americans on Capitol tours and depictions in artwork around the Capitol campus, which "do not portray Native Americans as equals or Indian nations as independent sovereigns." The report urges the Architect of the Capitol to contextualize the problematic works and to "work with Native American historians and professionals at the National Museum of the American Indian to ensure that the Capitol complex more accurately and respectfully represents the history of Native Americans." *Source: theguardian.com.*

**Communist Native American wins city council seat in Wisconsin:** Wahsayah Whitebird, a member of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and of the Communist Party USA, defeated the incumbent president of the Ashland, Wisconsin, city council 52-42 in April. Whitebird is a worker at a town deli and a member of the United Food and Commercial Workers. He advocated for higher wages, affordable housing, and more homeless shelters. "By admitting I'm a communist, I cast a beacon for those who oppose me, but also for those who agree with me," Whitebird said — seeing his election as an opportunity to build a coalition around working class issues in the city of Ashland. *Source: peoplesworld.org.*

**For links to news stories on Native American issues, visit [millelacsband.com/news](http://millelacsband.com/news).**



Commissioner of Natural Resources Bradley Harrington, left, spent several hours with Randy Meier, center, and his film crew to share his knowledge about the culture, spirituality, traditions, and other resources of the Mille Lacs Band.

## FOX 9 SERIES FEATURES MILLE LACS BAND MEMBERS

*'From where they have come' focuses on preservation of cultural traditions, resources*

By Vivian LaMoore *Director of Public Relations*

Fox 9 News recently showcased several traditions of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe in a five-part series titled "From where they have come." It took over a year for the initial idea to come to fruition. By most accounts, the series was a success.

Randy Meier is a news anchor for Fox 9 News out of Minneapolis. "It clicked with me one night while anchoring one of our own newscasts," said Randy. "I was reading a negative story about a netting incident on Mille Lacs, and I realized in my nearly 30 years of covering news in the Twin Cities very few positive or informational stories had been done with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe community." That thought set the wheels in motion. He wanted to create a documentary-style program that would introduce the public to the traditions and culture of the Band with education as his primary goal.

"My objective in doing the series was really to educate the general public on how important tradition and culture is to the Anishinaabe," said Randy. "Doing so meant a level of discovery for me too. Ojibwe do not 'take' from nature. Ricing, sugarbush, spearing, netting, they're all ways to reconnect with their ancestry. My experience is that most Band members give away or share what is harvested."

The five-part series began on Sunday, May 12, and ran consecutive nights through Thursday, May 16, during the 9 p.m. broadcast. Each evening showcased a different tradition of the Mille Lacs Band and featured Band members practicing traditional ways of harvesting and gathering passed down through the centuries from their ancestors.

The series highlighted Band members from youth to Elders who are sharing traditions to preserve the Ojibwe culture for the future. "For Anishinaabe, our language, our religion, and our cultural practices are all gifts from the Creator, and we have a duty to preserve them and pass them down to future

generations," said Commissioner of Natural Resources Bradley Harrington. "I am excited that this video series has documented a few of these practices, and more importantly, that the series captures the spirit in which we practice these traditions, with respect to the manidoog. I am pleased that Randy Meier and his team demonstrated sincere appreciation for, and a desire to understand, our culture. My hope is that these videos will be a useful tool to create a deeper understanding of our traditions for all who see them."

After the series had concluded, Randy Meier was asked what it meant to him as a journalist to create the series. "Shooting the series sometimes felt invasive for my photojournalist and me. Our Ojibwe hosts certainly didn't make us feel that way. All were very welcoming and open. But to do the series justice, we had to put a television camera in places and situations that rarely, if ever, see a camera. I find the Ojibwe people much more open and willing to share the story of their ancestors, their own personal lives, and their hopes for their children than I would have thought. I also think many have a wonderful sense of humor."

### Series segments

Part 1: 'Spiritual currency:' The Ojibwe's special bond with wild rice production

Part 2: Medicinal power of plants connects Ojibwe tribe's past with future

Part 3: From sap to syrup, Ojibwe sugarbush tradition connects generations.

Part 4: Passed down father to son, Ojibwe walleye spearing tradition lives on

Part 5: Fish netting connects Ojibwe with ancient roots

The Fox 9 news team will pull all of the parts together to make one half-hour special. That special is currently scheduled to air June 1 at 8:30 a.m. on Fox 9.



Left: The Fox 9 film crew spent an evening on the lake capturing footage of spearing. Right: A drone was used for aerial shots.



# A HEALTHY ADVENTURE

DIABETES PROGRAM TEACHES PREVENTION  
'THROUGH THE EYES OF THE EAGLE'

We all know that textbooks and lectures aren't usually the best way to teach children important lessons. That's why the Diabetes Program of Mille Lacs Band's Public Health Department has taken a different approach: telling a story with costumes, characters, music, and movement.

Jolene Gansen and Cyndy Travers — with help from Wyatt Oswaldson, Camren Cooper, Edriaunna Nadeau, and Senicka Hardy — have been touring local schools to perform a "staged reading" of the play *Through the Eyes of the Eagle*.

On Tuesday, April 30, they performed for the kids at Pine Grove Learning Center in Aazhoomog, and the students were well behaved and focused on the story and its lessons.

The play tells the story of an Indian girl named Rain That Dances (played by Camren) who is visited by a bald eagle (played by Wyatt). Eagle is sad because the people he sees as he flies above the land are eating unhealthy food and are not as active as people used to be.

With help from Rabbit and Coyote (played by Cyndy and Jolene), Eagle teaches Rain That Dances and her friend (played by Senicka) the importance of a healthy diet and active lifestyle. After the play, Jolene and Cyndy taught the kids a song and had them on their feet dancing and waving their arms.

The Eagle Adventure Program is funded by the SNAP Ed grant and includes four lessons after the play is delivered. The lessons encourage healthy eating and physical activity. The children are given "nestwork" (homework) to complete at home or in the classroom and "Kids in the Kitchen," a parent tip sheet and recipe cards.

Kids went home with a copy of the book *Through the Eyes of the Eagle* written by Georgia Perez and illustrated by Patrick Rolo and Lisa A. Fifield. The play was performed at East Lake May 21 and will be presented at four schools starting next fall.



Back: Edriaunna Nadeau and Camren Cooper. Middle: Jolene Gansen, Wyatt Oswaldson, Cyndy Travers. Front: Senicka Hardy.



MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

## SUMMER TRADITIONS

By Ken Weyaus Sr.

*This article by the late Ken Weyaus was first published in the Mille Lacs Messenger. It is reprinted here to help preserve his teachings for the next generation.*

In the past, I've written about some Ojibwe traditions for the fall, winter, and spring. This time, I'd like to write about summer traditions.

In the summer, the Ojibwe People would gather by the shores of the big lakes. They would go fishing and hunt small game animals. They did not hunt big game animals during the summer because they had no means of preserving that much meat and it would spoil. They also had little gardens with corn, beans, and squash that they tended. The people worked hard to store up their food for the winter.

Summertime was when people did most of their planning for the year ahead and figured out what they would need. For example, if you needed a new canoe to go ricing in the fall, you gathered the birchbark for it in the summer. If you needed more bark for your home, you gathered it during the summer, too. People would make sheets out of the bark and sew them together, then roll them up to make them easier to carry.

People also gathered lots of berries in the summer and made them into little patties. Then

in the winter, they would boil these patties and sprinkle them with maple sugar, and they tasted just as sweet and tasty as they had in the summer.

To get ready for the big, long winter, people would tan deer hides and work on clothing in the summer. Men did a lot of hunting and fishing. As I said, they hunted small game, like raccoons and ducks. When they fished, they knew how to make nets that were just big enough to catch what they needed, rather than catch large quantities that would spoil.

They were good conservationists — they didn't waste anything. When they caught fish, they didn't just take the fish out and eat them. If they saw that a fish was female, they would squeeze the eggs out and deposit them back into the lake. If they killed a turtle for food, they used the shell for storage or as a plate.

They also moved their camps each year to be good conservationists. For example, in the summer they used elm bark when making their wigwams. Elm bark doesn't regrow within a year, so they wouldn't come back to the same area the next summer — they would leave the first area alone and move to a different area. That allowed the first area to regrow itself, and the trees and the animals would come back.



SOLICITOR GENERAL CALEB DOGEAGLE

# HAPPY TO BE HERE, READY TO SERVE

By Brett Larson Inaajimowin Staff Writer

You won't meet many people with a broader range of experience in Indian Country than Caleb Dogeagle, the Mille Lacs Band's new Solicitor General.

Caleb is an enrolled citizen of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, but he was raised on the Puyallup Reservation in Washington, attended school in Montana and Arizona, worked for the Muckleshoot Tribe in Washington, and served most recently as supervising attorney for the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation in North Dakota, where he also has many relatives.

Add to that geographical experience his depth of educational preparation: a bachelor's degree from Montana State, a juris doctorate from the University of Arizona in Tucson, and a master's in Indigenous people's law and policy.

Prior to law school, Caleb attended the Pre-Law Summer Institute at the University of New Mexico. "It's like law school boot camp," Caleb explained. "It gets you ready for law school, because law school is way different from any other kind of education."

Caleb was also part of Cohort 9 of Native Nation Rebuilders, and he studied abroad during law school in Geneva, Switzerland, focusing on international Indigenous people's law and human rights.

The Mille Lacs Band is fortunate to have someone of Caleb's experience, knowledge, and commitment — and Caleb feels fortunate to be in Minnesota working for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

As an avid outdoorsman, Caleb looks forward to hunting, fishing, hiking, and paddling the forests, lakes, and rivers of our region.

As a family man, he looks forward to settling down in the Brainerd area — a community with good schools and access to amenities that were hard to come by in some of his prior places of residence.

And as an American Indian, it's been his lifelong dream to work on behalf of Indian people. As the legal representative of



**"THAT'S THE WHOLE REASON I WENT TO LAW SCHOOL: TO HELP INDIAN PEOPLE. WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY FOR THE POSITION HERE CAME UP, I LOOKED AT THE STRUCTURE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LOCATION, AND IT WAS AN IDEAL FIT FOR US PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY."**

the Band, he'll have plenty of opportunity to do that.

"That's the whole reason I went to law school: to help Indian people," said Caleb. "When the opportunity to apply for the position here came up, I looked at the structure of the government and the location, and it was an ideal fit for us personally and professionally. We're really excited to be here and to get to know the people and the region."

In his first few weeks on the job, Caleb has been getting up to speed on the many issues that will keep him busy in coming years — including the ongoing lawsuit against Mille Lacs County.

Caleb read the Mille Lacs Band Statutes prior to interviewing for the position, and now he's going through them again.

"My main priority is to fulfill the statutory obligations of the position, which are clearly outlined in statute, to the best of my ability," Caleb said. "It's a big job, but one that my background and experience have prepared me for. Even when it's difficult, and there are tough things going on, it's intellectually stimulating and enjoyable for me."



## MUSIC FESTIVAL!

The American Indian Music Festival was held Saturday, May 26, at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum. Among the performers were Corey Medina (above), Thomas X (below left), and Mille Lacs Band member Max Blake (below right). 1. Max Blake opened the Fest with traditional flute music played from a collection of handmade instruments. Thomas X livened things up with a hip-hop performance designed to bring awareness and inspire change. The Red Lake tribal member also invited Flutist Max Blake to collaborate with him for an on the spot jam session. Corey Medina of the Navajo Nation with his band Brothers drew a crowd with blues-rock and cheerful reminders about the good things in life. Medina is originally from Shiprock, Arizona, and now lives in Minnesota with his wife and children. Photos by Mille Lacs Band member Li Boyd.



## FAMILY AND FRIENDS CELEBRATE TRADITION, EXERCISE RIGHTS

It was a fantastic year for netting on Mille Lacs as the ogaawag (walleye) showed signs of rebounding after several years of historically low population estimates. On May 3, Harry Davis and his nephew Guy pulled a net full of walleyes from the lake near Cove Bay public access. Equally successful were the Matrious family and friends, including (back), Chris Matrious, Shena Matrious, Michelle Pomerleau, (front) Billie Boyd, and Briana Matrious. Conservation Officer Jeff Schafer, far right, was on hand to monitor the harvest.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 ONAMIA HIGH SCHOOL GRADS!



**Name/Tribe:** Amanda Leigh Eagle, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Volleyball, track, softball, spending time with my family and friends. **Plans/goals/dreams:** College at the University of Minnesota Morris. **Miigwech to:** My mom, who inspires me to be the best I can be. Dana Munson and Shelly Cash-Logli, who are always kind to me. **Advice to the youth:** Be kind to yourself and others.



**Name/Tribe:** Bradley Weyaus, Makwa, Mille Lacs, Awasisi clan. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Basketball, science. **Plans/goals/dreams:** Go to college, move in with my uncle, work at the casino. **Miigwech to:** Mrs. Gray, Dana. **Advice to the youth:** Stay in school and go to college!



**Name/Tribe:** Madison Sam, Ozhaawashkwanaabiikwe, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Softball, basketball (player/manager), football (player/manager), NHS, LIEPC, spending time with friends and family. **Plans/goals/dreams:** University of Minnesota Twin Cities, to study their pre-law program and eventually become a lawyer. **Miigwech to:** My grandparents, who raised me since I was 9, and my dad for completely turning his life around for us

kids. **Advice to the youth:** Cherish the easy life of being in school, because after that, you have sole responsibility for yourself.



**Name/Tribe:** Danita Kegg, Ogiidaakiikway, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** beading, drawing, painting, cooking, baking, working with herbal remedies with my mom. **Plans/goals/dreams:** To travel, be a counselor, and learn about my language and heritage. **Miigwech to:** My mother Renne and grandmother Evelyn who passed. Mr. Laughery and Katie. **Advice to the youth:** Stay in school, be yourself, don't get pressured into doing drugs or drinking, don't smoke.



**Name/Tribe:** Shaina White, Jiigewegabowikwe, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Beading. **Plans/goals/dreams:** To graduate from college. **Miigwech to:** Mrs. Schmaltz. She has been the best teacher she can be. **Advice to the youth:** Keep up the stuff you're doing. It's all worth it in the end.



**Name/Tribe:** Aubrey Benjamin, Zhaawanogiihigookwe, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Yearbook, LIEPC, quiz bowl, basketball, writing, drawing and painting,

attending concerts. **Plans/goals/dreams:** I hope to be a novelist. To have others enjoy my writing will be amazing. **Miigwech to:** Dana and Shelly, the Laugherys, all my teachers, my grandma and dad. **Advice to the youth:** Do your homework and stay caught up in school.



**Name/Tribe:** Lia Weyaus, Aabinookwe, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** music, band, arts. **Plans/goals/dreams:** To be able to live comfortably in a nice-sized home doing a job I don't hate. **Miigwech to:** My parents. Without them I wouldn't be here. **Advice to the youth:** Try to stay goal-oriented. It will help to keep you from becoming a procrastinator.



**Name/Tribe:** Meghan Merrill, Noodinans, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Write stories, illustration, make films. **Plans/goals/dreams:** To be a film director and to write a novel. **Miigwech to:** My sister KC, Aazhanangookwe. **Advice to the youth:** Listen to your parents and Elders because they help us. You could learn a lot from their stories.

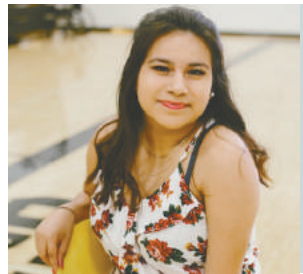


**Name/Tribe:** Taylor Nadeau, Mino Asin Nimaadabewin Ikwe, Mille Lacs **Interests/Extracurriculars:** I always liked basketball. It helped

me keep my mind off things **Plans/goals/dreams:** Go to Model College of Hair Design to become a cosmetologist. **Miigwech to:** I'd like to thank Dana Munson for pushing me to finish high school on time. He always helped me when needed. My Grandma June helped me a lot also. **Advice to the youth:** As much as you struggle throughout school, push yourself to finish and you'll have a great outcome.



**Name/Tribe:** Amber Taylor, Leech Lake **Interests/Extracurriculars:** I like to work and fish. **Plans/goals/dreams:** To go to college and get a degree in early education or childcare. **Miigwech to:** My family members who have believed in me, my ALC teachers for being so helpful and kind. **Advice to the youth:** Stay focused and push yourself to finish.



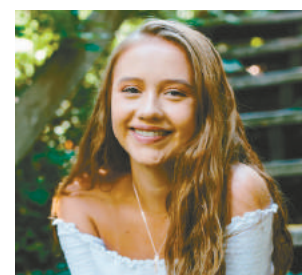
**Name/Tribe:** Rhea Eagle-Cash, Naawaagiizisookwe, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Spend time with friends and family. **Plans/goals/dreams:** My dream is to do whatever makes my family proud. **Miigwech to:** Chris N. because she taught me in elementary and again in high school. She helped through a hard time and I appreciate that she was there to talk to me and just be there for me in general. **Advice to the youth:** No matter what hardships you come across in your life, don't give up. It will pass and only make you stronger, so keep on pushing.



**Name/Tribe:** Lonnie Bellcourt Jr., Thunder Bird, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Going outside and going on some rides. **Plans/goals/dreams:** Just living a good, simple life. **Miigwech to:** Ms. Grey for always helping me, and my family for helping me out too. **Advice to the youth:** Remember, you get a lot of money when you graduate. Always stay on track.



**Name/Tribe:** Tierra Day, Memengwaa, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Volleyball, softball. **Plans/goals/dreams:** Cosmetologist, registered nurse, or marine biologist. **Miigwech to:** Gary Nelson and Megan, Kayla Nelson. **Advice to the youth:** Be nice to others, stay in school and finish until you graduate so you can set an example for younger ones.



**Name/Tribe:** Megan Saboo, Bimose Makwa Ikwe, Bay Mills Indian Community. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** National Honor Society, student council, prom committee, school board, yearbook, photography, tutoring, two part-time jobs. **Plans/goals/dreams:** Attend the University of Minnesota Morris in psychology and

management, U of M Twin Cities for Ph.D. in psychology to open my own firm as a clinical psychologist. **Miigwech to:** My mom and papa. Everything I do, I do for them. **Advice to the youth:** Work hard. You have a voice and a power. Use that to achieve things in life that others are too scared to do.



**Name/Tribe:** Cordell Anderson, Aazhoo Waana Kwad, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Basketball. **Plans/goals/dreams:** College, and living the right life. **Miigwech to:** My brother Jameson Anderson. He always pushed me to go to school, and I'm glad I could do something he always wanted to do but couldn't do. And make him proud of me for it. **Advice to the youth:** Don't be like everyone else. Be your own person and you will get where you need to be in life. Don't give in to what anyone has to say.



**Name/Tribe:** Raquel Maurstad, Waawaasese, Mille Lacs. **Interests/Extracurriculars:** Flagline, beading. **Plans/goals/dreams:** My goal is to get a doctorate in marine biology. **Miigwech to:** My mom for pushing me through. Mrs. Grey and Angie for all the help, Briana for being so supportive. **Advice to the youth:** Keep up on your credits, do your work, and stay in school!

DO YOU HAVE A GRADUATE YOU'D LIKE US TO RECOGNIZE? SEND A PHOTO WITH THEIR NAME, SCHOOL, PLANS, AND "MIIGWECH" TO [BRETT.LARSON@MILLELACSBAND.COM](mailto:BRETT.LARSON@MILLELACSBAND.COM).





## NAY AH SHING POWWOW

The annual Nay Ah Shing Royalty Powwow was held May 17 under sunny skies at the high school. Students, families, and community members came to dance, eat, and have fun. The 2019-20 royalty are (left to right) Junior Princess Lucielle Bugg, Senior Princess Camren Cooper, Senior Brave Alvin Burnette, and Junior Brave Storm Boyd. Photos by Mille Lacs Band member Bradley Roache Jr.

## NAY AH SHING TEAMS SHINE AT QUIZ BOWL

Nine teams from around the state registered for the Annual Neyaashiing Quiz Bowl: two each from Nay Ah Shing, International Falls, and Fond du Lac, and one each from Detroit Lakes, Mahnomon, and Greenway. In the end, Nay Ah Shing's two teams took first and second, followed by Mahnomon. Byron Ninham and Waabishkigaabaw served as moderators. Biidaana (LeAnn) Benjamin expressed her gratitude to Beth Gruber, Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, Alyssa Welsh, the DNR, Colleen McKinney, Public Health, Erin Stresow, and the Human Resources Department. "In total we gave out 16 bags full of items from the departments listed," said Biidaana. "Chimigwech! Your donations helped us out so much." Left: Mia Sam, Ronni Jourdain, Clara Gahbow. Right: Caleb Sam, Adam Benjamin, Chase Sam, RaeAna Sam-Nickaboine.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO DISTRICT I HEAD START GRADUATES!



The District I Head Start graduation ceremony was held at Grand Casino Mille Lacs on May 23. Photos by Mille Lacs Band member Rhonda Mitchell.





## DNR, MILLE LACS COUNTY AIM TO SLOW SPREAD OF INVASIVES

# WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT OUR WATERS

## CLEAN, DRAIN, DISPOSE

1. CLEAN all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft, trailers, and water-related equipment before leaving any water access or shoreland.
  2. DRAIN water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait containers, motor) and drain bilge, livewell, and baitwell by removing drain plugs before leaving a water access or shoreline property. Keep drain plugs out and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.
  3. DISPOSE of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, and worms, in the trash. It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody or release aquatic animals from one waterbody to another. If you want to keep your bait, you must refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.
- Personal watercraft operators should turn on the engine for 5 to 10 seconds after removing the watercraft from the water to expel the water and organisms inside the impeller.

By Vivian LaMoore Director of Public Relations

With the fishing season in full swing, many boaters and anglers will be flocking to Mille Lacs Lake from all across the country to experience the world-class fishery in our backyard. The Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources is taking a giant leap to help control the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) by partnering with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Mille Lacs County Land Services to install a state-of-the-art watercraft cleaning station at the Shaw-bosh-kung Bay public access.

Chad Weiss, an aquatic biologist with the Mille Lacs Band DNR, is tasked with monitoring the water quality of Mille Lacs Lake. Along with Environmental Programs Director Perry Bunting, Chad attends the Mille Lacs Watershed Management Group meetings where the watercraft cleaning station was first discussed over one year ago. "Perry and I thought it would be beneficial to have a CD3 station for combatting AIS on Mille Lacs," Chad said.

Invasive species are species that are not native to Minnesota and cause economic or environmental harm or are harmful to human health. Minnesota's natural resources, including Mille Lacs Lake, are threatened by a number of aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussels, spiny water fleas, Eurasian watermilfoil, and more. A recent study published by the University of Minnesota indicates the water clarity of Mille Lacs has increased since the 1990s. Further clearing of the water happened after invasive zebra mussels entered Mille Lacs in 2005, according to the study.

Water clarity is one of the important factors for walleye habitat as walleye generally prefer chilly, murky water. Clearer and

warmer water may be linked to declining numbers of the walleye population of Mille Lacs, according to the study. Because more sunlight can get through clear water, the water temperature may also rise. This creates a good habitat for AIS to survive and reproduce. But cleaning boats and water craft after exiting any body of water can help prevent the spread of AIS.

"Mille Lacs is a super spreader," said Ed Rudberg, Ph.D. and founding partner of CD3, Clean-Drain-Dry-Dispose, the water cleaning station company. "This cleaning station is designed to help stop the spread."

This CD3 unit is a powder-coated aluminum, solar-powered station to help boaters to clean, drain, dry, and dispose of AIS that may have attached to their boats and trailers. It is equipped with several user-friendly tools for boaters to rid their watercraft of AIS. There is a scrubbing brush; a grabber to reach AIS from under the boats and other hard to reach areas; a wet/dry vac to make certain all of the water is removed; and a high-pressure air hose to easily remove AIS and dry hard-to-reach places with air.

The cleaning station is also equipped with WiFi. Why would a cleaning station be set up with WiFi? The station will be able to send data back to the DNR to track valuable information: the number of discrete users; time spent by each user; number of times each tool is used; hourly, daily, weekly and monthly use trends; and other feedback from users. This information can then be used to help apply for grants that, if awarded, may in-turn result in more funding for furthering the goal of reducing or eliminating AIS.

Removing all AIS and aquatic plants from watercraft after exiting the water is not only the right thing to do to help prevent the spread of AIS, it is also the law. In summary, the law states

you may not: transport watercraft without removing the drain plug; arrive at lake access with drain plug in place; transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or other prohibited species on any roadway; launch a watercraft with prohibited species attached; transport water from Minnesota lakes or rivers; release bait into the water. (See sidebar above.)

"I think the CD3 stations on Mille Lacs will be a great tool for fishermen who use Mille Lacs for a day or a weekend," Chad said.

### Partnerships

The CD3 station at Shaw-Bosh-Kung Bay public access is the first to be installed and will hopefully not be the last on Mille Lacs Lake. The cost of the cleaning station is nearly \$31,000. Mille Lacs County is taking on the responsibility to fund the initial start-up costs, and the Band DNR will provide all of the maintenance of the station and gather all of the data.

Since Shaw-Bosh-Kung Bay public access is a state-owned access, the Minnesota DNR has approved placing the unit in the parking lot. It will be a permanent structure. Ed Rudberg and Mark Apfelbacher of CD3 are in the process of discussions with Aitkin County and Crow Wing County as well to see about the possibilities of also partnering with them to place more watercraft cleaning stations around the lake.

By installing this CD3 watercraft cleaning station, the Band is helping to "Protect everyone's asset," Chad said.

The watercraft cleaning station is scheduled to arrive at Shaw-Bosh-Kung public access in the first part of June.



## ONAMIA POWWOW

Onamia Schools held their fifth annual royalty powwow on Friday, May 3. Red Road, Red Willow, and Yellow Lightning drum groups had staff as well as students pouring out of the bleachers and onto the gym floor to dance. Winners of the royalty contest were Senior Brave Brandon Nickaboine, Junior Brave Damon Shingobe, Junior Princess Railei Shaugobay, and Senior Princess Leonice Ballinger.





# MEMORIAL DAY POWWOW HONORS THOSE WHO SERVED

The 26th annual Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Memorial Day Powwow was held on Monday, May 27, at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post on the shores of beautiful Mille Lacs Lake. The Memorial Day holiday is a time to remember those who gave their lives to our country while protecting the freedoms we hold dear. Many people remain unaware of the major contributions Native Americans have made in the military. American Indians serve in the United States armed forces in greater numbers per capital than any other ethnic group. The 2010 census identified over 150,000 American Indian and Alaskan Native veterans. We honor our veterans and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. To those currently serving and to our veterans, we thank you.



# JINGLE DRESS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATED AT INDIAN MUSEUM

A standing-room-only crowd packed the Mille Lacs Indian Museum on Sunday, May 26, as jingle dress dancers celebrated the Ziibaaska'iganagooday Exhibit and the 100th anniversary of the jingle dress with a fitting tribute.

After opening remarks by master of ceremonies George Morrow and an invocation by Joe Nayquonabe, dancers wound through a crowd of spectators to the singing of Yellow Lightning drum group.

Brenda Child, the University of Minnesota professor and Red Lake Nation citizen who curated the exhibit, spoke about the origins of the jingle dress during the worldwide influenza epidemic of 1918-19. The flu killed more people than World War I and devastated Indian communities, which responded with a new healing tradition that has spread from Ojibwe country across the nation. The dress has come to represent not only personal healing but also community healing at demonstrations like the the Dakota Access pipeline protests at Standing Rock.

Michael Sullivan followed Brenda with a telling of Ojibwe and English versions of the origin story, which Michael learned from the late Larry Amik Smallwood. The story tells of a young girl who became sick and an old man who had a dream of the jingle dress in four colors — yellow, green, blue, and red. As women danced in their jingle dresses, the girl felt better and eventually joined in the dance.

The Ziibaaska-iganagooday exhibit and Sunday's event were made possible with help from many Mille Lacs Band and community members, including Adrienne Benjamin, who sewed several beautiful dresses for the exhibit, Mikayla Schaaf, who helped coordinate the celebration with museum staff, and Steve Premo, whose illustrations of the story are part of the exhibit.

The exhibit runs until October of 2020 and includes dresses from the Minnesota Historical Society's collection as well as new dresses created for the exhibit.





## BAILEY AND TAYLOR WOONMAVOVAH TWIN STARS ON ST. CLOUD TECH SOFTBALL TEAM

By Alyssa Enno Mille Lacs Band Member



Bailey and Taylor Woommavovah, twin sisters from the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and recent graduates of St. Cloud Tech High School, were recently featured in Breakdown Sports Media 2019 Softball Issue. Anyone who knows “the twins,” as they are often called, knows that they are somewhat reserved, so when the opportunity came up for them to be in a softball magazine, they weren’t too sure if it was something they wanted to do. But, they did it!

The girls are also in the 2019-2020 calendar. Bailey was the starting shortstop and has also pitched and caught this year — basically she has played every position on the field. Taylor was the starting pitcher for St. Cloud Tech High School, and she has also played second base as well as outfield. Both girls have been Varsity starters since they were freshmen and served as captains during their senior year.

In addition to playing softball in high school, both girls have played competitive softball on a number of travel softball teams since 2011. Their parents, Krista and Noah Klug, have been there every season from school ball to dome ball in the winter, cheering, supporting, and stepping in to coach.

The twins’ athletic skills, talent, initiative, and leadership abilities are mirrored in their academic performance. Bailey end-

ed her high school career with a 4.198 GPA, and Taylor ended hers with a 4.166 GPA. Both graduated with high honors. The twins never shy away from a challenge, whether it’s on the field or in the classroom. Both girls were in the National Honor Society, have attended AP classes since their sophomore year, and have spent a number of hours volunteering in their community. They have also participated in youth clinics, in which they have helped younger girls learn and enhance their softball playing skills.

Their hard work, talent, and intelligence did not go unnoticed as both girls were accepted at a number of colleges, including Auburn University, Marquette, Drake, Xavier, Creighton, and the University of St. Thomas. Despite the overwhelming number of acceptance letters they received in the mail, the twins have both decided to attend the University of Minnesota this fall. Bailey plans to major in mathematics at the Twin Cities campus, and Taylor plans to major in finance at the Carlson School of Management. Both girls have also expressed interest in exploring the American Indian studies program offered on campus.

Their successes in high school and softball are just the beginning. We congratulate them on these accomplishments and look forward to seeing them thrive in college.

## JUNE 6 FUNDRAISER FOR ACHILLES SAM

A fundraiser for the family of Achilles Sam will be held June 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the District I Community Center.

Achilles was born January 4 to Beth Sabourin and Darius Sam, the son of Steve and Jonell Sam. Unfortunately, on January 18 little Achilles was diagnosed with Hirschsprung’s Disease — a serious genetic condition that has required five surgeries during Achilles’ first five months of life.

In May, his GI doctor stated, “This is a sick baby and I am scared he is going to get sicker if not taken to a very experienced doctor.” With that statement, plans started to be made for a trip to Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, to see Dr. Levitt — one of the best doctors for treating Hirschsprung’s.

Darius, a black jack dealer at Treasure Island, has already missed a great deal of work for doctor appointments, and time away for Ohio would be unpaid. Beth has not worked since Achilles’ birth.

The family is dire need of financial assistance to get their baby to Ohio. They do not have reliable transportation for the trip or resources for a hotel and food while seeing the doctors. There is a Ronald McDonald House there, but it has a very long waiting list.

They need friends or family to watch their other children while they are away. They do not know how they will pay their rent and other expenses while missing work to see the doctor.

To add to their stress, their landlord has informed them that their lease will not be renewed, and they need to find a new place to live, and move by August 1.

So far, they have received just over \$1,000 but have a long way to go. It would be wonderful if they could get someone who would cover the prices of a reliable rental car, and cover the hotel stay for them. Beth’s number is 218-232-7580. Darius’ number is 218-838-3910. Jonell Sam’s (Darius’ mom) number is 218-851-6252. You can receive updates and make a donation at [www.gofundme.com/achilles-sam-medical-fund](http://www.gofundme.com/achilles-sam-medical-fund).

Achilles is Darius’ and Beth’s fourth child, joining third-grader Aaron, Briella, 3, and Deanna, 2.

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS WORK TO PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH, PREVENT SUICIDE

In recent months, several Mille Lacs Band members and employees have been devoting their time and energy to a difficult but important topic: suicide prevention.

The result is the Mille Lacs Band Community Prevention Plan, which provides a road map for the community to address and prevent mental disorders, substance use disorders, and suicide, while promoting mental health. The plan outlines a shared vision, challenges, goals, outcomes, and budget priorities for the implementation of the plan.

Community members and employees involved in the development of the plan were Carol Hernandez, Crystal Weckert, Dawn Chosa, Ginger Weyaus, Joe Charette, Kate Theisz, Kristina Abear, Monica Haglund, Monte Fronk, Nicole Anderson, and Rachel Boyd.

The process began after the Band was given a small grant through the Tribal Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTA) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to complete a community readiness assessment for suicide prevention and to implement a plan.

This winter, participants engaged in community readiness training and two site visits from the TTA that helped them learn to assess readiness for change, create a climate for healthy change, and select culturally appropriate, community-specific strategies for prevention.

Two community members were chosen to do interviews to determine the community’s readiness, using a scoring method

developed by TTA. After the scores were reviewed, the committee was able to determine a good starting point in terms of preparing a plan for the community.

Kate Theisz, a licensed psychologist and clinical supervisor with the Band, said, “Once we knew where things stood, we could start to discuss planning. We looked at barriers in the community as well as resources and where relationships can be strengthened.”

One of the exercises that the committee engaged in resulted in “healing trees” and the development of a vision statement: “Based on our community values of Indinawemaaganidog (Family), Anishinaabe Izhitwaawin (Culture), and Manaajitwaawin (Respect) that provide us safety, belonging, identity, connection, mercy, and love; we will strive to increase resiliency and build confident children, heal from trauma, increase cultural pride and knowledge, and welcome people back into the circle.”

They also developed four goals:

- To promote understanding of mental health by increasing knowledge of trauma and its effects.
- To increase families’, individuals’, and employees’ awareness of mental health and increase knowledge of the prevention efforts.
- To increase awareness of the signs, symptoms, and causes of suicide and available resources.
- To strengthen cultural identity to build resiliency and increase protective factors. April 22-24 the team held



The three “healing trees” developed by Band members explored community values of Indinawemaaganidog (Family), Anishinaabe Izhitwaawin (Culture), and Manaajitwaawin (Respect).

a three-day “Gathering of Native Americans” to gather community input used to further develop the goals and objectives in the plan.

The committee intends to share information in a variety of ways in the coming weeks to increase awareness in the community. In late July, the team will conduct additional interviews to determine if the readiness score increased.



# GIKENDANDAA I'IW OJIBWEMOWIN — LEARN THE OJIBWE LANGUAGE

By the late Maude Kegg. Reprinted from *Portage Lake: Memories of an Ojibwe Childhood*, edited and transcribed by John D. Nichols. University of Minnesota Press.

Prepared by Memengwaa-ikwe Mille Lacs Band Member

## Gichigamiwashkoon

Miinawaa mewinza gichigamiwashkoon mamood zaaga'iganing, miish iniw. "Ode'imini giizis," gii-ikido ko, "jibwaa aabita niibing."

Mii asemaan ezhi-bagidinaad, azhigwa wii-mamood iniw ayi'in gichigamiwashkoon. "Gaawiin giwenh awiia odad-izhi-mamoosiinan," gii-ikido ko.

Apane ingii-naanaagadawaabamaa gaa-izhichiged. Miish i'iw jiimaaning-sh, boozii wiigwaasi-jiimaaning gaye. Mii ezhi-bakwajibidood, mii iniw gichigamiwashkoon, ikidowag, izhinikaadenig.

Mii azhigwa niibowa ezhi-bakwajibidood, mii ezhi-ayaad ezhi-agwaasidood, mii ezhi-maawandoooidood. Mii ingoiji go nisimidana odizhi-maawandoooidoonan. Mii ezhi-giishkizhang

iwidi ojiibikaawaninig.

Mii dash imaa namadabiyaan iko maamiiyyaan mii iniw. Ingii-kina'amaag-sh wiin. "Gego miiijken niibowa!" ingii-g. Enda-minopogwadoon ojiibikawaang iniw gichigamiwashkoon.

## Bulrushes

Long ago she got bulrushes from the lake. "In June," she used to say, "before the middle of the summer."

She put the tobacco out when she wanted to get bulrushes. "No one is supposed to take them otherwise," she used to say.

I always watched what she did with great interest. She got in the canoe, a birch bark canoe. Then she pulled up the gichigamiwashkoon, as they are called.

She pulled a lot of them, took what she got to shore, and tied them in bundles of about thirty. Then she cut them off at the roots.

I used to sit there eating them. But she forbid me to do that. "Don't eat too much!" she said to me. Bulrush roots taste real good.

## Word Find and Matching

Find these words in the Ojibwe passage to the left and try to determine their meaning by looking at the translation. Match the Ojibwe word in the left column with the English in the right, or look up their meaning at <https://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu>.

gichigamiwashkoon-	that, those
ikido	s/he takes it
mamoon	bulrush; plural
apane	the lake
enda	always; all the time
minopogwad	already, now, then
wiigwaasi-jiimaan	it tastes good; vii
azhigwa	birch bark canoe
iniw	s/he says, speaks so
zaaga'igan	very, quite, just, real

## More Vocabulary

Naanaagadawaabam — watch her/him closely; vta

Boozii — s/he gets in or on (a vehicle or a boat) boards, gets aboard, embarks; vai

Bakwajibidoon — pick, pluck it, pull it out or off of something; vti

Agwaasidoon — take it ashore, take it off a boat or vehicle, unload it off something

## Grammar

Gego ... ken — Don't do it!

"Gego" goes before the verb and "ken" goes after.

Gego miiijken niibowa — Don't eat too much

Miijin — eat it

Niibowa — a lot, many, much

More examples: "nibaa" means "s/he sleeps."

"Gego nibaaken" means "Don't go to sleep!"

"Ikido" means "s/he says." "Gego ikidoken" means "Don't say it!"

## B-form

Mii dash imaa namadabiyaan iko maamiiyyaan iko mii iniw. — And then I would sit there eating them.

Mii dash — and then

Imaa — there

"Namadabi" means "s/he sits"

"Namadabiyaan," with a b-form ending, means "when or as I sat there"

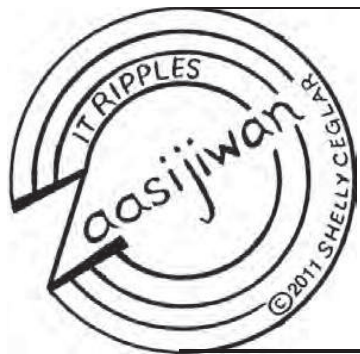
Iko — used to, formerly, previously, some time ago, it was the custom to

"Maamiijin" is another way of saying "to eat it."

"Maamiiyyaan" means "as I was eating it repeatedly."

## More ways to learn!

The online *Ojibwe People's Dictionary* ([ojibwe.lib.umn.edu](http://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu)) is a great resource not just for learning words, but also for hearing the language spoken by Elders. For more fun and games like the exercises at the left, go to <http://mail.glifwc.org/Mazinaigan/>. You can download back issues of *Mazina'igan*, the quarterly newsletter of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, to find more language pages.



## Niibing—When it is Summer

Niibing, niwaabamaanaanig ingiw awesiiyag. Moozoog, waawaashkeshiwag, esibanag, zhigaagwag, ma'iinganag idash makwag. Gaye niganawaabamaag ingiw awakaanag. Bizhikiwag, bebezhiigooganzhiig, gookooshag, maanishaanishag, animoshag, gaazhagensag. Gaye ninga-wewebanaabimin, niin idash ninaabem. Ogaawag, ginoozhag, gidagawadaashiawag, agwadaashiawag, namegosag. Jiimaaning gego gashkaasoken! Gimiiigwechiwenimaag ingiw awesiiyag. Mii'iw.

(When it is summer, we see those wild animals. Moose (pl.), deer (pl.), racoons, skunks, wolves, and bears. Also, I look for them those domestic animals.

Cows, horses, pigs, sheep (pl.), dogs, cats. Also, we will fish with a line, me and my husband! Walleyes, northern pikes, crappies, sunfish, lake trout. In the boat, don't get sunburn! You give thanks to them those animals. That is all.)

### Bezhiig—1

### OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin.  
—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO  
Aandeg—as in father  
Miiigwech—as in jay  
Aaniiin—as in seen  
Mooz—as in moon

—Short Vowels: A, I, O  
Idash—as in about  
Mitig—as in tin  
Niizho—as in only

—A glottal stop is a voiceless nasal sound as in A'aw.  
—Respectfully enlist an elder for help in pronunciation and dialect differences.

### When/If... Animate Transitive Verbs-B-Form

Agim!—Count him/her!  
Wiidookaw!—Help him/her!  
Wiidanokiim!—Work with h/h!  
Ganawenim!—Take care of h/h!  
Agim!—When/if I count him/h,  
Agiminaan.—When/if I count you,  
Agiminagog.—When/if I count you all,  
Agim!—When/if I count them.  
VTA root verbs are command form and speak of living things. Switch VTA verbs in the grammar patterns. Alone they are not a complete sentence.

### Niizh—2

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

A. Niwaabamaag ingiw bineshiyag. Giwaabamaag ina?

B. Ninoondawaag ingiw banajaayag. Ginoondawaag ina?

C. Nimbiibaagimaa a'aw memengwaa, "Ambe memengwaa!"

D. Niminwenimaag odoodashkwanishiyag. Giminwenimaag ina omaa?

E. Gaawiin niwaabamaasiig ingiw maangwag. Imaa niwaabamaa diiniisi..

F. Jiimaaning, zaga'iganing ninzegi'aag ingiw zhiishiibag.

G. Nimiigwechiwenimaag ingiw awesiiyag idash gaye manidoonsag.

O B B M  
A I R A E O  
N N D A N M T  
I E B N G A E E  
A S G G E A J N K  
I H A W N A I A G Z  
N I Y A K I D M A W I  
G I E G W Z O B Z Y A I  
I Y I A M E M E N G A A  
W A A W N G O I H E H G  
M G J I I M A A N I N G

### Niswi—3

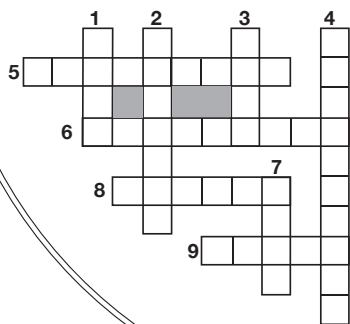
### IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

#### Down:

- here
- walleyes
- please
- skunks
- don't

#### Across:

- lake trout (plural)
- domestic animals
- bears
- those (animate)



### Niiwin—4

#### VTA B-form

Wiidookawiiyaan.—When/if you help me.  
Wiidookawad.—When you help him/her.  
Wiidookawiiyaang.—W/if you help us.  
Wiidookawadwa.—Wh/if you help them.  
Ganawenimiyaan, niminwendam.  
If you help me, I am happy.  
Ganawenimad, minwendam.  
If you help her, she is happy.  
Minwendam, wiidanokiimiyaang.  
She is glad, if you work with us.  
Mindwendam, wiidanokiimadwa.  
He's happy, when you work with them.

#### Goojitoon! Try it!

Translation below.

1. Agim! Agim \_\_\_\_\_ ingiw bineshiyag mii gwayak.

2. Niminwendam, ganawenim \_\_\_\_\_, oshki-abinoojiyens.

3. Wiidookaw \_\_\_\_\_, gaye niwii-wiidookawaa. Mino-giizhigad noongom. Giizhaate.

4. Ambe omaa! Daga, wiidookaw \_\_\_\_\_, ninjiibaakwe.

5. Mindimoye gii-ikido, "Ganawenim \_\_\_\_\_, giwii-ganawenim. Giwii-biinitoon endaayaan. Eya'!"

-iyaan.

-ad.

-ag,

-inaan,

-agwa

### Translations:

**Niizh—2** A. I see them those birds. You see them? B. I hear them those baby birds. You hear them? C. I call out to that butterfly, "Come butterfly!" D. I like them dragonflies. You like them? here? E. I do not see those loons. There I see a bluejay. F. In the canoe, on the lake I scare them those ducks. G. I give thanks for them those wild animals and also insects.

**Niswi—3** Down: 1. Omaa 2. Ogaawag 3. Daga 4. Zhigaagwag 7. Gego. Across: 5. Namegosag 6. Awakaanag 8. Makwag 9. Ingiw

**Niiwin—4** 1. Count him! When I count them, (-agwa) those birds, it is correct. 2. I am happy, when I take care of him (-ag), the new-baby. 3. When you help her (-ad), also I will help her. It is a good day today. It is a warm day. 4. Come here! Please, if you help me (-iyaan), I am cooking. 5. The elder woman said, "When/if I take care of you (-inaan), you will take care of me. You will clean my home. Yes!"

There are various Ojibwe dialects; check for correct usage in your area. Note that the English translation will lose its natural flow as in any world language translation. This may be reproduced for classroom use only. All other uses by author's written permission. Some spellings and translations from *The Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe* by John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm. All inquiries can be made to **MAZINA'IGAN**, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861 [pjo@glifwc.org](mailto:pjo@glifwc.org).

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## AROUND THE RESERVATION

### JUNE EVENTS AT MILLE LACS INDIAN MUSEUM

**Kid Crafts — Shoulder Bag:** Saturday, June 8, from 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m., learn how to decorate an Ojibwe-style shoulder bag to take home. Shoulder Bags are a simpler version of the Ojibwe bandolier bag. Traditionally worn by men, the bandolier bag is an ornately decorated shoulder bag used for both decoration and function. Allow an hour to make the craft. Recommended for ages 5 and up. \$7/bag, museum admission not included.

**Woodland Pottery 2-Day Workshop:** Saturday, June 8, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, June 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Saturday, learn how to dig clay, harvest the tempering agents, and construct a clay vessel. On Sunday, after allowing pots to dry overnight, finish the surface details and temper the clay vessel in a firing pit. A light lunch will be provided on Sunday only.

Registration is required three days prior to workshop. A minimum of five participants is required to host the workshop. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. \$75/MNHS and Mille Lacs Band members save 20 percent.

**Traditional Lacrosse Demo:** Saturday, June 29, from 1 to 3 p.m., join Twin Cities Native Lacrosse to play wooden stick lacrosse and learn about the significance of this sport, which has been played by many Native American tribes for centuries. The afternoon will include various demonstrations, including basic skills practice and game play.

All ages and abilities welcome. Equipment will be provided. Free, museum admission not included.

### SMUDGE WALK IN DISTRICT III JUNE I

Join District III Band members and friends to heal their community with a smudge walk led by Sober Squad on June 1 beginning at 11 a.m. at Aazhoomog Community Center, 45749 Grace Lake Road, Sandstone. A second walk will follow, beginning at Meshakwad Community Center, 38043 Hinckley Rd. Hinckley. Contact Daphne Shabaiash with questions at 320-279-7866.

### PUBLIC CHILDCARE MEETING AT WEWINABI

Band members are invited to a public meeting regarding the inclusion of Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) in the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Public Law 102-477 plan administered by Aanjibimaadizing.

The meeting will be held at Wewinabi Early Education in District I from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on June 11. A meal will be provided.

Topics include inclusion of CCDF in 102-477 Plan, sliding fee scale, child care in district II and district III, and eligibility.

### REGISTER NOW FOR FALL SEMESTER AT FDLTCC

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College will offer a number of classes online and via ITV during fall semester 2019.

Among the offerings are Anishinaabeg of Lake Superior, Anishinaabe Language, American Indian Studies, Special Education Foundations, College Composition, Writing for Professionals, American Indian Literature, Physical Geography, Mathematics, American Indian Music, Indigenous Psychology, Human Diversity, and Interpersonal Communications.

Call the Higher Education office at 320-532-4795 or visit [fdltcc.edu](http://fdltcc.edu) to register.

## ETHNOBOTANIST OFFERS SERVICES TO BAND MEMBERS

By Linda Black Elk Department of Natural Resources

My name is Linda (Bishop) Black Elk, and I was recently hired by the Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources as the Band's first ethnobotanist.

An ethnobotanist learns, teaches, and practices the uses of plants for food, medicine, and materials. My job at the DNR is to offer Band members health and healing through our plant relatives.

Most of what I offer isn't really new to the Anishinaabe people. Your people have been utilizing plant medicines since the beginning, but a lot of this knowledge has been taken from Indigenous people over the last 500-plus years of colonization. It is my hope that we can work together to, once again, make plant medicine and traditional foods an everyday part of Band members' lives.

I am a servant of the people, and here is what I can offer:

- Home visits by appointment to discuss health, wellness, and healing.
- Visits by appointment in my office in Wahkon (beginning June 1).
- Plant identification walks with you and your family so that you can learn to recognize the edible and medicinal plants all around you.
- In-home cooking classes to teach you how to prepare and store traditional foods.
- Consultations about gardening, including soil health and garden design.



Linda Black Elk

Note: For in-person consultations and visits, please have a tobacco offering ready as well as a list of all current medications, and a list of any known allergies.

I will also be holding many workshops and classes on the following:

- Making and using herbal products including salves, balms, tinctures, teas, infused oils, elixirs, syrups, and more!
- Self-care workshops that include the use of traditional plants in making scrubs, clay masks, foot balms, bath bombs, relaxation and anti-stress teas, herbal sachets, and essential oil blends.
- Workshops on the use of traditional plants in treating opioid or alcohol addiction and withdrawal symptoms.
- Wild foods cooking classes that include foraging walks and preparation of delicious meals.
- Garden design including three sisters Gardens and seed saving, also including fruit and vegetable preservation by drying, dehydrating, canning, and pickling.
- Workshops for using herbal products during pregnancy, labor and delivery, nursing, and making safe products for babies and children.
- Seasonal workshops on the uses of plants to treat winter ailments such as colds, flu, and lung congestion, as well as warm-weather ailments such as sunburn, bug bites, and allergies.

Thank you so much for your time and for the opportunity to serve the people of Mille Lacs. I hope to be hearing from many of you soon.

Linda (Bishop) Black Elk, Ethnobotanist  
Email: [linda.bishop@millelacsband.com](mailto:linda.bishop@millelacsband.com)  
Phone: 605-850-4966

## BAND MEMBERS COMPLETE BLANDIN PROGRAM

Nineteen residents of the Lower Sioux, Mille Lacs, Prairie Island, and Shakopee reservation communities completed a five-day leadership retreat May 10. This was the first segment of an intense seven-day training provided by the Blandin Reservation Community Leadership Program (BRCLP). The team also will participate in a follow-up workshop.

A program of the Grand Rapids-based Blandin Foundation, BRCLP has provided experiential leadership training for more than 500 community leaders from 11 Minnesota American Indian Reservations since 2001. This is the seventh time these communities have participated together in the BRCLP leadership program.

Participants who completed the retreat were:

Josh Augst, Tori Campbell, Aliceson Cournoyer, Bre DeSart, Frank Downwind, Bob Eagle, Nicole Hendrickson, Cole Jacobson, Ray Lennes, Arthur Lockwood Jr., Briana Michels, Lindsay Misquadace-Berg, Mariah Norwood, Al Olson, Luther Sam,

Kelsey Scares The Hawk, Holly Schmitt, Alesha Sullivan, and Ronda Weizenegger.

The goal of the Blandin Reservation Community Leadership Program is to strengthen leadership capacity through cultural strengths and assets to build and sustain healthy tribal communities. Topics covered during the retreat included: acknowledging and drawing upon leadership strengths, recognizing and tapping into sources of personal and community resilience, framing community issues and opportunities, building social capital, and mobilizing community resources.

"A healthy community depends on leadership engagement of many community members," said Valerie Shangreux, director of Blandin leadership programs. "The leadership demonstrated by these participants reflects their deep commitment to their communities, their reservations, and the people living there."

BRCLP training programs are funded entirely by the Blandin Foundation.



Mille Lacs Band members who participated in the Blandin Reservation Community Leadership Program included Bob Eagle, Briana Michels, Lindsay Misquadace-Berg, Al Olson, Luther Sam, and Ronda Weizenegger.



JASON SAM

## A HEALING GROUP FOR CHIMINISING

By Brett Larson Inaajimowin Staff Writer

On June 23, Jason Sam will have three years of sobriety under his belt, and like most people in recovery — old timers or newbies — he relies on the support that meetings can provide.

But when Jason married his wife, Carrie, and moved to Isle two years ago, he didn't feel comfortable in the meetings he attended, and the ones he liked were a long distance from his home in Isle.

Jason decided to start a new group that meets Fridays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Chiminising Community Center. For now, he's simply calling it "Our Healing Group" but eventually wants to give it an Ojibwe name.

That's only right, since it's Ojibwe culture that Jason wants the group to rely upon — and it's Ojibwe culture Jason credits with helping him in his recovery.

### Turning Point

Jason grew up in the Twin Cities, moving back and forth between St. Paul and Minneapolis, compounding the childhood traumas of addiction and domestic violence.

Like many young men growing up with those challenges, Jason became an addict, ran with gangs, couldn't hold a job, and spent years going in and out of prison. "I was lost for many years," said Jason.

And then he turned 40.

**"I DECIDED 'I'LL TRY SOBRIETY FOR A YEAR, AND IF IT DON'T WORK OUT, AND I CAN'T BE SOBER AND CAN'T FUNCTION, THEN I GUESS THIS OTHER LIFE IS MEANT FOR ME.' IT WAS A DECISION I WAS WILLING TO MAKE, AND I'VE BEEN ON A ROLL EVER SINCE. LIFE IS LOOKING GOOD, AND THERE'S NO REASON FOR ME TO TURN BACK."**

"Forty seemed to be a mark. It was like, 'Damn, you're 40 now.' I was ready to make a decision. Either I was gonna go all the way on the path I was on, or all the way in sobriety. I decided, 'I'll try sobriety for a year, and if it don't work out, and I can't be sober and can't function, then I guess this other life is meant for me.' It was a decision I was willing to make, and I've been on a roll ever since. Life is looking good, and there's no reason for me to turn back."

Jason checked into Juel Fairbanks in St. Paul, where he met a group of friends who introduced him to smudging, the dewe'igan, sweat lodges, and the opwaagan.

By this time, Jason was ready to connect with his traditions and spirituality. But it wasn't always that way.

"In jail I always seen people get serious and start to pray,



but I never wanted to embrace my religion until I was fully ready. I didn't want to be in it halfway. I wasn't ready for religion until I got sober."

One of the friends he made at Juel Fairbanks was James Cross, founder of Natives Against Heroin.

"I knew him before in the penitentiary life," said Jason. "When I got sober this time at Juel Fairbanks, he was doing something there, getting back to the culture. I thought, 'If he can do it, I can do it.'"

Even though Jason hadn't been on heroin, he joined the movement. "I seen a lot of our people dying because of it," he said. "It was a good cause, and I wanted to stand for it."

Jason appreciated the openness and lack of strict guidelines. There was no judgment, no criticism, no cries of "You're not doing it right."

It's that attitude he hopes to bring to his new group, along with a focus on culture and tradition.

"It's not Sober Squad, it's not Natives Against Heroin, it's not Bill W (AA). I just want to provide another option."

### Watching and Learning

Jason is a soft-spoken man who doesn't always like to open up to others. "For me I don't want to let everybody know what's going on. If I need guidance, I go by the lake and put my tobacco in the water for the manidoos, and I let it out and ask for direction or some kind of sign."

Like everyone, though, he needs help from others sometimes, like his friends from Juel Fairbanks, who still offer each other support.

As he considered his own needs in recovery, Jason decided to provide a place for people to come and smudge, smoke the opwaagan, sing, share, or just listen.

Jason appreciates those who have shown up at his meetings — Terry Kemper, Luther Sam, and Ogiimaa (Bob Eagle), to name a few. They've brought a drum and a pipe and a lot of old songs. Jason enjoys listening and learning from them.

"I've been up here two years, and those are the people I've been watching. They're not trying to steal the show, but just want their traditions to be known."

A couple new people have also turned up who were looking for support and heard about the group through Facebook or word of mouth.

That's what it's all about for Jason.

"I just want it to be a place where we can come and smudge and meet, sing some songs, smoke the opwaagan, and do it again next week. It keeps me and my wife stable, because we're just trying to help other people."

## SOLDIERS BENEFIT FROM CELL PHONE RECYCLING

Hundreds of out-of-service Mille Lacs Band cellphones will help soldiers stay in touch with home, thanks to Cell Phones for Soldiers, the Department of Administration, and Environmental Compliance Officer Andrew Boyd of the Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources.



Andrew Boyd

Andrew has worked with Cell Phones for Soldiers since 2009, and when he heard that the Department of Administration had 304 old cellphones gathering dust, he and Carl Weous decided to package them up and send them off.

Andrew and Carl are both veterans and know how difficult it can be to keep in touch with home, especially when stationed overseas. Andy spent time in both West Germany and Korea during his 11-1/2 years in the Army.

Cell Phones For Soldiers is a national nonprofit serving troops and veterans with free communication services and emergency funding. Founded in 2004 by Robbie and Brittany Bergquist, then 12 and 13 years old, Cell Phones For Soldiers relies on generous cash contributions and donations of gently-used cell phones to provide a lifeline for America's bravest.

Cell Phones For Soldiers has two programs: Minutes That Matter provides free calling cards to active-duty military members to connect with loved ones. Helping Heroes Home assists veterans with emergency funds to alleviate communication challenges as well as physical, emotional, and assimilation hardships.

Cellphones for Soldiers has recycled over 20 million devices since 2004, provided U.S. troops with more than 300 million "Minutes That Matter," and distributed more than 5 million pre-paid international calling cards.

In 2016, Cell Phones For Soldiers distributed more than 12 million minutes of free talk time and more than 200,000 calling cards.

- A \$5 donation warrants 2.5 hours of talk time; a \$100.00 donation gives 50 hours or 3,000 minutes of talk time.
- Since July 2012, Helping Heroes Home has assisted more than 3,100 veterans and their families with emergency funding.
- There are more than 4,000 public cell phone collection points across the nation.
- Since 2004, more than 15 million cell phones have been recycled, reducing the impact on landfills.

If you have an old cell phone lying around the house, visit [www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com](http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com), Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and Pinterest pages — or drop it off with Andrew at the Mille Lacs DNR building.



From a jumbled mess of phones and cords, Andrew and Carl packaged up boxes and sent them to Cell Phones for Soldiers.



# STUDENTS, STAFF SHOW APPRECIATION FOR CURT KALK

As the school year draws to a close, Nay Ah Shing students and staff have been reflecting on the positive changes brought by a new addition to the campus: Four Seasons Worker Curt Kalk.

Curt has been sharing a lifetime of cultural knowledge as the seasons have come and gone — ricing in the fall, spearing and netting through the ice, sugarbushing in early spring, and open water netting after the ice went out in April.

In addition, he built a wigwam with students' help, cleaned fish, made decoys, smoked fish, and speared suckers with the kids.

"Curt has done an excellent job this year as a Four Seasons worker here at Nay Ah Shing!" said English teacher Blenda Hagberg. "His enthusiasm has not just buoyed the spirits of our students, but inspired them to become more engaged with harvesting traditions. Chi-Miigwech to Curt, and here's to another great year next year!"

"I have high regards for Curt and the activities and demonstrations he has shown staff and students," said science teacher Larry Hansen. "Curt works well with our students, and the students enjoy working with him. He brings more knowledge and hands on experiences to our seasonal cultural gatherings. I am so glad we have Curt here with us. I have heard a couple of our

students say they want to work in this field, like Curt."

Ojibwe immersion teacher Amanda Nickaboine agreed. "I have enjoyed working with Curt. He is highly knowledgeable, patient, and kind. The students are also appreciative with what Curt is doing."

The students also felt Curt's positive impact on their lives and education.

RaeAna Sam-Nickaboine said she enjoyed going out on the lake to net with Curt, who taught her never to let the net touch the ground (among other things).

Gretchen Nickaboine agreed, citing her most memorable experience: hauling in a big northern featured on the cover of the May *Inaajimowin*. "Thanks for taking me netting for the first time," she said.

Chase Sam learned how to drive a boat and enjoyed pulling a net full of walleyes from the lake. "I highly appreciate and thank Curt for making these activities possible," said Chase. "I'm sure everyone enjoyed partaking in these, and hope we can do so in the following year."

Jonathan Shaugobay said he was grateful to Curt for teaching him things he had never done before. "The most fun I had was spearing and learning the things our ancestors used to do."

Dee Dee Jackson enjoyed sugarbushing the most and said



Four Seasons Worker Curt Kalk shared his knowledge of ricing, fishing, and other topics this year at Nay Ah Shing.

she is very grateful to Curt for all he does for the students. She plans to share what she's learned with her younger siblings.

Jason Wind summed it up well: "I thank him for teaching us our ways of the past. It strengthens our people and pulls us together as one, so if you see Curt, give him a hug or a big thanks."

**28th Annual Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe GRAND CELEBRATION**  
**June 14, 15, 16, 2019**

**HOST DRUM**  
 YOUNG SPIRIT - Frog Lake, Alberta

**INVITED DRUMS**  
 Cozad - Hominy, Ok  
 Iron Boy - Prior Lake, Mn  
 Wild Band of Comanche - Fletcher, Ok

**Arena Staff 2018**  
**Master of Ceremonies**  
 Wallace Coffey - Lawton, Ok.  
 Josh Atcheynum - Sweetgrass, Sask.  
**Arena Directors**  
 Reuben Crow Feather - Prior Lake, Mn  
 Cheevers Toppah - Weatherford, Ok  
**Head Singing Judge**  
 John Morrow - LCO

**Area Hotels**  
**GRAND NORTHERN INN**  
 604 Weber Ave, Hinckley, MN - 800-468-3517  
**GRAND HINCKLEY INN**  
 111 Lady Luck Drive, Hinckley, MN 55037  
 800-468-3517  
**RV PARK / CAMPGROUND**  
 777 Lady Luck Drive, Hinckley, MN 55037  
 800-468-3517  
**DAYS INN**  
 104 Grindstone Court, Hinckley, MN  
 320-384-7751  
**TRAVEL LODGE**  
 325 Fire Monument Rd., Hinckley, MN  
 320-384-6112

**Men's 18+ Prairie Chicken Special**  
 1st \$1000, Jacket, Chicken bustle, Star quilt  
 2nd \$700, Jacket, Star quilt  
 3rd \$500, Jacket, Star quilt  
 4th \$300, Blanket  
 5th \$100, Blanket  
 Sponsored by Preston Cleveland and Family



## ZIIIGWAN GATHERING

District I community members celebrated spring with a Ziiigwan Gathering on Sunday, May 5, at Virgo Park in District I. Participants shared a potluck, sang, smudged, and honored creation with drums, laughs, and unity. Photo by Mikayla Schaaf.

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe			
Summary of Expenditures and Financing Uses:	Approved Budget for FY 2019	Expenditures through 4/30/19	% of Budget Expended
Administration (1)	20,696,617	9,979,374	48%
Department of Labor	22,362,535	2,495,169	11%
Judicial	2,392,725	680,976	28%
Department of Justice	7,268,358	2,987,816	41%
Education	18,782,771	9,296,117	49%
Health and Human Services	33,877,010	15,934,411	47%
Circle of Health Insurance	5,720,000	3,073,573	54%
Natural Resources	10,175,324	5,829,591	57%
Community Development	51,382,996	20,333,228	40%
Gaming Authority	5,332,641	2,531,654	47%
Bonus Distribution	32,204,126	29,621,477	92%
Economic Stimulus Distribution	3,299,000	3,295,332	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>213,494,103</b>	<b>106,058,718</b>	<b>50%</b>

- (1) Administration includes chief executive, administration, finance, legislative, government affairs, and district operations.
- (2) Casino operations are not reported above; however, they do include government operations funded by casino operations.
- (3) The financial statements of the Band are audited every year by an independent public accounting firm. Audit reports from previous years are available for review at the government center upon written request.
- (4) Economic Development appropriations have been excluded as of October 31, 1997.



## GRAND CASINO EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

# BAND MEMBERS SHARE WHAT THEY LOVE ABOUT WORK

**Name:** Raymond Kegg,  
Going Home Cloud

**Clan:** Lynx

**Length of service with Grand Casino:** March 1991-October 1993, July 2001-present

**Position:** Director of Maintenance

**Education:** High School Diploma 1966, Staples AVTI graduated 1978, Brainerd College courses in composition and computers. Tribal spiritual traditions ongoing.

**Family:** Wife, two sons, one daughter, three grandsons, one granddaughter, and one great granddaughter.

**Hobbies:** Hunting and fishing.

**First Job:** Electrical Assistant with start of Grand Casino Mille Lacs March 1991.

**Previous Job:** Acting Corporate Commissioner in 1988 for Mille Lacs Band

**Other than your current position, what would be your dream job?** Teaching our lifelong spiritual traditions.

**What is the one thing you would rather do instead of going to work on Monday?** Helping others become successful.

**What are you most proud of as a Band member working for Grand Casino?** Being a member of the corporate commission at the beginning in 1988.



**Name:** Vicki Kroschel

**Clan:** Wolf

**Length of service with Grand Casino:** 27 years on May 6

**Position:** Talent Manager Acquisitions and Uniforms

**Education:** BA degree in Human Resources from Bethel University.

**Family:** Husband, two daughters, son-in-law, six granddaughters.

**Hobbies:** Gardening, crafts, traveling, spending time with family.

**Previous Job:** Teacher's assistant, Hinckley Schools.

**First Job:** Cashier at Tobie's.

**Other than your current position, what would be your dream job?** I want to retire, but to help in elementary school setting again part time.

**What is the one thing you would rather do instead of going to work on Monday?** Depends on time of year: summer, fishing, traveling, exploring; fall, gardening; winter, cooking; spring, gardening.

**What are you most proud of as a Band member working for Grand Casino?** Director of HR, worked my way up from PBX operator, graduating college with BA degree, years of working here.



## ANIMAL OUTREACH CLINIC



OFFERING:  
**\$10 Spay/Neuter Surgeries**  
**\$10 Wellness Exams**  
**Animal Surrenders**

**East Lake Community Center**  
20650 363rd Ln, McGregor, MN 55760

**June 29-30 from 8AM-4PM**

Surgery spots are limited (50 spots/day). You must register ahead of time. Wellness exams are first come, first served.

Sign up for surgery at the East Lake Community Center or call the center at 218-768-3311.

To request a surrender appointment, email [outreach@secondhandhounds.org](mailto:outreach@secondhandhounds.org)



## EAST LAKE PET CLINIC JUNE 29-30

District II Band members are encouraged to show their love for their dogs and cats by bringing them to the animal outreach clinic at the community center June 29-30 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mission Animal Hospital and Second Hand Hounds will make their annual visit providing wellness checks, spay/neuter surgeries, and animal surrenders.

Wellness exams are first come, first served. Surgery spots are limited. To register, call the center at 218-768-3311. To request a surrender appointment, email [outreach@secondhandhounds.org](mailto:outreach@secondhandhounds.org).

See the flyer above for more details and contact information.

Mark your calendar for pet clinics coming to your community each year: East Lake, fourth weekend in June; Aazhoomog, second weekend in October; District I, second weekend in November; Chiminising, fourth Weekend in April.

## Looking for work?

If you're interested in a job at Grand Casinos, visit <http://mlcvjobs.com/careers/>. For tribal government jobs, see <https://millelacsband.com/jobs>.

## COMMUNITY CLEANUP DRAWING WINNERS

Band members stepped up to help clean up their communities this spring. Participants were entered in a raffle, with the following winners chosen in each district:

District I: First place, Danielle Smith; second place, Randy Sam; third place Ignacio Aguilar.

District II: First place, Mic Davis; second place, Winona Crazy Thunder; third place, Aleah Hill.

District IIa: First place, Shelly Boyd (only participant registered).

District III (Meshakwad): First place, Daniel St.John, second place, Landon Levingston; third place, Cameron Staples. (All Niigaan youth participants)

DIII (Aazhoomog): First place, Rosalie Halloway; second place, William Martin; third place, Richard Ritchie.

Prizes awarded will be a lawn mower, weed whip, gas grill, and power washer. First place gets first pick, and so on.

Miigwech to all program participants, and watch for another event later this summer!

Call Community Development at 320-532-7448 to arrange pick up or delivery of your prize!

## AROUND THE RESERVATION

### SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS IN DI, DIIA, DIII

Summer meals will be served to kids up to 18 years of age Monday through Friday from June 10 to August 15, with the exception of June 14 and July 4, 5, and 26, at Nay Ah Shing High School in District I, Chiminising Community Center in District IIa, and Meshakwad and Aazhoomog community centers in District III.

At Nay Ah Shing, a snack will be served from 8:30 to 9 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m. to noon. Contact Deb Foye, Nutrition Services Coordinator, at 320-532-4690 ext. 2213.

At Chiminising, meals are available to Niigaan participants only. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to noon and a snack from 3 to 3:30 p.m. Contact John Benjamin, DIIa Niigaan Coordinator, at 320-362-0862.

At Aazhoomog, a snack will be served from 10 to 10:30 a.m. and lunch from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Contact Julius Aubid, DIII Program Administrator, at 320-384-6240.

At Meshakwad, a snack will be served from 10 to 10:30 a.m. and lunch from noon to 1 p.m. Contact Ryan O'Brien, site director, at 320-336-0220.

No forms or registration required. Just show up and eat! These institutions are equal opportunity providers. The program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture.

### MINISINAAKWAANG GRADUATION IS JUNE 4

Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy in East Lake (District II) will honor graduate Molly Bohanon on June 4 at 6 p.m. Director Marysue Anderson encourages guests to wear their hoods, robes, or other symbols of education as an example of how higher education is available to everyone!

### INDIGENOUS NURSING CONFERENCE IN BEMIDJI

The Niganawenimaanaanig Indigenous Nursing Program at Bemidji State University is honored to announce their upcoming conference in Bemidji.

The inaugural Indigenous Nursing Conference, entitled "Rising Up to Empower Change: Taking a Stand to Transform our Sacred Communities," will be held on the Bemidji State University campus July 15-16, 2019.

The conference will bring together healthcare and like-minded professionals who serve Indigenous people and communities. The Niganawenimaanaanig Indigenous Nursing Program is an innovative support program at Bemidji State that provides Indigenous students with relevant, holistic support to increase their likelihood of successfully completing the BSU Nursing Program.

For more information: Dr. Misty L. Wilkie, PhD, RN, FAAN, Niganawenimaanaanig Program Director, [misty.wilkie@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:misty.wilkie@bemidjistate.edu).

### SUBMISSIONS WELCOME!

Ojibwe Inaajimowin is always looking for submissions from Band members! Compensation is available for stories and/or photographic coverage of tribal events. If you're interested in submitting a story or covering an upcoming event, please call 320-237-6851 or email [brett.larson@millelacsband.com](mailto:brett.larson@millelacsband.com). You are also welcome to join us at our monthly meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, June 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Red Circle Agency in Minneapolis. Please RSVP to [darla.roache2@millelacsband.com](mailto:darla.roache2@millelacsband.com) or 320-495-5006.



# TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

## HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS TO MILLE LACS BAND ELDERS!

Mary Ann Ailport  
 Randall Wayne Anderson  
 Donald Ray Anderson  
 Ronald Dale Anderson  
 Ronald Roger Audie  
 Von Shane Aune  
 Shirley Ann Beach  
 Arvina Marie Benjamin  
 Sharon Lee Benjamin  
 Angela Jo Benjamin  
 Rhonda Marie Bentley  
 Shirley Jane Boyd  
 Bonnie Kay Boyd  
 David Bradley  
 Clifford Kenneth Churchill  
 Sherry Elaine Colson  
 Mary Louise Colton  
 Simon Eugene Day  
 Ellagene Diane Dorr  
 Peter Jerome Dunkley  
 Rosetta Marie Eagle  
 Pamela Jean Eagle  
 Bruce Wayne Frye  
 George Allen Garbow  
 Kat Anne Garbow  
 Melanie Raemel Garbow  
 Marilyn Ann Gunneau  
 Monica Louise Haglund  
 Steven Jerome Hanks  
 Bruce Duane Hansen  
 Devona Lee Haskin

Cheryl Renee Hietanen  
 Shirley Ann Hillstrom  
 Dorothy Jean Hofstedt  
 Robert Dwaine Kegg  
 Connie Lou Kevan  
 Coleen Marie Lueck  
 LeRoy Joseph Mager  
 Robert Wayne Mayotte  
 Barbara Jean Mulhall  
 Georgia Louise Nickaboine  
 Dana Lou Nickaboine  
 Joel Jay O'Brien  
 Alof Andrew Olson  
 Gordon Gail Parr  
 Patricia Pindegayosh  
 Brian Keith Pippett  
 Alan Duane Ray  
 Donald Gregory Shabaiaash  
 Charlene Ann Shingobe  
 Charles Duane Shingobe  
 Warren Skinaway  
 Pearl Anne St. John  
 Edward James St. John  
 Wallace Ervin St. John  
 Francine Wanda Staples  
 Dean Ray Staples  
 Julie Ann Staples  
 Elvis John Sutton  
 Judy Ann Swanson  
 Ann Marie Thalin  
 Arlene Rene Weous  
 De Etta Marie Weyaus  
 Judy Jo Williams  
 Robin Lee Williams

## HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

Happy sweet 16 June 7 to **Elvis Smith** from Grandma June, Papa Gush, Sundshine, Amber, Eliot, Manny, Hunter, Shyla, Caden.

Happy birthday June 7 to **Eliot** from Mom and Dad, Manny, Elvis, Hunter, Caden, Sunshine, Shayla, Amber, the Smith and Shingobe families, and son Tyrese.

Happy birthday **Booty** June 9. Love, your best cousin.

Happy birthday June 1 **Galli**. Love Mom, Dad, Braelyn, Payton, Eric, Waase, Wes, Bryn, Henry, Grannie, Papa Kyle, Papa Brad, Auntie Val, Dan, Kev, Pie, Montana, Auntie Randi, Auntie Rachel, Rory, Bruce, Jayla, Lileah, Jay, Taylor, and Adam.

Happy birthday **Aidan** on June 20. Love Auntie Val, Dan, Kev, Pie, and Montana.

Happy birthday **Kevin** June 23. Love Mom, Dan, Dad, Sister, Montana, Gram, Papa, Auntie Randi, Auntie Rachel, Rory, Uncle Bruce, Jayla, Lileah, Jay, Taylor, Adam, Uncle Brad, Baabiiaw, Braelyn, Payton, Eric, Waase, Wes, Bryn, Bianca, and Henry.

Happy birthday **Shyla** on June

24 from Hunter, Caden, Elvis, Sunshine, Amber, Eliot, Manny, June, David, and the Smith and Shaugobay families.

Happy birthday **Ravin** on June 30. Love, the Harrington family.



## DR. SAM!

Mashkodebiizhikigaabow, Ben Sam, son of David and Mary Sam, received his doctorate in physical therapy from St. Scholastica this spring. Congratulations, Ben!

## Noteboard guidelines

The Tribal Noteboard welcomes Band member submissions, including birthdays, congratulatory messages, and memorial tributes. Email or text [brett.larson@millelacsband.com](mailto:brett.larson@millelacsband.com) or 320-237-6851. The deadline for the July issue is June 15. Photos may be included if space allows.

## CORRECTION

Ian Bearheart was incorrectly identified in the May issue. We apologize for the error.



## HOWAH, AMBER!

Amber Benjamin-Dorr graduated from Fond du Lac Tribal Technical and Community College with an AA on May 16, 2019. She is pictured below with one of her former Nay Ah Shing teachers, Govinda Budrow, who has seen Amberr graduate from 5th grade, from Brainerd High School, and from FDLTCC, where Govinda is now a faculty member.



# 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

### Wellbriety Talking Circle

Mondays, 6 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., Meshakwad Community Center

Please send changes and additions to [brett.larson@millelacsband.com](mailto:brett.larson@millelacsband.com).

## RECURRING EVENTS

**Co-ed Volleyball:** Tuesdays, Meshakwad Community Center

**Co-ed Basketball:** Wednesdays, Meshakwad CC

**Volleyball:** Thursdays, noon, District I CC

**Zumba:** Wednesdays, noon, District I CC

**Open Gym:** M-Th 5:30–8:30 p.m., Saturday, District I CC

To add your event to the calendar or noteboard, email [brett.larson@millelacsband.com](mailto:brett.larson@millelacsband.com) or call 320-237-6851.

## 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

**Midsummer Day:** July 4. Government offices closed.

**Midwest Native Fitness Event:** July 16–19, Meshakwad Community Center.

**Gii-Ishkonigewag Powwow:** July 26–28, District II Powwow Grounds. Government offices close at noon July 26.

**Mille Lacs Band Traditional Powwow:** August 16–18, Iskigamizige Powwow Grounds, District I. Government offices close at noon August 16.

**Mille Lacs Day:** August 19. Government offices closed.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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**WANT YOUR EVENT HERE?**

Email [brett.larson@millelacsband.com](mailto:brett.larson@millelacsband.com) or call 320-237-6851. Visit [millelacsband.com/calendar](http://millelacsband.com/calendar) for additional MLB events.

**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 at 320-532-4181. **Meeting dates, times, and locations are subject to change.**

**MILLE LACS LAKE AREA OPERATION COMMUNITY CONNECT**

Come to the Onamia Elementary gym from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to learn about programs and services in our area for children, families, veterans, and Elders, including energy and housing assistance, chemical dependency, nutrition, mental health, and education. Dental services are available for those under 26 and pregnant women. A free meal will be served.

					<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>Bob and Perry's Ceremonial Drum</b> District I</p> <p><b>Onamia High School Graduation</b> 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>East Central High School Graduation</b> 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Bob and Perry's Drum</b> District I</p> <p><b>District III Smudge Walk</b> <i>See page 14</i></p> <p><b>Fox 9 Mille Lacs Band special</b> 8:30 a.m. <i>See page 5</i></p> <p><b>Urban Elder Bingo</b> 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. All Nations Church</p>
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<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>McGregor High School Graduation</b> 2 p.m.</p> <p><b>Hinckley-Finlayson Graduation</b> 2 p.m.</p> <p><b>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition</b> 1–3 p.m. District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Operation Community Connect</b> 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Onamia Elementary <i>See above</i></p> <p><b>Wellbriety, AA, NA</b> District I, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>Inaajimowin Meeting</b> 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Red Circle Agency <i>See page 17</i></p> <p><b>Minisinaakwaang Graduation</b> 6 p.m. <i>See page 17</i></p> <p><b>Wellbriety</b> District I, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>District I Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. Community Center</p> <p><b>NA/AA Welcome</b> District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>Nay Ah Shing Graduation</b> 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Circle of Health Outreach</b> 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Urban Office</p> <p><b>Wellbriety 12-Step</b> <i>See page 18</i></p> <p><b>Achilles Sam Fundraiser</b> <i>See 12</i></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p><i>Check for events at <a href="http://millelacsband.com/calendar/">millelacsband.com/calendar/</a></i></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>Kids Craft — Shoulder Bag</b> 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Indian Museum <i>See page 14</i></p> <p><b>Woodland Pottery Workshop</b> 1–5 p.m. Indian Museum <i>See page 14</i></p>
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<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>Woodland Pottery Workshop</b> 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Indian Museum <i>See page 14</i></p> <p><b>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition</b> 1–3 p.m. District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>Wellbriety, AA, NA</b> District I, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>Public Child Care Meeting</b> 4:30–5:30 p.m. Wewinabi <i>See page 14</i></p> <p><b>Wellbriety</b> District I, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>NA/AA Welcome</b> District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>Wellbriety 12-Step</b> 6 p.m. Meshakwad Community Center <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>Grand Celebration Powwow</b> Grand Entry 7 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley <i>See page 16</i></p> <p><b>Government Offices Close at Noon</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>Grand Celebration Powwow</b> Grand Entry 1 and 7 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley <i>See page 16</i></p>
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<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>Grand Celebration Powwow</b> Grand Entry 1 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley <i>See page 16</i></p> <p><b>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition</b> 1–3 p.m. District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>District II Sobriety Feast</b> 6 p.m. East Lake Community Center</p> <p><b>Wellbriety, AA, NA</b> District I, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Wellbriety</b> District I, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>District IIa Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. Chiminising Community Center</p> <p><b>NA/AA Welcome</b> District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>District III Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley</p> <p><b>Housing Board</b> 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Government Center</p> <p><b>Urban Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. All Nations Church</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>MCT Constitutional Convention</b> Division of Indian Work, Minneapolis</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>Urban End of School Year Picnic</b> Noon–2 p.m. Brackett Park</p>
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<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition</b> 1–3 p.m. District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>District III Sobriety Feast</b> 5:30 p.m. Hinckley Corporate Building</p> <p><b>Wellbriety, AA, NA</b> District I, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>District I Sobriety Feast</b> 5:30 p.m. District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Wellbriety</b> District I, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>District II Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. East Lake Community Center</p> <p><b>NA/AA Welcome</b> District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>District IIa Sobriety Feast</b> 5:30 p.m. Chiminising CC</p> <p><b>Wellbriety 12-Step</b> 6 p.m. Meshakwad CC <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>More events:</b> <i>See page 18 for Recurring Events, Upcoming Events, and Recovery Groups.</i></p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>Animal Outreach Clinic</b> 8 a.m.–4 p.m. East Lake Community Center <i>See page 17</i></p> <p><b>Traditional Lacrosse Demo</b> 11–3 p.m. Indian Museum <i>See 14</i></p>
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<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>Animal Outreach Clinic</b> 8 a.m.–4 p.m. East Lake Community Center <i>See page 17</i></p> <p><b>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition</b> 1–3 p.m. District I <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p><b>VISIT THE WEBSITE!</b></p> <p>Millelacsband.com is updated regularly with news, job postings, events, and information about programs and services.</p> <p>The homepage, <a href="http://millelacsband.com">millelacsband.com</a>, has links to all of those pages as well as government departments, programs, and services. Click on "About" for information about our history, communities, economic impact, treaties, and other information.</p>	<p><b>TENTATIVE BAND ASSEMBLY DATES</b></p> <p>June 4: Aazhoomog                  June 6: Meshakwad                  June 11, June 13: Nayahshing                  June 18: Chiminising                  June 20: Minisinaakwaang                  June 25: Big Sandy Lodge                  June 27: Urban</p>
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**MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE**  
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## UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

If your address on file with the Enrollments Office or Office of Management and Budget is incorrect, you may not be receiving important mail from the Band. Each time you move, you need to fill out a Change of Address form from Enrollments (320-532-7730) and OMB. You can download a Change of Address form at [millelacsband.com/services/tribal-enrollments](http://millelacsband.com/services/tribal-enrollments).

## ABOUT US

Ojibwe Inaajimowin is produced monthly by the Government Affairs Department of the Mille Lacs Band's Executive Branch. Please send questions, comments, corrections, or submissions to [brett.larson@millelacsband.com](mailto:brett.larson@millelacsband.com) or call 320-237-6851. The July issue deadline is June 15.

## NEED HELP?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



O J I B W E

I N A A J I M O W I N

JUNE 2019 | VOLUME 21 | NUMBER 6

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



NINGII-PAGIDA'WAAMIN

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