

# OJIBWE INAAJIMOWIN

THE  
STORY  
AS IT'S  
TOLD

NOVEMBER 2014 | VOLUME 16 | NUMBER 11

## NO HONOR IN RACISM

LARGE CROWD PROTESTS WASHINGTON NFL MASCOT

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MELANIE  
BENJAMIN  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Aaniin! In this issue, you will see coverage of the rally against the Washington football team's name (the R-Word). A few people have asked me, with all the problems we face in our community such as violence, substance abuse and unemployment, why is this issue important? I'd like to address that.

Most Americans know very little about us. Too often, all they hear about are a few stories of Pocahontas, the pilgrims and Squanto. Very few American students learn about the ethnic cleansing of the Southwest and Midwest, or the genocide of California Indians. Ignoring this nation's history makes it easier for people like Washington owner Dan Snyder to ignore our voices and use racial slurs to "honor" us.

The denigration of our beautiful culture to cartoons and racial slurs directly contributes to the other problems we face as a community. When people are oppressed over a period of time, they often internalize — they begin to believe — the racist myths and stereotypes about themselves. They start believing they are not as intelligent, beautiful, capable, good or worthy as people outside their group, and they begin to act as if they are not. Many start believing these things when they are children.

The impact of this type of oppression is real; we see it every day, with poor graduation rates, substance abuse and violence in our communities. Too many of our youth turn away from their identity as Anishinaabe people. Taking a stand against a racial slur will not solve all the problems we face, but we have a responsibility to speak out against this racist word that has been used across generations to make our children feel shame and self-hatred.

The rally was a wonderful coming-together of thousands of Native people who proudly stood together in solidarity. As a community, we were not just standing against racism — we

were affirming that we are proud of our culture, our heritage and our identity as Native people, and will not stand by silently while our identity is denigrated. Miigwech to the many Band members who attended this event, whether in person or in spirit!

October was a busy planning month in the Executive Branch. My commissioners and I were invited to participate in a joint meeting with the Band Assembly. Miigwech to Speaker Beau-lieu, who always sets aside time to meet together to discuss Band business. During this meeting, we held an initial brainstorming session on the Net Revenue Allocation Plan (RAP). The RAP is a legal document on file with the U.S. Department of the Interior that designates how our net revenue must be spent. Our current RAP requires that our gaming revenue be divided between Base Government Spending, which funds Band programs (25%); Per Capita (35%); Long-Term Savings (15%); Permanent Initiative (5%); Housing Initiative (7%); Circle of Health (5%); and Economic Development (8%).

Any changes to how we spend our gaming revenue must be approved by the Department of Interior, and like everything involving the federal bureaucracy, the process is lengthy and time-consuming. As a government, however, we need to consistently review the evolving needs of the Band, and if the elected officials as a group determine that changes are necessary, we will make adjustments. Band members will be notified if any changes are proposed to the RAP.

One of my primary responsibilities under Band Statutes involves conducting relations with other governments and organizations. This past month, I attended meetings with the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association, the Native American Rights Fund, the Minnesota Indian Education Association and Res 2014, which is an economic development conference. Con-

gratulations to Chairwoman Carrie Jones, of Leech Lake, who won the "40 Under 40" award at Res 2014.

I also met with a number of representatives of other tribes, including Chairwoman Christina Danforth of the Oneida Nation. We discussed potential business opportunities, and Commissioner of Administration Catherine Colstrud was able to tour Oneida Farms as we think about new ways to create job opportunities for Band Members.

On a more local level, we held our first planning meeting for a local chapter of Women Empowering Women for Indian Nations (WEWIN). I encourage all Band women in the community to consider attending our next meeting, whether or not you have ever attended WEWIN. Information will be coming out soon about our next meeting. This is a wonderful opportunity to continue our work empowering all Native women to achieve their greatest potential!

Finally, congratulations to Percy Benjamin, who was sworn in as our new Commissioner of Community Development on November 4! These commissioner positions carry enormous responsibility, and like my own job, they are not just 8:00-4:00 positions. Much of my work representing the Band requires me to attend evening and weekend meetings. I try to carve out personal time to attend ceremonies, which for me are a critical source of strength, healing and are at the core of my own identity as an Anishinaabe woman. Although my work hours are long, I wake up every day feeling humbled and honored to have this opportunity to work for the Band. Miigwech!



Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin giving her speech at the rally against the Washington Football team name.

# Band Members Attend Indian Education Conference

**Brett Larson** Staff Writer/Photographer

Mille Lacs Band members of all ages traveled to Shooting Star Hotel on the White Earth Reservation October 15 and 16 for the Minnesota Indian Education Association Annual Conference. Among them were Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin, Commissioner of Education Suzanne Wise, and a large contingent of students, teachers and Elders.

Onamia Public Schools brought two teams to the knowledge bowl tournament held at the conference. As part of the competition, the students were asked to translate Ojibwe into English and visa versa.

"We are a very young team, so any competition is a growing experience for the students," said Chris Clitso-Nayquonabe, Indian Education Coordinator for Onamia. "It's very exciting and heartwarming to see Native youth embrace the competition."

It's also a growing experience for educators as well. Chris and her team met with different educators in Indian Country to brainstorm new ideas.

Two Elders — Cheryl Nickaboine and Panji Gahbow — were nominated for Elder of the year, although Gahbow was unable to attend the event. Also in attendance were education planner Shelly Diaz and Ojibwe language team members Linda Stevens, Joe Nayquonabe and Amanda Nickaboine.

According to Wise, the highlights of the event were the evening powwow, the awards ceremony, the frequent discussions of Indian education issues, and a presentation by James



**Front Row: Deilyah Dexter, Shania White, Keaona Mitchell, Samantha Mitchell, and Noel Kegg**  
**Back Row: Madison Sam and Amber Taylor**

Vukelich of Minneapolis Public Schools. Vukelich teaches Ojibwe language classes at Anishinabe Academy, a magnet school focusing on high academic achievement through Native American culture and language. Wise said she and Benjamin are hoping to bring Vukelich to Mille Lacs for a presentation.

Wise said discussions focused on "Where do we go from here?" given statistics showing an achievement gap in Minnesota schools, with Native American students lagging behind their white counterparts in test scores and graduation rates. In breakout sessions, the group discussed barriers to achievement like truancy and a lack of cultural programming. Wise pointed to Montana as a model because of its implementation of "Indian Education for All."

She also said the Cass Lake-Bena school district is seeing improvements as it attempts to help students learn who they

are as Indian people. "When schools acknowledge the culture of native children, that goes a long way," she said.

Wise pointed out the similarity of the Mille Lacs area to Cass Lake and Fond du Lac because all three communities have tribal schools as well as public schools. What Mille Lacs lacks, however, is close access to a college or major university.

"That's one of the reasons Anishinabe College is so important — to be supportive of our high school students and our parents," Wise said.

The Minnesota Department of Education's Office of Indian Education held its annual Indian Education Summit in conjunction with the event on October 15. The theme of the summit was "Closing the Achievement Gap: Culturally Based Education Practices."

# New Doctor's Passions: Rural Health Care, the Great Outdoors

**Brett Larson** Staff Writer/Photographer



**"I saw the need for good quality care in rural areas — both on and off the reservation — and I knew I wanted to fill that niche." — Dr. Shanna Landgren**

Dr. Shanna Landgren, who saw her first patients at Ne-la-Shing Clinic in mid-October, always wanted to be a doctor. "My poor dolls were always getting strapped to the ironing board in preparation for medical transport," she recalled. Her parents never pressured her, but they didn't need to. At age 3, she told them she wanted to be a doctor, and she never changed her mind.

Her mom was an EMT and a nurse, and Landgren had her first medical experience at the age of 17 as a volunteer first responder.

"I always wanted to be able to give back," she said. "I saw the need for good quality care in rural areas — both on and off the reservation — and I knew I wanted to fill that niche."

Landgren started college at Itasca Community College and transferred to UMD, where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in cell biology. During her time there, she shadowed doctors in Hibbing.

Landgren chose the University of North Dakota's medical school in Grand Forks because she loved their focus on rural health care and family medicine. During medical school, she also received training in a small town in the southwest corner of North Dakota, where she worked in a clinic that was the only health care center for many miles. She treated everything from agricultural accidents to a surprising number of autoimmune and infectious diseases.

After North Dakota, Landgren completed three years of residency in Duluth, where she gained further experience in family practice. She embraced the motto "work hard, play hard" by

taking advantage of northern Minnesota's opportunities for outdoor recreation.

A member of the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe, Landgren was raised in the Orr and Nashwauk areas, where she developed a passion for the great outdoors. Among her interests are hunting, cross-country skiing, camping and, of course, fishing. "My dad's biggest mistake was putting a fishing pole in my hands when I was four," she joked. Her dad also took her ricing and taught her to hand-parch rice.

Landgren owns a canoe, a kayak, a snowmobile, and a four-wheeler. She had a memorable backpacking trip to Wyoming last summer: she hiked up 3,000 feet of elevation in three miles and found a mountain lake on the other side, teeming with "bloodthirsty cutthroat trout."

At her home north of the lake, she spends time with her two terriers, and she has recently taken up running. She's finished a few 5K races, and she plans to run her first half marathon in Chicago next spring.

In the meantime, she can be found at Ne-la-Shing Clinic, or possibly out for a jog during her lunch break. Landgren said she especially enjoys women's health care, pediatrics, and prenatal visits, and she looks forward to getting to know her patients. "It's very rewarding to have this opportunity," she said. "It's exciting for me."

“Our critics who say this about being politically correct, I say promoting respect and human dignity is morally correct, and it’s at the core of what we share as Americans and our values.”

– U.S. Congresswoman Betty McCollum



“The black, the brown, the white — all of us are here with you. If you are insulted, we are insulted. If you are offended, we are offended. If any harm comes to you, it comes to us too.”

– U.S. Congressman Keith Ellison



## NO HONOR IN RACISM

Large Crowd Protests Against Washington NFL Mascot

**Brett Larson** Staff Writer/Photographer

**Chad Germann and Andy McPartland** Photographers



Thousands of tribal members and allies from across the nation converged on TCF Bank Stadium in Minneapolis November 2 to send a message to the Washington NFL team and its owner, Dan Snyder. The message, delivered by dozens of tribal and human rights leaders, in addition to thousands of marchers, was clear and simple: “Change the name; Indians are not mascots.”

Among the speakers were several tribal leaders (including Mille Lacs Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin), two U.S. Representatives (Keith Ellison and Betty McCollum), Minneapolis Mayor Betsy Hodges, former athletes Henry Boucha and Joey Browner, and human rights and political activists Clyde Bellecourt, Dick Gregory and Winona LaDuke. Even former Gov. Jesse Ventura made a surprise appearance.

National leaders of the movement to change racist mascots also spoke at the event: Charlene Teters, a Spokane tribe mem-

ber who persuaded the University of Illinois to retire “Chief Illiniwek”; Amanda Blackhorse, a Navajo who is suing to revoke trademark protection for the Washington team name; and Ray Halbritter of the Oneida Nation, who has been leading protests against the name.

Marchers met at 8:30 a.m. at Northrop Auditorium, where kickoff ceremonies were led by members of the National Coalition Against Racism in Sports and Media, including David Glass and Clyde Bellecourt.

The march arrived at the stadium at 10 a.m., streaming through Tribal Nations Plaza — a gift to the University of Minnesota from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. They ended on a lawn in front of the stadium, where a steady stream of speakers and performers took the stage after opening prayers and songs. The rally lasted well past noon, when the Minnesota-Washington game started inside the stadium.

The sunny weather matched the upbeat mood at the event, as speaker after speaker expressed joy and pride at the size of the crowd and confidence that the Washington team’s name and mascot would eventually be retired. A chant of “Change the Name” arose several times throughout the morning. Drum groups, musicians and dancers performed before, between and after the speeches. The speakers were overwhelmingly positive, and there were few confrontations with football fans or the local police, who were out in force on bikes and horseback. The crowd was estimated at over 3,500.

The Mille Lacs Band played a central role in planning the rally and week of related events. MLBO hosted a forum on Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in St. Paul. Several speakers from Sunday’s rally — including Boucha, Browner, Gregory — sat on a panel moderated by Mike Wise, sports columnist from the *Washington Post*.

# Speakers Lend Important Voices to Debate

**David Glass**, the executive director of the National Coalition Against Racism in Sports and Media, kicked off the speeches by thanking the Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for their work in putting the event together, as well as the National Congress of American Indians and the University of Minnesota. He introduced himself as an Anishinabe, but said, "I am also a Vikings fan. I am disappointed in the Wilfs that they haven't taken a stand with us, and I'm disappointed with the NFL that they haven't taken a stand with us."

White Earth Chairwoman **Erma Vizenor** reminded the crowd of the origin of the term "redskin" and said the scalp of Little Crow was on display at the Minnesota Capitol for decades. "That painful legacy has continued, but we are going to stop it today," she said.

Mille Lacs Chief Executive **Melanie Benjamin** spoke on behalf of the Mille Lacs Band and the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. She told the crowd that the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux had given the largest donation ever to University of Minnesota sports, and the contribution had helped to build TCF Stadium. She said Dan Snyder had told a reporter that he would never change his team's name, and that the reporter could "put that in all caps." "Well I have a message for Dan Snyder," she said. "You are on the wrong side of history, the wrong side of social justice, and the wrong side of human rights. We will not stop until that name is changed, and we will never give up. And Dan Snyder, you can put that all in caps."

**John Greendeer** of the Ho Chunk Nation said, "One man's ignorance brings us together. ... He must not hear very well, so we will speak loudly. He must forget a lot, so we will remind him, and we will tell him that his racist mascot has to go. It has no place in Indian country, and Dan Snyder, all of America is Indian Country. Let's change the mascot."

**Clyde Bellecourt** noted that the fight against American Indian mascots has been going on for 45 years. He condemned Snyder for busing "some of the poorest tribes in the nation" to sit in the bleachers with him. "We're going to ask for his removal, ask that the mascot change, and that he let the team go. We're going to be demanding that, and we're not going to give up until it happens."

**Amanda Blackhorse** said she was honored to be in Minneapolis, the birthplace of the American Indian Movement. She commented on the fact that Washington team owner Dan Snyder had bused Native Americans to the game from poor communities. "Shame on you, Snyder, for using our own Native American people against us. We won't fall for it." She said he had done the same thing when his team played in Phoenix.

**Dick Gregory**, who was known as a comedian before he became a civil rights activist, got a laugh from the crowd when he commented on the warm and sunny weather — unusual for early November. He addressed Dan Snyder, saying the name change would be possible because "You're messing with people who can change the weather."

**Patricia Shepard** of Idle No More used her speech to thank Phil St. John, a Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate parent whose actions in the 1980s led the Minneapolis School Board to ban racial mascots.

University of Minnesota student **Vanessa Goodthunder** gave her speech in the Dakota language, followed by an impassioned English translation: "We want to say that as long as the Washington football team and Dan Snyder continue to perpetuate this dehumanizing racial slur, they are not welcome here in our home. This land honors respect, and this land requires respect. Therefore, he is not welcome... Every day is a prayer, and every day is a step

further in educating people about who we are. People are listening and wanting to know. It's time."

Minneapolis Mayor **Betsy Hodges** chided Snyder for his outdated ways: "I have a message for the Washington team: The clock is ticking on your name. You might as well change it now and get yourselves into the 21st century. It's probably lonely back in the 19th Century. There is no excuse for not knowing what your team name means and what it does to people in this country."

State Representatives **Karen Clark** and **Susan Allen** read a resolution they will introduce into the Minnesota House of Representatives stating their support of the movement to change the Washington team's name and mascot.

Former Governor **Jesse Ventura**, in his usual straightforward manner, said, "Dan Snyder, you're a rich white guy. What the hell would you know about any of this?"

**Ray Halbritter** said, "It is important to remember the history of this word. This is the word that was screamed at our ancestors as they were dragged by gunpoint off their lands. It is an epithet...The bad news for Mr. Snyder and the good news for America is that his desire to systematically denigrate people of color is no longer seen as acceptable by an increasingly diverse country."

Minneapolis African-American leader **Spike Moss** pointed out that 90 percent of football players are African-Americans, and they need to "Wake up." He told the crowd that Indian people protected runaway slaves, who married into Indian communities, and that many African-Americans have Native American blood. He invited Bellecourt to stand beside him and said the two had been fighting injustice for 40 years. "If God blesses me with health, I'm gonna line up with him 40 more years," he said.

## Mille Lacs Band Member Produces Anti-R-Word Video

"Redskin" is a Racial Slur, Declares New Hard-Hitting TV Spot



**Larry Yazzie, CEO of Native Pride Dancers, closes out the video.**

The spot begins with the face of a quiet, yet clearly upset African American woman, who speaks to the camera, "I am a n\*\*\*\*r." The actual word is "bleeped" out, as national television doesn't allow the racial slur. Which, says Chad Germann, owner of Red Circle Ad Agency and member of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, is exactly the point.

Watch the spot online: <http://youtu.be/YXZeLE7cc>

"I was tired of people avoiding what I think is the real issue. There is no word in the American lexicon that is more hurtful to the Native American," says Germann, who set out to create a message that puts "redskin" smack in the middle of other racial slurs.

Since the start of football season, the Washington team has been a constant presence in the media for refusing to change its name, claiming "tradition" and "honor."

"This 'honor' brings dishonor to the Native American," Germann explains.

"There's so much about Native American history in America that's ugly. People avoid thinking about all that, which is why the Washington team can get away with this."

In partnering with the National Coalition on Racism in Sports & Media, Red Circle is hoping natives and non-natives alike will join in the conversation around the racist word. "This is a social justice issue about power and privilege, not a Native American one," says Germann.

Germann's tribe is fully behind one of its own. Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, is quick to praise the effort. "Like other racial slurs, this is a word that has been used on playgrounds to demean our children and make them feel shame and self-hate. Why would the FCC ban all those other words and allow this one? We applaud Chad for joining in the effort to bring attention to this injustice."

Germann is out to expose that injustice with a provocative message. "We're left with this ugly word. People don't talk about how ugly it is. We need to talk about it," says Germann.

Red Circle is a Minneapolis-based advertising agency that works primarily with the hospitality industry, including many Native American casinos.

The National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media is an organization dedicated to fighting racial stereotypes used in sports and media, with a firm belief that American Indians are people, not mascots.

Questions, call Chad Germann at Red Circle: 612-248-2062

## Register for the Spring Semester at Anishinaabe College

MLBO Higher Education Office Staff will be available in Districts II, II-A, III, and the urban area to assist college students with completing scholarship applications and registering for spring semester 2015 courses. Higher Education Office staff will be available on the following dates from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the locations indicated below:

### District 2 (East Lake)

East Lake Community Center  
36666 Highway 65  
McGregor, MN

- Thursday, November 20
- Thursday, December 4
- Thursday, December 18

### District 2A (Isle)

Chiminising Community Center from  
2605 Chiminising Drive  
Isle, MN

- Tuesday, November 18
- Tuesday, December 2
- Tuesday, December 16

### District 3 (Lake Lena)

Aazhoomog Center  
45749 Grace Lake Road  
Sandstone, MN

- Thursday, November 13
- Tuesday, November 25
- Tuesday, December 9
- Tuesday, December 23

### Urban Office

1404 East Franklin Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN

- Friday, November 21
- Friday, December 5
- Friday, December 19

For Band members residing in District I, they may obtain assistance from the Higher Education Office located at the Nay-Ah-Shing Upper School.

If you have any questions, please contact the Higher Education Office at 320-532-4695.

Below is a list of dates that we are available to transport students to the Central Lakes College Brainerd campus:

- Monday, November 17
- Wednesday, November 19
- Monday, November 24
- Wednesday, November 26

If these dates do not work for students, we will have an EZ Enrollment Day held on December 3rd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. EZ Enrollment Day will be held at the MLBO Government Center in the upstairs media room.

More information, including course descriptions, located here: [millelacsband.com/programs-services-home/education](http://millelacsband.com/programs-services-home/education)

# Ebola Preparedness Plan in Place at Band Clinics

**Brett Larson** Staff Writer

With fears on the rise over a potential widespread Ebola outbreak in the U.S., health care organizations and governments across the country have been establishing procedures for prevention and screening. The Mille Lacs Band is in the process of implementing its own protocols to help reduce the chances that the disease will gain a foothold in Minnesota or the region.

Both the Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Mille Lacs Band's Health and Human Services department have made Ebola preparedness a high priority. They are conducting a Service Unit Readiness Self-Evaluation Plan and an IHS Facility Plan. From these plans, a specific plan for Ne-la-Shing Clinic will be developed.

Ne-la-Shing Medical Director Donald Gunderson said, "The clinic's role in responding to Ebola or any other highly infectious disease is to provide the best care for the patients and protect the safety of the community and staff. To that end our role is to provide clear and accurate screening, isolation of infected patients, and coordinated efforts to transfer to the appropriate care settings."

A screening procedure is being developed for anyone who has traveled to any affected country or may have come in contact with an individual who has traveled to an affected country. Patients presenting certain symptoms will be questioned about their recent travel history and contact with those who have traveled to affected areas.

Anyone suspected of Ebola infection would be immediately isolated and cared for by staff with proper protective gear. The clinic is currently taking inventory of protective gear and assessing information about training, use and disposal of protective clothing and gear.

Once the person is isolated, calls will be made immediately to transfer the individual as quickly and safely as possible. Practice drills will be developed similar to those being used in facilities around the country.

"It is important for the community to know that the Ebola virus, while certainly causing severe illness, is not easy to contract," Gunderson said. "Many viruses, upper respiratory virus, the influenza virus, etc., may transmit their illness before the



The Tribal Emergency Response Committee met on October 28 to discuss Ebola preparedness.

symptoms of the illness occur. This is not the case with Ebola. In order for Ebola to be transferred from one person to another, the patient must be symptomatic — high fever, nausea, diarrhea, etc. — and one must come in direct contact with the body fluids of the person who is ill."

So far in the U.S., only health workers have been infected. No one else who has come in contact with an Ebola patient has developed the illness. "One does not contract the Ebola virus by casual contact," Gunderson concluded.

The Mille Lacs Band Public Health Department and other departments are part of the Health Alert Network and are receiving information regarding Ebola daily. The community will receive updates as needed.

Mille Lacs Health System in Onamia also implemented a "screen, isolate and transport" protocol. According to Chief Operating Officer Kim Kucera, the health system created an Ebola Preparedness task force to create a training plan and screening process and to conduct drills. She said they are following recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health and also emphasized that Ebola is not easily transmitted.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control implemented new procedures focusing on a 21-day observation of anyone entering the country from Liberia, Guinea, or Sierra Leone. New York, New Jersey and Illinois are requiring mandatory 21-day quarantines. Health care workers and organizations have criticized those states because their policies may hurt medical workers' livelihoods and discourage doctors and others from traveling to Africa to help slow the spread of the disease.

Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton adopted new restrictions October 27 requiring 21-day quarantines only for those with known exposure to Ebola. Others coming to the state from the three affected countries will be required to take their temperature twice a day and maintain daily contact with the state health department.

The current outbreak is by far the largest to date but is still limited primarily to western African nations. Only four cases have occurred in the U.S. One man, Thomas Duncan, contracted the virus in Liberia and passed away in Dallas on October 8. Two health care workers who cared for him were infected, but both have recovered. A doctor who had been to Guinea with Doctors Without Borders became sick after his return.

In addition to those four, two medical workers who contracted the disease in Africa were brought to Atlanta for treatment. Both were cured.

According to the World Health Organization, an Ebola vaccine may be available by the end of 2015.

**Facts about Ebola in the U.S.**

You can't get Ebola through air	
You can't get Ebola through water	
You can't get Ebola through food	

You can only get Ebola from:

- Touching the blood or body fluids of a person who is sick with or has died from Ebola.
- Touching contaminated objects, like needles.
- Touching infected animals, their blood or other body fluids, or their meat.



# Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Acquires Saint Paul Company, 2020 Brand Solutions

## Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures



Jeff Castillo, Director of Investments and Economic Development (MLCV), Joe Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs (MLCV), Jim Ryan, Chief Executive Officer and President (2020 Brand Solutions), and James McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary (2020 Brand Solutions).

Furthering its goal of diversifying its economic holdings, Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (MLCV) announced that it has acquired 2020 Brand Solutions, a brand marketing services company located at 135 Grand Avenue East, in South Saint Paul, Minnesota.

2020 Brand Solutions specializes in brand engagement and performance improvement. For nearly 40 years, it has been a source for companies to find promotional services — from uniforms and corporate apparel to branded merchandise and incentives to printed products, marketing collateral and specialty fulfillment. Since its inception, 2020 has grown to become one of the largest promotional firms in America.

According to Joe Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, the acquisition will bring immediate value to the bottom line for MLCV.

“We spend a great deal of resources on high-quality promotional items to use for our casino promotions,” said Nayquonabe. “Traditionally, we purchase these

items from other vendors and now we will have the ability to purchase items through 2020 Brand Solutions, which circulates our dollars back to our company. Our guests will continue to receive the type of quality products they have come to expect, which will also make a measurable impact on their brand experience.”

Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures will bring key benefits for 2020 Brand Solutions as well. “As a minority business enterprise, we’re excited to bring additional value to 2020,” said Nayquonabe. “Many large corporations actively seek to do business with minority-owned enterprises and often have internal programs in place to contract services. That means exciting opportunities for 2020 Brand Solutions to gain valu-

able experience with new corporate clients, improve industry recognition and expand services to grow as an organization.”

2020 Brand Solutions sees the acquisition as an opportunity for mutual growth.

“We have built our business upon innovation, speed and an uncompromising focus on delivering customer value,” said James Ryan, president and CEO of 2020 Brand Solutions. “We believe that the next generation of success in marketing will be driven by blending relevant customer knowledge with busi-

ness excellence to drive dramatic growth and profitability. These are concepts that Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures knows well, and we look forward to growing together as we leverage our collective strengths.”

In 2012, 2020 launched BrandROI™, a proprietary brand delivery platform that enables creation of a custom “marketing resource center” that effectively automates brand support activities for its clients. In addition to promotional products, 2020 also supports corporate marketing teams through its capabilities such as design

and creative development, program management and global sourcing solutions to design and implement better marketing execution and workflow.

“In partnership with 2020, there is also an opportunity to expand MLCV’s printing services through Sweetgrass Media, its commercial print shop that opened in 2013,” added Jeff Castillo, director of investments and economic development for MLCV. “Sweetgrass currently focuses on direct mail marketing for casino clients. 2020 brings a number of existing corporate clients with direct mail needs that can also be handled by Sweetgrass Media.”

**“Our guests will continue to receive the type of quality products they have come to expect, which will also make a measurable impact on their brand experience.”**

— Joe Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs

## Homecoming Color Run/Walk 1k

**Shawn Willis** Chiminising Niigaan Youth and Community Coordinator

On October 3, 2014 Chiminising Niigaan had twenty-one students take part in Isle “Run Home,” Homecoming Color Run/Walk 1k. It was bitter cold out and the youth still chose to run. All 21 participants finished the race. Niigaan assistant mentor Jared Hanson said, “It was fun to watch these extremely dedicated kids run out here in the cold and not give up.” Niigaan also held a Run/Walk on October 24. We hope to have even more participants at the next race.



Isle Run

## GLIFWC hosts Senate Indian Affairs Committee in Wisconsin

Courtesy of GLIFWC



Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Chairman Mic Isham (chairman of GLIFWC Board); Senator Jon Tester, Montana; Senator Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin; St. Croix Tribal Chairman Lewis Taylor; and Executive Director Bradley Kalk, Mille Lacs Band.

The Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) was happy to welcome Senator Jon Tester (MT), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and Senator Tammy Baldwin (WI) during a tour of Midwest tribes. They attended a GLIFWC-sponsored reception at the Bad River Lodge and Casino in Odanah, WI. It was a wonderful opportunity for exchange between the legislators, tribal leaders and GLIFWC staff, plus the opportunity to enjoy some good cooking and healthy foods.

## Flu Shots Available at Na la Shing Clinic

**Monday–Friday**

**8:30 a.m.–12 p.m. and 1 p.m.–4:30 p.m.**

Mille Lacs Band members and Band employees are welcome. You must be registered at the clinic to receive the flu vaccine.



DISTRICT 3

## Crossroads Boxing Club Starts Back Up

Crossroads Boxing Club will resume the boxing program for our Band Member youth. This club is USA Amateur for ages 9 to 33 years old for the boys. Girls should wait until they are 12 years old to begin. Training is hard and vigorous but beneficial to their character. It helps the youth become strong and more confident in the struggles of daily life. Training also builds their self esteem and helps them learn to achieve their goals.

At this time we've scheduled training for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Aazhoomog Community Center. We are also working on an evening to train at the Hinckley Team Center.

If your child is interested in training, please call the Community Center at 320-384-6240 and leave your name and child's name with Monica Benjamin.

## City of Brainerd Reconciliation Plaque



Over the summer Brainerd City Hall worked with local tribal leaders (White Earth Nation and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe), community members and limited involvement from CLC to host a Reconciliation Program downtown. The event acknowledged the lynching of two White Earth Reservation brothers 142 years ago.

The plaque is located on the S.W. corner of S. 4th and Front Street in Brainerd, MN.

Good things happen when courageous people come together to work towards repairing history and building a community for ALL.

Dr. Tony Treuer will be speaking on Ojibwe history in our region and reconciliation efforts on Wednesday, November 12 at 12 p.m., in the Chalberg Theater.

### Interested in submitting to the *Inaajimowin*?

Send your submissions and birthday announcements to Andy McPartland at [andy@redcircleagency.com](mailto:andy@redcircleagency.com) or call 612-248-2051.

*The December issue deadline is November 20.*

# MLCV Signs Agreement with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

### Partnership paves way for economic development in Mille Lacs area

Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures announced October 10 that it has signed a Project Partnership Agreement with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to expand existing sewer service in Mille Lacs County, extending service to accommodate current and anticipated commercial growth in the area. One major economic development project currently underway is renovation of Eddy's Resort, which will benefit from the extension of a sewer line to the existing wastewater treatment facility.

Joseph Nayquonabe Jr., Commissioner of Corporate Affairs for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and chairman of the board for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, said, "When the wastewater treatment facility was built, Mille Lacs Band leaders had the vision to foresee a need for additional capacity in the future. Today, we benefit from that foresight as we sign this agreement, paving the way for additional economic development."

In 2013, the Mille Lacs Band began working with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers on a sewer extension plan. Its goals were to eliminate the need for more septic systems, improve efficiency of the wastewater treatment plant, and spur economic and job growth. Above all, the plan would continue to clean and protect Mille Lacs Lake and the watershed.

"We had a lot of support in getting this project funded,"



**MLCV signing ceremony. Front row (L-R): Commissioner of Corporate Affairs Joe Nayquonabe, Jr. and Colonel Koprowski. Back row (L-R): U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan, Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin, Secretary/Treasurer Carolyn Shaw-Beaulieu, and Tim Cossalter on behalf of Amy Klobuchar.**

Mille Lacs Band Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin stated, "I will begin with saying Miigwech (thank you) to our two great senators, Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken, for all they did to support this project. They are by far the most effective team in the United States Senate and Minnesota is so lucky to have them in Washington!"

On hand to commemorate the occasion was Colonel Dan Koprowski with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tim Cossalter on behalf of Senator Amy Klobuchar, Dan Solomon on behalf of Senator Al Franken, and U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan, D-Minn.

"The Mille Lacs Band has a proud tradition of environmental stewardship and a proven track record of economic development. This agreement supports both priorities," Nolan said.

# American Indian Heritage Week at Central Lakes College

Sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Central Lakes College is having American Indian Heritage Week from November 13–19. Event details below.



### History of the Ojibwe and Reconciliation

Dr. Tony Treuer  
Wednesday, November 12  
from 12 p.m.–12:50 p.m.  
The Chalberg Theater



### Healing the Impact of American Indian Boarding Schools

Mary Sam, Director of Diversity, Equity & Tribal Relations  
Tuesday, November 18  
9 a.m.–9:50 a.m.  
Room E354

### American Indian lunch special by Prairie Bay

Thursday, November 13

### TRIO and Diversity Club Luncheon and Crafts

Monday, November 17  
11 a.m.–1 p.m.  
For TRIO and Diversity Club students  
In the Bridge

### Dream-Catcher Making

Monday, November 17  
1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.  
Rosenmeier Room/Library E403  
Sponsored by the CLC Diversity Club  
Open to all CLC students

### American Indian Student Advisory Council

Tuesday, November 18  
3 p.m.–4:30 p.m.  
Room E208



### American Indian Mascots

Dr. Donna Brown  
Wednesday, November 19  
12 p.m.–12:50 p.m.  
The Chalberg Theater



# Aadizookeng Winter Legends

**Lee Staples** Gaa-Anishinaabemod Obizaan  
**Chato Gonzalez** Gaa-Anishinaabewibii'ang Ombishkebines

**Mii omaa wii-ni-wiindamaageyaan gaa-izhi-gikinoo'amaagooyaan ingiw aadizookaanag gii-tazhinjigaazowaad. Mii eta-go iko biboonagak apii eni-aadizooked awiya miinawaa azhigwa gaa-pangishimod a'aw giizis.**

I am going to tell what I was told about our winter legends or Aadizookaanag. It is only in the wintertime that these legends are told and it must be after the sun has gone down.

**Ishke dash gaye niwii-wiindamaage azhigwa oshki-bangishing a'aw goon, booch da-asemaakawaad a'aw Anishinaabe inow Manidoon omaa eyaanijin gooning. Mii a'aw Gaa-biboonike ezhi-wiinind a'aw Manidoo.**

I also want to tell that when the first snow falls a tobacco offering must be made to that Manidoo that exist within the snow. That Manidoo is known as Gaa-biboonike in our language.

**Ishke dash azhigwa a'aw goon gii-ayaad, mii owapii eni-naazikawind netaa-aadizooked. Booch weweni da-doodawind, asemaan da-miinind, miinawaa gemaa waabooyaan da-miinind, miinawaa aniibiish ge-minikwed megwaa aadizooked mii gaye ge-miinind.**

Once the snow has arrived that is when you approach one who knows how to tell these legends. You must treat him respectfully and give him tobacco, and possibly even a blanket, and tea to drink while he is sharing his knowledge of the legends.

**Ishke booch da-biboonagak. Ishke giishpin eni-aadizooked awiya megwaa ayaasinig inow goonan, omakakiin oda-mikawaan imaa da-wiipemigod. Mii iw gaa-izhi-wiindamaagooyaan.**

It has to be winter. If someone were to go ahead and tell these legends without there being any snow on the ground, that person will find a frog sleeping with him. That is what I was told.

**Ishke dash a'aw mindimooyenyiban gaa-nitaawigi'id, mii a'aw iko gaa-aadizookawid. Booch igo asemaan gii-miinag. Ishke dash gaye a'aw mindimooyenyiban gaa-izhid, "Wiikwajitooon da-goshkoziyan. Gego noonde-nibaaken dabwa-giizhaajimag a'aw aadizookaan, ishke Manidoog ingiw endazhinjigaazojig omaa aadizookeng. Weweni bizindaman omaa enaajimoyaan, gegoo-go omaa gidaa-ina'oonwewiz ge-naadamaagoyan. Manidoog omaa endazhinjigaazojig omaa eni-aadizooked awiya. Gidaa-zhawenimigoog weweni bizindaman."**

It was the old lady that raised me that told me these winter legends. I always had to give her tobacco. This is what the old lady told me, "Please try to stay awake. Do not fall asleep before I finish telling a legend. These are Manidoog that are being talked about in these legends. If you listen carefully to

what I am telling, you could be gifted with something from these legends that will help you, after all these are Manidoog that are talked about in these legends. They can gift you if you listen to these legends carefully."

**Ishke wiin a'aw chimookamaan anooj inaajimod, gaawiin i'iw menidoowaadadinig odazhindanziin. Mii inow endazhindamaanin dibaajimowinan eyaang a'aw chimookamaan. Gaawiin omaa gegoo menidoowaad onjikaamagasinini a'aw abinoojiinh ge-naadamaagod.**

When the white man tells his stories, there is nothing that is spiritual that he talks about. I am speaking of the stories that the white man tells. There is nothing helpful on a spiritual level that can come from his stories that would benefit a child when hearing these stories.

**Ishke dash a'aw Anishinaabe gakina gegoo ezhi-apitendang, mii iko azhigwa gaa-aabita-biboong ingoji-go wapii maadagin zod a'aw Gichi-manidoo-giizis, mii a'aw mindimooyenyiban gii-azheyaajimaad iniw aadizookaan gayat gaa-tazhimaajin. Mii**

**imaa gii-wiindamawid wii-azhegiwewinaad iniw Manidoon imaa aadizookaaning gaa-tatibaajimaajin gii-aadizooked weweni wii-azhenizha'waad gaa-onjikaanid.**

To show that the Anishinaabe has respect for everything, when it would be mid-winter or around the first of January that old lady would retell the legends that she had told me up until that point. It is then that

she told me that she was returning those Manidoog from those legends that she had told to send them back to where they originally were.

**Mii dash iko apii gii-aadizooked a'aw mindimooyenyiban, mii imaa gii-aayaajimaad inow Wenabozhoyan. Nebowa aadizookaanag ayaawag eni-datazhinjigaazonid inow Wenabozhoyan. Ishke bezhig inow aadizookaan gaa-wiindamawid, mii imaa gii-tazhimaad iniw gwiizensan. Omigiinaazens gaa-izhi-wiinind. Miinawaa gaye aanind iniw aadizookaan gii-kinwaabiigizwan. Niizho-dibik maagizhaa gaye niso-dibik gii-tazhitaa gii-kiizhaajimaad bezhig iniw aadizookaan. Miinawaa nebowa imaa ayaamagad ani-gikinoo'amawind a'aw abinoojiinh i'iw gwayak dani-bimiwidood i'iw akeyaa izhi-bimaadizid.**

When that old lady told those legends, one those Manidoog she talked about quite often was Wenabozho. There are a lot of these legends that talk about Wenabozho. One of the legends that she told me talked about a little boy. His name was Omigiinaazens. Some of the legends she told me were lengthy. Sometimes it took her two to three nights for her to complete one of these legends. These legends consisted of a lot of teachings that will help a child live a good life, the way we should live our life as Anishinaabe.

If you listen carefully to what I am telling, you could be gifted with something from these legends that will help you.

## Sons of Tradition

### MLB Behavioral Health

**When:** Saturdays from 1 p.m.–3 p.m.

**Where:** The Red Brick Building, District I

**Age:** Anyone who is interested! Fathers/Grandpa's/Uncles encouraged to attend too!

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe BH, along with men/elders are starting Sons of Tradition teachings with our male youth. The activities will include building a fire, tipi, and wigwam. There will also be stories and language from the elders. Archery is just one of the physical activities that is planned.

Our hope is that our youth may learn how their own cultural traditions, spirituality and ceremonies guide their pathways for meaning in their lives.

If you have questions, contact MLB Behavioral Health department at 320-532-7773, ext. 2419 or email [kim.sam@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov](mailto:kim.sam@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov)

### New Writer is Familiar Face

Brett Larson, long-time resident and journalist in the area, joins the staff of



*Inaajimowin* this month as a writer who will work on a variety of stories for each issue.

"I'm excited to be back in the

community and grateful to the Band for the opportunity," Brett said. "I've gotten to know many Band members over the years. The stories I've done on folks like Raining Boyd, Dorothy Sam, Mushkooub and Dave Matrious have been some of the highlights of my journalism career."

Brett first came to the area in 1997 when he worked as a reporter and photographer for the *Mille Lacs Messenger*. He worked off and on for the paper until 2007, when he became full-time editor, a position he held until 2013. In that role, he says he tried to help the wider community see the Band's position on treaty rights, reservation boundaries and tribal sovereignty. "I've always said we all need to work together on behalf of the lake, the local communities, and future generations," Brett said.

Brett has followed the development of the *Inaajimowin* over the years, from its inception to its redesign two years ago. "I'm proud to be associated with the paper and the Band," he said. "I look forward to making new friends, and I hope people will call or email me with story ideas."

Reach Brett at [brett@redcircleagency.com](mailto:brett@redcircleagency.com)

## TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

### Happy November Birthday to Mille Lacs Band Elders!

Floyd James Ballinger  
Carleen Maurice Benjamin  
Clifford Wayne Benjamin  
Franklin James Benjamin  
Irene Bernice Benjamin  
Barbara Jean Benjamin-Robertson  
Charles Alvin Boyd  
William Boyd Jr.  
Alice Elizabeth Carter  
Mary Ann Curfman  
Richard Thomas Dakota  
Michael Roger Dorr  
Donald Ross Eubanks  
Thomas Rodney Evans  
Terrance Wayne Feltmann  
Roger Granger  
Eileen Marjorie Johnson  
George Vernon LaFave  
Sidney Ray Lucas  
Darlene Doris Meyer  
Mary Ellen Meyer  
Marie Linda Nahorniak  
Elizabeth Anne Peterson  
Ralph Pewaush  
Dale William Roy

David Wayne Sam  
Leonard Sam  
Karen Renee Sampson  
Mary Ann Shedd  
Kenneth Daryl Shingobe  
Ronald Eugene Smith  
Maria Ellena Spears  
Nora Grace St. John  
David Le Roy Staples  
Beatrice Mae Taylor  
Donald Gerard Thomas  
John Henry Thomas  
Joyce Laverne Trudell  
Lawrence Eli Wade II  
Linda Marie Wade  
Natalie Yvonne Weyaus  
Sylvia Jane Wise  
Patricia Beatrice Xerikos

### Happy November Birthdays:

Happy Birthday **RaySean** on 11/3 from Rachel & Waylon, Daddy, Gram Chick, Sissy, Andre, Brevin, Nate, Marcus & kids. • Happy Birthday **Naomi "Noodlez" Benjamin** on 11/4, love Mom, Dad, Dolly, Rhea, David, Dakota, Rheonna & Mason, and the rest of the

family. • Happy Birthday **Basil** on 11/5 from Rachel & Waylon, Brad Sr., Val & kids, Brad Jr. & kids, Jay & kids, Bruce & girls, and Randi. • Happy Birthday **Brandi** on 11/9, love Mom, Brandon, Chantel, and Jazmin. • Happy Birthday **Mommy** on 11/9 love Elias, TANK, Alizaya, and Rico. • Happy Birthday **Auntie Brandi** on 11/9, love you — Ahrianna • Happy Birthday Dad **Floyd Ballinger** on 11/1 from Rose and Shane; happy birthday Grandpa from Jake, Sagey, and Lovey Dovey. • Happy Birthday **Arielle** on 11/12 from Rachel & Waylon, Craig & boys, Tony & Kids, Nick & Girls. • Happy Birthday **Cameron** on 11/15 from Rachel and Waylon. • Happy Birthday **Delores "Dolly" Corbine** on 11/17, love Mom, Dad, Noodlez, Rhea, David, Dakota, Rheonna & Mason, and the rest of the family. • Happy Birthday **Rico "Swabs" Garbow** on 11/19 with all our love — Mommy, Elias, TANK, Sissy, Gramma

Tammy, Uncle Brandon, Auntie Chantel, Jazmin and Baby Cuz Ahrianna. • Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday **Freddie Boo** on 11/20! Love, Mommy, Daddy, Gamma, Benny, Joshy, Caddy, LoLo, Uncle Jr., SySy and the rest of your family! • Happy 19<sup>th</sup> Birthday **Gerald Wade** on 11/22 with love From Mom, Dad, Cede, Levin, Levi, Jodi, Penny, and Baby Avery. • Happy 19<sup>th</sup> Birthday **Wade** on 11/22, love Maria and Erica. • Happy Birthday to my love **Wade** on 11/22, love your wifey Mone, Rachel, Joe, Simon, Sheila, Joey, and Donny. • Happy Birthday **Lana** on 11/26 from RaySean, Sissy, Andre, Brevin, Rachel, Waylon, and Adrian. • Happy Big Birthday **Don Eubanks** on 11/26 from Mara, Rafael, Gabby, Kelsey, Mom, and all the Eubanks family!

### Other

**Announcements:**  
Congratulations to **Darian**

**Kegg and Chris Bernu** on the birth of their baby girl Avery Dennise Kegg born on September 29th, 2014; 9 lbs., 3 oz., 20 1/2 inches long. Grand Parents are Beverly Kegg and Gerald Nickaboine and Marilyn and Roger Bernu. Great-Grandma Maggie Kegg. Avery is welcomed home by her Grandma B. & Papa, aunts Erica, Jodi, Brandi, Dena, Kacie, and Simone. Uncles Levin, Wade, Levi, Sheldon, Sean, and Grant. And all her cousins Hayden, Cayleigh, Mercedes, Maria, and Rico.

### Submit Birthday Announcements

Send name, birthday and a brief message that is **20 WORDS OR LESS** to Andy McPartland at [andy@redcircleagency.com](mailto:andy@redcircleagency.com) or call 612-248-2051.

The deadline for the December issue is November 20.

## Mille Lacs Indian Museum November Events

### Black Friday Storewide Sale

Friday, November 28

Time: 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Fee: Free

Mix things up this holiday shopping season, with a visit to the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post. On Black Friday, everything in the Trading Post will be marked down 25 percent. The post has a wide range of authentic, handmade American Indian arts and crafts products, as well as a large collection of books, arts, and crafts supplies, and unique one-of-a-kind items.

## Minneapolis Thanksgiving Feast & Powwow

Thursday, November 27–Saturday, November 29

Minneapolis American Indian Center (1530 East Franklin Avenue)

Free admission, all welcome

Thursday: Noon–2 p.m. Free meal

Grand Entry: Thursday at 6 p.m. — Round Dance and Hand Drum Contest, Friday at 1 p.m. & 6 p.m., and Saturday at 1 p.m.

Royalty Contest: Miss, Little Miss, Brave, Grandma of the Year. First ten drums registered will be paid.

For more information: [millelacsband.com/calendar](http://millelacsband.com/calendar)



**GREAT FOOD**  
**DOOR PRIZES**  
**ENTERTAINMENT**  
**GOOD CONVERSATION**

### Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Invites You

15th Annual Feast for all Mille Lacs Band Members

Thursday, November 20, 2014

Doors open & seating starts at 5:15 p.m.

Invocation/welcome at 5:45 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Entertainment: Master Hypnotist **Jason Mystic**, at 7:00 p.m.

Grand Casino Mille Lacs Events & Convention Center, seating on a first come first served basis

# NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Anishinaabe College Registration</b> Mille Lacs Band Government Center See page 6  <b>History of the Ojibwe and Reconciliation</b> 12 p.m.–12:40 p.m. Central Lakes College See page 8  <b>District I Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. District I Community Center  <b>District II Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley	<b>13</b> <b>American Indian Lunch Special</b> See page 8  <b>Urban Area Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. All Nations Indian Church	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Urban Elder Luncheon/Bingo</b> 11 a.m.–2 p.m. All Nations Indian Church
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Anishinaabe College Registration</b> See page 6  <b>TRIO and Diversity Club Luncheon</b> 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Central Lakes College See page 8  <b>Dream-catcher Making</b> 1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m. Central Lakes College See page 8	<b>18</b> <b>Healing the Impact of American Indian Boarding Schools</b> 9 a.m.–9:50 a.m. Central Lakes College See page 8  <b>American Indian Student Advisory Council</b> 3 p.m.–4:30 p.m. Central Lakes College See page 8	<b>19</b> <b>Anishinaabe College Registration</b> See page 6  <b>American Indian Mascots</b> 12 p.m.–12:50 p.m. Central Lakes College See page 8  <b>Chiminising Bingo</b> 6 p.m. Chiminising Community Center	<b>20</b> <b>District II-A Sobriety Feast</b> 5:30 p.m. Chiminising Community Center	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Anishinaabe College Registration</b> See page 6	<b>25</b> <b>District I Sobriety Feast</b> 5 p.m. District I Community Center	<b>26</b> <b>Anishinaabe College Registration</b> See page 6  <b>District II-A Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. Chiminising Community Center	<b>27</b> <b>Miigwech Day</b> Government Center closed  <b>Minneapolis Thanksgiving Feast &amp; Powwow</b> Noon–2 p.m. Minneapolis American Indian Center See page 10	<b>28</b> <b>Miigwech Day</b> Government Center closed  <b>Black Friday Storewide Sale</b> 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Mille Lacs Indian Museum See page 10  <b>Minneapolis Thanksgiving Feast &amp; Powwow</b> Noon–2 p.m. Minneapolis American Indian Center See page 10	<b>29</b> <b>Minneapolis Thanksgiving Feast &amp; Powwow</b> Noon–2 p.m. Minneapolis American Indian Center See page 10
<b>30</b>	<b>Tab Renewal from DMV</b> The Mille Lacs Band Department of Motor Vehicles will be coming to East Lake, Aazhomoog, and Hinckley for tab renewals in December. For more information visit: <a href="http://millelacsband.com/resources/public-notice-updates">millelacsband.com/resources/public-notice-updates</a>				<b>Want your event here?</b> Email <a href="mailto:andy@redcircleagency.com">andy@redcircleagency.com</a> or call 612-248-2051.	

## Circle of Health Update

### Health Insurance Enrollment Assistance

Circle of Health is here to help assist you and your family with education and enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace. If you don't have health insurance coverage, we can help you get covered on a plan. We help people enroll in MNsure or on the [Healthcare.gov](http://Healthcare.gov) website.

Most people are eligible for Medicaid or a low cost health plan. Health insurance is a benefit on top of the care provided by Ne-la-Shing Clinic. Health insurance means more choices for our families and more resources for our tribal health facilities.

- Mary Kegg, Patient Benefits Coordinator  
320-532-7740
- Jamie Rancour, Health Benefits Assister  
320-532-4163, ext. 2583

### Annual Circle of Health Enrollment forms

All Circle of Health enrollment forms must be updated on an annual basis. If you need a copy of the enrollment form, you can find it on the Mille Lacs Band website, under Circle of Health. Please return the enrollment forms with a copy of:

- A current Tribal ID or Certificate of Enrollment
- All current insurance cards (front and back)

A new Circle of Health card will be sent after your paperwork has been processed.

### Legal Name Verification

If you have changed your legal name, please submit your birth certificate, marriage, divorce, or court order that provides us proof of a legal name change.

### HOLD Status

If you have not submitted your updated enrollment form, as of September 1, 2014, your account has been put on a HOLD status. This means that any reimbursements, claims, or premiums we pay on your behalf will not be paid until an updated and completed enrollment form is received. This also means we will not authorize any DME, eyeglasses, orthodontia or any other benefit Circle of Health pays on your behalf.

### Medicare Reimbursement Notice

#### *Social Security Benefit Letter 2015*

Please submit your Social Security Benefit Letter for 2015 to Circle of Health. Please be advised that this information is needed before any Medicare premiums can be reimbursed for the next year. You will receive your new Benefit Letter in the mail beginning November to January.

### My Social Security account

If you do not receive a new letter for 2015, Circle of Health can help you access this information online. You will need to establish an online account with Social Security called "my Social Security." The link to this website is:

[ssa.gov/myaccount](http://ssa.gov/myaccount). Once an account is established, you have access to request a copy of your 2015 benefit letter.

### American Indian Exemption for Affordable Care Act

Starting in 2014, every person needs to have health coverage or make a payment on their federal income tax return called the "shared responsibility payment." The American Indian Exemption means that you are exempt from the tax penalty if you have no health coverage for 2014 and each year after.

If you are a member of a tribe or eligible for Indian Health Service, you can apply for an exemption/waiver anytime this year. You can find the form on the band website under Circle of Health.

### New Tribal Delta Dental Plan

Good news! The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has started a new dental plan for tribal members. Beginning October 1, 2014, we have been enrolling band members that do not have a dental plan into Delta Dental. Premiums for the Delta Dental plan are paid by Circle of Health each month. You can enroll, add/remove dependents, or opt out of the plan by filling out the Delta Dental membership enrollment form provided on band website under Circle of Health or at our office.

Medica — MCHA policy holders

Your plans will end December 31, 2014. You should be receiving notices in the mail. It is important that you contact Circle of Health to help sign up health insurance.

If you have any questions, contact your claims processor at the Circle of Health.

- Roberta Lemieux, Claims Processor A-F,  
320-532-7724
- Deb Smith, Claims Processor, G-N,  
320-532-8903
- Bonnie John, Claims Processor, O-Z,  
320-532-8904

Please fax all completed enrollment forms to Circle of Health 320-532-4354 or email to Pamela Spears at: [pamela.spears@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov](mailto:pamela.spears@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov).

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Circle of Health at 1-800-491-6106.

## Receive a Sharps Disposal Container with Free Disposal at Any District Clinic

Used needles and other sharps are dangerous to people and pets if not disposed of safely because it could cause injury to people by accidental needle-sticks, and spread infections that cause serious health conditions. Sharps are devices with sharp points or edges. These include needles, syringes, lancets, auto injectors, infusion sets, and connected needles/sets.

### How to Dispose of Needles and Other Sharps:

- FREE Sharps Disposal Containers are available at all three district clinics.
  - If containers are unavailable, the clinic recommends using a heavy-duty plastic, household container for disposal. NEVER place full plastic container in recycling bin, always dispose of in a garbage.
- Immediately place used needles and other sharps in container to reduce risk of needle-sticks or cuts.
- Keep this container out of reach of children and pets.
- Bring full Sharps Containers to any three district clinics for FREE dispose.

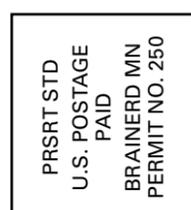
### How NOT to Dispose of Needles and Other Sharps:

- Do not throw into the trash.
- Do not flush down the toilet.
- Do not recycle sharps containers.
- Do not try to remove, bend, break or recap the needles used by other people.

### All sharps disposal containers should be:

- made of heavy-duty plastic;
- able to close with a tight-fitting, puncture-proof lid, without sharps being able to come out;
- upright and stable during use;
- leak-resistant;
- properly labeled; and
- disposed of in garbage or at healthcare clinic when full.

For additional information, please visit [fda.gov](http://fda.gov) or contact Diabetes Program Coordinator, Kelsay Grams, at 320-532-7790.



**MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE**  
43408 Oodena Drive  
Onamia, MN 56359  
[millelacsband.com](http://millelacsband.com)



## Heating, Water, and Maintenance Problems?

**During normal business hours:** tenants in Band rentals and Elders living within the service area should call 800-709-6445, ext. 7433, for work orders. **After business hours:** tenants with maintenance emergencies should call 866-822-8538 and press 1, 2, or 3 for their respective district.

## Free Hearing Evaluations

Evaluations take place on the second Friday of each month at Ne-la-Shing Clinic. Call 320-532-4163 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome — we will do our best to serve you. Ask us about the \$1,000 in hearing aid benefits you can receive from the Circle of Health.

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