



# Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Community News

JUNE 2006

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*We are a  
non-profit  
organization  
dedicated to  
preserving  
our Dakota  
heritage.*

## Voting Membership Meeting Sunday, May 21 at 2:00 PM

### Note date & time

Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> is the date for our next monthly membership meeting. It was decided to move it up a week as the last Sunday of May is Memorial Weekend. Please mark your calendar, we have had some fresh ideas and would like to get moving on these and want your input. We will begin at 2:00. Please bring a dish to share, we will have a feast after the meeting.

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### Dues We Now Have Direct Payment!

If you are not current on your dues, please try to get that balance paid so we can rectify your account. If you are not paying dues, we will take you off our mailing list until your account is up to date. If you got an invoice that is incorrect, please contact Renée Johnson, our treasurer, to get things cleared up. Direct payment saves time and checks, payments are made on time, saves postage, easy to sign up for. A simple form is enclosed if you opt to do this. We had many people interested in this, please sign up if you are able.

### Newsletters

Next months newsletter will have a new format. Thank you to Diane Elliot and Linda Rost for coming up with a way to help me with the newsletter! I really appreciate that, it is going to save me a lot of time and gas!

### Benefit concert

Mitch Walking Elk will entertain at the MMDC center May 19 from 8:00 to 11:00 pm. The cost is a \$12.00 recommended donation. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Call for more information.


	<p><b>Open Saturdays</b></p> <p>Our store was open Saturday, May 6 and made over \$94.00. Available for sale are pastries, gourmet coffees and teas, and FRY BREAD! Thank you to Connie Blaisdell for providing the dough and things needed to make the fry bread. (fry bread will be available for sale throughout the week). We are looking at options for the coffee shop (internet access, etc.) The store will be open Saturdays from 9am to 3 or 4pm, we will see how sales go in the afternoon (the Sibley house opens at 2pm, that may bring in heavier traffic) If you have any ideas to help us, please contact the office and we will put you in touch with the correct person. Please come in and shop or enjoy a treat with us on a Saturday.</p>
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<p><b>Thanks to all</b></p>	<p>We have so many people to thank, I am just doing a general to thank you to everyone who has helped us in one way or another during our financial crisis. We appreciate it and need you all to stay involved. Our newsletter will have a special section for thank yous. Please call Tiffany or Sharon to submit any names to be recognized in future newsletters. Thank you to Emmet Martineau for donating a paper shredder! Thanks to Joe Witmer for spending so much of his time helping us with various things in the office and his financial donations also. I know I am missing many people, we will get everyone thanked in the next one.</p>
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<p><b>Help Your Community!</b></p>	<p><b><u>Volunteers needed!!</u></b></p> <p>We can always use help in the office! Please come in and volunteer an hour or so of your time. Just ask, we will find something for you to do. We will also be needing volunteers to help organize, set up, and work at our powwow in July. If you can help, contact the office.</p> <p><b><u>Federal Recognition committee</u></b></p> <p>Anyone interested in forming a group to research what needs to be done to get on our way to recognition please call Brian Eggenberg at 612-386-6276. We already have a small committee formed and anyone is welcome if you would like to help us move toward recognition. Brian will give a report of progress at our membership meetings.</p>
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	<p><b><u>Letters to the Tribal Council</u></b></p> <p>We want our membership to bring issues and concerns to the Tribal Council. Here are some basic guidelines on submitting letters to the Tribal Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Start with the end in mind. What results do you want? This will help you keep your letter focused.</li> <li>*Be specific. State your issues and concerns – not your feelings. Staying with the facts and avoiding the emotions allows everyone to focus on getting results instead of getting hurt, defensive, and angry.</li> <li>*State the action you would like the Tribal Council to take. Make it clear and concise so we know what results you want.</li> <li>*Include your contact information (name, phone number, email, etc.), so we can contact you for clarification or additional information. It also gives us the</li> </ul>
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	<p>opportunity to respond directly to you.</p> <p>Our goal as a Tribal Council is to serve you. Following these guidelines will help us stay focused on addressing your issues and concerns.</p> <p>Renée Johnson</p> <p>Sr Business Process Specialist</p> <p>Ph: 612-630-4338</p> <p>Fax 612-630-4367</p>
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<p><b>Voting Membership Meeting</b></p> 	<p><b>MARCH 28, 2006 MINUTES</b></p> <p>A copy of the minutes is available in the office for your viewing pleasure at any time. .</p>
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<p><i>Dakota Culture Classes</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Learn About the Dakota Culture</b> <i>by Jim Anderson</i></p> <p>Mark your calendars for the last Wednesday each month. Jim Anderson, our Historian, will share his knowledge about our Dakota heritage and ceremonies. His talks have been very popular</p> <p><i>Pidamiya ye do</i></p>
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<p><b>Friends of the Friendlies</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mendota Dakota Oópaye</b> <i>by Linda Rost and Diane Elliot</i></p> <p>We are establishing a Society in conjunction with the Tribe to assist in the efforts to preserve the culture. If you are interested in becoming a member of our Society and helping us build our community, please contact us.</p> <p><b>Here is the email address:</b> <a href="mailto:hecetu1@yahoo.com">hecetu1@yahoo.com</a> Linda Rost 612-825-1079 (leave a message) or Diane Elliott at 651-457-0312.</p>
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	<p><b>Secretary</b>- this position is still available. Anyone interested in running needs to submit a letter to the Tribal Council.</p>
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*Positions open*

**Craft Classes**- if you are interested in teaching a class, let us know in the office and we can work together to set up a date or dates. You will be compensated for sharing your talents and skills. If there is something you would like to learn to do, we can try to find someone that will come and teach.

**Membership enrollment committee** – Beverly Scott, Ann Lauer, Sharon Lennartson, Renée Johnson, Vicki Scott and Joan Minske are the enrollment committee currently. They would love some help. We thought if we could get about ten people or so to all come in one day or evening together, we could get so much done. Please contact the office if you can help.

**Powwow Committee**- The powwow is rapidly approaching! We need lots of help. Anyone who can volunteer time, talent, money, skills, etc would be much appreciated! We will need donations, helpers at our booth, anyone good at coordinating things. If you can be involved in this, please join our committee. Call us to put your name on a list and we will get together a time and date. Even if you can't make it to meetings, we will find some way you could help.

Tribal Council:		Committee Chairs:	
Chairman	Michael Scott.....612-789-6642	Constitution/ Membership	Beverly Scott .....763-789-66 Ann Lauer ... 651-665-0108
Vice Chairman	Curtis LeClaire.....763-205-1286	Cultural	Jim Anderson .....763-753-28 Michael Scott .....612-789-66
Secretary	Victoria Scott .....612-789-6642	Fundraising	Jim Albrecht .....952-472-15
Treasurer	Renée Johnson ...763-757-8354	Gambling Manager	Kathleen Marsh.....651-452-52
Historian	Jim Anderson ....763-753-2833	Land	Jim Albrecht .....952-472-15
Email	<a href="mailto:kangj42159@aol.com">kangj42159@aol.com</a>	Newsletter Editor	Tiffany Eggenberg....952-226-40
		Public Relations	Dick LeClaire.....651-687-94

**Upcoming events:**

May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006: 11am-2pm American Indian Community Development Corp. (AICDC) Annual Chili Feed in the big tent between Anishinabe Wakiagun and the Minneapolis American Indian Center, 1530 E. Franklin Ave, Mpls. Includes chili and fry bread, blood pressure screening, karaoke contest and special music. Free, open to public. 612-813-1610

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006- noon-3:00 pm: Mpls. American Indian Indian Center/Open House and Feast 1530 E Franklin Ave, Mpls. Good people, good times. Raffles, entertainment, and a feast. Free and open to public. -

May 24, 2006: 5:30-8pm Women of Nations Spring Feast at Smith Hall 627 Smith Ave (across the High Bridge) in W. St. Paul. Feast and celebration, free, open to public. FMI call Gennet 651-251-1603 or Rick at 651-251-1606 or visit [www.womenofnations.org](http://www.womenofnations.org)

May 27, 2006: 9:00 am to 11:30 am Great River Greening @Pilot Knob in Mendota Heights. Project to replant and clean up Pilot Knob. Call MMDC for time info. Joan Fudmestad from Starbucks will provide coffee and pastries for breakfast. Lunch at MMDC office and some short presentations by the Great River Greening group. following the clean-up effort. Everyone is welcome! Native plants will be restored and the invasive weeds removed. Any questions call 651-665-9500 Tessa Pinkstaff

June 1, 2006: Ceremony to take place to remove the "No trespassing" sign and replace it with an interim (2-3) year project sign. The sign will list project partners/funders and provide brief text on the restoration work. The city of Mendota Heights and TPL are organizing this, and will have a portable stage set up for speakers. Speakers may include Rep. Rick Hansen, a Dakota County Commissioner, DNR, TPL, Al Singer, a tribal leader, and other politicians. They will invite newspaper, television, and others. TPL is purchasing all food and beverages: Dakota fry bread being a main component.

June 3, 2006: Celebration of the 51<sup>st</sup> year of Mendota heights, 5k walk/run, Native Drum group starting around 8:30-8:45 (call office to check on time) That's a.m. There will be a flag raising, Jim Anderson will bring an eagle staff. This will be at the Market Square

north of 110, E of Dodd Rd, Rockin Hollywoods will perform that evening. This is still being planned. For more info call city offices at 651-452-1850.

Every Sunday AA meetings @ 6:00pm- rain or shine! Last months newsletter listed May 14 as no meeting. That was a mistake, the meetings are EVERY Sunday.

Our monthly meetings will be the last Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm with a potluck feast following May is a change of date due to Memorial Weekend. Our meeting will be May 21, a Sunday at 2pm..

Chris Leith will be coming to Mendota to bless our Inipi Lodge in the next week or so, please call if you would like to be here for that, check in with the office for information. There will be a sweat here that evening.

### **American Indian Council on Aging**

Anyone interested in applying, may pick up an application at the office. They will pay you to write grants and train you. Requirements are: must be 55 or older, have an individual income of \$12,250 or combined income of \$16,500. If you would like more info please call Sharon at the office. She is involved with this group, so she can help with any questions.