

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

"The Pokagons Tell It"



Vol. III, No. III

March, 1998

MARCH IS A BUSY MONTH!

As winter winds down, the activities for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi are heating up. The month of March will be a busy one filled with activities for membership participation. Membership involvement will be crucial to ensuring the success of some of these events.

The biggest activity taking place next month will be the Red Road Pow Wow. It takes place on March 21st and 22nd at the Dowagiac Union High School. The Red Road Pow Wow is used by the Substance Abuse Task Force to raise money. The money will be used to establish a half-way house to better serve membership needs. But as with any pow wow, the Task Force will need help, especially on the weekend it takes place. If anyone is interested in participating or volunteering, please call the Pokagon Band Substance Abuse Office at (616) 782-1142. Some of the volunteer positions range from watching the gate to helping with food.

The next event on the agenda will be a health fair. Last year's was very successful and the Health Department hopes to repeat the success. This is an excellent preventative measure to take for members. Hopefully everyone will receive a clean bill of health. However, if that is not the case, this type of event may help catch health problems before they became too serious. This health fair will focus on men and their health needs. But it is IMPORTANT to remember the event is open to

ALL members! There will be games and prizes along with the health screening.

The Education Department will also have activities scheduled including many things for the youth. Those events are on the calendar and in the Education Department report.

It is an exciting time. Watch the mail for announcements of even more events as they get scheduled.



TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 13, 1997

RESOLUTION #2 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Mike Wesaw
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council approves the initial application for a Substance Abuse License with the Michigan Department of Public Health for the Keepers of the Fire Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Program.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #3 made by Mike Wesaw and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accept the bid from Landmark Technologies to provide the large maps showing the Service Area.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #4 made by Mike Wesaw and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees to send Mike Zimmerman to the 3rd Annual Eastern Multi-Regional Indian JTPA Training & Technical Assistance Conference on January 6-8 in Orlando, Florida. Costs including airfare, hotel and per diem- \$619.34.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #5 made by Maxine Margiotta and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians accepts the additional names as Tribal members as prepared by the Enrollment staff and Enrollment Committee.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #6 made by Wayne Holleman and 2nd by Dan Rapp
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees to send two (2) people to the Indirect Costs Seminar on January 22 and 23 in Las Vegas, Nevada not to exceed \$2000.00.

ALL IN FAVOR: 7 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 2 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #7 made by Mike Wesaw and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council approves to send the Personnel Director to Bill Helmich's Personnel Management Systems Training on January 21-23.

FURTHERMORE: Council allows a member of the Personnel Committee to attend also if so desired.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #8 made by Mike Wesaw and Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council appoints the Tribal Operations Manager to investigate a communications system for the Elder's Hall and bring back the proposal to Tribal Council at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #9 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Wayne Holleman

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council gives the Tribal Attorney the authority to settle the Food Commodities lease problem, not to exceed \$500.00.

ALL IN FAVOR: 7 OPPOSED: 1 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #10 made by Wayne Holleman and 2nd by Greg Ballew
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the Executive Board Resolution dated 11/24/97 regarding the policy of denying direct financial assistance to Pokagon Band members that owe the Band money.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #11 made by Mike Wesaw and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Until such time Tribal Council adopts a formal policy regarding Land Contracts, to be eligible for down payment assistance for land contracts, an individual must show that they have tried to get a conventional loan at two banks or mortgage companies; an individual must show that they were unable to obtain housing from local, state, or federal sources. In addition, they must bring an appraisal of the home along with the purchase agreement at the time of application, and provide inspections of the heating, plumbing, and electrical systems and a termite inspection for the home to be purchased.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

WHEREAS: Down Payment Assistance was suspended for land contracts under Resolution 97-11-20-05.

RESOLUTION #12 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council reopens Down Payment Assistance for Land Contract applicants under the guidelines approved on 12-1397.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #14 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council authorize Kelly Curran to purchase 25 "Always A People" books from Indiana University Press.

ALL IN FAVOR: 7 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #15 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Kevin Daugherty
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees to pass a resolution of support for the Museums at Prophetstown fund raising effort.

ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR CANDIDATE
INTERVIEW WITH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 13, 1997

RESOLUTION #1 Made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Kevin Daugherty;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council hires David Alexis as Community Development Director at \$45,000 per year, with a six-month salary review.

ALL IN FAVOR: 7 OPPOSED: 1 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

TRIBAL COUNCIL/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
WORKING SESSION
JANUARY 13, 1998

RESOLUTION #1 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the language revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook, Section Titled: "CLASSIFICATION OF EMPLOYEES" to read as revised.
ALL IN FAVOR: 5 OPPOSED: 1 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #2 made by Tom Wesaw and 2nd by Dan Rapp
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the language revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook, Section Titled: "LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITHOUT LOSS OF PAY: FUNERAL LEAVE" to read as presented.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #3 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the language revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook, Section Titled: "EVALUATIONS" to read as revised.
ALL IN FAVOR: 5 OPPOSED: 1 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #4 made by Tom Wesaw and 2nd by Barbara Ann Warren
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the language revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook, Section Titled: "VACATION" to read as revised.
ALL IN FAVOR: 4 OPPOSED: 2 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #5 made by Tom Wesaw and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the language revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook, Section Titled: "ABSENCE FROM THE OFFICE" to read as revised.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #6 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Greg Ballew
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the language revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook, Section Titled: "DRESS CODE" to read as presented.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #7 made by Tom Wesaw and 2nd by Greg Ballew
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the language revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook, Section Titled: "SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT" to read as presented.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #8 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees to post "Accredited Records Technician" position as revised.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #9 made by Tom Wesaw and 2nd by Greg Ballew
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the job description for the Language

Development and Instruction Specialist positions as revised.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED



POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 22, 1998

RESOLUTION #1 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the Contract for Treaty research with Jim McClurken as presented to Tribal Council on January 13, 1998, with starting date June 1, 1998. FURTHERMORE: A contract fee of \$75,000 for one year will be paid to cover the scope of work.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #2 made by Wayne Holleman and 2nd by Kevin Daugherty
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council adopt the "draft" Memorandum of Understanding dated January 22, 1998 as presented by Marchell Wesaw.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #3 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
WHEREAS: The Health Board may request Tribal Council to remove Health Board Members for excessive unexcused absence from Health Board meetings; and
WHEREAS: The Health Board has made a request that Board Member Roger Williams be removed for failure to attend at least five (5) consecutive meetings without excuse;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Tribal Council removes Roger Williams from the Health Board for excessive unexcused absence from Health Board meetings.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #4 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Wayne Holleman
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Tribal Council supports the Pokagon Band Oral History Project proposal for \$50,000 to the National Parks Services.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #5 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Julie Stauffer
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council approves the additional costs for adding County Roads to the maps by Landmark Technologies. Not to exceed \$300.00.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #6 made by Julie Stauffer and 2nd by Kevin Daugherty
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees to send Paula W. Geer to Indian Human Resource Development Conference on February 10-12. Costs to include hotel, airfare, lodging and per diem.
ALL IN FAVOR: 6 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 4 ABSTAIN: 1 CARRIED

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Aanii,
For those Tribal Members that I have yet to meet, I am Sonny Miller, Tribal Operations Manager. I am a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. I have been on the job since September of 1997. However, I have been busy as interim Social Service Director. Since the hiring of Ms. Linda Mangus, I have been able to put all my efforts toward developing an administration that is more responsive to the membership.

One of my primary duties is to facilitate the Membership Grievance process. The Tribal Council approved of this process for the Tribal Membership shortly after the beginning of this year. The process starts with the filing of a grievance form and has a very well defined time line and process that must be followed in responding. These forms may be found near the entry to all Tribal buildings and one sheet of paper contains the form and the process. Please familiarize yourself with the process and use it if you feel that your concerns have not been addressed by other means. The process is intended to be the last resort. Please call on staff, or myself first and try to reach a solution. If you feel that something more can be done or the answer is unacceptable, then resort to the grievance process.

Another recent addition to the staff is Mr. David Alexis, the Tribal Planner. We all look forward to working with David in developing a clear direction for the Tribe. He has a very large and important task— for to reach a goal, you must have a plan. If you happen to reach a goal without a plan, it is purely by accident and you should feel extremely lucky. To develop a plan one needs to gather much information. David has been busy doing just that and would welcome input from any and all membership. Feel free to call and offer your suggestions to him at 782-1763. After all, the Pokagon Band is its people.

*Submitted by,
Sonny Miller
Administrative Director*

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING AT ELDERS HALL SATURDAY MARCH 14, 1998 10:00 a.m.

Tribal Council holds its business meeting the third Thursday of each month. The Saturday meetings are more informational with Director and Committee Reports and Tribal Announcements.

POKAGON BOOKS FOR SALE

*The Pokagons 1633-1983
by James Clifton
are for sale to membership.*

*The price is \$8 for any Pokagon Band member.
If you are interested in purchasing a book, please
contact the Administration Office at
(616) 782-8998 or
1-800-517-0777*

***If Anyone Is Interested In
Receiving A Full Set Of The
Minutes, Please Contact
Kelly Curran
At The Administration
Office.
(616) 782-8998 or
1-800-517-0777***

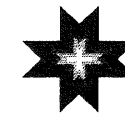
POKAGON HEALTH SERVICES

COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR FOCUSING ON TRIBAL MEN

There will be fun for all, but a special day is being set aside for our Tribal Men. Young and Mature alike are invited March 28, 1998 to the Cass County Health Department, 702 Orchard St. Dowagiac, from 12 noon to 8:00 p.m. There are plans for activities, demonstrations, food, educational and informational, booths, and Health Screening. The day will start off with a short walk (weather permitting) at 9 a.m. (there will be a prize for all that finish) Also participate in the basketball or volleyball games planned after the Health Fair. Games are scheduled from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Justus Gage School gymnasium.

Come one, come all and enjoy, learn, participate in a program that we plan to make an annual event. Help us help you maintain and grow as a healthier, happier Tribal Community.

Call Our Pokagon Band Health Services at (616) 782-4141 for more information. Hope to see you there.



AA MEETINGS

AA meetings are held
Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.
at Sacred Heart of Mary Church,
Silver Creek.
Please feel welcome to attend.
If you have any questions, call
(616) 782-1142

REPAIR AND RENOVATION NEWS

This is to inform membership that I have some other type of funding that some may qualify for. The funding source is from loans and a grant that the USDA has for rural development. These loans are taken out directly from the USDA for purchasing, building, repairing, and renovating your homes. The grant for housing is for elders 62 years of age or older. This grant does not have to be paid back and is a one time only assistance. There are eligibility requirements for each type of loan and the grant assistance. The member has to apply for these loans or the grant themselves. If anyone is interested in this funding and would like to know more, give me a call. I have applications you can fill out and send into the USDA to see if you qualify. The income guidelines are from 80% of the median income and below for the area in which you live. For more information, call 800-517-0777.

*Keith White
Repair and Renovation Coordinator*



You Are Invited To A Free Homebuyer's Seminar

A seminar will be held at our Administration Office at 901 Spruce Street, Dowagiac on Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 a.m. Representatives of Professional Loan Funding, Vintage Realty and Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency will be presenting information on how you can obtain a home. Come in and get your home buying questions answered.

POKAGON SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services Director

My name is Linda Mangus and I began working as the new director of the department on January 26, 1998. I am a registered social worker and have a bachelor's degree in psychology from the Ohio State University. I was a Rehabilitation Case Manager/Social Worker for five years at Woodlands Behavioral Healthcare Network Rehabilitation Division prior to coming to work for the Band.

For the past few weeks, I have been getting to know Pokagon Staff and trying to learn everything I can about the social service programs and grants currently being utilized. I have asked many questions of staff, committee members, and Band members and appreciate all the help and patience you have given me. I look forward to working with all of you to improve the delivery of services and shaping the department according to the needs of the Pokagon Band.

On a personal note, I grew up in Berrien Springs, MI and enjoy the sport of volleyball very much. I have spent many hours in the gym throughout high school and was fortunate enough to earn an athletic scholarship to play for the Ohio State volleyball team. I currently reside in Elkhart, IN and still spend a majority of my free time playing and coaching volleyball, so not much has changed, except that my muscles are much more sore after tournaments than they used to be. A few of you have even asked for tips on the sport - hmmm.... Maybe there is a membership need for a volleyball program that can be addressed by social services department (Just kidding). Please feel free to stop by to introduce yourself.

One last thing, I would like to thank all of you for your concern about my mother (Rosemary "Goldie" Mangus), she appreciates your support and remains in good spirits.

*Submitted by,
Linda Mangus*

USDA Food Commodities

Recently food commodities has made a slight change to accommodate its clients. We are open on Saturdays now until 12.30 PM. This was initiated to see if we had a need for Saturday operations. We are currently collecting data to assess scheduling needs of clients and will adjust the schedule accordingly. In addition we are updating all client files to be in compliance with USDA regulations.

If you are participating in our program please bring in current information of all household income along with any household additions. Food commodities cannot be issued unless your files are up to date. Please bring all information with you to speed up the process of USDA Compliance.

Commodity hours currently are:
Monday through Friday 8:00 to 5:00
Saturday—8:00-12:30
Sunday---closed

Thank you,
The Commodities Staff

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AVAILABLE



We have fire extinguishers available. These are for any needy family lacking these items. These items are available at the Social Services Department,

901 Spruce St.

If you need more information, please call

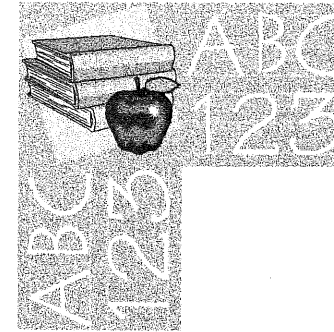
(616) 782-8998

or

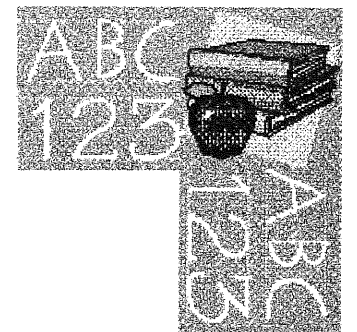
1-800-517-0777

March 1998

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 Emergency Committee 10 a.m.-E.H. Health Board 5:30 p.m.-IHS	3 Personnel Comm. 5:00p-Administration	4	5	6	7 Basket Co-op 12-5 E.H. Kids Computer Wkshp. 10a-2p-Education Dept.
8	9 Regalia & Drumming 6:30-8 p.m. E.H.	10	11	12	13	14 Tribal Council Meeting 10 a.m.-E.H.
15	16 Emergency Committee 10a-E.H. Health Board 5:30 p-IHS	17 Personnel Comm. 5:00p-Administration	18 Youth Council Meeting 6:30-7:30p-E.H.	19	20	21 Red Road P.W. Dowagiac H.S. Home Buyers Seminar 10a-Admin.
22	23 Regalia/Drumming 6:30-8p-E.H.	24	25	26	27	28 Health Fair Cass Cty. Health Dept. 12p-8p
29	30 Red Road Pow Wow Dowagiac H.S.	31				



EDUCATION REPORT



March Youth Programs Info

Tutoring

Tutoring at Notre Dame continues on Thursday nights instead of Tuesday nights from 7-8:30 p.m. at the CSC building behind the main library. Please contact the Education Department if you need directions.

Tutoring and mentoring available in Michigan. Call the Education Department 1-888-330-1234 for more information

Regalia & Drumming Classes

The ongoing youth regalia and drumming classes schedule is as follows:

Michigan

Monday, March 9

Monday, March 23

6:30-8 p.m.

Elder's Hall

53237 Townhall Rd

Dowagiac, MI

Indiana

Monday, March 2

Monday, March 16

6:30-8 p.m.

South Bend Regional Museum of Art (Upstairs workshop) Century Center 120 S. St. Joseph

South Bend, IN

Summer Academic Opportunities

American Indian Workshop in Biology, Computers, and Geology at Michigan Technological University for students in grades 6-9 on August 9-15. Applications must be returned to Michigan Tech by June 6 and are available through the Education Department.

Family Nutrition Classes

Michigan State University is sponsoring six weekly nutrition classes with such topics as "Choosing Healthy Snacks," "Making Most of Food Dollars," and "Keep-

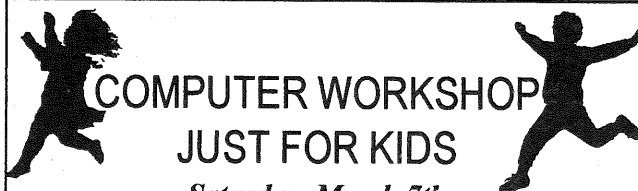
ing Food Safe." Classes are Thursdays, April 2, 9, and 16; May 7 & 14 at 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Elders' Hall. Please call the Education Department for more details and to register.

Youth Council Meeting

Are you in high school and interested in forming a Youth Council? There will be a Youth Council meeting at the Elders Hall in Dowagiac on March 18 at 7-9 p.m. Youth Council provides young Native Americans with the chance to meet on a regular basis and share ideas, address common concerns, serve others and have fun together.

Volunteers Needed

Do you have a skill that you would like to teach the youth? If you are interested in helping with beading, dancing, sewing, and other activities, please contact Donald Sumners or Marie Wesaw at 1-888-330-1234.



**COMPUTER WORKSHOP
JUST FOR KIDS**

*Saturday, March 7th
from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

Children will learn about computers and how they are used. They will learn typing and how to write letters on the computer. A variety of educational games will make learning fun for your children.

Snacks will be provided during breaks. Kids should bring a brown-bag lunch and smiles. Please call to make reservations for your child. Limit two children (ages 8-16) per household. Call Robert Willis or Marie Wesaw at (616) 782-0887 or 888-330-1234.

Computer Class Schedule

March - April

Day Classes

Keyboarding & Microsoft Word
Monday through Thursday, 1:00 to 2:00pm

Night Classes

Keyboarding & Microsoft Word (Adults ONLY!)
Monday, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Just for Kids (fun and learning about computers)
Tuesday, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Microsoft Word & MS Office Advanced (Adults ONLY!)
Wednesday, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Night classes begin on March 2 and end on April 2.
You must call and sign-up no later than March 8th to attend these classes. Space is limited!

Please contact Robert Willis at (616) 782-0887 or 1-888-330-1234.

NOTICE

The Election Committee is looking for two people to serve as alternate committee members. Any person who is interested in serving on the ELECTION COMMITTEE as an alternate should call Audrey Huston at (616) 782-7913 or Kelly Curran at 800-517-0777.

The deadline for applying is Friday, March 13, 1998

Origin of Our Tribal Flower- The Trailing Arbutus By Simon Pokagon-1889

Many, many moons ago, there lived an old man alone in his lodge beside a stream in the thick woods. He was heavily clad in furs, for it was winter, and all the world was covered with snow and ice. The winds swept through the woods; searching every bush and tree for birds to chill, and chasing evil spirits over the hills, through tangled swamps, and valleys deep. The old man went about, and peered vainly in the deep snow for pieces of wood to sustain the fire in his lodge. Sitting down by the last dying amber's, he cried to Kigi Manito Waw-Kwi (The God of Heaven) that he might not perish. The winds howled, and blew aside the door of his lodge. When in came a most beautiful maiden. Her cheeks were like roses; her eyes were large, and glowed like the fawn's in the moonlight; her hair was long and black as the raven's plumes, and touched the ground as she walked; her hands were covered with willow-buds; on her head were wreaths of wild flowers, her clothing was sweet grass and ferns, her moccasins were fair white lilies; and, when she breathed, the air of the lodge became warm and fragrant.

The old man said, "My daughter, I am glad to see you. My lodge is cold and cheerless; yet it will shield you from the tempest. But tell me who you are, that you should come to my lodge in such clothing. Come, sit down here, and tell of thy country and thy victories, and I will tell thee of my exploits. For I am Manito."

He then filled two pipes with tobacco that they may smoke together as they talk. When the smoke had warmed the old man's tongue, again he said, "I am Manito. I blow my breath, and the lakes and streams become flint." The maiden made answer, "I breathe, and flowers spring up on all the plains." The old man replied, "I breathe, and the snow covers all the earth..... I shake my tresses," returned the maiden, "and warm rains fall from the clouds." "When I walk about," answered the old man, "leaves wither and fall from the trees. At my command the animals hide themselves in the ground, and fowls forsake the waters and fly away. Again I say, I am Manito." The maiden made answer, "When I walk about, plants lift up their heads, and the naked trees robe themselves in living green; the birds come back and all who see me sing for joy. Music is everywhere."

As they talked, the air became warmer and more fragrant in the lodge and the old man's head drooped upon his breast, and he slept. Then the sun came back, and the blue birds came to the top of the lodge and sang. "We are thirsty. We are thirsty." Sebin (The river) replied, "I am free, come and drink." While the old man was sleeping, the maiden passed her hand over his head, and he began to grow small. Streams of water poured out of his mouth; very soon he became a small mass upon the ground; and his clothing turned to withered leaves.

Then the maiden kneeled upon the ground; took from her bosom the most precious pink and white flowers, and hiding them under the faded leaves, and breathing upon them said, "I give you all my virtues, and all the sweetness of my breath, and all who would pick thee shall do so on bended knees." Then the maiden moved away through the woods and over the plains; all the birds sang to her everywhere she stepped, and nowhere else grows our tribal flower—the Trailing Arbutus.



The Gray Wolf Clan

Many, Many moons ago there was a clan of wolves. This clan was the fiercest hunters of all wolf clans in the world. They were strong because they were one body of the same animal. They shared a strain of genetics that allowed them to have the best of both worlds. They were a combination of the Black Wolf and the White Wolf Clan. During the hardest of winters none of their clan went without anything to eat or a warm cave within the earth mother to lay their heads for resting. But one summer there was an abundance of game. There was so much game that the clan began to become selfish, and divide based on fur color. The black wolves of the gray wolf clan felt as if they were the strongest hunters, and that their alphas and their cubs deserved more of the game because their color was the strongest in their own minds. This brought pain into the hearts of the Gray wolves because their parents were of both clans, the Whites and the Blacks.

They tried to approach their brothers and sisters saying, "It is not our choice that we were born of two clans, it is our parents who made the choice for us."

Those words only angered the Black and the White wolf clans, so they decided to go and build their camps away from the others. This troubled the old wolves, it pained them greatly to see their children spread out this way. They decided that the leaders of the three camps were to young to see the error in their folly, so they went into a deep dreamtime journey, to seek wisdom from the ancients. The old ones arrived into the Wolf Spirit Camp and found the elders, and spoke to them of their grandchildren. The ancients pondered as they howled with one voice to the Creator. While sitting within the universe, they received their answer.

Tell them this said the old ones, "They must know why they are of three colors. When we were in the white world where even time was frozen stiff, there was no game and the clans lived separately. Many of all of the clans got a deadly sickness and many of them died off as a result. But with few numbers of the Serate clans that were left, there weren't enough wolves with strength left to do the hunting. We all held a great council with the Manitou and discussed what was to be done to keep the clans from becoming extinct. The Manitou said that we were to join and become one clan, and that this was our only hope of survival. So, we said we would do as he said. But there was one more thing he told us. He said that trouble had come to teach us how to live, and be one together. That divisions based on color of coat was a foolish and dangerous thing, because underneath we are all wolves, and are a Part of the Great Manitou. He said that if we were ever to divide again, it would mean our total destruction. It must never happen again."

The old ones nodded and offered meat to the ancients and began their long journey back to their own divided clans. The old ones awoke in their den and set out to call a council with the leaders of the three camps. The Gray wolf who was the oldest decided that he would stay within the cave womb of the earth mother to welcome all of his stubborn grandsons. The White Wolf, and the Black Wolf elders both agreed because he was the Grandfather of them as well, and it was their responsibility to gather their Children to council.

Upon returning to the cave, they found their Grandfather sitting next to a huge piece of White buffalo meat. His Grandsons were amazed at this, because they had come into a time of famine. They had killed all of the game and stored it, but their cousins the coyotes found their stores and fed their own families because they had many to feed. The children were suffering in their numbers because a great Sickness had come. There weren't enough hunters with enough strength left to do the hunting to feed their clan. Grandfather listened carefully to his children as they explained all of this to him. The great Gray elder passed out the meat, giving each of his three colored children their fair share, and sat down close to them.

"My sons, what has the Creator taught Us about our four legged brother, the white buffalo?" Grandfather looked at the faces of each of his sons. "You have forgotten the medicine this four legged brings to us?" asked the Gray grandfather. The children looked down at their paws in shame.

"I will tell you again," said Grandfather as he smiled at his sons. "Our brother, the White buffalo, brings us many gifts, but his greatest medicine is the give away or the thanksgiving medicine. He teaches us to be grateful for the many things that

the Creator and the Earth Mother freely give to us."

The elder took a bite of the meat and motioned for his grandsons to feast with him. They all sat quietly and thought about how their brother, the White buffalo had given himself to their Grandfather that day to save them and their families.

After the feast, the Gray grandfather settled down and motioned for his sons to do the same.

"My sons," he began, "Let me tell you of the journey that your Fathers and I went on in our dreamtime. We found the ancient ones in that Great Wolf Spirit Camp. They spoke to the Manitou on our behalf as they howled their prayers into the Universe. The Manitou spoke with them, and gave his instructions to us."

Grandfather Gray Wolf told them of the story that brought the clans together, and the sons were amazed at the familiar ring to the story, because it was now as it was back then.

"Grandfather", asked the Black Wolf.

"Yes my son," replied the Gray elder.

"I do not understand why the Manitou allowed this to happen to us even though we did not know better."

The other wolf children nodded their support. Grandfather chuckled at his confused sons.

"My dear sons, the abundance made you crazed with sickness in your spirit. When this happens, your body will follow. The important things became unimportant to you, and you acted in desire, because you were delirious from your sickness. You forgot the very first lesson that all young wolves are taught from the very beginning. And that lesson is that all things are connected. All things are common among those the Creator placed on the Earth Mother. There is a great balance that comes with the life of a community that is willing to use positive to balance their negative. The Creator made us of those three colors to remind us of this very thing. My Black sons were colored Black to represent the negative energy of life, where my White children were colored White to represent the positive energy. Both positive and negative are equally important, because they co-create when they made into one. My Gray children represent the balance that unity brings to all of my clan grandchildren. So, you see my grandsons, all are important and without all parts of who we are, we cannot be a whole united pack of wolves. As the Manitou spoke so clearly, color of coat does not give one their place, because underneath the real is just a wolf."

The grandsons were so taken by the words of their Grandfather, they went to all of their camps to share the story and the words of their Grandfather and the Manitou. It was only one half moon until they were all together in the same encampment once again. A miracle happened for the Gray wolf Clan that very day. A vast number of White buffalo migrated into the woodlands and stayed there with their wolf brothers. Never again was there Great famine or Great sickness among the Gray Wolf Clan again, and never will. They have learned the wisdom of the ancients, that in unity there is strength, health, and abundance for all. And that is the way we would all want to live.

Submitted by
Tracy Cavallucci

The Silver Creek Plaza is located on 901 Spruce St., between Burger King and Subway. To fax anything to Tribal Council or Public Relations, please use (616) 782-4573.

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FAX (616) 782-9625

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WIGGIE WESAW

March 9

Love you, Henzel

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KARRA ANN BARR

March 19

Love, your family

HAPPY 1ST BIRTHDAY SYDNEY

LEIGH BURNS

Love, your family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NICOLAS WESAW

Love, your family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THOMAS

HERNANDEZ, JR.

Love, your family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIMMY WESAW

March 2nd

Love, Mom, Pam, Tracy and kids

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIM WESAW

March 9th

Love, Pam, Tracy, Jimmy and kids

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHUCKY

MERSEREAU

March 31st

Love, Aunt Tracy, Scotty, Marissa, India and Michael

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

MELISSA NEWCOMER

We Love you, Mom and Dad

BIRTHS

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BIRTH

OF MAYA LOUISE

To Cindy Early-Grandmother
Mary Maddux-Great Grandma
and Brook Maddux-Mom

Due to a lack of space in the last newsletter, the following announcements were omitted.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DAVID HELMKE

14 Years Old

February 11

Love, Mom, Jimmy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

GAIL WHITE (MOM)

Love, your kids and grandkids

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

BRIANNA MUSSELS

2 Years Old

February 14

Love, Aunt Carol and all of us

MARCH 20, 1998

DEADLINE FOR

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please submit the newsletter articles to

Maureen Shagonaby

P.O. Box 180

Dowagiac, MI 49047

FAX (616) 782-4573

Please submit birthdays to appear

on the birthday calendar by the 20th.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

If you move or change your address, please contact the Enrollment Office. There are forms available through that office.

Please call (616) 782-1763 or

1-888782-1001

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI

AKA POTAWATOMI INDIAN NATION, INC.
SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM

6TH ANNUAL TRADITIONAL RED ROAD POW WOW

MARCH 21-22, 1998



PUBLIC

WELCOME

HOST DRUM:
OWASHTINONG CHUNG A
MING
(GRAND RIVER SINGERS)

ARENA DIRECTOR:
BOB MOODY

MC: SAM BUSH

GRAND ENTRY
SAT 1:00 PM & 6:00 PM
SUN 1:00 PM

HEAD MALE DANCER:
JOHN P. WARREN

HEAD FEMALE DANCER:
CANDI WESAW

DOWAGIAC UNION HIGH SCHOOL
DOWAGIAC, MICHIGAN

TRADER FEE (NATIVE AMERICAN TRADERS ONLY):
\$35/DAY OR \$60/BOTH DAYS IF PAYED IN FULL BY 03-01-98
AFTER 03-01-98 \$40/DAY OR \$70 BOTH DAYS
NO OUTSIDE FOOD BOOTHS

ADMISSION:
ADULTS -\$3.00 STUDENTS(ID)-\$1.50
VETERANS, SENIORS, & HANDICAPPED-\$1.50
UNDER 5-FREE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (616)782-1142
NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ALLOWED

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS STARTING A HALFWAY HOUSE IN SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN

March 1998

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 Cindy Early	2 Jimmy Wesaw	3	4	5 Ron Temple Sydney Leigh Burns	6	7
8	9 "Wiggie" Wesaw	10	11	12	13	14 Trisha Nelson
15 Shawn Genereaux	16	17 Richard Antisdal	18 Terri (Linn) Schmidt Diana Genereaux	19 Karra Ann Barr	20	21 Sonya Temple
22	23	24	25	26 Tyler Rouse William Augusta	27	28
29 Martha Deuel	30	31 Chucky Mersereau				