

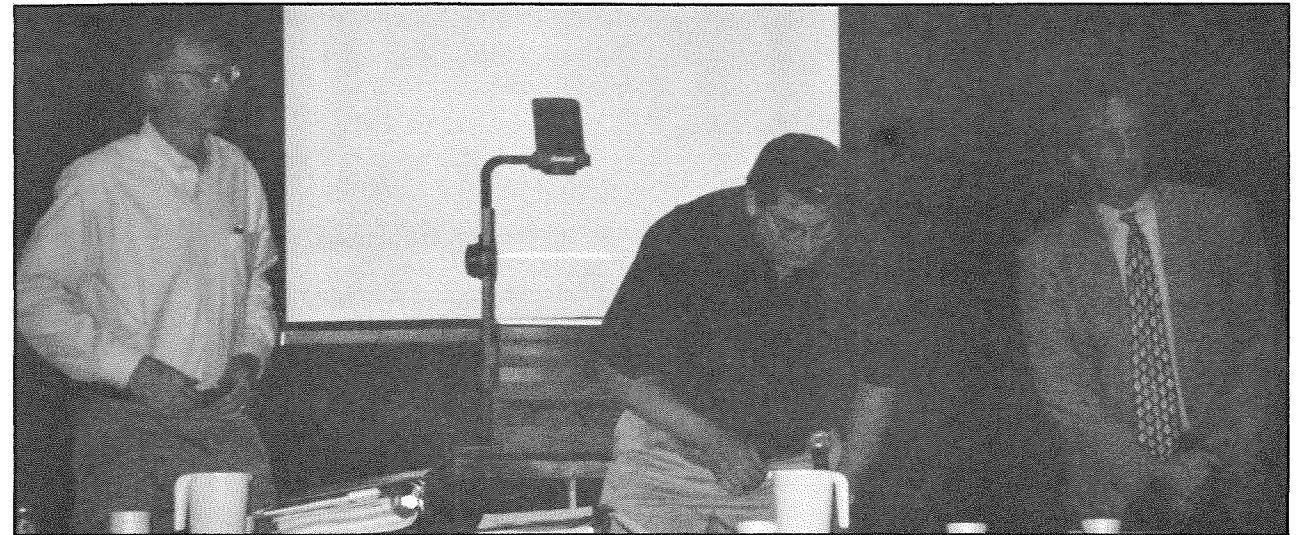
POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

"The Pokagons Tell It"



Vol. IV, No. VI

June, 1999



Eric Marshall, John Miller and Rob Gips prepare the overhead projector containing the investor information. The three presented much of the information during the May 8 General Membership meeting.

THE FINAL PROPOSALS

The Request for Proposal process is in full swing. During the general membership meeting on May 8, 1999, the Tribal Council presented investor information. About 50 members watched as Tribal Council assisted by attorneys Rob Gips and Eric Marshall presented various proposals from individual investors.

The Band has three serious bids to enter into the casino venture with the tribe. The Council asked that no notes be taken to avoid leaks to individual investor groups. The Council showed the differences between each bid, and also highlighted the information that was submitted to the tribe from each group.

There were some differences between the bids, but each of them met the minimum requirements. Each investor presented a little different spin on projections, revenues and ideas on how to get it all done.

Council answered questions about the different

groups. But not all the questions involved the investor information. It was also an opportunity to answer other questions about land in trust, N.I.G.C. contract approvals and other steps that have to be taken at the federal level.

The tribe also has to carefully monitor the situation involving the compacts. There is still a lawsuit pending against the compacts about the validity of the approval last December, contending the compacts should have been approved by bill rather than by resolution.

At this time the tribe is not named in the lawsuit. It is actually against the state of Michigan. If you would like to know specific information, please feel free to call Chairman John Miller. He has a new 800 number, so try it out. Call him at (616) 783-6323 or 888-376-9988.

COUNCIL CORNER

Hello Everyone,

I am pleased to say things are moving along nicely. We recently received the final 1997 audit from Crowe Chizek. In addition, we will soon receive the 1998 audit from our new auditing firm Rhemann Robson. They are projecting that their findings will be completed by the end of May.

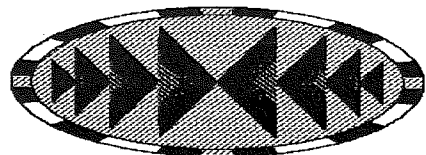
As you know we have been working very closely with the BIA. Actually, Gerald Parish the Administrative Officer with the Bureau visited our offices on May 5th. All the Pokagon Band heads of staff were present to show our commitment to the BIA and our Tribe.

As I stated in the April newsletter, the BIA had some concerns with the delinquency of our reporting requirements. Since then our administration with the assistance of our new Executive Director, Ralene Butler has been working feverishly on correcting these problems.

I am extremely pleased to say the meeting with Mr. Parish was impressive. The Administrative Officer looked at the corrective actions we have taken and gave them his stamp of approval. We are also working with a financial management and marketing person that specializes in resolving Native American specific financial issues. We feel this will expedite our corrective actions.

So here is where we are at now. We have identified our problems, brought in the right people to resolve them, and have notified the BIA of our course of action. Our Administration is currently working together and from the same page to avoid any further uncertainty.

Sincerely,
John Miller
Tribal Chairman



Pokagon Historic Site Project

The Pokagon Village prior to the 1833 Chicago Treaty was located on the west side of the St. Joseph River on the Indiana State line. This area was a main artery for the fur trade, river travel, and the Sauk and Fox trail ran just north of the village. After the Chicago Treaty, Leopold Pokagon took the \$2,000 payment for our 5.5 million acres of land and purchased land in Silver Creek, Michigan. Presently our tribal headquarters are still in the Dowagiac, Silver Creek area.

The Pokagon Band played an important part in American history and especially in the Old Northwest History. The Potawatomi held off American invasion longer than any western Plains tribes. Usually in battles that took place throughout the Great Lakes or as far away as the East Coast, the Potawatomi supplied about four out of five warriors at any given time.

To preserve, give some kind of protection, and educate the public and Pokagon members of the original village site, there is an effort to register the site with the National Register of Historic Sites. To register this site much work has to be completed first. An archeological study has to be conducted for physical evidence, historic documents gathered, and evidence found for the National Register application. Starting on June 7, 1999 the field work will begin at the site, and any Pokagon Band members interested in participating are welcome to help.

Plate fragments from the 1820s have been found with a general walk over, conducted by Mark Shurr, Assistant Professor of Archeology at Notre Dame, and John Warren, Pokagon Band Cultural Coordinator. These plate fragments are the first physical evidence ever recorded from this site.

Greg Dowd, Assistant Professor of History at Notre Dame, will focus on any written history of the village. Eiteljorg Museum in Indianapolis will be doing a video and pictorial documentation of this study. Eiteljorg is working with Pokagon Band Cultural Coordinator John Warren to assure that the material being filmed and edited reflects the intent and variety of opinion of the Pokagon Band.

Hopefully a three-part book will be written with one-third dedicated to the history, one-third to archeology, and one-third to opinions and thoughts from Pokagon members about this particular project.

Any Pokagon Band member interested in participating, please call Education, and ask for John Warren at 1-888-330-1234 or 616-782-0887.

TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 16, 1999

RESOLUTION #1 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Tom Wesaw.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the recommendation of the Auditing Committee and hire Rehmann Robson to conduct the 1998 audit with John Miller, Acting Chairman as the main contact.

ALL IN FAVOR: 5 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 2 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #2 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Greg Ballew

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees the Audit Committee remain in place to review the findings of the audit with Tribal Council.

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

RESOLUTION #3 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Greg Ballew

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees to send Keith White, one Tribal Council member and one Housing Committee member to the Great Lakes/USSET/HUD meeting in Tampa, Florida on February 14-20. Costs to include per diem, hotel, and airfare totaling approximately \$1,100 per person.

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

RESOLUTION #4 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Rae Daugherty

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees to send Keith White and one Tribal Council member to the 5th Annual NAIHC Legislative Conference at Washington D.C. on February 2-5. Costs to include per diem, hotel, airfare, and registration fees totaling approximately \$960.00 per person.

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

RESOLUTION #5 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Tom Wesaw

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council adopts the repair and renovation Policy for the NAHASDA and BIA Housing Improvement Program as presented by the Housing Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: Tribal Council adopts the internal procedures for the repair and renovation program as presented by the Housing Department.

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

RESOLUTION #6 made by Rae Daugherty and 2nd by Greg Ballew

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council approves the Executive Board decision to send Corey Price to Albuquerque, N.M. on January 18-21, to attend Creative Fund Raising for Tribal Organizations Seminar. Costs to include per diem, hotel, and airfare totaling approximately \$1100.

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

RESOLUTION #7 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Rae Daugherty

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council agrees to send John Warren, Frank Barker, and John Fox, along with four (4) students to the Forest County Potawatomi Gathering of the Youth to be held at Carter, Wisconsin on January 28-31, 1999. Hotel accommodations are covered. Additional costs include registration, per diem and use of GSA van totaling approximately \$1,200.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: John Warren will accept the Potawatomi Nation Eagle Staff from the former Chairman, take it to the Youth gathering and bring it back and then present it to Clarence White to hold for the Band.

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

RESOLUTION #8, made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Rae Daugherty

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council approves Kelly Curran and Maureen Shagonaby to select and negotiate a contract for the cleaning of the offices and bring recommendation to Executive Committee for approval.

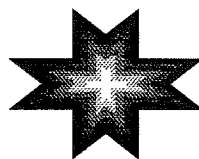
ALL IN FAVOR: 7 OPPOSED: 0 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #9 made by Greg Ballew and Kevin Daugherty

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council accepts the recommendation of the Elders Council and authorizes the Headstart program to hold their meetings at Elders Hall; and greatly appreciates Headstart's offer to carpet the Hall and renovate the kitchen.

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

*** The Tribal Council included March resolutions in the last newsletter to keep the membership up to date with what is going on within the tribe. However, we will also be catching up on the resolutions from earlier in the year. As you may remember, Council recently voted to to include meeting resolutions in the newsletter. It may take some time, however, we will continue to try to catch up on the published resolutions.



NEED THE MINUTES?

If you would like a complete set of the minutes, please contact Kelly Curran.

**Elders Hall
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-6323
888-376-9988**

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1999 10 A.M. ELDERS HALL

This is a potluck, and the tribe will provide the meat and the beverages. Please bring a dish to pass.

POKAGON HEALTH NEWS

VAN BUREN COUNTY GERIATRIC ASSESSMENTS PLUS (GAP)

Fact Sheet

Purpose: The Geriatric Assessments Plus (GAP) clinic represents a County wide consortium of health and human services providers and the Rural Health Education Program at Western Michigan University, who through their combined support, provide geriatric assessment, referral and education for residents and professionals in and near Van Buren County. Clinicians, providing assessment during clinic hours, are donated by or volunteered from consortium members' organizations. The clinic is located in space donated by the Van Buren County Health Department in Hartford.

The clinic will provide:

- assessment, prevention education and referral to underserved, vulnerable, elderly residents of Van Buren County who have no primary care physician or who are referred for assessment by their primary care physician, themselves, or a family member;
- prevention education to local physicians, health and human service care providers, clinic patients and their families;
- continuing professional education geriatric care for the county health care service providers;
- learning opportunities for health and human service students from Western Michigan University and pharmacy students from Ferris State University; and
- evaluation and research strategies to determine cost effectiveness of an interdisciplinary geriatric assessment clinic in a managed care environment

For more information, please call Becky Price at the Health Office. You can also contact Michele Vargas, Geriatric Assessment Plus (GAP) Coordinator at (616) 621-6251 ext. 245



A HEALTHIER MALE

"A Fun Day Had By the Whole Family"

On Saturday, May 15, the Pokagon Community mixed fun with health screening and sharing. The Pokagon Indian Health Services and the Van Buren/Cass Health Department put together a tribal Men's Health Fair; an event honoring tribal men enjoyed by many Pokagon members.

Several respected presenters such as Clarence White and Sam Bush held talking circles and storytelling. Marie Meyers introduced her herbal medicines to all and generously gave samples to us to take home. The membership enjoyed relaxation through Peter Mashni massage therapist and Joy Duff with her gifted foot care.

Pokagon members were also involved with the health screening tests. These were available with education on different high-risk issues plaguing Native American Communities such as: diabetes, high cholesterol, hypertension, and much more.

The second annual Tribal Men's Health Fair had more participants than last year. We hope to open the door for our community to learn more about important health issues, and to better maintain a healthier Pokagon community by observing traditional and conservative ways of our ancestors.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful people who gave their time to help us with this great event. We especially want to thank Keith Warner for the use of the beautiful Van Buren/Cass Health Department, Mona Hale RNCS, GNP, OGNP, and Ed Newington PA-C for the work that they put into this affair. Thanks also to the men who attended. We couldn't have done it without them.

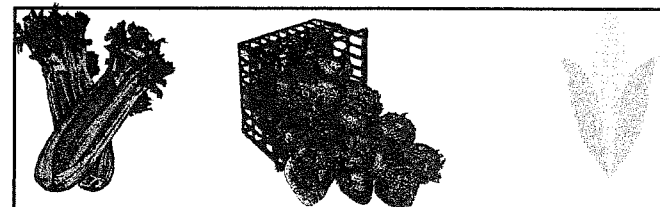
We want to invite the Pokagon Community to our Women's Health Fair that is being planned for early fall. Please watch for flyers and newsletters.

POKAGON HEALTH NEWS

INJURY PREVENTION

As most of you know, the IHS Pokagon staff have been collecting surveys and injury incidents to determine what could be done to make our community a safer place to live. We have found through our Injury Prevention program that 50% of incidents were falls. Of these falls, there were 75% in the home with members 40 years of age or older.

To help us kick off our campaign this fall, we are going to interview some of these members to determine what we can do to prevent these incidents. Please remember if you have had an incident, phone our office and report it to Yvonne "Petey" Boehm or Becky Price at 888-440-1234 or 782-4141. We appreciate your helping us maintain a safer Pokagon community.



"FRESH PRODUCE COMMODITIES"

Our Food Distribution Program is proud to announce the addition of fresh produce to the fruits and vegetable line-up! With a large variety of choices and a fresh bi-weekly delivery, this will without a doubt be a highly popular item. The fresh produce "line up" features nutritional foods such as carrots, onions, potatoes, red potatoes, sweet potatoes, apples, oranges, pears, and grapefruit. The fresh produce addition was designed to give our clients a wider variety of choices when selecting their fruits and vegetables.

The fresh produce items are part of our regular commodity program, anyone who qualifies for commodities will have access to the fresh produce as an alternative to canned items. We also have a survey that can be filled out by our clients to help decide on future ordering selections. We feel this is a great expansion of the food commodities program and think you will agree!

*Sincerely,
Food Commodities Staff*

AA MEETINGS

AA Meetings are held Tuesday and Thursday at 12:00 p.m. at the Substance Abuse Program offices, 714 N. Front St. Dowagiac, MI. We also hold one evening session on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Please feel welcome to attend. If you have questions, please call (616) 782-1142.

The LIHEAP Program will close June 15.

We had a great season! We served approximately 140 families with heating assistance.

These program funds are nearly spent. So if anyone has a last minute application, please bring it in. We will have the program again in the fall. Watch for the announcement in the October or November Newsletter.

SALARY COMMISSION NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

The Salary Commission is looking for people to serve on the Salary Commission. If you are interested, please contact:

Kelly Curran-782-6323
or
Marchell Wesaw (219) 288-1087

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The sweet sounds of summer always include the laughter of children and, it seems that this department will be indirectly involved with bringing some of that happiness to a number of the older children within our community. Corey Price is currently working on the Youth Leadership Development Program in conjunction with Education staff, which will begin in June. This project will pair children, ages 14-18, with tribal staff, who will share work experiences with them in a sort of mentoring partnership. It is meant to be a learning experience for everyone involved. Notices have been sent out to the community about the project.

Tom Morris has been working closely with the Strategic Action Planning Committee, who have completed the Townhall meeting aspect of this project. The next phase, which membership is strongly encouraged to participate in, is the survey. You may win one of the three cash prizes, which will be randomly picked from the people who return the survey. Please complete it as soon as you receive it.

Kevin Daugherty was notified by the EPA-General Assistance Program that the yearly amount to the tribe has been raised from \$75,000 to \$95,000, which makes the budget for this four year project \$360,000. The project should begin in July.

Becky Drake, Paula Geer, Tracy Wesaw and I worked on the continuing application for the JTPA Program. This will be the last year of funding (\$97,179) under the Jobs, Training and Partnership Act (JTPA). In July of 2000, the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 will begin. It appears to be more flexible in aspects of programming, whereas the old law was rigid and prone to undermine success. We may find it easier to accommodate more applicants under the new law.

Kevin, Corey, and I met with Winnie Hernandez-Gallegos, Program Director for the Kellogg Foundation, to discuss a project for the up coming fiscal year (October 1999). We each had an area of interest to bring forward to the foundation for consideration. We were delighted to discover that we could blend each of our interests into a 'phase one' two-year project with a budget of \$200,000.

We will be meeting with Mrs. Hernandez-Gallegos again in two months with ideas that include funding for an anti-poverty program. It includes job training, culture/language, education, youth and substance abuse prevention. The first two years will focus on infrastructure development and existing program supplements and/or enhancement. One of the key components for grant approval will be our ability to build community partnerships. I will keep you informed.

The search continues for a new Community Development Director. Hopefully, this will happen sometime in the near future. There is a lot of work to accomplish as we move forward, and this person will play a key role. They will be a welcomed addition to staff.

*Submitted by,
Jo Ellen Leith*



STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The timeline for the completion of the ANA grant is:

May '99

Held townhall meetings with Membership.

June '99

Committee to send Tribal Mission Statement to Tribal Council for review and adoption. Contract with demographics professionals from Western Michigan University for Membership mailing.

July '99

Send out mailing early in month with two-week return date; compile data as mailer is returned and send to Committee for review.

August '99

Arrange Committee meetings for SWOT analysis

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(strength, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats).

Analysis report sent to legal department. Final report sent to ANA.

The SAPC has proposed the following mission statement:

The mission of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians is to respectfully promote and protect the culture, dignity, education, health, welfare, and self-sufficiency of our elders, our youth, our families, and our future generations while preserving Mother Earth. We will strive to give our people a better quality of life. The Band will also become economically independent from federal and local governments allowing the Band to fully exercise its sovereignty.

Townhall meetings between Membership and the SAPC have been scheduled for May as follows:

The May 10th meeting was held at the Benton Harbor Public Library at 6:00 p.m. In attendance were Patricia Klemm, JoEllen Leith, Marge Moody, Mary Jo Morris, Thomas Morris, Judy Winchester, and Miriam Weyant. Since all of those in attendance have been active participants in the SAP process, we took attendance and distributed the prepared materials but did not do a presentation. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The May 11th meeting was held at the Immaculate Conception Church Hall in Hartford at 6:30 p.m. In attendance were Christine Daugherty, Thomas Morris, and Jeffrey Riley. Since all of those in attendance have been active participants in the SAP process, we took attendance and distributed the prepared materials but did not do a presentation. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The May 17th meeting was held at the Northern Indiana Historical Society in South Bend at 6:30 p.m. Indiana time. In attendance were JoEllen Leith, Marge Moody, Mary Jo Morris, Rebecca Morris, Thomas Morris, Alice Overly, Jeffrey Riley, and Judy Winchester. Attendance was taken, materials were distributed, and a short presentation was given on the SAP process. JoEllen Leith and Alice Overly filled out the Outline for Membership Assessment Questionnaire for Five Year Strategic Plan surveys. Their choices on the surveys were then discussed. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Indiana time.

The May 18th meeting was held at the Kalamazoo Public Library Eastwood Branch in Kalamazoo at 6:15 p.m. In attendance were Mary Jo Morris, Thomas Morris,

and William Morsaw. Attendance was taken, materials were distributed, and a short presentation was given on the SAP process. William Morsaw filled out the Outline for Membership Assessment Questionnaire for Five Year Strategic Plan survey. His choices on the survey were then discussed. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. At the time of this report, the remaining townhall Membership meetings are scheduled to take place as follows: May 22nd (Saturday) — 10:00 a.m.

Elders Hall, 53237 Townhall Rd., Dowagiac, MI

May 22nd (Saturday) — 3:00 p.m.

Griswold Auditorium, Hubbard St., Allegan, MI

The next SAPC meeting will be held Wednesday, June 2nd @ 7:00 p.m. at Elders Hall. The latest updates to the planning process will continue to be posted on our web page at www.pokagon.com. Please send any suggestions or comments on the strategic action plan process to Jo Ellen Leith or Thomas Morris at the Community Development Office by mail, telephone, fax, or e-mail.

*Submitted by,
Tom Morris*

ENROLLMENT OFFICE

The tribal card printer is back from repairs. Cards are now being printed.

- Lost your card? Submit a check or money order for \$5.00 for a new card.
- Wallet/purse stolen? Send your request along with proof of police report, the fee will be waived.
- No police report, a \$5.00 fee will be levied.
- Marriage/Legal name change? Return card along with proof of name change, and a copy of driver's license or social security card.
- Does your card have a typo? Return card indicating the error.

Call 616-782-1763 or 1-888-782-1001 for any questions.

PERSONNEL REPORT

PERSONNEL UPDATE.....

The positions of Education Director, Community Development Director and Social Service Director remain open.

We currently have 42 employees. John Fox resigned his position of Language Specialist/Instructor to focus his energies on his painting once again—but we expect to see his artwork on our Web site from time to time. We also received the resignation of Community Health Nurse/Coordinator, Mark Topash. Mark has joined the staff of a local nursing home as director of nursing. We wish them well and thank them for their contributions while employed by the Band!!

Don't forget—if you see a position you are interested in and have a resume on file, please double check that it's really up to date before you want it pulled out for consideration. You always want to "sell yourself" by including your most recent employment history on a resume. If you sent it to me two years ago, you may want to update it. Tracy Wesaw in our Education Department will assist you in updating your resume. She can also show you how to do a cover letter.

*Submitted by,
Paula Winchester Geer*

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Bonnie Katlun will be meeting with Joyce Green and the Audit Committee as soon as Rehmann Robson completes the preliminary draft of the 1998 audit. It will take place in the end of May or early June.

*Submitted by,
Bonnie Katlun*

GATHERING COMMITTEE

The Gathering Committee is working very hard on the many projects that need to be completed by July 29, 1999. We have been out to the property every Sunday except Mother's Day (even mothers need a break, right!). We welcome anyone willing to volunteer their time to come and help clean up the area. Our regular scheduled meetings in June are at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 5 and June 27, 1999. The meetings are potluck.

Many thanks to the elders for their donations and volunteering their time to help out with the "Gathering". Also thank you for allowing the chairman and co-chairs to speak at your luncheon on May 6, 1999.

Paul Jackson, is bringing a gospel group, to sing gospel songs in Nishnabek and English. This should be very interesting for everyone. They will be singing for two nights.

The children will be making two trips if the weather is nice, so we also need volunteers to help with their trips. There is no way to know for sure how many children there will be, but the committee and the Council have accepted the estimates given by Andy Jackson and Melissa Newcomer.

We are still in need of lifeguards. If anyone has a suggestion, please call one of the phone numbers listed below. Anyone who has old baseball equipment, or horseshoes and are willing to donate the equipment to the Gathering, feel free to contact one of the persons listed.

This gathering is a reflection on all "Pokagon Members". The Gathering is not being hosted by the Gathering Committee or the Council, but by all Pokagon members. So if there is anyone willing to donate a gift for the give-away, we would appreciate the offering. We hope all Pokagon members are willing to support the Gathering by volunteering a little of their time either before the Gathering or during the four day event. If you want to volunteer, please feel free to call one of the people listed. Thank-you!

Kid's activities-Andy Jackson@ (616) 782-5486
Children's activities-Melissa Newcomer @
(616) 684-0683

Kitchen-Jeannie Mollett @ (616) 463-5355
Kitchen-Georgiana Morseau @ (616) 468-3635

Volunteers or questions about the Gathering, please
contact either name below.

Lucinda Graverett-Smith @ 616-424-6117

Marie J. Morseau Manley @ (219) 288-4345

*Submitted by,
Marie J. Morseau Manley
Gathering Committee Chair*

Sweet Grass

The Education Department will have a limited number of sweet grass plugs for those who wish to grow their own. Four plugs per person will be handed out on a first-come basis starting June 7, 1999. For more information, contact John Warren/Cultural Coordinator at 616-782-0887 or 888-330-1234.

Tobacco

A limited number of tobacco plugs will be offered sometime in early June. For those wishing to grow tobacco, please leave your name and phone number with the Pokagon Band Education Department. Attention John Warren Cultural Coordinator at 616-782-0887 or 888-330-1234.

REPAIRS AND RENOVATION

For those who qualify for any of the funding for repair and renovation there are some restrictions. There is a cap of \$35,000 per home. You may not get all of the funding at once. The funding is spent according to the availability, and the number of members on the waiting list. It may take a year or two to get your priority list done. Please call Keith White if you have questions or concerns.

(616) 782-8998 or
1-800-517-0777

Anishnabek Mural Will Show 'Native Pride' of our People

We have an exciting new project for the entire Grand Rapids community to enjoy for years to come. Here in the Westside community, members of the Young Eagles and Anishnabek Youth Leadership Council have been working on a huge wall mural with the theme of 'Native Pride'. The mural project and native pride theme alone has been enough to inspire many beautiful ideas about what should be designed. Community and Pokagon Band member Candi Wesaw has been instrumental with her ability to interpret our young people's feelings and ideas concerning Native Pride. Together, with the youth groups working on their ideas, it will result in a beautiful artistic work that our Native Youth can share for the entire community to see for years to come. Candi has been encouraging the youth to get out of their preconceived idea of how to paint.

She has been challenging the youth to use more than just paint brushes. Leaves, feathers, and foam are just some of the creative tools that Candi will be incorporating into the mural project.

Others have loaned their assistance to support this project. The Weed and Seed program helped us with acquiring paint; parents and family members have donated brushes; another lumber company had paint pans and brushes donated as well. Everyone has been enthusiastic about the entire project, and seems to understand that this project is designing, what hopes to be, a mainstay for everyone to admire for many years to come. We at Native American Prevention Services have hopes that as the project goes forward, individuals and other community organizations will feel generous and help with paint or financial donations. We will be working on this project for approximately the next month.

The location of the mural is just south of the parking lot for our office on Broadway and Turner. The total wall surface is approximately 25 foot tall and 140 foot long. This mural is a big undertaking for any group to accomplish. Please drive by or check us out in the evening. If there is a crew of young people working, offer them a honk of encouragement.

Again, if you would like to make a monetary contribution for this project, please direct a check or money order to Young Eagles Mural project. If you would like to inquire on how we are doing with the paint supply and other materials for this huge project, just give us a call at the (616) 458-4078. Kchi-Migwech!



Giwemen

(Returning Home)

Seventh Annual Gathering Of the Potawatomi Nations

Hosted by: Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047
Telephone (616) 782-8998

Please join us with our celebration on:

Date: July 29, July 30, July 31, and August 1, 1999

Place: Gage Road, Dowagiac, MI. 49047

Time: July 29th Opening Ceremonies

Mini Pow Wow

Friday, July 30th and Saturday, July 31st

Open Drum

Authentic Native American Arts and Crafts only
(limited booths available)

Host Hotel:

Quality Inn, 2860 M-139, I-94 Exit 28, Benton Harbor, MI.

Telephone (616) 925-3234

Red Roof Inn, 1630 Mall Dr., I-94 Exit 29, Benton Harbor, MI

Telephone 1 (800) 843-7663

Inn of Niles, 930 S. 11th St., (US-31) Niles, MI. 49120

Telephone (616) 684-3000

Village Inn, 9008 US-31, Berrien Springs, MI. 49103

Telephone (616) 471-1354

Rustic camping available

For more information contact:

Lucinda Graverette Smith, Gathering Comm., Co-Chairman
(616) 782-0887

Val Baker, Gathering Comm., Co-Chairman (616) 463-3669

Lorraine Gideon, Gathering Comm. (616) 782-1763

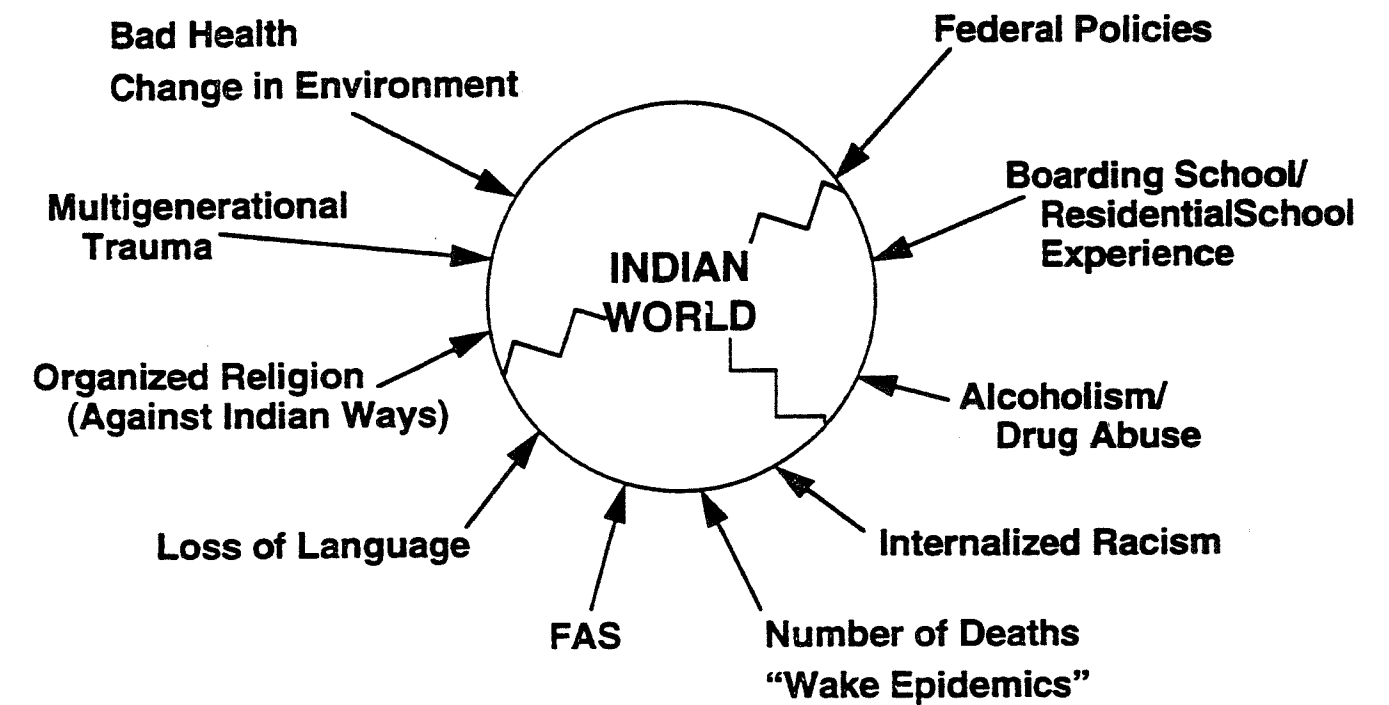
Website: www.pokagon.com or E-Mail: pokagon@pokagon.com

The Gathering is not open to the general public

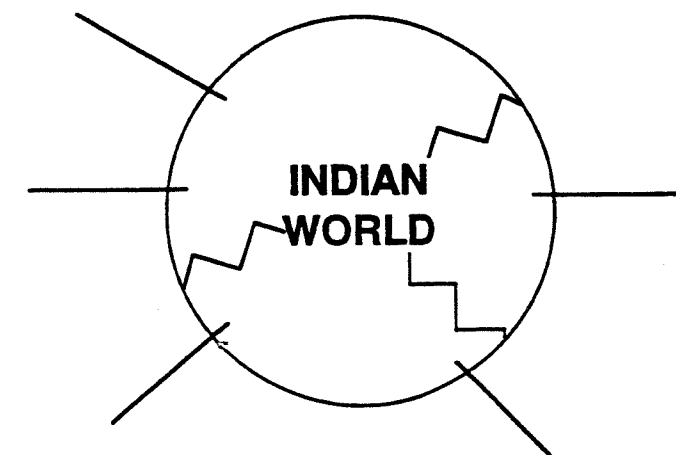
Please-No Drugs or Alcohol, No pets-Thank you

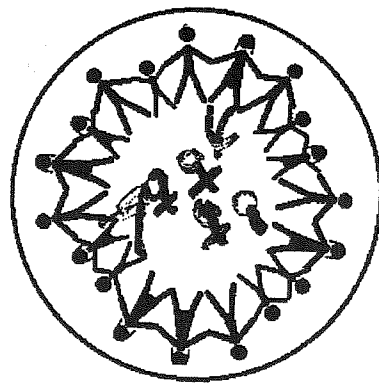
Volunteers and Donations Welcome

Factors That Broke Apart the Indian World/Culture

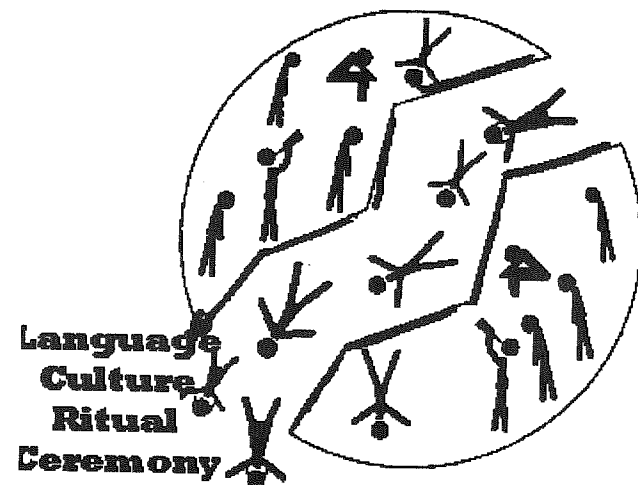


Current Factors That Impact Our Wellness Today

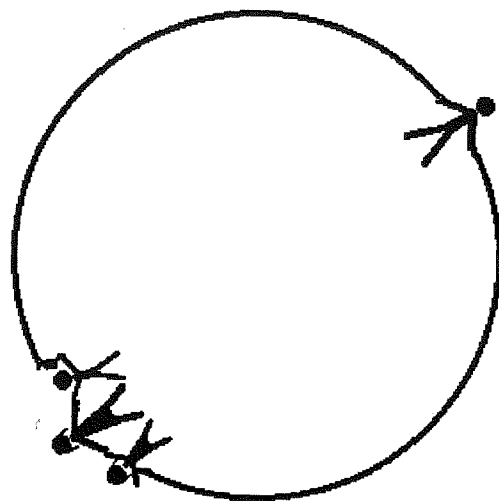




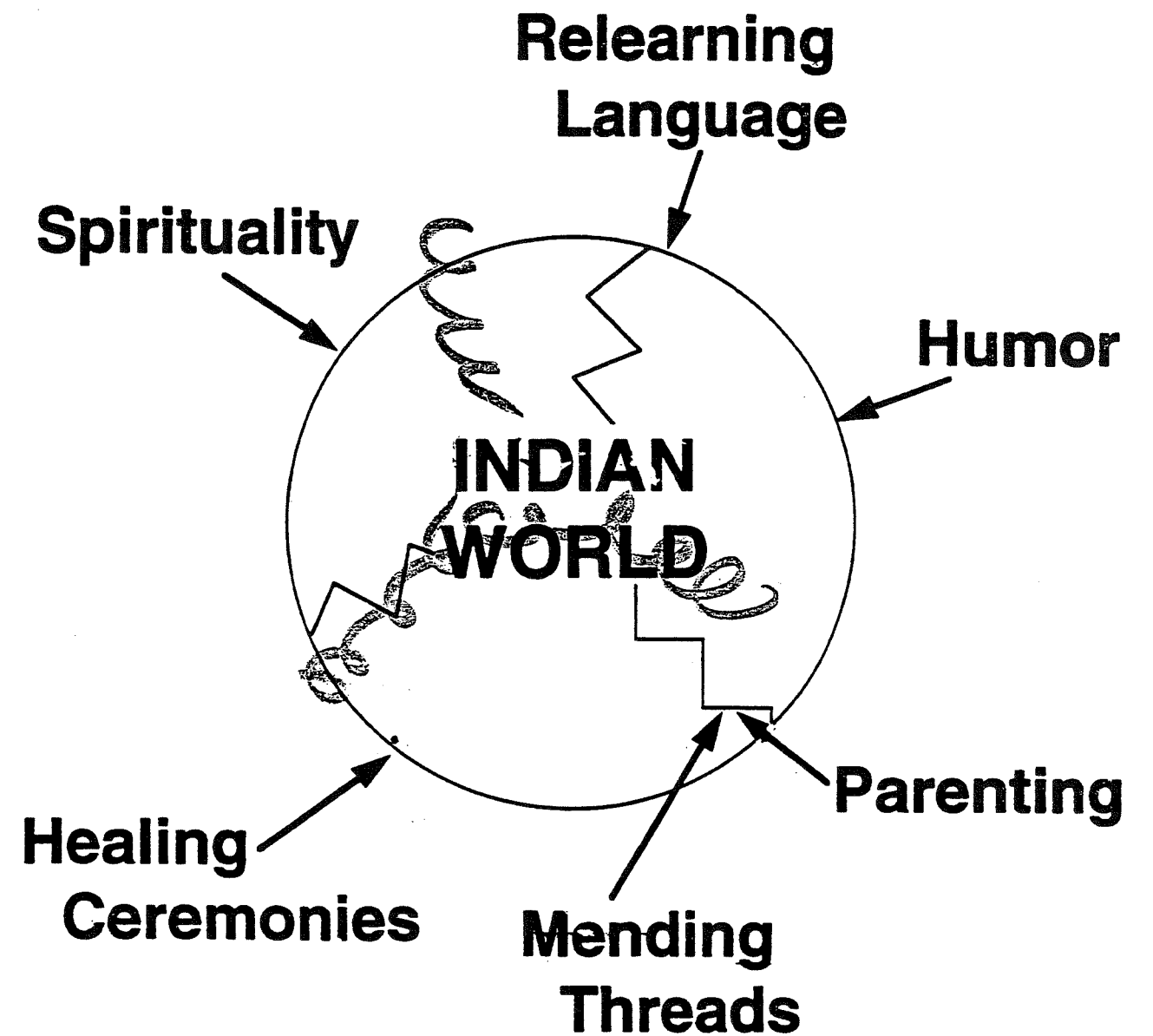
- ♦ A healthy village is a circle whose people are safe within its fold.
- ♦ Love, understanding, kindness, culture, history, goals and truth make the circle strong and protect the village, the family, and the individual.
- ♦ A healthy village is a gift of the Creator to his children.



- ♦ For many Native American Indians the circle was broken by the trauma of mass death through epidemics.
- ♦ Families and villages lost communication and grew apart.
- ♦ A circle broken is incomplete. It hemorrhages, and life flows out of it. It breeds unhappiness. Unless the circle is repaired in time, it will die.



- ♦ The circle can only be made whole again by those who live in it, its people.
- ♦ The circle, being spirit, can only be repaired by love, understanding, kindness, forgiveness, and patience, with the help of the Creator who established the circle. It can only be done by its people coming together.



Community Strengths

- ▲ Native Humor/Laughter
- ▲ Native Mentors/Visionaries
- ▲ Spirituality
- ▲ Ceremonies/Rituals
- ▲ Recovery/Healing
- ▲ Re-Learning Native Language
- ▲ Re-Learning Parenting
- ▲ Family Support
- ▲ Non-Stressful Pace in Life



HEAD START UPDATE



Boozhoo from the Head Start and Early Head Start program,

Démen-gizes (strawberry moon) was a yummy month. Our children explored delicious strawberries. They ate tons and tons of berries. The children were also able to learn about Démenen with their other senses. They enjoyed smashing and squashing the berries for shortcake, milkshakes, and for the fun of it. This month we had a number of visitors from another preschool program. We were able to share our community and culture with others while also learning from our visitors.

On May 14th some of the participants from our program went to the Women's Traditional Dance Gathering in Grand Rapids. A number of women were available to talk about dance styles and clothing. The women also had the opportunity to learn different dances (fish dance, swan dance or corn grinding dance). We hope to see some of these dances being done at the pow wows again soon.

Démen-gizes also marked the beginning of our bus routes. The Pokagon Band Head Start program has a bus available for the pick-up and delivery of our children and families for participation in the center day on Fridays at Elders Hall. (For more information on how you may enroll your child, call (616) 782-8998 or 1-800-517-0777.) We also used and will be using our bus to take a number of field trips. During the next few months we will be traveling to various local parks and to our Children's Garden located near the Elders Hall, (garden usage donated by Michael Jackson and family- *igwéen/thank you*).

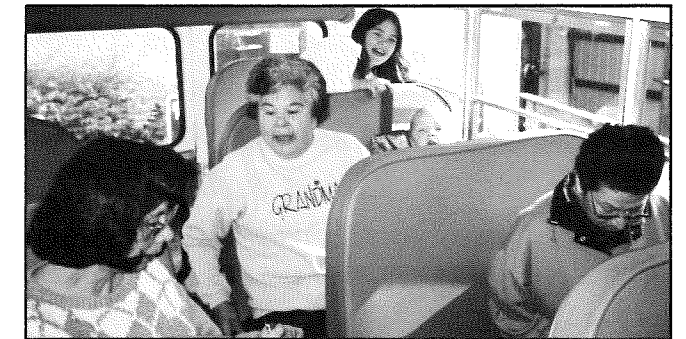
We are currently taking applications and enrolling children for the 1999-2000 school year. **We can begin working with you NOW!** If you are a Pokagon Band member, have a child from birth to five-years old or are expecting, contact our office for more information on how you can enroll. Women who have children by a Pokagon Band member may also be eligible. Call the Head Start Department at (616) 782-8998 or 1-800-517-0777.

Next month our theme is Gtété-gizes (gardening moon). We are going to continue working within our Children's Garden. The Cultural department is work-

ing with us on growing the Three Sisters (corn, squash, and beans). We also received a generous donation from the Mollett family (*igwéen*) of tobacco plugs for our children to plant and grow. It is exciting to watch our Native children learn some of the traditional cultural aspects like gardening and fishing. This is an exhilarating season for us to explore the outdoors and observe the changes taking place all around us.

Lastly, I would again like to invite anyone; who has dances, stories, songs, skills, or any further suggestions on activities, to please contact us. We are always looking for resources and input from the community members.

*Bamapi,
Jenn Barker*



Clockwise I. to r.: Sherri Miller, Jeannie Mollett, Abby Jackson, Autumn Mollett, Evie (Grandma) Miller



Sherri and Baby Robbie Miller at the dance gathering.



Chris and Ryan Robinson working on self-portraits.

**"Mending the Sacred Hoop" Hoop
Dance Academy
at Pine Ridge , South Dakota**

When: Saturday June 19-Saturday June 26

Who: Pokagon Youth Ages 10-18

10 students will participate in a four-day hoops academy workshop taught by Dallas Chief Eagle. All meals, lodging, and transportation will be provided. The van will depart from Dowagiac, MI. (Some travel assistance to Dowagiac may be possible). Interested youth should contact Marie Willis at 1-888-330-1234 by Monday, June 7. Participants will be selected on June 8.

Any Questions? Please call Marie Willis (616)782-0887 or 1-888-330-1234.



95
17

***Pokagon Band
Youth Camp***

Grades 2-6 Sun Aug 1-Tues Aug 3

Grades 7-12 Tues Aug 3- Fri Aug 6

Camp Friedenswald Cassopolis

**Come join us in cultural activities,
hiking, swimming & more.**

For a registration packet: Contact

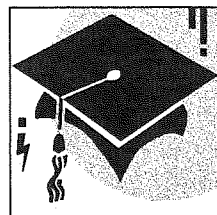
Marie Willis at 1-888-330-1234.

Camp Applications are due by July 17.

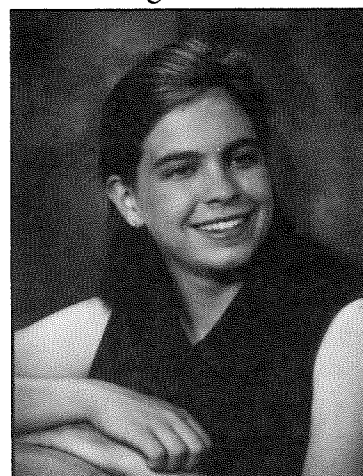




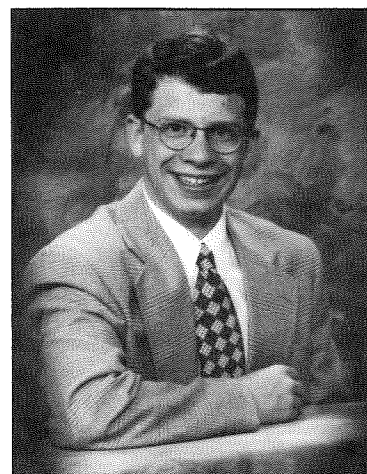
CLASS OF '99



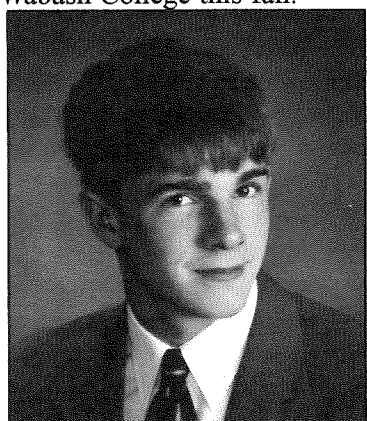
**Katherine Allison
Carlton**
Graduating from Byron Center
High School.



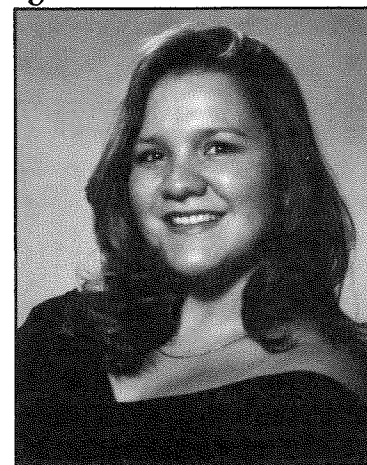
Sarah Eck
The daughter of Gary and Rose Eck,
granddaughter of Mary Jo Morris is co-
valedictorian at John Glenn H.S. She
will study chemical engineering at
Purdue University this fall.



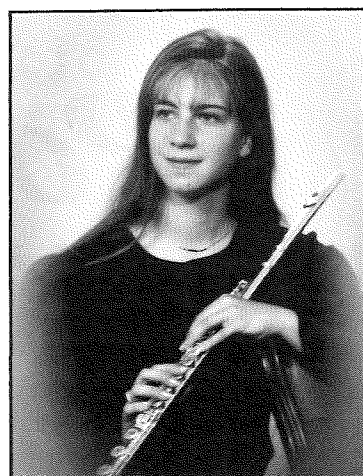
Aaron Eck
The son of Gary and Rose Eck, grand-
son of Mary Jo Morris is salutatorian at
John Glenn H.S. He will study pre-law
at Wabash College this fall.



Greg Morris-No info available



Melody Hall
Graduating from Hopkins High School.
Melody is attending WMU to study nursing.
She is the daughter of Stephanie Coleman.



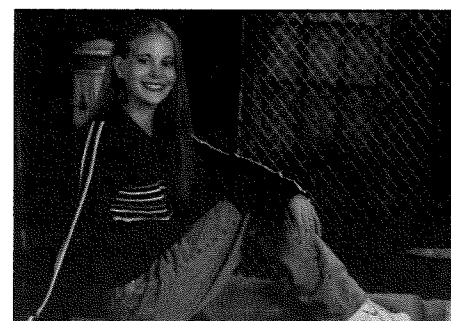
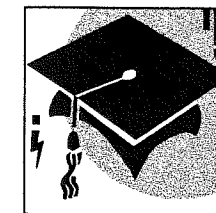
Hannah Eck
The daughter of Gary and Rose
Eck, granddaughter of Mary Jo
Morris is co-valedictorian at
John Glenn H.S. She will study
math at Indiana State Univer-
sity this fall.



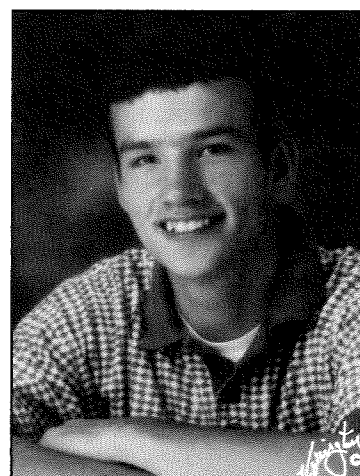
Winonah LaGrande
She is the daughter of William
and Annette LaGrande. She is
graduating from Paw Paw H.S.
She is attending Central Michi-
gan majoring in linguistics. She
thanks the Pokagon Band for its
support.



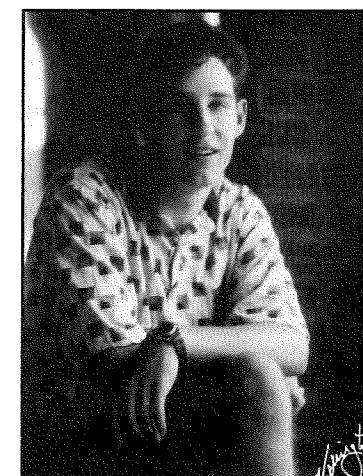
CLASS OF '99



**Josie Margaret
McGlothlin**
Daughter of Kenneth and
Pamela McGlothlin. She
graduates from Hartford H.S.



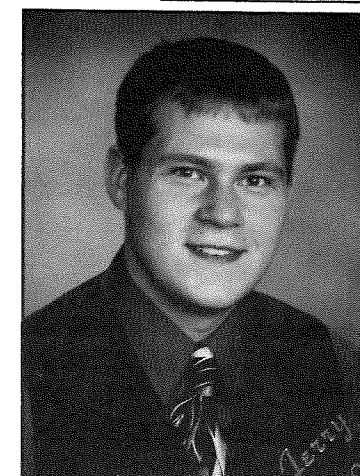
Joshua Price
Joshua is the youngest son of
Rick and Becky Price. He is
graduating from Brandywine
H.S.
He is a talented artist. He has
earned letters in basketball and
track and stayed on the honor
roll the past two years. He was
class vice-president, and he
plans to attend Southwestern
Michigan College and major in
art.



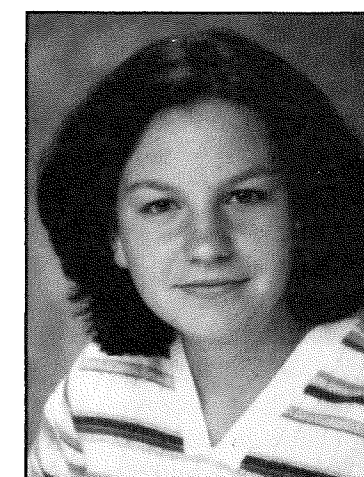
Joseph Schrouder
Joseph is the son of David and Barbara
Schrouder. He graduates from
Brandywine H.S. and plans to attend
IUSB to study accounting or music
education.



Tracy Steffens-
No info available



Gerald Morris
The son of Jerry and Nancy
Morris graduates from
Mishawaka H.S. He is a mem-
ber of the National Honor Soci-
ety. He works in a pedorthic shoe
store and at Krogers. He plans
to attend Northwestern and
study pedorthics.



Alexis J. Wesaw
Alexis is the daughter of Robin
and Mike Wesaw. She gradu-
ates from Marian H.S., and she
is attending University of
Michigan to study science or
medicine.

POKAGON ELDERS REPORT

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS ELDERS COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MAY 6, 1999 - 11:00 A.M.

The minutes for the newsletter were unapproved. Meeting was called to order by Gerald Wesaw at 11:06 a.m. Invocation was given by Frank Person.

Roll Call

Present: Gerald Wesaw, Marge Moody, Mary Jo Morris, Rachel (Rae) Daugherty

Arrived later: Clarence White & Mary Church

Attendance: 26 Elders 4 guests

Marge Moody moved to approve the agenda of May 6, 1999.

Rae Daugherty seconded the motion. All in favor "aye", opposed 0. MOTION CARRIED

Rae Daugherty moved to approve the minutes of April 1, 1999.

Marge Moody seconded the motion. All in favor "aye", opposed 0. MOTION CARRIED

Membership's vote on the Elders logo was: The eagle with a feather, 10 votes; the turtle, 8 votes. The name on the logo will be Pokagon Band Tribal Elders. Elders Council could have their own logo if they wish.

Petey Boehm gave the health information report in the absence of Becky Price. Mark Topash resigned May 3, 1999; so CPR will be on hold for now. Petey stated she is co-chair for the Elder programs for the Potawatomi Gathering. She needs ideas and volunteers.

Gerobics is still on Tuesday & Thursday 10:00-11:00 a.m. Chairobics has been changed to Monday & Wednesday 6:00-7:00 p.m. Becky will continue with the Diabetic Support Group every other Tuesday after Gerobics; also on Wednesday evenings at the Health office, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Rae reported on the Critical Issues Conference, held at the Clarion Inn, Ann Arbor, MI. March 24-26, 1999. The Michigan Indian Education Department was the sponsor. Rae & Marge attended most of the workshops pertaining to Elders. Those were: Being Your own Medi-

cal Advocate; Advice On How To Take Care of Yourself; Living Wills; Understanding Today's Youth; Aging & Diabetes; Get Your Best Bang Out of Your Buck. They were shown a video of the history of Lac Vieux Desert. There was a play called Born Again Savage. Marge said they also talked about how important the year 2000 census report is for Indian people to make sure they're counted.

A MIEA Conference was held April 6 & 7, 1999. Ann Zimmerman, Alternate Delegate reported that topics at the Conference were Dementia/ Alzheimer's Disease; Aspects of Alzheimer's *Keeping Your Mind & Body Active*; Depression In Aging; Diet/Nutrition, Social Security; Caregiver Blues. A lady brought her dogs in for a presentation. Rae & Ann received a prize for their Easter hornets. The second day there were talking circles and a MIEA meeting; at which the by-laws were discussed and Virgil Loonsfoot was elected President.

Mary Jo gave her report on the Financial Exploitation Program, held on April 15, 1999 at the Library in Cassopolis, MI. Mary Jo was surprised to learn that 67% of financial exploitation is done by family members; their being second check signers and caregivers. To prevent exploitation: keep accurate records, use direct deposit, sign your own checks, check your bank statements. If you have a second signer on your checks, have a third person check everything over for you. Get a living trust, similar to a will. It's a good way to avoid probate court. Info on this program was available to the membership.

Paul Jackson gave membership information about the gospel singing and preaching being held on his property at 2854 6th Street, Bradley, MI. It will be held June 11 & 12, 1999 starting at 7 p.m. A flyer was passed out to Membership, and everyone is invited.

Marge informed membership that the Conner Prairie Museum in Fisher's Indiana is taking visitors on a photographic journey similar to Indians forced to go to Oklahoma. If enough people are interested in going, she would call them.

Marie Manley and Val Baker were here to give us their report on the Potawatomi Gathering July 29-August 1, 1999. There will be activities for children & Elders; visits to Rush Lake Cemetery and other cemeteries. Elders have volunteered to put together welcome packets. They could do two-hour shifts to welcome people to the gathering and could also sell tee shirts and caps. Two kinds of jackets will be sold on the internet. Profits from these will help other expenditures.

Gerald stated that a lot of markers are needed on the Trail of Death route; a trip that happens every five years. He would like membership to think about placing a marker from the Elders.

He also informed us that this year is the 50th Anniversary of the Crazy Horse Monument in South Dakota. The first weekend of June the public is allowed to go on top of the monument. This is a trip to consider next year.

Tribal Council had asked Butch White to speak to the Elders about what type of housing they want. Housing could be up in 18 months. It is income based, and there are types of deductions that would qualify us. Dowagiac will probably be developed first. Most Elders voted they wanted single two-bedroom housing. Butch is taking applications for all housing. There was a sign up sheet for a trip to Grand Traverse Band to look at housing.

Announcements: Next Elders Council Business Meeting & Luncheon-June 3, 1999 11:00 A.M. Elders Hall

Elders Social Luncheon June 17, 1999 11:00 a.m.-E.H.

Mary Jo Morris moved to adjourn at 12:55 p.m. Marge Moody seconded the motion. All in favor "aye" opposed 0. MOTION CARRIED

Submitted by,
Mary Jo Morris
Elders Council Secretary



Easter Bonnet Contest: At the Elders MIEA meeting in Watersmeet, Rae Daugherty and Ann Zimmerman won prizes for their efforts.

ADMINISTRATION
FINANCE
REPAIR & RENOVATION
P.O. Box 180
901 Spruce St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-8998
1-800-517-0777
FAX (616) 782-6882
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES/
SOCIAL SERVICES
210 Front St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-4141
1-888-440-1234
FAX (616) 782-8797
EDUCATION/JTPA
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-0887
1-888-330-1234
FAX (616) 782-0985
ENROLLMENT
104 N. Riverside
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-1763
1-888-782-1001
FAX (616) 782-1964
SUBSTANCE ABUSE
P.O. Box 180
714 N. Front St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-1142
FAX (616) 782-1653
FOOD COMMODITY
52366 M-51 North
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-3372
1-888-281-1111
FAX (616) 782-7814
ELDERS HALL
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN
P.O. Box 180
53237 Townhall Rd.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-6323
1-888-376-9988
FAX (616) 782-9625
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
P.O. Box 180
109 Commercial St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-0160
(800) 658-9414
FAX (616) 782-1028

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY 85th BIRTHDAY

Mary Ann Shoemaker
Love, your daughter Stella and
your family



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Leona Falk-June 19
Love, Kim, Brittainy, Corey and
Fred

HAPPY 5th BIRTHDAY

Bradley Piper
Love, Kim, Brittainy, Corey and Fred

HAPPY 1st BIRTHDAY

Joey Lynne Riley
We love you!
Mom, Dad, Rhian and Megan

HAPPY 12th BIRTHDAY

Rhian Lynne Nelson
You will always be my baby!
Mom

HAPPY 8th BIRTHDAY

Scott L. Liggett, Jr.-June 27
Love, Mom, Marissa, India, Michael and Gage

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

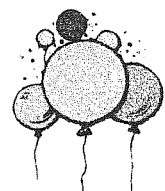
Rolland Linn-June 1
Love, your family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Anthony Nelson-June 30
Love, your family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Margaret O'Keefe
Love, Sis Stella



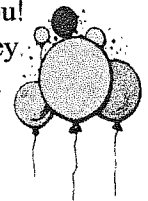
CONGRATULATIONS

John Low

He was named to the University of Minnesota Dean's
and Scholars list for winter quarter 1999. Students
named to the list have been recognized for outstand-
ing academic achievement by earning A's in at least
two-thirds of their classes.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Jackson Little-May 15
We love you!
Kim, Fred, Brittainy & Corey



HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Kenny Little-April 17
We love you, Kim, Fred, Brittainy
and Corey

JUNE 20, 1999

DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please submit the newsletter articles to
Maureen Shagonaby
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047
FAX (616) 782-6882
Please submit birthdays to appear on the
birthday calendar by the 20th.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To our Dearest Sister
Dee Rapp Mix
May God bless you, Sister
Love,
Bette Morseau, Grace Pego, George Rapp

WELCOME TO THE YEAR OF THE BIRTHDAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Mary Ann Shoemaker Rolland Linn	2 Terri Andrews	3 Ronald McMillan	4	5
6	7 Mary Jo Warren	8 Philip Beuel, Jr. Ryan Nelson	9 Craig Andrews Margaret O'Keefe	10	11 Dee Mix	12
	14	15 Tracy Andrews	16	17 Robert T. Wesen	18	19 Leona Falk Goldie Almgus Britt Parker
20 Brandy Jack William Sigfrids Jason Cardiac	21 Jim Margott Bradley K. Piper Michael Diamond	22 Rhian Nelson Megan Shepard	23 Laura Anderson	24	25 Richard Winchester	26 Carie Bellow Ashley Parker
27 Joel Gonsky Scotty Liggett	28	29 Michael Fisher John Winchester	30 Joey Lynne Riley Anthony Nelson			

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				