



58620 Sink Road
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

"The Pokagon's Tell It"

58620 Sink Road, P.O. Box 180, Dowagiac, MI 49047

Vol. VII, No. 5

May 2002

Pokagon Band 6th Annual

Women's Health Fair

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Health Services and Van Buren/Cass Health Department's Mona Hale worked together to sponsor the Sixth Women's Health Fair on March 2, 2002. The event attracted over 100 visitors despite the inclement weather. Our big winner of the Pendleton blanket was Judy Augusta. "Congratulations Judy!!!"



Women throughout the day enjoyed the massages, manicures, haircuts, great food and raffle prizes. Interesting educational material on many different health issues such as diabetes, coronary artery disease, cervical and breast disease, and more was available to interested parties.

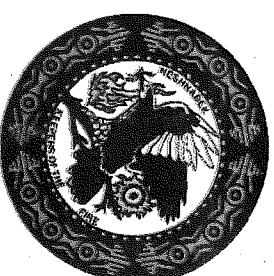


The screening was coordinated and completed by Mona Hale, RNCS, GNP-OGNP. Mona has worked very hard at each of our Women's health fairs and to show our appreciation, health office staff presented her with a Pendleton Lap Blanket. Mona's volunteers were also presented with a small token of our appreciation.

The Health office as usual worked hard to complete the diabetes, lipid profiles, labs and health screening. "Thank You staff." We also want to take this time to thank Dawn, from Lee Memorial Med group; Emily Brigham, Nutritionist from Van Buren/Cass Health Dept.; and most of all, the Tribal members that were in attendance. You are the people that help make these events possible. We appreciate your participation and company.

Look for flyers/information on the upcoming Youth Health Fair to be held in July. See you there.

Bozho Tribal Members,
On behalf of the Pokagon Band
Education Department
Come celebrate the coming of Spring
On Sunday May 19, 2002 with
Pipe Ceremonies starting at 12:00 P.M.
Rodgers Lake Lodge 58620 Sink Rd.



Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
Dinner will follow Pipe Ceremonies
Pipe Ceremonies are being asked to bring their
"Eastern Door Treatings"
Any questions please feel free to contact the
Pokagon Band Education Department
1-888-330-1234 616-782-0887
Please bring a dish to pass and lawn chairs



AWARDS CEREMONY!

Mark your calendars

For everyone who submitted information about awards for the school year 2001-2002 and graduating seniors!!!!

If you haven't submitted information yet, it is not too late. Just give the Pokagon Education Department a call.

The ceremony will be held on May 22, 2002 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Please remember to bring your award with you if possible to display for that night for all to enjoy.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI Education Department 1-888-330-1234.



April 23, 2002

Tribal Citizens,

I am taking this opportunity to update everyone with regard to the TOMAC lawsuit against the Department of Interior with regard to placing our gaming land in trust. On December 14, 2001 there was an oral argument on this suit in Federal District Court in Washington, D.C. in front of Judge Robertson. The Department of Justice presented arguments and was supported by the State of Michigan Attorney General's representative as well as the City of New Buffalo and New Buffalo Township representatives. There were also approximately 50 supporters from the Pokagon Band and New Buffalo area in the courtroom for this oral argument.

As a result of the oral argument contents, Judge Robertson made a decision to nullify three of the four primary issues in this lawsuit. The remaining issue concerns TOMAC's standing in this suit with regard to environmental impact on the local community adjacent to the casino site. An oral argument has been scheduled for May 10, 2002 at 10:00 A.M. in Federal District Court in Washington, D.C. in front of Judge Robertson regarding this final issue. The City of New Buffalo and New Buffalo Township Board have both passed resolutions to enter *this lawsuit as parties, if necessary.* Judge Robertson has ruled to allow the attorneys for both local governments to provide arguments on May 10. Once again, a group of supporters from New Buffalo and Members of Tribal Council as well as Elders Council will journey to Washington, D.C. for this event. Due to cost restraints and room availability, no other tribal citizens are being included for this trip. However, no one is precluded from making the journey on their own if they wish. The sole drawback may be that there may not be enough room to accommodate everyone in the courtroom and some may have to stand in the hallway or wait outside. Tribal Council is optimistic that the decision will be in our favor.

Additionally, the Non-gaming land in trust application for parcels in Dowagiac and Hartford were submitted to the

Department of Interior and a notice was published that the application had been received. A 30-day comment period ensued and some negative comments were received from Pokagon Township, City of Dowagiac, and Cass County Commissioners. As a result of the comments, an Environmental Engineering firm was contracted to evaluate and report on the waste water disposal situation in use at the Rodger's Lake property as well as feasibility of use of this system in the event of expansion. On or about May 8, 2002 a report will be available for submission to the Department of Interior in response to the comments previously received. Upon acceptance of this report by the Department of Interior, another notice will be published indicating the intent to take the non-gaming land into trust. There is an additional 30-day comment period which follows this publication. In the event no negative action(s) are taken, the land will be taken into trust by the Department of Interior.

The investigation of our housing program continues as of this date and the HUD office in Chicago has indicated that a report of findings should be forthcoming within the next week or two. Due to the fact that some unreliable information has been exchanged verbally from the HUD office, a written report will be responded to in a much more aggressive and acceptable fashion. Until this situation has been resolved, no services are being extended. I sincerely apologize for this action, but we are at the mercy of the government until the program can be restructured to complete the goals and objectives under which the Tribe accepted the grant.

As a reminder, Constitution meetings have been scheduled for April 27, May 4, and May 18, 2002 at the Dowagiac Central Middle School from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

All of these meetings are on Saturdays for convenience of the citizens of the Pokagon Band.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Zimmerman Sr.
Acting Chairman



NOTICE !!!!!

Tribal Council Meeting Change!

Due to the upcoming Washington, D.C. trip by Tribal Council members, the Saturday meeting previously scheduled for May 11, 2002 has been rescheduled and moved to Thursday, May 16, 2002 at 6:00 P.M.

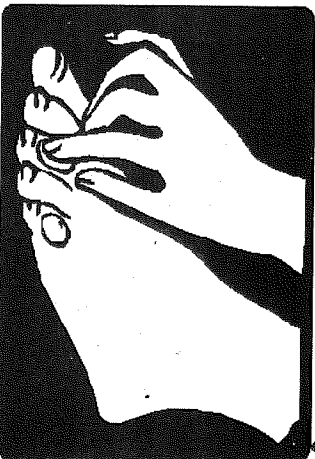
Also at this meeting Tribal Council will be accepting nominations to fill one vacancy at the Council table.

Please mark your calendars to note this change.



Foot Care Clinics

Pokagon Band of
Potawatomi
Indian Health Services



(New Location !!!)
57392 M-51 South Dowagiac, MI
Second Wednesday of each month
and

South Bend Office
2705 Mishawaka Ave
Mishawaka, IN

Please Call to make YOUR
appointment today

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Indian Health Services

57392 M-51 South
Dowagiac, MI 49031

Phone: 616-782-4141
Fax: 616-782-8797
Toll Free: 1-888-440-1234
Call Joy Duff, LPN, CHR
Foot Care Specialist

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

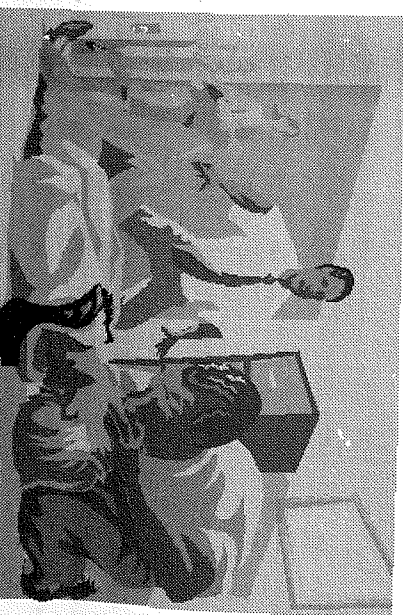
OFFERING:

FREE

COMMUNITY CPR

ADULT/CHILD/INFANT CPR

FIRST AID & AED TRAINING



Saturday, May 25, 2002

8:00 am-5:00 pm

**at the new Health Department location
(former White and White building)**

57392 M-51 South, Dowagiac, MI 49047

Lunch (on your own) 12:00-1:00 pm

wear comfortable clothes

contact Joy Duff, LPN, CHR to sign up
(616) 782-4141 or toll free (888) 440-1234

Talking Circle



Native American Community Services
"The Healthy Start Project"

FOR WHO: Community and Family Members who
are interested in increasing the health of native
babies and their mothers.

WHEN: May 15th from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm
Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

WHERE: NACS Office -- Community Room
671 Davis NW, Grand Rapids

We will be discussing the
"Safety of our Children".

Please come and join us.

For more information or to RSVP, please feel free to contact
the Healthy Start Staff: Darlene VanOveren,
Tina Horne or Stephanie Snyder at 458-4078.

Pokagon B and Indian
Health Services

Pokagon Youth Health Fair

Date: Saturday, July 27, 2002

To be held at:
57392 M-51 South
Dowagiac, MI 49031

9:00 am Opening Ceremony

Phone: 616-782-4141
Fax: 616-782-8797
Toll Free: 1-888-440-1234

4:00 pm Closing

FEATURES:

- *Head Start & Sports Physicals
- *Curious Kids Museum
- **Food "Scoliosis Screening" "Fire Safety" "Smokehouse"
- *Cultural Program
- *Lead, Glucose, and Lipid Screening
- *Immunizations * and much, much more...

Contact Joy Duff, LPN, CHR at 782-4141



HEALTH SERVICES

Looking Back...

Looking Forward

Excerpted from 'Shaking the Rattle'

by Barbara-Helen Hill

"Looking at our eating habits takes tremendous strength and often requires support. It takes courage to look at what we crave, what we eat too much of and how often. We need to have a dietitian or someone familiar with eating plans help us set up a healthy way of eating. If we continue to eat the foods that our bodies cannot identify or digest properly, what then are we doing with the wonderful gift that the Creator gave?"

"If we eat like them we go crazy like them," Khatsalano said this to his people about eating the diet brought by the Europeans. Khatsalano was wise in his statement. If we continue to poison our bodies, we will end up leaving a legacy of ill health for the generations to come.

Very often when people become ill with diseases uncommon to them, it is because of their diet. Many Native people, when tested for food allergies (usually as a last resort) have been found to be allergic to wheat, sugar, yeast, and dairy products. Often children suffering from chronic ear infections have recovered almost immediately when they have dairy products removed from their diet.

I know from my own recovery that I am allergic to sugar. I am also allergic to wheat-it causes bloating and often arthritic symptoms in my body. And if I choose to remain free from dairy products, I have very little sinus problems and phlegm in my throat.

Before the Europeans came here to North America, native people in different parts of the country ate differently. The Native people of the West Coast ate from the sea. Iroquois ate mainly soups and vegetables and occasionally meat. People in the north ate a lot of meat but not much vegetables or grains. People ate from the land, foods natural to their areas...

...When you eat something that you shouldn't, your body becomes confused and anxious. If the body cannot express itself it becomes toxic.

In other words, we are poisoning our bodies and there are physical symptoms caused by these food allergies. Skin rashes, extreme amounts of gas, sleepiness at the end of a meal, bloating, water retention; just to name a few..."

When we ponder on these things, we can see where many of the diseases our people suffer come from. Diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, allergies, asthma, and high cholesterol, all are very common to Native people. What can be done? First, look at your own diet and what problems you may suffer from. Check your weight,

get a physical and especially obtain a lipid (cholesterol and glucose screening) profile, available to all Pokagon Band members. This will give you a baseline to work from. Talk to the CHR's or nurses at Indian Health Services for a referral to a nutritionist or help from our office. We have lots of literature available and are happy to meet you at the office or in the comfort of your home. We are striving to help make our community as healthy as possible. From babies to elders, we can turn these diseases around by 'looking the big picture' or a holistic approach.

And one last thing...activity. Our ancestors kept active through the sheer act of looking for food and daily living. We have the convenience today of grocery stores, but we can consider raising our own food in the garden or making better choices with our foods even parking in the back of the parking lot so we have to walk. Find an activity and make it fun. Have the family join you. Do your part in helping to make a healthier Native community.



ATTENTION ALL POKAGON BAND MEMBERS & EMPLOYEES

1ST ANNUAL GOLF OUTTING
JULY 20TH, 2002
PLYM PARK
NILES, MICHIGAN

SCRAMBLE -- 2 PERSON FORMAT

FOR MORE INFORMATION
MEMBERS & EMPLOYEES CONTACT
STEVE HORNER AT:
(616) 782-8998 OR
(800) 517-0777

SIGN UP NOW FOR A DAY OF FUN,
FOOD AND LAUGHTER!!



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

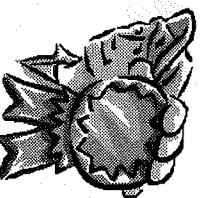
YOUTH COUNCIL INFO.....

Youth Council met on Thursday April 11, 2002. They discussed the issues concerning the upcoming youth camp, MIEA conference with Dallas Chief Eagle, and the Awards ceremony in May. Youth council will be meeting again on April 27, 2002 at 10:00 am at Rogers Lake. We will also be playing volleyball. This is for ALL who would like to play. Please remember to dress-to-get-dirty. The Wednesday language classes will be at the South Bend office. There will be a person from the education office leaving between 5:15 and 5:30, to transport anyone who would like a ride to the South Bend language classes.

A few important dates to remember are:

- ❖ Summer youth camp registration begins on April 15, 2002
- ❖ Beading class will be on Saturday April 20 from 10 to 2 pm
- ❖ Saturday April 27, 2002 youth council meeting at Roger's Lake starts at 10:00 am
- ❖ Language Classes are every Monday and Wednesday.

ALL JOM PARENTS



Do you have a child who has or is expected to be awarded special academic or sports activity recognition for the 2001-2002 school year? We would like to know what awards your child will be receiving or has already received. The Education Department is planning an awards program to recognize those students who have achieved recognition over the year. The ceremony will be held at the end of the school year. The date is set for May 22, 2002 at the Tribal Lodge from 7-9 p.m.. If you have any questions, contact the Education Department, 1-888-330-1234 or 782-0887

JUST A REMINDER!

Potawatomi Language Classes

Dowagiac Education Office:
May 6, 13 and 20
June 3

South Bend Office:
May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm

Summer Youth Employment Applications

Youth: Ages 14 – 18

You may pick up applications at the Education Department or Call 782-0887 or 1-888-330-1234 to make arrangements to have one sent to you.

Application Deadline: Friday, May 24

Summer youth camp
Camp Friedenswald
Cassopolis, Michigan

Grades 2-5: June 16 – 19
Grades 6-12: June 19 – 22

Counselor Application Deadline: May 15

Transportation is available for JOM students who would like to attend the Language classes at the South Bend Office on Wednesday's. You must be at the Education Office in Dowagiac no later than 5:30. THERE WILL BE NO TRANSPORTATION ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 22 DUE TO THE AWARDS CEREMONY.



ATTENTION

All those interested in the Barge positions that have been advertised in the newsletters there will be a meeting held:

WHEN: TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2002

WHERE: MEETING ROOM AT THE AMERIHOTEL HOTEL, DOWAGIAC, MI.

TIME: 8:00 a.m. SHARP. THE DOOR WILL BE LOCKED AT 8:01 AND NO ONE WILL BE LET IN AFTER THIS TIME.

WHAT TO BRING: 2 FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI Education Department, 1-888-330-1234.

Submitted by:
Melissa M. Newcomer
Curriculum Associate

ELECTION COMMITTEE Register To Vote!

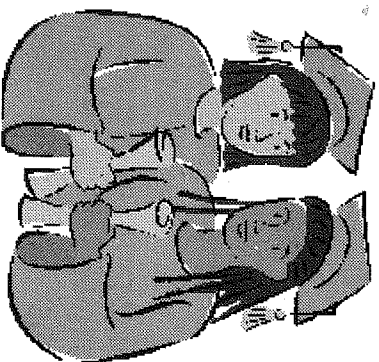
The annual General Election will be held on July 13. You must be a registered member of the Pokagon Band and a registered voter to vote! The Election Committee will be sending out announcements to all tribal members who will be 18 years old or older on July 13. The announcement will contain a voter registration form. Take the time to complete the voter registration and return it to the Election Committee. Please be sure to complete a voter registration form if you have changed your name or address since you last registered.

A second announcement will be mailed later that will contain more detailed information about the election process, more forms, and a calendar of events.

The Election Committee is looking for a tribal member to fill a regular seat on the committee. We also need tribal member willing to fill a seat as a committee alternate. Contact the committee secretary if you are interested.

Any questions should be directed to the committee secretary at (616) 782-7913.

ATTENTION GRADS!!



The Education Department is asking for all graduating seniors to submit their pictures and graduation information to the Education Department. There will be a special ceremony held for graduating seniors. The ceremony will be held at the end of the school year. The date is set for May 22, 2002 at the Tribal Lodge from 7-9 p.m. If you have any questions, contact the Education Department, 1-888-330-1234 or 782-0887.



SOCIAL SERVICES

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency (MICWA): Informational Foster Care Meeting

The Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency will be having an informational meeting on the need for more Native American foster homes in Southwest Michigan. The meeting is open to all persons, and will provide the opportunity for questions to be answered and information to be shared. Anyone interested in learning more about foster care and how to become a licensed foster parent is encouraged to attend. This meeting will be on May 16, 2002 from 6:30 to 8:30, in the conference room at the Indian Health Services office located at 57392 M-51 South, Dowagiac (616) 782-4141. Refreshments will be provided.

Indian Child Welfare

The Social Services Department monitors the well being of Pokagon Band children and families within state protective services and foster care programs. The department has become increasingly involved and takes an active role in these cases through the provision of a variety of outreach services, as well as working closely with state and private agencies. Outreach services, through the Social Services Department, work in conjunction with community prevention services to ensure continued family progress and stabilization. The department also provides a variety of services to individuals and families residing in the service area, to those temporarily residing in emergency housing units, and to tribal elders. While family reunification and stabilization are always the primary goals with *Indian Child Welfare* cases, at times reunification may be judged by a court to not be in the best interest of the children or parents. As such, family, extended family and tribal members are looked to for the care of these children. The Social Services Department is actively involved with public and private child welfare agencies to aid in locating both foster and permanent homes for these children, and is capable of providing referrals to individuals interested in providing care. There is an active need for Native American foster and adoptive homes. Anyone interested in helping to provide this needed care is encouraged to attend an informational meeting on May 16th, from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Indian Health Services office or should contact the Social Services Department at (616) 782-8998 or the Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency (MICWA) at 1-800-880-2089.

Donations

The Pokagon Band Social Services Department will be accepting the donation of goods on a continual basis. These goods will be made available and distributed to Pokagon Band children and families in need on an as needed basis. Goods include, but are not limited to: new or slightly used clothing for both children and adults; new or slightly used children's toys, games or crafts materials; household appliances, furniture, or items in working or good repair; and unopened nonperishable food products. Please contact the Social Services Department at (616) 782-8998 to arrange for the drop-off or pick-up of these goods. The department wishes to thank everyone in advance for these donations and for helping those in need.

Indian Child Welfare Commission

The Tribal Council of the Pokagon Band has recently established the Pokagon Band Indian Child Welfare Commission. Whereas the care and custody of Pokagon Band children are vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Band, the welfare of its children are of paramount importance to the Band. Therefore, the Pokagon Band Indian Child Welfare Commission has been established for the purpose of working with the Pokagon Band Tribal Council, Tribal Court when established, Social Services Department, and when appropriate, state judicial and administrative bodies, with regard to child welfare matters. Anyone interested in learning more about the Commission or becoming a member of the Commission is encouraged to contact the Social Services Department for information at (616) 782-8998.

Child Care Development Fund

Participation in the Child Care Development Fund is steadily increasing. Members throughout the service area are encouraged to apply for this unique program. Applications can be obtained at the Administrative/Social Services office or can be mailed or faxed to anyone interested. The purpose of this program is to enable parents to receive childcare payment assistance while participating in productive employment, an approved educational plan or while training for employment. With the summer season approaching, and children being home from school, this program can be especially beneficial to parents who work or who are furthering their education.

A staff member from the Social Services Department will be available in the South Bend Office every Tuesday. Members are encouraged to stop by and fill out applications for Child Care Assistance if they have not already done so. A staff member will be available to help with completing these applications and to answer any questions regarding the department and available services.

General Requirements

1. Parents must be employed, participating in a job training or education program, or actively involved in documental job searches.
2. Children must be 12 years or younger. Those with 3 or more children will be given priority.
3. Must reside within Allegan, Berrien, Cass, Elkhart, Kosciusko, La Porte, Marshall, St. Joseph, Starke, or Van Buren counties.
4. A parent or child must be a member the Pokagon Band.

Verification Eligibility

For Employment Purposes:

1. Documentation of employer, job site, telephone number and name of immediate supervisor. Information provided on application must be verifiable.
2. Salary and length of scheduled training time must be provided in the case of a training program.

For Education Purposes:

1. Must have proof of registration in a post-secondary school or proof of involvement in a high school or GED program.
2. Must have a copy of official class schedule listing courses being taken, including times and days of classes.

Grades must be submitted at the end of each quarter to continue to be eligible for the next term. Preliminary verification and official number of hours to be paid for childcare may be established as soon as the student registers for new classes.

The Social Services Department has a list of licensed providers for each area. The providers will include center-based and group home care for full-day and before-and-after school care. In-home unlicensed relative care will not be covered as yet. A sliding fee scale will determine each family's contribution to the cost of childcare based on income and the size of the family. The Social Services Department will work with each family to facilitate the program application process and aid in locating licensed childcare. For more information, please contact the Social Services Department.



Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP):

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will close on May 1st 2002. The program had a very successful year. The Social Services Department was able to process and approve over 350 requests for assistance throughout the 2001-2002, winter season. It is anticipated that LIHEAP will become available to assist eligible members meet their heating needs through the 2002-2003 winter season beginning in October 2002. The department staff wishes to thank everyone for applying, participating, and for their patience with this program, and wishes everyone a healthy and happy summer.

Questions and Answers regarding Children's Benefits From the Social Security Administration

- Q.** I receive Social Security disability benefits and my stepdaughter also receives benefits on my record. If my wife and I divorce, will my stepchild continue to receive benefits?
- A.** If you and your stepchild's mother divorce, your stepchild's benefits will end the month following the month the divorce becomes final. You must tell Social Security as soon as the divorce becomes final.
- Q.** Can I go back to work without affecting my children's payments from Social Security? They've been getting monthly checks on their retired father's earnings record.
- A.** The amount of benefits your children receive is not affected by your earnings. Their payments will continue until they reach age 18 (19 if they're still in high school) or until they marry. However, if you receive benefits as a mother caring for a child under 16 or disabled, your benefits may be affected by your earnings.
- Q.** Do benefits continue for a child who is under age 19 and attending college?
- A.** No. The Social Security Act provides benefits for elementary and secondary school students under age 19. However, no benefits are payable to other students over age 18.

Few student-aid programs existed when Social Security student benefits were first provided in 1965. After that, other programs that were more directly related to family income and educational costs were created or expanded to give financial assistance to students. Because of the availability of other assistance, and the need to restore the financial soundness of the Social Security system, the law was changed. High school counselors and college financial aid officers should be able to provide information about available financial aid.

John Coupe is the district manager of the Social Security office in Benton Harbor. You can write to him c/o Social Security Administration, 455 Bond St., Benton Harbor MI 49022. You can also call the national office at (800) 772-1213 from 7am to 7pm weekdays. If hearing impaired, call (800) 325-0778.

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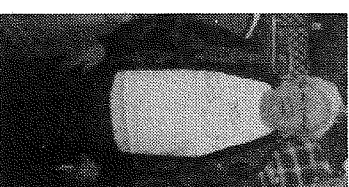
Food Commodities Program

In an effort to better serve Band members who may work varying shifts, the Food Commodities Program hours of operation have been changed. The current hours of operation will be from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday. These hours will hopefully allow members to better utilize this service both before and after work. Commodities are now being ordered through a new distributor with the program receiving all name brand products. Recently, more shelving, storage area was installed to allow even more efficiency when filling orders for the membership.

A staff member from the food commodity program will visit the South Bend Office every Tuesday and visit the Allegan area once a month. Members are encouraged to stop by the South Bend office and fill out an application for this program if they have not already done so. Those residing in the Allegan area are encouraged to call and request an application and to place orders. Those Allegan area participants will also be able to verify the time and place for delivery at that time. Once enrolled in this program, participants can fax, mail, or call in their orders to the

Elder of the Month ALICE NELLIE WESAW

Nee Alexis



Alice Nellie (Alexis) Wesaw was born on October 9, 1912 to Elizabeth (Libbie Baziel) and Robert J. Alexis. As a young woman she was an active member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, where she was baptized, sang in the choir, and played the piano. Her mother Libbie often accompanied her on the organ.

Nellie married Fabian J. Wesaw and raised eight children; four boys and four girls. She suffered the loss of three children, Marcia, Karen and Rhinehart. Still residing in Southwestern Michigan are Loreta Yount, James, Louis, Sharon Winters and Thomas. She has 19 grandchildren and many great grandchildren. Nellie had one brother, Robert L. Alexis (deceased). She has one nephew, David Alexis and a niece Janet, both live out-of-state. Robert Jr. is deceased.

Nellie has lived in Silver Creek township all of her life, on the property which belonged to her mother that was originally Pokagon land. Nellie's brother Robert was a mason who taught her some of the basics of home building and together they laid the foundation for the home she now resides in. The home was completed with the help of her sons and relatives. Nellie attended Red Mill School which was located in Silver Creek Township, and later all of her children attended the same school.

Nellie has seen many changes in her lifetime. She lives a quiet life with her two puppies, "Barney" and "Kemo". She enjoys watching the Price is Right, the Wheel of Fortune, playing puzzle games (especially "Circle the Words") and playing cards. Nellie usually wins at cards but sometimes lets someone else win. She does her own grocery shopping, cooks, bakes and makes Indian Bread. She enjoys venison and for the first time last year was given the opportunity to taste Elk, which she said was very good.

She enjoys traveling, has visited Key West, Florida twice and is ready to visit Memphis again. She enjoys reminiscing about the horse-and-buggy days when she and her parents visited other Indian families. She especially remembers elders telling stories in the Indian language and has passed this on to her children and grandchildren. It is still her tradition to give her grandchildren and great grandchildren their Indian names.

Food Commodities Office at (888) 281-1111. Their orders will then be transported to the South Bend Office and Allegan area, and made available for pick up. In addition, bread is available in the South Bend office each Tuesday, and in the commodities office each Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Due to program changes and in an effort to better serve members throughout the entire service area, those who may have previously applied for food commodities and been turned down due to their area of residence are encouraged to reapply. These changes will allow a greater number of members to receive commodities throughout the entire area.



POKAGON BAND OFFICES

P.O. BOX 180 DOWAGIAC, MI. 49047

TRIBAL COUNCIL

58620 SINK ROAD

(616) 782-6323 or toll free (888) 376-9988

FAX (616) 782-9625

ELDERS PROGRAM

53237 TOWNHALL ROAD

(616) 782-0765 or toll free (800) 859-2717

FAX (616) 782-1696

ADMINISTRATION/

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/

SOCIAL SERVICES

58620 SINK ROAD

(616) 782-8998 or toll free (800) 517-0777

FAX (616) 782-6882

HEALTH SERVICES/

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

57392 M 51 SOUTH

(616) 782-4141 or toll free (888) 440-1234

FAX (616) 782-8797

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

901 SPRUCE STREET

(616) 782-0887 or toll free (888) 330-1234

FAX (616) 782-0985

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

109 COMMERCIAL STREET

(616) 782-0160 or toll free (800) 658-9414

FAX (616) 782-1028

ENROLLMENT

104 N. RIVERSIDE DRIVE

(616) 782-1763 or toll free (888) 782-1001

FAX (616) 782-1964

FOOD COMMODITY

52366 M-51 NORTH

(616) 782-3372 or toll free (888) 281-1111

FAX (616) 782-7814

HEAD START

709 SPRUCE ST UNIT B

(616) 783-0026 FAX (616) 782-9795

SOUTH BEND OFFICE

2705 MISHAWAKA AVENUE

SOUTH BEND, IN. 46615

(219) 234-9114 or toll free (800) 737-9223

FAX (219) 234-9306

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

56033 M-51

(616) 782-9602

We're moved in!!!

The Health Services & Behavioral
Health Departments

are now moved in to the new building

located at

57392 M 51 South

Dowagiac, MI 49047

(616) 782-4141 or toll free (888)

440-1234

fax (616) 782-8797



*Local Pokagon
Member Since 2007*

Thunder Turtle Trading is now
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needs. Our hours are by appoint-
ment day or night (if we are not
in the mall). Mail orders are also
available and we will soon be
on the internet. Drop us a
line or call me and we'll use on
the POW-WOW TRAIL. Watch!

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POKAGON BAND MEMBER

Thunder Turtle Trading

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Open Monday-Friday
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YOUR VIEWS

"THE POKAGON'S TELL IT"

Writer's Guidelines for Your Views (editorials)

Why do we edit letters?

What to do:
After you write a letter, make sure your full name and mailing address is on it. "Your Views" does not publish anonymous or "name withheld" letters. We also don't publish letters that carry only a set of initials for the author. Your address is needed for verification, but it will not be published. Nor will we disclose your address to anyone who might ask for it.

Where to send letters:

"Your Views"
C/O Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
Or email: gwesaw@pokagon.com

Verification: All letters must carry the author's full name and mailing address, in addition to your e-mail address if available. We acknowledge every letter with a postcard mailed the same day your letter arrives. Letters without a return address are automatically excluded.

Identification: Authors willing to have their full name published are given preference over writers who ask that only their first initial and last name used.

Stoppiness: E-mail is convenient and quick, but unfortunately many e-mail writers ignore basic rules of writing when sending a letter. Please use the same care you would if the letter were being prepared for standard mail. Follow common punctuation, grammar and spelling rules. Writers who ignore these rules decrease their chances of being published.

Originality: Letters written to a third party, such as the governor or a congressman, and copied to Pokégnek Yajdanawa are not original. We prefer not to publish these "open" letters to officials.

What we look for:

Brevity: Cover the topic in the fewest possible words

Focus: Your letter should make a point, and you should get to that point quickly.

Style: Avoid adjectives such as "really" or "extremely". Avoid phrases such as "in my opinion" or "as I see it". Readers know that opinions are being presented; these phrases are unnecessary.

Fairness: Avoid personal attacks and disparagement of a group of people based on the actions of a member of that group. Argue your points on the merits, not on emotions.

Edit Yourself: After writing the letter, read it aloud. Put yourself in the place of the reader. Is your point clear? Is there a faster, better way to say what you're trying to say?

Readability: Readers are attracted to short sentences. Keep to one idea per sentence. Avoid using more than three numbers in a sentence.

All letters to Your Views are accepted with the condition that we reserve the right to edit. We make every attempt to preserve the writer's essential meaning. Editing is done throughout the newspaper, whether the writer is paid professional or letter writer. The main reason for editing is that allows us to accept more letters to the editor. An editor's job is to determine which part of piece of writing is most essential to make a point. We also correct errors of grammar and spelling and delete inflammatory material. The most likely candidate for extensive editing is a letter that is twice the length it needs to be to make a point, or one that tries to make too many points.

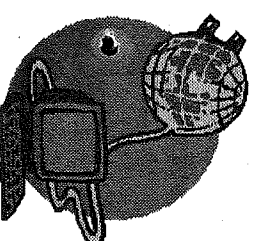
How can I tell if you're going to publish my letter so can send it to someone else?

Please have your letter in by the 14th of the month to assure it will be in the following month's newsletter. Call 1-800-517-0777 or e-mail gwesaw@pokagon.com. If it's not published within that range, chance are it was not accepted for one of several reasons. Unfortunately, we cannot respond to every letter we don't accept with a reason for its rejection.

The Human Resources Department and Web Page

Through our web page www.pokagon.com we list Pokagon Band job postings, and a list of contacts to other web sites/employers offering employment in our area. This includes Michigan and Indiana. I encourage our Tribal Members to contact me to set up a time to discuss your resume and consider resources available to you for finding employment. Using your resume we can assess your employment needs along with the resources we have available to assist you. Our Education Department with has a full-time Instructor to train you in basic to advanced computer skills. Computer training is available to Tribal Members and significant others. Our staff in the Education Department can assist you with writing resumes, GED preparation, or scholarships for college/vocational students. Those Tribal Members living in Michigan meeting requirements may receive a tuition waiver and may qualify for assistance with schoolbooks and mileage to get to and from school. We also have other programs such as the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) that enables job skills training for adult Tribal Membership. I encourage you to call either Melissa Newcomer in the Education Department or myself to set up a time to complete an intake to see what we can do for you. Melissa may be reached at the Education Department or by telephone 1-888-330-1234, or I may be reached at the Administration Office or 1-800-517-0777 Monday through Friday's from 8:00a.m. - 5:00p.m. We look forward to hearing from you. Sincerely,

Kenneth Antisdal
Human Resources Coordinator



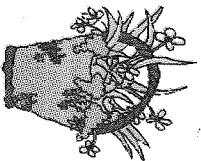
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY 2002

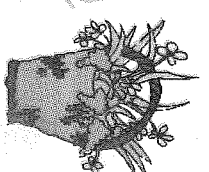
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	2 IHS/CHS @ South Bend Office	3 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	4
5	6 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	7 Optical Day@IHS	8 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	9 IHS/CHS @ South Bend Office	10 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	11 Tribal Council Mtg. Lodge@ 10:00 am
12	13 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	14 Optical Day@IHS	15 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am Foot Care Clinic@ Beh Health Home by Appointment	16 IHS/CHS @ South Bend Office	17 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	18
19	20 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	21 Optical Day@IHS	22 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	23 IHS/CHS @ South Bend Office	24 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	25
26	27 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	28 Optical Day@IHS	29 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	30 IHS/CHS @ South Bend Office	31 Gerobics@ E.H. 10:00 - 11:00 am	



Happy Birthday
 Kelly Mason 5/5
 Love Grandma & Grandpa Mason

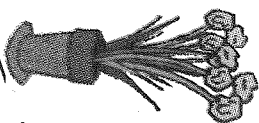


May Announcements



Happy Belated
 Birthday
 Derek Collett 4/1
 Love- Mom, Dad
 David & Christin

Happy belated birthday 4/4
 Estella Jeffington
 Our Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother
 We all love you and appreciate you so much.
 Thank you for being so special to us!
 Love- Your whole family



Happy Birthday May 10th
 Andrea Wesaw
 Love Your Cousin Gini

Happy Birthday
 Kathy Parker-Goodson 5/2
 Michelle Piper 5/6
 Kaitlyn Hoeksra 5/2
 Love-Aunt Stella

Happy Birthday
 Chelsea Wesaw 5/21
 Love- Dad & Matthew

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday
 Mark Wesaw-5/25
 Matt Wesaw-5/26
 Love- Mom & Dad

Happy Birthday
 Shanta Wesaw
 Charlyn Feathers
 From Your Family

Happy Birthday to our Mommy & Daddy
 John Miller 5/12
 Angie Miller 5/14
 We Love You- Kathryn, Isabella & Steven

Happy Birthday May 23
 Shira S... May 23.
 Robert... May 17.
 Love, Your Mother and Sister

Happy Belated Birthday 4/23
 William Eugene Swisher III
 Love Always! Mom, Dad, Grandma & Uncle

Congratulations
 Don't forget!
 2002 Graduate
 Bachelor of Science
 Liberal Studies!
 Love- Your Family

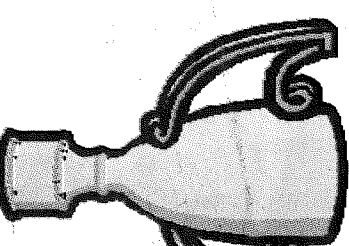
Happy Birthday
 May 15/99
 Love-Sophie Grany (haha)

Happy Belated Birthday
 Jodi Burfield 4/9
 Love good Mom, Dad, Nora & Nora

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
 JOE L. MORSAN 5/15
 LOVE-YOUR FAMILY

In loving memory of
 Lenore Lynn Swisher
 4/26/89 - 7/19/98
 Love Always- Mom, Dad,
 Grandma & Uncle

CONGRATULATIONS DAKOTA ALSUP
 ON BEING NAMED THE STUDENT OF
 THE MONTH
 AT COUNTRY SIDE CHARTER SCHOOL
 IN BENTON HARBOR!
 WE'RE PROUD OF YOU!!!
 LOVE- MOM, DAD & GRANDMA
 GEORGIE



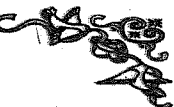
Happy Belated Birthday
 Britany Morrison
 13 years old 4/8
 Love-Dad, Melissa & Nick

Happy Birthday
 Barb Feathers 5/11
 Sandra Klob 5/31
 Roger Wesaw 5/20
 From Your Brother

Happy Birthday
 Mary Watson 5/14
 Ernie Shoemaker 5/14
 Love-Sister Stella

Happy Birthday to:
 Alicia Jackson 5/30
 Abbie Jackson 5/28
 We Love You- Mom & Dad
 (Andy & Mike Jackson)
 Grandma & Grandpa Mallett
 Grandma & Grandpa Jackson

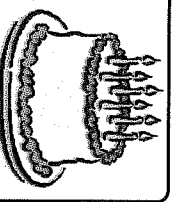
Happy 24th Birthday
 Naomi Shimos - May 22
 Love Angie, John, Isabella,
 Kathryn & Steven



Happy 10th Anniversary 5/19

William Swisher

Kateri Alexis Banghart
 is 6 years old on May 16th
 Happy Birthday! Love Your Family



Happy Birthday:
 Austin Brown 5/3
 Ceaira Heffington 5/7
 Ron-Ron Heffington 5/13
 Johnny Reed 5/27
 Angel Woodard 5/30
 Love-Grandma

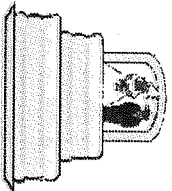
Happy Birthday
 Priscilla Ann Swisher 5/19
 Love always! Mom, Dad,
 Grandpa & Uncle John



Happy Birthday to:
 Tika Wilson 5/3
 Candi Anne Wilson 5/13
 Liz Wesaw 5/22
 Justice Wilson 5/22
 Greg Wesaw 5/23
 Love Your Family

Congratulations
 Samantha Conchinas

Brian Tammes



On this wonderful
 Day the Cheyenne Harmon

Congratulations to
 Donald James Summers!
 On graduating from
 Lake Superior State University
 Also for being the first person ever
 to graduate from
 LSSU with a Bachelor of
 Science in Liberal Studies.
 Good job Cong! We love you!
 Pam & your magnificent

Welcome to the world!
 Alexis Marie Harmon

Born: 2/28/02

8 lbs. 6ozs., 19 1/2 in.

Daughter of: ROB & Dawn

Harmon

Sister of: Cheyenne Harmon

