

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

"The Pokagons Tell It"



Vol. I, No. 11

October, 1996



ELDERS SELECT NEW COUNCIL

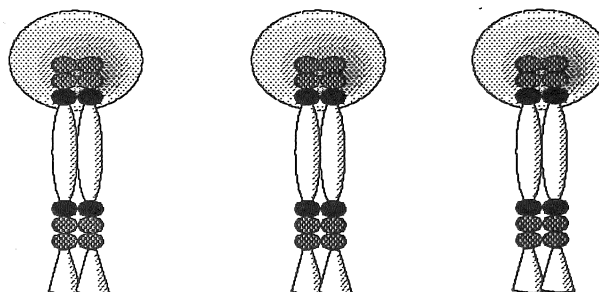
The Pokagon Band Elders held their first Council election Thursday, September 19, 1996 at the PINI Hall in Dowagiac, Michigan. Approximately 29 Elders and several spouses attended.

The unopposed winners were: Elders Council Chairperson, Gerald Wesaw—Bangor, Michigan; Elders Council Vice-Chairperson, Loretta Yount—Grand Rapids, Michigan; Elders Council Secretary/Treasurer, Mary Jo Morris—Mishawaka, Indiana.

The Elders will also have a seat to represent them on the Tribal Council. The Elders elected Mary Church of Allegan, MI, to fill the seat. The alternate will be Rae Daugherty of Sister Lakes, MI.

The membership set the Council seats for two year terms.

The next Elders Council meeting will be held on October 3, 1996, beginning at 11:00 a.m.



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

The last month has been incredibly busy, but productive.

We are laying the groundwork to formally approach the Secretary of the Interior. There are many different ideas how we should approach Mr. Babbitt. All are being investigated. Unfortunately, there are now those in Congress who would like us to fail. Even as I write this article, Senators are trying to add amendments to bills (such as appropriations bills) that would put moratoriums on gaming or would delete any tribe from getting a compact approved by the Secretary of the Interior. Other proposed amendments would empower the states to decide if recognized tribes could game. Because of these situations, it is important for the Pokagon Band to remain watchful and politically active in all phases of the government. *It is important that we use our votes wisely in the upcoming local, state and federal elections.*

We have come to a point where we as Indian people need to focus our energies in the same direction. The first part of this process is to establish goals. This step starts with the determination of what is most important for the Band. Tribal Council needs to develop policy for the achievement of these goals. The next step is involvement of our committees—they will bring forth recommendations to our Tribal Council. Finally, a cooperative effort between Program Directors, committees, and Tribal Council will enable us to realize our goals. If we all begin to function as a Pokagon TEAM, committed to the overall success of the Band, there will be few obstacles that can stand in our way!

I wish to thank all who donated their time and energies to making this year's Pow Wow a success. Our Pow Wow is not only a time of celebration, singing and dancing, but also a time that we can collectively focus our spiritual strength. We were blessed with fabulous weather and gratifying community interaction for two days. Wah waa nuh, Gitche Manido.

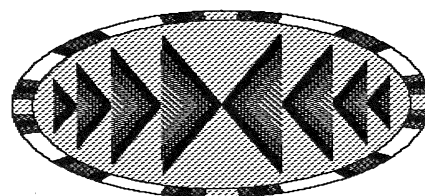
Congratulations to the newly-elected officers of the Elders Council. We all look forward to a sharing of their collective wisdom.

I would like to say all of our Directors and Staff—Thank you for a job well done! As we grow as a Tribe, our needs will also grow. We can only augment this growth by continued dedication to our membership.

This means that all of us need to be willing to go the extra mile. Many already have the vision. Continued effort will be rewarded with the certainty of Pokagon success for many generations.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns at (219) 679-4377. My address is 10301 Harrison Road, Osceola, IN 46561.

Bob Moody
Tribal Chairman



KEE-BOON-MEIN-KAA A SUCCESS

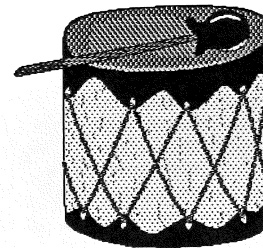
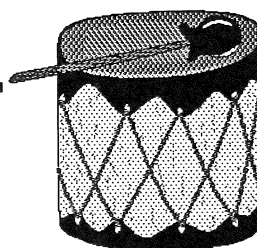
The 12th Annual Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow Wow was a success. More than 8,000 people came through the gates at St. Patrick's Park in South Bend over Labor Day weekend. It was two days of fun for those who attended.

There were six drums, about 200 dancers and 46 traders to help with the pow wow celebration.

Although it was not the best year, it was a **VERY** good year. And it was one of the best in the past few years.

The weather was hot, but it did not stop the dancers and drummers from putting on a terrific performance throughout both days.

The final numbers are not in from the pow wow and its profits. However, the Pow Wow Committee should have those figures by next month. Initial reports indicate the news will be good.



COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY OF MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 14th COUNCIL MEETING

The Pokagons have been approached by the SAGE Council to participate in it. The SAGE Council has monies to help restore the cultural and spiritual aspects of each tribe with the purpose of bringing back the Spirituality of Native Americans. The Pokagon Council is going to consider it.

In Human Services, Richard Klemm discussed Indian Child Welfare and explained there is a need for more foster care homes. He is also in the process of developing Policy and Procedures for the Indian Child Welfare Act for the Band. Richard Klemm and Mike Wesaw are exploring the possibility of adding an "Intake Specialist." This person would take phone calls and direct the call to the proper department and personnel along with additional duties. A job description is currently being developed.

The number of families using commodities is up to 50 from last month's 21 families. This month we begin to tailgate commodities to the Huron Band and Little River Band.

In JTPA, there are 40 Michigan and 10 Indiana participants in the program. In September, our JTPA program was audited. Although we need to work on some minor things, our program will be around, because the tribal staff has shown the BIA that we can handle the reporting requirements.

The Housing Authority reported the September 7th housing meeting was held with regional HUD officials. However, there was no quorum present. The tri-state group is expanding to include Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin tribes input. Land continues to be a big issue in Indian housing. Some other tribes are in the middle of a land acquisition moratorium.

Indian Health Services now has contract health services for life threatening conditions. Christine Daugherty also reported to Council those services must be scheduled before services are rendered. The Tribe is also trying to expand our service area to include Kent and Kalamazoo Counties to serve even more of our members.

In Gaming news, Julie Stauffer reported the NIGRA Trade Show in Denver was geared for tribes

Minutes cont. on pg. 11

Save

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

714 N. FRONT
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-8998
1-800-517-0777
FAX (616) 782-6882

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

104 N. RIVERSIDE DR.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-7028
1-888-990-1234
FAX (616) 782-4573

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

210 S. FRONT ST.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-4141
1-888-440-1234
FAX (616) 782-8797

ENROLLMENT/JTPA DEPARTMENTS

210 S. FRONT ST.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-0887
1-888-330-1234
FAX (616) 782-0985

FOOD COMMODITY

54964 M-51 NORTH
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-3372
1-888-281-1111
FAX (616) 782-7814

Save

OCTOBER 20, 1996 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please submit articles for the newsletter to

Maureen Shagonaby
104 N. Riverside
Dowagiac, MI 49047
FAX (616) 782-4573

Please submit birthdays to appear
on the birthday calendar by the 20th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

On September 10, 1996, the Michigan Legislature reconvened for an approximate three week session. The spokesman for Governor Engler, John Truscott has stated the Legislature will not debate or vote on an issue which may be controversial. In speaking with Dennis Muchmore, he has advised me that it is very unlikely that any debate will occur on our Resolution for the gaming compact.

Proposal E, the casino issue will appear on the Michigan Ballot in November. This calls for the legalization of privately owned casinos in cities which meet the qualifications, of which Detroit is the only city in Michigan that does at this time. The latest survey shows the proposal going down to defeat, 51% to 43%.

There have been articles in Southwestern Michigan's local papers which may lead one to believe the Secretary of the Interior will be prescribing our compacts in the very near future. Let's not get over confident by reading these articles. The articles are really saying we have excellent reasons for the Secretary to support us. The State has not bargained in good faith. The Governor has signed the agreed upon compact, but the Detroit issue overshadowed the facts before the legislature. Also there is moral support in the Department of the Interior at this time. We must watch our comments and carefully choose our words. The reality of the situation is nothing will take place until after the November elections, and after the Secretary releases his proposed rules in prescribing compacts.

On the National front, there is activity within the Senate which if successful, will have a catastrophic effect on Native American Tribes in this country who are trying to get involved with gaming. Senators Gorton and Pressler have attempted to introduce amendments to appropriations bills which would virtually outlaw the Secretary of the Interior from acting in compact prescriptions, and taking land into trust.

The salt in the wound is the process being utilized by the Senators. They are bypassing the normal and correct procedures, (Committee on Indian Affairs) by attaching their amendments to appropriation bills. They may get support, not for their substance, but for the need of the Senate to act on the appropriations. In short, the issues are: prohibit the Secretary's ability to expend funds to review or approve Compacts, prohibit

any Compact from being approved during fiscal year 1997, prohibit any federal funds from being expended to review or approve compacts or establish Class III gaming by any other means.

There are additional items, but I think you get the jest of what they are trying to do. This will serve the self-interest of the states, anti-gaming, and anti-Indian interests, at the expense of a single and specific group of people, Native Americans.

With the Tribal Council's approval, I will be responding to the Senate on behalf of the Pokagon Potawatomi Indian Nation. I have been aware of the President's intention to veto this legislation if it passes. We must work with the other Nation's to see it does not get that far.

There has been some talk of the Legislative Committee putting together information that would outline the individuals who are running for election and who we should support. I would have difficulty supporting this effort. First of all, voting is an individual and personal decision and should not be unduly influenced by any one person. I would certainly support any tribal effort to get our members registered and to the polls. This election, as they all are, will be very important to us, not only on the local level, but the state and national level as well. Do not sit back and let someone else make these important choices. Exercise your rights and get out and vote!

If someone has questions as to what a certain person has done in the Legislative arena or what a candidate has said they support, I may be able to assist you. But, I do not think we should get involved with individual recommendations. I am going to attempt to have information ready for the next newsletter on candidates at both the state and national levels and the political positions.

Matthew Wesaw
Legislative Committee Chairman



LEGISLATORS

MICHIGAN SENATORS

Senator Carl Levin
459 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Spencer Abraham
245 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2203

MICHIGAN CONGRESSMEN

Congressman Fred Upton
2333 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Congressman Peter Hoekstra
1122 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

STATE SENATE

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Wm. Van Regenmorter Room 405 Capitol Building Lansing, MI 48909	Rep. Carl Gnodtke Room 252 Capitol Building Lansing, MI 48909-7536
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Sen. Harry Gast Room S324 Farnum Building Lansing, MI 48909	Rep. Bob Brackenridge Room 821 Olds Plaza Building Lansing, MI 48909-7536
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Rep. James "Mick" Middaugh
Room 69
Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Rep. Paul Hillegonds
Room 515
Olds Plaza Building
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

INDIANA SENATORS

CONGRESSMAN

Senator Richard Lugar
Room 306
Hart Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Congressman Tim Roemer
Room 407
Cannon House Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senator Dan Coats
Room 404
Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Congressman Steve Buyer
Room 326
Cannon House Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

STATE SENATORS

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Senator Kent Adams
105 Beechwood Dr.
Bremen, IN 46506

Representative Mary Kay Budak
5144 N. Pawnee Trail
Laporte, IN 46350

Senator Anita Bowser 1912 E. Coolspring Michign City, IN 46360	Representative Gary Cook 11385 9th Road Plymouth, IN 46563
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Senator William Alexa 2207 Shannon Dr. Valparaiso, IN 46383	Representative Richard Mangus 68735 US 31 Lakeville, IN 46536
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Sen. Marvin Riegsecker 801 S. 6th St. Goshen, IN 46526	Rep. David Alan Wolkins 501 Pierceton Road Winona Lake, IN 46590
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Senator Joseph Zakas 16372 Wild Cherry Dr. Granger, IN 46530	Representative Philip T. Warner 17607 SR 4 Goshen, IN 46526
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HOUSING COMMITTEE WILL HOLD MEETINGS FOR ELDERS INPUT 2ND- 4TH WEDNESDAYS OF EACH MONTH 7:30 PM

IF ELDERS WANT TO
ATTEND, WE WILL TRY TO
COORDINATE RIDES FOR THOSE ELDERS
WHO MIGHT NEED IT.

Please call Marge Reno at
(616) 375-8676

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee met on September 16, 1996 at 5:30 p.m. at the Administration Office. We are still receiving scholarship applications and will be reviewing those when they are received. There will be changes in the application forms for next semester. They will include more information we need to quickly process the forms. This will be discussed at our next meeting.

We have left some school supplies to be given to the JOM service area kids. They are available at the administration building if your children have not obtained theirs yet.

The day and time for the cultural class may soon

Education cont. on pg. 11

POKAGON HEALTH NEWS

Elders' Luncheons and Elders' Committee Meetings

The next two Elders' Luncheons will be Thursday, October 3, 1996 and Thursday, October 17, 1996 at PINI Hall on Townhall Road, Dowagiac. It is planned that each Luncheon will be preceded by an Elders' Committee meeting at 11:00 am, to be followed by Lunch by 12:30 at the latest. **Bingo will follow the October 17th Luncheon.** (Bingo can also be played on October 3rd if attendees are interested.)

Elders' Committee meetings are open, all elders are heartily encouraged to participate. It is stressed that these meetings and lunches are not specifically for the Elder Committee members, all elders are welcome. Lunches will be provided, however, anyone may bring a dish to pass. If you want transportation to the Luncheons or meetings, please call Pokagon Health Services at (616) 782-4141, or toll free 1 (888) 440-1234.

Trish Williams (IHS nutrition aide/outreach) says, please attend, you are most welcome. Even if you have not attended in the past, come on October 3rd and the 17th and bring your spouse.

About this past September 19th Elders' Luncheon, Trish would also like to say, a big thank you "chi mequetch" to Evelyn Wesaw for the beautiful gifts she contributed to the bingo prizes and for her assistance throughout the luncheon. Also, a big thank you goes out to: Renda Ballew for the wild rice, Goldie Mangus for the kitchen help and car pooling, Jim and Mary Topash for car pooling, Mary Church and Geraldine Starret for their assistance in the kitchen. Vic Starret, Delicious pie!!!

Women's Health Day

About 30 women attended the 1st Annual Women's Health and Beauty Fest on September 20, 1996 at the Cass County Health Department. Mona Hale, R.N.C., GNP-OGNP and the Director of Family Planning & Geriatrics and Programs Director with the Van Buren and Cass County Public Health Departments set aside this clinical day for the female clients of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Health Services. Women could have physical examinations, receive nutrition information, cholesterol and blood glucose screenings. This sometimes arduous task of physical maintenance was accomplished with the added luxu-

ries of massage, nail and skin care. The women who attended seemed to enjoy themselves and looked a tad more glamorous on departure. Some regret was expressed that the individual massage therapy was a one per customer event.

Mammography Screening October 1-23, 1996

Lee Memorial Hospital is offering women over 35 mammography screening at a reduced price. Screenings will be done in the daytime, Monday through Friday. Evening hours will be offered, but are not yet scheduled.

This reduced fee is \$65.00. Lee Memorial's Education Services Coordinator Kathy Trahan, R.N. has indicated that CHS dollars can be used for this program. Call the Pokagon Band Health Office (616) 782-4141 for more information.

An American Cancer Society study reported that one out of nine women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. Faced with these odds, it is wise for each woman to follow the established recommendations for early detection:

Monthly breast self examinations

Yearly professional examinations

Baseline mammogram at 35

Mammography every 2 years for women 40 to 50 years of age

Annual mammograms after the age of 50

Christine Daugherty

Glucometer Exchange, Flu Immunization and Vision Programs

The Health Office staff is working on a glucometer exchange, flu immunizations and a discount eyeglass program for our tribal members. Two companies are set to offer us significant savings on in-home blood glucose testing machine. These companies are Bayer Corporation, manufacturers of the Encore, and Boehringer Mannheim Corporation, manufacturers of the Accu-Chek Advantage. The flu vaccine should be ready for us to inoculate our members by mid-to late-October, 1996. Both NuVision and RxOptical are offering our bandmembers and their families 30% discounts on eyeglasses. Unlike Contract Health Services, these programs can be used by any member regardless of county of residence. Call the Health Office at (616) 782-4141 or 1 (888) 440-1234 for more information.

POKAGON HEALTH NEWS

HEALTHY RECIPES

Fry Bread

4C unbleached flour
1-1/2T double acting baking powder
1/2t salt
2 pinches sugar
1/4C shortening (recommended "I can't believe its not butter" stick margarine 40% less fat)
1c skim milk
1-1/2C vegetable oil, for frying (recommend canola or light olive oil)

Sift dry ingredients together. Cut shortening with fingers. Add liquid. Stir until a dough forms. Roll out on to a board. With a biscuit cutter, cut into circles. Flatten by hand into 1/2 inch circles of dough. Heat 3/4 cup oil in a 12 inch skillet. Drop half the dough circles into the oil. Fry 2 minutes, each side until golden brown. Drain thoroughly on paper towels. Add more oil if needed and fry other dough circles. Serve with butter and/or honey or cover with taco toppings.
Makes 16 biscuits.

EXCHANGES

1 biscuit with 1 tsp. Butter=1 CHO and 3-1/2 fat
1 biscuit with 1T honey=2CHO and 2-1/2 fat

FRY BREAD (reduced fat)

4C unbleached flour
1-1/2T double acting baking powder
1/2t salt
2 pinches sugar
1/4C skim milk
Enough canola oil to moisten each biscuit

Follow recipe as above. Instead of frying, spread each biscuit with canola oil and place on baking pan (cast iron skillet works best). Bake at 350 for 10-12 minutes. Turn after half the cooking time. Remove the oven and spray with no-fat spray or a little more canola oil.
Makes 16 biscuits.

Exchanges:

1 biscuit with no fat butter spray or squeezable fat-free margarine=1 CHO & 1-1/2 fat

1 biscuit with 1T honey=2CHO & 1-1/2 fat.

KOOK SHAH NAH BOO

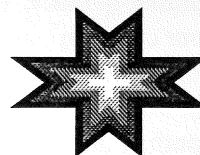
1 lb. Game or lean beef (round steak, tenderloin, sirloin)
1-1/2 quarts water
1 small onion

Boil cubed meat in a small amount of water with the onion until the meat is tender. Add more water, about 1-1/2 quarts. Make small dumplings with flour, cooled broth, a pinch of salt and water. Mix with fingers to form 1/2 to 1 inch thick dumplings. Bring the soup to a boil, drop in dumplings, put lid on pot, turn down heat and simmer. Cook 20 minutes, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking. Makes six servings.

EXCHANGE:

1 serving with 1-2 inch dumpling=2 protein (meat) & 1/2 CHO

*Submitted by
Trish Williams*



SUBSTANCE ABUSE

*****ATTENTION*****

S.S.I. RECIPIENTS

All Band members currently receiving Social Security payments for alcohol/other drug addictions: your payments will **STOP** by December 31, 1996. In July, 1996 notices were sent to both you and your payees informing you of the cut-off date. There may be other options for you but you must begin to take action **NOW!** Please do not delay any longer! To date only one Band member has called requesting help. If you wait until November, December it may be too late to help you. Please call Stephanie Ballew at 1-800-517-0777 and arrange an appointment. We want to help and we can, but only if you identify yourself. All calls and information will be kept strictly confidential!

POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Since the news of the Elders Elections and the increase in membership use of Commodities is covered in other areas of this newsletter, I'll focus on Indian Child Welfare (ICW) issues, foster care, and Emergency Fund.

I have gathered quite a bit of information on ICW issues from the other Michigan Tribes as well as Tribes in the U.S. When dealing with custody issues, adoption, abuse and neglect cases, each Tribe proceeds in very different ways. Some rely on the state Family Independence Agency (FIA), others have their own protective services workers and Child Welfare workers as well as Tribal Courts. The most common procedure that Tribes use to make the best decisions possible is the use of a Child Welfare Committee. This group reviews cases presented to them by human services staff who have done investigations on these cases.

We will be looking at whether or not this committee should be a decision making body or advisory, and who should be appointed to this committee. With well-trained staff and an informed and experienced Child Welfare Committee in place, we can begin making decisions about our children ourselves, rather than having non-Indian persons making those decisions for us.

In the next month, I am meeting with staff at FIA, as many schools as I can, the Probate Court, and others to encourage them to call us when they have concerns about an Indian Child. Staff development will include training existing staff and hiring new staff to provide services to families ourselves, again instead of having to rely on outside agencies. I also am meeting with FIA foster care personnel to discuss licensing procedures the funding for Indian foster care homes. We will then be asking Band members to consider becoming foster care parents for Indian children.

I mentioned at the last Council Meeting, we are developing a new centralized intake process that will hopefully be much easier for members to use when they access Band services.

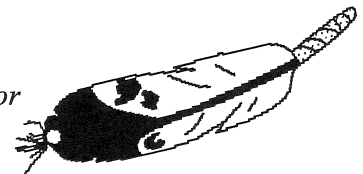
EMERGENCY FUND: It has been a pleasure to work with the Elders Emergency Fund Committee. As each request is considered by this committee, they are treated

in a respectful, thoughtful, and confidential manner. With their experience and wisdom, they have made very sound decisions. So I send a special thank-you to Gerald Wesaw, Rae Daugherty, Georgia Davidson, Mary Jo Morris, and Joe Quigno. They have put a great deal of their time and energy into this important program. If you find yourself in a situation that is an emergency such as homelessness, fire, etc... please call. Keep in mind that you may be referred to other agencies for assistance, if you have not tried already. This fund is a "last resort" source. You may also be referred to other Band services as well.

Not all requests are approved. With a limited amount of money available, only the most needy are helped. Some of the most common requests are for car repairs and paying back taxes. While these are certainly hardships for many of us, they do not meet the guidelines for the Emergency Fund.

If you have any questions regarding ICW issues, the Emergency Fund, or other human services, please call me at 800-517-0777.

Rich Klemm
Human Services Director

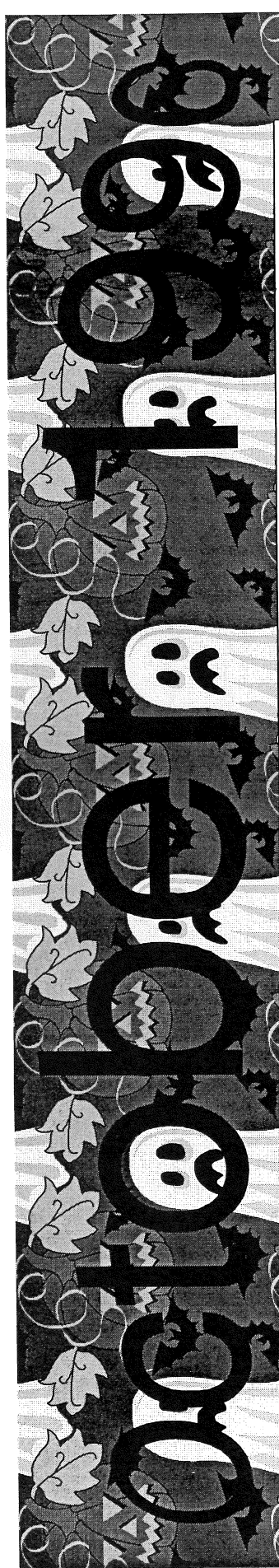


ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The energy assistance program (LIHEAP) will be starting after October 1. The application process will be the same as last year. To qualify you will need to bring a proof of income for the past 30 days. If it more advantageous for you to use the prior year's income, you may bring your 1995 tax returns to use as proof of income. You may use whatever is more advantageous for you to qualify for this program.

We do not need to see your heating bill, however, we do need to know the heating company. The checks will be made co-payable to the member and the heating company. That is the reason we have to know your heating company.

One thing I would like to stress about this program is that the income guidelines are quite generous. The program is designed for working people to receive



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 4:00 pm-PINI Sub. Abuse Task	2 7:00 pm - PINI Language	3 12-??? PINI Elders Lunch	4	5
6	7	8	9 7:00 pm -Hsg. Authority Enrollment Ofc.	10	11	12 10:00 am-PINI COUNCIL MTG.
13	14	15 6:30pm-Sub. Abuse Pot luck/Open Hse.	16 5:30 pm -Enrollment Enrollment Comm. 7:00 pm - PINI Language	17 12:00 pm - PINI Elders Lunch/Mtg/Bingo	18	19 5:00 pm - ??? PINI Lesa Anders
20	21	22	23	24 7:00 pm-PINI COUNCIL MTG.	25	26
27	28	29	30 7:00 pm - PINI Language 5:30 pm - Admin. Personnel Office	31		

POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

assistance. Because of that, those people that are on AFDC do not qualify for our program. (AFDC recipients must apply for LIHEAP through the Family Independence Agency.)

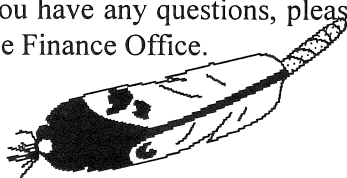
The program is a one time payment for energy assistance. It is not designed to be emergency assistance. It is to be a one-time payment to help out during the cold winter months. I encourage everyone to apply for this program. Applications are available at the Food Commodity and Administration buildings. Please contact Rich Klemm or Shannon Hiler at Administration or Candy Brumley at Food Commodities if you have any questions.

INJURY PREVENTION:

The injury prevention application was submitted to Indian Health Services for fiscal year 1997. We have received an award letter for a portion of our projects. Our grant proposal requested money for car seats, fire extinguishers and bike helmets. Because there were so many applications, and limited funding. We are only funded for the car seats.

This award is still a great help to our members. Once again I encourage those families who need this injury prevention device to contact either Rich Klemm or Rebecca Drake. The car seats should be available at the end of October. If you have any questions, please call Rebecca Drake at the Finance Office.

Rebecca Drake
Contract Manager



ATTENTION!!!

CALLING ALL POKAGON AND NATIVE AMERICAN LICENSED CONTRACTORS

I am in the process of getting the Renovation and Repairs project under way. I am seeking out licensed contractors to bid on this project. The bidding will go out to Pokagon Band members first, then all Native Americans, finally outside contractors. I would also like to hear from all trades people for future projects. (Carpenters, Electricians, Plumbers, etc.) There is a need for septic/sewer and well drilling right now. This program is federally funded through Indian Health Services monies. Please contact me if you wish to bid on this project. (800) 517-0777

Keith "Butch" White

Renovation and Repairs Coordinator

UPDATE!!!

Elders Renovation and Repair Program

This program is designed to help our elders who own their homes, with repairs and minor renovation to improve their living conditions. No total renovations are being made at this time. Here are a couple of examples of circumstances in which our program can be effective:

- ◆ Your toilet leaks at the base causing your floor to rot and you can't afford a plumber or a carpenter to make the repairs.
- ◆ Your roof leaks and you cannot afford to have repairs made.
- ◆ Weather stripping to prepare for the winter season is also available.

The criteria to qualify for this program are as follows:

- ◆ You must be a Pokagon Bandmember.
- ◆ You must be an elder (60 or older)
- ◆ You must own your own home.

In cooperation with the Elders Council, we are going to be collecting information to further identify the needs of our Tribal Elders. Please don't hesitate to call with any questions or concerns at (800) 517-0777. I am here to serve the Native American Community.

Keith "Butch" White

Renovation and Repair Coordinator

COMMODITY REPORT

The Commodity Food Program was a little slow coming out of the gate. Thanks to a lot of hard work from everyone involved, we are seeing a positive increase in qualified applicants. We have recently issued an updated mailer which thoroughly explains the eligibility requirements of the program.

We currently have 54 households meeting the eligibility requirements. This is a total of 142 people actually being served.

Effective October 1, we will open our doors to welcome the Huron Potawatomi and Little River Band

Commodity cont. pg. 11

POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

PERSONNEL UPDATE.....

Current job openings within the Band:

Closing date, September 25, 1996:

Education Director

Computer Support Specialist/Trainer

Elders' Program Coordinator

Closing date, October 11, 1996:

Administrative Director

Commodity Program Site Assistant

POKAGON BAND JOB POSTING POLICY:

The Pokagon Band Tribal Council accepted the following policy with regards to job openings within the Band. This policy ensures that all tribal members have equal opportunity to apply for jobs.

VACANCIES:

A. When a vacancy exists within the Pokagon Band, the position shall be posted in PINI Hall, the tribal offices, and mailed to tribal members via the Pokagon Newsletter, its equivalent, or a special mailing, so that qualified Pokagon Band members have equal opportunity to apply for a position.

B. Only qualified tribal members will be chosen to interview according to the Pokagon hiring policy.

C. If no qualified tribal member applies for or no tribal member meets the qualifications, the position will be posted outside the Pokagon Band regionally within the Native American community.

D. If no qualified Native American applies for or meets the qualifications, the position will be posted publicly outside the Pokagon Band and the Native American community.

GENERAL POSTING INFO:

1. The job posting will always state specifically what you need to do to apply for a position. Such as:

SEND A COVER LETTER AND RESUME INCLUDING THREE EMPLOYMENT REFERENCES TO:

2. If a position requires a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree, then we expect to receive a copy of your col-

lege credentials or a transcript.

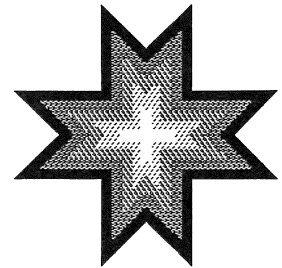
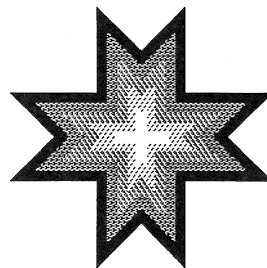
3. If you have applied for a position previously, your resume etc. is kept on file. **BUT** it needs to be activated so you must **SEND A COVER LETTER** to inform us of your interest in a specific position.

If your resume is "old", you may want to consider updating it to include additional jobs and skills you have acquired.

4. **YES**, we accept resumes at any time. They're filed for future use when you tell us you're interested in a position by sending in a cover letter.

5. If you've never had to do a resume or cover letter before, we'll help you!! The Employment and Training staff—Mike Zimmerman and Tracy Wesaw—will be happy to teach you how to do a cover letter and will assist in designing a resume for you. They will even give you great looking copies when you need them once you've given them the info needed to go in to one!!

Paula Winchester
Personnel Director



Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Program

This is a program which enables the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians to provide training activities for tribal members who live in the 10 county area of and meet the eligibility requirements.

As a tribal member you may be eligible for services if you meet ONE of the following criteria:

A. Economically Disadvantaged

If you are receiving food stamps you qualify.

If your annual income for a family of 5 is between \$15,601 and \$19,530, you qualify.

If you are receiving public assistance you qualify.

B. Underemployed

If you are working part-time and are looking for full-time employment, you qualify.

If you are working part-time in a low paying job you may qualify.

C. Unemployed

If you have been out of work for at least 7 days you qualify.

If you have been out of work for an extended period of time you qualify.

Those applicants fulfilling at least one of the above requirements may be enrolled into a training activity which will fit their career interests and abilities.

All applicants will receive an assessment of their reading and math skills, interests and occupational abilities.

The following training activities are offered in the JTPA Program:

1. Classroom Training:

- a. Basic Education - GED
- b. Remedial Education Courses (Basic

Reading and Math)

- c. Certification and Licensing Courses
- d. College or Vocational Classes

2. On-the-Job Training-Learn while on the job.

- a. area employers contracted for special ized training of participants for a limited time period
- b. employer/trainer may be reimbursed up to 50% of wages wages to cover training costs

3. Work Experience

- a. participants may be placed into this program to provide training that would not be obtained in the classroom

4. Community Service Employment

- a. participants may be placed into employment with local government entities for a specified time period

Contact Tracy Wesaw or Michael Zimmerman at (616) 782-0887 or 1-888-330-1234 for further information or to make an appointment.

Let us help you get the training you will need to fulfill your career goals.

Commodity cont. from pg. 9

of Ottawa tribes to put together an effective tailgating system that works for everyone. Together we can make this a successful venture for each tribe.

If you have any questions,
please call Candace Brumley.

(616) 782-3372
888-281-1111



Education from pg. 5

change since school has started. The new time will be posted when the classes are scheduled.

We have met the students from Notre Dame who will be tutoring children in the JOM Program. Homework labs will begin in October. The times will be announced.

The conference to be held in October was discussed. Two members from the Education Committee will attend.

Wanda Morris
Secretary



MINUTES cont. from pg. 3

with existing casinos. Issues discussed how to attract customers, management training and providing legislative pressure on compact settlement with Secretary Babbitt.

Marchell Wesaw just got back from Washington, D.C. where Bob Anderson reviewed our land use plan. 5,000 acres is not a problem, but the seven sites must be reduced to three or four. Off-site gaming must be as close to the actual reservation as possible.

The Education Committee reported that Johnson O'Malley had a good turn out at the Pow Wow where children received backpacks and other school supplies.

The Election Committee needs more detailed information on the upcoming secretarial election. Chairman Moody suggested the committee work up an absentee ballot process to present to Council.

Mike Wesaw will be receiving the keys to the Silver Creek Building soon, allowing the administrative and finance offices to combine, along with JTPA and Enrollment in one building.

If anyone wants a copy of the full minutes, please contact Rusty Green at the Finance Office.

NEWS FROM THE ELDERS

ELDERS COMMITTEE

The Pokagon Band Elders held their first Council election Thursday, September 19, 1996 at the PINI Hall in Dowagiac, Michigan. Approximately 29 Elders and several spouses attended.

The new Council Chairperson, Gerald Wesaw asked the membership if they would accept the Emergency Fund Committee to be on the Renovation and Repair Committee. The membership accepted.

Keith White, our Renovation and Repair Coordinator attended the meeting and informed the membership he is mailing out application forms to Elders over 60 years of age. He also informed us there were 139 Elders.

The next Elders Council meeting will be held on **October 3, 1996**, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

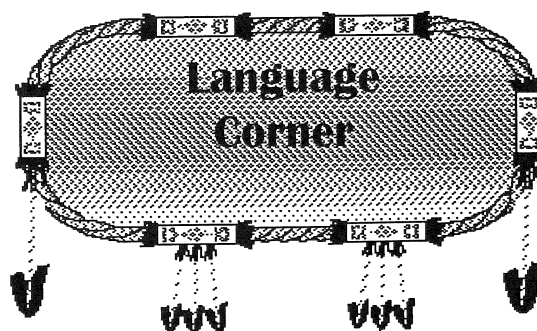
A luncheon will follow the meeting. Trish Williams and her helpers prepare delicious meals using commodity foods.

Mary Jo Morris
Elders Council Secretary

ELDERS COMMITTEE RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS

CHAIRPERSON
GERALD WESAW
VICE-CHAIR
LORETTA YOUNT
SECRETARY/TREASURER
MARY JO MORRIS



One of the most frequent questions I get is, "How do you spell such-and-such Potawatomi word?"

And, unfortunately, the answer I give usually leaves the person who asked the question more confused than when we began.

But the reason for these spelling problems is interesting and teaches us a lot about the language. Even if it does get in the way of quick-and-easy writing.

The problem is how to make English letters and sounds fit Potawatomi. The sounds that the old Neshnabek language use are not exactly the same as English sounds. There are sounds that appear in Potawatomi that do not appear in English, and vice-versa. So, putting Potawatomi into English letters is like putting a round peg into a square hole.

What we have to start with is a basic discussion of pronunciation, and how to set up a spelling system to go along with that pronunciation. People have tried different systems over the years. Unfortunately, all we've wound up with today is several different systems and spellings. So, I've begun using two particular systems which I'll describe below.

The most common scholarly system today was developed on the Forest County Reservation in Wisconsin. Forest County has had a dedicated, organized language program for several years. Their system is effective and consistent, and they have written the largest amount of grammars and lesson plans to date. The drawback is that the letters are sometimes used differently than what we all learned in First and Second Grades in public school.

When Julia Wesaw and Mike Daugherty began the Pokagon Band language classes several years ago, they borrowed the Forest County lessons. They soon ran into a problem. Everyone in class was getting confused because the spelling did not fit with what they had learned in school. So, Mike and Julia developed

their own system, and began to redo the Forest County lessons in a way which their students found much easier to work.

Most problems show up in the vowels, and I'll describe it in both systems.

	<u>Forest Co.</u>	<u>Pokagon</u>
'a', as in <u>apple</u> :	é	aa
short 'a', as in "say <u>ahhh</u> "	a	a or ah
long 'e', as in <u>tree</u> or the 'i' in <u>machine</u>	i	ee
'o', which in Potawatomi is in between 'oo' as in <u>book</u> , and 'o' as in <u>go</u>	o	oo
'u', as in <u>cup</u> or <u>mud</u> , or the 'e' in <u>kitten</u>	e	uh

Here are a few Potawatomi words to show the two spelling systems.

<u>English</u>	<u>Forest Co.</u>	<u>Pokagon</u>
hello	bozho	boozhoo
bear	mko	mkoo
raccoon	éspa	aaspah
woman	kwé	kwaa
friend	nikan	neekahn
how are you?	ni je na?	nee juh nah?

These are the five main vowel sounds in Potawatomi. They are not exactly like the 'a,e,i,o,u and sometimes y' we learn in English. Those of you, who have not heard a lot of Potawatomi spoken, should listen to the elders every chance you get. It will help you get that sound in your ears. These spellings are only a tool to help us learn to speak the Neshnabek language.

Most of us, including myself, are students of the language. Do not be afraid to ask questions or to make mistakes. The fluent elders I have spoken with are very willing to answer sincere questions. They are the true source for hearing the language and for anything I try to relay in this column.

Waawaanuh
Kevin Daugherty

OPEN HOUSE

On Tuesday, October 15, 1996, the Substance Abuse Task Force will be hosting an open house at PINI Hall. A pot luck dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. Michigan time. After dinner a Native American film will be shown. Come out and join us for fun and information. Lots of new programs are being developed and we would like to hear your input. These programs will be available to all Band members. Please come and tell us what you want!! Hope to see you there!

If you need transportation, call Stephanie at:

1-800-517-0777

FALL FEAST

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 26, 1996

11:30 A.M.

MASS WILL FOLLOW

Please Bring a Dish to Pass

It will be held at

SILVER CREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An opportunity rarely presents itself to show one another our true dedication and love for each. At this particular point in time, it has not been easy to stand proud and say "I am a Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian."

After many, many years of being taught to be ashamed, my brothers and sisters have joined me to overcome these feelings and being to accept the privilege to say, "I am a Native American, I am Indian."

All of us our happy to have finally been accepted into our true heritage and becoming a proud to have finally been accepted into our true heritage and becoming a proud and active member of the Pokagon Band.

Words are so inadequate to convey the overwhelming gratitude and love that I have in my heart for all of you. In my darkest hours you reached out your hands of help and dedication of work and love such as I've ever known.

Please know that from this little corner of the world, there will always be one little Indian proud to beat the drums of God's love and respect for my family, and friends of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian.

Jeanne A. Urch



HAPPY BELATED 79TH BIRTHDAY VIOLA GRADERETTE

and many many more

Love, your family

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY JOHN WESAW, JR.

65! Now you're an Elder!

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY SONYA MORSEAU

21! You light up our lives!

Love, your family

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY LUCINDA SMITH

Lordy, Lordy look who's 40!

Love, your family

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY RUSSELL DRAKE

Love, your family

CONGRATULATIONS

Jessica Herman
"Miss Hawaiian Tropic"



Jessica will compete in the state title in Traverse City in 1997. She is nine years old, and is the daughter of Stephen and Rochelle Herman. She's the granddaughter of John Morseau.

OCTOBER 2ND

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
KATHIE AND KURT GRIGSBY

Love, your family

UPDATE!!!

Elders Renovation and Repair Program

This program is designed to help our elders who own their homes, with repairs and minor renovation to improve their living conditions. No total renovations are being made at this time. Here are a couple of examples of circumstances in which our program can be effective:

- Your toilet leaks at the base causing your floor to rot and you can't afford a plumber or a carpenter to make the repairs.
- Your roof leaks and you cannot afford to have repairs made.
- Weather stripping to prepare for the winter season is also available.

The criteria to qualify for this program are as follows:

- You must be a member of the Pokagon Band.
- You must be an elder (60 or older)
- You must own your own home.

In cooperation with the Elders Council, we will be collecting information to further identify the needs of our Tribal Elders. Please don't hesitate to call with any questions or concerns at (800) 517-0777. I am here to serve the Native American Community.

Keith "Butch" White
Renovation and Repair Coordinator

October 1996

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 Shelly Drake	2 Edward Brown, Jr.	3	4 Skylar Herman	5 Kristoffer Genereaux
6	7 Duane Green	8	9	10	11 Jeremy Heffington	12 Steven Black Lindsey Woodard Rocky Green Brett Cunningham Alycia White
13 Patti Heffington	14 Jeannie Mollett	15	16	17 Ryan Spicher	18	19
20	21 Matthew Spicher	22	23	24	25 Tim Hernandez	26 Bonnie Drake
27	28	29	30	31		



POKĖGNEK
YAJDANAWA

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
104 N. Riverside
Dowagiac, MI 49047