



POKÉGNEK
YAJDANAWA

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

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

"The Pokagons Tell It"



Vol. II, No. X

October, 1997



KEE-BOON-MEIN-KAA '97

Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa '97 overcame rainy weather on Saturday evening and Sunday morning to have a fairly large turnout.

The crowds watched some fine dancers and listened to the drums. The crowds also fully enjoyed the traders and the beautiful arts and crafts they displayed.

Master of Ceremonies Sam Bush kept the pow wow moving throughout the weekend with interesting stories and many, many jokes.

Angie and Phil Francisco headed up the dancers. There were several drums there including the co-hosts Northern Sky and Silver Creek.

For many traders it was a prosperous weekend as pow wow goers bought many Indian items.

The Pokagon youths spent Saturday evening dancing as a DJ took requests for everything from the Spice Girls to Litefoot.

The giveaway on Sunday was the final event for the pow wow. As the names were called up to get a gift, the line got longer and longer. Finally, the amount of people who helped with the pow wow made a complete circle around the arena.

Dancers, drummers and volunteers joined together for one last dance before the retiring of the colors.



TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 9, 1997

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 9, 1997

RESOLUTION #1 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council approves to create and post the following new position as recommended by the Personnel Committee for the Accounting/MIS Manager.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #2 made by Wayne Holleman and 2nd by Greg Ballew **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council approves to create and post the following new position as recommended by the Personnel Committee for a Community Development Director.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION # 3 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council approves the amendment in policy of Section V. - Fraternization Provision to read: "No person shall directly supervise a staff member with whom he/she has a personal relationship of a cohabitation or dating nature."
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: "No person shall be involved in an employment decision, i.e. hire, fire, discipline, evaluate, promote/demote; for a person with whom he/she has a personal relationship of a cohabitation or dating nature."
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION # 4 made by Barbara Ann Warren and 2nd by Dan Rapp **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council approves as effective date 8-9-97 all employment candidates for the Pokagon Band must participate in and pass a physical exam with place of exam chosen by the band.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #5 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council approves to send Roger Williams to the Falmouth Supervision and Management Skills training in Minneapolis on August 21 and 22. All expenses paid by the tribe.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #6 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council resolves to bring the Falmouth Institute in-house to provide Supervision and Management Skills training to a minimum of 10 staff members at the cost of \$4190.00. Cost to be spread across all programs.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: Tribal Council approves to pay an additional \$500.00 for the third day if necessary.
ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 2 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #7 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Mike Wesaw **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The Tribal Council approves the proposal to the Michigan Commission on

Indian Affairs for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians - Supplemental Food and Health Needs Project.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #8 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Mike Wesaw **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Tribe go ahead with the Housing Demographic Study to be conducted by Western Michigan University.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION # 9 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council approve the Pokagon Band to submit the application for the Energy Assistance Program Proposal directly to Health and Human Services independent of the Inter-Tribal Council.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #10 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Mike Wesaw **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council supports the Network Issues as presented this date 8-9-97.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #11 made by Mike Wesaw and 2nd by Dan Rapp **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council send Substance Abuse Coordinator, Stephanie Ballew, to the Bemidji Area Provider Conference, "Hear the Voices through Shared Visions", September 9-11, 1997 in Bloomington, Minnesota.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #12 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council authorizes Jodie Palmer to hire a consultant on a 90 day basis to teach computer classes in the computer lab.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #13 made by Mike Wesaw and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council agrees to amend the contract presented to Sharon House to change to the effective date that is agreed upon by both parties.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #14 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Greg Ballew **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council approves to send Kevin Daugherty, Mike Wesaw, Marchell Wesaw, and Ernie Daisy to Washington D.C. on 8-21-97 to meet with the Department of the Interior to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding. All expenses to be paid by the tribe.
ALL IN FAVOR: 9 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 1 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #15 made by Dan Rapp and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council send Greg Ballew to the Oklahoma Gathering as the official representative of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and to put him in charge of the giveaway from the Pokagon Band. He will be given \$420.00 for mileage.
ALL IN FAVOR: 8 OPPOSED: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 2 CARRIED

RESOLUTION #16 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Wayne Holleman

TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Tribal Council will spend \$500.00 on Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian's giveaway.

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

RESOLUTION #17 made by Mike Wesaw and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council allot \$2700.00 to the Elders for the All Potawatomi Gathering in Oklahoma. The GSA van will be provided for their use. The Band will provide two drivers, either employees or volunteers. **FURTHERMORE:** A \$50.00 per diem will be provided to Greg Ballew to attend. A \$50.00 per diem will be provided to Brian Morseau to attend.

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

RESOLUTION #18 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Wayne Holleman **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Tribal Council approves Butler and Semeri contract as reviewed by tribal attorneys and Finance Department effective 6/1/97.

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

RESOLUTION #19 made by Kevin Daugherty and 2nd by Mike Wesaw **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** In order to bring Tribal Council in compliance with Personnel Policy requirements for tribal employees, effective 8-9-97 all Tribal Council members of the Pokagon Band must participate in a routine physical exam and drug test at a medical site chosen by the Band.

FURTHERMORE: The exam and drug test results shall be reviewed by the Pokagon Band Indian Health Services.

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

RESOLUTION #20 made by Greg Ballew and 2nd by Mike Wesaw **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The August 21, 1997 Tribal Council meeting has been canceled. If necessary we will reschedule at our discretion.

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



**IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN RECEIVING
A FULL SET OF THE MINUTES,
PLEASE CONTACT
KELLY CURRAN
AT THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE.
(616) 782-8998 or
1-800-517-0777**

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The Michigan Legislature reconvened Tuesday, September 23. You may recall, Senate Resolution 71 was submitted by Senator George McManus and voted out of committee prior to the summer recess. SR 71 calls for the concurrence of the Compacts with the four Indian tribes. I was told SR 71 would be acted upon early in the fall session. One of only four items on the Senate calendar was Senate Resolution 71. I called Senator McManus' office to see what action, if any, would be taken on Tuesday with the Resolution. I was advised by his staff there would be no action on SR 71. The Senate Republicans were not going to take a vote on the Resolution unless they were assured there would be action in the House.

Speaker of the House, Curtis Hertel, has said they will not take action on the Compacts until licenses have been issued for the three casinos in Detroit. He has not indicated if he is speaking of a license issued by the City of Detroit (possibly in November) or the state (probably mid to late 1998). I'm sure this will change when the licenses are issued, and he will say the House will not take action until the casinos are built (probably late 1999). He wouldn't want the Indians to have an unfair advantage.

Notwithstanding all the negative actions we are battling in the Capitol, Senator Harry Gast is still attempting to gain favorable action on behalf of the four Indian tribes. He is working with both Representative Hertel and Mayor Archer of Detroit in an effort to gain some support or compromise in return for action on the Compacts.

It would seem, if we are to receive fair treatment, it will have to come from Washington. Hopefully, this can be accomplished in the near future, the first step being taking land into trust.

Additionally, we must be very concerned about the expiration of the management/development agreement with Harrahs. We can't expect Harrahs to continue the fight if it appears the end is not in sight. I believe the monthly payments from Harrahs are scheduled to end September 1998. We need to develop an alternate source of income to maintain current programs and employment for our members. That will become an easier task if we have land in trust.

I recently heard the phrase, the road to success is

always under construction. That certainly appears to be true for the Pokagons. However, I'm confident we can achieve what is best for our people by prioritizing and working together.

*Matt Wesaw
Legislative Chairman*

**MAKING OUR DREAMS
COME TRUE
RALLY FOR THE COMPACTS**

**OCTOBER 14, 1997
11 AM**

State Capitol, Lansing, MI

**Buses leave from Dowagiac at
8:00 AM**

**Call (616) 782-8998 for more
information**

**TRIBAL COUNCIL
MEETING**

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 11, 1997**

10:00 a.m.

**AT ELDERS HALL.
LUNCH PROVIDED**

POKAGON HEALTH SERVICES

Client Transport

The purpose of client transport by this office is to serve the Pokagon Band Community by eliminating transportation needs as a barrier to care.

Transport may be provided for health-related appointments that are scheduled Monday through Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Due to the volume of requests we receive, we will not always be able to meet everyone's requests. Pokagon Band Health Services client transport assistance is done through pre-arrangement with the Health Office staff, and is provided on a last resort basis. (in other words, the client needs to attempt to arrange transportation through other sources before contacting the Health Office for transport services.)

Clients need to begin transport request at least 48 hours in advance of medical appointments. It is okay to arrange transport, weeks in advance, many clients do just that. We have some transport scheduled 3 months in advance.

Once you have made arrangements with our staff for transport, and find that you need to cancel your arrangements, you need to call our office within 48 hours of the transport.—If you miss two transports without notifying the Health Office, you may become ineligible for client transport for two months.

Contract Health Services (CHS)

Contract Health Service is neither an insurance nor an entitlement program. Because of budget limitations and Federal guidelines eligibility criteria must be met. To be eligible for CHS you must:

1. Be an enrolled member of the Pokagon Band.
2. Live within the ten-county CHS Delivery Area (Allegan, Berrien, Cass, Van Buren Counties in Michigan and Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke and St. Joseph Counties in Indiana).
3. Have Contract Health Service prior authorization through Pokagon Band Contract Health Service personnel for any and all medically related services.

Some exceptions and limitations exist to this outline. Call Lois Wesaw, CHS Benefits Specialist at (616) 782-4141 or 1-888-440-1234 for more information and/or to request CHS coverage.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

AA MEETINGS

AA meetings are being held
Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.
at Sacred Heart of Mary Church,
Silver Creek.

Please feel welcome to attend!

SMOKING SUPPORT GROUP

The Pokagon Band has a Smoking Support Group. It is for the Pokagon Band youth, but anyone with concerns about smoking is welcome to attend. The series emphasis is why people smoke, how the media encourages people to smoke, the hazards to your health and what smoking can do to your body. Our focus is social implications and how people will and do judge others by the habits they project. We will also discuss ways to quit. This program information is based on factual material about tobacco use and abuse. This will teach us responsibility for our own behavior and choice to use tobacco. This group meets Friday mornings from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Substance Abuse Center. Any one interested, please call (616) 782-1142.



Bonnie A. White
Intervention Prevention Specialist

POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES

The Pokagon Band Human Services is continuing the program "Building Strong Families". This program is designed for children age 0-3 yrs.

We believe that being a parent is one of the toughest jobs you will ever have. It is demanding and can be stressful. By learning more about your child's development, you can gain confidence in your ability to guide and care for your child.

Here's How we can help!

Learn how babies and toddlers grow.

Learn how to play with your child.

Learn how to positively discipline your child and get him to cooperate.

Feel good about yourself.

For more information contact:

Don Summers
Intake Specialist
616-782-8998
or 1-800-517-0777

SURVEY DEADLINE

By now you should have received your Housing Survey. However, if you need one please contact JoEllen Leith at (616)782-8998 or (800) 517-0777. For those of you who have received it, the deadline has been extended to

OCTOBER 10, 1997

Please return them to
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

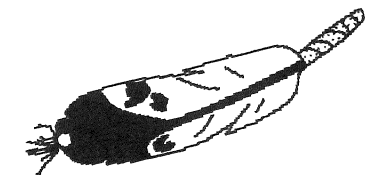
COMMODITY SITE SUPERVISOR

John Miller is the new commodity site supervisor. He started at his new position on Tuesday, September 23, 1997. John was born and raised in Hartford, MI. He graduated from HHS in 1983.

John is the former owner and operator of a Radio Controlled Car Manufacturing Company. He also played golf for the Lake Michigan College golf team. He will graduate from LMC with an associate degree in hospitality management.

John says he is very pleased to be working with the tribe in a capacity that directly helps tribal members.

John is the son of Evelyn Miller and he resides in Hartford with his family, Angie and Kathryn. Please feel free to call John at (616) 782-3372 or (888)281-1111.



NOTICE TO MEMBERS COMMODITIES

will be closed to the public the last two days of the month. This is to conduct inventory and clean up.

Please mark your calendars.
**NO FOOD COMMODITIES OR
SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD**
will be distributed. We will keep a notice posted to remind everyone!

Thank you for your cooperation,
The Commodities Staff

POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

Attention Pokagon Band Members!!!
From Repair And Renovation

Repair and Renovation has been opened up to all members who qualify under the income guidelines. There is also a point system set up to qualify members. So if you have not called to get an application, please do so. You must own your home and live in the ten county service area to get assistance through this program. For those of you who have sent your application in and still have not gotten bids in, please try to get them in as soon as you can. I know it is hard to get contractors to come to your home, but you can also call other contractors in the yellow pages. I have some contractors that have done work for us and you can call and get their numbers. It may be difficult to get them to call back or come out so you might have to call more than once. If you have any questions please call me at 1-800-517-0777. I am here to serve you and do all I can to help you with repairs or renovations to your home.

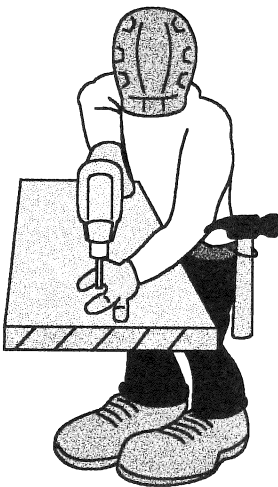
We still have the sanitation program to help with sewer or well problems. Under this program you can get a new well or septic if it is failing. The only requirement is that you live in the ten county service area and own your home. Any one needing an application please call 1-800-517-0777, and I will send one to you. This program is first come first serve to get on the list for the service.

I am also trying to obtain some funding for the low to medium income families. To do so, I must know how much money I will need, and where I will be spending it. The only way to get this information is for you to send me a list of home improvement needs along with two estimates. Call your local contractor to get the estimates and send them to P.O. Box 180 Dowagiac, MI 49047. This funding will serve the ten county service area and possibly the surrounding counties. So if you have a need for home improvements please send me this information.

We also have the down payment assistance program set up for members who want to buy a new or older home. To be eligible for this program, you must secure a loan at a bank, mortgage company, or land contract itself. The home must be bought in the

ten county service area. The applicant must establish that they have inadequate income to make the down payment and closing cost. This will be done by showing a copy of income taxes and bank statements on checking and saving accounts. The amount of the grant will not exceed (10%) of the down payment and closing cost or \$5,000, whichever is less. If you have any questions, call me at 1-800-517-0777.

Keith White
Repair And Renovation Coordinator



ATTENTION
ALL POKAGON POTAWATOMI
AND NATIVE AMERICAN LICENSED
CONTRACTORS

From Keith White Repairs/Renovation Coordinator:
If you are interested in bidding on repairs and renovation projects that are going to be coming through, I need to know who you are so I can call you when the jobs come in. Please call me at 1-800-517-0777.
If you are Pokagon and work for a licensed contractor and you think they would like to bid, please call and give their number. Repairs and Renovation are underway right now!

OCTOBER EVENTS

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5 Spiritual Gathering	6 10a-12p AA Meeting-Sub. Ab. 11:30-12:30p Counselor Training 6:30-8:30p (every week)	7 Women's Bead Group 8:30-10:30a- Sub. Ab. (every week)	8 AA Meeting 11:30-12:30p & 7:30-8:30p Boy's Bead Group 6-8 p (Every Week)	9 Elders Council & Luncheon E.H. 10a-12p IOP Sub.Ab. Women's Bead Group 6-8p Sub. Ab. (every week)	10 Education Dept. Fall Spiritual Gathering Rush Lake (3rd 4th 5th) AA Meeting-Sub. Ab. 11:30-12:30p (every week)	11 Tribal Council 10a E.H.
12	13 Education Comm. 6p Ed. Office	14 Compact Rally State Capitol Lansing, Mich. 11 a.m.	15	16 Elders Council & Luncheon E.H.	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Council Meeting Elders Hall 7 p.m.	24	25 Fall Feast 1p.m. Elders Hall
26	27 Education Comm. 6p Ed. Office	28 Rainbow Eagle Presentations Honoring the Elders (28,29, & 30)	29 Rainbow Eagle	30 Rainbow Eagle	31	

October Birthdays

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 Shelly Drake	2 Keith Wesaw	3 Sharon Winters	4
5 Christoffer Genereaux	6 Tammy Wesaw Matthew & Justin Mersereau	7	8	9 Corey Rangel	10 India Wesaw	11
12 Janis Davis	13 Gary Beavers	14	15	16	17 Tyler Deuel	18
19	20	21	22	23 Donald Sumners	24 Jodie Palmer	25 Beverly Wesaw
26 Bonnie Drake	27	28	29	30 Jeanne Mollett	31 Brittiany Rangel	

FALL FEAST
OCTOBER 25, 1997
ELDERS HALL

53237 Townhall Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047

YOU ARE INVITED

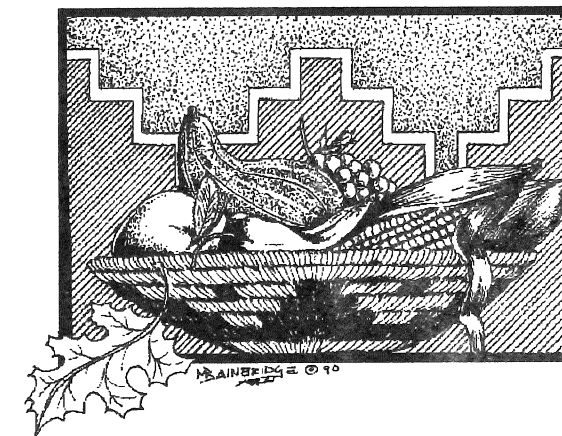
Starting Time:
1:00 P.M. (Michigan Time)

With all the gardens picked, canning done, pow-wow tents and campers stored for the winter, it's a good time to celebrate with each other. Fall is a good time to reflect on the passing of summer and preparing for winter.

Come join in with other Pokagon members in celebrating our good fortune and prosperity as Potawatomi people. One never walks away from such gatherings without having a good laugh, meeting a new friend, or seeing an old one. Besides the laughter and food are reason enough to attend.

Some type of meat will be on hand, but please bring a dish to share, and if anyone has any wild game, that is a plus. If one does not have a dish to pass, **don't** let that stop you from attending. This is a time to share with each other over a meal. The old saying, "A family that eats together sticks together" has much truth to it.

For more information contact: John Warren 1-888-330-1234 or 616-782-0887
Larry White, 616-424-5206



NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!!!!

Experienced Carpenters and those

Interested in becoming a Carpenter's

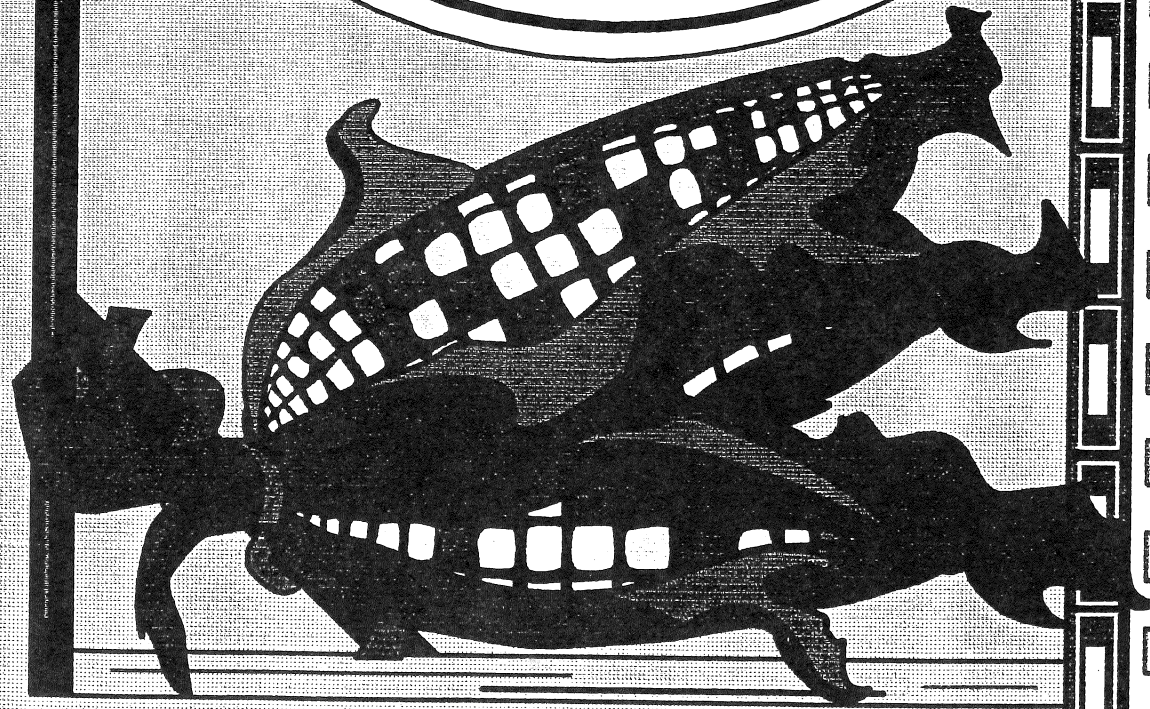
Apprentice.

*Southwest Michigan Contractors looking
for*

Workers.

Contact:

*Nate Bitely
Carpenter's Union
(616) 345-8601*



EVER WONDERED HOW TO
MAKE INDIAN CORN SOUP

NOW HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO LEARN.

ELDERS HALL NOVEMBER 22, 1997
12:00 P.M.

DEMONSTRATION AND LUNCHEON
PREPARED BY TRIRAL ELDER
MARY CHURCH

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JOHN
WARREN AT (616) 782-0883 OR AT
(888) 330-1234

Imagine

604,080 seconds

10,080 minutes

168 hours

7 days

“WITHOUT VIOLENCE”

“Week Without

Violence”

October 19th - 25th 1997

EDUCATION REPORT

CODE OF ETHICS ADOPTED

The Education Committee has adopted the following Code of Ethics for the Education & Training Department and functions sponsored by the department:

In order to aid the healing process needed for Native American Indians to succeed and truly achieve self-sufficiency and to provide a safe environment during Pokagon Band Education & Training functions, the Education & Training Department has established a policy prohibiting the use or possession of alcohol, intoxicating drugs, and/or controlled substances, and prohibiting sexual harassment. This policy will prevail and be enforced at all Education & Training Department functions and when an individual is representing the Pokagon Band Education & Training Department in an official capacity.

Education and Training Department staff and committee members value and respect the rights and privileges of others and will conduct themselves with the dignity that befits leaders, professionals and role models.

YOUTH PROGRAM NEWS- JOHNSON O'MALLEY & TITLE IX

We have completed the interviews for the youth specialists positions. We hope to have the staff starting in the near future. One of their first tasks will be to contact the current Johnson O'Malley and Title IX families to re-enroll youth in the programs. They will also be getting the tutoring programs re-established. They will be working closely with the Cultural Coordinator, John Warren, to schedule some cultural classes, such as regalia-making.

The department is very excited to offer a free cultural presentation to any school within the service area. The presentation focuses on Potawatomi culture and will be adapted to fit the grade level. Please tell your school principal about this opportunity. Contact John Warren for more information and/or to schedule a presentation, 1-888-330-1234, 616/782-0887.

CULTURAL EDUCATION

We have a busy month planned. We will be sponsoring a Fall Spiritual Gathering on October 3, 4, & 5. Dale Thomas, Prairie Band Potawatomi, and his wife, Cindy have agreed to revisit us. Daily noon potluck meals will be held at the Elders Hall. There has been

concern expressed for our elders comfort at Rush Lake Cemetery so we will be having the events inside, at the Elders Hall, following the meals.

On Saturday, October 25, there will be a Fall Feast at Elders Hall. Please join with the membership for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and fun. Meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to share.

We will again be hosting Rainbow Eagle, Seventh Fire Peace Shield Teacher, and Sapokoni Onna. Rainbow Eagle has been a teacher throughout his life. He teaches both the traditional way, one-on-one through ceremonies, storytelling and songs, and the modern way, with a Masters Degree in education and social work license. They will be with us October 28-30th. We will be having daily noon feasts at Elders Hall. Meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - daily 12:00 (noon) potlucks

Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons -following the meal Open Sessions may include storytelling, talking circles, Red Road insights, etc.

Tuesday, October 28 - 6:30-8:30 p.m. -

Storytelling for Youth(everyone welcome)

Wednesday, October 29 -HONOR THE ELDERS - 6:00 potluck dinner followed by a program to celebrate and recognize our elders.

Education and Training Department

A meeting was held with officials from the Davenport College in Granger, Indiana to discuss their expanded education programs and training programs that may benefit those Pokagon Band members who are seeking better jobs or need training to gain a promotion where they are presently employed. A very structured and available support system is in place at this school and every student receives personal attention and direction to succeed in their educational endeavor. There is a wide variety of Certification Programs available and a catalog containing the details is available at any Davenport College campus as well as in the Education and Training Department Office of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians at 901 Spruce Street, Dowagiac, Michigan. Please call 1-888-330-1234 for further information regarding these courses.

ELDERS COUNCIL

ELDERS COUNCIL OFFICERS MEETING

Present: Gerald Wesaw, Marge Moody, Mary Jo Morris; Mary Church, Rachael Daugherty.

Absent: Clarence White bereavement

Purpose: Child Welfare Marchell Wesaw;
January MIEA Conference;
September Election - Audrey Huston;
September Annual Meeting

Additions: Report - Rita Yount

Approval of minutes

Rae Daugherty made a motion to accept the minutes of July 9th. Mary Church seconded the motion.

All in favor— 5 opposed 0.

Rita's report

Rita stated if we do the conference in January there are things to be covered. Rita passed out folders with lists. She stated we should bring to membership the trip to the Silver Hawks ball game in South Bend on August 22nd. There are 20 tickets for Elders.

Rita gave her job description for AARP. Maintenance/janitorial about 20 hours a week. Pays \$4.75 an hr. Receptionist/clerk 20 hours a week. Pays \$4.75 an hr. Need approval from Elders Council and resolution to Tribal Council to send to AARP.

Rita would like to try a meal site here at Elders Hall. Would like Gerald to bring it up to select two to three people to try a meal at a meal site. We could contract with Benton Harbor, Hartford, or Cass. One person from here to help serve, Senior Nutrition Services would pay this. We could still do a pot luck.

Child Welfare - Marchell Wesaw didn't make it.

Communications - HUD meeting tonight at 7:00 at Elders Hall. An Elder should attend.

There's a trip to Peshawbetown August 6, 7, & 8th on a workshop on Tribal Council procedures. Rita learned the trip was canceled due to lack of interest.

September Election

Audrey Huston is the Election Committee Secretary and came to give us procedures on Elders election for Vice-chairperson and Treasurer. Audrey gave us procedures from the last election. Copies of the election policies and procedures were passed out to the Officers.

In order to be a candidate for the Elders Council, you

must be an enrolled member of the Pokagon Band. Must be at least 60 years of age on or before the date of the election. Candidates must include their full name and signature. You must declare your candidacy on the official declaration form. Also, the profiles will not go into the newsletter. Audrey will ask Marchell if the list of candidates can be posted at Elders Hall. Wasn't able to post candidates at the office.

After everything is in and you have met all the requirements; that's when the Election Committee will be sending the mailing to the people about who is running with their profile and mission statement.

Audrey also stated that we have the right to challenge the list of candidates. All challenges must be in writing, signed and addressed to the Election Committee; but you can hand deliver them, too. The Election Committee shall respond to any challenge within three (3) calendar days.

If there is no running mate the candidate is automatically elected. All of the officers agreed on an election date of Saturday, September 21th from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Michigan time. Voters must show drivers license. One (1) paper ballot may be adequate. You have three (3) calendar days to challenge for recount. Anyone can challenge a recount. Swearing in would be at Tribal Council, October 11th.

MIEA Conference in January

Rae Daugherty stated we're too young to do MIEA Conference yet; Marge Moody agreed. Rita stated that the health & education and substance abuse committees have money set aside for education. We could also try to find money at different colleges. Rae said let these departments know and put out feelers. Gerald said he has already done that.

Announcements

No officers meeting in September because of the annual meeting. Our annual meeting and luncheon will be held on September 4th at 11:00 A.M. at Elders Hall. Rae made a motion to adjourn and Marge seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

*Submitted by
Mary Jo Morris*

MEET THE NEW ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Brian "Sonny" Miller is the Pokagon Band's new tribal operations manager. Miller comes to the tribe from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa Indians.

Miller attended school at Northwestern Michigan College where he earned an associate degree in hospitality management.

He then went to Ferris State where he got a bachelor's degree in business administration.

Miller started with the tribe as a teacher's assistant for the head start program, a job he says is still among his favorites. He then moved to the position of payroll clerk.

Miller eventually took over as fiscal manager for accounting and purchasing for the tribe. His last job was as ombudsman which was troubleshooting for the tribal chairman.

As the newest TOM, Miller faces many challenges as the Pokagon Band continues to grow.

Miller says the biggest surprise has been how similar the concerns and problems are between the last tribe he worked with and ours. He says there are many identical problems in all Indian communities.

"I hope to use my experience handling problems up north to keep this tribe from going through the same trial and error we went through," said Miller.

Miller has some hobbies, but his favorite is his motorcycle. He says it gets all his time and money. He also likes to travel even if he can't take his bike.

Miller is located in the tribal administrative offices. He can be reached at (616) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777. His fax number is (616) 782-6882. Please feel free to call to express any concerns or ask questions or just to say hi!



Anishinabe Youth Gather in Grand Rapids for Leadership Conference

The sixth annual Native Youth Leadership Conference convened in Grand Rapids, MI with forty youth representing nearly every federally recognized tribe plus several urban areas. The August 18-22nd conference gathered in order to help the youth tap into their leadership ability and potential as Anishinabe youth.

The conference was coordinated by Native American Prevention Services of Grand Rapids which is currently a program of the Inter-Tribal Council of MI. Youth were challenged to work on the growing of their own leadership by engaging in many hands-on initiatives that included games, challenge courses, communication through theater, and team building exercises. Healthy lifestyle areas focused on alcohol use/abuse, healthy relationships, and HIV/AIDS prevention as well as reinforcing cultural values.

A highlight of the conference included De-Ba-Jeh-Mu-Jig Theater Group from Wikwemikong, Ontario who presented an entertaining performance one of the evenings and followed it up with a one day training the following afternoon. De-ba-jeh-mu-jig "meaning storytellers in Ojibway and Cree" is a professional group of Anishinabe performers that have traveled extensively and is committed to the vitalization of the Anishinabeg culture, language and traditions through education and original creative expression. The youth of the conference worked closely in small groups with a facilitator and worked on communication, team building, and expression of youth issues through theater.

Strong healthy lifestyle messages were given by Thurman Bear (Medicine Bear Academy of Detroit), Sharla Smith (intern with Inter-Tribal Council of MI) and Harry Simpson (AIDS Speakers Bureau from the Michigan State Medical Society.) All expressed abstinence as a choice to help stop the cycle of unhealthy lifestyles.

The youth were also put to the test by participating in the challenge course at Camp O'Malley which included a low team building initiative, high ropes course, and a climbing wall. Cultural warrior games also seemed to be a favorite of the youth as it spoke to honor and respect values from our teachings. Jack Chambers

from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewas and Renee Dillard from the Grand River Bands of Ottawa spoke to the meaning of a warrior through their own experience and also teachings from our culture.

Lastly, a commitment ceremony concluded the conference in which those youth who were ready to make a commitment to leadership and healthy lifestyles shared their vision of -what that commitment entails for their own lives. Each one that committed were given a saymaa pouch with a medicine wheel attached as a symbol of their commitment.

The conference in 1998 will again be in August with a sight unannounced at this time. Information will be mailed out in the spring and all youth who are interested are encouraged to contact their youth program coordinator or tribe for more information.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY ASHLEE BEAVERS

Love,
Mom, Dad and Derek

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you for all of your prayers
and warm thoughts during my
illness. Mom, my sister Paulette,
thank you so much for all you have
done.



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

FINANCE/PERSONNEL
REPAIR & RENOVATION
HUMAN SERVICES
P.O. BOX 180
901 SPRUCE ST.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-8998
1-800-517-0777
FAX: (616) 782-6882
SUBSTANCE ABUSE
P.O. BOX 180
714 N. FRONT ST.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-1142
FAX (616) 782-1653
ENROLLMENT
104 N. RIVERSIDE DR.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-1763
1-888-782-1001
FAX (616) 782-1964
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES
210 S. FRONT ST.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-4141
1-888-440-1234
FAX (616) 782-8797
EDUCATION/JTPA
P.O. BOX 180
901 SPRUCE ST.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-0887
1-888-330-1234
FAX (616) 782-0985
FOOD COMMODITY
P.O. BOX 180
54964 M-51 NORTH
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-3372
1-888-281-1111
FAX (616) 782-7814
ELDERS HALL
P.O. BOX 180
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-6323
FAX (616) 782-9625



IN LOVING MEMORY OF FRANK BUSH



1922-1997

CONGRATULATIONS JOSEPH (ANDY) BOWMAN

On your first year of school (1997). You are the head of all the kindergartners at Riverside Elementary in Simmesport, Louisiana! Keep up the good work and we are all very proud of you!
Love, Momma, Daddy, Blake, Momo Shirley, Papa Hagg and Momo Nancey and Papa Mike

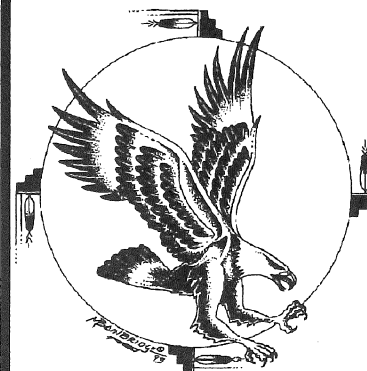
OCTOBER 20, 1997 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please submit the newsletter articles to
Maureen Shagonaby
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047
FAX (616) 782-4573

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUSTIN AND MATTHEW MERSEREAU



6 Years Old

OCTOBER 6

Love, Mom
and the family

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY
David Boehm-September 12
HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY
Kathy Blevins-September 13
HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY
Pauline and Paul-September 5

CONGRATULATIONS
RACHEL HILLMAN
On the birth of
WILLIAM LOONSFOT, JR.
Born August 8, 1997
From Ginny



HAPPY
1ST ANNIVERSARY
JOSEPH & LYNETTE
DeROSE
HAVE FUN!

Love, your family



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
#2

"PUMPKIN"

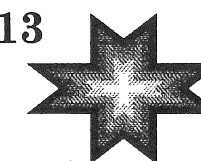
Grandma's Sweet Little Angel

I LOVE YOU!!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY GARY BEAVERS OCTOBER 13

Love, Susan,
Derek and Ashlee



HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY CHRIS DIAMOND

Love,
Mom