



POKÉGNEK
YAJDANAWA

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

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

"The Pokagons Tell It"



Vol. II, No. III

March, 1997



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

Seventeen Johnson O'Malley students and parents attended the "Career Expo" hosted by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe on February 21, 1997 to get some answers to that question. Students were able to meet with several colleges and universities to gather information and applications.

All students attended various workshops on Traditional Values, Sacred Colors and Directions, Sacred Pipe, Language Preservation, Traditional Medicines, Financial Aid, College Preparedness and College Visitation. Speakers were Carl Bird, George Martin, June Mamagona Fletcher, Milton Beaver Pelcher, Stanley Peltier, Helen Roy and Bill Martell.

A special feature of High Spirit Drum with danc-

ers was enjoy during the luncheon. A few of the colleges and universities in attendance were Western Michigan University, Lake Superior State, Grand Valley State, Ferris State, Kirtland Community, University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Northern Michigan University, Delta College, Lansing Community College, Bay Mills Community College and mid-Michigan Community College.

A hearty chi-megwitch to the Saginaw Chippewa's Education Department for extending an invitation to our youth to take part in this wonderful opportunity to meet with other Native youth while gathering valuable educational information.

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

ELDERS

I am very proud of our Elders Council. They have found their voices and have become a wonderfully cohesive group. They are active now in many areas, and they are continuing in lifelong learning. I think we should be proud of the number of Elders who have emerged from the sidelines to become dynamic members of the Pokagon Band.

However, it saddens me greatly to hear rumblings from younger Pokagon Band members - -rumblings against our Elders. Rumblings that Elders are getting too much, becoming too controlling; getting more than others. Shame on you who say these things! We established our priorities shortly after Federal Recognition in 1994. We decided to help our Elders first. Numerous Elders have gone without many things, and are now in dire need of our new services. None of us know how long we will inhabit this earth. We must remember that the very fact that they are Elders, may mean that they may not be able to share in our future - -a future that will surely bring great prosperity, beautiful homelands, and cultural pride. Please, let the Elders enjoy their lives *now* - -don't begrudge them these good times. Be happy that we have these wonderful people within our Band.

STAFF

We must establish an open job environment, conducive to high performance, creativity and trust. We must help employees take control of their jobs, and make them feel that they have contributed to the program and to the Band.

We should make use of highly effective coaching and counseling skills. Managers must work more with each individual since experience levels, skills and personalities differ. This positive approach would help in enriching jobs, providing job growth, and creating a continuous learning environment. We need to increase communication with personnel at all levels.

Within this healthier environment, employees will begin to feel like direct contributors to the overall success of the Tribe. With more job enrichment, employees will find innovative solutions to problems. By adding more responsibilities, they will begin to develop

skills that fit into personal career plans. They will begin to see the value of teamwork. Managers should then have more time available for coaching, counseling and reviewing how Tribal strategies can be addressed in each section of work. The improvement of communication between managers and personnel will allow more open discussions of performance issues. The complaint cycle would be easier and more meaningful.

Here are some ideas that we many want to consider. Management asks "How can I best accomplish certain things?" Leadership asks, "What are the things I want to accomplish?" Management provides efficiency in climbing the ladder of success. Leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall. Leadership begins on the inside with self-awareness and self-esteem. Leadership is largely a matter of just paying attention. It is concerned with creating a place in which people can do good work, find meaning in that work, and share in the rewards. These rewards will not be merely professional and financial, but will also include the emotional, psychological, and spiritual rewards of a job well done.

Successful leadership enables more than just those at the top of the organization to take the helm. Leaders must resist the temptation to take back the controls when the going gets rough. The effective leaders know when to stand back and when to step in. Tribal leaders must create and articulate a vision and a plan. They must make sure the focus is on membership, services and self sufficiency. They must strive to create the necessary environment in which employees can do their most innovative and productive work.

The concept of 'fair play' is important to me. However, we must all remember that, due to different personal viewpoints, not all decisions may appear fair to each and every person. Please give our decisions a clear, complete, and un-prejudiced evaluation before you label them 'fair' or 'unfair.'

*Robert Moody, Jr.
Tribal Chairman*



TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

FEBRUARY 8, 1997

RESOLUTION 1

Resolution made by: Greg Ballew
2nd by Wayne Holleman

Now, therefore be it resolved: Tribal Council authorizes the posting of the Education Director within the Band and regionally as soon as possible.

**All in favor: 9, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 1
RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION 2

Resolution made by: Greg Ballew
Resolution 2nd by: Wayne Holleman

The Tribal Council have the Tribal employees choose two employees to bring the employees concerns and recommendations to the Personnel Committee. We ask that they choose these two employees as soon as possible.

**All in favor: 9, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 1
RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION 3

The Tribal Council approves the proposal to the Administration for Native Americans entitled, "Development of the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention/Intervention Program."

**All in favor: 10, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 0
RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION 4

Resolution made by Dan Rapp
Resolution 2nd by Barbara Ann Warren
The Tribal Council authorizes the Enrollment Department to move from 210 S. Front to 104 Riverside Dr. for confidentiality purposes.

**All in favor: 8, Opposed: 2, Abstain: 1
RESOLUTION PASSED: 8**

RESOLUTION 5

Resolution made by Kevin Daugherty
Resolution 2nd by Wayne Holleman
Tribal Council accepts the design #2 for membership cards submitted by the Enrollment Committee and

staff. It also authorizes for "Contract Services" to be printed on the back of membership card #2.

**All in favor: 9, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 1
RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION 6

Resolution made by Wayne Holleman
Resolution 2nd by Mike Wesaw

The Tribal Council is in support of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Higher Education Scholarship Program being made available to all Pokagon Band members meeting the eligibility requirements as set forth in the Scholarship Program.

**All in favor: 8, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 3, Absent: 0
RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION 7

Resolution made by Greg Ballew
Resolution 2nd by Barbara Ann Warren

The Tribal Council is in support of covering college application fees, on a one time basis, not to exceed \$100 total, per student enrolling in a college, university or other eligible institution, through the Pokagon Scholarship fund.

**All in favor: 9, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 2, Absent: 0
RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION 8

The tribal council supports the issuing of the necessary student tribal enrollment number to the Education Department to meet the federal requirements of the Title IX Grant.

**All in favor: 9, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 1
RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION 9

Resolution made by Barbara Ann Warren
Resolution 2nd by Greg Ballew
The Tribal Council supports the Education Committee Recommendation of sending two people Lesa Anders and Karen A. Winchester to the Nation JOM Conference in Spokane, WA March 2-5, 1997.

**All in favor: 10, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 0
RESOLUTION PASSED**

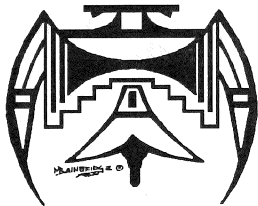
RESOLUTION 10

Resolution made by Kevin Daugherty

Resolution 2nd by Wayne Holleman
The Tribal Council authorizes two additional elders,
Clarence White, Elizabeth Ballew to the Michigan
Indian Elders Association in Watersmeet, MI March
17th through the 20th, 1997 bringing the total to nine.
All in favor: 10, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 0
RESOLUTION PASSED

RESOLUTION 11
Resolution made by Kevin Daugherty
Resolution 2nd by Wayne Holleman
The Tribal Council authorizes the undertaking of a
diligence survey and the purchase of the parking lot at
Elders Hall.
All in favor: 10, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 0
RESOLUTION PASSED

RESOLUTION 12
Resolution 2nd by Dan Rapp
Tribal Council authorizes the March 8th, 1997, to be a
“GENERAL MEMBERSHIP” meeting and the
regularly scheduled meeting to be moved to Thurs-
day, March 6th, 1997.
All in favor: 9, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1, Absent: 1
RESOLUTION PASSED



ALATEEN MEETINGS
ARE BEING HELD
THURSDAY EVENINGS FROM
5:30 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M.
AT THE
SILVER CREEK CHURCH
Please feel welcome to attend!

There are some new addresses
for JTPA, Social Services and Education.
There will be more changes in the future as
more offices move into the Silver Creek
Plaza. Please send all correspondence to P.O.
Box 180. Send IHS to the 210 Front St ad-
dress.

PERSONNEL
SUBSTANCE ABUSE
P.O. BOX 180
714 N. FRONT ST.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-8998
1-800-517-0777
FAX (616) 782-6882

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 180
104 N. RIVERSIDE DR.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-7028
1-888-990-1234
FAX (616) 782-4573

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

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

March 1997						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 12-5-ELDERS HALL BASKET CO-OP
2	3 6:30p-ELDERS HALL COUNCIL-PLANNING	4 6:00pm-ELDERS HALL-PERS. COMM.	5 8-5-ELDERS HALL COUNCIL-MTG. FINANCE COMM.	6 8-5-ELDERS HALL ELDERS MTG/LUNCH 6:30p-ELDERS HALL COUNCIL MTG.	7	8 10:00am GEN. MBRSHIP. MTG.-SO.WESTERN COLLEGE
9	10 8-5-ELDERS HALL EMERG. FUND COMM.	11	12 7:30p-ENROLL HSG. AUTH.	13	14	15 12-5p-ELDERS HALL BASKET CO-OP
16	17 HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18 6:00pm-ELDERS HALL-PERS. COMM.	19 5:30p-ENROLL ENROLL. COMM. 7:00p-ELDERS HALL LANGUAGE COMM.	20 7:00pm-ELDERS HALL-COUNCIL MTG.	21 7:00p-ELDERS HALL OPEN HOUSE/ELDERS DINNER	22 12-5-ELDERS HALL BASKET CO-OP
23	24 8-5-ELDERS HALL EMERG. FUND COMM.	25	26 7:30p-ENROLL HSG. AUTH.	27	28 12-5 OFFICES CLOSED	29 12-5-ELDERS HALL BASKET CO-OP
30 HAPPY EASTER!	31					

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI

AKA POTAWATOMI INDIAN NATION, INC.

Substance Abuse Program

5th Annual Traditional Pow Wow

"Red Road Pow Wow: Empowering Youth & Sobriety"

MARCH 22-23, 1997

GRAND ENTRY

SAT. 1:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M.

SUN. 1:00 P.M.

Dowagiac Union High School

Dowagiac, Michigan

PUBLIC WELCOME

SPECIAL FEATURE: "LITEFOOT CONCERT"

Saturday evening, 9:00 following PowWow

Concert at the Dowagiac Armory

Concert Admission - Pow Wow button

or \$6.00 without Pow Wow button

Head Veteran

Frank Bush

Head Male Dancer

Paul Syrette

Youth Male Dancer

To be announced.

Arena Director

Mark Topash



M.C.

Sam Bush

Head Female Dancer

Otakuye Conroy

Youth Female Dancer

To be announced.

Host Drum

White Thunder

Trader Fee (NATIVE AMERICAN TRADERS ONLY)

\$35/DAY, \$60/BOTH DAYS IF PAID IN FULL BY 3-14-97

AFTER 3-14-97, \$40/DAY \$70/BOTH

NO OUTSIDE FOOD BOOTHS

ADMISSION:

Adults \$3.00

Students (ID) \$1.50

Veterans, Seniors

& Handicapped \$1.50

Under 5 Free

For more information & trader reservations, call Hollis Liska, 616-695-6654
Pow Wow proceeds to go towards starting Half-Way House in Southwest Michigan.

RED ROAD POW WOW WITH SPECIAL GUEST LITEFOOT

The Substance Abuse Committee is sponsoring the 5th Annual Red Road Pow Wow on March 22 and March 23. Volunteers are needed starting Friday evening with set up through Sunday evening's clean up. If you would like to volunteer for specific areas, please contact these people.

Security	Mike Zimmerman	888-330-1234
Food/drink orders	Karen Winchester	(616) 684-5084
Food Preparation	Hollis Liska	(616) 695-6654
Serve Participant Meal	Stephanie Ballew	800-517-0777
Gate	Rusty Green	888-990-1234
Raffle	Judy Huffman	(616) 424-5395
Substance Abuse Table	Stephanie Ballew	800-517-0777
Set up/Clean up	Mark Topash	888-440-1234

ATTENTION BAKERS

Desserts are needed for the participant meal on Saturday! If you can bring something, please contact Stephanie Ballew at 800-517-0777.

If you are willing to volunteer for any area, call Judy Huffman (616) 424-5395. The Litefoot concert is a way to help reach the youth of our tribe. The tribe is working hard to get youths involved, and having someone of Litefoot's caliber can help us to do just that.

LITEFOOT CONCERT

SATURDAY AT 9:00 P.M. AFTER THE POW WOW
AT THE DOWAGIAC ARMORY
LITEFOOT IS A NATIVE AMERICAN
RAP ARTIST. HE ALSO APPEARED IN
THE MOVIE "THE INDIAN IN THE CUPBOARD".
THE JOHNSON O'MALLEY EDUCATION PROGRAM IS
SPONSORING THE CONCERT.
IF YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION CALL LESA ANDERS
AT 888-330-1234

POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

ATTENTION POKAGON BAND MEMBERS

This is some information on what I am trying to do for the band members who are low to very low income. I am trying to get as much information as I can about anyone who needs some type of work done to their home. Of course, just like the rest of the programs that I have, you must own your own home.

In order for me to try to get this grant through HUD for renovations, I must show how much money I need and where I will be spending it. I also have to have some type of waiting list to show them. There is a lot of foot work to be done to get this grant through. I need this information as soon as possible because the grant has to be turned in by May. We won't know about the grant until October.

I am asking that you make a list of home improvements that you need and get two itemized bids from licensed contractors. Send them **Attn: Keith White (901 Spruce St. Dowagiac, MI 49047)** I will also be working toward getting funding for those who won't qualify under the low to every low income guidelines. Right now, I don't know what the income guidelines are until HUD releases the new federal register which should be any time. If you have any questions, about this please call me at **1-888-330-1234**.

Keith White
Repair/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 **1-800-330-1234**.
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!

ELDERS REPAIR & RENOVATION UPDATE

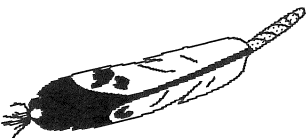
As of February 14th there have been 18 elders that have had some type of repairs or renovation done on their homes. I have ten applications that are being reviewed and some of those will be under contract by the time this comes out. I have four that are under contract right now. This makes a total of 32 elders and there is a total of 139 Elders that I know of. So that makes 107 that have not contacted me if they need some type of work done. I know that some of you do not own your own house, and I don't have that information. Some of the members that have turned 60 or are going to turn 60 should contact me at **1-888-330-1234**. I can send you an application for repairs and renovation.

For those of you who have not sent your application back, please do so, and I will get those needs met as soon as I can. Some of the things that we have done are: furnace replacement, new roofs, replacement of old entry doors, insulation of walls and ceiling, storm windows, fix rotten floors, replaces toilets that are bad, fix plumbing that leaks, and hot water heaters that went bad.

So if you have a need, let me know so I can help you out. The only requirements to get help is that you are 60 or older, are an enrolled member, own your home, and **IT IS NOT BASED ON INCOME**. For those of you who have lost or misplaced your application, please call me at the number above. I will send you another.

The only thing that I ask of you is to get two itemized bids from two licensed contractors and send them in with your application. You can find them in the yellow pages under general contractor or home improvements. I have the numbers for the few Indian contractors that we have. If you call, I can also give those to you. Send all information back to: **Attn: Keith White, 901 Spruce St., Dowagiac, MI 49047**.

Keith White
Repair & Renovation Coordinator



POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

In January the Band received the contract for a new food program funded by the Family Independence Agency through the Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs. The grant is a 'Community Service Block Grant' that will allow the Band to purchase food from the Southwest Gleaners Food Bank to be distributed to Band members who meet the income guideline requirements.

We realize these guidelines will hinder some members from accessing this service, but we have to comply with the funding agency requirements in order to serve those members who do qualify.

This program can be accessed by **ANY BAND MEMBER REGARDLESS OF WHERE YOU LIVE AS LONG AS YOU CAN GET TO THE USDA FOOD COMMODITY OFFICE TO PICK UP THE FOOD**. You may also be receiving food stamps and still be eligible. Everyone is aware that the food stamp program is not adequate in most cases. You may run out of food a week or two before your next allotment. You may be eligible for food to supplement the shortage.

When the contract was written, the income guidelines used were for 1996, and the program start date is for 1997. We were given permission to print the 1997 guidelines, however, **we will not be able to use these guidelines until we receive official notification from the State of Michigan. That should come sometime in March**. If you don't qualify under the 1996 guidelines, but do under the ones for 1997, you can at least look forward to getting this assistance then, and apply when you are notified that they are in place.

The Band will be purchasing over 3,000 lbs. of food a month from the foodbank. There is always a variety of different foods to choose from, and what we'll provide may be a welcomed supplement to your family's food supply.

To get an understanding of the food needs in our community, we're requesting that you fill out a survey when you come in to apply for the food program. The survey will assist us as we plan future programming. As your

Band, it is our hope to be able to help you with some of life's burdens. We can better understand what your needs are by using this information.

When the Pokagon Food Program is in place, everyone will receive a special mailing with the appropriate details. Until then, be prepared to access this service if you think you are eligible. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Candy Brumley at the USDA Commodity Food Office - **616-782-3372** and **1-888-281-1111**. It should be two weeks before everything is in place.

POKAGON BAND FOOD PROGRAM 1996 Income Guidelines

Size of family	125% of 1996 guidelines
1	\$ 9,675
2	12,950
3	16,225
4	19,500
5	22,775
6	26,050
7	29,325
8	32,600

For each additional family member, add \$3,275

Proposed 1997 Income Guidelines

Size of family	125% of Proposed 1997 guidelines
1	\$ 10,194
2	13,644
3	17,095
4	20,280
5	23,688
6	27,096
7	30,504
8	33,912

For each additional family member, add \$3,408

NEWS FROM THE ELDERS

The meeting was called to order by Gerald Wesaw.

Approval of the minutes

William Klemm, Sr. made a motion to approve the minutes of January 23, 1997. Seconded by Rae Daugherty. Gerald Wesaw stated he had an addition to the agenda; a comment on John Warren's proposal.

Gerald stated there is an Elders issue task force. He asked Rita Yount to comment on that. Rita stated the task force is new in Cass County. The first meeting is February 11, 1997 at 9:00 a.m.

Gerald Wesaw stated we officers worked on the ordinance yesterday. We think we're done with it. Marchell Wesaw has it. She's going to write it up and get it back to us so we can see it. You'll get a copy of it in the mail. You'll have time to read it and come back with any questions on it; and then vote on it. With our ordinance we don't need a mission statement.

Gerald said that Litefoot, the rap artist likes to spend time with the Elders wherever he goes. There will be an open house, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. Education Department is putting it on.

Gerald asked Rita what kind of help she needs for set up and clean up for the luncheons. She said three or four volunteers could help. Henry White, Joe Winchester and Vic Starret volunteered for February and the first meeting in March.

Gerald asked membership if they wanted a meeting March 20. Gerald took a vote of a show of hands. 15 no votes, 1 yes vote.

Paula Winchester, our Personnel Director came to talk to us about the Elders Hall. She's been helping with some of the Human Service things. She has spent some time with Rita trying to understand what we're hoping to do out here at the Hall. Paula wanted us to know that the management team that's been working in the organization is interested in working very hard on accomplishing what it is we want them to do.

MEMBERSHIP CONCERNS

Jim Topash asked if Council approved the MIEA Watersmeet trip. Gerald said it was approved. Jim asked how this was set up. He wants to drive his own van. Gerald said as soon as we get all the information, it will be sent to Jim.

Joe Winchester asked about changes to the MIEA by-laws. Henry White stated he was re-scheduling his meeting with Marchell Wesaw. Joe stated the MIEA has three members on the executive committee. He recommends four.

Gerald thought it was a good idea to split Secretary/Treasurer on the MIEA. A vote was taken by a show of hands. 18 yes votes, 0 no votes.

Gerald opened the nominations for the MIEA Chairperson. Rae Daugherty nominated Rita; Gerald closed the nominations. Rita accepted.

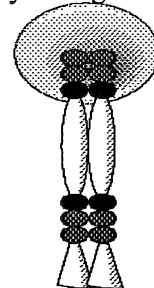
Gerald opened the nominations for the Vice-chairperson. Henry White nominated Joe Winchester for Vice-Chair. Shouldn't accept because he's a delegate. Mary Jo Morris nominated Marge Moody, Gerald closed nominations and Marge accepted.

Gerald opened nominations for the Secretary. Rae Daugherty nominated Mary Jo Morris, Mary Jo declined. Georgia Davidson nominated Elizabeth Ballew, Gerald closed the nominations, Elizabeth accepted.

Gerald opened the nominations for Treasurer. Rae Daugherty nominated Clarence White, Gerald closed nominations, Clarence accepted.

Gerald Wesaw read the letter of proposal for John Warren. John's proposal was taken to Tribal Council. Council is working with Kevin Daugherty and John. Membership agreed to have our second meeting and luncheon starting at 11:00 a.m.

Next Elders meeting and luncheon February 20, 1997. Rae Daugherty motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Georgia Davidson.



Mary Jo Morris
Elders Secretary

THE GOOSE STORY

Next fall when you see geese heading south for the winter, flying along in a "V" formation, you might be interested in knowing what science has discovered about why they fly that way.

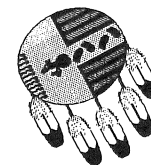
It has been learned that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying a "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own. (People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier, because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.)

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to do it alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front. (If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way we are going.)

When the lead goose gets tired, he rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point. (It pays to take turns doing hard jobs- -with people or with geese flying south.)

The geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up with their speed. (What do we say when we honk from behind?)

Finally (now I want you to get this) when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gun shots and falls out, two geese fall out of formation and follow him down to help and protect him. They stay with him until he is able to fly or until he is dead, and they then launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with the group. (If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.)



Submitted by
Trish Williams

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
GERALD WESAW
MARCH 2ND
Love, Jose

HELP WANTED CLIENT CARE ATTENDANT

Residential substance abuse program in Dowagiac, MI; part-time and full-time openings. Requires a high school diploma. CNA's and/or familiarity with 12 step recovery programs are encouraged to apply. Hours include evening and weekends. Send resume and letter of interest to:

Bob Briggs, Residential Coordinator
Myrtle Treatment Center
900 Myrtle Ave.
Sturgis, MI 49091

DIOCESAN HEATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

As of January 17, 1997, 42 parishes and private donors have contributed \$37,204.31 to the Diocesan Heating Assistance Program. Our people are so generous to this special diocesan project. The program began on January 3 and ends April 30 or as long as funds last. If you know someone who needs heating assistance, call you pastor or pastoral minister. If you would like to make a donation, please send a check (payable to the Diocese of Kalamazoo) to Sister Susan Ridley, 215 N. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007-3760.

HAPPY 2ND
ANNIVERSARY
DANIEL & KAMI
DEROSE
MARCH 29



LOVE, YOUR FAMILY

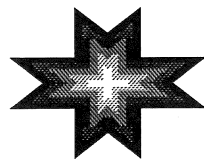
Aneen,

In 1887 Congress passed the General Allotment Act, also known as the Assimilation Act. Boarding schools were used to assimilate Native Americans into mainstream society. This policy alone accomplished what military force, starvation, disease, and loss of land couldn't. The deterioration of Indian culture. The goal of the act was to create self-sufficiency, instead it created dependency and resentment. This is why our Grandmothers, Grandfathers, Aunties and Uncles were forbidden to share the original teachings. They were forced to believe that being Indian and living their way of life was not acceptable.

In 1978 Congress passed the Freedom of Religion Act, enabling us as Anishnabeg to practice our own religion and beliefs. In the beginning the creator created the four races of man: the Red, the Yellow, the Black and the White giving each race original instructions to follow. Traditional values and practices are what will help make us a strong nation. As Anishnabeg we learn to pray for others, the two legged, four legged, the winged, those that crawl and those that swim. We pray for those that have journeyed before us and for those to come. We learn to be grateful for what is given to us, for a new day, new season and grateful for what the Creator has provided for us.

The Federal Government granted the Pokagon Potawatomi's recognition as an individual nation. The term nation means a group or groups of people. We as Anishnabeg need to find common ground and start building something to be proud of. We need to do this in a good way, our prayers together will please the spirit world. In return they will look favorably upon us, answering our prayers as a whole. Individual interests need to be set aside and the common good of all to be our focus. Without this, we may never prosper as a nation. We shouldn't make everything seem so complicated. Following our original instructions will help un-complicate everything for the Anishnabeg. AHO!

*Megwitch
Donald J. Sumners*



800 YELLOWSTONE BISON SLAUGHTERED SO FAR THIS WINTER!

By Drusha L. Mayhue

This winter the state of Montana has shot 232 bison near West Yellowstone and 559 have been shot or sent to slaughter by the Park Service near the north entrance of Gardiner, Montana. This puts the total number of bison shot or slaughtered at 791 as of February 5. The herd of Yellowstone bison is the nation's last free-ranging bison population and are the remnant of the vast herds that were nearly annihilated in the 19th century. Officials have called the current situation the "largest slaughter of wild bison this century."

Some biologists fear a collapse in the bison population. In October there were approximately 3500 bison in Yellowstone National Park. On February 4, a survey flight counted only 1982 bison in the Park. The bison are leaving the park because of the coldest winter on record since 1943. Arctic freezes separated by heavy rains have encased the park in ice as hard as cement. The bison cannot dig beneath the snow for food and are forced to leave the park. Additionally, increased snowmobiling accommodated by groomed trails have made it easier for bison to exit from Yellowstone into Montana.

While the Montana Department of Livestock claims the bison are wandering onto neighboring ranches, a look at any map shows the majority are wandering onto national forest land. The state of Montana is taking over wildlife management on national public lands! And the Park Service has not considered the effect of their winter use program on wildlife.

The reason for this disgrace is the fear by Montana cattlemen that Yellowstone bison carry brucellosis, which if passed to cattle could cause them to abort their calves and force a quarantine on Montana cattle. The facts are: Elk also carry brucellosis, although state officials rarely admit this. There are more than 90,000 elk in the Greater Yellowstone Area. Montana makes money from the sale of hunting licenses given for elk hunting. There has never been a documented case of bison or elk infecting cattle with brucellosis in the wild.

The brucellosis organism, discharged from bison cows with fecal material, is quickly killed in direct sunlight. Scavengers also reduce the prevention of infectious tissues. Bull bison pose virtually no threat of

transmission.

Please write or call the Governor of Montana, demanding that he put a stop to this horrible slaughter. Tell him you won't be visiting Montana until they stop the killing.

Governor Marc Racicot
State Capital
Helena, MT 59620

The phone number is (406) 444-3111.

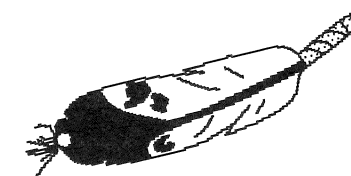
Also write or call the following people and request that a stop to this needless slaughter be issued NOW!

Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20240
(202) 208-7351

Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman
Department of Agriculture
14th St. and Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20250
(202) 720-3631

Write the Superintendent of Yellowstone NP and urge him to stop the slaughter, to allow Yellowstone's bison to use surrounding public lands and to consider closing Yellowstone to snowmobiles.

Superintendent Mike Finley
Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190
(307) 344-2002



AA MEETINGS

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

SWMC SEEKING BOARD MEMBERS

The Southwestern Michigan Commission is seeking applications for board members representing Native Americans or other minorities and who reside in Berrien, Cass or Van Buren Counties. The SWMC is an administrative and service agency for local and regional programs, including transportation planning, economic planning and information, law enforcement training, land use planning and grant writing. The full board meets quarterly in January, April, July and October on the fourth Tuesday morning of the month with per diem and mileage reimbursement provided. For further information, contact Judy Lammers at the SWMC, 616-925-1137.

TEKAKWITHA ELECTS ART MORSAW SECRETARY-TREASURER

Mr. Art Morsaw, Immaculate Conception Church, Hartford, was elected Secretary-Treasurer to the Executive National Tekakwitha Board.

Art began his three-year term in the fall after he received the most votes at a 2,500 plus member general assembly meeting. Mr. Morsaw has been attending these general meetings for the past 10 years, as a representative of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Tribe.

Art's duties will comprise the recording of table minutes, finance management and making sure the National Board budget remains in the black. The mission of the National Tekakwitha Board is the evangelization of Native Americans and to bring back fallen away Catholic Native Americans to the Church. The Tekakwitha Board operates under the auspice of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions headed by Msgr. Paul A. Lenz. Congratulations Art!

ANN ARBOR POW WOW MARCH 15 & 16 CRISLER ARENA

On University of Michigan's campus
Saturday Grand Entry 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Sunday Grand Entry 1 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GET WELL SOON
FRANCES E. WESAW

LOVE YOUR FAMILY



HAPPY 49TH BIRTHDAY

TO OUR FATHER Earl Hossler, Sr.
Love, Earl, Steve, Dan & Shawnee

**DAVE'S AUTO REPAIR &
24-HOUR TOWING**

111 N. FRONT ST.
DOWAGIAC, MI 49047
(616) 782-9233

**FREE Oil Change with purchase of one of
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10% off labor.

**PLEASE BRING THIS
ANNOUNCEMENT WITH YOU TO
RECEIVE YOUR SPECIALS!**

CONGRATULATIONS
CAROL LEWIS AND
JIMMY THOMAS
ON THE BIRTH OF
SHELBY LYNN
THOMAS!
BORN FEBRUARY 8



HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY
Kara Genereaux, February 10
Love, Your Family
HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY
Frances Wesaw

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DANIEL DeROSE, SR.
MARCH 9
Love, Mom, Valeri, Joseph and Kelly

HAPPY 5TH BIRTHDAY
JARED WESAW
March 18
Love, Uncle Dale and Aunt Rhonda

**CONGRATULATIONS ON
PERFECT ATTENDANCE**
At Puxico, MO
Sierra Temple
Ronson Temple

At Watervliet North
Elementary
Rhian Lynne Nelson
CONGRATULATIONS
HONOR STUDENTS
Sierra Temple
Rhian Lynne Nelson



MARCH 20, 1997
DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please submit the newsletter articles to
Maureen Shagonaby
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047
FAX (616) 782-6882

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

March 1997

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 MONICA DEGRAW
2 LITTLE JIM WESAW JARED WESAW	3 KATHLEEN GREEN	4	5	6 CANDI MANDOKA	7	8
9 BIG JIM WESAW DALE DEROSE, SR.	10 CHERYL (GREEN) WHITE	11	12	13 MARY LYN HERNADEZ	14 TRISHA NELSON	15 SHAWN GENEREUX
16	17 JOYCE GREEN RICHARD ANTISDAL	18 TERRI LINN EARL HASSLER, SR.	19	20	21 SONJA TEMPLE	22
23 LEIGH ANN WESAW	24	25	26 TYLER ROUSE WILLIAM AUGUSTA	27	28 LISA MARIE HERNADEZ VIOLA WESAW	29 MARTHA DEUL
30 SHANE FINN VIVANNA HERNADEZ HILLARY DEGRAW	31 CHUCK MERSEREAU MAJEL DEMARSH					