

# POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

*"The Pokagons Tell It"*



Vol. III, No. X

October, 1998



## POKAGON POW WOW HEATS UP SOUTH BEND

Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa '98 was a mixed bag of things. So-so attendance, enthusiastic drumming, horrible weather and competing with a home Notre Dame football game made for a busy weekend.

On Saturday, it was a warm day with lots of dancing and singing. Head dancers Candi Wesaw and Donald Summers had their work cut out for them. They led the dancers into the circle for a very exciting and beautiful grand entry. The Head Veteran was George Martin. With several different drums in attendance, there was plenty of variety in singing, and Smokeytown hosted the overall pow wow. Throughout the afternoon there were many inter-tribals as well as some fancy exhibition dancing.

There was a steady crowd on Saturday, and spectators not only got to enjoy the dancing, there were some excellent traders in attendance. Also, the food was good, no matter which vendor you chose. Band members could also visit the housing, health and education departments. Staff made themselves available to answer questions and

talk to the membership.

That evening, the annual teen dance was a success. The kids really enjoyed the dance and they helped the d.j. with his selection. The dance started about 9 p.m. and ran until 11:30 before the last song closed it down.

On Sunday the busiest booth at the pow wow was health. The temperatures soared into the high 90's with extreme humidity. At one point, health reported that 11 people visited the tent suffering from heat related problems. The attendance was sparse on Sunday, but the weather was awful. It was so hot, it was hard to believe it was Labor Day weekend.





Christine Morseau tries to beat the heat while her son fans her. But JoEllen Leith is on her own trying to stay cool.



Women's traditional dancers make the circle. These dancers have long been considered some of the most beautiful.



Anthony Wilcox practices hoop dancing before the Sunday afternoon performance.



Tribal Chair Bob Moody shows off his regalia and his dance moves during the pow wow.

## LEAKS LEAD TO CHANGES

In late August the South Bend Tribune wrote two articles in which the tribe's minutes were quoted. Someone saw fit to release them to the media. The minutes discussed two of our most private issues, land and gaming.

These two areas of tribal planning must be considered private because of the problems that arise when anyone finds out about our plans. The tribe purchased a parcel of land in Indiana, and we used a limited liability company to do so. When people know we are looking at land, oftentimes they panic. They assume it will be used for casino, and that makes people very nervous. The tribe actually has not decided what to use the land for, but when you tell outsiders that, they don't necessarily believe it. We know we have other pressing needs to address such as housing and tribal offices, but that does not occur to people.

Because this reporter had the discussion portion of our minutes, he was able to disclose the LLC's name and render it useless for us in the future. He also disclosed that we were looking at additional acreage near our property. This information gives anti-casino and anti-Indian groups and people an opportunity to buy this land out from under us. It was important for that to stay quiet.

The other portion of the article made reference to Harrahs. The paper speculated that we are nearly out of money because the end of our agreement is coming closer. That is simply not true. But the most disturbing factor is the media does not have a right to our minutes. The discussion surrounding Harrahs should have remained within our Band. And it would have, if someone had not sent it to the newspaper.

At the last Tribal Council meeting, Council passed a resolution stating that minutes will not be handed out upon request as they had previously. This may seem like Council is punishing the masses for actions of a few. But it is equally important to remember that the damage that can be done to the **ENTIRE TRIBE** by these leaks could be irreparable. At this time resolutions will not be printed in the newsletter.

We are at a very sensitive time in our tribal history, and Council was forced to do what was in the best interest of the membership. Gaming and land issues are two of the most delicate issues the Tribal Council handles. It may not always have to be this way, but for the time being, access to this information must be limited.

### TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER, 10  
10 A.M.  
ELDERS HALL**

This is a potluck, and the tribe will provide the meat and the beverages. Please bring a dish to pass. The Saturday meeting includes program and committee reports. The business meeting for Tribal Council will take place on Thursday, October 22, 1998.

### COUNCIL 19 EMPLOYEES 6

The Council/Staff softball game ended in a rout after a team made up of Council members and tribal members crushed the employees' team. There were very few council members, staff members or tribal members in attendance. The small teams played just a few innings. The mercy rule would have kicked in anyway.

The "players" and spectators capped off the evening with hamburgers and hot dogs. The final excitement was the raffling of the door prizes. Some of the big winners included Sam Wesaw, Angie Miller, Kathie Grigsby and Jeffrey Riley.

## POKAGON HEALTH NEWS

### BASIC CONTRACT HEALTH INFORMATION

For Contract Health Services to make payments on your behalf for your health care services you must:

1. Be a Pokagon Band member.
2. Live within the Contract Health Service Delivery Area.
3. **Register for Contract Health Service benefits.** This includes providing our office proof of your insurance or if you have no insurance, you must provide to this office a copy of the denial letter from your local Family Independence Agency. **You will be asked to update your file once every 12 months and on an ongoing basis as you make requests.**
4. **Seek prior authorization at least three working days before** scheduled health care appointments. You must request CHS coverage before you go to your appointments. Seek separate authorizations for all follow-up appointments, treatment plan follow-up dates, plus any and all labs. **CHS cannot pay for health care services without prior authorization.**
5. Seek authorization **within 72 hours** of the start of **emergency or urgent** care. Elders or disabled clients have 30 days to notify our office in case of emergency care.
6. Get copies of provider bills to our office. Without the bills, payments cannot be processed.
7. IF you have health care insurance(s), you must provide copies of your insurance Explanations of Benefits (EOBS) to our CHS staff. The EOB is the paper from the insurance company, which explains what they have paid and the unpaid balance. Without an EOB, payment will not be processed.

We have Contract Health Services staff people available to assist you. Please call with your questions.

### **Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Contract Health Services**

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

Submitted by,  
Christine Daugherty

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

A.A. Meeting times have been changed! Although we continue to meet here at the Keepers of the Fire offices, the dates and times have changed. Our meetings are at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays and at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings. For further information, please call us at 782-1142.

### INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT PROGRAM

The Keepers of the Fire Intensive Outpatient Program meets on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Please call if you are interested in attending. Because we are state licensed, our programs are accepted by all court systems and other agencies. Plus, we do not charge any fees! Please call for further information.

### ANGER MANAGEMENT

Anger management group is held on an on-going weekly basis from 6-00-7:30 p.m. on Thursdays. This group is open to all adults. Please call before you come.

## AA MEETINGS

AA Meetings are held Tuesday and Thursday at 12:00 p.m. at the Substance Abuse Program offices, 714 N. Front St. Dowagiac, MI. We also hold one evening session on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Please feel welcome to attend. If you have questions, please call (616) 782-1142.



## POKAGON SOCIAL SERVICES

### EMERGENCY FUNDS

Recently, a representative from the Bureau of Indian Affairs visited our tribal offices to review the social services programs. According to the BIA, this fund is intended for members in the service area who experience emergencies caused by natural disasters, and is available after community resources are exhausted. *Important changes based on the BIA visit 1) the budget has been lowered to \$3,500 for the year – drastic reduction 2) natural disaster is defined as flood, fire, tornado, etc. 3) rental payment assistance is not allowed under this fund. Effective October 1, 1998.*

Since last year, more than 70% of the emergency fund have been authorized for rental payments, so this removal will result in a significant unmet need. After much discussion and investigation, it was found that the need for the emergency rental payment can be met through the Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Our goal is to make this transition without causing a hardship to tribal members; therefore, the EMERGENCY RENTAL PAYMENT will be available October 1, 1998 but we need your patience while the details are finalized. Eligibility: circumstances must clearly constitute an emergency, must meet HUD income guidelines, reside in the service area, and need certification by the landlord and Tribal Social Services prior to authorization by the Housing Committee designee. Application and assistance is available in the Social Services Department. **NOTE:** because the funding source has changed, eligibility is contingent upon HUD regulations.

### USDA Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Supplemental Food will be available at the Food Commodities Building beginning September 29th. **ALL ENROLLED POKAGON BAND MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE, REGARDLESS OF INCOME OR COUNTY OF RESIDENCE.** Available while supplies last.

Monthly food commodities are available to Native Americans who reside in the 10 county service area, in a city of 10,000 or less, and meet income guidelines set by the USDA (i.e.: monthly net income of less than \$792 for a household of 1).

Reminder: Dual participation in the FDPIR (commodi-

ties) and Food Stamp program is illegal and subject to losing benefits of both programs and/or fraud charges. The USDA is the funding source for both programs; therefore, collecting from both is considered "double dipping" and therefore discouraged. Commodities staff can help you to switch from one program to the other if you are interested in doing so.

### LIHEAP

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program is available to help low income families pay for utility bills. Eligibility requirements: must be an enrolled Band member, residing in the 10 county service area, and provide proof of income (i.e.: monthly gross income less than \$1377 for household of 1). Available October 1998.

### Injury Prevention

Fire extinguishers are still available in the Social Services Office. Tell your friends and family! We hope that you will never have to use them but, as they say, better safe than sorry! **ALL ENROLLED POKAGON BAND MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE, REGARDLESS OF INCOME OR COUNTY OF RESIDENCE.**

### JTPA

The JTPA program is a job-training program for individuals who may be economically disadvantaged, unemployed, or underemployed. Our JTPA program is specific to the Native American, Native Alaskan or Native Hawaiian population in the service delivery area. Interested? Please contact Tracy Wesaw, Job Training Specialist in the Social Services Department.

### ICWA

The Indian Child Welfare Act is a federal law passed by Congress in 1978 to protect Indian families and tribes from the removal of their children in state court proceedings and is designed to preserve Indian tribes and families. ICWA applies to cases in state court where a non-parent seeks to remove an Indian child from the home or control of its parents or Indian custodians. This typically occurs when Child Protective Services (CPS) files a petition in court charging the parents with neglecting, abusing, or abandoning their children. Foster care or adoptive placement is often sought in these situations. The Act also applies when the child is charged with wrongdoing, which would not be considered crimi-

# POKAGON SOCIAL SERVICES

nal if done by an adult, such as truancy. More next month...

**YOU ARE INVITED:** OCTOBER 21st at 7 p.m. (MI time) at the Elders Hall in Dowagiac - Michigan Indian Legal Services (MILS) will be presenting information on the Indian Child Welfare Act followed by the Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency (MICWA) who will discuss what is involved in being a foster family and foster care licensing. If you are interested in helping our children or just curious about these topics, please plan to attend. Food and drinks will be provided. Space is limited so please contact the Social Services Dept. today to reserve your seat.

## BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES

The BSF program offers training and information to parents about their newborn baby (through 3 years old), which covers the different developmental stages of your growing child, how to build self esteem, disciplinary techniques, and even immunizations. This is valuable information for new parents. Please contact social services outreach workers to schedule an appointment. Available October 1, 1998.

## SOCIAL SERVICES POW WOW SURVEY

The social services and housing department shared a booth at the Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow Wow 9/5 and 9/6. Hundreds of helium balloons and stadium cups given away by the social services department, along with bumper stickers and pens from the housing department. In addition, individuals who completed the survey were entered into a raffle; three lucky Pokagon Band members won the 19-inch television and two CD players! The purpose of the giveaways was to attract people to the booth to get input for planning of the respective departments. More than 110 surveys were completed by residents in Michigan and Indiana. The three areas receiving the most votes as areas to 'expand, develop, or enhance' in the department were Indian Child Welfare, a Shelter (for homeless and/or battered women), and Elders Issues. Your input will shape the direction of our department. Thank you for your participation.

Your suggestions or comments are welcome. I can be contacted at (800) 517-0777.

Submitted by,  
Linda A. Mangus,  
Social Services Director

## WINTER COAT DRIVE

### DON'T THROW THAT COAT OUT! WHY NOT DONATE?

The Social Services Office will be accepting your old coats and boots and even gloves! These will be used for any Pokagon family in need of winter accessories. If you have any questions, please contact Rechelle Herman at:

800-517-0777 or 782-8998

## REPAIRS AND RENOVATION

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

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

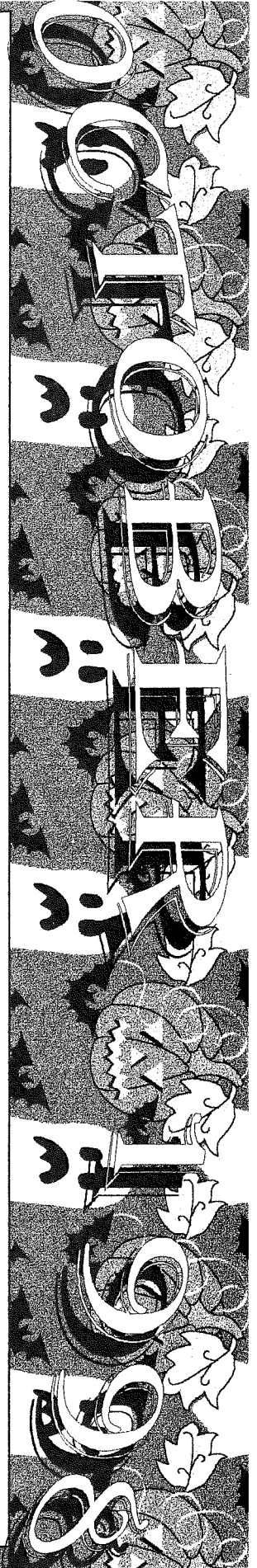
## HOUSING DEPARTMENT

That was a very good response on the surveys that were handed out at the pow wow. I met lots of nice people. The committee has met two times since the last newsletter, and they have been working on various policies. The Housing Department will be helping the Social Services Department in funding the emergency rent payment program. There will be different guidelines than previously used.

We are also asking for an emergency weatherization program. This will be for Band members and the elderly and handicapped will have first priority.



	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	E.H.=Elder's Hall * Denotes Weekly Events						
4		5 Culture Class-Youth E.H. 6:30-8 p.m. *PreTeen Group-Sub. Ab. 3-5 p.m. *IOP-Sub Ab. 5-7 p.m.	6 *Gerobics-E.H. 10-11 am/6-7 p.m. *AA-Sacred Heart 8:30-10:30 am Council w/Indians E.H. 7:00 p.m.	7 *Youth Group-Sub. Ab. 5-7 p.m. *IOP-Sub Ab 5-7 p.m.	8 *Gerobics-E.H. 10-11 am/6-7 p.m. *AA-Sacred Heart 12p.m./7:30-8:30 p.m.	9	10 Tribal Council-10am. E.H.
11		12	13	14	15 Elder's Social Luncheon 11a-E.H.	16	17
18		19 Culture Class-Youth E.H. 6:30-8 p.m.	20	21 Foster Care Recruitment E.H. 7 p.m.	22 Tribal Council Meeting 7p.m. Elders Hall	23	24
25		26	27	28	29	30 Youth Council Halloween Party E.H. 7-9 p.m.	31



## Potawatomi Language Questionnaire

Please take the time to complete the following questionnaire, we need your input. When finished, send it to:

Language Project, Education Department  
 Pokagon Band of Potawatomi  
 PO Box 180, 901 Spruce St.  
 Dowagiac, MI 49047

Drawing takes place November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1998 at Elder's Hall. Only completed questionnaires will be eligible to win. Submit your questionnaire early!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check what applies:  
 I'm Pokagon Band  
 I'm Huron Band  
 I'm from another  
 Band of Potawatomi  
 I'm not Potawatomi

### Possible Language Projects

### Level of Importance

Very important    somewhat important    not important

- |   |                       |                       |                       |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Language classes for pre-school children.  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Language classes for school aged children at school, during school hours.  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Evening classes for adults.<br>(indicate location: <input type="radio"/> Dowagiac <input type="radio"/> Athens <input type="radio"/> South Bend <input type="radio"/> Other _____) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Distance learning programs (study at home with text and audio cassettes).  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Distance learning programs (Internet, email and CD-ROM).   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. A newsletter, with contributors from different bands, written in Potawatomi.   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Picture books and computer games.  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

# October Youth Programs

## Youth Council

If you are in grades 7-12 and are interested in joining the Keepers of the Fire Youth Council, please come to the October meetings at the Education Department in Dowagiac at 7 pm (Michigan Time). Meeting dates are:  
 Wed. Oct 7    Wed. Oct 21    Wed Oct 28

Have you been interested but, ...  
 -can't make Wednesdays?  
 -need a ride?  
 -want more information first?



Well, then, please contact Marie Willis at the Education Department at 1-888-330-1234.

## Youth Culture Classes

The youth culture classes have started again. Please bring your family and enjoy an evening of learning more about our Native American culture. Meeting location & times are:

### Indiana participants

Location: South Bend Regional  
 Museum of Art  
 South Bend, IN

Monday Oct 12  
 Monday Oct 29

6:30-8 pm

### Michigan participants

Location: Elders' Hall  
 Dowagiac, MI

Mondays Oct 5  
 Mondays Oct 19

6:30-8pm

## Attention High School Juniors & Seniors

The computer lab is available for college & financial aid search. Please come during open lab times: Thursdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. Call ahead if you would like assistance. Also, a special workshop will be:

**College & financial aid on the internet** (Students and parents are invited)

Saturday, October 17

3-5 pm



## Just for Little Kids Craft Computer Class



Saturday, October 17

12-2:30 pm Computer Lab, Dowagiac

For children ages 4-8

Come ready to make a masterpiece on the computer!

Please call the Education Department to preregister.

**POKAGON BAND STAFF WORK SCHEDULE**

**Beginning September 8, 1998**

**ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE: (901 Spruce St. 616-782-8998/1-800-517-0777)**

**7:30-5:30 Mon-Thu, 7:30-5:00 Fri**

	<u>Mon.-Thu.</u>	<u>Fri.</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Kelly Curran	7:30 to 5:30	7:30 to 11:30	12:00 to 1:00
Rebecca Drake	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 12:30
Paula W. Geer	8:00 to 6:00	7:30 to 11:30	12:00 to 1:00
Maureen Shagonaby	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 12:30
Ginny Wesaw	8:00 to 5:30	8:00 to 12:00	12:00 to 12:30
Mike Wesaw	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:30 to 1:30
Diane Klapchuk	7:30 to 4:00	7:30 to 4:00	12:30 to 1:00
Trudy Loeding	7:30 to 5:30	7:30 to 11:30	1:00 to 2:00
Sonya Morseau	8:30 to 5:30	8:30 to 3:00	1:00 to 1:30
Julie Rodriguez	8:00 to 5:30	8:00 to 3:00	12:00 to 1:00
Pat Warren	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 5:00	12:00 to 1:00

**EDUCATION: (901 Spruce St. 616-782-0887/1-888-330-1234)**

**8:00-8:30 Mon-Tues, 8:00-5:00 Fri**

	<u>Mon.-Thu.</u>	<u>Fri.</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Frank Barker	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 12:30
John Fox	8:00 to 8:00---Mon, 8:00 to 4:00---Tues-Thurs, 8:00 to 1:30---Fri,		
Lucinda Graverette Smith	8:30 to 5:15	8:30 to 5:15	12:00 to 12:45
John Warren	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 5:00	12:00 to 1:00
Marie Willis	8:15 to 8:30---Mon, 8:15 to 3:00---Tues, 8:15 to 5:00---Wed-Fri		1:00 to 1:45
Robert Willis	9:00 to 8:30—Mon, 12:00 to 8:30—Tue 12:00 to 8:00—Wed., Thu 8:30 to 4:00--Fri		3:00 to 4:00

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: (104 N. Riverside Dr. 616-782-1763)**

**8:00-5:30 Mon-Thu, 8:00-5:00 Fri**

	<u>Mon.-Thu.</u>	<u>Fri.</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
David Alexis	8:00 to 4:30	8:00 to 4:30	12:00 to 12:30
Judy Augusta	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 5:00	1:00 to 2:00
Loraine Gideon	8:30 to 5:15	8:30 to 5:15	12:00 to 12:45
JoEllen Leith	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 12:30
Kevin Daugherty	8:30 to 5:30	8:30 to 5:30	1:00 to 2:00
Tom Morris	8:00 to 4:30	8:00 to 4:30	12:30 to 1:00
Corey Price	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:30 to 1:00

**INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES: (210 S. Front St. 616-782-4141/1-888-440-1234)**

**8:30-5:30 Mon-Thu, 8:30-5:00 Fri**

	<u>Mon.-Thu.</u>	<u>Fri.</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Chris Daugherty	8:15 to 6:00	8:30 to 1:15	11:45 to 12:30
Mark Topash	8:30 to 6:00	8:30 to 12:30	1:00 to 1:30
Rebecca Price	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:30 to 1:00
Kelly Wesaw	8:00 to 4:30	8:00 to 4:30	1:00 to 1:30
Pat Wattles	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 5:00	1:00 to 2:00
Pam Mersereau	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:30 to 1:00
Trish Williams	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 5:00	12:00 to 1:00
Petey Boehm	8:15 to 5:15	8:15 to 5:15	1:00 to 2:00
Larry White	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 5:00	12:00 to 1:00
Kim Falk	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:30	12:30 to 1:00
Susan Beavers	8:15 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	1:30 to 2:15
	<u>Thursday</u>	8:15 to 12:15	
Sue Mesko	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	1:30 to 2:00

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE: (714 N. Front St. 616-782-1142)**

**8:30-5:00 Mon-Fri**

	<u>Mon-Thu</u>	<u>Fri.</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Stephanie Ballew	8:30 to 5:00	8:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 1:00
Jeffrey Riley	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 5:00	12:00 to 1:00
Tina Bargar	8:30 to 3:00	8:30 to 3:00	12:00 to 1:00

**SOCIAL SERVICES: (901 Spruce St. 616-782-8998/1-800-517-0777)**

**7:30-5:45 Mon-Thu, 7:30-1:15 Fri**

	<u>Mon.-Thu.</u>	<u>Fri.</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Linda Mangus	7:30 to 5:30	7:30 to 11:30	1:00 to 2:00
Rechelle Herman	7:30 to 5:00	7:30 to 11:30	1:00 to 1:30
Butch White	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 2:30	12:30 to 1:00
Shannon Hiler	8:15 to 5:45	8:15 to 1:15	12:00 to 12:45
Tracy Wesaw	8:00 to 5:15	8:00 to 12:00	12:30 to 1:00

**COMMODITIES: (54964 M-51 N. 616-782-3372/1-888-281-1111)**

**8:00-5:30 Mon-Thu, 8:00-12:00 Fri**

	<u>Mon.-Thu.</u>	<u>Fri.</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
John Miller	8:00 to 5:30	8:00 to 12:00	12:00 to 12:30
Bobby Linn Jr.	8:00 to 5:30	8:00 to 12:00	12:00 to 12:30

**HOUSING: (901 Spruce St. 616-782-8998/1-800-517-0777)**

**8:30-5:00 Mon-Thu, 8:00-3:00 Fri**

	<u>Mon.-Thu.</u>	<u>Fri.</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Jesse Howell	8:00 to 5:00	8:00 to 3:00	12:00 to 12:30

**POKAGON ELDERS REPORT**

**POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS  
ELDERS COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING  
AUGUST 6, 1998 - 11:00 A.M.**

Meeting called to order by Gerald Wesaw at 11:25 A.M.  
Invocation was given by Clarence White  
Roll Call

Present: Gerald Wesaw, Marge Moody, Clarence White, Mary Jo Morris, Mary Church, Rachel Daugherty

Attendance: 20 Elders  
Additions to agenda: Membership concern - Potawatomi Gathering Fund budget report  
Communications: David Alexis called Gerald to set up another date for land viewing.

Rachel Daugherty moved to approve the agenda of August 6, 1998.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Mary Church moved to approve the minutes of July 2, 1998. Rachel Daugherty seconded the motion. All in favor "aye", opposed 0.

MOTION CARRIED

Mary Church stated that at the last Huron Potawatomi Gathering Committee Meeting, they were going to ask eight (8) Bands for funds to help with the Gathering. She will present this to the Pokagon Band Tribal Council on Saturday, August 8, 1998.

Amended Resolution for MIEA Conference. Resolution #98-023, dated

August 3, 1998, made by Marge Moody, seconded by Rachel Daugherty.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Elders Council approves to amend Resolution #98-021 to read: MIEA Conference in Mt. Pleasant, Mi. July 31 & August 1st. 1998. All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Absent: 1  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Rachel Daugherty asked Membership what issues do we want to put forward at the National Indian Council on Aging, August 22-26th. in North Dakota. Marge

Moody and Rachel are going to represent this group. Economic development is a major problem for us; but it's our problem.

Joe Winchester gave a report on the MIEA Conference, held in Mt. Pleasant, July 31st. & August 1st. Joe reported that Clarence gave his Treasurer's report. Old business was made in reference to current By-Laws. There is some recommended changes to be made to benefit everyone concerned. Nominations were taken for those running for Office next October 6th. & 7th at Sault Ste. Marie. Nominations for Chair were Marge Moody, (declined) and Clinton Pelcher (accepted). Nominations for Secretary were Cecilia Austwapin, (accepted), and Ruth Antone, current Secretary (accepted).

Gerald stated that one of the reasons Marge declined was because by the MIEA By-Laws, only one officer from each Band will sit on the Board. Two Officers from our Band sit on the Board now. We will have a sign-up sheet September 3rd for those who want to go to the MIEA Conference in October.

Mike Wesaw was here to answer questions we had about the checking account set up. There is money in the account. We can write checks for accounts up to \$250.00. We'll have a general fund budget for Elders programs. The accuracy will depend on how quickly we can reconcile the Impressed Account and code that in. At the end of the month; make copies of the check register and code it from there. Could have Trudy Loeding or Patrice Warren meet with us. A credit card will be primarily for traveling; such as airline tickets and hotels. Also items that don't have time to get through check processing.

Frank Person gave the Elders Logo Committee report in Fred Klemm's absence. The committee has four Elder logos. Frank will put them out for everyone to see. The committee doesn't want to make a decision on them yet.

Ann Zimmerman gave her Craft Committee report. Maybe we could make baskets or do beadwork on the same day as our social luncheons. We need a sign-up sheet for this 2 weeks before.

We still have a sign-up sheet for the Huron Potawatomi Gathering. They also need a Veteran head dancer. Numbers to call are: 1-888-662-2309 or 1-616-521-6128. Ask for Helen Hillman.

Petey Boehm is doing exercises on Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-11:00 A.M. at Elders Hall.  
 Gerald stated that we are selling pens for .75 cents.  
 Clarence gave the Membership's fund budget report.  
 Gerald will contact David Alexis on the land viewing; maybe go sometime in September.

**Announcements:**

Second Annual Elders Council & Membership Business Meeting-September 3, 1998, 11:00 A.M. EH

Luncheon volunteers for September - Harry & Ann Zimmerman

Ticket volunteers for September - Marge Moody & Clarence White

Gerald adjourned the meeting at 1:05 P.M.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Strategic Action Plan**

The Community Development Department has begun work on a five year Strategic Action Plan being funded by ANA. The plan must be completed by April 1, 1999. As it pertains to the Pokagon Band and in its simplest form, a strategic action plan is an outline of the people's government, culture, health, and welfare in the past, present, and future. After assessing present conditions, goals will be established for the next five years and a plan to attain those goals will be formulated. For strategic planning to work, the process must be open and receive input and commitment from all groups within the Band such as general membership, elders, youth, cultural leaders, member employees, and governmental bodies such as Tribal Council, Elders Council, Youth Council, and all Pokagon Band Committees.

A Strategic Action Plan Committee (SAPC) must be formed to provide balanced viewpoints, while analyzing survey data and formulating goals and objectives to present to Tribal Council.

The importance of the SAPC cannot be overstated. It must be a body that can work together for the betterment of the Band by creating a living document to establish the Band's direction on specific goals over the next five years. The SAPC will be made up of Pokagon Members from all the groups listed above. The SAPC

members must be committed to attending two meetings a month for the next seven months and must be willing to promote strategic planning to the Pokagon Band Community. The Tribal Council is responsible for approving the membership of the SAPC.

The SAPC will have Co-Chairpersons chosen by the Committee. Thomas Morris will act as Committee Secretary to take meeting minutes and will provide a monthly article for the Band's newsletter along with a monthly report to the Tribal Council and Elders' Council.

Training for Strategic Planning will be attended by JoEllen Leith and Thomas Morris on October- 22 & 23. The information provided at this training will be passed along to the SAPC, Tribal Council, Elders Council, and all members who request it.

Pokagon Band Members wishing to participate in the planning process should contact David Alexis or Thomas Morris in the Community Development Department at (888) 782-1001 and express your interest.



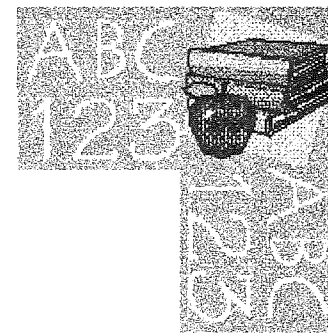
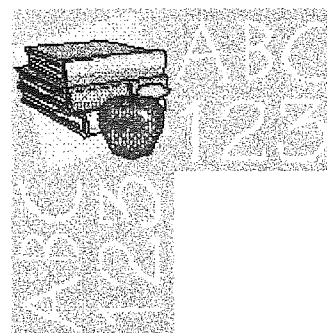
**STAFF NEWS**

The Pokagon Band staff meeting is scheduled for the third Tuesday of every month. The offices will be closed down for the time period. This month we will be out from 3-5 on October 20, 1998.

The tribe has added a new employee in the accounting department. Diane Klapchuk of Dowagiac is the new accounting manager. She is located in the Administration offices.

**GRIEVANCES**

If you have any grievances you would like to present, please send them to Maureen Shagonaby at P.O. Box 180, Dowagiac, MI 49047 or call her at (616) 782-8998 or 800-517-0777.



**EDUCATION REPORT**

**The Results from The Kee Boon Mein Kaa Pow-Wow language Questionnaire**

The results are in! We had 46 questionnaires returned to us at the KeeBoon Mein Kaa (Kiboon Minké) Pow-wow (Nimediwen); 26 of those were completed by Pokagon band members; three by Huron Band members; two Citizen Nation members; two Potawatomi First Nation of Canada members. We also had two Little Traverse Bay Odawa members, two Grand Traverse Band members (Odawa), and eight non-tribal people return a questionnaire. The questions and their responses:

Question	Response		
	Most important	Somewhat important	Not important
1. Language classes for pre-school children.	40	4	0
2. Language classes for school aged children at school, during school hours.	32	9	0
3. Evening classes for adults.	30	6	0
4. Distance learning programs (study at home with text and audiocassettes).	30	10	1
5. Distance learning programs (internet, email and CD-ROM).	26	12	4
6. A newsletter, with contributors from different bands, written in Potawatomi	31	8	2
7. Picture books and computer games.	37	2	0

Tallies for location preference (adult evening classes):

**Dowagiac 23 South Bend 14 Athens 4 Hartford 3 Ann Arbor 2**  
**Anywhere 2 Benton Harbor 2 Kalamazoo 2 Mishawaka 1 Valpo 1**

Some new ideas suggested:

- A better looking language staff
- 'Hooked-on-phonics' in Potawatomi
- Include non-Potawatomi in classes
- A Television station in Neshnabémwen
- Individual tutoring-one on one learning
- Sponsor a spelling bee, an essay contest, and a poetry contest
- Classes at local parks and libraries



The most reoccurring idea was an immersion camp, a place where students can study the language intensely for a sustained period of time.

We also got a note of encouragement:

"This is a great and much needed project. Learning our language helps to make us a true tribe."

We distributed 75 copies of each book, Ngod Gizhget and Giwani Kazho, with its accompanying cassette. In addition to distributing language materials to Pokagon Band membership, we also worked a resource exchange with other Native communities doing the same work. We exchanged information with Isadore Toulouse, an Ojibwé, working with his language in Toronto Canada; George Strack, a Miami working on his language in Oklahoma. And Susan Campbell, Citizens Nation Potawatomi, who teaches a Potawatomi language class in Seattle. With the exception of these individuals, the entire bulk of the material went straight to the membership.

Congratulations to Thomas Morris of North Liberty, our winner of the Language Program basket raffle!

In this month's newsletter, you'll see that we are circulating the questionnaire again. Please take the time to complete it and mail it to us. We need your input! Each completed questionnaire will be collected, and another raffle will take place November 20, 1998 at Elders Hall. The prize is a six-inch German silver broach valued at \$120. You need not be present to win and all entries are due November 19, 1998. Enter early!

*Wéwéne,*

*Frank Barker and John Fox*

### JOM School Supply Reimbursement

The \$25.00 per student reimbursement is not available. To be eligible for the reimbursement the student must be an enrolled JOM participant. Please call or stop into the Education Department for the reimbursement forms, information, or to verify current JOM enrollment status. Education Dept. phone is (616) 782-0887 or toll free 1-888-330-1234.

The Education Committee is looking for new committee members with fresh ideas to join us in planning for future youth & adult Education activities and programs. If interested please attend the next Education Committee meeting, Thursday, October 1. The meeting will be held in the Education Department at 7:00 p.m. Or you may contact Marie Willis in the Education Dept. if you would like to join the committee.

#### FINANCE/PERSONNEL REPAIR & RENOVATION SOCIAL SERVICE/JTPA

P.O. Box 180  
901 Spruce St.  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(616) 782-8998  
1-800-517-0777  
FAX (616) 782-6882  
FAX: (616) 782-6027 (Soc. Services)

#### INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

210 Front St.  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(616) 782-4141  
1-888-440-1234  
FAX (616) 782-8797

#### EDUCATION

P.O. Box 180  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(616) 782-0887  
1-888-330-1234  
FAX (616) 782-0985

#### ENROLLMENT

104 N. Riverside  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(616) 782-1763  
1-888-782-1001  
FAX (616) 782-1964

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE

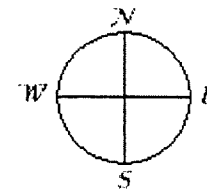
P.O. Box 180  
714 N. Front St.  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(616) 782-1142  
FAX (616) 782-1653

#### FOOD COMMODITY

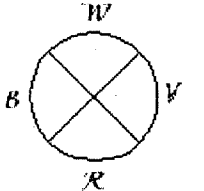
52366 M-51 North  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(616) 782-3372  
1-888-281-1111  
FAX (616) 782-7814

#### ELDERS HALL

P.O. Box 180  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(616) 782-6323  
FAX (616) 782-9625



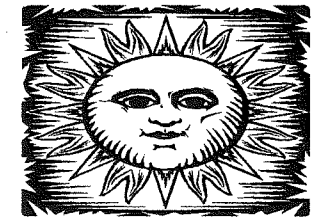
# NESHNABÉMWEN BODEWADMI LANGUAGE



**Bosho wadokwuk, Ni je na? Hello friend, How are you?**



**WISNAK**  
(Eat!)



Bkwézhgen – Bread

Mbéde – Butter

Kapi – Coffee

Ti – Tea

Nonagnabo – Milk

Waskek – Pepper

Ootmin – Oatmeal

Mbankik – Pancake

Wawénon – Eggs

Kokosh (pig) – Bacon

Wishkébegen – sugar

Nwi Kapi – I'm going to make coffee  
Wizhgamket – It's strong!

### V O W E L S O U N D S

**A - Ah**

**É - Eh**

**I - Ee**

**O - Oh**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Joshua Rader-October 7  
 Haley Rader II-October 12  
 Freddy Rader III-October 16  
 Haley Rader-October 31  
 Love you bunches, PaPa Rader

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Lawrence Rader, Sr.  
 60 years young!  
 Love, your family

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sarah "Sally" Ramos  
 October 21  
 Love, your family

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Brittainy Rangel-October 31  
 Corey Rangel-October 9

### CONGRATULATIONS

Taylor Falk on making the 7th grade cheerleading squad at Central Middle School in Dowagiac.

Love, your family

### CONGRATULATIONS

Tamara Piper and Stevie Gillette on the birth of

### Kayley May Gillette

born September 1, 1998  
 7 lbs., 2 oz.

Love, Kim, Brittainy, Corey, Aunt Lee and Taylor

### HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Sean Carmody  
 August 3  
 Love, Grandma Klemm

### HAPPY BELATED 16th BIRTHDAY

Craig Neidlinger  
 Love, Grandma Klemm

### MAKE YOUR VOICE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

At some time, everyone has been unhappy or disagreed with Council, whether it be a decision about policy or the direction of the tribe. Committee involvement is your chance to make a difference in those decisions. Committees often make recommendations to Council.

#### GET INVOLVED, JOIN A COMMITTEE!

These committees are currently looking for members. Personnel, Constitution, Education, and Pow Wow.

Watch the newsletter for future openings.

If you are interested in any of the above committees, please call and leave your name with Kelly Curran.

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

### TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS

PLEASE BE ADVISED TRIBAL COUNCIL PASSED A RESOLUTION STATING THERE WILL NOT BE A FEE CHARGED FOR LEGAL NAME CHANGES, OR STOLEN, WITH PROOF OF POLICE REPORT. ALL OTHER INSTANCES A CHARGE OF \$5.00 WILL BE LEVIED, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 8, 1998.

### OCTOBER 20, 1998 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.

# OCTOBER Birthdays

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4 Skylar Herman	5 Kris Genereaux	6 Justin and Matthew Mersereau	7 Joshua Rader	8	9 Corey Rangel	10 India Wesaw
11	12 Haley Rader II	13 Gary Beavers Lawrence Rader, Sr.	14 Karen Daisy	15 Amanda Galvan	16 Freddy Rader III	17 Tyler Deuel
18	19	20	21 Sally Ramos	22 Adela Galvan	23	24
25	26 Bonnie Drake	27	28	29	30 Jeanne Mollett	31 Brittainy Rangel Haley Rader