

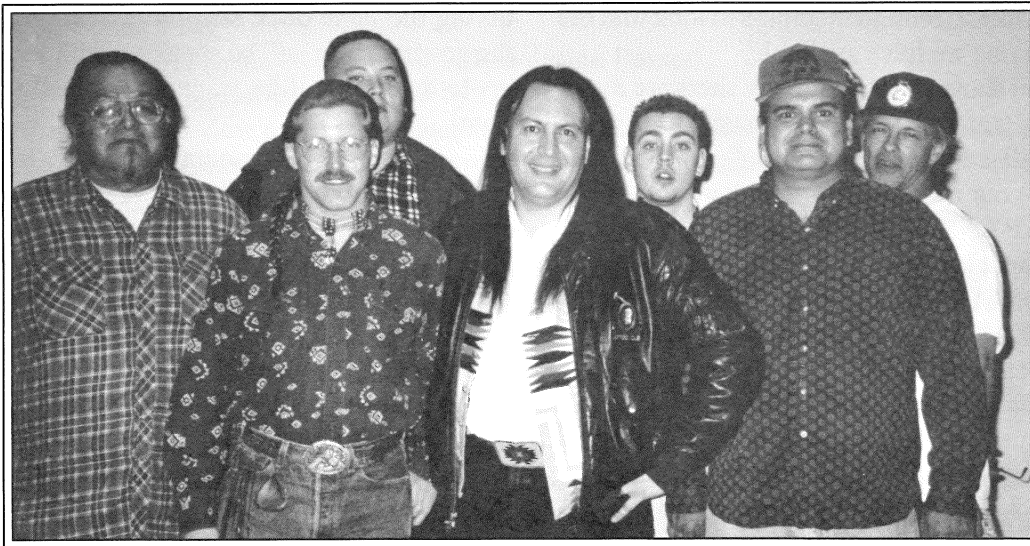
POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

"The Pokagons Tell It"



Vol. I, No. IIII

December, 1996



WHITE THUNDER OPENS FOR BILL MILLER

The White Thunder Singers opened for Bill Miller, a Native American singer on Saturday, November 23, 1996 at Western Michigan University. Sam Bush introduced the drum, giving a brief description of each song before it was played.

The drum played four songs with far reaching ranges. The songs included a traditional song, a two-step, a sneak-up and a honor song.

The president of WMU's Native American Student Organization introduced Bill Miller. Miller then went on to display his wide range of talents. His combination of flute, guitar and haunting vocals entertained the crowd of more than 150 people.

Miller also told stories of places he has visited, and the turbulent childhood he experienced, explaining how those events shape his music. Through the use of the flute, he wove stories of nature and man through both story and song.

Miller played several songs from his recent release **Raven in the Snow**.



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Boozhoo, Neshnabek,

The winter season is almost upon us again. This is the time of year that the Creator has set aside for the resting of Mother Earth. For Pokagons, it is a time of short days, cold weather and holidays. It is a perfect time to do beadwork and to work on new dance regalia. It's a good time to make periodic checks on and visits to our Elders. We younger ones can certainly find the time to shovel their walks and fill their bird feeders. They may also need us to run errands on the cold, icy, snowy days. I hope that the winter will not be extremely harsh on anyone.

I would like to remind members to look into the following programs we have available.

IHS: Flu shots and pneumovax shots are available to help keep you healthy. Also, contact Lois Wesaw, Benefits Specialist for authorization of payment **BEFORE** each of your health care appointments.

LIHEAP ENERGY ASSISTANCE: Applications for assistance are available from the Commodities site. Loraine Gideon is the contact person.

CAR SEATS: Applications are available at the commodities site.

COMMODITY FOODS: Stop by the site for guideline information. The program recently purchased a truck for use in tailgating (distribution) to other tribes.

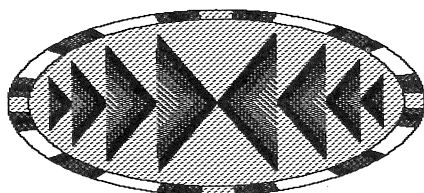
SUBSTANCE ABUSE: Fund raiser—Saturday, December 7 at PINI and Sunday, December 8, at the Sacred Heart Church. Help support this program!

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Elders Council, Clarence White, Treasurer and Marge Moody, Vice-Chairman.

NOTE: The Tribal Council will **NOT** hold its usual Thursday meeting in December, since it would fall on the day after Christmas.

I would like to wish all of our members and families "Happy Holidays!"

*Waa waa nuh,
Bob Moody*



GAMING REPORT

Michigan-

As anticipated, there has been some movement toward the possibility of the Pokagon Band obtaining compact approval during the lame duck session of the Michigan legislature. This was primarily as a result of proposal E, whereby casinos are allowed in Detroit, passing in the November 5 election. However, it seems there are still a few hurdles in our path before our compact will be acted upon.

We are actively trying to gain the governor's support for our compact. We feel this is important since the Republicans still control the legislature. A proposal whereby we would continue to pay the state's revenue sharing portion in the event our compact is approved during the lame duck session is being discussed with the governor. He will be speaking with legislative leaders to determine if he wants to proceed with this proposal.

Lastly, the Democratic caucus which halted our compact approval last spring because of the Detroit casino issue, seems willing to support us this time around. However, they want to make sure the governor is not going to hold up the Detroit casino process before they act upon our compact. Unfortunately, we continue to be caught up in the Michigan politics. We will be trying to pull out all the stops to gain approval for our compacts. Our appeal to the legislative leaders who will listen is one of fairness to the Pokagon Band and its membership. Hopefully, our appeal will be heard.

On the federal side, we anticipate the Secretary of the Interior will make an announcement on the procedures he will follow to prescribe compacts before the end of the year. While we were in Washington DC, we discussed the current issues surrounding our compact and let the Secretary's staff know we feel our compact would be a good test case.

Indiana-

We have located a community in northern Indiana which supports our proposed project. We are awaiting the results of an environmental review before proceeding publicly with the project. We hope to have an announcement prior to the end of the year if not sooner.

We have much to do in the state of Indiana as it relates to educating communities, presenting our project to various legislators and beginning compact discussions with representatives with the governor's office. To as

cont. on pg. 10

COUNCIL MEETING RESOLUTIONS

NOVEMBER 9th COUNCIL MEETING

Tribal Council Meeting- -Saturday, November 9, 1996

Present: Robert Moody, Jr., Dan Rapp, Tom Morris, Mike Wesaw, Greg Ballew, Kevin Daugherty, Barbara Ann Warren, Sam Wesaw, Wayne Holleman, Maxine Margiotta,

Absent: Julie Stauffer (excused)

We are including the resolutions for the meeting in this edition. Because all the resolutions begin NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:, the resolution will only contain the body of the resolution, instead of starting each with that sentence. Also the resolutions are numbered. If they do not appear, it is because they were tabled.

Resolution 2: Made by Greg Ballew, seconded by Kevin Daugherty:

The personnel committee of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians shall solely meet at PINI Hall at 6:00 p.m. on the First and Third Tuesday of each month.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstained 0; Absent 1; **Resolution Passed**

Resolution 3: Made by Greg Ballew, seconded by Kevin Daugherty:

The Tribal Council authorizes adding the Personnel Director as a member of the Interview Team as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

All in favor 8; Opposed 0; Abstained 2; Absent 1; **Resolution Passed**

Resolution 5: Made by Greg Ballew, seconded by Dan Rapp:

Tribal Council appoints a review panel to conduct the evaluation of Maureen Shagonaby, Public Relations Director. The Panel consists of Robert J. Moody, Chairman; Mike Wesaw, Finance Director; and Tom Morris, Personnel Committee representative, also with input from the Tribal Council members.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1; **Resolution Passed**

Resolution 6: Made by Mike Wesaw, seconded by Barbara Ann Warren

The Tribal Council authorizes Richard Klemm and Marchell Wesaw to send a survey to the General Membership to ascertain what each member's interest may be in serving on an Indian Child Welfare Board. The goal of this survey will be to have a pool of interested members from the entire service delivery area that will later be interviewed and selected to serve on the future Indian Child Welfare Board.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1; **Resolution Passed**

Resolution 7: Made by Kevin Daugherty, seconded by Mike Wesaw

The Tribal Council authorizes the Commodity Food Program staff to handle the Notre Dame food basket distributions.

All in favor: 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1; **Resolution Passed**

Resolution 8: Made by Sam Wesaw, seconded by Greg Ballew

The Tribal Council appoints Gerald Wesaw, Sr. To the Health Board to serve out the remainder of the unexpired term vacated by Dawn Grabowski which ends in May 1998.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1; **Resolution Passed**

Resolution 9: Made by Wayne Holleman, seconded by Kevin Daugherty

The Tribal Council authorizes Loretta Yount, who is no longer an employee of the Health Office, be allowed to succeed herself and continue to serve out the remainder of her term which expires May, 1997.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1; **Resolution Passed**

Resolution 10: Made by Greg Ballew, seconded by Kevin Daugherty

That the Tribal Council send a letter to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors regarding the minor children of a Pokagon Band member, who are still members of the Sault tribe, asking what the Board of Director's intentions are.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1; **Resolution Passed**

Resolution 11: Made by Wayne Holleman, seconded by Kevin Daugherty

CONT. ON PG. 10

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The elections are over, but the sorting out is just beginning. In Michigan, the Democrats have taken back the House by a 58-52 margin. The two-year impact potential is still up for debate. The quick answer; the citizens of the state will be better served, due to the return of a checks and balance system. The Governor doesn't control both sides of the aisle, as of January 1, 1997. His Republican agenda will now have to pass the scrutiny of the House Democrats.

The Democrats have chosen their new leadership; Curtis Hertel will be the new Speaker of the House, with Pat Gagliardi the Majority Floor Leader. The Democrat's agenda has not been made public as of this time, but it is safe to say, Proposal E and its implementation is a high priority. Without assurances from the Governor that he will not stand in the way of "E" taking effect, the Democrats are not going to be supportive of the Compact Resolutions for the three tribes.

There has been a flurry of activity at the Capitol regarding posturing for the purposes of bringing the resolutions back to the floor, and lining up the support needed for their passage. Unfortunately, with all of the "politics" going on, I'm not sure if anyone can get a true read on what is going to happen.

It is my understanding the Democrats have hired a law firm to research just what Proposal E allows, and what tactics the Governor can use to delay its implementation if he chooses.

The passage of "E" has created several new opportunists for the expansion of gaming. We will see renewed attempts by the Harness Horsemen's Association, Licensed Beverage Association, and some of the state's larger cities are going to be watching closely and planning their strategies for further expansion of gaming in the state.

The impact of Proposal E on the three tribes is still a question. One that we hope will be answered soon. The Legislature will adjourn for the year after the second week in December, providing they have finished the Republican agenda. If the Resolutions have not been acted upon by then, they are dead for this session. They will have to start from the beginning if they are to pass the Legislature.

I hope you all have a very safe and happy holiday season, see you at the meeting.



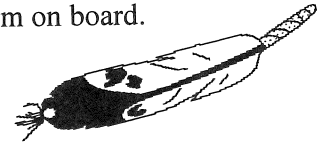
*Matt Wesaw
Legislative Chairman*

HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Housing Authority has begun the first steps of the HUD Grant. To begin that process we must first meet the requirements, and the Authority is studying the best way to do that. The Authority is working on the budget, and trying to establish the guidelines of the grant.

Jeff Ballew was sworn in by Tom Morris as a commissioner of the Housing Authority. The Authority would like to welcome him on board.

*Baa Mah Pee,
Marj Reno, Chairperson*



Marjorie Reno
(616) 375-2342
Kalamazoo area
Wayne Holleman
(219) 232-9226
South Bend area

Yvonne (Petey) Boehm
(616) 925-5888
Benton Harbor area
Bonnie White
(616) 468-8813
Coloma area

CONSTITUTION UPDATE

The Constitution is nearing its final approval by Tribal Council. This draft will be sent to the Department of the Interior upon Council's approval. The Secretary of the Interior will then review the draft and conduct a ratification election of the Band membership within the next six months.

Council and the Constitution Committee conducted a pair of workshops to review the draft on October 27 and November 3. The meetings were well attended by the membership, and both Council and the membership diligently worked through the document. They also offered pertinent comments.

Mr. Mike Petoskey, an attorney and a tribal judge for Grand Traverse, provided his review of the draft at these two meetings. He made some recommen-

COMMITTEE REPORTS

dations, which Council agreed with, primarily to increase the separation of powers of the branches of government and to strengthen the mandate for policies and procedures to guide Council actions.

The Constitution Committee revised the draft based on Council's recommendations, and presented the draft with the new changes to Council at the November 21 Tribal Council meeting. Council members will review the new draft, making any final comments to the Constitution Committee, and will be prepared to vote on the document at the December 14 Tribal Council meeting.

A COMMENT FROM THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

The Constitution Committee wishes to thank all who attended the Tribal Council Constitution workshops on October 27 and November 3. It requires a lot of diligence and a hard rear end to review a document for seven hours at a stretch.

The Tribal Council took on its responsibility and made the effort to understand the full scope of the document they will submit to the Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. Mike Petoskey devoted several long drives and three weekends to give a valuable outsider's view of our draft. He also brought a welcome sense of humor.

The meetings were also well attended by concerned members. Like all Pokagon events, there were many opinions and plenty of emotion, but all in attendance showed a genuine concern and a respect for the future of the community. Thanks to all for their patience and attention during the meetings.

Most importantly we would like to thank Goldie Mangus and Rusty Greene for some very good and very welcome lunches. More than anything else, a good Pokagon gathering requires good food. Waawaana!

*Kevin Daugherty and Marchell Wesaw,
Constitution Committee Co-Chairs*

LANGUAGE CORNER

The language Class was asked to come up with some words last month for a pair of monuments. Two separate groups were putting up Peace Poles, which are cedar poles with inscriptions intended to foster peace and harmony among all people.

One group was the St. Joseph County, IN United Nations Alliance, which erected a pole at Potawatomi Park in South Bend. They asked for a Potawatomi translation of "Let peace prevail on Earth." The second group was the Berrien County Stop-the-Violence Coalition. The phrase they wanted for their pole was "Let peace prevail in our homes and communities." Their pole went up at the Niles train depot.

These phrases turned out to be pretty tough to translate. As Martin Wesaw, one of the elders in the class said, "The Potawatomi liked the way the world was. They didn't need a word for 'peace'." Indian warfare in the old times was mainly a test of manhood, not intended to wipe out and destroy whole groups of people.

Martin and Viola Graverette discussed the phrases with the class and came up with some appropriate language. I'll spell them out formally and phonetically below.

Nojma cho migadisig zhode jig.

Nojmah cho meegahdeeseeg zho-dah keeg.

Let there be peace on Earth.

Literally, this translates as "Let there be no fighting here on Earth."

Nojma jag gégo gdokmeshen édjedéyag.

Nojmah jog gaago gdoke-mushun aadjuhdaayahg.

Let all be peaceful where we live.

Literally, this translates as "Let all be calm and quiet in our homes."

These are a couple of phrases that are often asked to get translated by Band members, particularly around Christmas time. Waawaana to Martin and Viola for the chance to get this out to everyone in the newsletter. Waawaana also to Laura Welcher for help with the formal spelling.

Kevin Daugherty

POKAGON HEALTH NEWS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE POKAGON BAND HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Equipment to Loan

From time to time medical equipment is donated to this office. In turn, this equipment is available for loan to the Pokagon Band Health Services clients. We have received a few walkers, commodes, various os-tomy supplies, hospital beds and more. Call our office 782-4141 or (888) 440-1234, if you are in need of these items.

Contract Health Services

Contract Health Services (CHS) can be used to help pay for health care services for eligible tribal members. Health care services which can be covered are: doctor's visits, inpatient hospital stays, dental care, pre-scriptions, optical needs and emergency life and limb-saving procedures. This is not an entitlement program and must operate within a fixed yearly budget-some restrictions do apply.

To receive CHS benefits, you must have prior CHS authorization from this office for each health care appointment or service for which you want to have CHS coverage. To do this, you must speak to Lois Wesaw, Health Office Benefits Specialist, before you go to your scheduled appointments. You can contact Lois in person or by phone. Our offices are at 210 S. Front St. in Dowagiac, Michigan. Our phone numbers are (616) 782-4141 or (888) 440-1234. If you do not seek prior authorization, you are at risk of jeopardizing your CHS eligibility.

Two Brands of Glucometers for In-home Blood Sugar Testing

We have two brands of glucometers on hand for our Diabetic clients. We can distribute these free of charge to those who need to monitor their blood sugar levels routinely and frequently. In our offices are the Bayer Corporation's Ames Encore and Boehringer Mannheim Corporation's Accu-Check Advantage. We are able to purchase the test strips at a discount and can pass these savings on to you.

To receive a glucometer and instructions, contact Mark Topash, RN at (616) 782-4141 or (888) 440-1234. He is available to supplement your Diabetic teaching and can help you track your Blood Sugar test result

trends.

Outreach Workers to receive Indian Health Service Training in South Dakota

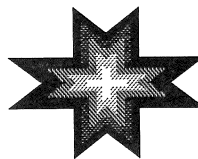
Petey Boehm and Trish Williams have successfully completed their two weeks of Community Health Representative (CHR) home study. CHR's are Indian Health Service program outreach employees. They are an important part of our health system, their purpose is to help to reduce barriers to care. If eligible CHR's can undergo health care training so that they are generally prepared to augment individual health education needs, perform limited assessments, monitor vital signs to report to Nursing and advocate for our population through the health care delivery system.

In December, Petey and Trish will be in Rapid City South Dakota to complete their last 40 hours of training. They have prepared diligently, we know they will do fine.

Flu Vaccine Available

Influenza immunizations will be ongoing throughout December until we run out of the vaccine we have on-hand. Call any Health Office Staff person for details.

Chris Daugherty



SUBSTANCE ABUSE RECOVERY NEWS

AA Meeting Change

The Friday night AA meeting at Sacred Heart Church in Dowagiac has been changed. The meeting is now being held on Wednesday night from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. This is a Big Book Study Group so be sure and bring your Big Book and come join us!

Alateen Meetings

Alateen meetings are now being held on Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart

POKAGON HEALTH NEWS

Church. These meetings are for those teens whose lives have been affected by other's drinking.

Native American Crafts

On Saturday, December 7, 1996 there will be a craft sale. Members of the Substance Abuse Task Force, recovery group members and other volunteers have been busy making items to sell. There are a limited number of booths for rent at \$15.00. A light lunch can be purchased. All proceeds will go for the halfway house.

Bake Sale

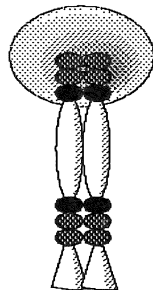
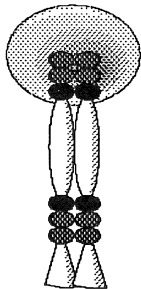
On Sunday, December 8, 1996 there will be a bake sale for all Masses at Sacred Heart Church. Any remaining craft items will be sold at this time. All proceeds will go for the halfway house.

Bill Miller Concert

On Saturday evening, November 23, 1996 all those individuals involved with the substance abuse programs will be traveling via the GSA van to Kalamazoo to attend the Bill Miller concert. White Thunder will play the introduction.

Adult Children of Alcoholics Workshop

On Monday evening, December 9, 1996 at 6:30 p.m. at PINI Hall, the Adult Children of Alcoholics will be held. The workshop will be repeated on Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. for those unable to attend in the evening. The workshop will last two hours. As children growing up in alcoholic homes, we develop certain survival skills. These same skills cause us havoc and strained relationships as adults. These dynamics carry over from generation to generation. Challenge yourself to discover what these troublesome behaviors are and how to change them.



***** ATTENTION*****

S.S.I. RECIPIENTS

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

AA MEETINGS

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

TRADITIONAL HEALING and ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE INTEREST INQUIRY

Community members have begun to inquire about including traditional healing as part of the Pokagon Band Health Services. Other Indian Health Service programs have found ways to make some of these practices and practitioners for their interested clients.

If our community values this as worthwhile, we could do so as well.

Call our office to express your interests, curiosity, suggestions, concerns, fears or resources on this matter. We need to hear from you on this topic.

POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ISSUES: Marchell Wesaw and I will be sending out information and an application to members to find out who may be interested in serving on a new Indian Child Welfare Committee. This committee, which will oversee cases involving Indian children who are at risk for being placed in a non-Indian home, may evolve to a Children's Court. As a court, we will be able to exercise our jurisdictional rights to have cases currently being handled in State court moved to our court. As we receive applications for this committee, we will also be developing policies and procedures, as well as a Juvenile Code under which this committee will operate. We are waiting to hear if we have been awarded another ANA grant, some of which will be used to train committee members after the selection process is complete. In the meantime, I continue to communicate and meet with area FIA offices and MICWA staff to make sure we are notified of cases involving the Tribe's children.

COMMODITY FOOD PROGRAM: We are now serving over 80 households, which is over 200 people with this program. On November 18th, Candace Brumley and Bobby Linn took food to families in the Little River Tribe in the new Pokagon Band Commodities truck for the first time. They were able to serve 10 families during that tailgate trip. Delivery to the Huron tribe is still being scheduled. We are waiting for them to forward their applications to us. If you have any questions or concerns about the Commodity Program, contact Candace Brumley at the C.F.P. warehouse at (616) 782-3372 or toll free at (888) 281-1111.

EMERGENCY FUND: The Elder's Emergency Fund Committee is requesting that all applications be voted on every two weeks at their regular meetings. Trying to process these applications over the phone has been very difficult. They ask that members submit applications as early as possible so the office staff has time to look into other resources available. This way, the committee can also review the applications at the regular meeting. Some issues, such as a fire, obviously can't wait. But, in other emergencies, such as evictions and lights being cut off, you are given enough notice and time to correct the situ-

POKAGON BAND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Aneen,

Adel Easterday, ndiznacaus (is my name). I am the new Education Director for your Band. Eighteen years of experience teaching American Indian History and Culture comes with me to Dowagiac from Sault Ste. Marie.

You have a strong Education Committee working for you here, and they have already set an exciting agenda for us!

- We have revised and standardized the Pokagon Scholarship Program.
- Tutoring/Homework Lab is available to our students in Dowagiac and the South Bend area. (The highest concentration of our students are in these areas.)
- History and Culture classes begin for you (in several locations, to be determined from your survey responses) beginning in January.
- If you are 18 or older and have difficulties with reading or multiplication tables, be sure to come to the history/culture classes as we plan to form a coffee clutch group to practice these skills, laugh, joke and have fun as we prepare to get ready for a practice GED session.
- After establishing a close working relationship with the school districts in our 10 county service area, I expect to be invited to assist in the revision of the Social Studies curriculum.
- There is a moratorium on Tribal Schools for the next three years. That will give us time to gather data and see if this is a direction that Pokagon members want to go.
- Research tells us that Native students involved in Pre-School/Headstart Programs do not wind up in compensatory education programs. Certainly one of our goals is for the establishment of a solid pre-school program.

ELDERS! I need your help. If you can share with me stories of local history, the history of your family, or any of your traditional language, let's get together!

If you have other thoughts, issues or ideas involving education, please call me at (616) 782-8998 or 1-800-517-0777. I am looking forward to serving you!

December 1996

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1						7 10:00am-PINI Sub. Abuse Craft Show
8 SUB. ABUSE TASK FORCE "BAKE SALE" SACRED HEART	9 6:30pm-PINI Sub. Abuse Workshop	10 1:00pm-PINI Sub. Abuse Workshop	11 7:30pm-Enroll. Ofc. FOCUSING AUTH. 7:00pm-PINI LANGUAGE 7:30-8:30pm-Sacred Heart AA Mtg.	12 7:00pm-ENROLL SUB. ABUSE CLASS 5:30-6:30pm-Sacred Heart-Alateen	13 6:00pm-ADMIN FINANCE COMM.	14 10:00am-PINI COUNCIL MTG. "POT LUCK"
15 1:00pm-PINI CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY	16 6:00pm-ADMIN. EDUCATION COM. MTG.	17 6:00pm-PINI Personnel Comm.	18 5:30pm-Enroll. Ofc. Enrollment Comm. 7:30-8:30pm-Sacred Heart-AA Mtg.	19 12:00pm-PINI ELDERS LUNCH 7:00pm-ENROLL SUB. ABUSE CLASS 5:30-6:30pm-Sacred Heart	20	21
22	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24 CHRISTMAS EVE OFFICE CLOSED	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 7:00pm-ENROLL SUB. ABUSE CLASS 5:30-6:30pm-Sacred Heart-Alateen	27	28
29	30 NEW YEARS EVE OFFICE CLOSED	31 NEW YEARS EVE OFFICE CLOSED				

POKAGON HUMAN SERVICES

Finally in **Scholarship News** the new Scholarship forms arrive at the Tribal Administrative Center, 714 N. Front St., Dowagiac on November 18, 1996. These forms will simplify the process for you and your school institute. Standardized guidelines are now in place. If you applied before, got frustrated, gave up! Now is the time to apply again!

THE ANNUAL POKAGON CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th

1:00 p.m.

PINI HALL

COME SEE SANTA CLAUS

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The Energy Assistance Program is Under Way!!
We finally received the applications to begin the Low Income Energy Assistance Program. We will be serving households with income not greater than the current 60% of the state median income guidelines. The energy assistance benefits will range from \$220-\$350 depending on the fuel type and household size.

We will be using the following LIEAP Income Guidelines:

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$16,019
2	20,948
3	25,876
4	30,805
5	35,734
6	40,663
7	45,592
8	50,521
9	55,450
10	60,379
11	65,308
12	70,237

Eligibility Requirements:

Use either of the following methods to prove income, use the one that benefits the family the most.

Proof of income for the past 30 days with check stubs

(or)

1995 Income Tax Return (1040 and schedules, etc.)

Bring your heating **VENDOR'S** name and address

If you qualify, your application will be forwarded to Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan in Sault Ste. Marie, where a two party check made payable to you and your heating vendor will be generated. When you receive the check, sign the check and submit it to your vendor.

If you have any questions, want to request an application or would like to come in and fill out an application, you may contact:

Lorraine Gideon, Enrollment Office **782-0887** or Toll Free **1-888-330-1234**

Shannon Hiler, Admin. Office **782-8998** or Toll Free **1-800-517-0777**

Becky Drake, Finance Dept. **782-7028** or Toll Free **1-888-990-1234**

These guidelines are very generous, and the application is easy to complete, everyone should apply as soon as possible!!

DECEMBER 18, 1996 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please submit the newsletter articles to

Maureen Shagonaby

104 N. Riverside Dr.

Dowagiac, MI 49047

FAX (616) 782-4573

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

Tribal Council authorizes the Chairman and the Michigan negotiation team to proceed with negotiations in the short session regarding the compact.

All in favor 8; Opposed 1; Abstain 1; Absent 1;

Resolution Passed

Resolution 12: Made by Wayne Holleman, seconded by Kevin Daugherty

The Tribal Council authorizes the Tribal Chairman and the Michigan Legislative committee to include the 8% revenue sharing to the State if required to prevent a deal breaker.

All in favor 7; Opposed 2; Abstain 1; Absent 1;

Resolution Passed

Resolution 13: Made by Kevin Daugherty, seconded by Dan Rapp

The Tribal Council reinstates the Michigan Negotiating team which consists of Mike Wesaw, Matt Wesaw, Bob Moody and Rob Gips.

Amend also to include Marchell Wesaw.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1;

Resolution Passed

Resolution 14: Made by Greg Ballew, seconded by Wayne Holleman

The Tribal Council authorizes a letter be sent to Steve Winchester thanking him for his services and asking for the return of keys and election material.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1;

Resolution Passed

Resolution 15: Made by Kevin Daugherty, seconded by Greg Ballew

The Tribal Council approves the Executive Council decision on Work Order #2 from Epsy, Huston & Associates.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1;

Resolution Passed

Resolution 16: Made by Dan Rapp, seconded by Maxine Margiotta

The Tribal Council authorizes Bob Moody, Mike Wesaw, Kevin Daugherty, and Ernie Daisy to go to Washington D.C. on 11/12 for meeting with the Department of the Interior regarding land in trust issues.

All in favor 9; Opposed 0; Abstain 1; Absent 1;

Resolution Passed

If you would like to have a full copy of the minutes, please call Rusty Green at the Finance Office. The number is (616) 782-7028 or (888) 990-1234.

cont. from pg. 3

sist our efforts, we are in need of volunteers from Band members who reside in Indiana to speak with legislators. We will have a few training sessions so everyone can be brought up to date on the issues and feel comfortable speaking with the legislators. Please call me at my office if you are interested.

*Mike Wesaw
Finance Director*

FINANCE INFORMATION

Revenue and Expense Summary
for month ending 10/31/96

Revenue:	
Gaming stipend	\$75,000.00
BIA Indirect costs	264,822.00
IHS Sanitation	21,154.56
JTPA	140,824.00
USDA Commodity Reimbursement	13,278.00
Miscellaneous Refunds	2,671.00
Interest	<u>7,892.69</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	525,642.25
PROGRAM EXPENSES:	
Injury Prevention	\$ 2,025.00
Elders Stipend	7,773.86
Emergency Fund	7,184.84
Scholarship Program	8,250.00
Other	(42.00)
Indian Health Services	34,045.75
Contract Health Services	6,132.15
Opening Doors	1,251.74
Substance Abuse	1,265.66
ANA	5,859.46
JTPA	19,565.52
JOM	6,615.43
USDA	8,063.13
USDA-Nutrition	2,644.65
Renovation & Repair	5,906.42
Cultural Activities	25.20
Education	3,515.20
Elders Programs	819.99
Housing Authority	55.20
Communications	<u>1,421.98</u>
	\$122,379.18
Administrative & Council	136,337.14
Total Expenses	258,716.32
Revenues over Expenses	266,925.93

*Submitted by Mike Wesaw,
Treasurer*

TO THE MEMBERS:

There are many things which have happened to us Native Americans that have caused us many hardships. Assimilation, Indian removal policy, loss of religion and boarding schools all of which have taken a toll on us as a people. There is another issue that we have had to deal with as a people. There is another issue we have had to deal with as a people and that is oppression.

There are two types of oppression, internal and external. First, let's take a look at internal oppression. Internalized oppression has touched all Native People. It consists of turning upon ourselves, our families and our own people. Internalized oppression leads us to accept a narrow and limited view of what is authentic Indian culture and behavior.

We have been ridiculed, humiliated, attacked and isolated because we excelled in school, because we did or did not speak our language, because we liked different music, because we do or do not pow wow, or because we are or are not Indian enough.

Educated Natives have not always been able to come back to their communities, because it was perceived that they excelled beyond the group. In real Native societies, the community advances together. We don't leave anybody behind. Internalized oppression has caused us, Native peoples from realizing our own dreams, our talents, and our self determination. In fact, it has been the major cause of every native effort to fail.

Another form of oppression is external. External oppression causes us from expressing individual freedom and self-determination.

Governmental practices and policies, the suppression of our languages and religions are but a few examples of native oppression that are both historical and contemporary. There is no doubt that each one of us has been hurt by the impact of oppression in American society. We have been taught by the oppressor, and sadly, in many cases have become him. By this I mean we look up to the wrong models.

We have to begin to work from traditional models so our schools, businesses and governments are not run by Robert's Rules of Order, but by our own traditional ways of doing business. We have to get back to what is ours. Sometimes the models we've been forced to use or use because we forgot our own, oppress us.

We take on mainstream ideals like breathing the air around us. We do not see them, like fish not seeing the water in which they swim. Our institutions, our businesses, our organization charts and other ways of relating are pretty much Western. That's where it falls apart for us, not only us, but to those who've conceived them.

We have to figure out new ways which in reality should be the old ways. To start with, we need to use talking circles and consensus decision-making so that everyone can and should be heard!

What are the healthy and productive ways for disagreeing with each other? Can we get to the other side of our many tough issues without defaming and destroying each other? Collective thinking and acts for the common good must always be our goal in working together as a community. Traditional ways and cultural values are what will help us as a nation. The role of ceremony, caring and celebration builds a community. We need acts of kindness, we need to lighten up and embrace each other in a world full of conflicts. It's not easy to change the course of a river, but with a nation working together, it can be done.

We have a very important task in front of us and the participation of every member is essential, if we are going to ratify a constitution for the people. Remember the Constitution are the rules in which our nation governs itself and its inhabitants. What we put in our constitution affects the past, present and the future of our well-being. Everything put forth should deal primarily with Pokagons first, above any and all things.

One of the unique qualities of being a native is that we feel with our hearts. So each and every article should be felt from within. As in business, a mission statement or preamble exemplifies the goals of said business. Everything we put in the Constitution is you, the people, voice and power of our nation and those to follow. So listen and decide wisely for it is all of our futures that are at stake! Aho!

Donald James Summers

NEWS FROM THE ELDERS

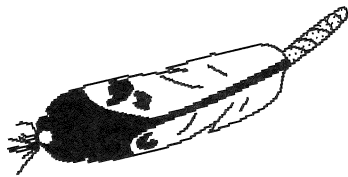
ELDERS MINUTES

The Elders held elections for the vice-chairperson and treasurer. Marge Moody is the vice-chairperson and Clarence White is the new treasurer. The elders will hold the Elders Council business meeting the first Thursday of each month, and the social luncheon will be held on the third Thursday of the month.

Marchell Wesaw handed out copies of an ordinance draft for the Elders Council membership to review. Marchell told the Elders the Tribal Laws will come through Council, but the Elders will set up their own by-laws.

Lois Wesaw handed out brochures and explained health service benefits. She will contact doctors, help with co-insurance prescriptions, insulin, needles and test strips. Please call Lois seven days before medication runs out.

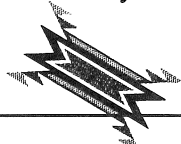
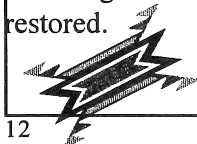
Gerald Wesaw stated the opening of personal and private mail is resolved. The Thanksgiving luncheon will be held November 21, 1996 at 11:00 a.m.



*Mary Jo Morris
Secretary*

We wish to give a big Thank You to J.A. Food Service and Jackie Ableath for donating the banquet style luncheon on November 7th to the Elders. Thank you to Paul and Vivian Jackson for donating a handcrafted potpurri holder. Also thanks to Georgia Davidson for her medicine wheel. Those gifts were given away for bingo prizes.

The bingo game was interrupted for a short period of time when the lights went out. A truck was passing by and pulled the wires down from the front of the building. The wires ended up in the middle of the parking lot. Our Elders continued to play bingo by candlelight to the very end. The lights were finally restored.



CRITICAL ISSUES

Twelve Pokagon Elders attended a meeting in Traverse City on November 8, 1996. The Pokagon members were asked to participate in gathering information that would support Elders ideas and concerns.

I have heard our Elders came away from the meeting with good feelings. However, the trip back was a little rough. The Elders had to ride back in what turned out to be our first real snowfall.

The next Critical Issues Conference will be held April 10, 11, and 12, 1997 at Boyne Highlands, Harbor Springs, MI.

THE ELDER'S COUNCIL

Chairman

Gerald Wesaw
66421 C.R. 376
Bangor, MI 49013
(616) 621-3357

Treasurer

Clarence White
54841 Ellsworth Rd.
South Bend, IN 46628
(219) 232-4050

Vice-Chair

Marge Moody
18125 Brightlinsea Pl.
South Bend, IN 46637
(219) 271-9736

Representative

Mary Church
2970 138th
Dorr, MI 49323
(616) 896-9364

Secretary

Mary Jo Morris
2416 Milburn Blvd.
Mishawaka, IN 46544
(219) 257-9621

Alternate

Rae Daugerty
95811 Wildwood Dr.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 424-5650

**HAPPY 87TH
BIRTHDAY
JULIA LENTZ**

Love,
your family

My name is William Augusta, and I am a full blood Pokagon Potawatomi.

This Constitution is not o.k. as it is. There is nothing in it for the Indians, only ways of replacing the Indian blood. There is no incentive for being an Indian. Very few Indian descendants with a little Indian blood seem to think as long as I am a descendant, why mess around with an Indian. I'll get what they have anyway.

There are no jobs for an Indian because the job standards are too high. I thought this place was for the blooded Indians. Why isn't a qualified person for a few months to teach Indian applicants these positions?

Indian descendants with no blood should not be qualified for cash payments. I also don't think any blood quantum Indian should be entitled to any cash payments until their 19th birthday. Maybe they could be permitted to receive medical, dental, eye glasses, hearing aids and school tuition, but that's it. I don't think anybody should be allowed to vote unless they are 1/4 blood and above. This place is supposed to be run by the Indians.

I don't think the Pokagons should be messing with H.U.D. This is a federal program, and anybody could live in these housing units. I thought getting a reservation meant the Indians would have a place of their own.

I don't think the Council should have complete authority making decisions. Major decisions no, such as buying or selling land or buildings or spending large amounts of money per month. The Council has already proven they can't make good decisions, by letting people who deliberately hurt the Pokagons to go free.

A reservation five miles north of Dowagiac, Michigan is where the Pokagon Potawatomis settled. There are historical sites there. Rush Lake is just northwest of Hartford, and that is where another part of the Pokagons also moved. So why aren't these places put at the top of the list.

I think full bloods and half bloods should receive full payments. If you are 1/4 to a 1/2 blood, you should receive half payments. The rest should be paid according to blood quantum. That way there is incentive for being a Pokagon Potawatomi. Maybe these people who are letting our blood flow away will see there is incentive for having Potawatomi blood. Maybe our blood will start coming back. Well, that's my opinion!

William Augusta

SAVE

**ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

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

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

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

ENROLLMENT/JTPA DEPARTMENTS

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

FOOD COMMODITY

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

SAVE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS

Mrs. N.A. Wesaw and family would like to say "thank you" to all of those wonderful people who gave their respect to their daughter, mother and wife Karen who passed away November 1, 1996.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS EVELYN MILLER

On your retirement from the
Hartford Public Schools



Love, your family

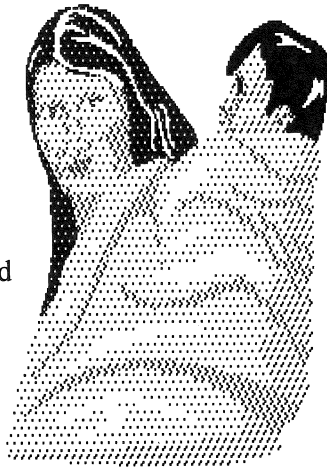
CONGRATULATIONS ALEXIS YERINGTON

ON MAKING THE HONOR ROLL
AT HARTFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Love, your family

The Warren family would
like to welcome
**CAROLINA GEZICK
DELGADO**

She was born at 3:18 a.m.
on November 16, 1996.
She weighed 6 lb. 13 oz.
and was 19 inches long.
Her proud parents are
Rhonda Warren and
Hector Delgado. The proud
grandparents are John and
Pat Warren. Her aunt and
uncle are Mary Jo and
John Warren.



CONGRATULATIONS ON THE COMPLETION OF CDL SCHOOL!

Jeff Ballew, Roger Smith and
Randall Bradford

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GED!

Brenda Underwood

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Corey Falk Rangel, October 9

Love, Your Family

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Brittany Falk Rangel, October 31

Love, your family

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Taylor Starret Falk, November 17

Love, your family

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Calvin Robinson and Michell Thompson

Love, your family

RESTING PLACE

There is a place on Mother Earth where all may
experience Peace, Harmony, Love and Balance.
The Stand-up-Tall Nation—the trees and flowers,
With all their many beautiful colors.

When we look at them, we give an offering of thanks
as we reflect on the Two-leggeds, and
that we need to come together in the Sacred Circle.
When we do this, we then will see and receive a
blessing from the Spirit World,
Brought to us by the Wingeds,
Perhaps we will see the eagle.

We will feel strong of spirit like the Rock Nation,
The mountains and breathe the pure fresh air
that the Grandfathers send us.
We will give thanks with the water blessing
and feel good inside,
for we have visited the Sacred Place of our
family friends and ancestors.

And so it is when we visit

Rush Lake Indian Cemetery

Dancing Feather



December 1996

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1		3 Terry Daisy	4 Tracy Wesaw David F. Wesaw	5 Steve Tate	6	7 Alyson Boffo
8	9 Joe Green	10	11	12 Karen Goss Phillip Brown	13	14
15 Darlene Tate	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Brandy Genereaux	25 Robert Drake	26 Michael Newcomer	27	28
29 Marie Manley	30 John Jacob Hoekstra	31				



POKĒGNEK
YAJDANAWA

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