



# POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

## THE POKAGONS TELL IT

January 2012

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### Tribal Court Hosts Michigan Supreme Court Justice and Visitors from Child Protection Organizations

The Pokagon Band hosted a Michigan Supreme Court Justice for the first time when Justice Michael F. Cavanagh visited the tribal community last month. Tribal Court Chief Judge Michael Petoskey also invited representatives from two justice organizations—Casey Family Programs and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges—for a meeting to increase collaboration between state and tribal courts.

Over the years it's become clear that more could be done to improve understanding of the Indian Child Welfare Act and outcomes for permanency planning for tribal children. In far too many cases in Michigan there was limited contact between state court judges and tribal court, and a lack of understanding about how Indian children's cases and legal and cultural approaches to them should be different.

"These folks have admitted to us that they have a lot to learn about tribes, our worldview, and how we approach these cases," said Judge Petoskey. "So I invited these representatives to our community."

Casey Family Programs and NCJFCJ both are involved in improving the lives of tribal children in the court system, and two representatives of each organization came to Dowagiac for the meeting. Along with Justice Cavanagh, Judge Tim Connors and clinical assistant professor Vivek Sankaran of University of Michigan Law School, who teaches the federal Indian law course, attended. Participants took part in a welcoming ceremony and talking circle with Chairman Matt Wesaw and Tom Topash, Tribal Council member, visited significant places in the community and shared a lunch of traditional Potawatomi foods.

"I learned more about Indian life and Indian child welfare during the visit than I had in the first thirty-five years of my life," said Professor Sankaran.

"Context is everything," said Judge Petoskey. "It was critical for our visitors to have a contextual understanding of both state court-tribal court relations here in Michigan and of the Pokagon Band itself. Now we can really build an understanding upon the foundation developed."

As this relationship building continues, a statute called the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act is working its way through the legislature. This Act, if passed, will standardize how ICWA will be applied for Indian families and children in the state.

"I'm glad the visitors got to see this tribe up close, and to see our community and showcase our child protection program, which I know is very, very good," said Petoskey. "As with any relationship building this is a journey; it will continue. We hope to have others learn from us and for us to benefit from extended hands."

Susan Weiss, one of the representatives from Casey Family Programs, said her head was full of ideas after the meeting. "We want to keep learning and understanding what we can all do to change what is not going well."

"I think possibilities might include another visit some in the future with a couple of days reserved for discussion specifically devoted to ICWA, or continued discussion using video conferencing," said Judge Petoskey. "All of the things they're doing to improve their functioning in the state courts, we're already doing."



Above left, Supreme Court Justice Michael Cavanagh, left, shows the turtle shell drum he received as a gift of appreciation from Pokagon Tribal Court Chief Justice Michael Petoskey, right. Above right, the group poses for a photo after starting the day's visit with a welcoming ceremony and talking circle at Elders Hall.

## Pokagon Band Tribal Court of Appeals Justices Make Headlines

Appeals Court Chief Justice Robert T. Anderson (Bois Forte Band Ojibwe) was appointed last month to a national commission that will evaluate the U.S. Department of the Interior's management of nearly \$4 billion in Native American trust funds.

"This commission will play a key role in our ongoing efforts to empower Indian nations and strengthen nation-to-nation relationships," Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar said in naming the appointees to the Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform. "The five members each bring extensive experience and knowledge to the commission, and I look forward to their findings and recommendations for how we can fully meet our trust responsibilities to the First Americans."

"Our trust administration must be more transparent, responsive, customer-friendly and accountable in managing these substantial funds and assets," Deputy Secretary of the Interior David J. Hayes said. "Building upon the progress made with the historic Cobell settlement, this commission will help usher in a new era of trust administration."

Justice Anderson worked at the Department of the Interior from 1995–2001 as associate solicitor for Indian affairs and as counselor to the Secretary of the Interior on Indian law and natural resource issues. He is currently a professor of law and director of the Native American Law Center at the University of Washington, and holds a long-term appointment as the Oneida Nations Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School.



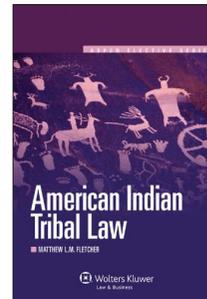
Chief Justice  
Robert T. Anderson



Appeals Court  
Associate Justice  
Matthew L.M. Fletcher

Within 24 months, the Commission is expected to complete a comprehensive evaluation of Interior's management and administration of the trust assets and offer recommendations of how to improve in the future.

Pokagon Band Appeals Court Associate Justice Matthew L.M. Fletcher (Grand Traverse Band) recently published the first legal casebook dedicated entirely to tribal law. Seven years in the making, *American Indian Tribal Law* covers 864 pages tracking the development of tribal



justices systems from the pre-contact era, through colonization to contemporary sovereign governments.

In his book Fletcher describes modern tribal government activities and explores how disputes are resolved within American Indian nations. He surveys over 300 tribal courts nationwide and over 565 Indian tribes, each following their own law. The volume looks at such controversial matters in tribal law as the Cherokee Freedmen citizenship disputes and same sex marriage in Indian Country.

"So much federal Indian law over the past 50 years delineates what tribes can and cannot do, and to some extent people forget that now that tribes have the ability to do things, they actually have to do those things," said Fletcher. "So as tribes begin to develop their nations and ability to govern, I think *American Indian Tribal Law* is important so people can get a sense of what the trends are."

Justice Fletcher also recently co-authored a sixth edition of *Cases and Materials in Federal Indian Law*, one of the country's leading case books on federal Indian law.

## Raise Your Awareness of Group A Streptococcus

By Liz Leffler, community health nurse

Group A streptococcus is a bacterium often found in the throat and on the skin. People may carry group A streptococci and have no symptoms of illness. Most GAS infections are relatively mild illnesses such as strep throat or impetigo (infection of the skin). Strep throat can be diagnosed with a simple nasal swab. Scarlet Fever is another disease caused by group A streptococcus. Scarlet fever is the rash that occurs in some people that have strep throat.

Occasionally these bacteria can cause severe and even life-threatening diseases. GAS disease may occur when bacteria get into parts of the body where bacteria usually are not found, such as the blood, muscle, or the lungs. This is known as invasive GAS disease. Two of the most severe, but least common, forms of invasive GAS disease are necrotizing fasciitis and streptococcal toxic shock syndrome. Necrotizing fasciitis (occasionally described by the media as the flesh-eating bacteria) is a rapidly progressive disease that destroys muscles, fat, and skin tissue. Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome results in a rapid drop in blood pressure and organ failure. STSS is not the same as the toxic shock syndrome associated with tampon usage.

Group A streptococcus is spread through direct contact with mucus from the nose or throat of infected people, or through contact with infected wounds or sores on the skin. Ill persons, such as those who have strep throat or skin infections, are most likely to spread the infection. People who carry the bacteria but have no symptoms are much less contagious.

If you're exposed to someone with group A streptococcus and have contracted the disease, you might develop signs and symptoms of the disease within one to three days. Treating an infected person with an antibiotic for 24 hours or longer generally eliminates their ability to spread the bacteria. However, it is important to complete the entire course of antibiotics as prescribed.

It is not likely that household items like plates, cups, or toys spread these bacteria. The spread of all types of GAS infection can be reduced by good hand washing, especially after coughing and sneezing and before preparing foods or eating. People with sore throats should be seen by a doctor who can perform tests to find out

whether the illness is strep throat. If the test result shows strep throat, the person should stay home from work, school, or day care until 24 hours after taking an antibiotic. All wounds should be kept clean and watched for possible signs of infection such as redness, swelling, drainage, and pain at the wound site. A person with signs of an infected wound, especially if fever occurs, should immediately seek medical care.

Signs and symptoms can depend on the type of illness caused by group A strep. Strep skin infection signs and symptoms include red, weeping skin sores.

Strep throat signs and symptoms:

- Fever
- Sore throat
- Swollen lymph glands.

Scarlet fever signs and symptoms:

- the symptoms of strep throat plus a characteristic rash on the neck, chest, skin folds, and inner thighs. The rash can often be felt easier than it can be seen.

Early signs and symptoms of necrotizing fasciitis:

- Fever and severe pain
- Swelling
- Heat and redness at a wound site

Early signs and symptoms of streptococcal toxic shock syndrome:

- Fever
- Dizziness
- Confusion

If you experience any of these signs or symptoms, please contact the health office and make an appointment to be seen as soon as possible. Early diagnosis and treatment can help to stop the spread of group A streptococcus. Contact the health office, (888) 440-1234 or (269) 782-4141 to schedule an appointment.

## Chairman's Corner

I trust as you received this edition of the newsletter that you all had the best possible Christmas and are looking forward to a very good New Year. This is my favorite time of year for a variety of reasons. Mostly because it is one of those few times when family can get together and laugh about how things were when we were all young. As we get older things change, loved ones are lost both physically and mentally, new ones are born, and the cycle of family and friends continue. I consider myself a blessed person with my family and friends and the opportunity to work for the tribe. I hope that citizens realize the effort that is being put forth to improve the quality of life for all of our people. It is not something that will happen overnight, but it is the forefront of everything Tribal Council does. I sincerely appreciate the dedication and efforts of everyone who works in the best interests of our tribal citizens.

The expansion at Four Winds New Buffalo is progressing on schedule and on budget. If things continue as they are, we will have completion around mid summer 2012. This expansion will be a welcome and needed improvement to our operation and will allow us to maintain our market share and, with the addition of hotel rooms, give us the ability for growth. This wasn't an easy decision, but with much due diligence, it was the right decision. Council deserves recognition for taking the time to make the right choice in this matter.

One of the results of being conservative in our approach to our fiscal responsibility is our ability now to make recommendations based on some flexibility in our financing. Council is in the process of reviewing the Revenue Allocation Plan as indicated in my last article. Council feels that the formula can be changed to increase the amount of the monthly stipend that goes out monthly to our citizens. This must be carefully planned so that we don't create a situation



where we can't properly fund citizen services. As a result of Finance Board's, the finance director's and our government manager's thorough work, Council felt comfortable in supporting a resolution at the December Saturday meeting that will change the formula to 5% for economic development, 38% to fund the government, and the remaining 57% distributed to the citizens. The next steps are a vote of the tribal citizens and then approval by the Department of Interior. Council is going to take a proactive approach and talk with Interior first to gauge their attitude of support should the citizens approve the change. The goal is to get the money in the hands of our people as quickly as possible. Council understands that times are difficult, and we are doing our best to help. If the citizens support this change, and I hope you do, this will complete about a 500%

increase in the monthly stipend in the past year. Council recognizes the difficult economic times. If you have any questions please call any Council member, we will be happy to speak with you.

There are still many things on our plate, but Council made the recommendation to change the Revenue Allocation Formula a priority. My thanks to all who participated in this process. As you all begin the New Year, I hope all your wishes come true.

In closing, my door is always open and my phone is on. If you are in the area, stop in and say hello.

## Pokagon Tribal Police Recruit Program Launched

Tribal Council recently approved a new job description for a Tribal Police Recruit. Tribal Police Recruits will be non-certified employees who, after hiring, will be sent to a Michigan licensed law enforcement academy, such as Grand Valley State University's Police Academy. During the approximately 16-week academy program, the recruits will receive a full salary and benefits.

"Better integration between the Tribal Police Department and citizens has always been a goal of

mine," said Captain Chris Vancompernelle. "Tribal Police Departments ideally, as all police departments should, represent the community. So anytime there's an opening for employment within the Band, we'd all like to see it go to citizens."

Candidates for the recruit program must be 21 years of age and have a high school diploma or its equivalent. And they will go through a background investigation.

The recruits will be attending a state-accredited academy, so they will be eligible for federal student aid funding and the Department of Education's higher education scholarship program.

Look for the recruit posting in the job opportunities section of the website in the next few weeks.

## Pokégnek Yajdanawa

*Pokégnek Yajdanawa* is the monthly voice of Pokégnek Bodéwadmik, the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi. Citizens are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry and announcements for publication in *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*. Submissions are subject to the established guidelines.

The deadline for citizen submissions for the newsletter is always the 14th of the month. Please send items for publication to:

Pokégnek Yajdanawa  
Box 180  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

## Pokagon Artist Honored With Residency at Eiteljorg Museum

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

Over the past decade, Pokagon artist Jason S. Wesaw has developed an excellent working relationship with the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in Indianapolis. Along with the privilege of doing several week-long residencies in the past, he was honored to be the artist in residence for the month of October this year.

“I had a number of pieces displayed during my residency, and I built three sculptures that will be part of their permanent collection,” said Wesaw. These pieces are part of a series he began last spring. “This series focuses on the spirit and the connection that we have to the world around us,” explained Wesaw.

The residency provided Wesaw with the opportunity to work with more than 600 school-age children. Each child made a piece of pottery that they could take home, and Wesaw taught them a bit about the Pokagon Band. “I tried to convey to them that native people are not just a part of our history, but we are here today. Tribal teachings still have a value in modern times.”

Wesaw’s preferred medium is clay, because he is able to build something from a piece of the earth. “I have harvested clay from near Lake Michigan, and I am able to give a voice to that material,” said Wesaw.

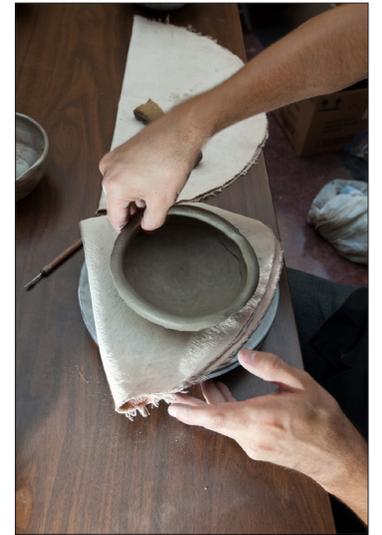
While Wesaw did not grow up in a traditional Native American home, he has embraced his heritage and is active in the tribe. In addition to being active in the Department of Language and Culture, Wesaw sits on the Family Welfare Commission, the Pokagon Promise Committee, and the Traditions and Repatriation Committee. Wesaw is also a traditional drummer and a member of the Ribbon Town Singers.

Wesaw has made a name for himself with his pottery, but he also enjoys photography and music. His photography has been displayed at the Pokagon Gallery, and he composes songs and sings at tribal events. “While I bounce around a lot between the various arts, I am most well-known for my pottery,” explained Wesaw.

This next year is shaping up to be an exciting one for Wesaw. In March, he will be in a show at the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona. His art will also be part of an exposition that opens in June at the Museum of Art and Design in New York City. “The exhibit will travel nationally and worldwide,” said Wesaw. “I have also applied to be part of the Santa Fe Indian Market.” Between now and next fall, Wesaw’s goal is to continue to develop his art, get into new galleries, and get his name out there. Not only would a place in a gallery get his pieces seen by more people, but they also find buyers for his artwork.

When Wesaw is not working on his art or involved in tribal activities, he focuses his attention on his five year old daughter, Kady. “She loves to sing, and she wants to be a fancy shawl dancer,” said Wesaw. “The tribe has been part of her life since she was born.”

“I am an artist, but I am also mindful of the fact that I am a representative of my family and my tribe,” explained Wesaw. His artwork is a way for him to express his creativity while educating the public on Potawatomi culture.



Wesaw was one of the three Pokagon artists who demonstrated their art and visited with tourists during the November Pokagon Band cultural exhibit at the Indiana Statehouse. Photos by Shane Rodimel

## Transportation Services Offered for Health Related Appointments

Transportation services are here to reduce barriers to health care. When all other means of transportation are exhausted, Pokagon Band citizens and members of federally-recognized tribes (with a Pokagon Band Department of Health Services referral) can benefit from transportation to and from medical appointments, as long as they live within the ten county Contract Health Services Delivery Area (CHSDA) and have satisfied CHS eligibility requirements.

Transportation is used for DOHS-referred medical appointments only. For more information and scheduling, please contact transportation's main office number, (269) 782-4141 extension 267.

### Services provided

Door-to-door transportation services to Pokagon Band Health Services for referred health-related appointments.

1. Clinic, dental and eye glass appointments
2. Doctor and non-emergency hospital appointments
3. Dialysis
4. Physical and behavioral therapy
5. Wheelchair transportation

Type of Support Service – Door to Door and Routine Service

Citizens must schedule their transportation requests from a pick up point to a delivery (or drop-off) doctor or non-emergency medical point. Some of these rides must be confirmed. The scheduling or requests under the door-to-door ride category are received dynamically and vehicle routes are adjusted in real-time to meet demand. Some of these rides may be handled on a space available basis.

- ROUTINE NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS This service is offered to members who have

medical conditions which require on-going medically supervised regular treatment. The routine transportation services operates Monday through Friday when weather permits. The earliest appointment time for local area transports is dependent on client's home location and drive time both to and from the appointment with the same application process for return home transports.

- PHARMACEUTICAL No door-to-door transportation services are provided for picking up medications. Pharmaceutical needs may be included in your office visit. But at no time will a transporter be sent out for door-to-door pharmaceutical needs.

### Extended Services

Door-to-door service is subject to availability. The client must request transportation services at least three

days in advance by calling (269) 782-4141, extension 267. With door-to-door service, the transport driver is trained to assist the client from the door of the pick-up point to the transport vehicle and from the transport vehicle to the door of the destination point. The driver won't be allowed to enter a client's residence or apartment building beyond the first outer door or ground floor lobby so therefore cannot perform any personal services for the client. Door-to-door service is provided as long as conditions make it safe to do so.

### Exceptions

1. The Pokagon Band transportation may suspend operations during extreme and hazardous weather.
2. Transportation staff may refuse to transport abusive or intoxicated clients.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language and Culture

## Language Classes | January

### Elder's Language Classes

Elder's Language Class is a beginner level class that is held every Monday with **John Winchester**.

**Date:** January 3, January 9, January 17, January 23, January 30, 2012  
**Time:** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
**Location:** Elders Hall

### Adult Language Classes

Adult language classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday with **Thomas Loftis**

**Date:** January 3, January 5, January 10, January 12, January 17, January 19, January 24, January 26, January 31  
**Time:** 6:00–8:00 pm  
**Location:** Community Center, Training Room

### Language Video Conferencing

Two or three Fridays a month students can come to the Community Center to view and participate in language classes broadcast from Forest County Potawatomi. Jim Thunder teaches the language lessons in the morning with teacher skills training classes in the afternoon taught by Northern Michigan University College of Education professors.

**Date:** January 6, January 20, January 27  
**Time:** 9:30 am – 12 & 1–4:00 pm  
**Location:** Community Center, Training Room

### Language Workshops (Webcasted)

Twice a month, language instructors are invited to share their knowledge about the Potawatomi language. To view Webcasting click on Language and Culture Webcasting from the Language and Culture landing page.

**Date:** January 11 | Presenter: Frank Barker  
 January 25 | Presenter: John Winchester  
**Time:** 6:00 pm–8:00 pm  
**Location:** Community Center, Training

Everyone is invited! If you are interested in learning Neshnabe life ways, then you are welcome to attend. These events are not exclusive to Pokagon citizens.

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi  
 Department of Language and Culture

# Native Nations Youth Council

### Storytelling With Carl Wesaw

**Date and Time:** Saturday, January 7, 2-5 p.m.  
**Location:** Tribal Lodge, 58620 Sink Rd., Dowagiac, MI

Neshnabe people traditionally tell stories when the snow covers the ground during the winter months. To take advantage of this beautiful time, Carl Wesaw will be joining us to share traditional Potawatomi stories that have been passed down for generations.

*\*Cultural Activities are hosted by the Department of Language and Culture and are open to anyone interested in learning about Nishnabe life ways.*

### Youth Retreat With The Native Wellness Institute and Monthly Business Meeting

**Dates and Times:** Saturday, January 14, 10-7 p.m. & Sunday, January 15, 10-2 p.m.  
**Location:** Tribal Lodge, 58620 Sink Rd., Dowagiac, MI

Calling all middle school students, high school students and young adults interested in leadership development and community involvement. The Department of Language and Culture and the Native Wellness Institute are hosting a Youth Council retreat. This interactive two-day training is designed to work with Youth Council members and parents to help identify their combined purpose, interests and goals. If you would like to be a part of a strong youth team and are interested in building a solid foundation for meaningful community actions, then please join us! Transportation and lodging assistance are available, please call Katy Morseau to inquire.

*\*Senior Youth Council- Business Meetings are open to Pokagon citizens 18 - 24 years old.  
 \*Junior Youth Council- Business Meetings are open to all Pokagon citizens and JOM eligible students in the 7th – 12th grade.*

### Contact Information

Katy Morseau  
 Youth Cultural Coordinator  
 (269) 462-4254 Office • (269) 783-6773 Cell  
 katy.morseau@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

## Department of Education Updates and Announcements

### Homework Help Offered Every Tuesday and Thursday in January

Beginning January 5, 2012, the Department of Education will provide on-site homework help for all JOM and Pokagon families. Parents must stay in the building. No appointment needed, just drop in! Questions? Please call the Pokagon Department of Education Office at (269) 782-0887.

#### Beginning January 5:

Hartford Red Arrow Elementary Library, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

#### Beginning January 10:

Department of Education in the Administration Building, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Mishawaka Office, 310 W. McKinley Avenue, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

### 2012 Summer College Intern Program Gears Up

Tribal citizens attending college are eligible for a paid eight-week summer internship with various tribal offices in Dowagiac, Michigan. Possible placements include the following departments: Department of Housing, Department of Health Services, Information Technology, Department of Social Services, Human Resources, Education (K-12), Education (Higher Education), Natural Resources, Department of Finance, Tribal Court, Department of Communications, Tribal Police, and the Department of Language and Culture. The internship will last from Monday, June 4 through Friday July 27, usually from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Pokagon citizens who will be continuing college in the fall and who have completed at least one semester (12 credits) by June 4, 2012 are invited to apply. This can include dual/enrollment credit. Applicants must also be at least eighteen years old by June 4, 2011. Qualified applicants who were not interns last summer will be given first preference.

Selected candidates must pass a background check and a pre-employment drug screening. Candidates must be able to make arrangements to submit to a background check and drug testing in Dowagiac by February 24, 2012. Interns will earn \$10/hour, a monthly housing allowance of \$400, a clothing allowance of \$300 and mileage reimbursement of up to \$225 monthly.

Applications are due February 7. Interested citizens can receive more information by contacting the Department of Education at (888) 330-1234.



Download an application at the Pokagon Band website at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Departments/Education/](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Departments/Education/)

### Tutoring Services for K-12 Students

Tutoring services are available for K-12 students who are getting a C- or below in a core subject or have other special needs or circumstances. If you think your child could benefit from this help, please contact Conrad Church, K-12 Resource Specialist, (888) 330-1234 or (269) 782-0887.

### Important FAFSA Information for College Students

In order to be considered eligible for most financial aid opportunities, including the Pokagon Higher Education Scholarship, you must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form, or FAFSA.

Students can file the FAFSA for the upcoming school year after January 1. We recommend you apply as early as you can. Please keep in mind:

- You must apply for every year you are in school
- While you cannot apply until January 1, you can apply for your PIN # anytime. You will need this PIN # to sign your application, and receiving the number early will save you time.
- Different states and institutions have different deadlines for state aid. Make sure you check with your school's financial aid office for deadlines.
- There is no cost to apply for the FAFSA. Beware of organizations and websites that require you to pay to apply for the FAFSA.
- The official website to apply for the FAFSA is [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

Need help in filling out the FAFSA? Some resources available are:

- Financial Aid office of your college
- Guidance office of your high school
- The College Goal Sunday website has information for each state on Sundays where local colleges host workshops to help in the FAFSA process. The website is [www.collegegoalsundayusa.org](http://www.collegegoalsundayusa.org)
- Call the Pokagon Band Department of Education at (888) 330-1234 for assistance. We have a computer lab available where students can check out online resources and file the FAFSA. Arrangements can be made by contacting Joseph Avance, Higher Education Specialist, to use the computer lab during non-business hours if necessary to accommodate your schedule.

### K-12 Program Registration

Don't forget to turn in the receipts for school related expenses. The basic yearly reimbursement (up to \$50) covers pre-K through grade 12. The High School Success program covers a few more of the expenses relating to graduation and preparation for college, such as one ACT/SAT test, up to \$100 in college entrance fees, and the basic cap and gown. This money is available to all Pokagon Pre-K-12 grade students. Contact Connie at (269) 782-0887 or (888) 330-1234 with questions.

### Correction

Our apologies for a mistake made in the January calendar mailed to the K-12 families. All Pokagon offices are closed on Monday, January 16 for Martin Luther King Day, not Thursday, January 19. Thursday tutoring centers and GED labs will be held that day as usual.

## Native Foster Parents Needed

Our traditions tell us the most sacred beings among our Anishnabe people are our children and our Elders. Our children have just come from being with the Creator in the Spirit World, and our Elders are facing the West on their way to the Spirit World to be with the Creator again.

As a Tribal nation, we recognize our responsibility "to provide for the welfare, care and protection of the children," through our Child Protection Code. "The care and custody of the Pokagon Band children are vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Band, as such the welfare of its children is of paramount importance to the Band" says our Family Welfare Commission Ordinance.

There are no words in the Potawatomi language for the term "foster parents." Native people have had to adapt, and the use of this term is now a necessity. Sometimes within our family framework there is turmoil and our children suffer. Some of our children need care and protection. Do you have in your spirit and your home a place for a child who needs a temporary family? Have you ever thought about being a foster parent? We realize you will have many questions about foster parenting and we urge you to contact our Social Services Department at 269-782-8998 and ask for Mark Pompey, Director, or Kathleen McKee, our Indian Child Welfare Worker.

## Check Out These Tips for a Healthy Weight

**By Susan Gundersen, RD. CD., Community Health Nutritionist.**

Have you read any magazines recently? If you have, no doubt you saw the same headlines and articles I have promoting yet another diet, how to lose weight, what is considered a bad food, or an unhealthy eating behavior. In addition, we read about reminders to get up and move, and how to increase or get the most out of exercise routines.

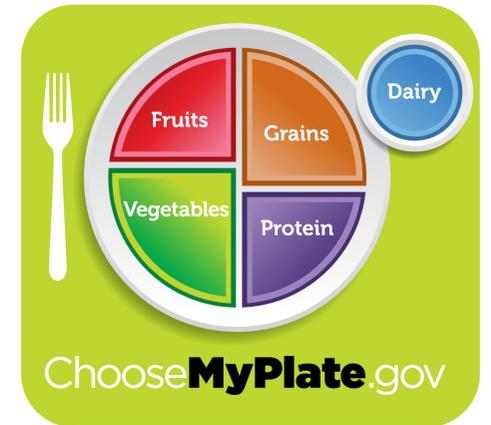
I hope you haven't become desensitized by this repeated onslaught of how important your good health is. Promoting a healthy weight is important, but I agree with many of you that the message is loaded with contradictions and it takes professional advice to filter out these conflicting messages. Knowing that there are an estimated 30 dietary-related illnesses underscores the importance of protecting your wellness through healthy food choices and exercise.

Early this past year we featured the 2010 guidelines released by the United States Department of Agriculture. Since that time, USDA released a dinner plate symbol which shows the right amounts of food from each food group and how to get the most vitamins and minerals from those choices without adding a lot of empty calories promoting weight gain. To simplify the message, remember these top tips for healthy eating and a healthy lifestyle.

- Enjoy more fruits and veggies.
- Make ½ of your grains whole grains, your meats lean and your dairy fat-free.
- Cut back on fast foods.
- Eat a little less at each meal.
- Skip sodas and other sugary drinks.
- Choose foods with less sodium (salt).
- Be Active! Try for 30 to 60 minutes of activity every day.
- Find activities you enjoy—walk, bike, skate, ski, sled, bowl or dance.
- Limit TV and computer time.
- If you smoke, stop, cut back, and see your health care provider.

If you have made a New Year's resolution to be good to yourself, start here in the Health Clinic. We can help you on your health and wellness path. Watch for nutrition programs coming this winter and spring. Call Health Services at (888) 440-1234 for more information or watch for announcements on the Pokagon website or in the Pokagon newsletter.

Wishing you a Happy New Year in the very best of health!



Visit the USDA's website at [www.MyPlate.gov](http://www.MyPlate.gov) for fun interactive information about the 2010 dietary guidelines.

## Pokagon Student Scholarship Opportunities Announced

**By Katy Morseau, Youth Cultural Coordinator**

All Pokagon Band citizens currently pursuing higher education have a special opportunity coming up. The Pokagon Band Tribal Council will sponsor two students to attend the National Congress of American Indian conference. The Pokagon Band is a member of NCAI, a national organization that advocates for the rights of tribal governments in Washington DC. In addition to advocating for the rights of tribal governments, NCAI also seeks to provide leadership development opportunities for the future leaders of Indian Country. NCAI Youth Commission is designed specifically for students with an interest in political science, tribal government, and Indian law. Youth Commission strives to assist young leaders in their understanding of tribal politics. NCAI meets three times a year: March, June, and November. The next NCAI event is scheduled for March 6-8, 2012 in Washington D.C. For more information on NCAI and the Youth Commission, feel free to visit the website at [www.ncai.org](http://www.ncai.org).

As part of investing in the future leadership of the Pokagon Band, it is the wish of Tribal Council to involve Pokagon youth with the leadership development opportunities provided by the NCAI Youth Commission. Several members of Tribal Council and two members of the Senior Youth Council will be attending NCAI in Washington D.C. and all Pokagon college students (at least 18 years of age) are invited to apply for this special trip. Council will provide travel, lodging, and per diem for the trip. In exchange, the chosen students must agree to participate in all Youth Commission meetings and any other NCAI related activities recommended by the Department of Language and Culture staff and Tribal Council representatives. Students are also expected to provide a travel report, preferably a PowerPoint presentation, during the Tribal Council meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2012.

If this special opportunity appeals to you, please submit via email a single page letter of interest and attach a one page resume to Katy Morseau, youth cultural coordinator, [Katy.Morseau@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Katy.Morseau@PokagonBand-nsn.gov). Deadline to submit is Friday, January 27, 2012. Please include in your subject line *NCAI Executive Council Winter Session*. Also, be sure to receive permission from your professors and work supervisors to miss class and work obligations before submitting your letter of interest. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Katy Morseau, youth cultural coordinator, at (269)462-4254 or (269) 783-6773.

## HIS Place Community Center Open to Pokagons

**By Liz Leffler, community health nurse**

It is recommended that people get at least thirty to sixty minutes of physical activity a day. Exercising benefits every part of the body, including the mind. It can help you look and feel better, help you lose weight and lower your risk of some diseases, and it can help you age well.

HIS Place: Hartford Community Center is just the place to get some exercise. It is located at 15 South Maple Street, Hartford, Michigan and offers fitness equipment and a gym for walking and other activities. The best part is that most of the events held at the gym are free. It is free to use the equipment at the gym, and other free events take place throughout the week, giving people a chance to get some exercise.

Both kids and adults are welcome to use the community center. The center offers group exercise activities such as walking classes, volleyball, and basketball. Some events do cost a nominal fee, so please see the HIS Place Community Center weekly calendar for events that you can participate in. The events show the times they are available and the price to participate in the events. If there is no price next to the event then that means it is free to participate. Some of the events have an age listed next to the event because the center does not want younger children to get hurt if the event is geared toward adults. It is a great opportunity for the whole family to get some exercise. Check out the schedule for January at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Community\\_Health.aspx](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Community_Health.aspx)

**By Bonnie Parrish, MIEA Secretary**

Please watch the newsletter for dates to send in applications for the Michigan Indian Elders Association Incentive Awards Program and the Scholarship Program. We are again offering cash awards for K-12 students with perfect attendance and or straight As on report cards. College-bound students could win a scholarship of \$500.00 or \$1000.00.



Applications available online [www.michiganindianelders.org/index.htm](http://www.michiganindianelders.org/index.htm)

# Oshki Nametwaawin Making a New Mark | The Process of Community Development

## It all starts with you.

**Housing Department researches cost to develop what citizens need**

**Charrettes—citizen specifically what ci**

Make your voice heard! Charrettes community amenities and housi



**Citizen need for housing is identified through waiting lists and requests. Are you on the list?**

**Resource Development brings together funding sources to pay for what citizens need.**

Funding for community development typically won't come from general fund dollars, but from grants from agencies like USDA, HUD, IHS, DOE, BIA, MISHDA, Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis, IHADA



**DNR identifies natural resources available for development.**

Poka and land retain creat with



**Tribal Council reviews recommendations from DNR, citizens, Housing, Resource Development, and determines action to take**

**Legal team drafts ordinances & policies which support housing goals**



**Public meetings—tell government  
what citizens need and how they want it built**

Committees are looking for citizen input on community design, planning for developments in Dowagiac, South Bend and Hartford.



## Charrette Schedule

**Dowagiac, Michigan** | Saturday, January 14  
after the Tribal Council meeting, dinner to follow  
Community Center Pokégnek Édawat

**South Bend, Indiana** | Saturday, January 28  
10: a.m. to 2 p.m., lunch provided  
Bruno's, 2610 Prairie Avenue

**Hartford, Michigan** | Saturday, February 4  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., lunch provided  
Hartford High School

Pokagon Band intends to protect Mother Earth by using low-impact design that fits into the context of the earth, living in harmony with the land instead of disturbing the earth to fit our needs. For example, our plans will follow original drainage patterns rather than changing the topography, and create a setting where we live sustainably. Many communities aren't designed with those ideas in mind, often causing flooding, food insecurity, or pollution.



**Once citizens & Council approve  
the plans, development begins**



**Development plans are designed; projects  
are put out to bid to various contractors**

**Pokagon Band Partners**

Conservation Design Forum, a firm helping with community master planning.

Wightman Engineering will aid with infrastructure design.

Peters Construction assists with road, water, and sewer construction.

Housing architects and construction companies will bid to work on projects as the process unfolds.

## Summer Program Now Open to Fifth and Sixth Grade Students Spend Your Summer with the Enrichment Program

The Pokagon Band's Summer Enrichment Program now includes fifth and sixth graders. This outstanding opportunity, for students entering fifth through twelfth grades in the fall of 2012, provides financial support of up to \$500 per Pokagon child attending a workshop, camp, class, or other experience during the summer break. This past year, 106 youth grew through this gift. Will you be one this next summer?

The Department of Education will be mailing forms to all Pokagon citizens between the ages of nine and 18 in January. The initial registration date for those who are applying for the first time is February 15. Students who are hoping to return to this program can start applying on March 15. Your enrichment experience can take place anywhere in the United States, be held during June, July, and August, and applies to any Pokagon citizen in the country. What camp have you wanted to attend, or what skill do you want to master, or what class have you needed to take that you couldn't afford on your own? Now is the time to start thinking . . . how do you want to enrich your life this summer?

There are a limited number of slots available. If you are interested in applying, please send the following to the Department of Education:

- 1) Completed Application
- 2) Information about enrichment program you want to attend
- 3) Copy of your tribal card



Forms are available at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Summer\\_Enrichment\\_Programs.aspx](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Summer_Enrichment_Programs.aspx) or contact Connie Baber to request the forms (269) 782-0887 or (888) 330-1234 or [conniebaber@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:conniebaber@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

## Four Winds Casino Tribal Development Program Welcomes Motivational Storyteller and Leadership Expert

Odawa motivational speaker D.J. Eagle Bear Vanas will be offering a program for tribal citizens and government employees at Four Winds January 18 and 19. Using traditional warrior concepts and wisdom to inspire others to achieve their best in life and career, Vanas has delivered programs in 49 states and overseas to audiences including Walt Disney, NASA, IBM and hundreds of tribal governments, communities and schools. He's twice been invited to the White House to speak. He is also the author of the celebrated book *The Tiny Warrior: A Path to Personal Discovery & Achievement* which is printed in six countries.



His program, called Keeping the Fires Lit, is for service providers in any arena, and aims to help renew a sense of purpose, passion and performance as you provide outstanding service to others. Vanas hopes to share strategies to keep you inspired, motivated and focused, lower your stress and keep your spirit strong as you continue to serve others.

- Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.  
Four Winds Casino New Buffalo, 2nd Floor HR Building
- Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.,  
Four Winds Casino New Buffalo, 2nd Floor HR Building
- Thursday, January 19, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.  
Four Winds Casino Hartford. Please enter through the employee entrance.

Vanas is originally from Michigan and holds a B.S. from the Air Force Academy and an M.S. from University of Southern California. After serving ten years as an Air Force officer, he is now the president of Native Discovery Inc. working to build the warriors of tomorrow, today.

Please contact Matt Clay at [Matt.Clay@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Matt.Clay@PokagonBand-nsn.gov) or (269) 462-4250 at the Pokagon Human Resources Department, if you would like to attend.

Here are just a few of the fun experiences Pokagon students have had during their summer enrichment opportunities.

**Amber Morseau, a senior at Manchester High School, Manchester, Michigan attended College Horizons, a non-profit organization that supports the higher education of Native American students by providing college and graduate admissions workshops to American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students from across the nation.**

"When I got my acceptance letter my heart was beating like a drum. I was one of two Pokagon students to be accepted into this amazing program. The experience at College Horizons is something every student who is passionate about their future and their native heritage should go through. From day one they give you the tools and information that you need to be a very successful college student. . . College Horizons has a goal: to prepare every native student for the ever-changing future. We have been prepared to step in the adult world now, and a world of knowledge. This program and its faculty have taught me so much; we must apply it and make our own path. I would like to thank the tribe for making this experience possible. I will use what I have learned to create a better future for myself and others."

**Katelyn Morris, a junior at Lincoln Senior High in Ypsilanti, Michigan attended the Michigan State basketball camp.**

"Throughout camp there were many parts that I enjoyed, but my favorite part was when we learned new moves, and when we were able to talk to the girls who play for the Michigan State women's basketball team. . . At Michigan State University I learned many lessons that apply to both basketball and life. The one that I found to be the most important was that in life no matter what you're trying to do you need to give 120 percent of your energy toward it, and if you do that, you'll end up being one of the best in that craft."

**Band Camp at Hope College in Holland, Michigan was the choice for Bobbie Jo Call, a junior at Reeths Puffer in Muskegon, Michigan.**

"Another thing that is really good is that great feeling of accomplishment once we are done marching the show on the field. (You) still have the adrenaline rush feeling that you are all

excited about how you did. The things that I have learned from this experience is being a leader, having pride in what I do for the marching band, thinking positive all the time, having a great attitude with everyone and anyone and helping out the underclassmen of the marching band.

**Trent Anderson of Portland, Oregon is a seventh grade student at the Arts and Community Magnet Academy in Beaverton, Oregon. He writes of his experience in the ACMA Summer Academy where he focused on dance:**

"Thanks to the Pokagon Band Enrichment Program, this year I was able to take the hour and a half of contemporary dance again, followed by another hour and a half of ballet. . . Taking this class helped me in many ways. One of the ballet teachers invited me to take a Pas de Deux (dance of two) or partnering dance class, for free. Following the workshop I auditioned and made Junior Company at my studio. When I grow up I would like to become a dancer and every little experience or connection helps in the close-knit dance world where everyone knows everyone. . . Even if you do not plan on becoming a dancer, it is a great way for athletes to cross-train. It also allows another creative outlet for visual artists. If instead of picking fights, if everyone put their emotions into dance, the world would be a safer, happier place."

**Lacrosse Camp at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana is where Keith Hanson found his Summer Enrichment. Keith is in the eighth grade at Terre Haute, Indiana's Woodrow Wilson Middle School.**

"Thank you so much for sponsoring me for overnight lacrosse camp at Butler University. It was an amazing experience. I got to make a lot of friends and play my favorite sport. I normally do not get to play lacrosse because there are not any teams in my home town. Therefore, this is one of the few chances I get to play in a game environment. . . The friends I made at camp were amazing. They gave me equipment tips, taught me ways to practice, and produced some good laughs when I was feeling a bit down. Overall it was an awesome experience, and I just cannot thank you enough for this opportunity."

- Culture**
- 1/7 | Storytelling with Carl Wesaw, Tribal Lodge, 2-5pm
  - 1/29 | Men's & Women's Talking Circle, Tribal Lodge, 3-6pm

- Drumming**
- 1/4 & 1/18 | Men's Drumming Teaching Cabin, 6-8pm
  - 1/4 & 1/18 | Women's Hand Drumming, Tribal Lodge, 6-8pm

- Language**
- 1/3, 1/9, 1/17, 1/23, & 1/30 | Elders Language Class, Elders Hall, 10am-12pm
  - 1/6, 1/20, & 1/27 | Language Video Conferencing, Community Center, 9:30-12 & 1-4pm

- 1/11 | Language Workshop with Frank Barker, Community Center, 6-8pm
- 1/25 | Language Workshop with John Winchester, Community Center, 6-8pm
- Tuesdays & Thursdays | Adult language Class, Community Center, 6-8pm

- Native Healing**
- 1/16-1/18 | Jake Pine, Teaching Cabin, 9am-12pm & 1-5pm
  - 1/17 | Co-ed Sweat Lodge with Jake Pine Teaching Cabin, 6-8pm

- Native Nations Youth Council**
- 1/7 | Cultural Activity, Storytelling with Carl Wesaw, Tribal Lodge, 2-5pm
  - 1/15 | Business Meeting, Tribal Lodge, Jr. 11am, Sr. 1pm
  - 1/14 & 1/15 | Youth Council Retreat, Tribal Lodge, 10-7pm Saturday, 10am-2pm Sunday

- Traditions and Repatriation Committee**
- 1/23 | Monthly Meeting, Admin. Bldg., Finance Conf. Rm. 6-8pm

- Upcoming Events**
- 2/3 & 2/4 | Community Wellness Gathering, Community Center, Fri. 5-9pm, Sat. 9-6pm
  - 2/4 | Shishibe (Potawatomi Bingo), Community Center, 6-8pm

# January 2012 Department of Language and Culture

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi • 32142 Edwards Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(269) 462-4296 • [Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov)



Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
	Talking Circle	Elder's Language Class	Adult Language Class	Men's & Women's Drum Practice	Adult Language Class	Language Video Conferencing	Storytelling with Carl Wesaw
8		9	10	11	12	13	14
		Elder's Language Class	Adult Language Class	Language Workshop with Frank Barker (Webcasted)	Adult Language Class		Youth Council Retreat
15		16	17	18	19	20	21
	Youth Council Retreat & Business Meeting	the King Day Offices Closed; Elder's Language Cancelled; Native Healing	Elder's Language Class; Native Healing; Co-ed Sweat Lodge; Adult Language Class	Men's & Women's Drum Practice; Native Healing	Adult Language Class	Language Video Conferencing	
22		23	24	25	26	27	28
		Elder's Language Class; Traditions & Repatriation	Adult Language Class	Language Workshop with John Winchester (Webcasted); Lunch & Learn (Staff Only)	Adult Language Class	Language Video Conferencing	
29		30	31	1	2	3	4
	Talking Circle	Elder's Language Class	Adult Language Class		Adult Language Class	Community Wellness Gathering	Community Wellness Gathering; Shishibe (Potawatomi Bingo)

## Elders Council Business Meeting | December 1, 2011

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Jeannie Mollett, 11:00 a.m.

**INVOCATION:** Clarence White

**ROLL CALL:** Jeanette Mollett, P, Clarence White, P, Audrey Huston, P, member-at-large, Ruth Salvidar, in at 11:10 a.m. Also in attendance: Petey Boehm, Lynn Davidson, Maxine Margiotta.

**AGENDA:** Ed Williams, tribal attorney, introduced attorney Paul Shagen who recently joined the General Counsel office.

As Lynn Davidson seat is up this July, 2012, Ed explained the procedures as to how we go about putting a new Elders Council representative on the July 2012 ballot. This will be done in the General Election.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Becky Price from Pokagon Health Services talked about the loan closet. This is still in the works.

Lois Wesaw from Pokagon Health Services talked about the dental program. Any questions call Lois (269) 782-4141.

Shelly Smith, Health Services pharmacist, informed us that any leftover medicines can be taken to Health Services for disposal.

Petey informed us that the Christmas baskets will be distributed December 15 through December 16, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and December 17 and 18, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Bonnie Parrish informed us that Bob Minard will retire from the MIEA scholarship fund in March 2012. \$300.00 was donated to a family whose home was destroyed in a fire. They were left with just the clothes on their backs.

Jeannie proposed purchasing ornaments for the tree in Elders Hall. They will be marked with a loved one's name and hung on the tree. Cost \$5.00.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** Audrey gave a report on the veterans donation. We collected 50 pairs of sweatpants, \$100.00 worth of stamps, Christmas cards, and many new pairs of socks. The veterans hospital sent a letter of appreciation thanking us for the donation. This time of the year, remember the men and women who fought to make us free.

A box is set up at Elders Hall for donations of hats and gloves for the needy children.

**MINUTES:** Jeannie moved to accept the November 10, 2011 minutes. Clarence supported, (4) Yes, Passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Audrey moved to accept the treasurers report, Ruth supported, (4) yes, Passed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Language classes are held every Monday at Elders Hall, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

Active Living classes will commence in March 2012.

Christmas Party for citizens and spouses only.

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:** Victor Starrett, Mary Jo Morris, Marge Moody, Dorothy Burgh, Genevieve Wesaw, Marie Manley, Dorothy Gwilt.

**NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:** Tom & Bonnie Parrish, 57 years.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 1:20 p.m.

## NEW Tribal Hiring Preference Policy Approved by Tribal Council on July 25, 2011

### Preference at a Glance

1. Qualified Pokagon Citizen(s) from Talent Database  
if no citizens from talent database
2. Qualified Pokagon Spouse(s) from Talent Database  
if no spouses from talent database
3. Qualified Pokagon Citizen(s)  
if no citizens
4. Qualified Pokagon Spouse(s)  
if no spouses
5. All others

### Talent Database

The Department of Human Resources will develop and maintain a talent database for Pokagon citizens and Pokagon spouses. Individuals who desire to work for the government in either a part- or full-time capacity should complete an application on the Pokagon Band website to become part of the talent database. Once an individual has submitted a talent database application, they will receive hiring preference for positions in which they are qualified for and have indicated they may have an interest in. It is the applicant's responsibility to keep the HR Department updated with any change of address, phone number, education level, and current/past employment. Applicants are able to withdraw from the talent database at anytime.

### Hiring Procedure

Before a position is posted, HR will search the talent database. HR will then contact only the individuals who meet the requirements of the position and have indicated an interest in that type of work. If the applicant is interested in the open position, they will receive the opportunity to apply. HR will interview the top five (5) candidates and make a job offer to their top candidate.

If there are no interested and/or qualified applicants in the talent database, the opportunity will be opened up to Tribal citizens and spouses of Tribal citizens who have not submitted their application for the talent database. The job opening will be posted on the Pokagon Band website and in either the Pokégnek Yajdanawa newsletter or Legislative Edition. The position will also be posted out to non-citizens. Anyone who is interested in the position will need to apply online on the Pokagon Band website. HR will apply preference during the screening process of the applications.

Make sure to continue to check the Careers Section for job openings and to submit your application for either the Pokagon citizen talent database or the Pokagon spouse talent database.

Please contact Heather Farver at (269) 462-4267 or by email at [heather.farver@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:heather.farver@pokagonband-nsn.gov) if you have any questions regarding the new hiring preference or applying for the talent database.

## Aaron Scott Thompson

Aaron Scott Thompson, 22, of Tampa, Florida, formerly of Kalamazoo, Michigan, passed away Sunday December 4, 2011 in Panama Beach, Florida. Aaron was born March 30, 1989 in Kalamazoo, the son of Martin Underwood and Rochelle (Thompson) Beduna. Aaron was a very adventurous, free spirited person who just loved people. He loved music,

hunting, fishing, all sports, and anything to do with the outdoors. Aaron was very creative and a citizen of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. Most of all he loved his family and friends. He is survived by his mother, Shelly (Earl) Beduna; father, Scott (Mindy) Underwood; grandparents, Franklin Thompson, Kenneth (Elaine) Underwood; brother Tyler Kohler;

several aunts, uncles, and cousins; and many close friends. Aaron was preceded in death by his beloved grandmother, Barbara Thompson. Services were held at the Langeland Family Funeral Homes, Memorial Chapel, 622 S. Burdick. Internment followed in Almerna Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to family. [www.langelands.com](http://www.langelands.com)

## Per Capita News

The Enrollment Office needs the following individuals to update their addresses so that these payments can be mailed. If there is an X in the column(s) by your name, you have either a Christmas check and /or per capita payments due to you. Please contact Beth Edelberg in the Enrollment Office at (269) 782-1763 or Julie Farver in the Finance Department at (269) 782-8998.

Enrollment #	Name	Christmas 2009	Christmas 2010	Christmas 2010	Monthly Per Cap
83	John Dylan Watson	x	x	x	x
406	Michael Lynn Hewitt	x	x	x	x
413	Patricia Louise DePriest			x	
434	Thomas Charles Abercrombie	x	x	x	x
484	Alvaro Billy Jack Walters			x	
857	Peter John Ramirez	x	x	x	x
906	Michele Louise Reynolds				x
1083	Katherine S Ballew			x	
1445	Michael David Bush	x	x	x	x
1446	Bobby Marcus Haynes	x	x	x	x
1533	Louie Benedict Jackson		x	x	
1788	Amanda Underwood			x	x
1986	Cristian M Cobb		x	x	
2093	Travis Mead Jr			x	x
2154	Whitney Nicole Lewis			x	
2291	Trace Michael Sisk			x	
2338	Cameron S Marks			x	
2418	Sonja R Temple			x	
2475	Brandie S Antisdal		x		
2476	Patrick Michael Phares			x	
2503	Nivixa Jamie L Whitehead			x	
2594	Nicole Marie Hamstra			x	
2788	Joseph Walsh			x	x
2795	Edward Francis Cushway	x	x	x	x
2855	James E Bush			x	
3336	Jessica Nelson				x
3546	Nathan C Spaulding			x	
4227	Scott Brewer Jr		x	x	x
4319	Crystal Pokagon			x	x
4842	Jacqueline L Richardson			x	

## Attention 18- to 20-Year-Olds | Per Capita Information

It is that time of the year when high school seniors are graduating from high school or individuals may be completing their G.E.D. If you are at least 18 years old and have achieved either of these you are now eligible to receive your monthly per capita checks. All you have to do is send a copy to the Enrollment Office. You may either mail or fax this. The address to mail to is:

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi  
Attn: Enrollment Office  
P O Box 180  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
OR fax to: (269) 782-1964

The document must be received by January 15 in order to make it on the February check run. Anything received after January 15 will be processed on the check run for March. If you have any questions please call the direct per capita phone line at (269) 462-4209 or (269) 462-4200 or toll free (800) 517-0777.

## Per Capita Important Dates

Deadline to receive Changes/updates/additions Received by Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date Direct deposits in accounts
Friday, October 14, 2011	Thurs, Oct 27, 2011	Fri, Oct 28, 2011
Friday, November 1, 2011	Tues, Nov 22, 2011	Wed, Nov 23, 2011
Thursday, December 15, 2011	Thursday, December 29, 2011	Friday, December 30, 2011
Friday, January 13, 2012	Monday, January 30, 2012	Tuesday, Jan 31, 2012
Wednesday, February 15, 2012	Tuesday, February 28, 2012	Wednesday, February 29, 2012
Thursday, March 15, 2012	Thursday, March 29, 2012	Friday, March 30, 2012
Friday, April 13, 2012	Thursday, April 26, 2012	Friday, April 27, 2012
Tuesday, May 15, 2012	Wednesday, May 30, 2012	Thursday, May 31, 2012
Friday, June 15, 2012	Thursday, June 28, 2012	Friday, June 29, 2012
Friday, July 13, 2012	Monday, July 30, 2012	Tuesday, July 31, 2012
Wednesday, August 15, 2012	Thursday, August 30, 2012	Friday, August 31, 2012
Friday, September 14, 2012	Thursday, September 27, 2012	Friday, September 28, 2012
Monday, October 15, 2012	Tuesday, October 30, 2012	Wednesday, October 31, 2012
Monday, November 5, 2012*	Tuesday, November 20, 2012	Wednesday, November 21, 2012

\*Please note that in November the deadline to receive changes is November 5, this is due to time limitations on all the events that occur at this time of the year.

## Per Capita Direct Deposit & Tax Withholding Forms

For those tribal citizens receiving per capita checks in the mail and who do not have direct deposit, enclosed with your check you will find a direct deposit and a tax withholding form. These will be included with your check every month until we achieve 100% direct deposits.

The tribe is currently in the planning stages of having mandatory direct deposit for per capita checks. In the case of individuals not being able to set up a bank account, the tribe will be offering a cash card on which the per capita checks will be loaded onto every month. Please keep in mind this is still in the planning stages. We are making efforts to give everyone a chance to set up a bank account of your choice and on your own.

As always, the tax withholding form is not mandatory although highly suggested as per capita payments are subject to federal and state taxes. The tribe only withholds federal taxes with a completed form, state taxes are the responsibility of the citizen.

If you have any questions, please call the direct per capita phone line at (269) 462-4209 or (269) 462-4200 or toll free (800) 517-0777. The per capita phone line and my extension both have lengthy messages listing various per capita information. Please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible. Both of the above stated forms are available online at [www.Pokagonband-nsn.gov](http://www.Pokagonband-nsn.gov)

Once you turn in a direct deposit form and as long as I receive it by the 15th of the month, the information will be entered into the system and the first month is always a test run to the bank, so the check will still be mailed to you. The following month, as long as I do not receive any errors from the bank, will be direct deposit. As earlier stated, you will continue to receive the two forms in with your checks every month. If you have completed a form, no need to fill out another one.

## monday

2 **closed | new year's**



© maria perevenzentseva

9 **language**

Minestrone Soup  
Tuna Salad Sandwich  
Relish tray  
Oatmeal Raisin Cookie

16 **closed | milk day**



23 **language**

Beef Roast  
Roasted Potatoes and Carrots  
Coleslaw  
Apple Crisp  
Roll

30 **language**

Pork Chops  
Baked Potato  
Tri-Blend Vegetables  
Red Cabbage Slaw  
Apple Pie  
Roll

## tuesday

3

Baked Chicken and Dressing  
Sliced Carrots  
Blueberry Muffin  
Broccoli Slaw  
Fresh Fruit

10

Buffalo Tacos W/ Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, and Cheese  
Hard or Soft Taco Shell  
Black Beans and Rice  
Lemon Pudding

17

Swiss Steak  
Mashed Potatoes  
Brussels Sprouts  
Cucumber Salad  
Pudding  
Roll

24

Tomato Soup  
Grilled Cheese Sandwich  
Veggie Tray  
Jell-O W/ Fruit

31

Buffalo Meatballs W/ Gravy and Noodles  
Succotash  
Citrus Salad  
Angel Food Cake W/Fruit  
Roll

## wednesday

4

BBQ Pork Chops  
Red Skin Potatoes  
Tri-Blend Veggies  
Biscuit  
Fresh Fruit

11

Cornish Hen  
Baked Potato  
Peas and Carrots  
Coleslaw  
Fruit W/ Yogurt Cup  
Roll

18

Potato Soup  
Veggie Burger  
Relish Tray  
Peach Crisp

25

Buffalo Burger on Whole Wheat Bun  
Baked Beans  
Relish Tray  
Cottage Cheese and Peaches

## thursday

5 **business**

Buffalo Lasagna  
Green Beans  
Garden Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Fresh Fruit  
Cake

12

Pork Loin W/ Rutabaga and Potatoes  
Broccoli  
Garden Salad  
Applesauce  
Roll

19 **social**

Ham and Scalloped Potatoes  
Butternut Squash  
Garden Salad  
Cookie  
Roll

26

Chicken Breast  
Sweet Potatoes  
Green Bean Casserole  
Melon Salad  
Roll

## friday

6

Meatloaf and Gravy  
W/ Mashed Potatoes  
Spinach  
Tomato Salad  
Fresh Fruit  
Roll

13

Meat OR Meatless Pizza  
Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad  
Cottage Cheese and Pineapple

20

Sea Bass  
Rice Pilaf  
Corn  
Garden Salad  
Blueberry Pie

27

Salmon Patties  
Macaroni and Cheese  
Garden Salad  
Mixed Vegetables  
Fresh Fruit  
Roll

# january

Note: milk, tea, coffee, water, and Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, and onion served with sandwiches and burgers. **Business meetings are held at the Community Center.**

**Elders Council Directory**

Elders Hall (800) 859-2717 or (269) 782-0765

Jean Mollett, Chair (269) 463-5355	Clarence White, Treasurer (269) 876-1118
Maxine Margiotta, Vice Chair	Ruth Saldivar, Member at Large (269) 214-1279
Audrey Huston, Secretary (269) 591-4519	

**Tribal Office Directory**

Administration Information Technology 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8998 Toll Free 800-517-0777 FAX 269-782-6882	Health Services / Behavioral Health 57392 M 51 South (269) 782-4141 Toll Free (888) 440-1234 FAX (269) 782-8797
Commodities (269) 782-3372 Toll Free (888) 281-1111 FAX (269) 782-7814	Housing and Facilities 27043 Potawatomi Trail (269) 783-0443 FAX (269) 783-0452
Communications 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8998	Human Resources 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8163
Compliance 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8998	Language & Culture 32142 Edwards St. (269) 782-9602 Phone (269) 783-0452 Fax
Education and Training 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-0887 Toll Free (888) 330-1234 FAX (269) 782-0985	Natural Resources 32142 Edwards St. (269) 782-9602 Phone (269) 783-0452 Fax
Elders Program 53237 Townhall Rd. (269) 782-0765 Toll Free (800) 859-2717 FAX (269) 782-1696	Social Services 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8998 Toll Free (800) 517-0777 FAX (269) 782-4295
Election 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-9475 Toll Free 888) 782-9475	South Bend Area Office 310 W. McKinley Ave. Ste. 300 Mishawaka, IN 46545 (574) 255-2368 Toll Free (800) 737-9223 FAX (574) 255-2974 (269) 782-8998
Enrollment 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-1763 FAX 269) 782-1964	Tribal Council 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-6323 Toll Free (888) 376-9988 FAX (269) 782-9625
Finance 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8998 Toll Free (800) 517-0777 FAX (269) 782-1028	Tribal Court 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 783-0505/ FAX (269) 783-0519
Head Start 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 783-0026/ (866) 250-6573 FAX (269) 782-9795	Tribal Police 58155 M-51 South (269) 782-2232 Toll Free (866) 399-0161 FAX (269) 782-7988

**Tribal Council Directory**

Chairman Matthew Wesaw (517) 719-5579 or 574-591-9806 Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov	Lynn Davidson, Elders Representative (269) 240-8092 Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Vice-chairman Butch Starrett (269) 591-2901 Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov	Marie Manley (269) 214-2609 Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Treasurer John Warren (269) 214-2610 John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov	Trudy Loeding (269) 783-6292 Trudy.Loeding@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Secretary Faye Wesaw (269) 782-1864 Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov	Tom Topash (269) 470-3745 Tom.Topash@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Members-at-Large	Alice Overly (269) 240-8041 Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Steve Winchester (269) 591-0119 Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov	Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary (269) 591-0604 Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Michaelina Magnuson (269) 591-5616 Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov	Council Lodge Phone: (888) 376-9988

**Tribal Council January Calendar of Events**

- 9 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 10 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon
- 11 Tribal Council Meeting, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10:00 a.m.
- 14 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, noon
- 17 Gaming Authority, Four Winds Hartford, noon
- 21 Quarterly Citizen Meeting, Community Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 23 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 24 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon
- 30 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 31 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon

Please check the website, [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov), or call (888) 782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

**AA/NA Meetings**

Tuesday nights 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Friday nights 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Health Services building II  
Use the side door for entry.

# January Citizen Announcements



Happy birthday January 24 to **Big Daddy Grubb** and the Grinch Miller, who stole his birthday.  
Love,  
The Family



Happy birthday **Kaykay Miller**  
From Mom!



Les Keson and his hunting partner, **Jordon Shiflett**, who got his first elk in the Dog Lake Pigeon River area.



Happy birthday **Diesel Grubb**  
From Mom, Dad, brother and sister

Happy belated birthday **Corey Frank Rangel**, 25 on October 9



Congratulations Graduates!!



Wishing you both much success

**Heather Farver**  
Western Michigan University  
Love  
Mom, Dad, & Ashley

**Marcus Winchester**  
Michigan State University  
Love  
Mom, Dad, & Jarred

Happy birthday, **Frank**, January 15!  
We love you!  
Mom, Ed, Troy & Matt



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
TO MY LITTLE SISTER  
ANITA (MARGIOTTA) FORKER  
FOR HER PROMOTION  
AT FOUR WINDS, AS THE NEW  
MANAGER OF  
TRIBAL PLACEMENT -DEVELOPMENT  
LOVE YOU SIS.



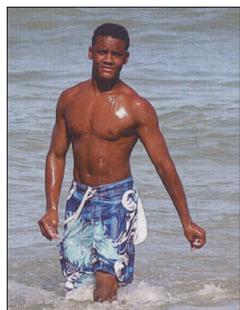
Happy birthday **C.J. Grubb**  
From your bros

Congratulations to **Emma Dougherty** on her winning "Cool Teacher" nomination. WGUV, West Michigan's PBS station, has a cool teacher contest each year. Out of 200 letters, Emma's was selected as one of four winners. WGUV treated her class to a pizza party, and Emma and her teacher, Kathy Bohl, will be featured in an upcoming commercial.



Happy birthday to **Kylista Britton**  
From mom and baby sister

Happy birthday **Nadyah Grubb**  
From Big Daddy and Mommica Grubb



Happy birthday **Ahmad Birks**  
From the extended family



Happy birthday **Kandy Grubb**  
From all the family!



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language and Culture

## Cultural Events | January

**Storytelling with Carl Wesaw**  
Neshnabe people traditionally tell stories when the snow covers the ground during the winter months. To take advantage of this beautiful time, Carl Wesaw will be joining us to share traditional Potawatomi stories that have been passed down for generations.  
**Date:** Saturday, January 7, 2012    **Location:** Tribal Lodge  
**Time:** 2:00–5:00 pm    58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI

**Men's Drumming Practice with John T. Warren**  
Drumming classes are offered to share drum teachings, practice drumming and singing, and to learn songs.  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4 and 18, 2012    **Location:** Teaching Cabin  
**Time:** 6:00–8:00 pm    Rodgers Lake Campus  
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

**Women's Drumming Practice**  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4 and 18, 2012    **Location:** Tribal Lodge  
**Time:** 6:00–8:00 pm    58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

**Men's and Women's Talking Circle**  
Cleora Morseau will be leading this talking circle. Talking circles help facilitate and build trust and relationships.  
**Date:** January 29, 2012    **Location:** Tribal Lodge  
**Time:** 3:00 pm–6:00 pm    58620 Sink Road Dowagiac MI

**Contact Information:** Andy Jackson, cultural associate  
E-Mail: Andy.Jackson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov  
Office: (269) 462-4261

Everyone is invited! If you are interested in learning Neshnabe life ways, then you are welcome to attend. These events are not exclusive to Pokagon citizens.