



POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT

May 2012

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Senior Youth Council Starting a Pokagon Big Brothers Big Sisters Program

For months the Pokagon Band Senior Youth Council has worked on developing a Big Brothers Big Sisters program for tribal youth. In April the Tribal Council approved moving forward with creating such a program.

The chair of the Senior Youth Council, Heather Farver, says that matching a child with a mentor can help kids on the road to success. "When I started attending NCAI conferences, I noticed how many problems youth in Indian Country had with issues like substance abuse, broken homes, and suicide," she said. "But if kids have one person—maybe a person who has been through those challenges and made it through OK—it can make a real positive difference in their lives."

The Pokagon Big Brothers Big Sisters will operate through the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Berrien and Cass Counties where, according to Farver, the program is completely funded and the structure is in place. Big Brothers Big Sisters pairs children ages six to twelve years old with positive adult mentors in one-to-one mentoring matches to improve social and emotional wellbeing, increase academic performance, and foster a renewed sense of tribal identification for the participating youth. The organization would have a designated staffer working with Pokagon and Native American youth.

Kyle Malott, a member of the Senior Youth Council, plans on volunteering to mentor, as does Farver. He notes that lots



of kids grow up in bad situations, and that mentors can help them through it. "A lot of us on Youth Council have had those experiences, so we know how it is," he said. "Being more connected to our culture has helped me find myself. So I'd like to be there for them, mentoring and teaching them about their culture."

The first step is to identify kids and mentors who want to participate. "We'd like to get this going as soon as possible," said Conrad Church, the youth cultural coordinator who is advising Senior Youth Council. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Pokagon Band's Big Brothers Big Sisters, please contact Conrad at Conrad.Church@PokagonBand-nsn.gov or (269) 462-4254.

A Community Taking Care of its Own: Tribal Court Expresses Need for Caregivers

There is an immediate need in the Pokagon community for adoptive and foster families. This is the message Tribal Court Chief Judge Michael Petoskey gave at the Annual Meeting in March, and hopes will inspire citizens to consider adoption, providing foster or respite care, and mentoring.

"For example, we have a 12-year-old boy who is a permanent ward of the Tribal Court," said Judge Petoskey. The boy, who strongly identifies as a Pokagon, would benefit greatly from a permanent connection to a Pokagon family. His story is just one example of many children in care who need a stable placement with a Pokagon family.

"As we began transferring more and more Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) cases to our Tribal Court from state courts, it became apparent that we needed to strategize how to maintain that child's connection with this community," said Judge Petoskey. The Tribal Court, the Family Welfare Commission and the Department of Social Services began a journey to develop strategies to create awareness within the community of the dire need for foster families, mentoring relationships (see the above article on the Big Brothers Big Sisters program), respite care, and adoptive families for Pokagon children currently in the system.

One of those strategies was the presentation at the Annual Meeting. "I got good feedback afterward," said Judge Petoskey. "People were touched. It showed the emotion we feel about our children, and the need to take care of our own. People

understood this, and realized that we can't rely on others to do what needs to be done. And tribal sovereignty gives us the opportunity to do that. We know that this will require some work and effort. It will not fall from the sky and hit us in the head."

According to Mark Pompey, the director of social services, more than fifty Pokagon children are currently in care, whether it's relative care, foster homes, guardianships, placement in their own homes but under the jurisdiction of a court. And that's not just in the ten-county service area. "We intervene on every ICWA case, so we need foster care everywhere citizens live," said Pompey.

Pompey said they've seen good results after the meeting. "The presentation was received well. It looks like we're starting to reach that goal."

"We're going to try to keep a child with a parent, if possible, and next with a relative," said Judge Petoskey. "But if that's not possible, we need Pokagons to open their homes."

To find out more about fostering or adoption, please contact Kathleen McKee, child welfare worker, at Kathleen.McKee@PokagonBand-nsn.gov or (269) 462-4276.

Conference Provides Resources to Enhance Department of Education's STEM Program

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

Several members of the Department of Education recently travelled to Indianapolis to attend the National Conference on Science Education. Their goal in attending the conference was to learn how to incorporate more science into the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) program. Penny Brant, Diana Smith, and JT Laraway of the Pokagon Education Department left the conference armed with materials and resources to enhance the STEM initiative for Pokagon youth.

"The most valuable part of the conference was the contacts we made and the ideas for our programs, activities, and future events," said Smith.

Laraway was impressed by the wealth of information she received at the conference. "One of the workshops I attended was the ABC's of Discrepant Events," said Laraway. "Discrepant events are a great way to grab attention because the outcome of the experiment is different than what the observer expected to happen." Laraway plans to incorporate some of these types of experiments into the family science night she is planning. "The goal is to bring families together with an educational purpose."

The Education Department will begin to integrate many of the concepts and resources from the conference into their programs this spring and summer. "The theme of our summer program this year is water," said Brant, the education coordinator. "We have a lot of great ideas for experiments. We also plan to combine language arts with science by having the older kids take notes. Younger kids can do this by drawing pictures of their observations."

The conference was sponsored by the National Science Teachers Association. Participants had over 1,500 workshops available on a wide array of topics. "Many of the PowerPoint presentations will be posted for us to reference in the future, and we got a lot of information on free or inexpensive resources available to us," said Brant.

"We looked at this conference as an excellent opportunity to get information on how to improve our STEM program," said Brant. "With so many workshops available, we looked for things that sparked our interest and provided us with resources. We now have a lot of great ideas and are excited to bring them our own program."



Pokagon students learned about science, math and technology through fun activities at a Department of Education STEM program last year.

STEM Students Invited to Aerospace Expo Day

**By Penny Brant,
education coordinator**

Aerospace careers are on the rise. This industry is rich with variety and opportunities for a great number of talents and skills. The challenge is that students with a STEM background (science, technology, engineering, and math) are not graduating fast enough to fill the need.

In answer, Western Michigan University, which has the only comprehensive aviation program in a Michigan state college, is teaming

up with the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals to bring an event to southwest Michigan. The focus age group is middle through high school students, with their parents and families.

What an exciting way to share a family day on Saturday, May 19 at Aerospace Expo Day at WMU's College of Aviation facility in Battle Creek. They are also viewing this as a chance to introduce their upcoming Aerospace Summer Academy.

This day is packed with activities from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Experience an aviation flight simulator, career sessions for students and parents, college information sessions, UAV demonstrations, race cars, solar powered race cars, several engineering and aviation hands-on activities, competitive (and fun!) design challenges, and interaction with aerospace professionals, students, faculty, and staff.

All are welcome! The address and phone number for the facility is 237 Helmer Road North, Battle Creek, Michigan, (269) 964-4544.

The Department of Education K-12 Program will supply limited transportation for families, leaving from the Dowagiac office and meeting up with families in Hartford. Call by Thursday, May 17 to save the space for you and your family (269) 782-0887 or (888) 330-1234. This is a fun way to explore exciting aerospace careers. Join us!

Join the Pokagon Band in celebrating the Gold LEED certification of its Community Center

Wednesday, May 2 | 10 a.m.

Refreshments will be served.

The Community Center embodies the Band's mission to preserve Mother Earth, with such low-impact design features as solar panels, a green roof and geothermal heating. It's the first building in southwest Michigan to earn a

gold-level certification in LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, from the U.S. Green Building Council. Come help celebrate this important achievement!

Individual Development Accounts Motivate Entrepreneurs to Start Saving Money

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

The Pokagon Band is pleased to announce a new incentive program aimed at encouraging entrepreneurs to set up savings accounts. Individual Development Accounts, or IDAs, provide program participants a two-to-one match on savings up to \$500.

“This is a unique savings program for our tribal entrepreneurs,” said Sean Winters, loan officer for Chi Ishobak, Inc. “The program encourages saving by providing a match of a specific number of dollars for every dollar saved, much like some parents do for their young

children.” Winters adds that, “being exposed to the process of saving and what that can do is empowering and having a program like this for our citizens is exciting.”

According to Winters, the Pokagons are the first tribe in Michigan to offer this type of program to their citizens. The program is sponsored by Fifth Third Bank. The program will accommodate 10 IDA accounts, and citizens will be informed when the program will begin accepting applications. Participants must be willing and able to save \$50 per month

for ten consecutive months for a total of \$500. “That \$500 will turn into \$1500 after the match,” explained Winters. The money must be used for the start-up or expansion of an existing tribal citizen-owned business.

“We hope that this type of savings program can be expanded in the future,” explained Winters. “We would love to help others with their savings goals for homeownership, education, credit-building or even purchasing a car.”

Eligibility will be determined by income, since the program is geared toward low-to-moderate households.

“We are in the process of solidifying the criteria and details of the IDA program and when those are finalized, that information will be shared with the citizens,” said Winters.

For more information about the program and eligibility, please contact Sean Winters, loan officer for Chi Ishobak, the tribe’s community development financial institution, at (269) 783-4157 or sean.winters@chiishobak.org.

Pokagon Band

Summer Enrichment Program

FINAL DEADLINE
June 15

If you are going into 5th through 12th grade in the 2012-2013 school year and plan to:

- Attend an enrichment camp,
- Participate in workshops,
- Attend life skills programs,
- Take pre-college summer classes or summer school
- Attend conferences

You can apply for the Pokagon Summer Enrichment Program! If randomly selected, you could receive up to \$500 to attend enrichment programs.

There are a limited number of positions available. 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

Please note your enrichment program can be held anywhere in the United States and applies to ANY Pokagon student in the country, but must take place during the summer months (June, July, August)

ARE YOU GOING INTO 5TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE?

Do you want to learn something new this summer?

Please contact Connie Baber to request the forms
(269)782-0887 or (888)330-1234
or connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Or visit www.PokagonBand-nsn.gov/Summer_Enrichment_Programs.aspx

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI

2012

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

College and Career Day

May 4, 2012
9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Photo by Kaitly Fuja

Plan your Education Journey

Parents and students: come celebrate, inspire, and promote college aspirations of our Native American students. A college education can open the door to many careers and a life-long love of learning.

- Key note speaker
- Meet college recruiters and ask questions (9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)
- Get help from financial aid representatives for FAFSA, student loans
- Workshops for middle school and high school students
- Presentations by Michigan State and Northern Michigan Universities
- Presentation from the Pokagon Band IT Department
- Four Winds Casino and Resort internships and career information
- Lunch will be provided

May 4, 2012 | 9:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Pokagon Band Community Center
27043 Potawatomi Trail, Dowagiac, Mi 49047

I am happy and proud to say that I graduated from the University of Michigan!
Graduate, 2012

I am the first one in my family to go to college and I am so grateful for the Higher Education Scholarship!
Freshman, Western Michigan, 2012

Questions, please call the Department of Education (269) 782-0887.

Youth Councils Use Spring Break to Learn, Have Fun

Over Spring Break the Youth Councils stayed busy with two day-long cultural trips. Tuesday, April 3 the youth met with Pokagon artist Jason S. Wesaw, who is interested in working on a collaborative art project based on their role in the community and as the future of the nation. Afterward, the group cooked lunch for the Elders at the Lodge.

Following lunch the teens and parents took a hike around the tribe's North Liberty, Indiana property and learned about the wildlife and natural resources there. The Pokagon Band has restored 1,149 acres there to wetlands conditions that existed before the Kankakee River was diverted for agricultural purposes. The plan is to enact measures to allow the area near the Kankakee River to be restored to marshland, resulting in a return to the types of wildlife that once were predominant in the area.

From there the youth traveled to a tour of the University of Notre Dame's campus led by Aaron Lorton, vice president of the Native American Student Association. That evening the group attended a presentation on "Tippecanoe: Tecumseh's Turning Point." Given by R. David Edmunds (Cherokee), Watson Professor of American History at the University of Texas at Dallas, the talk focused on the Battle of Tippecanoe as the opening battle of the War

of 1812, and discussed how the battle changed the nature of the Native American resistance movement.

Then, after resting up for a day, Thursday, April 5 Youth Councils had the chance to embark on an archeological and cultural experience, learning about the tribe's historical landmarks in Niles, Michigan on a tour guided by Michael Zimmerman Jr., the tribal historic preservation officer. In the afternoon the group toured the campus of Western Michigan University and worked with Erica D'Elia, a graduate teaching assistant. Jenna Huffman a Pokagon student at WMU, helped acclimate the youth to the campus and informed the students about campus life. The students visited three labs including a bone lab, chimera site, and artifacts from Fort St. Joseph. They learned what anthropology/archaeology is, how archaeologists use multiple lines of evidence like documents, oral histories, artifacts, and art to learn about the past, and that these may not all agree so that none should be viewed as the only, absolute truth.



Elders enjoyed the lunch Youth Council prepared for them.



Dani Rapp points out wildlife at the Youth Council's hike through the North Liberty wetland preserve.

Youth Council Briefs

The Department of Language and Culture is exploring offering Youth Council scholarships for high achievers in extra-curricular cultural activities such as pow wow dancing or other arts and athletics. Please contact Conrad Church if you're interested in learning more.

The 25th Annual Michigan Indian Family Olympics will be held on Friday, July 27 at the Bennett Track on Central Michigan University's Campus. Online registration will open on June 4. Contact Conrad Church if you're interested in participating on the Pokagon Band team this year.



Pokagon youth check out the historical items in a WMU laboratory.

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 fourteenth of each month. Please send items for publication to:

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

Check Out (Safely!) the Transit of Venus June 5

By JT Laraway, education associate

According to NASA scientists, on June 5 you will be able to see the planet Venus as it makes its way across the face of the Sun. The last time this phenomenon occurred was June 8, 2004 and will not happen again until the year 2117. Venus will start its voyage across the Sun at approximately 6:09 p.m. and make its last contact at 12:49 a.m., Eastern Standard Time.

According to NASA, for over 100 years the main quest of astronomers was to pin down the distance between the Earth and Sun, the astronomical unit which would give them a key to the size of the solar system. Because of the temperature of the Sun, scientists and astronomers have used the transit of Venus in order to better measure the distance between Earth and Sun. With this knowledge, we can now start to understand the massive size of the solar system.



An image of the transit of Venus. The lines were caused by cloud cover. Credit: Sylvie Beland/NASA

When you are viewing the transit of Venus in June, be sure to do so safely. Experts suggest using a number 14 welder's glass. It is important that the shade is 14 or darker. If you do not know the shade of the glass, don't use it. An inexpensive route would be to purchase a pair of eclipse shades. Although similar to sunglasses, these shades have a protective filter in them to permit safe viewing. Another route would be to project the transit with a telescope with a solar filter on it, or use a pinhole projector.

Below are some websites that show events and cool happenings in your area during the transit:

-  venustransit.gsfc.nasa.gov
-  sunearthday.nasa.gov/spaceweather/#
-  sunearthday.nasa.gov/swac/
-  spacemath.gsfc.nasa.gov/books.html

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik · Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Department of Language and Culture



CULTURE CAMP

Calling all Pokagon Youth in the 2nd – 12th Grades!

We are excited to invite you to the 2012 Summer Youth Culture Camp hosted by the Department of Language and Culture. The focus of this year's camp is language, culture, spirituality, land knowledge, Anishnaabe history, and education. Many of the camp activities will be built around cultural teachings and language lessons, but will also include your favorite conventional camp activities. We hope you can join us in making some great summer camp memories.

Dates:

Session 1

7th – 12th Grades
Thursday, June 21, 2012
Monday, June 25, 2012
Drop off & pick up at noon

Session 2

2nd – 6th Grades
Tuesday, June 26, 2012
Thursday, June 28, 2012
Drop off & pick up at noon

Eligibility:

Pokagon Citizens and JOM eligible students
2nd – 12th grades

Registration:

Registration is on a first come first serve basis. We will be accepting applications until **June 1, 2012**.

Note: Space is predetermined, so applicants may be put on a waiting list if capacity is reached before the deadline.



Photo by Kaity Fuja

Contact Information

Conrad Church, Youth Cultural Coordinator
(269) 462-4254 office • (269) 783-6773 cell
Conrad.Church@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

Applications available online May 1.
www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/summer_camps.aspx



Go Fishing with Language and Culture

A Youth Cultural Program event

Saturday, May 5
9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Gage St. Lake

The Youth Cultural Program is hosting a family fishing day to promote a healthy outdoor family activity that promotes and protects Anishnaabe lifeways. Cultural teachings about the water and tobacco offerings for the catch will proceed the fishing.

Fish Tales

- Registration is required.
- You must wear a life jacket! No exceptions. Limited number of personal flotation devices available for those who can't provide their own.
- Limited number of canoes (reserve one by pre-registering)
- You may use your own boat but the gas tank must be removed. Please note, the launch is very rustic. Limit to 14-foot boats.
- Limited number of poles and tackle available.
- Lunch and bait provided for those who pre-register
- Contest rules will be available from Pokagon Band Department of Natural Resources.

Please register by contacting Conrad Church, youth cultural coordinator, at (269) 783-6773 or Conrad.Church@PokagonBand-nsn.gov.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI



Prizes • Fun Family Event • Food

The Gage Street property will be closed to those not participating in the fishing tournament during this event.

Pokagon Health Services Welcomes New Behavioral Health Coordinator Daun Bieda

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

Pokagon Health Services recently added Daun Bieda to their staff as the new behavioral health coordinator. Bieda has extensive experience in the field of behavioral health, and is excited to be working with the Band.

Bieda is a graduate of Valparaiso University in Indiana and holds a master's degree in behavioral sciences. She is a licensed mental health counselor, a certified drug and alcohol abuse counselor, and a medication assistant treatment specialist.

Prior to joining the Pokagon Health Services team, Bieda worked as the director of residential and community services for Edgewater Systems for Balanced Living in Gary, Indiana. She supervised over thirty staff members, was responsible for program and procedure development, and was director over six residential homes.

Bieda has also worked in forensics with the Department of Justice. Additionally, she worked on opening five methadone clinics in five different states. "Prescription drug abuse is on the rise," explained Bieda. "My goal is to help people struggling with addiction to have access to treatment."

As the behavioral health coordinator, Bieda will be responsible for daily operations, program development and expansion, and is the contact person for



Daun Bieda

all behavioral health-related issues. "I provide counseling to citizens," said Bieda. "One of my goals is to increase the client census by getting treatment to those who need it."

Expansion of existing programs and implementation of new services are on Bieda's agenda. "I hope to implement an intensive outpatient program for addiction," said Bieda. "I will also be developing a community referral list with outside agencies." Bieda will also be assisting Pokagon citizens living outside of the service area to locate services that meet their needs within their area.

"I am very excited to be working here," explained Bieda. "While I am not Pokagon, I am a Native American. Working here and learning about the culture has inspired me to learn more about my own past and where I came from."

Bieda is not only dedicated to providing exceptional care to Pokagon citizens, but she is excited to learn more about the culture. Her passion for helping others paired with her knowledge and experience in the field of mental health make her an excellent addition to the Health Services staff.

Pokagon Health Services Enters Partnership with Lakeland Healthcare

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

In early March, Pokagon Health Services entered a formal partnership with Lakeland Healthcare aimed at improving access to specialty medical services for tribal citizens. This partnership will provide cost savings to the tribe and will improve communication between Health Services care providers and Lakeland Healthcare's specialists.

"We chose to partner with Lakeland because they have become such a large, regional hospital," explained Lois Wesaw, Contract Health Services Coordinator for Pokagon Health Services. The Band has been working with Lakeland since 1996, but has never had a formal partnership. "All referrals were word of mouth, and we were paying their full rate for services," said Wesaw. "This new arrangement will give our citizens broader access to specialty medical services at a lower rate."

In an effort to improve communication and educate Lakeland representatives about the tribe, Wesaw led a briefing attended by representatives from 72 Lakeland practices. "We went over the entire CHS program," said Lola Carnell, Medical Referral Specialist. "We explained what we expect from them and what they can expect from us in terms of sending patient information and transferring electronic medical records."

Many Pokagon citizens already have doctors in the Lakeland system, and they will be able to stay with the same doctor. "The partnership broadens access to specialty care such as cardiology, orthopedics and OB care," said Carnell. "I think having a partnership with someone, knowing that we will be using the same team, will be beneficial for citizens. There is no guessing about where they will go for specialized care, and it is convenient."

Lakeland Healthcare has many locations servicing southwestern Michigan, and Carnell will do her best to get patients an appointment at a location that it most convenient for them.

"We are very excited about this partnership," said Wesaw. "We are currently in talks with Allied Physicians, a large group in Indiana. With many of our citizens utilizing their services already, we would like to bring the benefits of a partnership to people living in that area as well."

Wesaw and Carnell both feel the improved communication between the medical groups will enhance the quality of care for tribal citizens.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language and Culture

Cultural Events | May

Mens Drumming Practice with John T. Warren
Drumming classes share drum teachings, practice drumming and singing, and learn songs.
Date: Wednesday, May 2 and 16 **Location:** Teaching Cabin
Time: 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. Rodgers Lake Campus
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

Womens Drumming Practice
Hand drumming classes share drum teachings, practice old songs, and learn new ones. Please wear a skirt and bring your hand drum or rattle, if you have one.
Date: Wednesday, May 2 and 16 **Location:** Tribal Lodge
Time: 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

Native Healing with Jake and Mary Pine
Jake and Mary Pine visit our community for traditional healing and wellness assistance. Traditional healing is the restoring of balance to the mind, body, spirit, and emotions. Please call Andy Jackson to schedule your individual appointment (remember to bring tobacco).
Date: Monday – Wednesday, May 14–16 **Location:** Teaching Cabin
Time: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. [individual appointments] Rodgers Lake Campus
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

Co-ed Sweat Lodge
Date: Tuesday, May 15
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Gage Street Clean-Up
Please join us to honor and show respect to our mother the earth by helping out with the annual Gage Street property clean-up. We will start off the morning with cultural teachings and then care for the land by picking up trash and raking the beach. Please dress appropriately (old clothes, boots and gloves). Snacks and a light dinner will be provided.
Date: Saturday, May 5 **Location:** Gage Street property
Time: 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. 26464 Gage Street, Dowagiac MI

Ladies Sweat Lodge with Mimi Rice
"If you are on a healing journey the sweat lodge is a good place to begin because when you are sitting in a sweat lodge, you are at the center of the four directions. It is said that the sweat lodge during ceremony "responds" to what the participants need." – Anishnawbe Health Toronto website
Mimi Rice will be joining us to run a ladies-only sweat lodge. Participants are asked to wear a long skirt, bring an extra towel to dry off with and make sure that you are not close to or on your moon time.
Date: Sunday, May 6 **Location:** Gage Street property
Time: 4:00 a.m.–? 26464 Gage Street, Dowagiac MI

Beginning Pow Wow Dancing
Come learn the basics of pow wow dancing at this introductory class.
Date: Friday, May 25 **Location:** Pow wow arena
Time: 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

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

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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.

Spring is Here! Watch Out for Poison Ivy and Contact Dermatitis

By Liz Leffler, community health nurse

Now that the weather is warmer and people are working in the yard more, it's time to be aware of skin inflammations. Poison ivy is a common plant found in most parts of the United States. It has two forms: one grows low to the ground. It is usually found in groups of many plants and looks like weeds growing from six inches to 30 inches high. The other form is a hairy vine that grows up a tree. Both have stems with three leaves. You may have heard the old saying, "leaves of three, let it be."

The poison ivy plant contains oil called urushiol (oo-roo-shee-ohl). This oil bonds to skin when it comes in contact with it. Most people are allergic to it. If you are allergic to urushiol and you get it on your skin, you'll develop an itchy, red rash. You can get the oil on your skin by:

- Touching the poison ivy plant
- Touching any clothing, including shoes, that have come in contact with the plant.
- Touching any gardening tools that may have the oil on it.
- Touching any pets that have been around poison ivy and have gotten the oil on their hair.
- Burning the poison ivy plant. The oil from the plant is carried in the smoke.

A poison ivy rash will usually begin to appear one to two days after coming in contact with urushiol. The affected area will get red and swollen. A day or so later, small blisters will begin to form, and the rash will become very itchy. During this time, it's important to try to keep from scratching the blisters. Bacteria from under your fingernails can get into the blisters and cause an infection. After about a week, the blisters will start to dry up and the rash will start to go away. In severe cases, where the poison ivy rash covers large parts of the body, it may last much longer.

Urushiol can bond to your skin within minutes. If you think that you've come in contact with poison ivy, you need to wash the area with plain cool water as soon as possible. This may help to get some of the oil off your skin. Products that contain solvents such as mineral oil (brand names: Technu, Zanafel) also may help to remove urushiol from your skin. Because urushiol can remain active for a long time, be sure to wash your clothes, shoes, tools or anything else that may have touched the plant (like camping, sporting, fishing or hunting gear).

If you develop a poison ivy rash, it will go away on its own in one to three weeks. Several over-the-counter medications are available to relieve the itching, including:

- Hydrocortisone creams (brand name: Cortizone-10)
- Calamine lotion
- Antihistamine tablets (one brand name: Benadryl)
- Oatmeal baths

Contact dermatitis is when skin becomes red, sore, or inflamed after direct contact with a substance. There are two kinds of contact dermatitis: irritant or allergic. Irritant dermatitis is the most common type. It's caused by contact with acids, alkaline materials such as soaps and detergents, fabric softeners, solvents, or other chemicals. The reaction usually looks like a burn.

Allergic contact dermatitis is caused by exposure to a substance or material to which you have become extra sensitive or allergic. Common allergens include:

- Adhesives, including those used for false eyelashes or toupees
- Antibiotics such as neomycin rubbed on the surface of the skin

- Balsam of Peru (used in many personal products and cosmetics, as well as in many foods and drinks)
- Fabrics and clothing
- Fragrances in perfumes, cosmetics, soaps, and moisturizers
- Nail polish, hair dyes, and permanent wave solutions
- Nickel or other metals (found in jewelry, watch straps, metal zips, bra hooks, buttons, pocketknives, lipstick holders, and powder compacts)
- Poison ivy, poison oak, poison sumac, and other plants
- Rubber or latex gloves or shoes

Although you may not have a reaction to a substance when you are first exposed to it, regular use can eventually cause sensitivity and a reaction to the product. Call your doctor if:

- You have a fever over 100° F (37.8° C)
- The rash covers large areas of your body
- The rash is in your eyes, mouth or on your genital area
- There is pus coming from the blisters
- The rash does not get better after a few days

If you have any questions please contact Health Services today at (269) 782-4141 or (888) 440-1234.

Judd Lumber Company Launches Discount Card Program for Pokagon Citizens

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

Since 1859, Judd Lumber Company in Dowagiac has been providing its customers with materials for various construction projects. Pokagon citizen Butch White, a stock holder in the company, is excited about the new discount card program for Pokagons.

On April 18, Judd Lumber Company welcomed tribal citizens to an open house at their store. Visitors were provided refreshments and tours of the site to familiarize themselves with everything Judd Lumber has to offer. This event also marked the launch of a tribal discount card. "Pokagon citizens can use their card to receive ten to 15 percent off of their purchases both in the store and online," said White. "The discount can also be applied to rental items."

Judd Lumber Company's primary customers are residential builders. "Most of our business is done within 25 to 40 miles of our location," said White. "Of course, there are exceptions. I have delivered materials as far away as Traverse City, Michigan." Judd Lumber also supplied materials for the Four Winds Casino and the Elders Village projects.

White currently serves as the company's treasurer, is an outside sales representative, and is the general manager of the store. He is a stock holder and will mark his twelfth year with Judd Lumber in July. Prior accepting a position with Judd Lumber, White was the repair and renovation coordinator for the Band. "I have been in construction all of my life, and the position with Judd Lumber was a great fit," said White.

"Judd Lumber Company started out as a little saw mill in 1859," said White. "The company has passed through four generations, and is currently owned by Richard Judd." At 74 years old, Judd still comes to work every day and is involved in the day-to-day operations of the company.

Judd Lumber Company gets a lot of their business through referrals, but they also advertise in the newspaper, on television, and on the radio. They have a Facebook page.

White and his wife, Lori have twin daughters, Megan and Madeline. "My father was Henry White," said White. "He was on the Tribal Council and had a lot to do with getting the casino going. My uncle, Clarence White, is on Elders Council." White stays involved with the tribe by attending meetings, the pow wow, and keeps his kids involved in the summer camps.

"I am grateful for everything that we receive from the tribe," said White. "The future is bright for Pokagons."

Judd Lumber
101 Robinson Street, Dowagiac
(269) 782-5134
www.juddlumber.com



Head Start Accepting Applications for 2012–2013 School Year

**By Sarah Hyatt,
Head Start director**

Children must be three years old by December 1, 2012 to be eligible for the 2012–2013 school year. If you are interested, please contact the office and we will mail you a pre-application. Applications must be returned with proof of all household income, proof of TANF Assistance (if applicable) and a copy of the tribal ID to be considered for enrollment by the application deadline of June 1, 2012. Please contact the center at (269) 783-0026 or (866) 250-6573 toll free, with any questions about enrollment for the upcoming year or to have a pre-application mailed to you.

School days are Monday–Thursday from 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Transportation provided in limited areas with central pick-up and drop-off locations. We serve a nutritious breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The Potawatomi language and culture is incorporated throughout each day. The program does accept children with disabilities.

Volunteers

The program is always looking for volunteers. You do not have to have a relative attending the program to be a volunteer. Anyone can be a volunteer for the program. Ways to volunteer are: spending time at the center, storytelling, craft activities, chaperoning field trips, riding on the bus, helping with the language & culture and many other ways. The program also runs male involvement activities for fathers, step-fathers, grandfathers, uncles, big brothers, cousins etc. This is a great way for the men to get together and spend time with the children. If you are interested, please call to discuss your ideas and availability.

Donations

Donations are always greatly appreciated. Items that we are always looking for: Play dough, wet wipes, outdoor play toys, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, glue sticks, Lysol Wipes, art supplies, Ziploc bags (quart & gallon size), hats and gloves, snow pants, coats/jackets, sweatshirts.

Upcoming Events/Closures

April 26 Family Fun Night from 6:00–8:00 p.m. with guest speaker

May 17 Last day of school & Graduation for the 2011–2012 School Year

June 1 Application Deadline for the upcoming 2012–2013 School Year

Happy Birthday to you!

Mrs. Hope Buck

April 1 Happy Birthday!

Aliayah Huddleston

April 3 Happy 4th Birthday!

Kamarion Huddleston

April 4 Happy 5th Birthday!

Isaiah Mix

April 10 Happy 5th Birthday!

Myah Richards

April 10 Happy 4th Birthday!

Mrs. Tracy Hyatt

April 24 Happy Birthday!

Selphie Rapp

May 4 Happy 5th Birthday!

Jillian Alm

May 6 Happy 4th Birthday!

Kai Willis

May 17 Happy 4th Birthday!

Madriana Gallegos

May 21 Happy 4th Birthday!

Thomas Solis

May 23 Happy 4th Birthday!



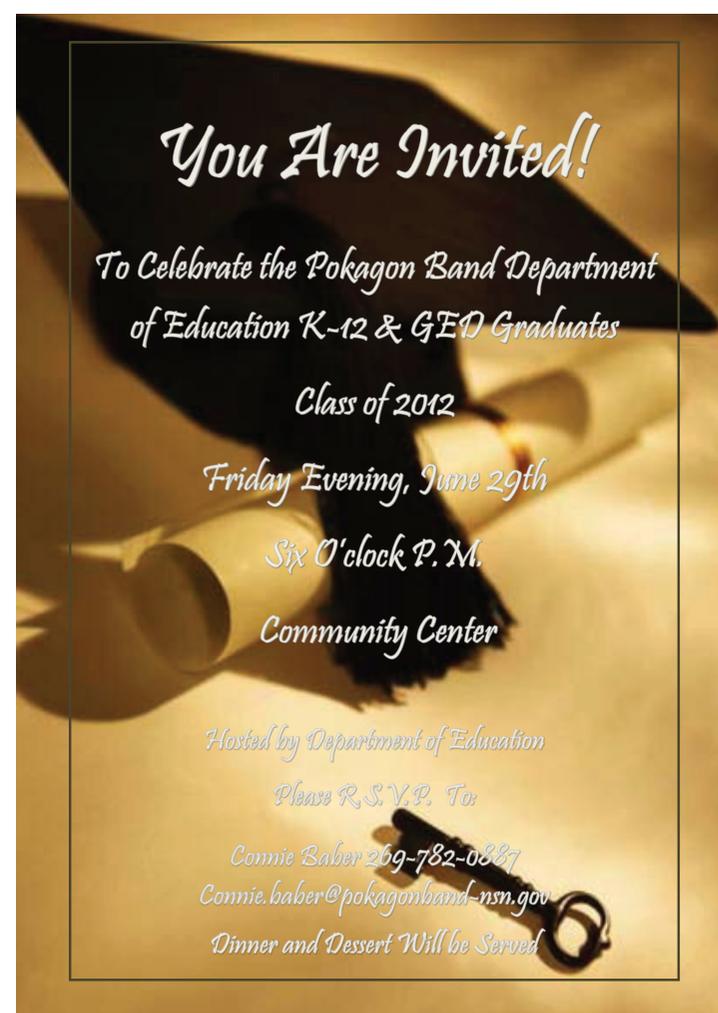
Head Start students Austin Garcia, Jacob Carlock and Myah Richards sample maple sap during their experience learning about sugar bushing last month.

Pokagon Band Wall of Honor

To honor its warriors, the Pokagon Band is planning to create a Wall of Honor at the new Community Center. Veterans and service members or families of the warrior are invited to send a photo of the warrior, to be framed and placed along with other Pokagon warriors to commemorate their service.

Information about where to send the photo, and a form asking for details such as name, branch of and dates of service, and rank can be found on the Pokagon Band website under Community > Ogitchewaw Veterans tab, or you can e-mail the information to Melissa Rodriguez at Melissa.Rodriguez@pokagonband-nsn.gov. Or if you prefer to mail the information, send it to:

Attention Melissa Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
PO Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047



Bullying? Battle Back.

By Mat Barber,
education associate

Editor's note: This poem was written by a Pokagon child who has dealt with bullying. It and this article are meant as resources for other kids who may have similar experiences.

With the rising problem of bullying, the Pokagon Band is taking a proactive approach to minimizing these dangers for youth. The Department of Education has teamed with Tribal Police, Health Services and Language & Culture in an attempt to enlighten families and combat bullying. There have been two bullying awareness workshops, with more to come in the future. If you have not had an opportunity to attend one of these workshops, here are some facts and suggestions that may help you.

First of all, bullying occurs when someone continually does or says something to have power over another person. Unfortunately bullying occurs at every age level in nearly every setting, from school to work to home. Bullying occurs in multiple forms, far beyond physical abuse. Often, the most dangerous and traumatic cases of bullying are those that involve verbal abuse, social alienation, indirect bullying, or cyber bullying. The danger increases with these types of bullying because the emotional scars and warning signs are not easily detected.

There is no single definitive way to properly combat being bullied. It is important that you tell someone (parent, teacher, or trusted adult) and talk about it. One of the most important things

you can do as a parent is stay involved in your child's life. Be proactive when it comes to knowing what's going on in and out of your home. Parents need to ask questions, listen, stay visible/ approachable, and monitor your child's online activity. Cyber bullying is increasing, and the words and rumors are often more damaging online than in face-to-face interaction.

Use as many resources that you can to combat bullying. There are many reputable websites that offer valuable information, like www.kidsagainstbullying.org or www.bullyingnoway.com. Every school has trained professionals that handle these situations, talk with your school counselor, school nurse, or administrators. The tribe offers many resources to deal with bullying and its underlying issues. Behavioral Health offers individual and family counseling. The Department of Education offers educational materials on the subject, as well as the ability to advocate for students and families when dealing with school issues. The Tribal Police Department has the ability to work as a liaison between tribal citizens and individuals or organizations outside of our community, as well as basic police services. The Department of Language & Culture offers cultural outlets to support growth and a positive lifestyle: Youth Councils, summer youth camps, and community wellness events to name a few.

 www.kidsagainstbullying.org

 www.bullyingnoway.com

The K-12 Program Welcomes JT Laraway

Bozho! My name is JT Laraway and I am the new education associate in the Department of Education. As a Pokagon citizen I am excited and eager to start working with our native youth. I would like to share a little about myself so you can get to know a little of what I can bring to this job.

I grew up in the small town of Leslie, Michigan. Within the past year I have moved to the Hartford area where two of my sisters attend high school. I am the oldest of six children. I attended Spring Arbor University and earned my bachelor of arts degree in language arts with a concentration in elementary education. I am also a Michigan certified teacher. I have had the pleasure of student teaching in the Northwest School District in Jackson, Michigan where I student taught in a fifth grade classroom. I also have had the pleasure of teaching sixth grade math at Paragon



Charter Academy in Jackson, Michigan. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family, and watching and playing sports.

I am honored to be a citizen and employee of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. I look forward to supporting the educational growth of our youth and supporting the needs of our families.

My Socks and Shoes

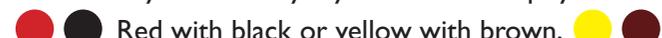
by Autumn M. Mollett

I have two pairs of shoes one black and one red,
I put them both at the end of my bed.
Each day I put red on my left and black on my right,
either way I put them it makes my day bright.
I walk down the street or walk down the halls,
people look at me and they have a ball.

I do this not for laughs or for fun
I do it because it makes me feel warm as the sun 
I have many socks both green, white or blue,
and just like my shoes I never match any two.

I'll have purple with yellow or orange with brown, 
people say I should match them when I go into town.

But I say 'what they hey' and walk the other way,
Why should they say how I look or play.

Red with black or yellow with brown, 
no matter what they say I will never wear a frown.

I am what I am and that will never change,
the only thing that will is my socks and shoes which I rearrange. 

Pokagon Band Community Wellness Gathering

Men's and Women's Wellness Retreat



DATES
May 18 & 19, 2012

TIMES
Friday, 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

LOCATION Community Center
27043 Potawatomi Trail, Dowagiac

FACILITATORS
Native Wellness Institute
Theda New Breast and Jay LaPlante

PRESENTED BY
Department of Language and Culture



Topics will include Native wellness and healing, impacts of historical trauma, men's and women's health issues, spirituality, relationships, self-care, parenting/grandparenting, cultural pride and community activism. The retreat features hands-on, experiential small and large group activities and fun games.

Who should attend? Anybody. This is a family-friendly event with a staffed youth activities room.

Why should I attend? Our people are rich in culture and family, and sometimes our self-healing abilities need to be reawakened and remembered.

What if I can't stay the entire time? That's fine. If you can only come for one day or part of one day, you'll be able to easily slide in and out of the activities.

"I set my calendar by it," says one frequent participant of the wellness retreats. "I really need it every few months, and I always leave them feeling better afterward."

CONTACT Teresa Magnuson
PHONE (269) 462-4296 **EMAIL** Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

Hypnosis Show Friday Night • Shishibe (Potawatomi Bingo) Saturday Night
Door Prizes • Give Aways • Family Event • Meals Provided • Lodging Assistance Available

NOTICE OF OPEN POSITIONS | Pokagon Band Family Welfare Commission

Position Description: In order to protect the best interests of our children, the Pokagon Band Tribal Council formed the Family Welfare Commission by ordinance and resolution, on November 6, 2001. The Commission was designed, not only, to protect the best interests of Pokagon Band children, but also to: Promote the stability and security of Pokagon Band families; Recommend to the judicial and administrative agencies involved, a course of action for the guidance and care of Pokagon Band children which most preserves the unity of the family; Recommend actions that will best serve the cultural, spiritual, emotional, mental and physical welfare of the child; Recommend a continuum of services for Pokagon Band children and their families with emphasis whenever possible on prevention, early intervention, and community based alternatives; Recognize and acknowledge the cultural traditions of the Pokagon Band for child-rearing and family preservation. The Family Welfare Commission Ordinance is available at the following internet address: <http://www.pokagon.com> under Tribal Codes and Ordinances

Compensation: Family Welfare Commissioners, appointed at-large are compensated as independent contractors in the amount of \$150, for attending each Family Welfare Commission meeting. In addition, Commission members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Family Welfare Commission business.

Qualifications of Commissioners:

- A. A Commissioner may not also be a member of Tribal Council.
- B. An individual considered for appointment must be an enrolled Tribal member, at least 18 years of age, with knowledge and experience demonstrated through educational, occupational or volunteer activities in the following areas:
 1. childhood education;
 2. childhood development;
 3. Pokagon Band or other tribal customs and traditions pertaining to child rearing;
 4. governmental and private programs to assist children and families in need; and
 5. individual and family dysfunction, the types, causes, and treatment.
- C. Neither an employee nor the spouse of an employee of the Band or of the federal government, or a state or local government, who is involved with or possibly involved, with the delivery of services relating to child welfare matters within the scope of the Commission duties and authority may be appointed or serve as a Commissioner.
- D. Immediate family members, as defined in the Pokagon Band Child Protection Code, of any family may not serve simultaneously on the Commission.

Requirements for Appointment to the Commission:

- A. Commissioners must sign and abide by a statement acknowledging the standards of confidentiality required for serving as a Commissioner.
- B. Commissioners must submit to and pass a background check conducted by the Tribal Police Department subject to such written guidelines or procedures as may be established by the Tribal Police Department. The background check serves the purpose of assisting the Tribal Council in determining whether a prospective Commissioner could pose any risk to the safety or welfare of a child or may otherwise be unsuitable for appointment to the Commission. The background check shall include the Commissioner's criminal history, including any arrest record and history of investigation by State Systems for suspected child abuse or neglect. A background check shall be conducted prior to the appointment or re-appointment of every Commissioner.
- C. Every Commissioner shall be of good character and reputation, shall not associate with dishonest or disreputable persons, and shall exhibit high moral standards at all times.

Appointment Process: Appointments to the Family Welfare Commission are made by Tribal Commission. Each Commissioner shall serve a term of three (3) years.

How to Apply: Please submit application, which may be obtained through the Department of Social Services to:

Mark Pompey
Director of Social Services
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Questions concerning the Family Welfare Commission, may be directed to the Director of Social Services, Mark Pompey, at (269) 782-8998 or mark.pompey@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Ethics Requirements: As Public Officials, Family Welfare Commissioners are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics enacted last year, which includes certain limitations in § 8.15 on appointments and employment applicable to Public Officials. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained by contacting Kelly Curran, Tribal Council Executive Secretary at (888) 376-9988 or Edward Williams at 269-783-0970.

Second Chance @ Work

The Pokagon Band is partnering with Goodwill Industries of Michiana, Inc. to take part in a grant funded program called Second Chance @ Work. Goodwill received grant funding in 2010 to develop the program and to date has helped hundreds of people with criminal backgrounds develop the skills to find and hold down a job.

The purpose of the Second Chance @ Work program is to provide individuals returning from prison an opportunity to get into a program that will allow them to develop and/or fine tune the skills necessary to become a productive member in the workforce, thus providing them the opportunity to provide for themselves and their families.

The ideal candidates for this program are those who are truly committed to turning their lives around and grasping the opportunity that is being offered by Goodwill. The program provides a series of initial

classes covering a variety of topics, including GED preparation. Each individual will have a personalized timetable which takes into account commitments outside of the Goodwill experience.

After sufficient time to demonstrate a commitment to perfect attendance and meeting the program's expectations, participants are given the opportunity to move into the Work Experience stage of the program. Work experience begins with 20 hours a week at a Goodwill facility or a Goodwill Store. During the work experience phase, participants will continue to receive guidance and support from case management personnel.

After six months and participants have developed a successful work history, job search skills and activities are developed with the aid of support personnel. The goal is placement in a job in the community.

If you are interested in participating or learning more about the Second Chance @ Work program, please contact any member of the Human Resources team to schedule an appointment to start the process.

Heather Farver
HR Generalist
269 462-4267
heather.farver@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Lori Harris
Benefits Coordinator
269 462-4266
lori.harris@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Jim Dybevik
Director of HR
269 462-4265
jim.dybevik@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Cultural

- 5/5 | Gage St. Clean-up, Gage St. Property, 12-6pm
- 5/6 | Ladies' Sweat Lodge with Mimi Rice, Gage St. Property, 4am
- 5/18 & 5/19 | Community Wellness Gathering, Topic: Men's & Women's Retreat, Community Center, Fri. 5-9pm, Sat. 9-6pm
- 5/25 | Beginner Pow Wow Dancing, Pow Wow Arena, 6-8pm

Drumming

- 5/2 & 5/16 | Men's Drumming, Teaching Cabin, 6-8pm
- 5/2 & 5/16 | Women's Hand Drumming, Tribal Lodge, 6-8pm

Language

- Tuesdays & Thursdays | Adult language Class, Community Center, 6-8pm
- Mondays | Elders Language Class, Elders Hall, 10am -12pm
- 5/9 | Language Workshop with Eddie Jo Mitchell, Community Center, 6-8pm
- 5/19 | Shishibe (Potawatomi BINGO), Community Center, 6-8pm
- 5/23 | Language Workshop with Frank Barker, Community Center, 6-8pm

Native Healing

- 5/14-5/16 | Jake & Mary Pine, Teaching Cabin, 9am-12pm & 1-5pm
- 5/15 | Co-ed Sweat Lodge with Jake & Mary Pine, Teaching Cabin, 6-8pm

Youth Cultural

- Mondays | After School Lacrosse Program, Head Start, 5-7pm
- 5/12 | Jr. & Sr. YC Quarterly Report to Tribal Council, Community Center, 10am
- 5/12 | Sr. YC Business Meeting, Community Center, 1-3pm
- 5/5 | Jr. YC Business Meeting, Gage St. Property, 1:30-3pm
- 5/5 | Family Fishing Day, Gage St. Property, 9-1pm

Traditions and Repatriation Committee

- 5/21 | Monthly Meeting, Admin. Bldg., Finance Conf. Rm. 6-8pm
- 5/22 | Cultural Center Planning & Design Workshop, Admin Conf. Room, 10-5pm

May 2012

Green = Non I&C Department Programs

Department of Language and Culture

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

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Adult Language Class	2 Men's & Women's Drumming	3 Adult Language Class	4 Summer Youth Culture Camp Staff Training (Staff Only)	5 Gage St. Clean-up; Family Fishing Day; Jr. YC Business Meeting
6 Ladies' Sweat Lodge with Mimi Rice	7 Elder's Language Class; After School Lacrosse Program	8 Adult Language Class	9 Language Workshop with Eddie Jo Mitchell	10 Adult Language Class	11 Lunch and Learn (Staff Only)	12 Sr. YC Business Meeting; Jr. & Sr. YC Quarterly Report	
13	14 Elder's Language Class; Native Healing; After School Lacrosse Program	15 Adult Language Class; Native Healing; Co-ed Sweat Lodge	16 Men's & Women's Drumming; Native Healing	17 Adult Language Class	18 Community Wellness	19 Community Wellness; Shishibe (Potawatomi BINGO)	
20	21 Elder's Language Class; Traditions & Repatriation; After School Lacrosse	22 Adult Language Class; Cultural Center Planning & Design Workshop	23 Language Workshop with Frank Barker	24 Adult Language Class	25 Beginner Pow Wow Dancing; Veteran's Golf Outing	26 Oshke-Kno Kewewen Pow Wow; YC Pow Wow Booth	
27 Oshke-Kno Kewewen Pow Wow; YC Pow Wow Booth	28 Offices Closed Memorial Day; Elder's Language Canceled	29 Adult Language Class; Elder's Language Class Rescheduled	30	31 Adult Language Class			



Elders Council Business Meeting | April 5, 2012

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

INVOCATION: Alan Morsaw

ROLL CALL: Jeanette Mollett, A, Maxine Margiotta, P, Clarence White, A, Audrey Huston, P, Member-at-large, Ruth Saldivar, P, also in attendance Petey Boehm.

AGENDA: Director of Housing Jim Coleman and members of the CDF gave a presentation as to what the future developments will possibly look like.

The infrastructure has already begun with the building of the roads.

They are still open to ideas, just talk to the Housing staff.

Petey Boehm, elders specialist, reported on the active living class. There has been a good turnout. John Winchester, who teaches the language class, has been having a good turnout also.

Petey also asked for people to volunteer for the Elder of the month.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Bonnie will be asking the MIEA officers if we can host the 2013 conference in October of that year.

OLD BUSINESS: Elders Memory book has been completed and can be picked up at Elders Hall. We would like to thank Paige Risser and Beth Salman for all their help. The people that live out of the area will have their books sent to them.

The policy on bus procedures, tribal and charter are now complete. A copy can be obtained at Elders Hall.

Loan Closet is being worked on. Library books are still in the works. The goal of the emergency fund is just about complete.

MINUTES: Ruth moved to accept the of March 1, 2012 minutes. Maxine supported, (4) yes, (1) absent, passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Maxine, moved to accept the Treasurers report, Jeannie supported, (4) yes, (1) absent, passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

Active Living classes will be held every Friday 10:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.

Bingo is on March 14.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS: Valerie Baker, Judy Augusta, Bonnie Parrish, Yvonne “Petey” Boehm, Vivian Jackson, Carl Wesaw.

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES: None.

ADJOURNMENT: 1:08 p.m



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language and Culture

Language Events | May

Elder's Language Classes
Elder's Language Class is a beginner level class that is held every Monday with **John Winchester**. New learners are welcome.
Date: May 7, May 14, May 21, May 29 **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**. These classes emphasize learning sentence structure and speaking.
Date: May 1, May 3, May 8, May 10, May 15, May 17, May 22, May 24, May 29, May 31 **Time:** 6:00–8:00 pm
Location: Community Center Training Room

Language Workshops
Twice a month, language instructors are invited to share their knowledge about the Potawatomi language. Please join us in welcoming Eddie Jo Mitchell and Frank Barker in May. Refreshments provided.
Date: May 9 | Presenter: Eddie Jo Mitchell **Time:** 6:00 pm–8:00 pm
May 23 | Presenter: Frank Barker **Location:** Community Center, Training Room

Shishibe | Potawatomi Bingo
Shishibe is a BINGO game using Potawatomi vocabulary and phrases. This is a family friendly event. Prizes and refreshments provided.
Date: May 19 | Caller: TBA **Time:** 6:00 pm–8:00 pm
Location: Community Center, Training Room

For more information, contact: Teresa Magnuson, (269) 462-4296
E-Mail: Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

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



Pokégnek Bodéwadmik - Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

Womens Wellness Day

Monday, May 14 ☽ 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Pokagon Health Clinic and Health Administration Building

DOHS I During Womens Wellness Day, the focus is on you. Our providers will be available to perform scheduled pap tests, and breast exams, labs, EKGs, PFTs, immunizations, vital signs, A1C, height/weight, and foot screenings.

All participants must be established at the clinic in order to attend this event. **If you would like to become established, please schedule ahead of time.** Please pre-register for the services below so we can review your charts prior to your visit and offer a thorough exam.

DOHS II Social workers will have information on Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security from 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

- ☽ Pap tests & breast exams
- ☽ EKGs & PFTs
- ☽ A1C, glucose & vitals
- ☽ Foot exams
- ☽ Immunizations

Speakers & Womens Topics

- ☽ 9 a.m.–11 a.m. | Jake Pine | traditional native healing
- ☽ 11 a.m.–11:30 a.m. | personal finance, entrepreneurship, wealth building
- ☽ 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | lunch
- ☽ 1:00–2:00 p.m. | TBA | life stages of women
- ☽ 2:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. | Duan Bieda | stress & women
- ☽ 3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. | Matt Myers | domestic violence
- ☽ 4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. | Anita Morales | the strawberry mark

Please pre-register for services by calling 1(888) 440-1234 or (269) 782-4141

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 2011	Monthly Per Cap
83	John Dylan Watson	x	x	x	x
406	Michael Lynn Hewitt	x	x	x	x
434	Thomas Charles Abercrombie	x	x	x	x
857	Peter John Ramirez	x	x	x	x
1445	Michael David Bush	x	x	x	x
1446	Bobby Marcus Haynes	x	x	x	x
1533	Louie Benedict Jackson		x	x	
1986	Cristian M Cobb		x	x	
2476	Patrick Michael Phares			x	
2594	Nicole Marie Hamstra			x	
2823	Patrick Johnson				x
4227	Scott Brewer Jr		x	x	x
4319	Crystal Pokagon			x	x

Please note - you must have a deliverable address on file.

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, 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.

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

Attention all high school seniors who are graduating from high school or individuals who 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 May 15 in order to make it on the June check run. Anything received after May 15 will be processed on the check run for July. 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 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

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

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

may

7 language | New York Trip
 Buffalo Meatballs W/ Spaghetti
 Asparagus
 Garden Salad
 Garlic Bread
 Mini Carrot Cake

1
 Roasted Chicken with Apricots
 and Prunes
 Brown Rice
 Sliced Carrots
 Broccoli Slaw
 Fresh Fruit

2
 Pork Chops
 Red Skin Potatoes
 Tri-Blend Veggies
 Biscuit
 Fresh Fruit

3 business
 Meatballs W/ Beef Gravy and
 Noodles
 Green Beans
 Garden Salad
 Corn Bread
 Fresh Fruit

4
 Potato Soup
 Cold Tuna and Pea Salad
 Relish Tray
 Jell-O Cup

7 language | New York Trip
 Buffalo Meatballs W/ Spaghetti
 Asparagus
 Garden Salad
 Garlic Bread
 Mini Carrot Cake

8 New York Trip
 Salisbury Steak
 Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
 Beets
 Garden Salad
 Banana Pudding and Vanilla Wafers
 Bread

9 New York Trip
 Cornish Hen
 Baked Potato
 Peas and Carrots
 Coleslaw
 Fruit W/ Yogurt Cup
 Roll

10 New York Trip
 Pork Loin W/ Rutabaga and
 Potatoes
 Broccoli
 Garden Salad
 Applesauce
 Roll

11
 Meat OR Meatless Pizza
 Garden Salad
 Cottage Cheese and Pineapple

14 language
 Bean Soup
 Veggie Mushroom and Swiss
 Burger
 Veggie and Relish Tray
 Jell-O W/ Fruit

15
 Swiss Steak
 Mashed Potatoes
 Brussels Sprouts
 Cucumber Salad
 Pudding Cup
 Roll

16
 Ham and Scalloped Potatoes
 Butternut Squash
 Garden Salad
 Cookie
 Roll

17 social
 Grilled Buffalo Burgers and Dogs
 Baked Beans
 Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad
 Veggie and Relish Tray
 Red Velvet Cupcake

18
 Cod (Fish)
 Rice Pilaf
 Corn
 Garden Salad
 Cherry Pie

21 language
 Beef Roast
 Roasted Potatoes and Carrots
 Coleslaw
 Blueberry Crisp
 Roll

22
 Grilled Pork Steak
 Italian Pasta Salad
 Corn on the Cob
 Cucumber Salad
 Fruit
 Bread

23
 Buffalo and Broccoli Stir Fry
 Brown Rice
 Garden Salad
 Cottage Cheese and Peaches
 Crescent Roll

24
 Chicken Breast
 Sweet Potatoes
 Green Bean Casserole
 Melon Salad
 Bread

25
 Salmon Patties
 Macaroni and Cheese
 Garden Salad
 Mixed Vegetables
 Fresh Fruit
 Roll

28 closed | memorial day



29
 Buffalo Tacos W/ Lettuce,
 Tomato, Onion, and Cheese
 Hard or Soft Taco Shell
 Black Beans and Rice
 Angel Food Cake
 W/ Strawberries

30
 Sausage, Sauerkraut, and
 Mashed Potatoes
 Asparagus
 Garden Salad
 Pumpkin Pie
 Corn Bread

31
 BBQ Pork Chops
 Baked Potato
 Italian Blend Vegetables
 Red Cabbage Slaw
 Apple Pie
 Roll



Photo by eddiecoyote

PLEASE CALL THE DAY BEFORE if you are not a regular attendee for meals. (269) 782-0765 or (800) 859-2717. Meals subject to change. Meal service begins at 12:00 Noon.
 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 (269) 983-7217	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 & Facilities 27043 Potawatomi Trail (269) 783-0443 FAX (269) 783-0452
Communications 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8998	Human Resources 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8998 FAX (269) 782-4253
Compliance 58620 Sink Rd. (269) 782-8998	Language & Culture 32142 Edwards St. (269) 782-9602 FAX (269) 783-0452
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 FAX (269) 783-0452
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	(888) 376-9988

Tribal Council May Calendar of Events

- 1 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon
- 7 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 8 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon
- 9 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, 10 a.m.
- 14 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 15 Gaming Authority, Four Winds Hartford, noon
- 21 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 22 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon
- 23 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 6 p.m.
- 28 No meeting | Memorial Day holiday
- 29 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon

Please check the website, 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.

May Citizen Announcements

Family and friends of **Orville Arthur Goss Jr.** (born January 26, 1951 and passed on May 19, 2011) are invited to a ghost dinner in his honor, Saturday, May 19 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Tribal Lodge at Rodgers Lake. Please bring a dish to pass if possible, and RSVP to Sean Dixon at (269) 369-5952 or (269) 782-0201.



To the best mother ever:
We miss you **Jennette Lewis** Brown, crossed over April 16, 2010.
Her loving family

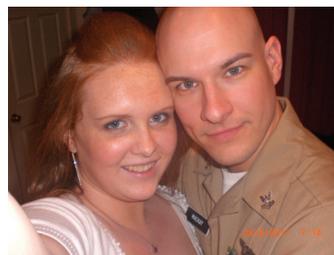
Ashley Pfeifle, a student at Paw Paw High School and the granddaughter of Janet and Norm Pfeifle, has been selected to represent Michigan as a National Youth Delegate to the 2012 Washington Youth Summit on the Environment at George Mason University. The WYSE is a student leadership conference designed to develop and encourage future leaders in the field of environmental studies and conservation in the 21st century.

Pfeifle will join a select group of 250 students from across the country in an intensive week-long study of leadership in environmental science and conservation from June 24-29. She was chosen based on her academic accomplishments and a demonstrated interest in the science fields and conservation. Congratulations, Ashley!

Happy birthday **Phoebe Hall** May 6!
From Petey and all the elders at Elders Hall

Happy birthday **Roger**, May 20
Love, Gina, Cory and Meggie

Happy first wedding anniversary to **Jennifer and Michael MacKay**!



Chelsea, happy 21st birthday, May 21
Love, Uncle Roger; Aunt Gina, Cory and Megan

Happy Birthday, May 3, **Theresa S. Alsup**. May the Great Spirit continue to guide your moccasins.

Love, Mom Waub Nimki Wke

Happy Birthday, May 3, **McKenzie Coral McMillan**. Our princess is growing up too fast.

Love, Great Grandma Georgie Waub Nimki Kwe

Happy Birthday May 16, **Ashley Nicole Duschaine**. My prayers are with you and I hope you find your happiness.

Love you, Grandma Geogie, Waub Nimki Kwe and Aunt Cleora



Martha Morseau-Olson and **Josh Olson** are parents of a healthy baby boy. **James Andrew Olson** was born March 23, 2012. He was 7 lbs. 7 oz. and 19 3/4 inches. James has two older sisters, Sydney and Chelsy Olson.

Oshke-Kno-Kewéwen Traditional Pow Wow 2012

Hosted by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Honoring the new veterans eagle staff

Saturday & Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend
May 26 & 27, 2012
Rodgers Lake, Dowagiac, MI

Head Veteran:
George Martin

Head Male & Female
Dancers:
TBA

Invited Drums:
Ribbon Town, TBA

Emcee: **Jason Wesaw**
Co-Emcee: **Roger Rader**

Arena Director:
Carl Wesaw

For Pow Wow Information
Contact Kevin Daugherty at
269-591-1230 or 269-462-4200



*This is a family event. No drugs, alcohol, firearms, or tribal politics.
No pets in Pow Wow area.*

Rush Lake Indian Cemetery Mass

Memorial Day Weekend
Monday, May 28, 2012 Mass will begin at
1:00 p.m.

Meat will be provided
Potluck will follow
Contact DCN Art Morsaw at 269-621-3371.

