



Pokagon Community Eagle Staff Carried to Eagle Staff Gathering

Pokagon Band veterans Roger Williams, Butch Starrett and Anthony Foerster, and Tribal Council member John Warren carried the Band's Eagle Staff to an Eagle Staff gathering in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan October 1-3. Dozens of Native veterans came together with their tribes' staffs for the gathering. Doris Boisseneau, an Ojibwe teacher and speaker at Sault College, began organizing these gatherings nine years ago. In her keynote speech, she acknowledged that, "the staffs are considered alive, a spirit that stands there." Warren noted, "When eagles are teaching their young to fly, they'll swoop under and give the eaglet a lift if it's falling. These staffs do that for us. They remind us who we are, and that our beliefs are what really matter. The staffs are cared for by their carriers, but really they carry us." Anthony Foerster, Marine veteran, wrote the following about his time at the gathering.

It was a powerful experience for the Pokagon Community Eagle Staff to attend the Eagle Staff Gathering. The event was created with the vision that just as people meet on an annual basis, so should

honor bestowed on them for the risk that they have taken for their service in the Armed Forces and as providers. Women, with roles as life givers, have their honors as well. Honor is what holds the tribe together. Honor is what healed the warriors after battle or long periods of strife preparing for battle. Honor is what keeps women doing what they need to do to give life, take care of the food, clothing, medicines, and water that keep us alive and hold the family together. Based on this thinking, to extend honor to someone for extraordinary things not only rewards a member for doing great things, but inspires others to do the extraordinary things for which honor is awarded. Those people that do great things are the catalyst for instilling in our children the honorable principles that are the

reflective picture in it. Seeing the reflection of all the eagle staffs gathered in a circle around the monument was an awe inspiring moment. The power of the eagle staffs along with veterans



with a distinguished background is an indescribable feeling. From there, we did a grand entry into the building where we posted our staff for the remainder of the weekend. We had staff carriers talk about their staffs until we went downtown to participate in a homecoming ceremony for a local National Guard unit returning from Iraq.

During this ceremony, the Sault tribe's drum was given front stage honors and all the eagle staffs present at the gathering lined up on both sides of those young troops men and women just freshly returned from the theatre of war. They had not even been with their families yet. It felt good to flank both sides of those young warriors. The U.S. Army placed us in the highest positions of honor. Those eagle staffs were held proudly as the feathers danced in the wind during that song.

We started Sunday with frosted windows and a sunrise ceremony inside to the cultural center. After breakfast and feeding the staffs, we smoked the pipe. It was interesting to observe the method used by the pipe carrier who blew into the bowl of the pipe to make the smoke come out of the smoking end of the pipe.

During our long journey back we spoke about traditions and some new concepts in our teachings. We need to consider how we plan on addressing some of the issues that challenge the traditional way of thinking. We have women fighting in combat and dying. Should a woman who has served in the military have the honor of carrying an eagle staff? Should the title of warrior be shared with someone who has dedicated their working life to the service of the Anishnabek? If so, do we allow this individual to carry an eagle staff? We have much to consider as the Anishnabek progresses in a modern age and our traditions may need to experience growth as well.

Inside This Month

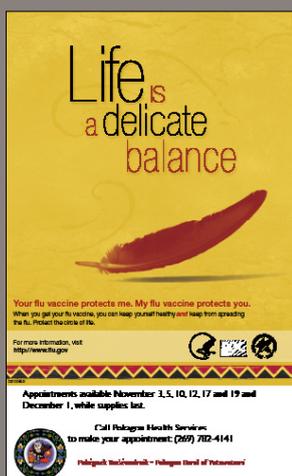
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the eagle staffs. This is an event just for the staff itself. The eagle staff mingles with the other staffs during the event. It was said that the feathers on the staff talk to one another. Everyone there was given the opportunity to talk about their staff, some of which were very enlightening and informative.

An eagle staff can be created to honor a variety of things. Tradition dictates that it is the responsibility of the tribe to distribute honor. Tribes have varying ways of doing this. Elders have the honor bestowed on them to be sought out for wisdom, to lead in prayers, and to point the younger members in the right direction of life. Veterans, with the role as life takers, have the various

essence in our way of life. With this said, the tribal community needs to support the creation of the eagle staff. Without community support, it does not have the honor that makes an eagle staff what it is. It is just a stick with eagle feathers, and that is a dishonor to the feathers and the beliefs that they represent.

The event began Friday evening with registering and socializing. Saturday morning started early with a sunrise ceremony in an enclosed fire pit. The fire was beautiful and had medicines in all four directions. We smudged ourselves, the staffs and smoked the pipe. After breakfast, we assembled next to the Veteran's Monument. It was a granite marble that had a

Pokagon Band Hosts First Language Immersion Weekend

by John Winchester, Language Facilitator

September 10 through 13 the Pokagon Band hosted our first Bodewadmi Zheshmowen workshop. We named the event Mamwe Gge Yawmen Ewi Gigdoygo, which means "Let's all be together so we can talk." The workshop was offered for all Potawatomi people interested in learning and keeping alive Bodewadmi Zheshmowen, our Potawatomi language.

On average twenty-five people participated on each of the four days. The vocabulary and focus of the workshop was based on concepts in 200 Words to a Community, a three year project supported by a grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) for the Gun Lake, Huron, and Pokagon Bands.

Jim Thunder, Forest County Potawatomi, opened with the invocation on Friday morning, and presented how to use everyday verbs selected from our 200 words list. Each morning was filled with Jim helping us to be able to speak our Potawatomi language about simple everyday tasks and activities.

Kim Wensaut, also enrolled at Forest County, assisted Jim in the morning sessions and presented our Potawatomi language by way of immersion in the afternoon sessions. She utilized physical-response techniques, games, and visual aids to immerse us and engage us in speaking our language.

Frank Barker, who has been helping us learn our

language for more than eleven years, helped us understand how to utilize the different sides of our brain to maximize our



Kevin Daugherty, right, tries to guess the animal taped to his back by asking, from left, Dawn Hill, the ANA language program coordinator at Hannahville Indian Community, Andy Jackson, and Joe Sagataw, also from Hannahville, questions in Potawatomi during the language immersion weekend.

learning potential in acquiring our language. Frank always makes class time enjoyable with interactive games and visual learning techniques.

Lou Aitkens, of the Prairie Band Potawatomi, presented an analysis of the old Topash Prayer, a prayer published in *The Prairie Potawatomi* an ethnographic study written by Ruth Landes in the early twentieth century. Lou has managed to unravel the old writing system used by Landes, and to render the text of the prayer into the more accessible WNALP (Wisconsin Native American

Language Project) writing system, which most Potawatomi language learners are now using or are familiar with. Lou also engaged us

all in a fun activity where we each took the place of a speech part and stood in a line to represent the full sentence. We each displayed a paper plate with our word, alternating and changing the tense, personal pronouns, and so on.

Thomas Loftis, a Citizen Band Potawatomi, was on hand to help us all with pronunciation, sorting out how the language works and translating. Thomas also built the 4 x 8 dry erase board which all presenters used, which made everything so much easier to see.

On the last day, members of the Tribal Council joined us at the pavilion to play Name that Tune in the Potawatomi language. Most of the song titles were from the 60s, which matched the predominately baby-boomer age group well and was a lot of fun!

Before eating the evening meal, Jim Thunder spoke on the distinctiveness of our Potawatomi language and how important it is to keep it alive.

We are still working on getting the digital materials ready to send to participants. And we are already lining up our first planning session for next year's Potawatomi language immersion event. One item we need to improve on is to get the word out sooner.

Thanks to Kevin (Kében) Daugherty for an extraordinary job as our Master of Ceremonies. Thanks also to Andy Jackson, Matt Morsaw, and Marie Willis from our Education Department, to members of the Traditions Committee, Pokagon Promise, and to the many dedicated Potawatomi language student volunteers. Special thanks goes to the Hannahville Indian Community for the formatting of this workshop. And very special thanks to our Pokagon Band Tribal Council for their unanimous support of the current Potawatomi language curriculum project, of which this immersion workshop marks the half-way point.

Students Can Earn Credits for Studying Native Languages, Says New Michigan Law

On October 7 Teresa Magnuson, the director of the Pokagon Band's new Department of Language and Culture, joined leaders and members of four other Native American tribes and Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm as the governor signed Senate Bill 1014 into law. This new law allows students to get credit for Native American tribal language and culture classes taught by tribal elders rather than traditional certified educators.

The new law will permit the Michigan Department of Education to work with federally-recognized Native American tribes to allow a tribe, school district, or public school academy to use teachers who do not possess a valid Michigan teaching certificate to teach a Native American tribal language and culture class. The teacher would need to demonstrate a mastery of the tribal language, and the plan would include requirements for renewal or continuing approval of the teacher. The act will enable students to receive credit for a Native American tribal language class and apply it toward their foreign language requirements. Students must take credits in a foreign language in order to meet Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements.



"With this new law we will put the best teachers, the tribal members who have the greatest knowledge about their culture and language, into our classrooms and teaching our children," said Sen. Prusi. "I am happy to be the sponsor of this law because it means that all Michigan students will have the opportunity to be better informed about the history of our state, and about the people we share Michigan with and who have been here the longest."

Governor Jennifer Granholm was joined in her Capitol office by

leaders and members of the Hannahville Indian Community Tribe of Potawatomi Indians, the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawotomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe), the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. The leaders who attended were Kenneth Meshigaud, Chairman, Hannahville Indian Community Tribe of Potawatomi Indians; Ed Pigeon, Vice Chairman, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawotomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe); Darwin "Joe" McCoy, Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chip-

President Obama Signs Indian Veterans Housing Opportunity Act into Law New Law Will Help Veterans Access Affordable Housing

President Barack Obama signed the Indian Veterans Housing Opportunity Act into law October 12. The Veterans' Act was passed in the Senate on September 29.

The Veterans' Act amends the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) to be consistent with the IRS Tax Code and other federal statutes and regulations by excluding income received by a veteran, or his or her family, for service-related disability, dependency, or indemnity from the definition of income under NAHASDA. NAHASDA was passed in 1996 to allow tribal communities to more easily access housing grants by providing support to families who make less than 80 percent of the median income of their area.

"This is a deserving benefit for veterans who receive compensation for their services to our country," said Anthony Foerster, a Pokagon veteran and a Pokagon Band Department of Housing staff member. "Any compensation given to veterans should not be treated as income but as reparation. This country's great-

ness has been built upon the blood, sweat and tears of this nation's military. past and present. It is only fitting that we give them every benefit without encumbrance. I applaud Congress on this important legislation and President Obama for signing it into law. It is an important step taken in the recognition of one of our nation's treasures; the veteran."

The bill was originally introduced by Representative Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ) in the House and by Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) and co-sponsored by Senator John Thune (R-SD) in the Senate.

The problem was brought to the attention of Congress last year of members of the Navajo Housing Authority, who received concerns that veterans were ineligible for NAHASDA housing programs when they returned from military service. The Navajo Nation and the housing authority approached Rep. Kirkpatrick regarding a possible legislative fix, which started the bill's momentum.

"Native Americans have made incredible sacrifices to keep

our country safe, and it is unacceptable that Native veterans and their families have been unable to receive the benefits they have earned for so many years. With our victory, more of America's heroes will be able to move into higher quality housing with their families, and communities across Indian Country will grow stronger," Rep. Kirkpatrick said in a statement. "However, enacting this law is just one of many steps we must take to help the tribes create new and better opportunities in Indian Country."

Kirkpatrick is now asking the Bureau of Indian Affairs to correct a similar problem with its Housing Improvement Programs, which is also causing problems for Native veterans.

pewa Indians; and Ken Harrington, Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. Dr. Flora Jenkins attended representing the Michigan Department of Education.

See page 11 for a profile of the new Department of Language and Culture.

Behavioral Health Earns Accreditation

By Patricia Holbrook, LMFT, CAAC, Behavioral Health Clinical Coordinator

Keepers of the Fire, the Pokagon Band Behavioral Health Program, is proud to announce that we completed our audit with the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) in September. We are now accredited for a year in the following programs:

- Integrated behavioral health/primary care (alcohol and other drugs, mental health) for adults, children, and adolescents.
- Outpatient treatment integrated: (alcohol and other drugs, mental health) for adults, children, and adolescents
- Case management/services coordination: integrated for adults

The auditors were very impressed with the program's vision and how it aligned with the tribe's vision, keeping a focus on service to our community to the best of our ability. They were also struck by our embodied cultural respect and program materials. The effort to complete the audit was collaboration between the entire Behavioral Health and Department of Health Services community.

It is a pleasure to be of service to the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and their families.

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

Webcasting for Remote Access to Tribal Council Meetings Made Available to Citizens

Want to attend a Tribal Council meeting the second Saturday of the month, but can't make it? If you have access to a computer and a broadband internet connection, you can view remotely by webcasting. The Department of Information Technology has been testing its webcasting equipment over the past few months, and more than twenty members have taken advantage of the service.

"I was able to log on and watch, or at least listen, to the membership meeting," writes Ed Hillyer, a citizen who has used the webcasting technology for a past meeting. "I have been busy, and usually use my weekends for office time to catch up on paperwork. At the same time I have wanted to get to hear what was going on with tribal business. I had no difficulty understanding how to download and connect to the webcast. It will truly be an asset to communicating with the members."

Follow these steps and participate in the monthly meetings from the comfort of your own home:

1. Visit <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/webcast> for information related to webcasting. Presently this is just a link dedicated to hosting the link to the external registration site.
2. Click the link to go to the

registration form.

3. Complete the registration form.
4. The registration request is stored for manual review. The information is matched against Enrollment records and requests are approved. IT has had to deny requests when somebody used the wrong enrollment number and CID, which are found on the Enrollment card. If a Citizen has an old Enrollment card without CID # on it, he or she should contact Enrollment to be issued a new card. Enrollment has no record of who may have an old card.
5. Once approved, an e-mail notice goes out to the requestor indicating approval or denial along with access link and code for the webcasting session (Live Meeting).
6. Citizens will need to download the free Microsoft Live Meeting Client software either through the link at <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/webcast> or from the e-mail confirmation. The client software is what enables access to the Live

Meeting Service.

7. When the day and time arrives to join the meeting, the Citizen opens the e-mail confirmation and clicks the link to join the meeting. Citizens can join the meeting as early as 30 minutes before the meeting.
8. Once in the meeting, Citizens are muted so that only audio from the Tribal Council meeting room can be heard. The Tribal Council has opted to not take questions from the webcast participants, though the service is configured to permit Citizens taking turns to ask questions. Maybe this will be permitted in the future. Citizens are encouraged to call or e-mail their Tribal Council using contact information posted regularly in the tribal newsletter. The meeting agenda will be available as a handout (downloadable
9. We'll ask for re-registration every six months to make sure we have accurate e-mail addresses for everyone. Registration is now open for webcasts through December 11, 2010. Registration for webcasts through June 11, 2011 will open December 15, 2010.

through the Live Meeting Client). Any documents that the Tribal Council provides IT in advance can be shared through the service in addition to the video and audio. Video provided consists of a video screen of the active speaker (or loudest person) and a panoramic view of the room (Citizens and Council Members).

Native Craft Show

Saturday, November 13
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pokagon Tribal Pavilion



Open to Native Vendors Only

For more information contact Julie Farver (269) 782-8998
julie.farver@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Sponsored by the Pokagon Band Pow Wow Committee

Fall Spirit Feast

CONTACT : ANDY JACKSON 269-462-4261

Tribal Lodge Pavilion
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI, 49047

Language and Culture Department

TIME: 6:00-8:00PM



The Language and Culture Department is hosting a fall spirit feast to honor our ancestors who have walked on. The Veteran's Eagle Staff will be present to share eagle staff teachings before the meal is served.

We recognize that there are different teachings, but that we all come together for the same purpose. For those who are not familiar with a spirit feast, please find a few suggestions below to consider.

Traditional practices to remember when preparing feast goods:

- Remember your family members who have walked on by preparing their home cooked favorite dish(es)
- Place a small amount of tobacco near you while cooking and bring along with you for the pipe ceremony
- No tasting food or using salt while cooking
- Bring your own dishes/silverware to eat on (preferably wooden)

We hope you can join us. Megwetch!

Social Services To Implement a Healthy Families Project

Thanks to a grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA), the Pokagon Band Department of Social Services is embarking on a three-year project to design and implement a family services program. The Band recognizes that too many of its families and children have been lost over the years to crisis and instability, produced by factors such as poverty, domestic violence, and alcohol and substance abuse. In order to address the problem of families in crisis and at-risk, in 2008-2009 the Pokagon Band Department of Social Services carried out a healthy families planning project with the support of an ANA-Native American

Healthy Marriages Initiative Planning Grant. From those findings Resource Development along with the Department of Social Services developed the Pokagon Healthy Families Pilot Project.

The goal of the Pokagon Healthy Families Pilot Project is to develop and implement an effective family services program and make a real and positive impact in the cycle of family crisis and disintegration. Social Services plans to hire two full-time, degreed family services workers to develop a family services program. The Department of Social Services is excited for the project's potential to make a positive, measurable impact on

the most serious problems facing Pokagon Band families. The grant funding will include culturally-competent strategies to foster healthy families and promote child well-being.

The family services worker and social services staff will periodically assess the program and adjust its approach as needed, with the objective of having a solid program at the end of three years that the Band can continue on a permanent basis.

"These grants involve a highly competitive application process, so we're proud that the Band earned the funding for this important program," said Mark Pompey, the Pokagon Band's director of social services.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik Ogitchedaw Society

- ❖ Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 at Elders Hall, 53237 Townhall Road, Dowagiac. All tribal veterans are welcome to participate in all events.

- ❖ Registration Forms are available for the Ogitchedaw Society. Upon completion and return of registration forms and proper documentation, you will receive a branch of service hat and an Ogitchedaw Shirt. To obtain a registration form please contact Butch Starrett, Veterans Committee Chairman, at:

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Administration Building
Attn. Butch Starrett
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047



Elder of the Month: Cindy Rapp

My name is Cindy Rapp, and I'm the daughter of basket makers Mike and Aggie Rapp. I was born in Benton Harbor and have lived in Berrien County all my life. I grew up in Sodus and went to school at Eau Claire Public Schools.

After high school I worked in every factory around. I finally tried the medical field when I got a job with Berrien General Hospital in the obstetrics department I worked there for over twenty years. I've seen a lot of Berrien, Cass and Van Buren County have their babies. Somewhere in there (1979) I got married and had a baby boy, Bryan. He has a daughter, Bryanna, who is now six years-old and a cutie!

In October 2000, I decided to work for the Department of Health Services as a community

health representative. The office was located downtown Dowagiac, and I loved it! I started meeting all the Pokagon Nishnabe people. As the health department developed the clinic, I decided to work in that area. Now after ten years, I'm still with health services. At the present time I'm working in optical and selling the N7 Nike shoes.

I am so proud to be a Pokagon Band elder and just can't believe how far the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians has come. Bamapii

Department of Language and Culture

DATE: WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 24-27 2010
TIME: 9:00-12:00P.M., 1:00-5:00P.M.
LOCATION: TEACHING CABIN

Jake Pine will be in our community for Native healing and medicine teachings. Please call Andy Jackson to make an appointment.

Individual appointments Wednesday - Friday except Thursday afternoons during medicine walk (please bring tobacco).
Co-ed sweat lodge on Saturday morning.

CONTACT PERSON: ANDY JACKSON
OFFICE: 269-462-4261
CELL: 269-783-6198

Native Healing

Clarifying Contract Health Services

Pokagon Band Health Services Director Illuminates Transition to Managed Care

By Arthur L. Culpepper, PhD, FACHE
Serving as the Director of Health Services (DOHS) for the Pokagon Band for the past year has been an honor and a privilege. One of the greatest challenges I have faced as director in this economic climate is to use the Band's money wisely. That is why DOHS is currently working to meet national and industry standards with a managed care system. Managed care means to coordinate, rationalize, and channel the use of services to achieve desired access, service, and outcomes while controlling costs.

This 120-day shift to managed care, which will be complete February 8, 2011, has left many people anxious about whether DOHS will provide them with health care security for their families. Let me assure you: high-quality, efficient, effective health care is our top priority for the Band.

Health care spending is rising at a faster rate than family incomes

in this country. This raises questions about how the Pokagon Band will pay for future health care needs. One thing citizens relied on in the past was the freedom to access health care services from the provider of their choice. Even though this approach benefited citizens individually, it did not benefit the Band as a whole. These practices were done outside the policies of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), at Title 42, Section 136.21 through 136.25, and Indian Health Services (IHS), Part 2, Chapter 3, "Contract Health Services (CHS)". In short, seeking health care options outside the program's guidelines not only costs the tribe money, but also put us at odds with federal regulations.

When our department uncovered this oversight, it became necessary to transition the way we do business to fit the rules of the CHS program. By operating within the established guidelines, IHS and other governmental parties will withdraw their protection of CHS. Having a

managed care program is the main component to meet their standards.

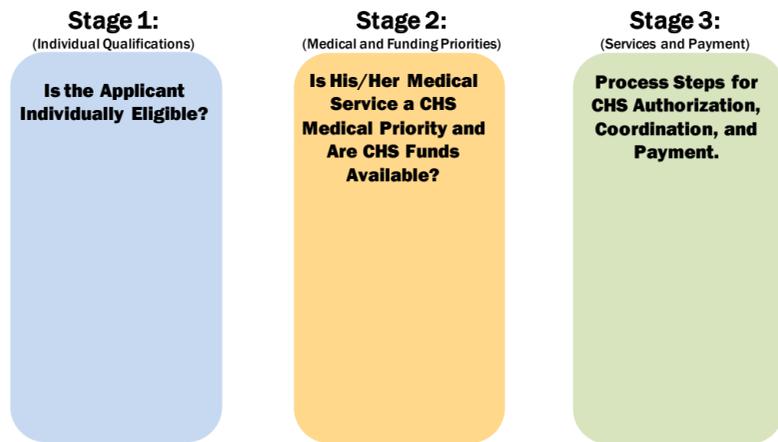
During the past five years, our health costs have risen to 30 percent above current CHS funding levels. The IHS Annual Funding Agreement provides an average of \$1.1 million in CHS funds each year. Expenditures of the Band, on the other hand, have averaged approximately \$1.3 million annually. Following the established guidelines will allow us to not only be compliant with the rules, but will also put us back within budget.

Some feel that DOHS and its programs have fallen short in meeting all the needs required by its patients. We are working hard to assemble a team of professionals that can assess and assist citizens with their medical care decisions. We have added 11 new employees in the past year to meet this goal. We take very seriously feedback from citizens who are concerned that the Band's needs are not being met, or complaints regard-

ing the judgment of our providers. We want to restore your confidence in the quality of care that DOHS provides.

In understanding our current concerns and issues, you can see that managed care will be adopted to control costs and keep us compliant with federal regulations. Few would argue that managed care can lead to better care by 1) eliminating treatments that are ineffective and are not medically necessary, 2) instituting more proactive treatments with regard to lifestyle changes, and 3) establishing high standards for screening and early detection.

The need to provide quality care for the citizens is undeniable, but should be done in manner that would not deplete the Band's financial resources or break federal regulations. Managing our health care dollars benefits everyone.



The flow chart that begins at left and continues on page 3 helps illustrate the process that determines if CHS will cover a citizen's medical expense.

Native Nations Youth Council Visits Notre Dame University

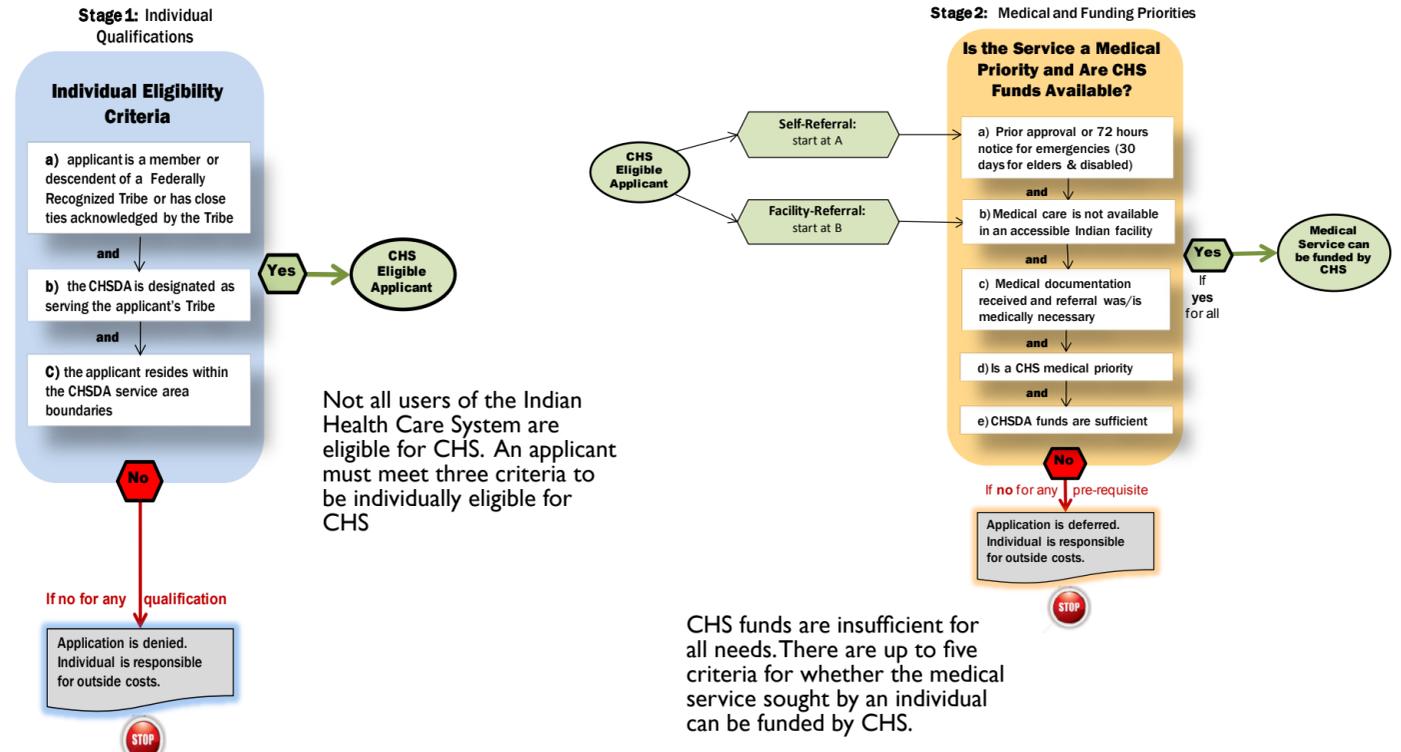
Six Dowagiac Middle and High School students and two K-12 staff visited with four members of Native American Student Association at Notre Dame on Wednesday, October 13. A tour of two of the science buildings and dinner provided by the NASAND students made the evening both informative and enjoyable. While in the Jordan Hall of Science, we stepped into one of their largest lecture halls, viewed skeletons from many now extinct animals, and searched for the planets in the to-scale image of the galaxy that makes up the inlaid art on the floor of the main hall. The group also had the opportunity to talk with students researching ecological issues.

The visit impressed our students on several levels. A few had been on the campus before, either with their families or during the Notre Dame Enrichment Lab, but the size and scope of the campus still caught their attention. Comments made when we went in to the lecture

hall pointed out how vast it is, how similar it is to a theatre, and the different resources available with projectors, smart boards, and multi-layered black boards. The importance of studying young and getting good grades, even in middle school, made sense to the children when they saw that a college education is serious work. And they discovered that it can also be a lot of exercise just getting back and forth to classes.

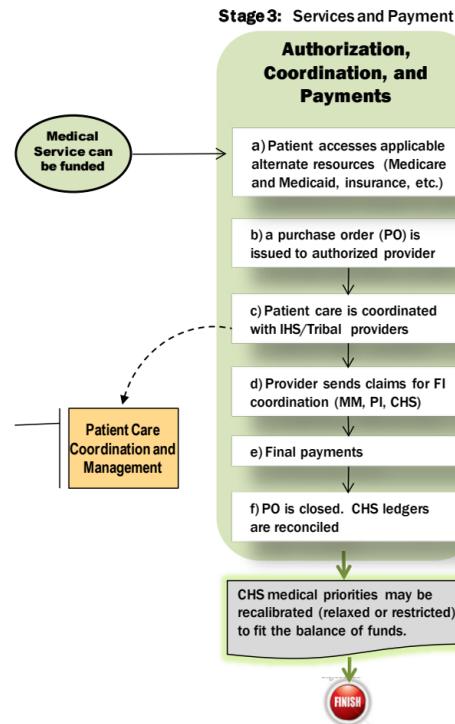
We will be returning to Notre Dame again on Wednesday, November 3 and 17, leaving the Dowagiac property at 4:30 and arriving back at 8:30. Other students may meet us there, as well. NASAND will be coming to the Rodgers Lake property on Saturday, December 4. The time for that meeting will be announced. Contact Connie Baber at 888-330-1234 with questions or to sign up to go.

Overview of Steps to Determine If Contract Health Service Funds Can Pay for Referral Medical Care



Not all users of the Indian Health Care System are eligible for CHS. An applicant must meet three criteria to be individually eligible for CHS

CHS funds are insufficient for all needs. There are up to five criteria for whether the medical service sought by an individual can be funded by CHS.



After the applicant is determined CHS eligible and his/her medical service is determined to be a high CHS priority, several process steps remain before payment is issued.

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month

According to 2007 statistics from the American Diabetes Association, 23.6 million adults and children have diabetes in the United States, yet 5.7 million of these people are not diagnosed. If diabetes goes untreated it can lead to heart disease and stroke, high blood pressure, blindness, kidney disease, nervous system disease or amputation.

Some of the signs and symptoms to watch for are:

- Frequent trips to the bathroom
- Unquenchable or unusual thirst
- Losing weight without trying
- Weakness and fatigue
- Tingling or numbness in your hands, legs or feet
- Blurred vision
- Skin that is dry or itchy
- Frequent infections or cuts and bruises that take a long time to heal
- Extreme hunger
- Recurring skin, gum, or bladder infections

If you have any questions or any of the signs and symptoms listed above please contact our health office to schedule an appointment with one of our providers, Dr. Sherburn or Shirley Grassflower. We also have two registered nurses, a registered dietician and a pharmacist available in the clinic that can help with diabetes education. If you have questions and cannot make it into the clinic, one of our community health nurses or community health representatives can perform a home visit to evaluate your glucose and vital signs.

Attention College and College-Bound Students: Important FAFSA Information

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

You can file the FAFSA for the upcoming school year after January 1. 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 # 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. Be careful 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.

Need help in filling out the FAFSA? Some of the 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
- Call the Pokagon Band Department of Education at 1-888-330-1234 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.

Students Urged to Research Online Degrees, Accredited Schools and Economic Tools

Online degrees seem like an affordable and convenient way to enhance your career. However, one should be careful about checking the school's type of accreditation and value or cost of education. It is important that the skills and the education you are seeking are marketable and whether they are in high-demand for your local economy.



An accredited school is one that is accredited by the U.S. Department of Education. If you go to their website, <http://www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation/>, you may find a list of schools. There are many accredited school programs which may give you the value of your education as well as work with your desire for convenience.

There are many economic online tools (provided by the

Department of Labor programs), such as:

- Work One (<http://www.goto-workone.com/home/index.asp>),
- Michigan Works (<http://www.michiganworks.com/>) and (https://www.michworks.org/mtb/user/MTB_EMPL_EntryMainPage)
- O*Net (<http://online.onetcenter.org/>), and
- myskills, myfuture (<http://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/>)

These will help you choose the right career and tell you if that career is in high demand in your area or nationally.

It pays to research and plan your educational and career goals, so that you may have a reasonable view and a better understanding if you are receiving marketable skills and education.

Most tribal citizens may be eligible for the FAFSA (Pell grant), (www.fafsa.ed.gov), but you may be also eligible for the



Native Nations Youth Council Open to all 7th-12th Grade Pokagon Band Citizens

Wednesdays with Notre Dame students:
November 3 (5:30 - 7:30 pm)
November 17 (5:30 - 7:30 pm)

Transportation to and from Notre Dame is provided.
You must call to reserve a ride.

Saturday, December 4 at Rogers Lake
Time to be determined.

Pre-registration is required

Please contact Penny Brant
to pre-register or with any questions:

269-782-0887 or 888-330-1234

Cell 269-240-2359

Penny.Brant@PokagonBand-NSN.gov

November Students of the Month

by Susan Doyle and Sue Johnson, Education Associates



Sierra Binder is a fourth grader at Trinity Lutheran School in St. Joseph, MI. She enjoys playing the piano and drawing. Her favorite food is a cheeseburger. Sierra has been involved in the Pokagon Summer School experience and wants to be a meteorologist on television when she grows up. She is proud to be Native American because it makes her feel special to have the cultural traditions. Her parents are Gerhard and Dana Binder, her grandparents are Ronald and Theresa Sturgeon. She has one sister, Cheyenne, and two brothers, Sean and Josh.



Mikayla Pratt is a seventh grader at Byron Center West Middle School. She loves salad, dance, soccer, and hanging out with friends. Mikayla wants to be a lawyer someday. She has attended Pokagon Summer Camp and goes to many pow wows. Some things that make her proud to be Native American are "knowing that we were the first people in the USA, and knowing how close we are to our 'cousins'". Her parents are Wayne and Lisa Pratt, her grandparents are Forrest and Sharon (Wesaw) Pratt, and her great-grandparents are Thomas Nelson and Marian Wesaw. Mikayla has two sisters, Gabby and Denise, and two brothers, Ethan and Christian.



Shaun Tuten is a senior at Clay High School in South Bend, Indiana. He is the son of Penelope Tuten and the grandson of Gregory & Renda Ballew. He has a sister named Alexandra. He attends Pow Wows occasionally, votes in tribal issues, and he has also been involved with the tribal summer camp. He enjoys pizza without toppings, quesadillas, social networking, World of War Craft, and Star Craft. Someday he would like to have a career in computer repair and networking. He is proud to be Native American because he is a descendent of one of the many tribes that have survived the hardships in the making of the United States of America.



Gracie Wilkinson is entering the third grade at Kincheloe Elementary School in Dowagiac, Michigan. She is the daughter of Keith and Laura Wilkinson. She has five siblings: Nash, Shelby, Emma, Noah, and Lilah. Gracie's grandmas are Mary F. Marks from Waterford, Michigan and Patricia D. Klemm from Dowagiac, Michigan. Gracie has been involved with Pokagon Band by attending summer camp, summer school, and the enrichment labs. Some of her favorite things are macaroni and cheese, Zhu Zhu pets, making cards, and racing the cross game at camp. Someday she would like to be a librarian or a teacher. Gracie is proud to be Native American because she has the opportunity to learn and pass on the culture. She also is proud that her grandma Pat is an Elder.

ELDERS COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES October 7, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 11:19 a.m.

INVOCATION: Clarence White.

ROLL CALL: Margaret Rapp, P, Ken Radar, P, Clarence White, P, Audrey Huston, P. Also in attendance, Yvonne (Petey) Boehm, Lynn Davidson.

AGENDA: MIEA delegates were chosen, the voting was Petey Boehm, Bonnie Parrish, and the alternate was Evelyn Miller. Their term will end in 2012. Matt Wesaw informed us of the death of one our Council Members husband, Alice Overly our thoughts and prayers go out to Alice and her family. He also thanked all who attended the dedication ceremonies for the administration building and the Community Center. He would like to see us spend more of the budget money allotted to us.

ADDITIONS TO THE

AGENDA: Bonnie Parrish gave a report on NICOA and MIEA. The new representative for NICOA is Donna Summers. Next year's MIEA meetings will be held in April at Sault St Marie, July's meeting will be held in Traverse City, October's meeting will be held in Manistee. Petey would like some volunteers to be Elder of the Month. Contact her at 1-800-859-2712.

MINUTES: The September minutes were read, Ken moved to accept the minutes as read, Clarence supported, (4) yes, approved.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Clarence gave the treasurers report, Ken moved to accept, Margaret supported, (4) yes, approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS: A trip is planned for December. Please see the information at right. Matt Wesaw informed us that a smaller

bus is being looked into. The bus would probably seat 32 people.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Language classes are held every Monday at Elders Hall, 11:00 am – 12:00pm.

Active Living classes are held every Friday morning at Elders Hall.

Basket making will start November 10, 2010, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

Jeanne Mollett, Ollie Shaer, Lee Salvidar, Ruth Salvidar.

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:

Gar and Majel DeMarsh.

ADJOURNMENT:

Clarence moved to adjourn. Audrey supported, (3) yes, (1) absent. Adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Elders and Spouses:

Interested in a two-night trip to Frankenmuth, Michigan December 6 through 8? The bus will depart from the Dowagiac train depot at 8 a.m. and we will spend the day in Frankenmuth, then depart for Mt. Pleasant in the evening.

Call (800) 859-2717 starting November 16 at 9 a.m. to make reservations. No early calls, please!

Pokagon Promise Committee Working on Promoting Nishnabe Culture

By Thomas W Topash, Tribal Council member-at-large

Greetings. Senajiwan Ndeshekaws- My name is Sen ah' dgee wan Gigo Ododem- I am a Fish clan member. Pokegenek Bodowadamee- I am of the Pokagon Potawatomi (My Potawatomi spelling may look odd. However, several different styles exist today. It would be good to fix that someday.)

My English name is Tom. I am Senajiwan as I say above in the traditional Potawatomi self-introduction. My last name is Topash, Miami for sweat(lodge). I am your newest Tribal Council member. I was elected this past August. Occasionally I will include an article in the newsletter which talks about the Pokagon Promise and topics of cultural interest.

The Pokagon Promise committee was established three years ago with an intent to keep the Pokagons moving toward a direction of our commonality; namely our culture. Culture is viewed as something kids study in school. In fact it is the way we live, talk, think, behave and grow. I believe in the goals of Leopold Pokagon who thought we were just as capable and industrious as the pioneers that surrounded our village. He knew we could respect the methods and culture of each way. He knew we could achieve education and industry goals in an Indian way. He was right.

So what is the Pokagon Promise? It is all the services of our Tribal government working together to educate, assure good health and protect each and every citizen and doing so in a Nishnabe (Native American) way. Here is my view of

how you build community in a Nishnabe way.

Except for certain jobs that required separation of age, like hunting, Pokagon Nishnabe did things with the whole family around. I see the Tribe growing to the point that every Saturday is a Super Saturday which means we bring our whole families to Rogers Lake (or the Community Center for starters) for doings.

Every department will participate in this weekly gathering. There will be basketball in the gym, regalia making in the craft room, youth doing medicine plant gardening in the arboretum, tax preparation training, tutoring, wellness services everywhere and as many more opportunities and options as your imagination can create! These events, be they weekly or some other configuration, would naturally include

potluck feasts which would celebrate ancestors, coming of age for youth, birthdays, the ending of fast time, or ending of a year of mourning. Leopold understood culture; ours and the majority society. He knew we could thrive by educating ourselves with our culture in mind; the driving force. Leopold even outdid the surrounding community in the white concept of farming. This was a slam-dunk because we already farmed but now used their farm tools for massive single crop acreage and man/horse power instead of small multiple crop gardens. We cultivated hundreds of acres, hiring the pioneers much of the time.

Enough on this topic today. Please call or email me with your thoughts on the Pokagon Promise. I will respond. My contact information is on the back of this newsletter.

Pow-Wow Committee Announces Annual Design Contest

The KeeBoonMeinKaa Pow Wow committee is once again hosting a graphic design contest in honor of the 2011 Labor Day weekend pow wow held at Rodgers Lake. The winning design will be used on the t-shirts, event flyer and program cover. The artist who creates the winning design will be awarded \$250 from the pow-wow committee! Please send PDF images to Micky at Michaelina.magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov by Wednesday, December 15, 2010. The committee looks forward to many great designs!

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.

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.

Department of Language and Culture Up and Running

With the addition of Teresa Magnuson as the director, the Pokagon Band's new Department of Language and Culture is beginning its work. Magnuson started in her role in September, and with her staff and citizens' input, is helping guide the promotion and preservation of Potawatomi language, culture and history.

"We're planning such events as language classes, cultural events and quarterly community wellness gatherings to help fulfill the department's mission," said Magnuson. "Some of the upcoming events that we are working on are regalia making, drumming, and dancing

classes and seasonal teaching gatherings."

In addition to the director, the department is made up of two staff members: Andy Jackson, the cultural specialist and Mike Zimmerman Jr., the tribal historic preservation officer. The department's offices are located on the first floor of the Edwards Street building, along with the Department of Natural Resources.

Magnuson comes to the Band after serving for a year as the career development specialist in the Tribal Development Program at Four Winds Casino Resort. There she helped tribal employees identify their

personal and professional goals and create opportunities to reach those goals. She holds a masters degree in [Higher, Adult, and Lifelong Education](#) and a bachelors in science in sociology from Michigan State University. In 2001, she graduated from the Anishnaabemowin Language & Instructors Institute at Bay Mills Community College with a certificate in Anishnaabe Language Instruction. During her graduate studies, Magnuson traveled to New Zealand, Hawaii, and England and throughout the U.S. and Canada studying indigenous language programs and gathering best practices for teaching and learning strategies.

"My career is driven by the desire to contribute to indigenous language preservation and revitalization efforts," she said.

The department plans to work with other government departments to find ways to incorporate language and culture into their work, and discover how language and culture can support other departments and staff. Language and culture will be soon sending out a survey to citizens asking for input in programming, and welcomes calls or e-mails from citizens with questions or suggestions. They can be reached at: (269) 462-4296 or Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov.

Department of Language and Culture November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Elder's Language Class</i>	2	3	4 <i>Pokagon Language Learners Table</i>	5 <i>Community Wellness In-Service (Staff Only)</i>	6 <i>Community Wellness Event</i>
7	8 <i>Elder's Language Class</i>	9	10	11 <i>Veteran's Day (Office Closed—No class)</i>	12	13 <i>Fall Spirit Feast</i>
14	15 <i>Elder's Language Class</i>	16	17	18 <i>Pokagon Language Learners Table</i>	19	20
21	22 <i>Elder's Language Class</i>	23	24 <i>Native Healing: Women's Hand Drumming</i>	25 <i>Native Healing: Pokagon Language Learners Table</i>	26 <i>Native Healing</i>	27 <i>Co-ed Sweat Lodge</i>
28	29 <i>Traditions & Repatriation Committee's Meeting; Elder's Language Class</i>	30				

Elder's Language Class – Elder's Hall, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Pokagon Language Learners Table – Admin. Bldg., Finance Conference Rm., 6:00 – 8:00pm
Community Wellness In-Service – Love Creek Nature Center, 1:00-4:00pm
Community Wellness Event – Love Creek Nature, 8:30am -5:00pm
Fall Spirit Feast – Tribal Lodge Pavilion, 6:00 – 8:00pm
Native Healing – Teaching Cabin, 9:00am-12:00pm, 1:00pm-5:00pm
Women's Hand Drumming – TBA, 6:00-8:00pm
Co-ed Sweat – Teaching Cabin, 8:00-10:00am
Traditions and Repatriation Committee's Meeting – Admin. Bldg., Finance Conference Rm., 6:00-9:00pm

Per Capita News

The following list of citizens have yet to verify their address with the Pokagon Band Enrollment office for Per Capita payment distribution and 2009 Christmas checks. If you or someone you know is on this list, please contact the Pokagon Band enrollment office to verify the address.

3282 Daniel Sanderson
0083 John Dylan Watson
0406 Michael Lynn Hewitt
0433 Elizabeth Alexandra Gray
0434 Thomas Charles Abercrombie
0857 Peter John Ramirez
1445 Michael David Bush
1446 Bobby Marcus Haynes
1506 Michaela Lynne Canard
2795 Edward F Cushway
2805 Isabel Marie Campos

The following list of citizens have not contacted the enrollment office to verify their valid addresses to receive their 2009 Christmas checks.

BRANDIE SHENEE ANTISDEL
MICHAEL ALLEN BARR
FELICIA CHRISTINE BIXLER
IAN THOMAS CURREY
PAUL ISAAC GIBSON
ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA GRAY

Time to Show Off Your Vast Knowledge!

K-12 Jeopardy

Pokagon Band Department of Education Presents
Family Trivia Night
Wednesday, November 10th at 6 p.m.

Join us at the Department of Education Library for Trivia Night. This is a great opportunity to meet other families, have fun, win prizes, and enjoy some quality family time.

- Teams consist of 2 to 5 players (including at least one K-12 program participant)
- Trivia questions will be asked from a variety of categories
- Prizes will be awarded to our winners
- Dinner and drinks will be provided to all participants

For a dinner count, please RSVP to the Department of Education by calling (269-782-0887) or email [Connie Baber \(connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov\)](mailto:connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

South Bend Area Office Schedule

Mondays: Housing staff will be available to provide information on housing programs.

- 1st Tuesday of the month: Health Services social worker
 - 2nd Tuesday of the month: Contract Health Services processor
 - 3rd Tuesday of the month: Community Health Nurse
 - 4th Tuesday of the month: Community Health Representative
- Each Tuesday: Behavioral Health Counselor

CHR, CHS, foot care, diabetes management and prevention by appointment.

Wednesdays: Education staff will be available to assist with scholarship and Workforce Investment Act applications.

Fridays: Social Services staff will be available to provide information and referral on welfare programs. Applications for the daycare program will be available.

From the Tribal Chairman

Before I get into the follow-up to my last article I would like to pass on my sincerest sympathy to council member Alice Overly and her family in the passing of her husband David. Alice often talked about her best friend and husband, and I know this will be a very difficult time. We have to recognize and trust the Creator for the decisions he makes for us. We are there for you, Alice.

I would like to compliment our Communications Director Paige Risser, who orchestrated two events this past month on behalf of Tribal Council. First we held a blessing for the new administration building and then a delayed ground breaking ceremony for the new community center. Both events were well attended by tribal citizens and media. She also invited several dignitaries, local, state, and federal which gave us a real opportunity to showcase what the tribe has accomplished over the past several years. Paige is doing a fine job in helping us get out our story. Council is eagerly looking to the future and our improved communications with everyone. I say thanks to Clarence White for his pipe ceremony and all that he does for the tribe. His teachings in the spiritual, cultural, and traditional areas show his leadership and are greatly appreciated.

In my previous article I provided a review of what council has worked on this past year in relation to the commitments that I felt were important to council. Before I finish that review I would like to make the following observation and comment. In the dark days of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln made a statement that I think we can recall today. He said, "There is not an army in the world great enough to put a footprint on our shores, or drink from our rivers. If death is to come to the Union, it will come from within."

I think Lincoln's quote can be related to what we are going through currently. We are not at war, but we are in a situation where many changes are occurring as a result of our ability to grow. When you look at our history, we have survived a multitude of attempts, both purposeful and unintentional, on our governmental existence, and we still survived and now are flourishing. The only army that can defeat us is ourselves. If we could spend less energy on the negative and use that same energy to promote positive growth and ideas, we will flourish even more, and faster. The decision lies with us and we have only ourselves to blame if we fail. Now to finish the review.

Our casino is doing very well in spite of difficult economic conditions. I do not support the expansion of satellite casinos at this time. We have not completed our due diligence, nor have we talked as a body to fully understand the impact on the community by adding millions of dollars of additional debt to the \$400 million we already owe. I do support a calculated, well planned expansion of Four Winds. I believe we have a responsibility to make Four Winds the Casino Resort destination that we advertise. We must protect our market share and I think we can expand without negatively impacting our ability to provide additional and improved services to our citizens. I will work with Council to

make a sound decision on potential casino expansion and communicate this to our citizens. This will include a complete discussion of a debt reduction plan.

Council has taken a very deliberate and conservation approach to completing the due diligence before making a decision. By now everyone is aware of the direction council is taking. I have heard many concerns expressed and many of us on council have expressed many of the same concerns with our advisors and partners. I will say that to this day council is still comfortable with the direction we are heading. Our deliberate approach has worked well for us and timing continues to save us money. I strongly believe when we are done, our citizens will be happy with the decisions we have made. One of the best outcomes is the fact we are on track to be debt free in seven to nine years after refinancing. This is much quicker than anyone expected. I credit council with remaining firm that this be part of the total plan.

We need to become more politically involved utilizing our citizens. This involvement needs to be direct and focused on our interests not only in Michigan and Indiana, but Washington, DC as well. While we have lobbyists working for us, we have not always provided proactive direction. We need to get our citizens appointed to political positions in government to further assist us in the future.

We are well on our way to getting our first appointment in Indiana. I expect that to occur any day. We still need to focus on utilizing our lobbyists to their full capabilities. Unfortunately, with an agenda that is full and with only a part time council, focusing on everything we have to do create circumstances where we fall short and fail to provide the proper attention to all details. We are working on this and we will get better.

I will suggest the Finance Board add a line item in each budget to deal with emergencies, including a definition.

Directors are now building into their budgets resources for emergencies. Directors are developing programs that will be a benefit to all our citizens. Our citizens will continue to see improvement in this area. I would encourage anyone who is having difficulty to contact the appropriate department to see what programs are available.

I would like to see Council support a separate education facility where our non-traditional students can attend in person or by remote access to gain their G.E.D. or to work them back into the educational mainstream. We must also address the need for vocational training. I believe our local colleges would be more than willing to partner with us to make this happen. We need to expand on what we have accomplished thus far. There is no training available for many of the technical needs of the casino.

The need for a separate facility is becoming apparent. There have been some discussions on this topic. Ideas and designs are being explored by the education department staff. We have improved our programs for our citizens in higher education. We now have to spend time and effort developing improvements for those who have not reached that

level yet. Council is supportive of this direction and I believe our citizens will see significant improvements in the near future.

Develop a community center with recreational and fitness opportunities.

Ground has been broken and this building should be completed early next year.

I will encourage Council to develop a jobs bank for our citizens. We have people who may not qualify for jobs at the casino. I believe we can create a jobs bank to provide work for citizens of our Band so that they can provide for their families with meaningful employment.

This is on the list for programs that our human resource department is charged with developing. There have been several discussions on this topic, but as you can imagine, creating any job in this economy is tough, but council is committed to this program. The H.R. department has developed the outline of an apprenticeship program that will include some of those who are described as hard to employ. Council isn't pleased with the past agreement with the unions in the building of Four Winds and by developing a program that we administer, we will have greater control. Several meetings have been held with local, state, and federal officials as well as the local community college. This is an exciting program and I believe will provide great benefits to those who want to prepare for a career. This will not be limited to just construction type jobs, but will expand to cover a multitude of professions.

I encourage council to consider a job retention and rehabilitation program for our citizens. We started out with over 260 tribal citizens working at the casino. We now have 130. Why? We need to determine how we can help and get our citizens back to work, including tribal government positions.

This is also a primary concern for council. We see goods things being done by the casino and we haven't taken the steps to duplicate or build off from what they have done. Recent discussions have been held and I think you will see some programs in this area.

The constitution outlines the responsibility of the Tribal Chairman. Although we have not passed the Tribal Council Procedures Act, Council has been following the language in the Act. Between these two documents, the position of Chairman is directly responsible for the Council meeting agenda and determining the direction of Tribal Council. This is where I believe we have lost focus. I believe we have failed to act in a timely manner on many items due to lack of direction. Several which are listed below:

- *The Ethics Code has been approved, but the Ethics Board has not been appointed to enforce the Code. Basically it is a toothless document. (The Board has been appointed.)*
- *A Whistle Blowers Protection Act has not been approved. (The amendment that was offered was not approved by council. A new amendment may be offered in the future.)*
- *The tribe is not in full compliance with Article IV of the constitution.*



This has been noted at meetings. (This being addressed and monitored by the DNR.)

It has been one year since an issue surfaced regarding the health clinic and it is still not completely resolved. (There has been an extreme amount of work done in this area and our citizens should be very proud of the accomplishments. As a result of issues in the Aberdeen area there will be a Congressional investigation into all of the native health regions. With the steps that we have taken we will be ready for this review and I think we will be found to be in almost complete compliance. The Director and his staff deserve credit for identifying and correcting our deficiencies.)

The Tribal Council and Procedures Act have not been approved yet. (Completed)

The federal government has extended the Adam Walsh Act. Council was not prepared for it even though we had over 18 months to decide how we wanted to handle this mandate by the United States Congress. (Due to changes at the federal level, this is still being developed by legal)

The same issue exists with the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. Implementation has been extended but we have not decided how we want to comply with Homeland Security's directive. This can have a very negative impact on our citizens who travel across borders. (Not completed and unacceptable. This will be addressed.)

The Committee Handbook has been ignored until recently. (Completed and approved)

A plan to develop government infrastructure, improve programs, develop new programs has not been an agenda item. (This is a regular item of discussion with council and our directors. Council has approved a company to come in and do a complete review of our programs and government structure. This will help us become more efficient and better serve our citizens.)

The position of tribal chairman is required by the constitution to represent the citizens of the Band. I will fully accept that responsibility and will make it a priority. I will continue to be active in local, state, and federal activities representing the Band. I will continue to work closely with other Native American Tribal leaders. I will be a full time chairman working for the tribal government. I will be in the tribal office every day unless I'm required to be out. I will not spend a part of each day at the casino unless there is a meeting I am required

Family Welfare Commission Looking to Fill Open Positions

The Pokagon Band is seeking applications from Pokagon Band members interested in serving on the Pokagon Band Family Welfare Commission. There are currently three open seats on the five member Commission. In order to protect the best interests of our children, the Pokagon Band Tribal Council formed the Family Welfare Commission by adoption of the Family Welfare Commission Ordinance 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 Commission meets approximately once each month at Elders Hall, depending on the needs of the Commission, and meets at additional times as may be needed to address other specific matters. Family Welfare Commission members typically spend several additional hours per month preparing for Commission meetings or engaged in other Commission activities. The Family Welfare Commission Ordinance is available at the following internet address: <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm>.

Family Welfare Commissioners are compensated as independent contractors in the amount of \$75 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



Citizens came out to Rogers Lake September 18 to celebrate the Band's sovereignty during Reaffirmation Day. A feast, giveaways and many cultural activities, including beading practice, at right, kept attendees busy.

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, but not necessarily be limited to 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.

(3) years.

How to Apply

Contact the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777 to obtain an application. Please submit a completed application to: Mark Pompey, Director Pokagon Band Department 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 800-517-0777 or mark.pompey@pokagonband-nsn.gov. Note: Posting to be removed by November 2010.

Ethics Requirements

As Public Officials, Family Welfare Commissioners are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained from the Band's website at <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm> or by contacting Mark Pompey at the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777.

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 the Tribal Council. Each Commissioner shall serve a term of three

to attend. I will suggest to Council that we rotate appointments to the various boards and commissions that we participate in to allow all council members an opportunity to experience our full government involvement.

This is being done and I remain committed to representing the citizens of the tribe. This council has been very diligent in putting the interests of the citizens first and doing everything we can in breaking the cycle of dependency. I am very proud to work with them.

I will, in the first year, submit a report on the progress for each of the issues outlined. I will also request that Tribal Council have our legal department review ordinances/policy that have been passed and issues have developed indicating the potential for possible amendments. For example, I believe the Open Meetings Act, and the Ethics Code need to be amended, to name just two. We have others that need to be adjusted to better meet the needs of our citizens.

Ethics code has been amended and will provide less regulation to government employment and increase the time frame to move from an elected position to employment by the casino.

I will also request that Council join me in reviewing services provided to our citizens. I would like us to focus on improvements and additional services. We need to make sure that the services we provide are open and available to every citizen regard-

less of where they live. I would also like Council to revisit the by-laws of the Pokagon Fund. I would like to reconsider how we determine the use of the 10% that is discretionary spending by our appointed Board members.

This is being done regularly. This completes the review of what council has accomplished this past year. As you can see it has been a very busy year, but there is still a tremendous amount of work to be done. Council has been focused and committed to working for the best interests of our citizens. We understand we are not going to please everyone, but through our efforts we hope to improve the quality of life for our people.

In closing, please continue to remember our veterans and those currently serving. The freedoms we enjoy are a direct result of their sacrifice. As always, my phone is on and my door is open. If you are in the area please stop in and say hi.

Matt

Art Review Committee Seeks Members

The Pokagon Gaming Authority seeks to assure a superior job of selecting artwork for the Four Winds Casino Resort gift shop. All art displays should represent the excellence of Pokagon artists.

At this time a subcommittee of the Gaming Authority made up of Michaelina Magnuson, Tom Topash and Steve Winchester is in the process of overseeing an important task: to establish a review committee of artists to make selections for items to be sold in the gift shop. This review committee will be impartial. In order to remain ethical, the art review committee members may not participate in selling work in the casino gift shop during the time they serve

on the review committee. The Art Review Committee is eligible for compensation and mileage reimbursement as included in the committee procedures handbook, approximately \$75 per meeting.

If interested in serving on the art review committee or would like to see the committee guidelines, please send a letter of interest to Steve Winchester at Steve.Winchester@PokagonBand-nsn.gov by Monday, November 22. Please be sure to include your name, phone, tribal ID number and email address. We hope to have committee members selected and appointed by late November so that an initial meeting can occur in early December, in time for the holidays.

Tribal Council November Calendar of Events

- 1 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
- 2 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
- 8 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
- 9 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
- 13 Tribal Council Citizen Meeting, 10 a.m., Lodge
- 15 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
- 16 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
- 29 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
- 30 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds

Please check the website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov or call 1-888-782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

Tribal Council Directory

- | | |
|---|--|
| Chairman
Matthew Wesaw
517-719-5579 or 574-591-9806
Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov | Treasurer
Troland Clay
269-591-5205
Troland.Clay@pokagonband-nsn.gov |
| Vice-chairman
Butch Starrett
269-591-2901
Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov | Secretary
Faye Wesaw
269-782-1864
Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov |
| At Large Members
Steve Winchester
269-591-0119
Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov | Lynn Davidson, Elders Representative
269-240-8092
Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov |
| Michaelina Magnuson
269-591-5616
Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov | Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary
269-591-0604
Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Council Lodge Phone: 1-888-376-9988 |
| John Warren
269-214-2610
John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov | |
| Tom Topash
269-470-3745
Tom.Topash@pokagonband-nsn.gov | |
| Alice Overly
269-240-8041
Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov | |
| Marie Manley
269-214-2609
Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov | |

Tribal Office Directory

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

Making an Unexpected Windfall Work for You

Are you expecting a large sum of money anytime soon? From time to time most of us can look forward to receiving a lump sum of money—whether it is from a tax refund, bonus check, quarterly per capita check, settlement, an inheritance or something else. If so, now is a great time to stop, think and plan in order to make the most of the windfall. First of all, before you start committing any of the expected money, confirm that the money is indeed a sure thing. Remember the old saying, “Don’t count your chickens before they hatch,” so as to avoid spending money you may not receive.

In planning here are some

helpful suggestions:

Prioritize your bills. Take care of essentials first. Pay those creditors first who can do you the most harm: pay your rent/mortgage so you won’t get evicted/foreclosed. Pay your utilities so they don’t get disconnected. Pay your car note so your vehicle doesn’t get repossessed. If possible, pay off any rent-to-own purchases and any pay day loans, which could be charging you up to 400% interest.

Consider paying down debt.

Make sure your insurance premiums are current on your home and car. If you’re renting, get renter’s insurance to insure loss of property from inside your apartment.

Stash some money away in a savings account. Emergencies are a fact of life, so it’s wise to save for a rainy day. If you don’t have a savings account, do yourself a favor and



Recent graduates of the Financial Empowerment workshops: above from left: Lee & Ruthie Saldivar (Buchanan), Andrea Yount, Rhonda Keene (Dowagiac), Tonya Payne (Watervliet), Jasmine Clark, & Scott Hoadley (Buchanan). Below left, front row from left: Susan Laursen (Dowagiac), Gary Morseau (South Bend), Micky Magnuson (Eau Claire), Mike Zimmerman Jr. (Niles), Dawn Mendoza (Dowagiac), Tim Solloway (Niles), Gary Beavers (Buchanan), Tricia Solloway (Niles), Ashlee Beavers (Niles), Bob Kronewitter & Faith Johnson (both Niles). All received a \$100 gift card for attending six hours of training to hone personal financial management skills. Congratulations to all!

open one. You can start a saving habit even if you’ve never been a saver before!

Invest in a savings bond or other investment product and watch your money grow.

Track your spending. You cannot manage what you do not measure.

These steps can help improve your credit score, which down the road could save you big bucks in lower interest rates on future purchases. Remember:

Native people have always saved, planned for the future and set aside resources when things were plentiful. Nowadays of course the planning is done with currency rather than the natural resources like back in the day.

For more tips on how to stretch and your dollars and grow your savings, email Valerie.Janowski@pokagonband-nsn.gov or attend an upcoming workshop series and receive a \$100 gift card upon completion.

Elder’s Lunch Menu

Please call the day before if you are not a regular attendee for meals
Meals subject to change 269-782-0765 or 800-859-2717 Meal Service Begins @ 12:00 Noon

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Language Buffalo Tacos W/ Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Beans, & Cheese Pineapple Upside Down Cake Melon Salad	2 Chicken Stir Fry W/ Fresh Veggies/ Brown Rice Tossed Salad Fortune Cookie Roll Jell-O W/ Fruit	3 Pork Roast Red Potatoes & Rutabaga Carrots Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad Apple Crisp Roll	4 Business Salmon Patties Sweet Potatoes Collard Greens Garden Salad Fruit / Cake Roll	5 Butternut Squash Brisket Soup Low Sodium Sliced Turkey Sandwich W/ Lettuce & Tomato Fruit Salad Relish Tray
8 Baked Chicken Potato Wedges Brussels Sprouts Tomato Salad Fruit Roll	9 Pork Loin Red Skin Potato Salad Broccoli Yogurt W/ Fruit Roll	10 Turkey Goulash W/ Kidney Beans Garden Salad Blueberry Crisp Garlic Bread Italian Ice	11 Closed Veteran’s Day	12 Sea Bass Rice Pilaf Veggie Kabobs Strawberry Cheesecake Cup Roll
15 Language Beef Kabobs Spanish Rice Green Beans Cottage Cheese W/ Peaches Roll	16 Fish Sandwich on a Bun Roasted Garlic Tomato Soup Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad Fruit Tray	17 Buffalo Stroganoff W/ Noodles Butternut Squash Turk Coleslaw Lime Jell-O W/ Pears Roll	18 Social Sliced Turkey W/ Gravy Mashed Potatoes & Dressing Cauliflower, Broccoli, & Carrots Cucumbers & Onions/ Roll Pumpkin Pie/ Cranberries	19 Pork Chops Baked Potato Brussels Sprouts Apple Crisp Roll
22 Language Buffalo Meatballs W/ Noodles and Gravy Spinach Tossed Salad Mandarin Oranges Roll	23 Turkey Pot Pie Veggie Kabobs Waldorf Salad Roll	24 Beef Manhattan Mashed Potatoes W/ Gravy Garden Salad Broccoli Fruit Salad Roll	25 Closed Thanksgiving	26 Closed Thanksgiving
29 Language Salmon and Potato Dish Green Beans Tomato Salad Strawberry Angel Food Cake Roll	30 Buffalo Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Carrots and Peas Cucumber Salad Fruit Cup/ Roll			Note: milk, tea, coffee, water, & Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, pickles, and onion served with sandwiches and burgers.

Tobacco Sales

Cigarettes are sold at the Tribal Administration offices. We sell Basic, Marlboro, and Newport brands and a limited selection of Benson & Hedges, Camels, Doral, Kools, Merit, Misty, Pall Mall, Sonoma, USA Gold, and Winston. Sales are handled by the receptionist Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. You must be 18 years old or older and present your tribal I.D. at the time of purchase. Maximum of five cartons per month per tribal citizen. Credit cards accepted.

Happy 6th birthday, little man!
 You're a big boy now, but
 you'll always be my baby!
 Love,
 Mom, Nokamis, Mismomis and
 the family



Happy Birthday Margaret Rapp
 Love,
 Martha, Josh, Sydney, and Chelsy
 Aunt Martha, Uncle Josh, Sydney, and Chelsy
 Happy Birthday Danni Rapp
 Love,
 Martha, Josh, Sydney, and Chelsy

Happy belated birthday Shelly Poole
 September 23
 From your cousin,
 Bill Lewis

Happy birthday, Mom
 From,
 The Four Horsemen
 Konnie Birks



Happy birthday, David Grubb
 "Keebler"
 Love,
 Mom and Dad



Pokégnek Bodéwadmik • Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
 Administrative Office
 58620 Sink Road
 Dowagiac, MI 49047

Life is a delicate balance

Your flu vaccine protects me. My flu vaccine protects you.
 When you get your flu vaccine, you can keep yourself healthy and keep from spreading the flu. Protect the circle of life.

For more information, visit
<http://www.flu.gov>

Appointments available November 3, 5, 10, 12, 17 and 19 and December 1, while supplies last.

Call Pokagon Health Services
 to make your appointment: (269) 782-4141

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik - Pokagon Band of Potawatomi