



# POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

## THE POKAGONS TELL IT

December 2012

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## Pokagon Scholarship Allows Students to Focus on Studies Instead of Financial Worries

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

The Pokagon Band increased its scholarship funding last year to assist tribal students with higher education expenses. Students Amanda Chingman and Kathryn Adams are just two of the recipients and both are thankful for the assistance, as it has allowed them to focus on their coursework rather than their finances.

“The scholarship has allowed me to work part-time instead of full-time,” said Chingman, a graduate student at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. “I have a much better balance in my life. Instead of stressing over finances, I can focus on my courses and doing well in school.”

Chingman received her bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master’s in social work from the University of Michigan. She is currently working at Henry Ford Hospital as a psychiatric social worker. “I am pursuing an MBA at Oakland,” said Chingman. “My goal is to move out of direct clinical work get job in an administrative role. Having an MBA will help me to secure that type of position.”

“I am fortunate to have received the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver,” explained Chingman. “The scholarship money from the Pokagons has been used toward purchasing books, computer programs, and living expenses such as rent.”

Kathryn Adams, medical student at Michigan State University, is also grateful for the scholarship. “Many med students graduate with more than \$300,000 in student loans,” said Adams. “The assistance has helped me immensely, and I am graduating with minimal student loan debt.”

Adams was also eligible for the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, and she used her scholarship money to pay for her books, rent, a computer, and the costs of her board exams. “I don’t know how I would have been able to go to school without the scholarship,” said Adams. “During the eight years that I have been in school, I have never had to get a job. I have been so fortunate to be able to focus on my studies and not worry about money.”

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## Deacon Art Morsaw Travels to Vatican for Canonization of First Native American Saint

On October 21 when the Vatican canonized Kateri Takawitha, a Mohawk woman born in 1656 in New York, Pokagon citizen Art Morsaw and some of his family were in Rome to witness it.

“I didn’t think I’d see it in my lifetime,” he said about the papal act that made Kateri the first saint of Native American heritage.

Deacon Morsaw received another surprise when he was asked to serve communion at the canonization mass, which was held outside in St. Peter’s Square, and participate in the mass of thanksgiving the following day inside St. Peter’s Basilica. For it, he wore a special stole carefully beaded with Potawatomi and Catholic imagery.

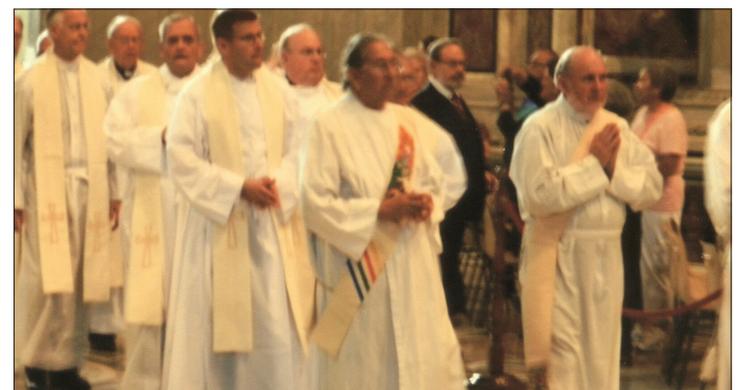
“I kept having to pinch myself,” he said. “Pope Benedict was so close by.”

Kateri’s story, as told by the Catholic Church, is one of devotion and miracles. According to the Jesuits who documented her life, a smallpox epidemic killed her parents when Kateri was 4. The disease also badly scarred her face and ruined her eyesight, earning her the name Tekakwitha, which means, “she who stumbles.” At age 10, after war destroyed her birth village, she moved with her uncle’s family to a long house on the other side of the Mohawk River.

She was baptized Catholic at age 20, and fled to a Catholic Indian settlement in what is now Canada. There, she worked with the sick, and was said to pray for hours outdoors, on her knees, during the winter. She became ill, and died at 24. After her death, Jesuits and others reported seeing miracles. The pockmarks on her body disappeared, they said. Prayers seeking her assistance were followed by healing.

Deacon Morsaw says he has met two of the people who—after praying for her to intercede—claimed to be healed. One

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## Alex Wesaw and Jarred Winchester Elected to Serve on NCAI Youth Council

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

Alex Wesaw and Jarred Winchester were recently elected to serve on Youth Commission for the National Congress of American Indians, or NCAI.

Wesaw is eager to begin his two year term as treasurer of NCAI. “It is an exciting time to be involved,” said Wesaw. “President Obama has worked very hard on building relationships between the U.S. government and tribal governments, and we are optimistic about the future.” He was excited about having the opportunity to meet the Kevin Washburn, the new Secretary of Indian Affairs, at the October NCAI conference.

Jarred Winchester has been attending NCAI conferences since 2010, and is excited about his election to the Youth Commission. “It is a great opportunity to learn about tribal government,” said Winchester.

“It is important to me to be a part of the Youth Commission and help to represent and provide a leadership to native youth,” said Winchester. He reflected on his attendance at a VIP dinner and said, “We were sitting with other tribal leaders, and it was surreal. I am really excited to learn from these leaders and translate that into a leadership role in the future.”

Winchester is a junior at Northern Michigan University and is studying political science with an emphasis in pre-law. “I have not decided where I want to go to law school yet, but I am interested in Arizona State University and Michigan State University.” Winchester hopes to work in indigenous law, and he is seeking a school that has a lot to offer in that concentration.

Wesaw was also appointed by the Youth Commission to serve a three year term on the Board of the National Indian Child Welfare Association. As a board member, Wesaw will act as a liaison between NCAI and the Michigan Indian Child Welfare Association, or MICWA. He is excited about his opportunity and credits his involvement in a fundraiser for NICWA for his appointment to the board.



“I had the opportunity to have lunch with the NICWA executive director and chief of staff last year,” said Wesaw. “I built relationships with them and continued to work with them throughout the year. We held a fundraiser in Dowagiac and raised between \$3,500 and \$4,000 for the organization. It was the most money that they had ever raised from a fundraiser.”

Wesaw is in his first semester of graduate school at Ohio University in Athens. He is studying public administration with an emphasis on strategic leadership and policy innovation. He hopes to work with the tribe and conduct research for his thesis.

Both Wesaw and Winchester are eager to get started and are looking forward to their first conference with the Youth Commission in January.

## Get Ready for Winter Ice Skating Fun



Tribal Council has approved the construction of an outdoor seasonal ice rink near the Administration Building on Sink Road. Pokagon citizens will be able to strap on their skates and enjoy this winter activity after the rink’s expected completion December 8. Be on the lookout for details about activities, use of tribal ice skates, and future events at the ice rink.



### Christmas Basket Distribution

Distribution will begin Thursday, December 13 and run through Sunday, December 16 at the Commodities Building, 58620 Sink Road Dowagiac, Michigan.

#### Hours of Distribution

December 13: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.\*  
 December 14: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.\*  
 December 15: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.\*  
 December 16: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.\*

\*Note: After December 13, dates and time are dependent on basket availability  
 Call for more information (269) 782-3372 or (888) 281-1111

***Baskets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.***

Families with 1-4 household members receive 1 basket.  
 Families with 5-8 receive 2 baskets.  
 Families over 9 receive 3 baskets.

**You may pick up no more than 4 baskets for other citizens with a written & signed permission slip.**



2012 Christmas Baskets are funded in part through Tribal Council

## Meet the Elder of the Month: Louella Mae Lewis

I have one daughter and three sons and eleven grandchildren. After ten years in Indianapolis, Indiana I moved to Dowagiac in July 2012 to be more involved with our tribe and live in the service area. The city is too fast-paced for me; I want to enjoy my elder years having fun and being involved in cultural events, Tribal Council and Elders Council meetings, and coming to Elders Hall for lunch. This is such a good thing, feeding the elders.

I enjoy coming to Elders Hall and going on elders trips. I went to my first

Michigan Indian Elders Association conference in Peshawbetown, Michigan. We stayed at the Red Lion motel across from the lake in Suttons Bay. It was beautiful there, nice and peaceful. I really enjoyed the trip, meeting others from different tribes and bands. It was very interesting. I also went on the youth/elders trip to the Detroit Lions Baseball game.

I am excited about Four Winds Dowagiac, so I can play BINGO!



Elders enjoyed their Halloween party October 18 at Elders Hall. Maxine Margiotta, Ruthie Salvidar, Linda Morseau, Kathy Grant, Jackie Trux and Louella Lewis are pictured. The witch won the best dressed award.

## Pokagon Scholarship Allows Students to Focus on Studies Instead of Financial Worries *continued from page 1*

Adams has a bachelor's degree in human biology from Michigan State University. She will be matched with the placement for her residency in February, and hopes to stay in the state of Michigan.

"My focus will be in Internal Medicine," said Adams. "The Pokagons have helped me so much, and I plan to give back to the tribal community when I am finished."

The scholarship program is available to tribal citizens enrolled in an accredited degree program. A technology stipend and rental assistance are also available. For additional information on eligibility and the application process, please visit [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Higher\\_Education\\_Scholarship.aspx](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Higher_Education_Scholarship.aspx) or call the Department of Education at (269) 782-0887 or (888) 330-1234.

## Deacon Art Morsaw Travels to Vatican for Canonization of First Native American Saint *continued from page 1*

child, who was deaf, later regained hearing. Last year, the Vatican credited Kateri with aiding in the healing of a flesh-eating infection in a Native American boy in Washington State, the second miracle that was required for canonization.

In 1988 Morsaw attended the canonization of Rose Philippine Duchesne, a nun who worked with Native Americans in Missouri, and later in life the

Potawatomi in Kansas, in the early 1800s. Ordained a deacon in 1999, he is active with Immaculate Conception parish in Hartford, Michigan, and is proud of the fact that the Potawatomi in this area lead the establishment of a Catholic presence here at the beginning of the 19th century.

"The Potawatomi asked the priests to come here; we helped them start their missions," he says.

Morsaw, who also serves as the chairman of the Pokagon Family Welfare Commission, traveled to Italy for the canonization mass with others from the Grand Rapids area. About 7,000 natives from the U.S. were expected to attend the ceremony at the Vatican.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language and Culture

## Language Events | December

### Basic Language Classes

The class will be taught every Tuesday at the Community Center with Carla Collins. The class will focus on learning the Potawatomi Vowel system, Past/Present/Future tense markers and basic verbs and nouns.

**Date:** December 4, December 11, December 18 **Location:** Community Center, Training Room  
**Time:** 6:00–8:00 pm

\* Note: Basic language class for December 25 is cancelled for the Christmas holiday.

### Intermediate Language Classes

Intermediate Language class is taught every Thursday at the Community Center with Carla Collins. The current class is learning conjunct sentence structure and incorporating new verbs.

**Date:** December 6 December 13, December 20 **Location:** Community Center, Training Room  
**Time:** 6:00–8:00 pm

\* Note: Intermediate language class for Thursday, December 27 is cancelled for the holidays.





### Language Workshop

Every month, language instructors are invited to share their knowledge about the Potawatomi language. Please join us in welcoming Kevin Daugherty as our guest presenter for December. Refreshments provided.

**Date:** December 19 | Kevin Daugherty, Presenter **Location:** Community Center, Training Room  
**Time:** 6:00 pm–8:00 pm

### Elders Language Classes

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

**Date:** December 3, December 10, December 19, January 2 **Location:** Elders Hall  
**Time:** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

\* Note: Elders classes for Monday, December 24 and 31 are cancelled for the holidays.

For more information, contact: Rhonda Purcell, Language Coordinator, (269) 462-4255 office or (269) 783-9027 cell  
E-Mail: [Rhonda.Purcell@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Rhonda.Purcell@PokagonBand-nsn.gov)

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. **Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

## Pokagons Honor Veterans at Inaugural Appreciation Luncheon

*Editor's note: the following is an excerpt from Chairman Wesaw's remarks to the luncheon attendees November 10.*



In 1938, the U.S. designated November 11 in each year a legal holiday observing the peace after World War I, which ended on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918. In 1954, to mark the service and sacrifice of so many after World War II and Korea, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Though November is designated Native American Heritage Month, I think it's significant that Veterans Day also falls in November. For service members—warriors—have a special significance in native cultures. Our warrior traditions embody strength, honor, pride, devotion, and wisdom—qualities highly valued and, some say, inherent to Native American societies.

As a result of this tradition American Indians have been among those warriors to be distinguished by receiving the United States' highest military honor: the Medal of Honor. Given for heroism, conspicuous gallantry and courage at the risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty, these warriors exhibited extraordinary bravery in the face of the enemy and, in two cases, made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Each recommendation for this decoration must incontestably prove that the act of bravery or self-sacrifice involved obvious risk of life. Presented by the President of the United States but originally authorized by Congress in 1861, it's sometimes called the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Maybe you remember one such recipient, Van T. Barfoot, a Choctaw from Mississippi who became known for refusing to take down the U.S. flag in his yard. Barfoot is credited with, among other acts, capturing and bringing back 17 German prisoners of war to his platoon position. His bravery on an Italian battlefield earned Sgt. Barfoot a Congressional Medal of Honor, and an honorable place in American history. Barfoot also served in the Korean and Vietnam wars.

What eventually made national news in the U.S. was a local neighborhood association's quibble over how the famous 90 year old war hero chose to fly the American flag outside his suburban Virginia home. The rules stated a flag may be flown on a house-mounted bracket, but items such as Barfoot's 21-foot flagpole were unsuitable. After the story made national headlines, the neighborhood association rethought its position and agreed to indulge the old hero who dwells among them. "In the time I have left I plan to continue to fly the American flag without interference," Barfoot told reporters. And if any of Barfoot's neighbors still considers contesting him, they might want to read his Medal of Honor citation. It indicates he's not one to back down:

*For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty on 23 May 1944, near Carano, Italy.*

*With his platoon heavily engaged during an assault against forces well entrenched on commanding ground, 2d Lt. Barfoot (then Tech. Sgt.) moved off alone upon the enemy left flank.*

*He crawled to the proximity of 1 machinegun nest and made a direct hit on it with a hand grenade, killing two and wounding three Germans.*

*He continued along the German defense line to another machinegun emplacement, and with his tommy gun killed two and captured three soldiers.*

*Members of another enemy machinegun crew then abandoned their position and gave themselves up to Sgt. Barfoot.*

*Leaving the prisoners for his support squad to pick up, he proceeded to mop up positions in the immediate area, capturing more prisoners and bringing his total count to 17.*

*Later that day, after he had reorganized his men and consolidated the newly captured ground, the enemy launched a fierce armored counterattack directly at his platoon positions.*

*Securing a bazooka, Sgt. Barfoot took up an exposed position directly in front of three advancing Mark VI tanks.*

*From a distance of 75 yards his first shot destroyed the track of the leading tank, effectively disabling it, while the other two changed direction toward the flank.*

*As the crew of the disabled tank dismounted, Sgt. Barfoot killed three of them with his tommygun.*

*He continued onward into enemy terrain and destroyed a recently abandoned German fieldpiece with a demolition charge placed in the breach.*

*While returning to his platoon position, Sgt. Barfoot, though greatly fatigued by his efforts, assisted two of his seriously wounded men 1,700 yards to a position of safety.*

*Sgt. Barfoot's extraordinary heroism, demonstration of magnificent valor, and aggressive determination in the face of point-blank fire are a perpetual inspiration to his fellow soldiers.*

An American Indian recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Mr. Barfoot is one of only five American Indians that have been distinguished by receiving the United States' highest military honor during the 20th century.

Given our heritage, it's no surprise that Native Americans historically have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups, including my grandfather, who served in World War I at a time when we weren't even considered U.S. citizens. Almost two hundred thousand Native Americans served in the armed forces in the 20th century. Our traditions continue to inspire tribal citizens to serve their country today. My daughter Nicole is just one example; she is currently serving in the Navy, stationed in Guam.

I want to draw your attention to the Wall of Honor we've created here in the Community Center. It seems each week we receive more photos to add to our quickly growing collection. Together the Pokagon Band is gathering photos and information about our veterans and paying homage to those who serve, just as together those who serve answered the call to defend our country. We are humbled by their commitment, and vow to make sure it isn't forgotten.

In closing, I would like to suggest to our Tribal Council that we consider developing something that we could call the Pokagon Band Distinguished Service Award to be given to all of our veterans, or families of veterans who have walked on. This would have a unique design only worn by our service men and women of the Pokagon Band. I will leave this suggestion to the decision of our Council.

We live in the land of the free, only because of the brave. May God bless our veterans and their families.

## Native Americans Experience Higher Incidence of Digestive Disorders

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty



During a recent visit to my doctor, I mentioned to her that I was having more trouble than ever digesting dairy. This has been the case for me since I was a young child, and the problem seems to grow with each passing year. This news didn't

surprise my doctor at all, and she informed me that 75 percent of Native Americans are lactose intolerant.

A person who is lactose intolerant has difficulty digesting lactose, a natural sugar found in milk and dairy products, including cheese and yogurt. Symptoms include bloating, cramping, gas, diarrhea and vomiting. The severity of the symptoms varies greatly from person to person.

For years, I relied on lactase supplements like Lactaid to help me digest dairy. Many of these products are fast-acting and should be taken before eating or drinking a dairy product. I found these supplements to be great as long as I knew I was having dairy in advance, but they didn't help much when I ate something that I didn't realize had dairy in it.

Lactose intolerance is not the only digestive issue facing Native Americans. "We know that the Native American population has absorption issues," said Liz Leffler, Pokagon community health nurse. "Hundreds of Pokagon citizens have been diagnosed with Intestinal Malabsorption Disorder. This is a generalized category that includes people with Celiac Disease, Irritable Bowel Syndrome, lactose intolerance, and other digestive issues." That number does not include Pokagon citizens whose doctors work outside of Pokagon Health Services.

"Many Native Americans have trouble digesting dairy, because dairy products were not part of their diet historically," explained Leffler. As Native Americans have adopted different foods into their diets over time, it can result in digestive problems. "During a recent Men's Health event, a gastrointestinal doctor in attendance was surprised at the number of polyps and other digestive issues among younger citizens." The doctor will be researching this more, but he feels that diet is a contributing factor.

Since Native Americans have a high incidence of digestive disorders and are experiencing issues at a younger age, it is important to inform your healthcare professional about any symptoms that occur. "I encourage tribal citizens to discuss their symptoms with

their doctor at their next appointment," said Leffler. "If you are having digestive issues and don't have an appointment scheduled, please call to schedule one."

Luckily, there are products available over the counter to combat lactose intolerance. Because I am incredibly sensitive to dairy, my doctor recommended a daily supplement called Digestive Advantage Lactose Defense Formula. I was skeptical at first, but was amazed at how well the product worked. As long as I remember to take the pill each morning, I can have milk in my coffee, cheese on my sandwich, and ice cream for dessert!

While I was happy to find something that helped with my problem, I was less than thrilled to find out that my insurance would not cover the cost of the supplements. Luckily, money in a flex account or health savings account can be used to purchase the supplements. Simply request a prescription from a doctor and have it available to the person who prepares your taxes in case the charges are questioned.

## Chi Ishobak, Inc. Announces First IDA Participant

Chi Ishobak has celebrated another milestone in the world of economic development. Jennie Brown of Shelbyville, Michigan is the first participant in the Chi Ishobak Individual Development Account (IDA) Program.

The IDA Program was launched in August of 2012 and is a matched savings program where Pokagon Band entrepreneurs can save for purchases towards their small businesses. The participant will save \$500 over 12 months. Upon successful completion of the program the participant's savings will be matched 2:1 for a total of \$1,500 to be used for a specified business purchase. Successful completion of the program requires participation in a financial wellness workshop and submission of an acceptable business plan. The selection criteria is for Pokagon Band citizens who are at least 17 years of age, have the ability to open a Fifth Third Bank Savings Account, can provide proof of household income, and an acceptable debt to income ratio within established guidelines.

Jennie Brown, of Jennie Brown Baskets, is a Pokagon Band artisan with over 30 years of experience in traditional basket making. Initially learning this unique skill out of enjoyment and hobby, she has directed those skills towards the business of arts and crafts. With the demand of Jennie's baskets increasing as she attends various art markets, she identified how she would like to progress.

"I would like to learn from existing, successful Native American artisans," Jennie stated, "I am really excited to learn more about business and becoming more independent as a business owner."

Jennie will use her matched savings towards the marketing side her business. Increased merchandising efforts and advertising will be the immediate focus for Jennie Brown Baskets. She is looking to take this experience and grow her business to new levels.

"Chi Ishobak is very excited for this new milestone and working with Jennie," Sean Winters, executive director of Chi Ishobak added, "It is an incredible feeling to help citizens achieve their goals."

Jennie Brown Baskets is located at 915 124th Ave., Shelbyville, Michigan 49344. If you have any questions regarding Jennie Brown Baskets and what art markets they will be featured at, please contact (616) 366-3206 for more information.

Chi Ishobak is the Pokagon Band's Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) which provides professional and personal financial services and resources to Pokagon Citizens. If you have any questions or would like more information on the IDA program or any other Chi Ishobak services, please call (269) 783-4157.

## Applications are now available for the Pokagon College Summer 2013 Internship Program

The eight-week program will run from Monday, June 10 through Friday, August 2. Pokagon college students will have the opportunity to gain work experience in Pokagon tribal government offices.

Citizens who will be 18 years or older by June 10, 2013, who have completed 12 or more college credits and intend to continue to college in the Fall 2013 semester are eligible to apply.

Interested? Please find the application at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/College\\_Internship\\_Program.aspx](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/College_Internship_Program.aspx). Form more information, email or call [Connie.Barber@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Connie.Barber@pokagonband-nsn.gov) (888) 330-1234

**APPLICATIONS DUE JANUARY 7, 2013**

## Training Program for Michigan Indian Family Olympics

### Rules and Eligibility

This year a group represented the Pokagon Band in the 25th Annual Michigan Indian Family Olympics at Central Michigan University. It is our hope that we will have more participation in 2013's event. We have created a committee that has come up with a training program to help Pokagon Band households prepare for the events. To go along with this year's trip to the Michigan Indian Family Olympics we have some additional qualifications for this year's event:

1. We encourage each individual to have a sports physical.
2. You must be a Pokagon Band citizen or part of a Pokagon Band citizen household.
3. We will have a training session every two months in different locations. The locations will be
  - a. Allegan: Hopkins School Gymnasium
  - b. Hartford: Hartford High School Gymnasium
  - c. South Bend: Discovery Middle School, Granger IN

Each participant must attend at least two of the eight sessions that will be offered. We will however count a school sport as one session. So for example if your child is in basketball through school, then he/she would only need to attend one of the nine sessions to qualify to participate in the Olympics. But the parent must still attend two sessions. However members are invited to participate in all eight events if they would like to. Questions about this should be directed to Conrad Church at (269) 462-4254.

4. Each Pokagon and or Pokagon's guardian must fill out the assumption of risk, release, waiver, covenant not to sue and indemnity agreement form.
5. Participants must be on site and registered/signed in by no later than a half hour after the event time starts. For example: If the event starts in Hartford at 3:00 p.m. then you must be registered by no later than 3:30 p.m.

Incentives:

1. Each participant/family could receive lodging, meals, and transportation to the Michigan Indian Family Olympics.
2. If you pre-register for the event training session and attend the event that you pre-registered for, you will be in the drawing for a pair Nike shoes. Participants must pre-register no later than the Monday before the event date that they are to attend. Drawings will be held after the last training session which is scheduled to be held on May 25, 2013.

## Scholarships Available from MIEA

### By Bonnie Parrish, secretary, Michigan Indian Elders Association

College bound students are invited to apply to win a \$1000 scholarship or one of six \$500 scholarships awarded to the most qualified student by a panel of judges. Applications for these awards are due June 30, 2013.

Kindergarten to twelfth grade students are eligible for an Incentive Award, which offers \$25 for straight As and/or perfect attendance for the first two marking periods of 2012 and 2013. Applications for the Incentive Award must be in by April 1, 2013.

Find applications on the web at michiganindianelders.org or by contacting Joe Avance at the Education Department at (888) 330-12343. Or pick one up at Elders Hall. Remember your application must be in by the due date to qualify. We would like to see as many Pokagons as possible enter; good luck!

## Indian Family Olympics Training Calendar Announced

Start prepping now for the Michigan Indian Family Olympics. Join a group of Pokagon athletes a few Saturdays a month to get in shape for the event in summer 2013. Mark your calendars for the upcoming dates:

### January 2013

- 19 Hopkins Gym, 5-7 p.m.
- 26 Hartford High School Gym, 3-5 p.m.

### March 2013

- 16 Hopkins Gym, 3-5 p.m.
- 23 Discovery Middle School, Granger, IN, 3-5 p.m.
- 30 Hartford High School Gym, 3-5 p.m.

### May 2013

- 4 Hopkins Gym, 3-5 p.m.
- 18 Discovery Middle School, Granger, IN, 3-5 p.m.
- 25 Hartford High School Gym, 3-5 p.m.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik  
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI

## Train Together for the Family Olympics

**What:** Michigan Indian Family Olympics, something for all ages. All Michigan Tribes participate

**When:** Summer, 2013

### Training Schedule:

#### January 2013

Jan 19 | Hopkins Gym | 5:00p.m.-7:00p.m.

Jan 26 | Hartford High School Gym | 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

#### March 2013

Mar 16 | Hopkins Gym | 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

Mar 23 | Discovery Middle School, Granger, IN | 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

Mar 30 | Hartford High School Gym | 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

#### May 2013

May 4 | Hopkins Gym | 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

May 18 | Discovery Middle School, Granger, IN | 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

May 25 | Hartford High School Gym | 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

**Win a pair of Nike tennis shoes!** To be eligible for the drawing, pre-register the training session and attend the event that you pre-registered for.

**Each participant must attend at least 2 of the 8 sessions that will be offered to qualify to participate in the Olympics. We will count a school sport as 1 session. Each member and or member's guardian must fill out the assumption of risk, release, waiver, covenant not to sue and indemnity agreement form.**

**Participants must be there and registered/signed in by no later than a half hour after the event time starts.**



**To reserve your spot, or for more information contact:  
Conrad.Church@pokagonband-nsn.gov or call (269) 462-4254.**

## Department of Education Announcements and Updates

### Pokagon Book Club

Want to explore the Pokagon library but are too far away to come to Dowagiac? If the answer is yes, we have a new program for you! The Pokagon Book Club is for interested citizens who do not live close to the tribal library, and want the opportunity to have books sent to them. The book selection will be books with Native American themes, including books specifically with Potawatomi and Pokagon themes.

Interested? Please contact the Department of Education at (888) 330-1234 to sign-up. This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.

### 2012 Reading Program Update

We currently have 69 families registered in the Reading Program with a total of 2501 books read. We have a long way to go to get to 4,509 books. Please get those list turned in and do your best to recruit new participants. As soon as we reach 3000 books, we will have another gift card drawing from the families registered that have submitted a book list.

The \$10 gift card drawing for the first 2000 books read goes to the following people:

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Ariel Burgess  | 6. Patti Willis      |
| 2. Lake Serba     | 7. Lori Baxter       |
| 3. Jennifer Drake | 8. Melissa Potter    |
| 4. Linda Cook     | 9. Jeff Ballew       |
| 5. Tim Anderson   | 10. Tonisha Bradshaw |

You can e-mail your book list to [connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov). New sign-up sheets can be found at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Departments/Education/](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Departments/Education/).

### SAVE THE DATE!

The St. Joseph County Public Library in downtown South Bend, Indiana, will hold its 21st Annual "Science Alive!" from 10 – 4 on Saturday, February 2, 2013. This action-packed day is created with hands-on activities by over 40 different groups of scientists, college science departments, and animal exhibitors, to name just a few. The event fills the entire downtown library! Families of children who are in kindergarten through the eighth grade are the target audience and the presentations are planned to keep even the youngest minds engaged.

The Pokagon Band Department of Education will be taking a van from Dowagiac to the event. Families wanting seats on that van can call (269) 782-0887 to reserve a spot. If you are driving on your own, you will be treated to free parking in lots and on the streets. While the finished information is not out yet about the schedule of the day, you can continue to get updates by visiting their website: [www.libraryforlife.org](http://www.libraryforlife.org). This is an event that lives up to its name; it does bring Science Alive! Join us!

### Are you looking for a great way to work with the kids this summer?

The Pokagon Band Department of Education's K-12 Program is searching for a school bus driver/cook and classroom teachers for our Summer School. We hold our Summer School for children entering kindergarten through sixth grade on Mondays through Thursdays from July 8 until August 1, 2013. The driver must have appropriate licensing. The teachers must have certification and will team teach with the Education Associates on our staff. Both positions will require passing the tribe's background check and drug screening. For more information and to request an application, please call Penny Brant, (269) 782-0887. Application deadline is January 6, 2013.

### Registration and Reimbursements

K-12 registration is taking place on a daily basis. You can download the applications for both the In Ten County and Out of Ten County registration. Do you still have receipts for school supplies to send in for your \$50 reimbursement? You can get the form for this on our website, or call us to request one. Don't overlook the High School Success Reimbursement, too, for those additional expenses that start with high school graduation and college application processes.

### We have great kids all over the place!

And we have the opportunity to get that word out – in this newsletter! Call the Department of Education (269) 782-0887 and (888) 330-1234 to get the "Academic Excellence" and the "Extra-Curricular Excellence" forms. Nominate your own child, a relative, a friend. This is a fun opportunity to show support to a child and share with the rest of the community about what awesome kids we have!

### Volunteers

Volunteering: what an awesome way to get involved with the tribe's youth. You could assist in long-term activities, short-term activities, or single events. Volunteers will go through the tribe's background check, including drug screening. Duties will vary depending upon the event. A possible involvement could be working with the LEGO League as it grows. What a great way to make a difference and have a fun time!

## Important FAFSA Information for Higher Education Students

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

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 can not 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](http://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](http://www.collegegoalsundayusa.org)
- Call the Pokagon Band Department of Education at (888) 330-1234 for assistance. We have a computer lab available where students can check out online resources and file the FAFSA. Arrangements can be made by contacting Joseph Avance, Higher Education Specialist, to use the computer lab during non-business hours if necessary to accommodate your schedule.

Pokagon students who file the Free Application for Student Aid for the Fall 2013 semester by February 28, 2013 will be eligible for a Pokagon Band Higher Education sweatshirt! You must have printed verification of the date you completed your FAFSA online.

For more information, please contact Connie Baber at (888) 330-1234 in the Department of Education.

## What's Happening at the Pokagon Band Library?

Thanks to a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Education Department can offer some new and exciting computer and career courses, open to Pokagon citizens 18 years and older. You can register for as many workshops/classes as you like. Registration is limited and based on first call/ first serve basis. Gas assistance will be provided to Pokagon citizens for complete participation in a workshop or class. Childcare will be provided for each

program for children ages 2 –14. Please specify when registering names/ages of children who will be attending. No drop-off childcare will be provided without prior registration. The library is located at the Pokagon Department of Education, Administration Building, Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI. If you are interested, please register by calling (888) 330-1234.

### Computer Classes

10 a.m.-1 p.m. on the following Saturdays:

December 1	Internet and E-mail Basics
February 16	Windows Basics and Intro to Word
April 20	Microsoft Word
June 15	Introduction to Excel
August 17	Power Point & Publisher

### Career Building Workshops

10 a.m.-1 p.m. on the following Saturdays:

January 26	On-line Job Search and Resume Submittal and Using Social Networking Sites
March 23	Interview Skills
May 18	Dealing with Barriers to Employment
July 15	Gateways to Employment
September 28	Changing Careers: Reinventing Oneself

## Elders Council Business Meeting | October 4, 2012

**MEETING:** Maxine Margiotta, Acting Chairperson, 11:12 a.m.

**INVOCATION:** Alan Morsaw.

**ROLL CALL:** Maxine Margiotta, P, Clarence White, A, Audrey Huston, P, Member-at-Large, Ruth Saldivar, P. Clarence left at 1:00 p.m. Also in attendance, Petey Boehm, Elders Specialist, Alan Morsaw, Elders Representative to Tribal Council

**AGENDA:** MIEA Election, Petey Boehm.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Bonnie Parrish read the minutes of the MIEA meeting. The auction netted \$1,791.00. A \$1,000.00 donation was given by the Salary Commission. A big thank you was given to Hal Wiggins for his many contributions to the auction. The new delegates to the MIEA conference are, Bonnie Parrish, first delegate, second delegate is Carl Wesaw, and alternate is Judy Augusta. Their term will last until 2014.

Petey informed us that the LIHEP applications are available.

**NEW BUSINESS:** November 10, 2012 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm the Pow Wow Club will be holding regalia, dance, beading and drum instructions. A Mini Pow Wow will be held November 20 at the Community Center from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. After the Pow Wow from 3:00pm to 5:00pm the dance

instruction will be held. All events will take place at the Community Center.

We were informed that people are taking items from the Veterans box. Please do not take these items as they are donated to the Veterans, not for just anybody to help themselves. Matt Wesaw donated a bag of personal care products to the Veterans. Thanks Matt.

Maxine read a letter about things that were troubling her about the MIEA trip. Especially the rooms, any complaints should be addressed to a member of the Council not go on your own to the management. If this type of thing keeps happening, we may have to go back to the old way, where just Elders Council attends. There was talk of possibly holding a bake sale at the craft show that is usually held in November.

**OLD BUSINESS:** November 14, computer training will be held at the Education Lab from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm.

**MINUTES:** Ruth moved to accept the of October 4, 2012 minutes. Maxine, supported, (3) yes, (1) absent, passed.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Maxine, moved to accept the treasurers report, Ruth, supported, (3) yes, (1) absent, passed.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Language classes are held every Monday at Elders Hall,

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Basket making will start November 7, 2012. 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Active living classes are held Friday morning. 10:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:** Jackie Trux, Susan Larsen, Evelyn Miller, Fred Klemm, Margaret Rapp, Stanley Morseau, Faye Magnuson.

**NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:** Clarence & Jenny White, Ken & Essye Kirvan, Gus & Dorothy Gwilt.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 1:10 p.m.

## 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

## Head Start Accepting Applications for 2012–2013 School Year Waiting List

**By Sarah Hyatt, Head Start director**

The program is looking for regalia that anyone would be interested in donating. If you have regalia that your children have outgrown or any old shawls and do not have any uses for these items, the Head Start children would be honored to have the opportunity to have these items in their classrooms. If you have any items that you are willing to donate, please contact Samantha Townsend at the center or by email at [Samantha.Townsend@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Samantha.Townsend@PokagonBand-nsn.gov).

Children must be three years of age 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. Please contact the center at (269) 783-0026 or (866) 250-6573 toll free, with any questions about enrollment.

The program will begin accepting applications for the upcoming 2013–2014 school year beginning January 1, 2013. Children must be 3 years of age by December 1, 2013. The application deadline for the 2013–2014 school year is June 1, 2013.

School days are Monday–Thursday from 8:30–2:30. Transportation is 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 include winter stocking caps, gloves/mittens, child size winter boots, snow pants size 4–6, boys & girls clothing sizes 2T–6X/7 (there are always families in need), play dough, snow sleds/saucers, various art supplies.

### Upcoming Events/Closures

**November 22–23, 2012** Closed for Thanksgiving Break.

**November 29, 2012** Family Fun Night Fall Feast

**December 24–January 3, 2013** Closed for Christmas Break

**January 7, 2013** School resumes

**January 21, 2013** Closed for Martin Luther King Jr Day.

### Happy Birthday to you!

**Kaydance Linn** 12/7/12 Happy 4th Birthday!

**Evan Huff** 12/19/12 Happy 4th Birthday!

**Korie Taylor** 12/20/12 Happy 4th Birthday!

**Mrs. Amy Wiggins** 12/20/12 Happy Birthday!

**Justine Maiga-Harouna** 12/28/12 Happy 4th Birthday!

**Prettyrock Big Bear** 12/29/12 Happy 4th Birthday!

**Mrs. Samantha Townsend** 1/2/13 Happy Birthday!

**Ms. Carrie Neumann** 1/7/13 Happy Birthday!

**Ms. Sarah Green** 1/10/13 Happy Birthday!

**Mrs. Rosie Smith** 1/12/13 Happy Birthday!

**Nathan DeBortoli** 1/17/13 Happy 5th Birthday!

**A'zhani Simon-Dixon** 1/18/13 Happy 5th Birthday!

**Mr. Jon Carlson** 1/20/13 Happy Birthday!

**Devin Rock** 1/27/13 Happy Birthday!



The Head Start students helped plant a tree of remembrance during the tribe's Domestic Violence Awareness Week in October. Photos by Kaity Fujia



## Rental Assistance Available to College Students

Are you a full time college student going back to school who needs a little extra financial help with rent this upcoming semester? The Housing and Facilities Department has a Student Rental Assistance Program, which pays \$200 a month toward your rent. The application, requirements and policy is all online at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Student\\_Housing.aspx](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Student_Housing.aspx)

The deadline for the upcoming semester is January 31, 2013. If you have any questions please contact Megan Rick at (269)783-0443.

## Supplemental Heating Program Accepting Applications Beginning December 3

For the seventh year the Social Services Department will provide supplemental heating assistance, and will begin accepting applications December 3. This program will provide a credit of \$250 per eligible household to help with high energy costs. The Supplemental Heating Program provides assistance to income-eligible Pokagon Band households anywhere in the United States; the program is not limited to the ten-county service area.

The Supplemental Heating Program is separate from the LIHEAP Program. The Supplemental Program has higher income guidelines and can be provided to more households. Current LIHEAP recipients automatically qualify for the Supplemental Program, but are required to still submit documentation. A second payment is not anticipated this year.

To apply, download an application at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Supplemental\\_Heating\\_Program.aspx](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Supplemental_Heating_Program.aspx)

Or call the department for an application at (269) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777, or visit the office at 58620 Sink Rd, Dowagiac, Michigan.

Items you will need to fill out the application are:

- Proof of all household income:
- proof of income for last 30 days, and/or
- award letters (from SSI, RSDI, Elder's Stipend, etc.), and/or
- child support received or paid, or
- completed Zero Income Form (obtain from our office or website) if above do not apply
- Bill from your energy provider
- Tribal ID card

### Income Guidelines

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$36,000
2	43,000
3	50,000
4	57,000
5	64,000
6 and above	71,000



### Exploring Opportunities. Changing Lives.

*Chi Ishobak (pronounced Chee Ish-oh-bock) which means "big cabbage," is the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi's CDFI, Community Development Financial Institution. Chi Ishobak provides citizens access to affordable capital for the purposes of **business start-up and expansion** through education-based lending services.*

#### LENDING SERVICES

Micro Loans up to \$5,000  
Small Business Loans \$5,000 to \$35,000  
IDA (Individual Development Account) Matched Savings Program

#### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Financial Empowerment & Management  
Starting a Business  
Writing a Business Plan  
Marketing Your Business  
Business Legal Issues

#### RESOURCES

One-on-one Coaching/Mentoring  
Fifth Third Bank  
Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center  
SCORE  
Cornerstone Alliance

*It is the vision of Chi Ishobak to support the efforts of a nurturing community that has restored its culture and language and provides a meaningful substance for all Pokagon citizens and individuals through employment, self-employment or traditional life ways.*

For questions and additional information regarding Chi Ishobak, please visit us at:

415 E Prairie Ronde Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047

Or contact:

Sean Winters, Loan Officer  
(269) 783-4157  
[sean.winters@chiishobak.org](mailto:sean.winters@chiishobak.org)



POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI  
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

## Youth Cultural Events | December

### Youth Council Community Christmas Party

Senior Youth Council is sponsoring a Community Wide Christmas party. There will be games, food, prizes and, of course, Santa. Please mark your calendar and bring the whole family. Please RSVP to be eligible to win Free dollars to use at Wal-Mart by calling or emailing [Collin.Church@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Collin.Church@pokagonband-nsn.gov) or you can call (616) 405-7715.

Date: Saturday, December 8

Time: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Community Center

### Youth Council Business Meetings

**JUNIOR YOUTH COUNCIL [ages 12–18]** Junior Youth Council has a lot of momentum going forward. This is a busy time of year for the group. They are working at giving back to the community by sponsoring programs such as "Shop with a Cop" as well as helping with the Community Christmas Party. The Youth Council agenda always includes relationship building with our Elders, Veterans, Native Community and other Tribal Youth. The youth are currently planning a trip to Chicago to visit the museums and of course ice-skating. If you are a youth between the ages of 12–18 and are interested, please come to our business meeting.

Date: Saturday, December 8

Time: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Location: Community Center

**SENIOR YOUTH COUNCIL [ages 18–24]** Senior Youth Council focuses on professional development. Alex Wesaw and Jarred Winchester went to represent our youth council at NCAI in Sacramento, California. Both of them were voted on the National Youth Commission for NCAI. This will help our youth better serve our community. The Sr. Youth Council is currently focusing on hosting a community Christmas party on December 8 from 6:00 pm–9:00 pm at the community center. We will also hear from the E-board on how they have built relationships with our Ogitchedaw Veterans during the Lions game. As 2012 comes to an end there is much to plan for 2013, such as the Youth Lock In on January 4, 2013. Please get involved with your community, come to our next business meeting.

Date: Saturday, December 8

Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Community Center

### Youth Council Chicago Trip

Youth Council will be going on an excursion to visit the museums in Chicago to see the various Native American exhibits. They will also take part of the culture of Chicago and enjoy deep dish Chicago style pizza, ice-skating, and much more. If you are interested in joining youth council, please do not delay call or email today.

[Conrad.church@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Conrad.church@pokagonband-nsn.gov) or (269) 783-6773

Date: Saturday, December 15

Time: 6:00 am – 11:00 pm

### All Youth All Night Lock In

It's an all-night party for youth to get together and dance, compete in special tournaments, win prizes and learn from our community. There will be several special guests who will make a surprise appearance. Please call to reserve your spot, and register for our top prize. You do not want to miss this one. Call today.

[Conrad.church@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Conrad.church@pokagonband-nsn.gov) or (269) 783-6773 or (269) 462-4254

Date: Friday, January 4

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:00 am

Location: Rodgers Lake campus

58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI

For more information, contact Conrad Church | (269) 462-4254 | [Conrad.Church@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Conrad.Church@PokagonBand-nsn.gov)

## Prescription Drug Savings Available through FamilyWize

If you could use more prescription drug assistance, check out FamilyWize. A United Way partner, this discount pharmacy program acts like a huge consumer buying service for the uninsured and underinsured. The discounts and savings on medications are provided voluntarily by the more than 61,000 participating pharmacies that have agreed to provide prices similar to what they give large insurance companies and employers. Participants get a discount on all medications approved by the FDA. The funded comes mainly through agreements with pharmacies who have agreed to accept similar reimbursement for cardholders to what they receive from an insurance company. Participants then pay what the insurance company would reimburse the pharmacy, plus the usually collected co-pay.

To sign up, visit [www.familywize.org](http://www.familywize.org).

## Notice of Open Position | 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: [www.PokagonBand-nsn.gov](http://www.PokagonBand-nsn.gov) 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 TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- 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.

**COMPENSATION.** The Secretary seat on the Board is compensated as an independent contractor and paid \$187.50 for attending each Board meeting. In addition, Board members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings.

**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](mailto: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

## YOUTH COUNCIL

## CHICAGO TRIP



**WHAT:** A trip to Chicago to visit area museums, ice skating at Millennium Park and enjoy Chicago deep dish pizza at Gino's East.

**WHEN:** **December 15, 2012**  
We depart the Community Center in Dowagiac at 6:00 AM and return to Dowagiac at midnight.

**WHERE:** Chicago IL

**WHO:** Pokagon Junior & Senior Youth Council members. You **must** pre-register for this trip by **December 8**. It will be first come first serve.



Department of Language & Culture

For more information, please call or email [Conrad.Church@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Conrad.Church@pokagonband-nsn.gov)  
(269) 462-4254 office or (269) 783-6773 cell

## Wellbriety House of Recovery Has New Location

The Wellbriety House of Recovery now meets at the teaching cabin at Rodgers lake, 58620 Sink Rd., Dowagiac, MI. Call Mingo for more information at (269) 462-5061 or (269) 462-9552.

### Weekly Meetings:

Tuesday, 5:00–6:00 pm.

The Red Road to Wellbriety Elders Way

Friday, 5:00–8:00 pm.

A/A and N/A open meeting

Saturday, 6:00–8:00 pm.

The Red Road to Wellbriety Elders Way

Sunday, 6:00–8:00 pm.

A/A and N/A open meeting

**Cultural**

- 12/12 | Men’s Drumming Teaching Cabin, 6-8pm
- 12/12 | Women’s Drumming Gage Street House, 6-8pm
- 12/15 & 12/16 | Hide Tanning Workshop Pavilion, 9am-5pm
- 12/29 | Winter Round Dance & Social Community Center, 6pm-2am

**Language**

- Mondays | Elder’s Language Class, Elders Hall, 10am -12pm  
\*Classes Canceled on 12/24 & 12/31
- Tuesdays | Basic Language Class Community Center, 6-8pm  
\*Class Canceled on 12/25
- Thursdays | Intermediate Language Class Community Center, 6-8pm  
\*Class Canceled on 12/27
- 12/19 | Language Workshop with Kevin Daugherty, Community Center, 6-8pm

**Native Healing**

- 12/10 - 12/12 | Jake & Mary Pine, Teaching Cabin, 9am-12pm & 1-5pm
- 12/11 | Co-ed Sweat Lodge with Jake & Mary Pine, Teaching Cabin, 6-8pm

**Youth Cultural**

- 12/8 | Jr. YC Business Meeting Community Center, 12:30-2pm
- 12/8 | Sr. YC Business Meeting Community Center, 2-4pm
- 12/8 | Youth Council Community Christmas Party, Community Center 6-9pm
- 12/15 | Youth Council Chicago Trip Meet at Community Center, 6am
- 1/4 | All Youth All Night Lock-in Community Center, 6pm-7am

**Other Events**

- 12/1 | Four Winds Indigenous Art Market, Four Winds Casino Resort New Buffalo, 11am-7pm
- 12/31 | Saginaw Chippewa Academy’s 2nd Annual New Year’s Eve Round Dance, Tribal Gym, 6pm-12:30am

**Traditions and Repatriation Committee**

- 12/17 | Monthly Meeting, Admin. Bldg., Finance Conf. Rm. 6-8pm

# December 2012

## Department of Language and Culture

Green = Non L&C Sponsored Events



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi • 32142 Edwards Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047  
(269) 462-4296

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>Children Must be Accompanied by an Adult</b>					1 Four Winds Indigenous Art Market
2	3 Elder’s Language Class	4 Basic Language Class	5	6 Intermediate Language Class	7	8 Jr. & Sr. YC Business Meetings Youth Council Christmas Party
9	10 Elder’s Language Class Native Healing	11 Basic Language Class Native Healing Co-ed Sweat	12 Native Healing Men’s & Women’s Drumming	13 Intermediate Language Class	14	15 Hide Tanning Workshop Youth Council Chicago Trip
16 Hide Tanning Workshop	17 Elder’s Language Class Traditions & Repatriation Mtg	18 Basic Language Class	19 Language Workshop with Kevin Daugherty	20 Intermediate Language Class	21	22
23	24 Offices Closed New Year’s Eve Round Dance Offices Closed 31	25 Offices Closed	26	27	28	29 Winter Round Dance & Social
	30					

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik  
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI

# Holiday Fun Day

**T**his holiday season, give your kids the gift of fun while you go Christmas shopping or finish holiday preparations. The Department of Education has a day of holiday cheer planned for kids ages 3-14 registered in our K-12 program. Christmas crafts/gift making and other fun activities will keep them busy until you return. Lunch will be provided.

**Saturday, December 15**  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Community Center**  
24703 Potawatomi Trail  
Dowagiac, MI 49047

THERE IS LIMITED SPACE, so call the Department of Education by December 7 at (269) 782-0887 to reserve your spot.

## Time to Sign Up for Mandatory Direct Deposit

### By Barbara Vincent, per capita accounting clerk

It is time to start signing up for mandatory direct deposit. PNC has been chosen to be the bank for the per capita pay cards.

We have mailed out information regarding the PNC pay card to those Tribal Citizens who do not have direct deposit.

Please complete the paperwork and return to the Pokagon Band at:

Pokagon Band  
Attn: Per Capita  
Box 180  
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Or fax to: (269) 782-1964. When faxing, please call to verify we received it.

Please return all paperwork before October 15, 2012 as the per capita

payment for November 2012 is expected to be directly deposited onto your new pay card. You should receive your pay card in the mail late July.

If you have any questions in regards to the pay card, please call Barb Vincent at 269-462-4209 or 269-462-4200 or toll free 800-517-0777. Once the pay cards have been issued, PNC Bank will be the contact for any information in regards to pay cards being lost or stolen, or if you have any questions in regards to activity and / or transactions. You may still call the Pokagon Band Per Capita hotline to get information on the monthly amounts of the payments or other pertinent per capita information.

We will be making this available to all Tribal Citizens in October 2012.

## Per Capita Important Dates

Deadline to receive Changes/updates/additions Received by Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date Direct deposits in accounts
Tuesday, December 15, 2012	Thursday, December 29, 2012	Friday, December 30, 2012
Tuesday, January 15, 2013	Wednesday, January 30, 2013	Thursday, January 31, 2013
Friday, February 15, 2013	Wednesday, February 27, 2013	Thursday, February 28, 2013
Friday, March 15, 2013	Wednesday, March 27, 2013	Thursday, March 28, 2013
Monday, April 15, 2013	Monday, April 30, 2013	Thursday, April 30, 2013
Wednesday, May 15, 2013	Thursday, May 30, 2013	Friday, May 31, 2013
Friday, June 14, 2013	Thursday, June 27, 2013	Friday, June 28, 2013
Monday, July 15, 2013	Tuesday, July 30, 2013	Wednesday, July 31, 2013
Thursday, August 15, 2013	Thursday, August 29, 2013	Friday, August 30, 2013
Friday, September 13, 2013	Tuesday, September 26, 2013	Friday, September 27, 2013
Tuesday, October 15, 2013	Wednesday, October 30, 2013	Thursday, October 31, 2013
<b>Friday, November 1, 2013*</b>	<b>Tuesday, November 26, 2013</b>	<b>Wed, November 27, 2013</b>

\*Please note that in November the deadline to receive changes is November 1, this is due to time limitations on all the events that occur at this time of the year.

## 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 Barb Vincent in the Finance Department at (269) 462-4209.

Enrollment #	Name	Christmas 2009	Christmas 2010	Christmas 2011	Christmas 2012	Monthly Per Cap
83	John Dylan Watson	x	x	x	x	x
406	Michael Lynn Hewitt	x	x	x	x	x
418	Tina Welty				x	x
857	Peter John Ramirez	x	x	x	x	x
1446	Bobby Marcus Haynes	x	x	x	x	x
1502	David M. Helmke				x	
1986	Cristian M Cobb		x	x	x	
2476	Patrick Michael Phares			x	x	
2823	Patrick Johnson				x	x
4227	Scott Brewer Jr		x	x	x	x
4319	Crystal Pokagon			x	x	x

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

## 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 November 15 in order to make it on the December check run. Anything received after November 15 will be processed on the check run for January. 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](http://www.Pokagonband-nsn.gov)

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

### Message for Hannah Renee Mix

The Enrollment Committee is in need of your current address and phone number. It is imperative that you contact the the Committee at the phone number below. This matter involves a membership concern.

Thank you,  
Michaelann Gartner  
Secretary, Enrollment Committee

Beth Edelberg, Enrollment Clerk  
(888) 782-1001  
[Beth.Edelberg@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Beth.Edelberg@PokagonBand-nsn.gov)

## monday

3 **language**

Red Potatoes W/ Sausage,  
Onions, and Cabbage  
Garden Salad  
Corn Bread  
Dessert

10 **language**

Buffalo Sloppy Joes  
Baked Potato Fries  
Garden Salad  
Relish Tray  
Dessert

17 **language**

Beef Roast  
Potatoes  
Carrots  
Spinach Salad  
Butter Pecan Fudge Cake

## tuesday

4

Sea Bass  
Macaroni Salad  
Green Beans  
Black Raspberry Jell-O W/  
Pears  
Garlic Bread

11

Pork Loin in Noodles and  
Gravy  
Carrots  
Garden Salad  
Dutch Apple Pie  
Rye Bread

18

Ham and Bean Soup  
Garden Salad  
Yogurt W/ Fruit  
Cornbread

## wednesday

5

Buffalo Meatballs in Spaghetti  
Asparagus  
Cucumber Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Cookie

12

Chicken, Broccoli, Rice, and  
Cheese Casserole  
Cucumber Salad  
Melon Tray  
Bread

19

Buffalo Burger on a Bun  
Baked Beans  
Coleslaw  
Relish Tray  
Jell-O W/ Fruit

## thursday

6 **business**

Chicken Gumbo Soup  
Turkey and Cheese Sandwich  
Veggie and Relish Tray  
Fruit Salad  
Cake

13

Buffalo Stuffed Cabbage  
Mashed Potatoes  
Garden Salad  
Fruit  
Roll

20 **social christmas party**

**Prime Rib**  
**Mashed Potatoes and Gravy**  
**Green Beans**  
**Garden Salad**  
**Tiramisu Cake**  
**Roll**

27

Pork Chop  
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy  
Carrots  
Tomato Salad  
Applesauce  
Bread

## friday

7

Sliced Ham W/ Pineapple  
Mashed Sweet Potatoes  
Peas  
Garden Salad  
Blueberry Pie

14

Tortilla Crusted Tilapia  
Baked Potato  
Brussels Sprouts  
Garden Salad  
Brownie

21

Salmon Patty  
Spanish Rice  
Mixed Veggies  
Garden Salad  
Roll

28

Vegetable and Egg Mess  
Sausage Gravy and Biscuits  
Sliced Fruit  
Orange Juice

31 **closed for new year's**



Photo by SJ Photography

# december



Photo by Elias Daniel

**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

Vacant	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 Matthew.Wesaw@ pokagonband-nsn.gov	Alan Morsaw, Elders Representative (269) 462-5272 Alan.Morsaw@ 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	Lynn Davidson (269) 240-8092 Lynn.Davidson@ 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 (888) 376-9988
Michaelina Magnuson (269) 591-5616 Michaelina.Magnuson@ pokagonband-nsn.gov	

**Tribal Council December Calendar of Events**

- 3 Tribal Council Special Session, Community Center, noon
- 4 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon
- 8 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 10 a.m.
- 10 Tribal Council Special Session, Community Center, noon
- 11 Gaming Authority, Four Winds, Community Center, 9 a.m.
- 11 Tribal Council Special Session, Community Center, 11 a.m.
- 17 Tribal Council Special Session, Community Center, noon
- 18 Gaming Authority, Four Winds Hartford, noon
- 24 Offices Closed for Christmas holiday
- 25 Offices Closed for Christmas holiday
- 31 Offices Closed for New Year's holiday

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

# December Citizen Announcements



Happy 9th Birthday to **Ethan and Emily**

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and  
Darrell III

Merry Christmas **Shannon Ettinger!**

I love you,  
Shannon

Merry Christmas to **mom, Taylor, Jackson, Kenny, Amanda, Bre, Linda, Frank, Paige, Tyler, Hailey, Brook, Jessica, Mellisa, Madison, Chris, Rylan and Jim.**

Love you all!  
Shannon / Mom



Happy 14th Birthday **Sarah Quinn Rice** December 17.

We love you! Mom, Dad, Alec,  
Carson and Brady

Congratulations to **Kenneth Antisdel** on his promotion to director of beverage operations! So very proud of you; it just shows what hard work and dedication can do!

From all your loving family

Congratulations to **Alex Cook**, the grandson of Barbara Morsaw Burfield. Alex is a fourth grader at Woodside Elementary School in Hartford and has been inducted into the National Elementary Honor Society! He also played middle linebacker and left guard on his awesome Rocket football team.



Happy 26th birthday November 17 to **Taylor Whitney Falk!** Have a great one.

We love you,  
Mom, Grandma, Jackson, Kenny and Shannon

Congratulations to **Carson Elizabeth Rice** and cousin **Alex Cook** on being inducted in to the first ever chapter of the Hartford National Elementary Honor Society. Your family is so proud of both of you!!!



Happy Sweet 16th Birthday, **Alexandra!** Hope all your dreams come true!

Love you!  
Mom, Pop, & Tori

We all love you and are very proud of you!

Grandma and all your aunts, uncles and cousins



## Are you looking for a way to help others?

### Tutors Wanted For the K-12 Program

Do you have proficiency in the core subjects of Math, English, and Science?

If so, this experience may be just what you are seeking! We have learners, K-12, who are ready for tutors. A variety of hours are available. This can be a year-round opportunity!

Preparation will include proficiency testing, passing the Tribe's background check and drug screening, and tutor training. We pay \$15/hour for tutors with an Associates Degree and \$20/hour for those with Teacher Certification. Pokagon Band tribal preference hiring policy applies.

For more information or to sign up, contact Penny Brant, Department of Education, at (269) 782-0887 or (888) 330-1234.

## Winter Round Dance & Social

December 29  
6:00pm - 7:00am

Community Center



Come and celebrate the Winter season with us.  
Round Dance Songs, Food, Contests, and good times!

Round Dance singers from the Great Lakes Area Invited

- \* Mini Shishibe Sessions  
6p-7p: Youth Session (18 & under)  
7p-8p: Adult Session (18+)
- \* Dice Bowl Tournament  
\* Door prizes and 50/50 raffle
- \* Kids Activity Room: Open all night  
\* Movies, Popcorn, and Games  
\* Facepainting

Corn Soup, Goulash, and Wild Rice Soup Contest! Bring your best dish and win some extra cash!

Local artists will be selling their tribal artwork and products for those night owl shoppers!  
Blankets, Baskets, Pottery, and more!

For more information, please contact the Department of Language and Culture at (269) 462-4255 or Rhonda Purcell at rhonda.purcell@pokagonband-nsn.gov.