



# POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

## THE POKAGONS TELL IT

February 2012

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Commodities program features cooking demonstrations.

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Make your voice heard on future Pokagon community development.

### Financial Empowerment Program Boosts Citizen Entrepreneurs

Pokagon Band's Community Financial Empowerment Program recently partnered with Michigan State University's Extension to present a seven-part series of business development classes at the Business Center of Southwestern Michigan in Dowagiac. It was the first time that the Band has offered such training exclusively for tribal citizens and their spouses. Both Larry Noble and Dorothy Updyke are developing their respective business ideas, whereas Barb Garza and her husband Rusty own RBG Designs, which designs contemporary jewelry using semi-precious stones. Mark Thomas on the left and Joanne Davidhizar on the right presented the series of workshops as a team. Congratulations to Larry, Dorothy and Barb for their dedication to developing the skill set necessary to create and grow a successful business!



Graduates are pictured in the center: Larry Noble, Dorothy Updyke and Barb Garza.

### Tribal Citizen-Owned Business: Send Us Your Info

The Department of Housing's Financial Empowerment Program is developing a comprehensive business directory of tribal citizen-owned businesses and needs help in identifying businesses that want to be listed. Val Janowski, community financial empowerment advisor, is working with the tribe's Department of Communication to produce a directory in time for the March 24 annual membership meeting. Business owners are encouraged to contact Val as soon as possible at Valerie.Janowski@pokagonband-nsn.gov or (269) 591-1938. The deadline for submission of businesses is February

15. Such a directory will allow both individuals and area businesses, including Four Winds Casino, to easily identify and locate existing Pokagon Band citizen-owned businesses.

The directory will be divided by types of business. The section that may be the largest might be the artist category, for the tribe has many accomplished artisans. The range includes basketmakers, beaders, carvers, dancers, drummers, painters, photographers, potters, regalia makers, sculptors, and woodworkers. Other types of businesses are service-oriented, offering everything from home repair, lawn care or custom

tattoos to family dining, installation of dental equipment, and direct marketing. Other business owners operate a dance studio, a natural food grocery store and produce gourmet spaghetti sauce. There are a few farmers, as well, that produce blueberries, fresh vegetables, and cattle and hay, respectively. And let's not forget the two drive-in theaters—located in Decatur and Dowagiac, Michigan. But it's likely that there are other businesses that the tribe doesn't yet know about. Please contact Val to help make this new directory as complete as possible.

### Monthly Personal Finance Workshops Become a Big Hit

Since the tribe started taking the show on the road several months ago, participants have been able to attend personal finance workshops in four cities: Dowagiac, Hartford, and Holland, Michigan, and Mishawaka, Indiana. Different workshop topics are featured every month.

Both December and January workshops dealt with different aspects of the important topic of credit. Participants had the option of having their credit reports printed on site immediately before the start of each workshop. In addition to their credit reports, attendees received their credit scores, a glossary of terms used in the reports, a summary of their consumer rights and a sample letter of dispute.

The expert presenter was Amanda Walker, regional manager of GreenPath Inc., a nationwide non-profit that provides a wide range of counseling to consumers. Amanda spoke at length about the process of determining credit scores.

"It's a complicated process and the exact formulas are secret," she said. In short, many factors determine a credit



A group of citizens participated in a financial empowerment program on being credit wise in December. Pictured from left to right holding their credit scores: Jennifer Edelberg, Val Janowski, Matthew & Angela Kiggins, Pablo Ramos, Susan Noble, Gar DeMarsh, Linda Getz, Teri Barber, Theresa Getz, Ashlee Beavers, Amanda Walker, GreenPath presenter. On bended knee is Fred Hemstreet, Jr.

## Tobacco Products Marketed to Younger and Younger Audiences

By Liz Leffler, community health nurse

Tobacco companies are targeting younger populations, say some pediatricians, and new products are making it easier to hook young people early, and raise the chances they will use tobacco products throughout their lives. At a recent webinar offered by the Michigan Department of Community Health's Tobacco Control Program, the Pokagon Band community health team learned about some of the risks.

### Smokeless Tobacco

Smokeless, or chewing tobacco, is increasingly popular with teenagers, particularly young men. From the 1970s to the 1990s there was a ten-fold increase in younger male use of smokeless tobacco. Nearly 20 percent of Michigan high school students say they use tobacco. Of that, 60 percent say they use smokeless tobacco and cigarettes, while 17 percent say they only smoke cigarettes. Studies show that youth are starting to use smokeless tobacco at ages as young as 11 or 12 years old.

### New Tobacco Products

With a variety of products like orbs, strips, or sticks that resemble candy and come in many flavors, tobacco companies are making products that appeal to younger populations. These products are more discrete and make it easier for the younger population to use nicotine-containing products.

One new product, called Snus, takes its origins from Swedish snuff, but in the U.S. it contains nitrosamines, one of the most toxic cancer causing agents in nicotine. Little cigars are reportedly used by 23 percent of high school seniors. Hookah lounges are also becoming more popular. The concern is they contain 36 times more tar, eight times more CO<sub>2</sub>, and slightly more nicotine than cigarettes. Studies have also shown that those that smoke using hookah, or shisha pipes, have an increased risk of respiratory infections, decreased fertility, decreased pulmonary function, and lower birth weight babies.

E-cigarettes are an increasingly common item on the market, and because there isn't second hand smoke like cigarettes, companies advertise they can be smoked anywhere. Yet e-cigarettes are still a nicotine delivery system, and may maintain an addiction to nicotine. The FDA has not evaluated any e-cigarettes for safety or effectiveness, however when the FDA conducted limited laboratory studies of certain samples, researchers found significant quality issues that indicate that quality control processes used to manufacture these products are substandard or non-existent. FDA found that cartridges labeled as containing no nicotine contained nicotine and that three different electronic cigarette cartridges with the same label emitted a markedly different amount of nicotine with each puff. Experts have also raised concerns that the marketing of products such as e-cigarettes can increase nicotine addiction among young people and may lead kids to try other tobacco products.

### Nicotine Poisoning

Another concern is that some of the new products pose a risk for nicotine poisoning. Products like energy dips, Snus, orbs, sticks, or strips could be overused and lead to nicotine poisoning. Be sure that tobacco products are out of children's reach. Some of the signs and symptoms of nicotine poisoning are:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Headache
- Sweating
- Seizures

If you notice that your child is experiencing any of these signs and symptoms and your tobacco product is missing get them to the emergency room as soon as possible.

If you or someone you know is struggling with nicotine addiction, please contact the Pokagon Band Health Service Department today at (888) 440-1234 or (269) 782-4141 ext. 225 and schedule an appointment. The pharmacy carries different products that can help with smoking or tobacco cessation. A behavioral health team of counselors can help with addictions.

## 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

**Monthly Personal Finance Workshops Become a Big Hit**, *continued from page one*

score. A really important one is whether a person pays their bills on time. See the below GreenPath infographic on credit scores for lots of good information.

It's common knowledge that credit scores impact our lives in big ways. A person's credit score determines 1) whether or not credit will be offered to him or her and 2) if so, on what terms. In other words, will a low interest rate be charged or will the person wind up paying an arm and a leg in order to take out a loan or get a credit card?

Participants seemed like the relaxed and interactive setting of the workshops. One said that the workshop taught her how to read a credit report, and how to dispute entries on it that aren't accurate. Another commended the presenter, saying, "Amanda does a great job explaining things and answers questions so that we can understand." A third said, "Great workshop. The instructor was down to earth and very informative." The topic for February workshops is "Saving to Achieve Your Goals." The same workshop is offered in four different locations.

Please join us on any of the following dates:

**Dowagiac**

Tuesday, February 14, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Pokagon Band Community Center, 27043 Potawatomi Trail

**Holland**

Saturday, February 18, 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Rock Island Restaurant banquet room,  
1816 Lincoln R.d. (M-40), Allegan – located just south of I-196

**Hartford**

Wednesday, February, 22, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Hartford High School, 115 School St., teacher's lounge

**Mishawaka**

Wednesday, February, 29, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

South Bend area office, PNC Bank Building,  
310 W. McKinley R.d., Suite 3rd floor – corner of McKinley and Grape Roads

Each workshop includes a light meal half an hour before the workshop begins. All participants will receive a gift of their choosing from a giveaway table. Eligible Four Winds Casino employees receive incentive points and compensation for attending. Unfortunately, child care is not available.

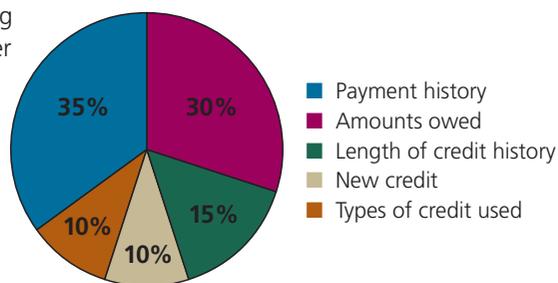
For more information, contact Department of Housing's Val Janowski, Community Financial Empowerment Advisor: [Valerie.Janowski@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Valerie.Janowski@pokagonband-nsn.gov) or (269) 591-1938.

**Basics of Credit Reports and Credit Scores**

**What is a Credit Score?**

A credit score is a number lenders use to help them predict the likelihood (risk) that you will repay your debt as agreed. For this reason, credit scores are also called "risk scores." Scores are generated by statistical models using elements from your credit report. However, scores are not stored as part of your credit history. Rather, scores are generated at the time a lender requests your credit report and then included with the report. Each of the credit bureaus, **TransUnion, Experian, and Equifax**, has their own scoring model and scores may differ from bureau to bureau. Each score is based on information that particular credit bureau keeps on file about you.

**Credit scores are fluid numbers that change as the elements in your credit report change.** For example, payment updates or opening a new account could cause scores to fluctuate. Depending on the type of credit scoring model that is being used, your score may differ from lender to lender.



**What's Not in a Credit Score?**

Credit scores do not consider:

- Your race, national origin, religion, sex, marital status or age
- Whether or not you receive public assistance
- Your salary, occupation, title, employer, date employed or employment history. However, lenders may consider this information in making their approval decisions.
- Where you live
- Any interest rate being charged on a particular credit card or other account
- Any items reported as child/family support obligations or rental agreements
- *Certain* types of inquiries (soft inquiries). The score does not count requests you have made for your own credit report in order to check it. It also does not count "promotional inquiry" requests made by lenders in order to make a "pre-approved" credit offer. Finally, inquiries for employment purposes are not counted.

**Correcting Errors on Your Report**

Federal law allows consumers to challenge inaccuracies and correct their credit files, and the three credit bureaus encourage consumers to dispute incorrect data. There is no fee. If you believe there is an error on your report, submit an official dispute to each of the credit bureaus for fast resolution. They will investigate your dispute with the source of the data and you will receive a response within 30 days. All consumers will receive the results of the investigation.

Payment History (35%)	Amounts Owed (30%)	Length of Credit History (15%)	New Credit (10%)	Types of Credit Used (10%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of accounts paid as agreed</li> <li>• Negative public records or collections</li> <li>• Delinquent accounts:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Total number of past due items</li> <li>2. How long you've been past due</li> <li>3. How long it's been since you had a past due payment</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How much you owe on accounts and the types of accounts with balances</li> <li>• How much of your revolving credit lines you've used — looking for indications you are over-extended</li> <li>• Amounts you owe on installment loan accounts vs. their original balances — to make sure you are you paying them down consistently</li> <li>• Number of zero balance accounts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total length of time tracked by your credit report</li> <li>• Length of time since accounts were opened</li> <li>• Time that's passed since the last activity</li> <li>• The longer your (good) history, the better your scores</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of accounts you've recently opened and the proportion of new accounts to total accounts</li> <li>• Number of recent credit inquiries</li> <li>• The time that's passed since recent inquiries or newly-opened accounts</li> <li>• If you've re-established a positive credit history after encountering payment problems</li> <li>• In general, checking to make sure you aren't attempting to open numerous new accounts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total number of accounts and types of accounts (installment, revolving, mortgage, etc.)</li> <li>• A mixture of account types usually generates better scores than reports with only numerous revolving accounts (credit cards)</li> </ul>

## Department of Education Updates and Announcements

### Pokagon Band: A Nation That Reads

Sign up for the next reading program. Open registration for the program is January 28–May 31. For an application, please contact Connie Baber at (888) 330-1234. Our goal this time is 4,509 books, which is the number of tribal citizens at the end of 2011.

### 2012 Summer College Intern Program Gears Up

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

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

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

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



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

### Are you thinking about going to college?

If so, are you planning ahead and getting the classes you need to get into college? Let us help you take the many steps to achieve that goal.

- FAFSA
- College applications
- ACT/SAT tests
- Dual Enrollment

Our high school success reimbursement program will assist you with some of these costs. Joseph Avance, higher education specialist and Traci Henslee, employment and training specialist, look forward to working with you. K-12 staff is also available. Give us a call at (269) 782-0887 or (888) 330-1234.

### Important FAFSA Information for College Students

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

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

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

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

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

### Save These Dates for 2012 Summer Programs

Summer is an active time of year. Start preparing for it now so that you can benefit from each minute! Here are the earliest details, with lots more to follow:

- Summer Enrichment – Anywhere in the USA! Anytime during the summer! Pokagon students entering 5th-12th grades may get up to \$500 from the Tribal Council for a summer program of your choice. March 15 is the deadline for all youth, including those who have applied in previous years. The additional deadlines are: April 15, May 15, and June 15, for those who miss the March deadline, until the places are all filled.
- Senior Graduates' Banquet – Friday, June 29, 6:45 – 9:00 p.m. at Pokagon Band Community Center, 27043 Potawatomi Trail, Dowagiac. All are invited to join us at the Community Center as we honor the 2012 grads and GED recipients. Graduates and recipients, call us for your form.
- Summer Tutoring – The K-12 Education Associates are available for tutoring children during June. This is a great opportunity for students to stay in touch with their class work on a more relaxed basis.
- Summer School – Monday through Thursday, July 9 through August 2. We are looking forward to another great time with the children entering Kindergarten through sixth grade for the 2012 – 2013 school year. Academics, culture, and Potawatomi language fill the days. Limited transportation will be provided. Applications will be available at the Annual Meeting.
- Skono Gizhguk: Back to School – Saturday, August 4, Community Center. This is the first opportunity to register for the K-12 Program's 2012 – 2013 year and receive school supplies. A full day will be planned with other departments' participation.
- Refreshers – We will have three Refresher Events in August to focus on Math and Language Arts skills for students and parents alike! This is a great way to ease back in to the school year.

If you have questions or need an application for any of these activities, please contact Connie Baber, Administrative Assistant, at (269) 782-0887, (888) 330-1234, or via e-mail [connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov).

## Student Spotlight

### Joshua Tyler Atwood Recognized with Academic Excellence Award

Joshua is a sixth grader at Kenowa Hills Middle School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Nominated by Petrina Atwood and supported by his principal Ruth Posthumus, Joshua has shown great determination to succeed. In school, he has shown great effort and diligence to improve his grades. In the most recently completed marking period, Joshua's hard work paid off as he achieved honor roll status. His favorite subjects are science and social studies. Joshua also enjoys video games, rip sticking, winter activities, and making people laugh. Congratulations Joshua, keep up the great work!

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

**By Sarah Hyatt, Head Start director**

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

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

### Volunteers

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

### Donations

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

### Upcoming Events/Closures

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

**February 20** Closed for Presidents Day

**February 23** Family Fun Night from 6:00–8:00 p.m. with guest speaker

### Happy Birthday to you!

**Jason Holloway** January 1 Happy 5th Birthday!

**Mrs. Sam Townsend** January 2 Happy Birthday!

**Elizabeth Bale** January 3 Happy 5th Birthday!

**Ms. Carrie Neumann** January 7 Happy Birthday!

**Mrs. Sarah Green** January 10 Happy Birthday!

**Miss Rosie Castillo** January 12 Happy Birthday!

**Nathan DeBortoli** January 17 Happy 4th Birthday!

**Brendyn Powell** January 24 Happy 4th Birthday!

**Austin Garcia** January 26 Happy 5th Birthday!

**Devin Rock** January 27 Happy 4th Birthday!

**John Rader** February 6 Happy 4th Birthday!

**Greysen Kelley** February 15 Happy 5th Birthday!

## Four Winds Casino Resort Chef Demonstrates Nutritious, Tasty Meal Making



Brandon Smithson, chef at Timbers restaurant at Four Winds Casino Resort, recently showed a group of citizens how to make chicken hominy stew in the new demonstration kitchen in the Commodities building at the Rodgers Lake campus. This was the first of a series of food demonstrations for commodities participants on how to make nutritious, tasty meals from commodity items from the program. To find out about future events, contact Robert Linn, (269) 782-3372.

## Stacey Gettig Joins Tribal Court Staff

Bozhoo. I am the Court clerk for the Tribal Court. I am a tribal citizen and the daughter of Denise Lynn Bradford (Mays) and Robert Gettig, Jr. and granddaughter of Kathleen Rickard (Bradford), Ronald Bradford; Robert Gettig, Sr. and Frances (Floyd) Gettig. I am blessed to share two beautiful boys Devin Rock (4 years old) and Maysen Rock (4 months old) with their father, Bradley Rock, who is also a tribal member. Bradley is the son of Orville Starrett and Regina Rock. He has been a great support in the continuing of my education, and with the support of my sister Suzanne DeBortoli (Gettig) and mother I have managed to get as far as I have with my education.

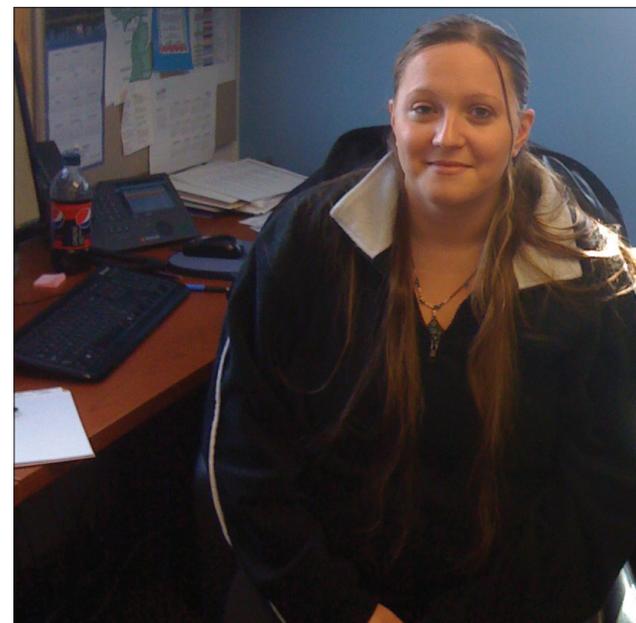
I accepted my position as Court clerk in July of 2011, and have since grown to love working here. I remember during my interview I told them that this was my dream job and the longer I am here the more sure I am about that decision. I feel honored to work for our tribe and our people, doing something that I love.

Do you remember when you were little and your teacher or parent asked you what you wanted to be when you grew up? A lot of us would say that they don't know. I have always known. I remember in sixth grade we had display what we wanted to do when we grew up, and I wrote lawyer on mine. The more I learn about the law, the more I am sure of the decision that I have made. Although I was not aware of what my specific interest of law would be until

beginning my position here at the Tribal Court, now I know this is somewhere I can see myself staying for the duration. I received my high school diploma from Covert High School in 2006, as well as a certificate of completion in office administration from the Van Buren Technology Center. After high school I immediately began working on my degree in paralegal studies at Davenport University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In April of 2009 I earned my Associates degree in Paralegal Studies.

Before receiving my Associates degree, I contacted the Tribal Court to see if I could meet with the Chief Judge and staff to discuss what they did here at the Court and learn some history. From then until now our judicial system has really come a long way, and I would consider our Court to be a model Court for other native communities. Currently, I am still working on my Bachelor's degree with only a few credits left to go. After receiving my Bachelor's degree I plan on attending law school. Although I have not yet set my mind on a school, I do have a few select choices. Despite the challenges and obstacles that life has thrown at me over the years, I have managed to stay goal-oriented and keep going with my education. I can say that I would not be where I am today without the love and support of my family.

I remember as a little girl going to the Council meetings with my mother and grandmother sitting on the little folding chairs and sometimes standing with a lot of people packed in one little room. My



grandmother would be very proud to see how far our tribe has come since she walked on. While we are still expanding as a tribe and a government, there are new things that come before us every day that we must work through. As a tribal member I could not be more pleased with the staff and the Judiciary that our government has. I can say that I am excited about my position here at the Tribal Court and look forward to working toward the advancement of our judicial system as we are still in our formative years. I look forward to meeting you all. Megwetch (thank you) and mino gizhiget (good day).

## Prairie Band Potawatomi Language Department

Presents

E POK YATSOKAGNÁN

Winter Stories

February 21-23, 2012

Prairie Band Casino Convention Center

St. Lawrence Room

12305 150th Road, Mayetta KS 66509

Schedule of Events

Tuesday 9 am-4 pm Stories

Wednesday 9 am-4pm Stories

Thursday 9 am-Quarterly

Potawatomi Language Directors Meeting

"Fluent Speakers TBA"

\*Breakfast & lunch will be served Tuesday & Wednesday\*

\*Breakfast only will be served on Thursday\*



HOST HOTEL:

Call 1-888-727-4946 and

mention offer code

S02POTL

Other Lodging:

RedRoof Inn: 1-800-230-4134

Capital Plaza: 1-785-431-7200

Holiday Inn: 1-785-861-7200

## Winter Stories

The Department of Language and Culture is inviting Potawatomi language enthusiasts to join us in attending the Second Annual Potawatomi Winter Stories gathering on February 21-23, 2012 in Mayetta, Kansas. Winter Stories is an annual gathering of language speakers and learners to share and hear traditional and contemporary stories in the Potawatomi language. Last year, the morning sessions were filled with storytelling by first-language speakers, with grammar lessons in the afternoon.

### Eligibility:

To be eligible to attend, participants must be Pokagon citizens, spouses or children and have attended at least 50 percent of one of the language classes over the past three months (Elders, Workshops or Video Conferencing) or provide proof of participation in language studies (enrollment or teaching in Nishnabemowin classes, linguistics, education or related courses).

### Accommodations:

We will be traveling down to Kansas in a Pokagon bus and will depart from the Community Center on Monday, February 20 and return on Friday, February 24. In an effort to minimize costs, participants will share rooms at the Prairie Band Casino Resort (with the exception of parents with children). Meals and incidental expenses will be provided at the standard federal rates of 100 percent for adults 18+, 75 percent for youth 12+ and 50 percent for children under 12.

Please contact Teresa Magnuson, director of language and culture, at (269) 462-4296 or [Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov) to register for travel and accommodations by Monday, February 6, 2012.

**Culture**

- 2/25 | Storytelling with Stan Morsaw, Tribal Lodge, 2-5pm
- 2/3 & 2/4 | Community Wellness Gathering, Community Center, Fri. 5-9pm, Sat. 9-6pm

**Drumming**

- 2/1 & 2/15 | Men's Drumming Teaching Cabin, 6-8pm
- 2/1 & 2/15 | Women's Hand Drumming, Tribal Lodge, 6-8pm

**Language**

- Tuesdays & Thursdays | Adult language Class, Community Center, 6-8pm
- Mondays | Elders Language Class, Elders Hall, 10am -12pm
- 2/4 | Shishibe (Potawatomi Bingo), Community Center, 6-8pm
- 2/8 | Language Workshop with Frank Barker, Community Center, 6-8pm
- 2/29 | Language Workshop with John Winchester, Community Center, 6-8pm
- 2/3, 2/10, & 2/17 | Language Video Conferencing, Community Center, 9:30-12 & 1-4pm

**Native Healing**

- 2/20-2/22 | Jake Pine, Teaching Cabin, 9am-12pm & 1-5pm
- 2/21 | Co-ed Sweat Lodge with Jake Pine, Teaching Cabin, 6-8pm

**Native Nations Youth Council**

- 2/3 & 2/4 | Cultural Activity, Community Wellness Gathering, Community Center, Fri. 5-9pm, Sat. 9-6pm
- 2/11 | Council Report & Business Meeting, Community Center, Report 10am, lunch 12pm, Jr. 1-2pm, Sr. 2-3pm
- 2/20-2/24 | Kansas Winter Stories & Digital Storytelling, Mayetta, KS

**Traditions and Repatriation Committee**

- 2/27 | Monthly Meeting, Admin. Bldg., Finance Conf. Rm. 6-8pm

**Other Events**

- 2/20-2/24 | Kansas Winter Stories & Digital Storytelling, Mayetta, KS

# February 2012

## Department of Language and Culture

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

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1 Men's & Women's Drumming	2 Adult Language Class	3 Community Wellness Gathering; <b>Language Video Conferencing</b>	4 Community Wellness Gathering; Shishibe (Potawatomi BINGO)
5		6 Elder's Language Class	7 Adult Language Class	8 Language Workshop with Frank Barker	9 Adult Language Class	10 <b>Language Video Conferencing</b>	11 Youth Council Meeting & Report	
12		13 Elder's Language Class	14 Adult Language Class	15 Men's & Women's Drumming	16 Adult Language Class	17 <b>Language Video Conferencing</b>	18 MSU Pow Wow	
19	MSU Pow Wow	20 Elder's Language Class; Native Healing; Kansas Winter Stories	21 Adult Language Class; Native Healing; Co-ed Sweat Lodge; Kansas Winter Stories	22 Native Healing; Kansas Winter Stories	23 Adult Language Class; Kansas Winter Stories	24 Kansas Winter Stories	25 Storytelling with Stan Morsaw	
26		27 Elder's Language Class; Traditions & Repatriation	28 Adult Language Class	29 Language Workshop with John Winchester	1	2	3	



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

## It all starts with you.

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

**Charrettes—citizen** specifically what ci

Make your voice heard! Charre community amenities and hous



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

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

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



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



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

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



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

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



**Charrette Schedule**

**South Bend, Indiana | Saturday, January 28**

10: a.m. to 2 p.m., lunch provided  
Bruno's, 2610 Prairie Avenue

**Hartford, Michigan | Saturday, February 4**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., lunch provided  
Hartford High School

**Dowagiac, Michigan | Saturday, February 11**

after the Tribal Council meeting, dinner to follow  
Community Center Pokégnek Édawat

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



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



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

**Pokagon Band Partners**

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

Wightman Engineering will aid with infrastructure design.

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

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

## Career Opportunity | Behavioral Health Counselor / Coordinator – Department of Health Services

### Job Summary

Serves behavioral health clients by providing therapeutic substance abuse and mental health counseling, supervising personnel and coordinating and administering the program's day-to-day activities. "Keepers of the Fire" is a Behavioral Health program for the treatment of alcohol/chemical dependency and recovery and mental health counseling services. The program is designed to meet the needs of our clients in a culturally relevant manner.

### Commitment to Service

Service encompasses all aspects of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian's governmental operations. Every employee shares the responsibility to provide exemplary service, dignity, and respect to all tribal citizens, the Tribal Council, and staff members. To this end, all employees have an obligation to identify and report any service problems, issues, or concerns and through designated channels, initiate, recommend, and actively participate in solutions.

### Leadership Responsibilities

As a leader, this position is accountable for the overall direction, coordination, evaluation, coaching, and development of their staff. To this end, our leaders carry out their supervisory responsibilities in accordance with the Pokagon Band's policies and applicable laws. These responsibilities include interviewing, hiring, orienting, and training employees; planning, assigning, and directing work; providing timely feedback, appraising performance, and providing training and development opportunities; rewarding and disciplining employees; addressing complaints, resolving problems, and exploring and implementing new or improved methods and procedures for improving workflow and service to tribal citizens.

### Principal Duties

Establishes respectful, compassionate, and therapeutic environments by providing individualized and culturally appropriate emotional, intellectual, psychological and spiritual support and counseling services to individual clients, patients and families.

Identifies service population behavioral health care programming needs by analyzing client trends and gathering information from clients, staff counselors, and other stakeholders and persons in a position to understand service requirements. Makes recommendations to Health Services Director and prepares and disseminates reports to Health Board to develop Behavioral Health programs to meet needs identified.

Maintains program guidelines, accreditations, and licensure by studying existing and anticipated legislation and regulations; refining, reviewing, and implementing standards and procedures for providing behavioral health services; collaborating with quality and compliance program staff.

Maintains behavioral health operations by initiating, coordinating and enforcing program, operational and personnel policies and procedures.

Assures quality of care by developing and interpreting program philosophies and standards; enforcing adherence to accrediting agencies and applicable federal, state, local and tribal laws and regulations; measuring counseling outcomes to standards; making or recommending adjustments.

Delivers client care services by counseling and aiding individuals, couples, groups, and families requiring assistance dealing with substance abuse and mental health problems; recommending and coordinating treatment and rehabilitation admissions and aftercare; making referrals to the Pokagon Band health services care team and other departments, outside agencies, and support services as appropriate.

Embraces integrated holistic health care as practiced throughout the Health Services Department, refers clients to medical clinical staff, Community Health, Health Services Social Worker and other Pokagon Band programs. Participates in Contract Health Services Managed Care Team, Case Management, active efforts to meet goals established for children and families involved in Indian Child Welfare and other interdisciplinary health care teams.

Completes client care requirements by reviewing new client intake assessments; assigning counseling staff; scheduling and providing leadership for case conferences; providing case management; following up on client therapeutic outcomes.

Maintains confidential client records and documents client care and progress by following policies and procedures; preparing case and progress notes; entering data and records into RPMS and other program recordkeeping systems; reviewing counseling staff progress notes and charting for completeness and returning charts to staff for corrections and completion.

Maintains counseling staff job results by coaching, counseling, and disciplining employees; planning, monitoring and evaluating job performance; participating in peer view.

Seeks and assures funding and revenue for maintenance and expansion of behavioral health programs by collaborating with Resource Development, Compliance and Quality staff, Records and billing staff; completing necessary reporting to funding agencies.

Maintains professional and technical knowledge and certifications by attending education workshops, seminars and conferences; reviewing professional publication; establishing personal networks; participating in Indian health care and other professional organizations.

Travels throughout and beyond extensive service delivery area for meetings, training and to deliver membership services. Works irregular hours and may work weekends occasionally.

May supervise activities of other department staff as directed.

Accomplishes other related duties and responsibilities as necessary.

### Position Requirements

Masters Degree in Social Work or related field such as counseling or human services from an accredited institution whose program of study has been recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and/or the United States Department of Education (USDE) with credentials or certifications to provide mental health and chemical dependency counseling.

Minimum two years experience in family crisis intervention.

Minimum two years supervisory experience.

Recent (within the past five years) professional work experience providing counseling services directly to clients.

Must have valid driver's license and be able to meet the minimum insurance requirements regarding driving record in order to utilize GSA vehicles.

Must be a Licensed Mental Health Counselor or Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the State of Michigan and Indiana.

Must submit to and pass alcohol/drug screening and criminal background check.

### Indian Preference

Pokagon Band Indian preference policies apply.

### Reports to

The Behavioral Health Coordinator/Counselor reports directly to the Director of Health Services.

Starting Wage Rate PB - 11 (Exempt) Min. \$51,913 - Mid. \$69,218 plus benefits.

Commensurate with education and experience.

Please submit application and resume online at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/career\\_opportunities](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/career_opportunities) by Friday, February 10, 2012.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Heather Farver, HR Generalist  
[heather.farver@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:heather.farver@pokagonband-nsn.gov)  
 (269) 462-4267

## Construction Work Opportunity

The Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo is soliciting applicants for the tribal labor pool. Experienced tribal carpenters and tradesmen interested in working on the New Buffalo Casino Hotel expansion project are encouraged to apply. All available positions are filled with qualified Pokagon citizens before non-tribal applicants are given consideration. Don't miss out on this tremendous opportunity.

Contact Anthony Foerster at (269) 944-9684 or Madalene Big Bear at (269) 756-0640.

## Chairman's Corner

As I mentioned in my last article, the expansion at Four Winds New Buffalo is progressing on schedule and on budget. I was able to take a tour of the construction site just after the New Year and it is truly amazing what has taken place in a short period of time. We now have over fifty citizens/spouses working on the site, and that number will only increase. The preference program put in place to get hired on the site, experience at specialty jobs, and the option to join the union to get a journeyman's card has been successful for those interested. If things continue as they are, we will have completion around mid summer 2012. The search has started for the opening act in the new entertainment center. That will signal a major move for us and place us in position to compete for new guests with this amenity. I have to repeat that I'm sure you all know this wasn't an easy decision, but as a result of the due diligence it was the right decision. Council deserves recognition for taking the time to make the right choice in this matter.

At the Saturday meeting in December Council approved a proposed change to the Revenue Allocation Plan. By the time the newsletter reaches your home, we will have been to the Department of Interior to discuss the changes with them. The intent is to get their opinion on the changes and some assurances, to the extent they are willing to share, on whether they would approve the change if supported by a vote of the tribal citizens. Personally, I find it hard to understand how they could deny the proposed change and the relief it will bring to our people.

Council understands that times are difficult for many of our people, and we are doing our best to help. If the citizens support this change, and I hope you do, this will complete about a 500% increase in the monthly stipend since we refinanced. This is a major accomplishment in my opinion and confirms that Council



recognizes the difficult times based on this economy. If you have any questions please call any Council member, we will be happy to speak with you.

In addition to this proposed change, Council had authorized a casino planning workgroup to review the next steps for future gaming. This will have been discussed at the Quarterly Citizens Meeting on January 21. Not knowing exactly the reaction of our citizens, I can only say that based on the information provided by the workgroup, Dowagiac makes good sense. Until the bank loan is paid off, Council is somewhat limited in how much we can increase the stipends. However, by looking to the future, without going into debt, the ability for us to significantly increase the stipend for our people is vastly improved by the end of the bank loan. As you probably heard during the meeting,

there are more things that have to be investigated. I want to assure everyone, that we will take the same steps during this process as we did with the decision on Hartford. Our conservative approach to decision making has not changed, we are not going into debt for this addition.

I would encourage you to log onto the website to view the webcasting if you are not already participating. We are going to experiment with the ability for our citizens to ask questions during the meeting. If you are not aware of how to log on, please visit <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Community/Announcements/> or call our Information Technology Department for instructions, (800) 517-0777.

I hope you will take a moment to reflect on the past year or two and ask yourself this question: has the tribe moved forward in a positive way and has a foundation for a better future for my family been developed? If you think so, I thank you for your part in developing this foundation. If your answer is no, then I encourage you to get more involved and let this Council know what your areas of concern are. We all have to remember everyone is not going to be pleased with every decision Council makes, but your input is still an important part of the process. This is a collective group of elected officials who are responsible for representing the entire citizenry. I think they have been very diligent in meeting that charge.

Our Annual Meeting is slated for March 24. I would encourage you now to plan to attend. It will give you and your family and opportunity to see what your government has done and is doing for you.

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

## 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.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language and Culture

## Cultural Events | February

**Men's Drumming Practice with John T. Warren**  
Drumming classes are offered to share drum teachings, practice drumming and singing, and to learn songs.  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 1 and 15, 2012    **Location:** Teaching Cabin  
**Time:** 6:00–8:00 pm    Rodgers Lake Campus  
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

**Women's Drumming Practice**  
Hand drumming classes are offered to share drum teachings, practice old songs, and to learn new ones. Please wear a skirt and bring your hand drum or rattle, if you have one.  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 1 and 15, 2012    **Location:** Tribal Lodge  
**Time:** 6:00–8:00 pm    58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

**Storytelling with Stanley Morseau & Rattle making with Jason Wesaw**  
Neshnabe people traditionally tell stories when the snow covers the ground during the winter months. To take advantage of this beautiful time, Stanley Morseau will be joining us to share traditional Potawatomi stories that have been passed down for generations. While hearing the stories, learn to make rattles with Jason Wesaw.  
**Date:** Saturday, February 25, 2012    **Location:** Teaching Cabin  
**Time:** 2:00–5:00 pm    Rodgers Lake Campus  
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

**Native Healing with Jack and Mary Pine**  
Jake and Mary Pine visit our community for traditional healing and wellness assistance. Traditional healing is the restoring of balance to the mind, body, spirit, and emotions. Please call Andy Jackson to schedule your individual appointment (remember to bring tobacco).  
**Date:** Monday – Wednesday, February 20–22, 2012    **Location:** Teaching Cabin  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.–5:00 pm [individual appointments]    Rodgers Lake Campus  
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI

**Co-ed Sweat Lodge**  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 21, 2012  
**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Contact Information:** Andy Jackson, cultural associate  
E-mail: [Andy.Jackson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Andy.Jackson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov) | Office: (269) 462-4261

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

## Elders Council Business Meeting | January 5, 2012

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

**INVOCATION:** Jim Topash

**ROLL CALL:** Jeanette Mollett, P, Maxine Margiotta, Clarence White, A, (medical), Audrey Huston, P, Member-at-Large, Ruth Salvidar, P. Also in attendance Petey Boehm and Lynn Davidson (in at 12:00 p.m.)

**AGENDA:** Joe Silvia and Randy Utter gave a report on what to do in case of an emergency. Make sure that all of your important documents are in a safety deposit box or in a fireproof safe. Designate someone to be your power of attorney; this could be your spouse, child, or a trusted friend. A person should have two people serve as powers of attorney: one for medical decisions and one for financial decisions. Power of attorney ceases at time of death. If you would like more information call Joe at (269) 934-1027.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Finance Board and Tribal Council approved a stipend for Elders Council meetings. It will be \$60.00 per meeting plus mileage.

A memorial Christmas tree was set up this year, to honor our loved ones who have walked on, and to remember the veterans who have walked through the western door. Ornaments were sold for \$5.00 and inscribed with their names. The monies collected will go to the emergency fund.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There will be an auction on January 20, 2012. The money will go to the emergency fund which will help fund the loan closet.

A vote was taken on a trip to Four Winds. The majority vote was yes and to go by shuttle. Signup sheet will be put out Monday January 9, 2012.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Elders book is still being worked on; it will not be long before it is finished.

Shirts will be discussed at the next meeting.

**MINUTES:** Ruth moved to accept the minute of December 1, 2011, Jeanie supported, (3) yes, (1) absent, passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

Active Living classes will commence in March 2012.

Basket making will resume January 18, 2012, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:** Clarence White, Richard Hiler, Tom Trux, Elaine Underwood.

**JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES:** Lee & Ruth Saldivar, 47 Years.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 1:18 p.m.

## Update on the Pokagon Band Apprenticeship Program

**What apprenticeship opportunities does the Pokagon Band have to offer to its citizens?**

The Band currently offers an apprenticeship program in the carpenter trade skills.

**What is an apprenticeship?**

An apprenticeship is a system of training a new generation of practitioners in a skill where apprentices build their careers from the combined knowledge from classroom learning as well as on-the-job training.

**How many apprentices are in the program now?**

We currently have seven Pokagon Band citizens in the Carpenter Apprenticeship Program. We already have some of those apprentices working at the Four Winds Casino and other Pokagon Band construction projects.

**How long has the Pokagon Band had an Apprenticeship Program?**

The Band launched the Carpenter's Apprenticeship last November, so this will be our second year.

**Who can be in the Pokagon Band's Apprenticeship Program?**

The Apprenticeship Program is open to tribal citizens and spouses of tribal citizens, who are at least 18 years old and have their high school diploma or G.E.D.

**Are there any other qualifications I have to meet to be in the Apprenticeship Program?**

You must complete an apprenticeship application. When you turn in your application, please bring the following to the Human Resources Department:

- Tribal ID card
- Spouse's Tribal ID card and marriage certificate (if you are a spouse of a citizen)
- High school diploma or G.E.D.

**What else would I have to do to start the Apprenticeship Program?**

In addition to filling out an application the following also need to be completed, in any order:

- TABE assessment
- OHSA 10-Hour Course
- Final Interview

**Do I need to buy anything to be in the Apprenticeship Program?**

If you are admitted into the Apprenticeship Program, the Pokagon Band will supply you with the tools and supplies necessary.

**How long would it take me to complete the Apprenticeship Program?**

It takes apprentices four years to complete their apprenticeship. This includes classroom hours and on-the-job learning time.

**Is the Pokagon Band Apprenticeship Program supported by Michigan Carpenters Apprenticeship Program?**

Yes, It is endorsed by the Michigan Carpenter's Apprenticeship and Training Program.

**Whom may I contact for more information?**

To obtain an application, assistance setting up your TABE assessment, or setting up your OHSA 10-Hour course, you may contact Matt Clay, in the Human Resources Department, by phone at (269) 462-4250 or by e-mail at [Matt.Clay@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Matt.Clay@PokagonBand-nsn.gov).

## Per Capita News

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

Enrollment #	Name	Christmas 2009	Christmas 2010	Christmas 2010	Monthly Per Cap
83	John Dylan Watson	x	x	x	x
406	Michael Lynn Hewitt	x	x	x	x
413	Patricia Louise DePriest			x	
434	Thomas Charles Abercrombie	x	x	x	x
484	Alvaro Billy Jack Walters			x	
857	Peter John Ramirez	x	x	x	x
1248	Alan Kalahar Spear III				x
1445	Michael David Bush	x	x	x	x
1446	Bobby Marcus Haynes	x	x	x	x
1533	Louie Benedict Jackson		x	x	
1986	Cristian M Cobb		x	x	
2093	Travis Mead Jr			x	x
2154	Whitney Nicole Lewis			x	
2159	Jacob Laraway				x
2476	Patrick Michael Phares			x	
2594	Nicole Marie Hamstra			x	
2788	Joseph Walsh			x	x
2823	Patrick Johnson				x
4227	Scott Brewer Jr		x	x	x
4319	Crystal Pokagon			x	x

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

## Per Capita Important Dates

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

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

## Per Capita Direct Deposit & Tax Withholding Forms

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

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

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

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

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

## monday

6 **language**

Beef Roast  
Potatoes and Rutabaga  
Carrots  
Cottage Cheese and Pears  
Roll

13

Buffalo Stew  
Coleslaw  
Cornbread  
Fresh Fruit

20 **language**

Chicken Shish Ki Bob W/ Fresh  
Veggies  
Macaroni Salad  
Yogurt  
Roll

27 **language**

Spaghetti and Meatballs  
Green Beans  
Garden Salad  
Strawberry Angel Food Cake  
Garlic Bread

## tuesday



7

Baked Chicken  
Baked Potato  
Broccoli  
Tomato Salad  
Roll  
Ice Cream

14 **valentine's day**

Salisbury Steak  
Mashed Potatoes  
Beets  
Garden Salad  
Roll  
Red Velvet Cake

21

Buffalo Goulash  
Brussels Sprouts  
Garden Salad  
Sherbet  
Garlic Bread

28

Ham and Sweet Potatoes  
Peas and Carrots  
Lemon Meringue Pie  
Roll

## wednesday

1

Stuffed Cabbage  
Green Beans  
Waldorf Salad  
Corn Bread

8

Buffalo Sloppy Joe  
Baked Beans  
Veggie Tray  
Coleslaw  
Oatmeal Cookie

15

Pork Parmesan  
Baked Potato Wedge  
Carrots  
Cucumber Salad  
Roll

22

Turkey and Gravy  
Mashed Potatoes  
Succotash  
Tomato Salad  
Pumpkin Pie  
Wheat Bread

29

Boiled Dinner W/ Beans, Sau-  
sage, Cabbage, Onion, Corn,  
and Potatoes  
Garden Salad  
Fresh Fruit  
Corn Bread

## thursday

2

**business**

Broccoli and Cheese Soup  
Cold Cut Subs  
Assorted Veggie Tray  
Fruit Salad  
Birthday Cake

9

Turkey Pot Pie  
Garden Salad  
Biscuit  
Fresh Fruit

16 **social**

Chicken, Broccoli, Rice, and  
Cheese Casserole  
Garden Salad  
Fresh Fruit  
Crescent Roll

23

Burger OR Frank Day on a Bun  
Baked Beans  
Potato Salad  
Relish Tray  
Melon

## friday

3

Perch Filet  
Spanish Rice  
Corn  
Garden Salad  
Fruit

10

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

17

Baked Fish Square on a Bun  
Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad  
Relish and Veggie Tray  
Brownie

24

Potato Soup  
Egg Salad Sandwich  
Assorted Veggie Tray  
Jell-O W/ Fruit

# february

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

**Elders Council Directory**

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

Jean Mollett, Chair  
(269) 463-5355Clarence White, Treasurer  
(269) 876-1118

Maxine Margiotta, Vice Chair

Ruth Saldivar,  
Member at Large  
(269) 214-1279Audrey Huston, Secretary  
(269) 591-4519**Tribal Office Directory**Administration  
Information Technology  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998  
Toll Free 800-517-0777  
FAX 269-782-6882Commodities  
(269) 782-3372  
Toll Free (888) 281-1111  
FAX (269) 782-7814Communications  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998Compliance  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998Education and Training  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-0887  
Toll Free (888) 330-1234  
FAX (269) 782-0985Elders Program  
53237 Townhall Rd.  
(269) 782-0765  
Toll Free (800) 859-2717  
FAX (269) 782-1696Election  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-9475  
Toll Free 888) 782-9475Enrollment  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-1763  
FAX 269) 782-1964Finance  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998  
Toll Free (800) 517-0777  
FAX (269) 782-1028Head Start  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 783-0026/  
(866) 250-6573  
FAX (269) 782-9795Health Services /  
Behavioral Health  
57392 M 51 South  
(269) 782-4141  
Toll Free (888) 440-1234  
FAX (269) 782-8797Housing and Facilities  
27043 Potawatomi Trail  
(269) 783-0443  
FAX (269) 783-0452Human Resources  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8163Language & Culture  
32142 Edwards St.  
(269) 782-9602 Phone  
(269) 783-0452 FaxNatural Resources  
32142 Edwards St.  
(269) 782-9602 Phone  
(269) 783-0452 FaxSocial Services  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998  
Toll Free (800) 517-0777  
FAX (269) 782-4295South 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) 782-8998Tribal Council  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-6323  
Toll Free (888) 376-9988  
FAX (269) 782-9625Tribal Court  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 783-0505/  
FAX (269) 783-0519Tribal Police  
58155 M-51 South  
(269) 782-2232  
Toll Free (866) 399-0161  
FAX (269) 782-7988**Tribal Council Directory**Chairman  
Matthew Wesaw  
(517) 719-5579 or 574-591-9806  
Matthew.Wesaw@  
pokagonband-nsn.govVice-chairman  
Butch Starrett  
(269) 591-2901  
Butch.Starrett@  
pokagonband-nsn.govTreasurer  
John Warren  
(269) 214-2610  
John.Warren@  
pokagonband-nsn.govSecretary  
Faye Wesaw  
(269) 782-1864  
Faye.Wesaw@  
pokagonband-nsn.gov**Members-at-Large**Steve Winchester  
(269) 591-0119  
Steve.Winchester@  
pokagonband-nsn.govMichaelina Magnuson  
(269) 591-5616  
Michaelina.Magnuson@  
pokagonband-nsn.govLynn Davidson, Elders Representative  
(269) 240-8092  
Lynn.Davidson@  
pokagonband-nsn.govMarie Manley  
(269) 214-2609  
Marie.Manley@  
pokagonband-nsn.govTrudy Loeding  
(269) 783-6292  
Trudy.Loeding@  
pokagonband-nsn.govTom Topash  
(269) 470-3745  
Tom.Topash@  
pokagonband-nsn.govAlice Overly  
(269) 240-8041  
Alice.Overly@  
pokagonband-nsn.govKelly Curran, Executive Secretary  
(269) 591-0604  
Kelly.Curran@  
pokagonband-nsn.gov  
Council Lodge Phone:  
(888) 376-9988**Tribal Council February Calendar of Events**

- 6 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 7 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon
- 11 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 13 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 14 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon
- 20 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 21 Gaming Authority, Four Winds Hartford, noon
- 22 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 6 p.m.
- 27 Tribal Council Meeting, Lodge, noon
- 28 Gaming Authority, Four Winds New Buffalo, noon

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

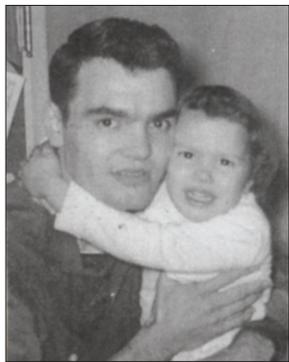
**AA/NA Meetings**

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

# February Citizen Announcements

Happy birthday to **Melissa Rodriguez** February 17. We appreciate everything you do!

Love mom, Tony, Richard and Michael.



Happy birthday, **Roxanne Pear**. February 1. You're a wonderful daughter, mother and grandmother.  
With love always,  
Dad (Bob Rider)



Happy Birthday!  
from your sisters



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language and Culture

## Language Events | February

### Elder's Language Classes

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

**Date:** February 6, February 13, February 20, February 27  
**Time:** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
**Location:** Elders Hall

### Adult Language Classes

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

**Date:** February 2, February 7, February 9, February 14, February 16, February 21, February 23, February 28  
**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
**Location:** Community Center, Training Room

### Language Video Conferencing

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

**Date:** February 3, February 10, February 17  
**Time:** 9:30 am – 12 & 1 – 4:00 pm  
**Location:** Community Center, Training Room

### Language Workshops (Webcasted)

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

**Date:** February 8 | Presenter: Frank Barker  
February 29 | Presenter: John Winchester  
**Time:** 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
**Location:** Community Center, Training Room

### Shishibe (Potawatomi Bingo)

Shishibe is a BINGO game using Potawatomi vocabulary and phrases. This is a family friendly event.

**Date:** Saturday, February 4  
**Time:** 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
**Caller:** Kevin Daugherty  
**Location:** Community Center, Training Room

### Winter Stories

The Winter Stories is an annual gathering of language speakers and learners to share and hear traditional and contemporary stories in the Potawatomi language. Last year, the morning sessions were filled with storytelling by first language speakers with grammar lessons in the afternoon. Please register with Teresa Magnuson by Monday, February 6 if requesting lodging, per diem, and transportation accommodations.

**Date:** Tuesday, February 21-23 (traveling on the 20 and 24)  
**Time:** Tuesday 9–4, Wednesday 9–4, Thursday 9–noon  
**Location:** Prairie Band Casino Resort, Mayetta KS

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

## Pokagon Band Community Wellness Gathering | Youth Leadership



**DATES**  
February 3 & 4, 2012

**TIMES**  
Friday, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**LOCATION** Community Center  
27043 Potawatomi Trail, Dowagiac

**FACILITATORS**  
Native Wellness Institute  
Robert Johnson and LoVina Louie

**PRESENTED BY**  
Department of Language and Culture

Community Wellness Gatherings are about bringing the community together to learn, laugh and to get to know one another better. The focus for this event is youth. The gathering will honor them, hear from them and support them. When we lift up our youth, we lift up the entire community. The youth will present their vision and mission, and will assist in teaching about leadership and wellness.

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

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