

Pokégnek Yajdanawa

mko gises [bear moon] January 2019



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Strengthening relationships: Michigan Hall of Justice screens *Tribal Justice* Documentary

By John Morseau

Part one of a two part series.

Almost 200 years ago, in the court case *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, the Supreme Court wrestled with the status of Indian tribes in relation to the United States, and in doing so, the Court described Indian people as existing in a “state of pupilage,” which reflected the prominent view of natives as uncivilized savages. Today, however, tribes are educating the US government on native issues.

One of the main areas where tribes are educating federal and state governments concerns the administration of justice. Native American traditional conceptions of justice differ significantly from Anglo-American views. The Anglo-American justice system is adversarial, and the primary goal is retribution, whereas native justice systems strive for relationship renewal and community harmony. In recent decades, tribal courts have been implementing traditional methods of dispute resolution to address problems caused by the corrosive adversarial system. State and federal courts are also looking to native traditional approaches to justice.

In furtherance of a collaborative effort between the 12 federally recognized tribes in Michigan and the State of Michigan, the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) held a screening of the award-winning documentary *Tribal Justice* in October. *Tribal Justice* chronicles the work of two tribal court judges,

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New regalia class features tracks for beginner and experienced sewers

Regalia class begins again Sunday, January 13, and this year’s classes will feature two tracks: one for new participants and another for those who have already completed an iteration of regalia class.

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Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

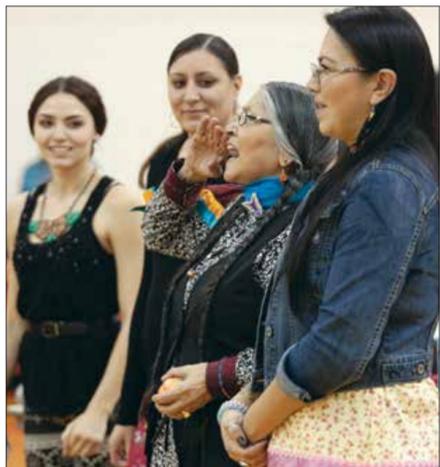


Wawyéwgawen (Round Dance) draws 250 people

This December's Wawyéwgawen (Round Dance) hosted 250 community members at the Dowagiac Middle School for dancing, feasting, and competition.

The Pokagon Wawyéwgawen was hosted for our Neshnabé relatives seeking togetherness and comfort during this holiday season, a season when sharing time with friends and family is just as important as remembering our loved ones who have traveled back to their forever home. The songs at a Wawyéwgawen that were shared by the singers were reminders of the love that can be felt in this physical life. These songs call to those who have walked on through the Western door and are an invitation for them to come and be with us and to share in the warmth and comfort of loved ones once again.

The dance started with the Cree people in the Northern plains of Canada. The origin story tells a tale of a Cree man who lost his partner and was mourning greatly. She told him to dance to a love song where she would join him. From this man's sorrow rose a tradition soon adopted by tribes across North America. We Potawatomi use Round Dance (Wawyéwgawen) as an opportunity to be together as a community, but we maintain the spiritual importance by acknowledging those who have passed on.



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

Pokégnek Yajdanawa
Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
Pokagon.Newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

Pokagon citizen swears in to Michigan bar, becomes attorney

By John Morseau



On a bright afternoon in November, Michael Petoskey, Chief Judge of the Pokagon Tribal Court, made a motion in the Supreme Court of Michigan to admit me to the state bar of Michigan. State Supreme Court Justice Bridget McCormack administered the oath of office, granted the motion, and entered an Order of Admission enabling me to be admitted to the bar of Michigan. With that, I achieved my life long goal of becoming an attorney.

That swearing-in ceremony was the culmination of a decade of sacrifice and hard work. Attorneys are typically in school for a minimum of seven years—four years of undergrad and three years of law school—prior to graduating law school. After law school, prospective attorneys must pass the bar exam, which requires an additional two to three months of full-time studying. This all can put a tremendous amount of stress not only on the aspiring attorney, but on that person's family and friends. It can be especially hard for natives, who are attached to their community.

Over the past decade, I spent about six years away from the Band, three at Michigan State University and three at the University of New Mexico School of Law. During that time, I lost touch with friends, missed family holidays, and close relatives walked on. I struggled with being absent for important family events and losing connection with the tribe, but I want to say *migwéth* to everyone who supported and encouraged me throughout my journey. I am especially grateful for the unwavering support of my parents, who performed a statistical miracle by raising an adopted native child who went on to graduate with honors from law school and who always had a place for me to stay during school breaks. Thanks also to my girlfriend Blaire Topash-Caldwell for putting up with my late hours at the library and my excessive worrying about exam results. I am indebted to all my friends and family who helped me along the way.



As I embark on a career dedicated to advocating for Indian people and tribal interests, I appreciate all my mentors and will continue the good work started by other native

attorneys. Some of that work includes continuing the relationships established between tribal courts and state courts. Chief Judge Petoskey, a fellow UNM Law grad, displayed the strength of that relationship when I asked if he would sponsor my admission to the bar (see the above photo of him making a motion to admit me to the bar). He contacted Justice McCormack and asked her to preside over my swearing-in ceremony. Chief Judge Petoskey and Justice McCormack have mutual respect through their work with Michigan's Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum, and she said she was honored

to preside over my ceremony (see the photo of my parents, Greg Smith and Lucinda Graverette-Smith, and Blaire Topash-Caldwell with Justice McCormack). I aspire to continue building upon the reputation the state courts and non-native attorneys have of native attorneys. I hope to someday make a motion to admit a member of the next generation of Pokagon Band attorneys to the bar.



Elkhart County History Museum collaborates with Pokagon and other tribes for new exhibit

The Elkhart County Historical Museum is overhauling its downstairs exhibits for the first time in the museum's existence, which is including more detailed information and new objects based on their collaboration with the Pokagon Band's Language & Culture Department, as well as staff from the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and the Citizen Band of Potawatomi.

The updated exhibits are called "Crossroads of Elkhart County," and together will tell the story of Elkhart County, from the Paleolithic Period where mastodons and mammoths roamed the region, to present day, once all three phases are complete.



Phase 1 opened in December, and it begins this story. "Crossroads of Elkhart County: Forging A Path" is scrolled across the door that leads to a golden room near the museum's entrance. Inside, the Great Lakes have been painted across one wall, and an artist is putting the finishing touches on an even larger painting of North America. This is Phase 1. Posters of information hang across and around the room, and Pokagon citizens would quickly notice the Potawatomi language used on many of them.

Archivist Blaire Topash-Caldwell studies each of them, seeing months of collaboration finally on display. "Kyle was able to translate these for us," Blaire says of the text on the posters, speaking about Language Specialist Kyle Malott. Blaire met with museum staff after they contacted her about their planned

renovation. Museum Director Julie Parke emphasized that tribes should be telling their own stories, not have their stories told to them by others, and that she hoped the Pokagon Band would tell their story there in the museum.

"As a staff, we really felt the museum was not telling the stories of these cultures as thoroughly as we could," Julie said. "Our new exhibit examines how the earliest people of this area contributed to unique, complex, and innovative societies."

Phase 1 also features objects like a traditional lacrosse stick, on loan from the Miami Tribe, a mammoth tusk taken out from its casing, and life-size drawings of traditional canoes. There are interactive portions for adults and kids to enjoy. Visit "Crossroads of Elkhart County: Forging a Path" during museum open hours Tuesday-Saturday 9am to 5pm.



Holly Fair welcomes tribal and local community

This year's Gwikwé'amen Holly Fair & Art Extravaganza hosted 154 tribal and local community members for shopping, crafting, and photos with Santa.

The Pokagon Band Early Childhood Education program, Department of Social Services, and the Tribal Art Review Committee collaborated to put on this winter's event on December 8 at Dowagiac Middle School.

Tribal artisans set up booths to sell their goods to visitors. Families also enjoyed make-and-take holiday crafts with Zagbëgon Academy teachers, free gift wrapping with the purchase of tribal art, pictures with Santa, Clearly You Crystals photos through Matrix Entertainment, and a delicious breakfast.



Michigan Indian Elders Association offering incentive and scholarship programs for students

The Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) is recognizing high achieving students in grades K-12 who achieve all A's or perfect attendance during a marking period with an incentive program, and they are supporting qualified students pursuing higher education with a scholarship program.

A minimum of \$3,000 is available to fund the incentive program this year. Each qualified applicant will receive \$25. In the event that the number of qualified entries exceeds the funds available, the winners will be determined by lottery.

MIEA is offering three \$1000 and six \$500 scholarship amounts this year. Last year, Pokagon citizens Daniel Dick and Robert Dick, Jr. earned a \$1000 and a \$500 scholarship award, respectively.

To apply to either program, visit the MIEA website, complete the provided forms, and submit the required documentation. The deadline to apply to the incentive program is March 15, 2019, and the deadline for the scholarship program is June 15, 2019.



www.michiganindianelders.org/students.php

New regalia class Features tracks for beginner and experienced sewers, continued from page one

Track 1 is for people new to the class to make ribbon skirts or camp dresses. Track 2 is for the returning participants who have already made those pieces. Instructors will be at every class to help students with sewing and measuring to make patterns.

This year's regalia workshops will focus on sewing, applique, ribbon work, making traditional regalia and traditional ceremony clothing. A limited supply of sewing machines, irons, and materials will be available, so everyone is encouraged to bring their own sewing machines and materials if they have it.

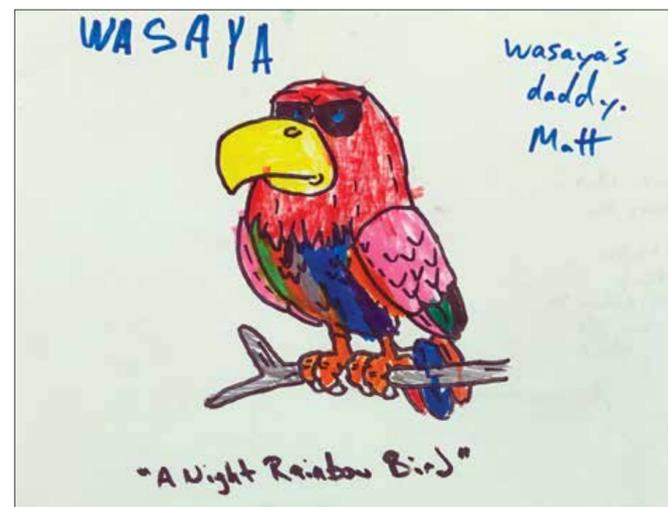
Meals are potluck, so please bring a dish to pass. If you have any questions, please contact Language and Culture at (269) 462-4325 or Nicole Holloway at (269) 783-3513 or Nicole.Holloway@PokagonBand-nsn.gov.

Class Schedule:
January 13 and 27 **February** 3 and 24
March 10 and 24 **April** 7 and 28
May 5 and 19 (last class potluck and feast)

Check out the winners of the father child art contest

Multiple studies show that a good relationship between a child and a male role model is extremely beneficial for a child's emotional development. With that in mind, PHS's Community Outreach program recently organized a Father Child Art Contest to encourage fathers, grandfathers, or other male role models and the children in their lives to interact in a positive way. Many activities promoting family interaction is beneficial for a child, so look for more father child events in 2019.

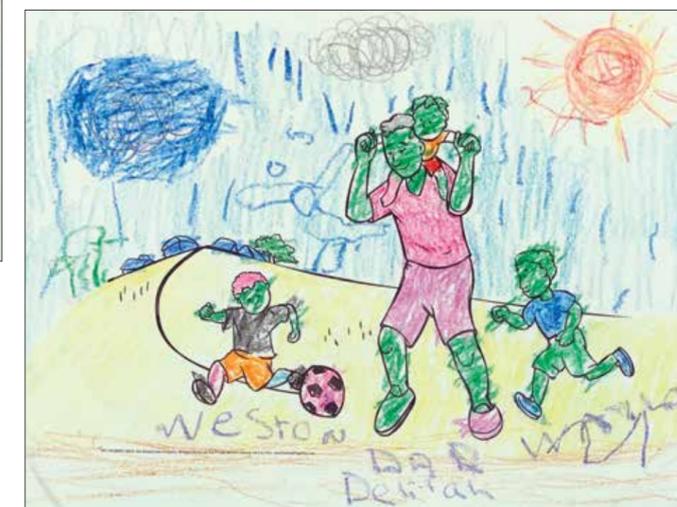
The winners of the contest for the 4-6 year-old group:



Wasaya Martin, age 5, and Matt Martin from Dowagiac, Michigan



Zeke Ramos, age 5, and Todd Miller of Hartford, Michigan



Waylon Stecki, age 4, and Joe Stecki from Taylor, Michigan

The winners of the contest for the 7-9 year-old group:



Ari Bradshaw, age 8, and Lawrence D. Bradshaw Sr. of Jackson, Michigan



Israel Solano, age 7, and Todd Miller from Hartford, Michigan

Strengthening relationships: Michigan Hall of Justice screens *Tribal Justice* Documentary, continued from page one

the Honorable Abby Abinanti, Chief Judge of the Yurok Tribal Court, and the Honorable Claudette White, Chief Judge for the Quechan Tribal Court. As the Chief Judges for the two largest tribes in California, they strive to maintain and use their traditional beliefs while addressing social ills caused by intergenerational trauma. The film weaves multiple cases and storylines together, illustrating how each judge's approach to justice impacts their communities. One case highlights the collaborative efforts between California and the Yurok Tribe, which enabled a young Yurok man facing 25 years to life to rebuild his life. Another case involved the reunification of a Quechan child with his mother. Throughout the film, the judges demonstrate that progress does not require abandonment of the past, and resurrection of traditional values may be the only remedy for the problems created by so-called *progress*.

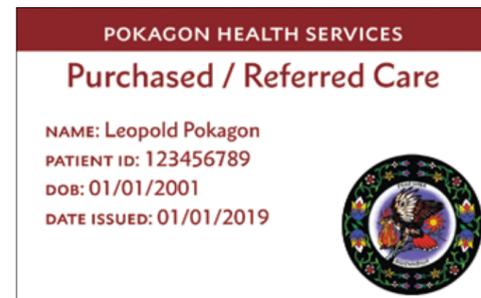
After the screening of *Tribal Justice*, members of the audience, including state and tribal officials, were given the opportunity to ask questions. Many asked about restorative justice techniques. Judge Abinanti explained that the native concept of justice cannot be reduced to techniques but must be understood as an overarching philosophy. One foundational principle emphasized by Judge Abinanti is that the judge should be removed from the decision-making process as much as possible. As she explained, judges are strangers to the situation and the underlying cause of the dispute, so judges should only render a decision as a last resort when the parties cannot resolve the problem themselves. Additionally, she stressed that the implementation of traditional values requires specifically tailored case plans to fit individual circumstances. Judge Abinanti provided examples from her community, like negotiating alternative forms of payment for delinquent child support, which can include snow shoveling and game meat.



Judge Abinanti also addressed concerns that tribal courts do not hold their members accountable, noting that native justice practices of communal healing hold community members to high standards, and accountability exists naturally when everyone knows one another. She

elaborated on the potential for use of "joint courts," where states and tribes share jurisdiction over a case to maximize services. Joint courts normally occur in the context of wellness courts that address reoccurring drug use. In the California joint court system, the state brings the initial charges but then refers the case to tribal court. The tribal court then develops a case plan tailored to an individual, and the individual can utilize both state and tribal services for recovery and treatment. Judge Abinanti made clear that state and tribal judges have the same goal of helping people and that working together allows for a greater chance of success since, "no judge, state or tribal, wants to fail."

Check back in the February newsletter to read about another way the tribe is strengthening relationships with the community. If you are interested in learning more about the Tribal Court's Native Justice Initiative, contact Stacey Rock, Native Justice Initiative support staff at (269) 783-0505 or by email at Stacey.Rock@PokagonBand-nsn.gov.



New Purchased/Referred care card arriving soon

Pokagon citizens who are eligible for the Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) program will be receiving new PRC cards in January 2019. The new card will have a new 9-digit Patient ID number and a brand-new look, as well as updated information for outside providers.

Please look to receive your new card in the mail within the first few weeks of January. If you do not receive your card by the end of January, please contact the PRC team at (269) 462-4401.

It is very important that your new card is presented at all your appointments along with any other insurance cards. Your card lets providers know that you may have coverage through the PRC program. PRC will be accepting claims in electronic format starting in February, and providers will need the information on your new card to bill your claims to PRC correctly.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Department of Education | Early Childhood Education

Neshnabé Mbokén

A children's book club

FIRST WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH | 4:30 P.M.
ZAGBĒCON AN EARLY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

Neshnabé mbokén [nesh-na-bém-bo-kén] is a children's book club, which will focus on Native American books and authors. This program is open to the public (all ages).

Neshnabé mbokén means native books in Potawatomi and includes books about natives, books written by natives, or books having to do with native context.

For more information, please contact
Erin Byrket-Burggraf at topash240512@gmail.com or
Autumn Laraway at Autumn.Laraway@PokagonBand-nsn.gov.

Events may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Please refer to the Pokagon Band website for weather related updates.

GYANKOBIEGEMEN
STAY CONNECTED
POKAGON.COM

Débénwéthék
Parent Group

Here's how giving up coffee can make you rich

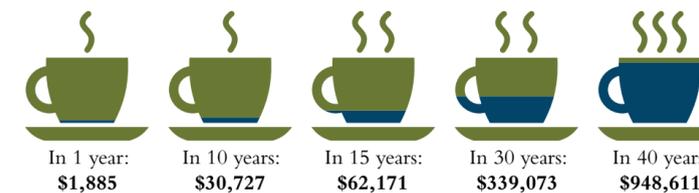


CHI ISHOBAK

Getting rich could be more possible than you think. Regardless of the size of your paycheck, building wealth may boil down to simply eliminating your morning latte. We all throw away too much of our hard-earned money on unnecessary little expenditures without realizing how much they can add up.

If you buy a \$5 latte every morning — or any small luxury you indulge in on a regular basis like bottled water, fast food, or soft drinks — you'd have quite a bit of money to contribute toward savings instead. Over the course of a few decades, that money could grow substantially, thanks to compound interest.

To demonstrate just how much the little purchases matter, say you cut out a \$5 daily expense. That's \$35 a week, or about \$150 a month. If you invested that \$150 a month, here's how much you'd wind up with over time, assuming a 10 percent annual return:



Elders may now request a Potawatomi Dictionary

The Elders Council has received some Potawatomi Language Dictionaries to give to elders interested in learning or continuing to learn the language. Regardless if you previously expressed an interest or not, if you will utilize this resource, please complete the below form and give to Beth at Elders Hall or submit via email to Beth.Warner@PokagonBand-nsn.gov, or U.S. mail to Elders Council, P.O. Box 180, Dowagiac, MI 49047, or fax to (269) 782-1696 by January 18, 2019. We will distribute them until we run out.

Elder's Request for Language Dictionary

Name (signature) _____
Phone _____
Mailing Address _____
Tribal ID# _____
Are you able to pick it up at Elders Hall? Yes No

Elder's Request for Language Dictionary

Name (signature) _____
Phone _____
Mailing Address _____
Tribal ID# _____
Are you able to pick it up at Elders Hall? Yes No

Your Health, Your Choice

Pokagon Health Services

Healthy Lifestyles Campaign 2019 | Kick-off Event

Join us for our 3rd annual kickoff event. Wear your athletic apparel and enjoy multiple family-friendly activities from each of the four pillars of success.

Youth between the ages of two and 16 can sign up at the kick off for structured, 30 minute learn-to-swim sessions. There will be three sessions limited to 50 participants each. If your children are interested, be sure to bring their swim suits and towels.

There will be raffles, food, and the drawing of the 2018 HLC Grand Prize winners (must be present to win). Healthy Lifestyles 2019 is designed to continue to inspire and empower our people to healthier lifestyles.

Kick-off | January 13 | 4:00 pm
YMCA of Southwest Michigan
3665 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph, MI

RSVP online at our website by searching **Healthy 2019** or by calling PHS at (269) 782-4141.

Events may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Please refer to the Pokagon Band website for weather related updates.

GYANKOBIEGEMEN
STAY CONNECTED
POKAGON.COM

Kché Mko gizes January 2019

Nëm'e gizhëk SUNDAY	Ngot gizhëk MONDAY	Nizh gizhëk TUESDAY	Aptë gizhëk WEDNESDAY	Nyéw gizhëk THURSDAY	Nyano gizhëk FRIDAY	Odankè gizhëk SATURDAY
		Tribal Government Offices are Closed for New Year's Day 1				
6	Day Language Class Open L&C Language Class Znëget 1 + 3 Kids Language Class Beginner Language Class Circuit Training Zumba Beginners Yoga Elders Health & Wellness 7	Big Kids Language Class Dowagiac Language Class Tone Up! 8	Znëget 2 Neshnabé mbokén Drum Class Circuit Training Elders Health & Wellness 9	Blood Drive South Bend Language Class Potawatomi 201 Drum Class 10	Kwëwëk Gizhëk Circuit Training Elders Health & Wellness 11	Youth Culture Day Tribal Council Meeting 12
Regalia Class Healthy Lifestyles 2019 Kick-Off 13	Day Language Class Open L&C Language Class Znëget 1 + 3 Kids Language Class Beginner Language Class Circuit Training Zumba Beginners Yoga Elders Health & Wellness 14	Big Kids Language Class Dowagiac Language Class Tone Up! 15	Znëget 2 Circuit Training Elders Health & Wellness 16	Débénwéthëk Parent Group Meeting Potawatomi 201 South Bend Language Class Circuit Training 17	Kwëwëk Gizhëk Circuit Training Elders Health & Wellness 18	Sugar Season Kick-Off Pancake Breakfast 19
20	Tribal Government Offices are Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 21	Big Kids Language Class Dowagiac Language Class Tone Up! 22	Znëget 2 Circuit Training Elders Health & Wellness 23	Sledding at Five Pines Potawatomi 201 South Bend Language Class 24	Elders Health & Wellness Circuit Training 25	26
Regalia Class 27	Day Language Class Open L&C Language Class Znëget 1 + 3 Kids Language Class Beginner Language Class Circuit Training Zumba Beginners Yoga Elders Health & Wellness 28	Big Kids Language Class Dowagiac Language Class Tone Up! 29	Znëget 2 Circuit Training Elders Health & Wellness 30	Potawatomi 201 South Bend Language Class 31	february 1	february 2

Please check the website for the latest updates on any cancellations due to inclement weather. Visit www.PokagonBand-nsn.gov/calendar or call 800-517-0777 for more details on these events.

What's that invasive species? Spotted Wing Drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*)



The Spotted Wing Drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*) is an invasive fruit fly species that is native to eastern Asia. This fruit fly was first detected in Michigan in 2010 and now is present in 38 states within the U.S. The distinguishing characteristic of this spotted wing drosophila (SWD) is that the male has one spot toward the tip of each wing and the female has a specialized ovipositor for laying eggs, but no wing spots. The main difference between SWD and other fruit flies is that other fruit flies need to

have damaged fruit before they can use the fruit for feeding and laying eggs, while the SWD female has a special ovipositor that cuts into fresh fruit. This specialized ovipositor allows the female SWD to lay eggs in fresh, healthy fruits, making this fruit fly a major agricultural crop pest.

Spotted wing drosophila prefers soft fruit crops including multiple berry species, cherries, grapes, and softer fleshed tree fruits. Larvae of the SWD grow inside of the fruit, feeding on the fruit and causing the fruit to become soft and collapse. Early infected fruit can be passed as good, when it may have been visited by female SWDs.

Spotted wing drosophila are active from mid-June through late fall and can produce multiple generations during the active season. If you are growing SWD susceptible fruits, monitoring to determine if you have SWD is the best first step. If SWD are found, removing overripe fruits, trimming back host fruits (raspberries, wild grape, and blackberries), trapping, and potentially using insecticides can help control SWD infestations.

Tribal Police volunteer for Shop-With-A-Cop

Shop with a cop is an opportunity for selected youth (ages 4-16) to spend a Saturday with a Pokagon Police officer shopping for presents for themselves and loved ones.

The youth are initially quiet and sometimes shy when they meet the police officer they are teamed up with, but as the day goes on, that quietness and shyness fade away, replaced with sharing and talking with their assigned officer.

Each youth had a set amount they could spend while shopping. They were allowed to purchase presents for their family members and one present for themselves. When shopping was completed, participants headed back to the Language & Culture building to wrap presents. Several elders and teachers from Zagbëgon helped wrap presents, much appreciated by our police officers. While wrapping presents, youth had the chance to meet and take a picture with Santa.

This event allows youth, police officers, elders and some staff to spend time and work together for the greater good, which is one of the many reasons why this season is so special.

A big thanks to our police officers for being willing to spend a Saturday with some much appreciative youth. This event is not possible without our tribal police officers.



What's that edible species? Bear's Head Tooth Fungus (*Hericium americanum*)



The Bear's Head Tooth Fungus (*Hericium americanum*) is another *Hericium* species that is typically found growing during the late summer and fall on dead wood and live trees among the hardwoods throughout the Eastern U.S. Bear's head tooth fungus is related to both the coral tooth fungus and lion's mane fungus that can be found in the previous two monthly newsletters.

Bear's head tooth fungus belongs to the tooth fungus group and has branching structure and long spines that can reach 1.5 inches long. This fungus is best collected when fresh, white, and delicate. As the mushroom ages it will begin to be tougher and take on a yellowed look. Bear's head tooth can be found after rain events in the late summer and fall, but sometimes grow quite high up on live trees which can make them difficult to harvest. While foraging for them, their striking white color contrast in the forest makes them easier to see from longer distances.

When harvested, bear's head tooth should be cut at the base and cleaned. The taste of tooth fungi is said to be somewhat nutty with a bit of a seafood flavor. Bear's tooth fungus has similar health benefits as other *Hericium* mushrooms, including reducing depression and anxiety, improving memory, focus and concentration, increasing energy, and supporting gut health and circulation. Similar to other *Hericium* species, bear's head tooth is quite versatile and can be utilized in many recipes from sautéing to sauces. As with any new edible, ensure that you have a positive identification before consumption and use the edible in small quantities at first to make sure there are no allergic reactions.



Learn more about autism



Autism refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, and non-verbal communication. Autism affects one in every 59 children. Autism's hallmark signs usually appear by age two or three. It can often be diagnosed as early as 18 months. Some associated developmental delays appear even earlier.

The hallmark signs for autism vary widely. Some infants show hints in their first months, while in other cases appear during the toddler years. Not all children with autism show all the signs. Many children who don't have autism also show a few. That is why a professional evaluation is crucial.

The following red flags may indicate your child is at risk for an autism spectrum disorder:

By 6 months: Few or no big smiles or other warm, joyful, and engaging expressions; Limited or no eye contact.

By 9 months: Little or no back and forth sharing of sounds, smiles, or other facial expressions.

By 12 months: Little or no babbling, Little or no back and forth gestures such as pointing, showing, reaching, or waving; Little or no response to name.

From 16 to 24 months: Very few or no meaningful, two-word phrases (not including imitating or repeating).

At any age: Loss of previously acquired speech, babbling, or social skills, avoidance of eye contact, persistent preference for solitude, difficulty understanding other people's feelings, delayed language development, persistent repetition of words or phrases (echolalia), resistance to minor changes in routine or surroundings, restricted interests, repetitive behaviors (flapping, rocking, spinning, etc.), Unusual and intense reactions to sounds, smells, tastes, textures, lights and/or colors.

If you have concerns regarding your child's development, it is important to screen your child and get early intervention as soon as possible. Either ask your physician for a developmental screening or visit www.AutismSpeaks.org/What-Autism-Diagnosis/Screen-Your-Child and fill out the "M-CHAT-R", a screening tool for autism. No matter the result, talk to your child's doctor about your concerns.

Next, start intervention right away. If your child is under three, he or she can receive a free evaluation even without a formal diagnosis. Contact your state's Early Intervention office for an evaluation. You can visit www.AutismSpeaks.org/Resource-Guide to find the contact information for your state's Early Intervention office.

If your child is over three, contact your school district and request an evaluation. This evaluation will determine if your child qualifies to begin receiving specialized services and supports through the local school.

Lastly, learn about services, support, and treatments. While waiting for evaluation results, it helps to research what to expect and have a list of questions ready for the doctor. Gather all your child's information. Keep a folder with your child's medical records and any previous evaluations your child has received. Bring your own notes with your observations. Finding the diagnosis or the process of getting diagnosed can be a bit overwhelming. Consider inviting someone you trust to accompany you and help take notes.

Seeking a diagnosis can be difficult. If you suspect your child is lacking in any developmental area, it is imperative to discuss with your doctor as soon as possible for early intervention.

Chiropractic services coming to Pokagon Health Services



Pokagon Health Services is pleased to announce that starting January 2019, chiropractic services and medical massage therapy will be available directly from the Pokagon Health Services Clinic. Dr. Andy DeHaven and Dr. Kyle McKamey will be joining the PHS team to offer chiropractic care to patients on site and expand services for patients.

Dr. Andy DeHaven has been a chiropractor in Watervliet since 1995. In his mid-thirties, he attended Palmer College of Chiropractic in Iowa to pursue his dream of being in the healthcare field and help people live happier, healthier lives. He is looking forward to providing excellent chiropractic care to the Pokagon Band citizens.

Dr. Kyle McKamey is a lifelong resident of South Haven and graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic in 2004. He opened his first practice in South Haven and practiced there until 2016 when he started practicing in Dowagiac where he has provided chiropractic care to Pokagon Band citizens through the PRC program. He is honored to have been chosen to provide chiropractic treatment on site at Pokagon Health Services and looks forward to meeting and helping many more citizens and their families.

Chiropractic and medical massage therapy will be part of Pokagon Health Service's integrative approach as patients are cared for by a team of professionals. Services will be offered Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please contact Pokagon Health Services clinic registration at (269) 782-4141 to schedule your initial evaluation with one of our new providers, who will be taking appointments starting in the second week of January.

POKÉGNEK BODÉWADMIK | POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE & CULTURE + DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

LOCK IN
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 23 | 10:00 PM

THE 3 MILE PROJECT
3050 Walkent Drive NW Grand Rapids MI 49544

Keynote Speakers
Tonia Jo Hall and Alayna Eagle Shield | from the Standing Rock Lakota reservation

ages 12-17 • all tribal youth can bring up to 2 guests • 3 Mile Ninja (like American Ninja Warrior) • basketball tournaments • dodgeball • skatepark (must bring own skateboard, only skateboards are allowed) • video games • table games • crafts and more

Please RSVP by February 1, 2019.

RSVP at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/form/annual-lock-registration. Limited availability transportation is available and online registration is required. Leaves the Community Center at 8:30 pm on Saturday, February 23. Arrives back at the Community Center at 8 am on Sunday, February 24.

Title IV sponsored
for more information, please contact daniel stohrer at (269) 462-5844.

monday

jan

tuesday

1

Closed
New Year's Day

wednesday

2

Chili Cheese Dogs with Bun
Veggie & Pickle Tray
Yogurt Cup with Granola

thursday

3

business meeting

Buffalo Walking Taco Bar
All the Fixings
Snacks
Birthday Cake

friday

4

Pizza Day

7 language

Potato Soup
Fish Square Sandwich
Veggie & Pickle Tray
Jell-O w/ Fruit

9

Cornish Hen
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Brussels Sprouts
Cottage Cheese & Fruit
Whole Grain Roll

10

Reuben Sandwich
Baked Beans
Relish & Veggie Tray
Melon Tray

11

Salad Bar

14 language

Buffalo Stew
Broccoli & Cauliflower Salad
Cornbread
Peaches

16

Buffalo Stuffed Peppers
Au Gratin Potatoes
Cucumber Salad
Whole Grain Roll
Dessert

17 social

Sliced Chicken in Gravy
Mashed Potatoes & Stuffing
French Style Green Beans
Garden Salad
Whole Grain Roll

18

Tortilla Crusted Tilapia
Mini Corn on the Cob
Baked Potato
Broccoli Slaw
Whole Grain Roll

21 language

Closed
Martin Luther
King, Jr. Day

22

Beef Roast in Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Tri-Blend Vegetables
Garden Salad
Whole Grain Roll

24

Ham
Scalloped Potatoes
Spinach
Garden Salad
Whole Grain Roll

25

Chicken Broccoli Alfredo
Bruschetta
Carrots
Coleslaw
Dessert

28 language

Chef's Choice

30

Salisbury Steak
Mashed Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Garden Salad
Dessert
Roll

31

Breakfast Bar



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. Business and social luncheons are potlucks. Please bring a dish to pass.

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 the Enrollment Office at (269) 782-1763 or the Finance Department at (269) 462-4209.

Name	Christmas 2018	Monthly Per Cap
Scott D James Arnold Jr.	x	
Jesse D. Ballew		x
Scott A. Brewer		x
Hayden L. Campbell	x	
Shari L. Carroll	x	
Mason T. Currey		x
Carlin M. Elrod		x
Harmony A. Goodrich	x	
Francine L. Hamilton		x
Tyson D. Moor	x	
Jeffery S. Morseau	x	x
Austin L. Northrup		x
Zachery G. Quier	x	

You can update your address on the PokagonBand-nsn.gov website under Citizens > Enrollment or phone (269) 782-1763 for an address form by mail.

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 payments. The following documents are needed to begin processing your per capita payments:

- A copy of your Diploma directed to the Enrollment office.
- Make sure your mailing address is up to date with the Enrollment office.
- Fill out a form for Direct Deposit and send to finance department per capita. You may choose to have your payments either direct deposited in your banking institution or a PNC pay card.

All the forms are available on the Pokagon Band website www.pokagonband-nsn.gov. You may mail, fax or email your documents. The address to mail to is:

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Attn: Enrollment Office
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
Fax: (269) 782-1964
Email: Enrollment@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

The document must be received by December 13th in order to make it on the January 2019 check run. Anything received after December 13th will be processed on the check run for February 2019. 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.

Elders Stipend Increments

Elders Stipends increase each five years by \$250 starting at age 65. All elders over 65 receiving the stipend will notice an increase in their amount every five years until the amount caps at \$1,750 for those aged 85 and above. Here are the increments:

Age	Monthly Elders Stipend Amount	Age	Monthly Elders Stipend Amount
55 - 64	\$500	75 - 79	\$1,250
65 - 69	\$750	80 - 84	\$1,500
70 - 74	\$1,000	85 and older	\$1,750

Don't forget the Elders Stipend is taxable income; federal tax withholding forms are available online at www.PokagonBand-nsn.gov.

Per Capita Important Dates

Deadline to receive Changes/updates/additions	Checks mailed out on	Check date Direct deposits in accounts
Tuesday, January 15, 2019	Wednesday, January 30, 2019	Thursday, January 31, 2019
Friday, February 15	Wednesday, February 27	Thursday, February 28
Friday, March 15	Thursday, March 28	Friday, March 29
Monday, April 15	Monday, April 29	Tuesday, April 30
Wednesday, May 15	Thursday, May 30	Friday, May 31
Friday, June 14	Thursday, June 27	Friday, June 28
Monday, July 15	Tuesday, July 30	Wednesday, July 31
Thursday, August 15	Thursday, August 29	Friday, August 30
Friday, September 13	Thursday, September 26	Friday, September 27
Tuesday, October 15	Wednesday, October 30	Thursday, October 31
Thursday, November 14	Tuesday, November 26	Wednesday, November 27
Friday, December 13	Monday, December 30	Tuesday, December 31

* Please note the November deadline for changes is November 8. This is due to time limitations on all the events that occur at this time of the year.

Per Capita Direct Deposit and Tax Withholding Forms

The tribe has mandatory direct deposit for per capita checks. This is information pertains to citizen not receiving payments by direct deposit or a PNC pay card or making changes to their existing direct deposit information.

Direct Deposit Form Submission

- If your form is received before the deadline date for per capita changes, the information will be entered into the system. If your test-run is error-free, then you will have direct deposit the same month.
- If you submit your direct deposit form after the deadline date; the following month, your check will be direct deposited into you bank as long as the test-run is error-free.

PNC Paycard

- In the case of individuals not being able to set up a bank account, may elect to have a PNC pay card on which the per capita checks will be loaded onto every month.

Federal Tax Withholding

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.

All three of the above stated forms are available online at www.Pokagonband-nsn.gov.

If you have any questions, please call (269) 462-4209 or (269) 462-4200 or toll free (800) 517-0777. Please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Elders receiving Supplemental Assistance Benefits will also receive this increase; they'll get the additional \$250, but their supplemental assistance will not decrease. Supplemental Assistance Benefits are not taxable.

Elders are eligible to opt in or out of the stipend program during the month they turn 55 years old. Contact the Social Services Department at (269) 782-8998 for help understanding how this increase could impact your particular situation.

To register for Elders Stipend, request a form by calling (269) 782-0765. Return the completed for to the Enrollment Office, 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, Michigan 49047 or Fax: (269) 782-1964. Forms are available online at www.Pokagonband-nsn.gov

Tribal Council January Calendar of Events

- 1 Government offices closed for New Year's Day
- 7 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 8 Tribal Council Special Session Meeting, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 12 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 10 a.m.
- 14 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds South Bend, 10 a.m.
- 15 Tribal Council Special Session Meeting, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 22 Tribal Council Special Session Meeting, Community Center, 6 p.m.
- 28 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds South Bend, 10 a.m.
- 29 Tribal Council Special Session Meeting, Administration, 10 a.m.

Tribal Council February Calendar of Events

- 4 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 5 Tribal Council Special Session Meeting, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 9 Tribal Council Special Session Meeting, Community Center, 10 a.m.
- 11 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds South Bend, 10 a.m.
- 12 Tribal Council Meeting, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 18 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 19 Tribal Council Special Session Meeting, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 25 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds South Bend, 10 a.m.
- 26 Tribal Council Special Session Meeting, Community Center, 6 p.m.

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

POKAGON BAND GAMING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

Applicant:

MB C-Stores, LLC
d/b/a Bent Tree Market

Proposed License Location:

58878 M-51 South
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Application for New Issuance of Liquor License

Class of License Applied For:

Retail Off Sale General Liquor License

Place of Hearing:

Pokagon Band Gaming Commission
Hearing Room, Second Floor
10528 Maudlin Road
New Buffalo, MI 49117

Hearing Date:

January 7, 2019

Hearing Time:

1:30 PM

Public Access to Gaming Commission Hearing Room through the side door of Human Resources Building. Take the elevator to the second floor. The Human Resource Building is located behind Four Winds Casino.

Rodgers Lake construction progressing

Despite the winter weather, crews are hard at work on the Justice Center and the expansion of Pokagon Health Services. By the time this issue is mailed, the trusses will be in place on PHS and the interior will be out of the elements enough for concrete to be poured. At the Justice Center, you can start to see the outline of the circular court room taking shape.



Tribal Office Directory

Administration

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-8998
Toll Free (888) 281-1111

Commodities

(269) 782-3372
Toll Free (888) 281-1111
Fax (269) 782-7814

Communications

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-8998

Compliance

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-8998

Chi Ishobak

27043 Potawatomi Trail
(269) 783-4157

Education

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-0887
Toll Free (888) 330-1234
Fax (269) 782-0985

Elders Program

53237 Townhall Road
(269) 782-0765
Toll Free (800) 859-2717
Fax (269) 782-1696

Elections

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-9475
Toll Free (888) 782-9475

Enrollment

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-1763
Fax (269) 782-1964

Facilities

57824 East Pokagon Trail
(269) 783-0443
Fax (269) 783-0452

Finance

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-8998
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
Fax (269) 782-1028

Housing and Community Development

57824 East Pokagon Trail
(269) 783-0443
Fax (269) 783-0452

Human Resources

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-8998
Fax (269) 782-4253

Information Technology

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-8998
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
Fax (269) 782-6882

Language and Culture

59291 Indian Lake Road
(269) 462-4325

Mno-Bmadsen

415 East Prairie Ronde Street
(269) 783-4111

Natural Resources

32142 Edwards Street
(269) 782-9602
Fax (269) 783-0452

Pokagon Health Services

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-4141
Toll Free (888) 440-1234

Social Services

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-8998
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
Fax (269) 782-4295

South Bend Area Office

3733 Locust Street
South Bend, Indiana 46614
(574) 282-2638
Toll Free (800) 737-9223
Fax (574) 282-2974
(269) 782-8998

Tribal Council

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-6323
Toll Free (888) 376-9988
Fax (269) 782-9625

Tribal Court

58620 Sink Road
(269) 783-0505
Fax (269) 783-0519

Tribal Police

58155 M-51 South
(269) 782-2232
Toll Free (866) 399-0161
Fax (269) 782-7988

Zagbëgon

58620 Sink Road
(269) 783-2469
Fax (269) 782-8680

Tribal Council Directory

(888) 376-9988

Chairman

Matthew Wesaw
(269) 462-5379
Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Vice-chairman

Robert Moody, Jr.
(269) 783-9379
Bob.Moody@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Acting Treasurer

W. Alex Wesaw
(269) 462-1170
Alex.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Secretary

Kelly Curran
(269) 591-0604
Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at Large

Steve Winchester
(269) 591-0119
Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at Large

Becky Price
(269) 783-6212
Becky.Price@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at Large

Andy Jackson
(269) 783-9340
Andy.Jackson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at Large

Gary Morseau
(269) 259-1554
Gary.Morseau@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at Large

Deborah Williams
(269) 462-1427
Deborah.Williams@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at Large

Vacant

Elders Representative

Colin Wesaw
(269) 259-1555
Colin.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Executive Secretary

Melissa Rodriguez
Office (269) 462-4203
Cell (269) 591-9521
Melissa.Rodriguez@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Elders Council Directory

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

Chair

Judy Winchester
(269) 462-1578

Vice Chair

Julie Dye
(269) 462-1004

Secretary

Judy Augusta
(269) 783-6304

Treasurer

Clarence White
(269) 876-1118

Member at Large

Cathy Ford
(269) 783-9380

Notice of Open Positions

The following Boards, Committees and Commissions are looking to fill open positions. Please see the Pokagon Band website or the *Legislative Edition* for more information.

- Election Board
- Ethics Board
- Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow Wow Committee
- Tribal Art Review Committee



Happy Birthday, Nadyah, from your husband Rick Valcin and the three kids!

POKÉGNEK BODÉWADMIK | DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Kvèwèk gízhèk gatherings

January 11 + 18 | February 8 + 15 | March 15 + 29
10AM-4PM Community Center [27043 Potawatomi Trail, Dowagiac]

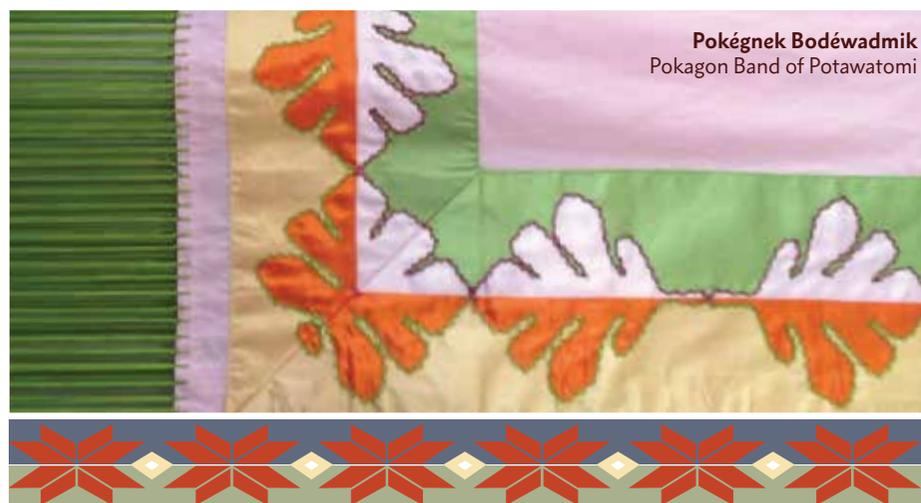
Gather with women in the community to participate in craft and sewing activities while learning about building healthy relationships with yourself and others.

Space is limited to the first 15 women who register, and we ask that you attend each session. Please bring a dish to pass and a craft activity to share and wear comfortable clothing.

Registration is available on the Pokagon Band website or by calling (269) 462-4324. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Casey Kasper at (269) 462-4324 or Casey.Kasper@PokagonBand-nsn.gov.

Events may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Please refer to the Pokagon Band website for weather related updates.

GYANKOJEGÉMEN STAY CONNECTED
 POKAGON.COM



Regalia Workshop

This year the regalia workshops will focus on sewing, applique, ribbon work, making traditional regalia and traditional ceremony clothing. We have a limited supply of sewing machines, irons, and materials. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own sewing machines and materials if they have it. There will be instructors available to help with sewing and measuring to make patterns. New this year: Track 1 is for people who just want to make ribbon skirts or camp dresses and Track 2 for the returning participants who have already made those pieces.

No RSVP needed. We hope to see you there. Meals are potluck, please bring a dish to pass.

January	March	May
Sunday, January 13	Sunday, March 10	Sunday, May 5
Sunday, January 27	Sunday, March 24	Sunday, May 19
		(last class potluck and feast)
February	April	
Sunday, February 3	Sunday, April 7	
Sunday, February 24	Sunday, April 28	

All classes are 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Language & Culture Workshop :: 59291 Indian Lake Road :: Dowagiac MI 49047

If you have any questions, please contact Language & Culture at (269) 462-4325 or Nicole Holloway at (269) 783-3513 or email her at nicole.holloway@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Events may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Please refer to the Pokagon Band website for weather related updates.

GYANKOJEGÉMEN STAY CONNECTED
 POKAGON.COM

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

Zagbëgon Academy +
Dëbenwéthèk Parent Group

SLEDDING

Thursday, January 24 | 9:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
Five Pines :: 6597 Smith Rd
Berrien Center, MI 49102

Zagbëgon Academy and the Dëbenwéthèk Parent Group invite you and your child to join them for a fun morning sledding at Five Pines' sledding and tubing hill.

Please pre-register at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/form/debenwethek-sledding-rsvp by January 21.

Events may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Please refer to the Pokagon Band website for weather related updates.