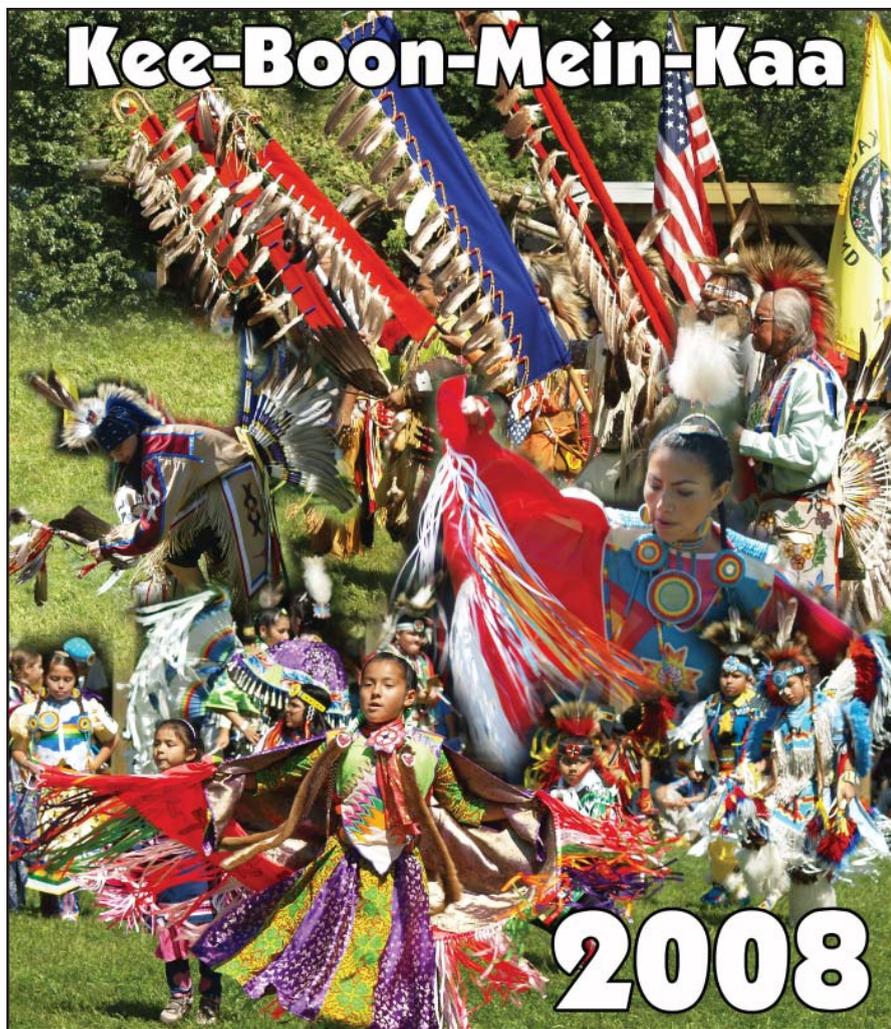


THE POKAGONS TELL IT POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

September 2008



Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa:

The Pokagon Community At Our Best

Boozhoo! The Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow-Wow Committee would like to share a few words with our community in regards to our recent pow-wow held over Labor Day weekend. Official events started Thursday morning with Sam Bush lighting the ishkode, our sacred fire. Friday afternoon a group of Pokagon women, veterans, and community members participated in the tribes first ever Water Walk. This special event started at Gage Street and ended at Rodgers Lake with much community support.

The pow-wow started Saturday afternoon and lasted through Sunday evening. Five drums, more than one hundred dancers, thirty vendors, and a several thousand visitors from the Great Lakes area were in attendance. The committee even received a report that a couple flew in from Norway to witness our pow-wow! Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa also had special guest visitors including Miss Potawatomi Nicole Aquash, Miss Odawa Cheyenne Petoskey, the Notre Dame Native American Alumni Association, Four Winds Casino and Resort staff, and Kiowa painter Mike Larson returned to talk to Pokagon families regarding the casino rotunda murals.

At this time the Pow-Wow Committee would like to say chi-miigwetch to all the volunteers that helped throughout the weekend. Many volunteers donated four or more hours. A handful even donated their entire weekend in helping the committee! Our volunteers are one of the most important elements in the pow-wow being such a huge success!

The Committee would also like to express its appreciation to:

- Tribal Council for its generosity in funding the pow-wow,
- Chairman John Miller for hosting the Friday evening volunteer feast,
- Clarence White for blessing the pow-wow grounds
- Sam Bush for keeping the sacred fire,
- Cleora Morseau, Majel DeMarsh, and Lucinda Graverette-Smith for hosting the first annual Water Walk,
- John Pigeon and his family for facilitating the free Black Ash Basket making workshop Sunday morning,
- Goffy Wabaunsee Wahweotten for cooking an excellent feast,
- Charles Baker for creating the ever popular t-shirt design,
- The Dowagiac High School Chamber Choir for serenading the elders Sunday morning,
- Tribal Maintenance crew for prepping and maintaining our beautiful pow-wow grounds,
- Pokagon Band IHS for providing water and first aid services for pow-wow participants,
- Roger Rader for creating attractive programs, tickets, and flyers for the committee
- Indian Lakes Fire Department for being on-site for emergency services,
- Jeff Ballew, Gary Ballew, John Fox, and Michael Kasper for making a trip up north to collect cedar for the drum arbor
- And to all pow-wow committee members from years past, for coordinating an annual event with an excellent reputation for us to continue.

The Pow-Wow Committee considers it an honor and a privilege to have coordinated the 2008 Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow-Wow for our fellow tribal citizens and wider community. We look forward to working with Pokagon Band citizens in our next event. With all our energies combined, we truly create an event the entire community can be proud of!

Baamaapii Kawabmin!



Photography courtesy of Jim Wheatley



Pokégnek Yajdanawa "The Pokagon's Tell It"

Guidelines for Member Newsletter Submissions
Motioned by Tribal Council 4-20-05

Newsletter

Enrolled members of the Pokagon Band are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry, and announcements for posting in the Pokégnek Yajdanawa newsletter. Newsletter submissions shall be the views and product of the submitting member. Newsletter submissions written by or to a third-party, such as the governor or a congressman, and copied to Pokégnek Yajdanawa are not original.

Identification

Anonymous or "name withheld" submissions will not be published. Members shall include their tribal enrollment number, full name, and mailing address with all newsletter submissions. Tribal enrollment number and mailing address will be used for verification purposes and will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Communication

Newsletter staff will contact members should any reason arise that may delay or prevent posting of newsletter submissions. To ensure timely communication with members regarding their newsletter submissions, members may choose to provide additional contact information such as a phone number or e-mail address. Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and other provided contact information will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Etiquette

Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Newsletter staff reserves the right to refuse submissions based on the following criteria;

1. False, misleading, or defamatory;
2. Discriminatory, sexist, racist, demeaning, insulting, or otherwise offensive to another;
3. Threatening, harassing, intimidating, or otherwise may tend to produce fear;
4. Profane, obscene, pornographic, indecent, or patently offensive to the average user;
5. Disruptive to the office, undermining of the Band's or a supervisor's authority, or impairing of working relationships; and
6. Absolutely no Political campaigning is allowed.

Where to send submissions:

Newsletter
C/O Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
Or e-mail: newsletter@pokagon.com

This issue and past issues (2 months prior) of the Pokagon Newsletter are available online in Adobe PDF format.

To download and view, visit: www.pokagon.com and go to the announcements section.

The deadline for membership submissions for the Novemember newsletter will be October 14. Send articles and announcements to:
Pokagon Newsletter
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

newsletter@pokagon.com

Cigarette Sales

Cigarettes are being sold at the Tribal Administration offices. We currently sell a full line of Basic, Marlboro, and New Port brands. We also have a limited selection of Benson & Hedges, Camels, Doral, Kools, Merit, Misty, Pall Mall, Sonoma, USA Gold, and Winston.

Sales are currently being handled by the receptionist on a daily basis (Monday-Friday) during normal business hours (8-5). You must be 18 years old or older and present your tribal I.D. at the time of purchase. We currently have a maximum of 5 cartons per month per tribal member (increased from 2 originally).

South Bend Area Office Schedule

Monday - Housing staff will be available to provide information on all Housing programs.

Tuesday - 1st Tuesday of the month:	Health Services Social Worker
2nd Tuesday of the month:	Contract Health Services Processor
3rd Tuesday of the month:	Community Health Nurse
4th Tuesday of the month:	Community Health Representative
Each Tuesday:	Behavioral Health Counselor

CHR, CHS, Foot Care, Diabetes Management and Prevention by appointment.

Wednesday - Education staff will be available to assist with scholarship and WIA (Workforce Investment Act) applications.

Friday - Social Services staff will be available to provide information and referral on welfare programs. Applications for the Daycare program will be available.

ENROLLMENT, IHS, SOCIAL SERVICES, HOUSING, EDUCATION OFFICES TO BE AT SATURDAY MEETINGS

In order to serve membership more efficiently, please note that the office representatives will be available at the monthly Saturday Membership Tribal Council Meetings from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. At this time you will be able to receive your new enrollment cards, or discuss with the various office representatives. Please note that these meetings are generally held the second Saturday of the month. However, please check the Calendar of Events in the Tribal Newsletter for the exact date every month.

October 2008 Pokagon Band Elder's Lunch Menu

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Note: 2% milk, tea, coffee, water and Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, Lettuce, tomato, pickles, and onions served with sandwiches.		1 Ham & Bean Soup Brussel Sprouts Fruit Cocktail Corn Bread	2 Business Lunch Spaghetti w/Turkey Sauce Lettuce Salad Fresh Fruit Garlic Bread	3 Pizza or Stuffed Cabbage Lettuce Salad Fresh Fruit
6 Beef Hamburgers Macaroni or Potato Salad Broccoli Peaches	7 Ham Scalloped Potatoes Green Bean Casserole Tropical Fruit Salad / Bread	8 Shredded Turkey W/Gravy Mashed Potatoes Corn/Fruit and Yogurt Cups Dinner rolls	9 Buffalo Meatballs Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Squash/Veggie Tray Pears/Dinner rolls	10 Chili Dogs Baked Beans Cauliflower and Broccoli Salad Blueberry Crisp
13 Biscuits & Gravy Scrambled Eggs Melon/Plums Cranberry Apple Juice	14 Sloppy Joes Potato Wedges Corn Jell-o/Fruit Cocktail	15 Pork Chops Baked Potatoes Asparagus/Applesauce Dinner rolls/Tomato Salad	16 Social Lunch Baked Chicken in Mushroom Soup w/Rice Broccoli Fresh Fruit / Dinner Roll	17 Fish Cheese Potatoes Green Beans Fresh Fruit Salad Corn Bread
20 Broccoli Soup Ham Sandwiches Lettuce Salad Melon Fruit Mix	21 Buffalo Tacos W/ Lettuce, Tomatoes, Refried Beans, Cheese, Hard & Soft Shells. Peaches / Dinner Rolls	22 Pork Roast Red Potatoes Carrots/Tossed Salad Apple Crisp/ Rolls	23 Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes W/Gravy Brussels Sprouts Berry Mix/ Rolls	24 Chicken Wings Pasta Salad Baked Beans Pears / Dinner Rolls
27 Salmon Loaf Potato Wedges Mixed Green Salad Strawberries/ Rolls	28 Boiled Dinner (Saus,potatoes, beans, corn, and onions) Applesauce/Coleslaw Dinner Roll/Peanut Butter Cookie	29 Homemade Lasagna Tossed Salad/Asparagus Peaches Garlic Bread	30 Beef Stir Fry W/ Fresh Veggies Brown Rice Tossed Salad/Roll Fortune Cookie/Pineapple	31 Halloween Roast Turkey Breast Mashed Potatoes W/Gravy Corn on the Cob/Rolls Peach Crisp


INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

Pokagon Band's Annual Men's Health Fair

Target Audience: Men enrolled in federally-recognized tribes
 When: Wednesday, October 22, 2008
 Time: 3 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. *
 Where: Pokagon Health Services Department
 57392 M-51 South
 Dowagiac, MI 49047

*Earlier fasting labs by appointment

We will offer the same labs and exams as last year along with fun activities and great prizes!

We look forward to seeing you!!

Diabetes Basics Class

The Holidays are fast approaching and this is your opportunity to learn how to keep your blood sugar in great control when our celebrations include an abundance of food delights!

Diabetes Basics Class: Can I really have dessert?

Meetings to be held on Wednesdays, beginning October 29th and continuing on November 5, 12, and 19 at 12:45pm and will be held at the Elder's Hall.

Weight watchers are welcome to join us also. Call Susan, dietitian, for more details at 782-4141.



The following is a list of members that have yet to verify their address with the Pokagon Band Enrollment office in regards to Per Capita Payment Distribution. If you or someone you know is on this list, please contact the Pokagon Band Enrollment Office to verify your mailing address.

Enroll ID	FirstName	Middle	Last
0049	Michael	Anthony	Sisk
0051	Lori	Rachael	Sisk
0054	Frank	Lee	Gallegos Jr
0083	John	Dylan	Watson
0202	Jeffery	Scott	Morseau
0239	Francis	Wayne	Morseau
0406	Michael	Lynn	Hewitt
0416	Richard	Earl	Welty
0417	William	Everett	Welty II
0418	Tena	Anne	Welty
0433	Elizabeth	Alexandra	Gray
0434	Thomas	Charles	Abercrombie
0507	Tara	Jeanine	Davis
0518	David	Francis	Wesaw
0520	James	Ryan	Hamstra
0668	Joseph	Scott	Winchester II
0705	Matthew	Thomas	Morris
0847	Cecilia	Marie	Barger
0857	Peter	John	Ramirez
0881	Robert	Dwayne	Antisdell
1180	Joshua	Scott	Perkins
1204	Kara	Liana	Brown
1283	Jodi	Lynn	Burfield
1369	Ted	Thomas	Wesaw
1445	Michael	David	Bush
1506	Michaela	Lynne	Canard
1674	Christina	Elizabeth	Winter
1837	Steven	Ray	O'Brien
2014	Jenny	Ruth	Collins
2050	Terina	Da	Meier
2183	Coy	George	Davison IV
2644	Phyllis	Ann	Thompson
2712	Christopher	John	Tanner
2713	Tamara	Lynn	Tanner
2723	Sean	Ryan	Carmody
2789	James	Harris	Walsh
2795	Edward	F	Cushway
2805	Isabel	Marie	Campos
2992	Jacob	Ammon	Worthington
3166	Tiffany	Melissa	Moor
3266	Bradley	Joseph	Ramirez
3467	Keith	Wesley	Rider
4020	Kelly	Renee	Granado

Direct Deposit Per Capita Checks

The following tribal members need to have address updates with the Enrollment Office. Please contact Judy Augusta at 888-782-1001. Your mail is being returned. The Finance Office will need an updated address for you in regards to 1099's at year end.

- Kevin Lindsey Brown
- Bennie Cowgill III
- Cindy Gonzalez
- Steffan Gonzalez
- Elena Dewey
- Cindy Hill
- Jennifer Laura
- William Morris
- Anthony W Ridenour
- Alexis Rodriguez
- Ervin Allan Starrett Jr.
- Philip Sturgeon Jr.

Returned Per Capita Checks by Post Office

The following tribal members have checks waiting for address updates so that they can be mailed back out to you. Please contact Judy Augusta the Enrollment Coordinator at 888-782-1001 or 269-782-1763. Once you have submitted your update the Finance Department will mail out your check.

- Lewis Henry Ashby
- Jesse David Ballew
- Eric Randall Blevins
- Katherine A Carlton
- Shawn Isaac Genereaux
- Jeffrey David Marunycz
- Gregory Louis Matulaitis
- Tiffany Melissa Moor
- Matthew Thomas Morris
- Brandon Lee Peters
- Sarah Elizabeth Pillow
- Michele Louise Reynolds
- Bradley Joseph Ramirez
- William Jefferson Rose II
- Joseph Scott Winchester Jr
- Nicole Marlene Wood
- Andrew Clarence Trusler (2)



ATTENTION: POKAGON BAND MEMBERS

The Pokagon Band Tribal Council passed a resolution on April 3, 2007 to enact the Supplemental Assistance Program. The purpose of this program is to provide supplemental financial assistance to address a recognized need in the Pokagon Band community and to ensure the general welfare of qualified Members of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. This program is intended to supplement, but not replace, federal, state, and county assistance programs. Should you have any questions or would like to apply for this program call: The Social Services Department at 1-800-517-0777 or 269-782-8998.

Are you interested in becoming a Foster Parent?

Who can become a foster parent? We are in need of diverse foster parents! Our children come from diverse homes, and are in need of parents who can relate to their cultural heritage. You can become a foster parent if you are willing to provide quality care for children, and have an appropriate home to meet the needs of specific children.

Why does MICWA need foster homes? Native American children are removed from their natural homes at a rate of 15-20 times higher than other American children. While specific efforts are made to place children in Native American homes, there are not enough licensed families to do so. MICWA needs loving families to open their homes to these children. Our agency assists families with materials to learn about the Native American culture, and to encourage the enrichment of the child's own heritage. Non-Native American individuals are welcomed to be a part of our foster parenting program.

Why should I become a foster parent? Many children are placed in foster care on a daily basis, due to abuse and/or neglect. Without the stability of a loving home, these children are constantly moving from place to place, and are often left with no opportunity to form positive, loving and nurturing relationships with their caregivers. We are in need of safe homes willing to provide quality care for our children.

What does a foster child look like? Foster children are just like any other children, although they have experienced some type of abuse or neglect. Many of our children are aged 0-10 years old, however, we do have a need for foster parents who are willing to care for teenaged foster children. Many of our children are part of sibling groups, and every effort is made to keep the siblings in the same home. When sibling groups are split into different homes, it creates a difficult situation for the children, and the sensitivity of the foster parents is extremely important. Foster children are each individually unique, and may have identified special needs. These children are especially in need of loving foster parents who are willing to provide a nurturing environment, even when the children are not able to

respond positively. Some children may have been exposed to drugs or alcohol, others may have specific physical needs. Although each child is different, they are all in need of nurturing adults to care for them.

What does it cost to become a foster parent? There are no fees involved in becoming a foster parent. There may be some out-of-pocket expenses to complete the medical clearances required for members of the household. However, after completing the licensing process, you do receive a per diem rate to assist with caring for the needs of the child in your care. Additionally, foster parents are allowed clothing allowances and a Medicaid card for each child to cover medical and dental expenses.

Are there any requirements for maintaining a foster home license? Yes. Foster parents are given a provisional license for the first six months. During these six months, foster parents are required to complete 12 hours of P.R.I.D.E. training, and orientation. When the P.R.I.D.E. training is completed, foster parents may then have foster children placed in their home. Additionally, foster parents are required to complete 12 hours of training during the next two years that they have a license. After two years, a foster parent is then required to have 6 hours of training each year to maintain the foster home license.

How can I become a foster parent? Contact the closest MICWA office to your home, and ask to speak with the licensing worker. You will be sent an initial inquiry packet, and a licensing worker will contact you to set up an orientation. The licensing process includes a home study, references, physicals, and clearance requests for criminal activity. The licensing process will take approximately 2-4 months from the time an application is submitted.

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency:
800.880.2089 or 616.454.9221

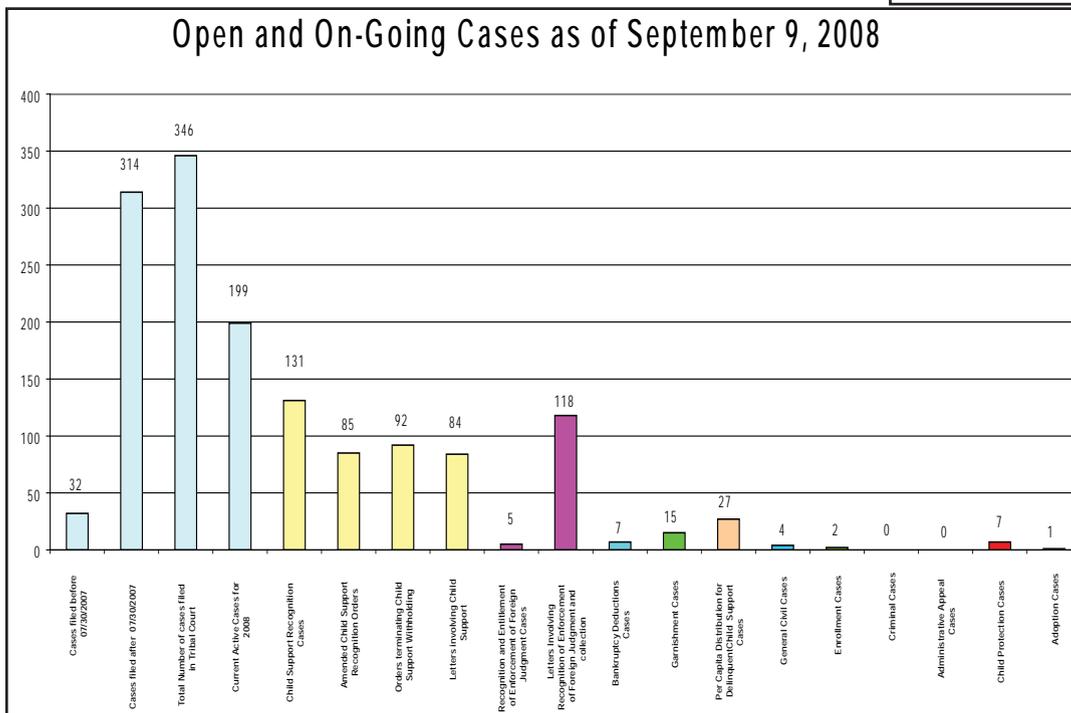
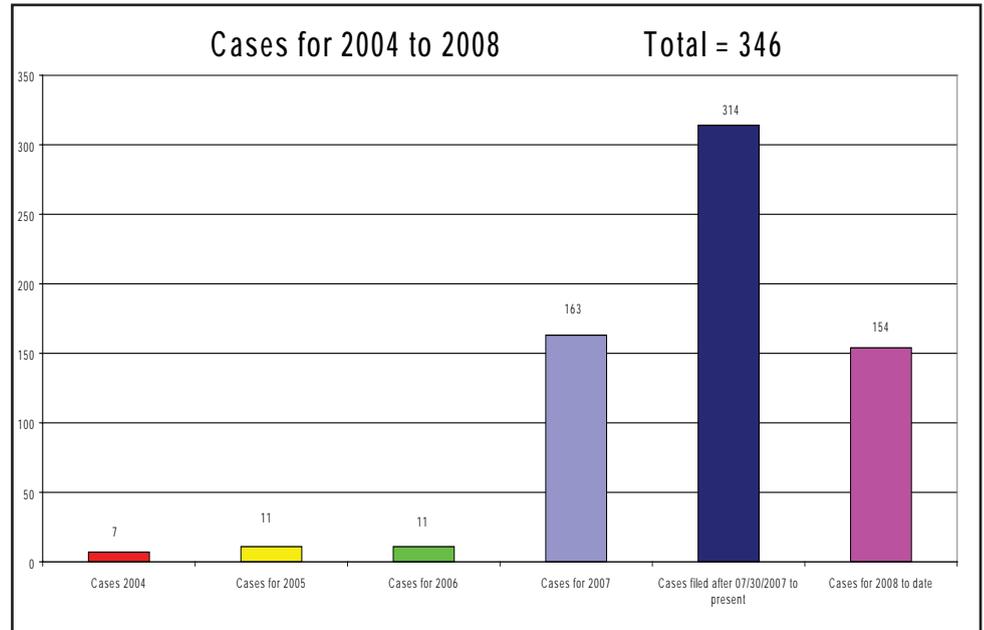


Case Activity of the Tribal Court

The Tribal Court began taking cases in November of 2004. Cases continue to be transferred or filed in Tribal Court. In the past, many of the cases involved child protection matters were transferred from state courts to Tribal Court under the Indian Child Welfare Act. Eight (8) new child protection cases were transferred to the Tribal Court in 2007 and 2008. Other matters such as recognition of foreign court judgments, child support recognition matters, garnishments, and general civil matters were filed with the Tribal Court. However, with the expanding economic development of the Pokagon Band and the opening of the Casino, cases filed in Tribal Court have greatly increased. A total of one hundred sixty three cases (163) cases were filed in 2007. One hundred fifty four (154) cases have already been filed in 2008. The cases consist of foreign court judgment recognition, child support enforcement, garnishment, Chapter 13 Bankruptcy wage deduction, delinquent child support per capita collection, criminal, general civil and administrative appeals. The greatest areas of increase for the Court have been in child support enforcement, foreign court judgment recognition and garnishments. Tribal law mandates that foreign judgments and orders must be recognized by the Tribal Court as valid before en-

forcement may occur. The Tribal Judiciary developed a chapter of court rules and an administrative order to enact the processes needed for recognition of foreign judgments and orders. Both can be found at the Pokagon Band's public website at the Tribal Court link.

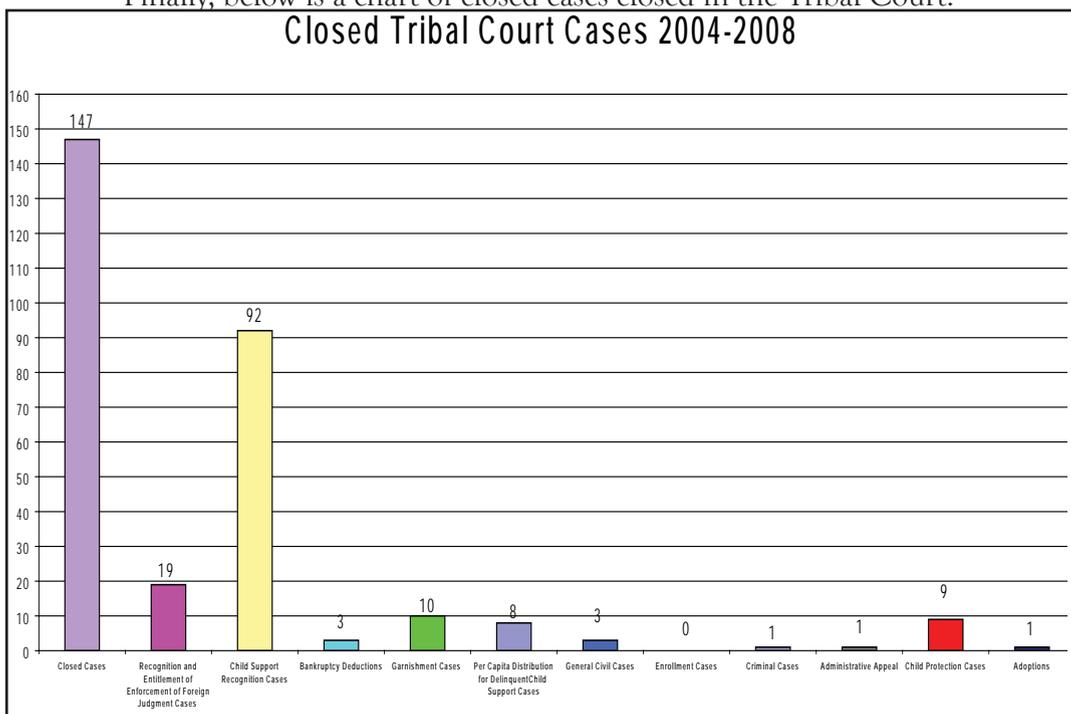
To give you a better idea of the increase in cases, the chart below shows the number of cases filed since the inception of the Court.



While some types of cases have been filed over the years, the Court is seeing a far wider range of the kinds of foreign judgments seeking recognition, as well as from where those judgments and orders are coming from. When the Court first started receiving cases in 2004, most came from Michigan. Now with the casino, many are coming from Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana. Child support orders are coming from many states throughout the United States. Also, the Court is receiving new matters that it had not encountered in the past such as criminal, certain civil actions and administrative appeals.

The Court is adapting to the many different types of actions the Court has received. The next chart shows the type of current open cases in Tribal Court. The Chart also shows the number of letters sent to child support agencies, attorneys and private individuals seeking recognition of foreign judgments and orders. Letters are sent when agencies, attorneys and individuals are not correctly following the processes of the Pokagon Band and the Court needs to contact them to explain the processes. The figures do not show the time contacting the various individuals involved in each case and the amount of time the Court has committed to revising its forms and letters to adapt to a larger number of cases and toward a wider area of people and governmental entities seeking access to the Tribal Court.

Finally, below is a chart of closed cases closed in the Tribal Court.



Cases can remain ongoing until such time that the Court receives information to terminate an order entered by the Tribal Court. For example, a child support recognition case could be opened in 2007 and remain open until such time that a person is no longer employed with the Band or Casino. During this time there may be activity involving the case in which the order has to be amended by the Tribal Court. Further, child protection cases can remain open for many months based on the Pokagon Band Child Protection Code and facts of the case.



From the Desk of:

Anita Grivins - Pokagon Band Finance Director

Greeting from the Finance Office! My name is Anita Grivins and I am the new Director of Finance. I have been on the job since August 18th and as you can imagine, my head is still spinning, but I am starting to get my bearings.

In my previous job, I worked at Plante & Moran in Kalamazoo as a CPA, performing external audits, consulting and various other projects for healthcare organizations. All my work was with not-for-profit or government organized organizations. I graduated from Western Michigan University and started straight after graduation at P&M. My experiences at P&M lasted over 16 years and built the foundation for me to spread my wings and try something different. Now I will be the one receiving the audit reports instead of delivering them to my clients.

My family currently resides in Climax, which makes for a scenic commute to Dowagiac. My husband of 15 years works for Eaton in their sales department, and my two sons; Markus 10 and Lukas 7, attend Climax-Scotts schools and are very involved in both soccer and football. We are also a bi-lingual family, in that we are raising our boys to speak Latvian. Both my husband and I are first generation Latvians born here in the U.S, our parents coming over as displaced persons during World War II. We met in Three Rivers at our Latvian Camp Garezers, which is located on Long Lake. We were high-school sweethearts. The camp offers summer programs for kids from 2 years old to high school seniors, who complete 6 weeks of summer school in a total emersion setting. The camp has been in existence for over 40 years.

In Kalamazoo, my boys attend Latvian school on Sundays, where I teach the 1st and 2nd graders. Our Latvian community in Kalamazoo is reasonably strong, in that we have a Lutheran church, community center, and school. The school operates from pre-kindergarten to 8th grade, and we have about 30 kids who come from as far as Grand Rapids to attend.

As I become more familiar with your community, I see the similarities in maintaining culture, respect for elders, language, and tradition. I truly believe it was divine intervention that has lead me here and I promise to do my best to live by your mission, manage the finances with the highest ethical regards, and assist in the vision for what lies ahead for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.

Sincerely, Anita.



HOUSING

Is there a Manufactured or Modular home in your future?
Are you considering the purchase of a manufactured or modular home? It's a major decision - we're here to provide support and advice. So...before you enter into a contract, contact the Department of Housing at (269) 783-0443 or (877) 983-0385. We're here for you!

Attention Contractors and Sub-Contractors

Department of Housing Certified Contractor Program

We are preparing to build two new homes on Dailey Road and we also have rehab and repair projects. We need more Native American contractors and sub-contractors. We offer a Native American preference to qualified contractors and sub-contractors.

If you are already on our "Certified Contractor List" please make sure your information is current.

If you are not on our "Certified Contractor List" please call us to receive an application. The process to become certified is quick and easy.

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Department of Housing
32142 Edwards Street
PO Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
(269) 783-0443 or (877) 983-0385



"Our People, Our Homes"



Student Rental Assistance Program



Are You a Full Time Student?
Could You Use Assistance in Paying Your Rent?

We're Here to Help!

To qualify you must:

- Meet Income Requirements
- Have Your Permanant Address in the 10 County Service Area

You may attend school anywhere in the world!

Call Kim Cushway-Zepeda in Housing for Details at (269) 783-0443

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Department of Housing
32142 Edwards Street
PO Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
(269) 783-0443 or (877) 983-0385



"Our People, Our Homes"



HEADSTART NEWS

The first day of school was Tuesday September 2, 2008! The first day of school was a big success for everyone. The children really enjoyed meeting new friends (other children and the adults) and exploring the school.

The new school bus was delivered just in time for the second week of school!

School days are Monday-Thursday from 8:30-2:30. We provide transportation to the Dowagiac & Hartford area with central pick-up and drop-off locations (the bus route is limited to no longer than one hour with children on the bus). We serve a nutritious breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The Potawatomi Language and Culture and incorporated throughout each day. Each week the center begins with an opening ceremony and ends each week with a closing ceremony.

Upcoming Events/Closures

- *School will be closed on Monday September 22, 2008 in observance of Pokagon Sovereignty Day.
- *School will be closed on Tuesday November 11, 2008 in observance of Veterans' Day.
- *School will be closed on Thursday November 27, 2008 for Thanksgiving Day.
- *The Head Start office will be closed on Friday November 28, 2008 for the day after Thanksgiving.

Enrollment for 2008-2009 School year

We are accepting pre-applications for the 2008-2009 school year. Children must be 3 years of age by December 1, 2008 to be eligible for the current school year. We are currently full for the funded thirty-three slots. However, we always accept applications for the waiting list. Please contact the office to have a pre-application mailed to you. You will need to return proof of all household income with the pre-application. Children on the waiting list are ranked based on priority for the available slot. Please contact Sarah Hyatt or Christina Blue at the center at (269) 783-0026, with any questions about enrollment for the upcoming year.

Volunteers

This is a great time to sign up as a volunteer for the school year. Ways to volunteer are: spending time at the center, storytelling, craft activities, chaperoning field trips, riding on the bus, helping with the language & culture, being a Community Policy Council Representative and many other ways. If you are interested, please call to discuss your ideas and availability.

Family Fun Night

The October Family Fun Night is scheduled for Thursday October 30, 2008 from 6:00-8:00. We will be carving pumpkins, having a Halloween Party and other activities. The November Family Fun Night is scheduled for Thursday November 20, 2008. We will be having our "Annual Fall Feast" for the children and families. The families will have an opportunity to take part in some Native American crafts with the children.

Donations

Donations are always greatly appreciated! Items that we are always looking for: Inexpensive tennis balls to put on the bottom of the kids' chair so they do not scratch the floor, play dough, wet wipes, one time use disposable cameras, outdoor play toys, sidewalk chalk, bubbles or any school supplies. To prepare for the winter months; hats, gloves, boots, snow pants and coats are always accepted. If you would like to donate any of these items or have any thing else in mind, please drop them by the Center.

Happy Birthday to You!

October Birthdays:

- *Jacob West Jr. 10/12—Happy 4th Birthday!
- *Joshua Winchester-Jones 10/20 -Happy 3rd Birthday!

November Birthdays:

- *Adam Lozano 11/10—Happy 4th Birthday!
- *Miss Pam Keller 11/14—Happy Birthday
- *Dale Personette 11/12—Happy 5th Birthday!
- *Miss Tia Councilman 11/18—Happy Birthday!
- *Emily Ketchum 11/20—Happy 5th Birthday!
- *Ethan Ketchum 11/20—Happy 5th Birthday!
- *Mrs. Sarah Hyatt 11/26—Happy Birthday!

School & Bus Closings

1. If Dowagiac Schools are closed, Pokagon Band Head Start is closed.
2. If Dowagiac Public Schools have a 2-hour delay, then the Pokagon Band Head Start will have a 2-hour delay. This means school will begin at 10:30 rather than 8:30. For transportation purposes, please plan for your child to be picked up 2 hours after their normal bus time.
3. If Cassopolis schools are closed, we will not travel to those areas.
4. If Hartford schools are closed, we will not travel to those areas.
5. You may watch Channel 16 (NBC) out of South Bend, Channel 22 (WSBT) out of South Bend, Channel 28 (WSJV) out of South Bend and Channel 3 (WWMT) out of Kalamazoo to view the listings.
**We will try to have the postings on these news stations by 6:30 a.m. However, whatever closing/delay that Dowagiac lists, Pokagon Head Start will follow.
6. If Dowagiac Public Schools cancel classes early, then Pokagon Band Head Start will cancel classes early. Parents will be contacted to inform them of the early closure and to confirm that children shall be transported to their normal destinations.

**Please note...it is the responsibility of the parent to notify the day care providers of early closures, so they can allow for proper adult to child ratios, not the center.

**It is always the discretions of the bus drivers and bus monitors to determine if the road conditions are safe. If the drivers begin the routes and they feel they will be transporting in unsafe conditions, they may call of the bus route for the day. If this happens, they will call the center and staff will begin to notify families immediately according to the bus schedule. In this instance, it would be a self-transport day.



**Mikchewi Gemek
(Workshop)
Rodgers' Lake Teaching Cabin
October 25th & November 1st
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**

This workshop involves making fleece jackets, presenting the great fleece jacket maker, Julie Farver. This would be a great teaching for our community to learn. This is one way to keep our family warm through the cold winter's wind. Starting on October 25th and continuing on November 1st. Due to our limit of sewing machines, those that do attend please bring a sewing machine. If interested, please call Rhonda Shingwauk, Cultural Associate, Department of Education @ 1-888-330-1234 before October 17th.

MIIGWETCH!



School Supplies Reimbursement Program

All tribal youth, attending school from Pre-K-12th grades are eligible for a yearly \$50 reimbursement for school related items and other supplies for extracurricular activities.

Please contact the Department of Education for More details.

Department of Education Staffing at the Mishawaka Office

October 1st K-12

Programs/ Please call the Department of Education before the 1st to arrange for backpack pick-up/ Set-up tutoring requests

October 8th

Higher Ed/WIA Pick-up scholarship forms and WIA info

October 15th

Cultural/ Call about a mini-workshop

October 22nd

Language/ Pick-up language resources

October 29th Higher Ed/ WIA

Pick-up scholarship forms and WIA info

Please visit us at the Mishawaka Office on Wednesdays While we encourage appointments, walk-in visits are always welcomed!

Need Educational assistance at the Mishawaka office but not on a Wednesday? Please call the Department of Education to arrange a meeting time on another day.

Learning the Language

Wénije/Who 2

Family terms Part 2

Nishote	Twin
Noshe	Aunt (maternal)
Nshegwas	Aunt (paternal)
Njishe	My uncle
Ndekweyom	My wife
Ndennim	My husband (lit. My stallion)
Nmezodanek	Parents
Nmesé	My older sister
Ndekwém	Sister of a male
Nidgek	Sister of a woman (any age)
Ndewema	My older brother of a female
Nseze	My older brother of a male

Gun Lake classes are Monday nights from 6:00-8:00pm at the community center in Gun lake.

Huron classes are Tuesday nights from 7-9pm at the community center in Athens, MI.

Pokagon classes are Thursday nights from 7-9pm at the Dowagiac Education on Oct 2nd, 16th and 30th.

South Bend office classes are on Oct 9th and 23rd from 7-9pm. Catch a ride at Education. Van leaves at 5:30pm, please bring money for dinner. Please call if you plan to ride, due to limited room in the van.

Elder's classes are held at Elders hall on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 11:00am.

Coming up in November for the Department of Education section of the newsletter:

Focus on:

- The Tribal Library
- The Indian Education Parent Committee
- The Native Nations Youth Council
- T-Shirt Logo Contest
- Student of the Month (it returns for a new year)

Don't forget to check the Education section of www.pokagon.com for programming updates!



Backpacks – Duffle Bags – Messenger Bags – All Stuffed!!!

What a fantastic response to the JOM registration and School Supply distribution! We had two days dedicated to the Mishawaka-area members at that office, followed by three intense days surrounding the Labor Day weekend Pow Wow. During the Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa PowWow, according to one estimate, we had one pack leave the building every two minutes throughout the seven hour spree on Saturday. Department of Education Staff and several Indian Education Parent Committee members - Conrad Church, Rachel West, and Paula Hill with a friend - helped with the selections during the weekend. This year's supplies line the bookshelves in the Department of Education's Library. The number of items that have gone into the bags is determined by the grade of the child, so children and parents shop and choose. Included in the supplies are wonderful three ring binders and great spiral-bound notebooks containing index cards and an array of pockets. Both of these items were donated by Mead Corporation to the Tribe for this give-away.

The sturdy bags, themselves, are a bright red with the Pokagon Band insignia silk screened on the front. We offer Back Packs, Duffle Bags, and Messenger Bags.

Distribution of the bags and supplies will continue until November 26, 2008. For more information, please call the Department of Education (269-782-0887 or 888-330-1234) For Indiana members, please call the department with your choices. We will bring them to the Mishawaka office for pickup.

Tutoring

We are currently establishing our fall tutoring schedule. You still have time to request help for your child, K-12th grades. We are also open to "temporary tutoring" when students need help getting ready for a test or assistance with a major project, depending upon our availability. Questions are always welcomed at 269-782-0887 or 888-330-1234. Ask for Penny Brant or e-mail works, too: penny.brant@pokagon.com.

Enrichment Labs

The Enrichment Labs will be in full swing starting Monday, October 6! Dowagiac's Lab begins the week on Monday from 3:15 - 5:15. We will pick up Dowagiac students at their schools, drive them to the Rodgers Lake property for the Lab, and deliver them to their homes. On

Wednesday, we will meet with Hartford students at in the library at Red Arrow Elementary from 4:15 - 5:15 and make sure they meet with their rides home.

This is a chance for us to help with homework, work on good study habits, reinforce cultural understanding, and just spend time together. Please call the Department of Education and ask for Penny Brant to register your students.

Awards Banquet

The Awards Banquet may be in the spring, but the work toward it starts on the first day of school. The Banquet is more than a fun evening with a nice feast and certificates - it is about acknowledging the growth and strength of our students. It is an opportunity to reinforce that what they do, does matter and does get noticed. The students are honored in these categories: High School Graduation, College Graduation, GED Recipients, Outstanding Attendance (absent five days or less during the year), Perfect Attendance, Excellent Academic Performance (all A's for the entire school year), Improvement in Core Areas, Honor Roll, and Sports / Extra Curricular Activities. Our students have a lot to be proud of, and working well in school supports that pride. If we can help anyone in reaching one of the goals honored in the Awards Banquet, please contact us. We are looking forward to highlighting many accomplishments in the spring!!

Honor Roll Call!

Being on an Honor Roll is certainly a cause for celebration! If you are or have a student who is named on an Honor Roll for the 2008-2009 school year, please contact the Department of Education office (269-782-0887 or 888-330-1234) and ask for Penny. We will be printing the list of "our" Honor Roll students periodically throughout the year.

Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 6PM
Attention High School Juniors and Seniors!
Attention Community College Students!
(AND parents!)

The 31st Annual St. Joseph County College Fair, with representatives from over 80-100 universities, colleges and technical schools, will take place at the Century Center in South Bend. This is a great opportunity to visit with numerous schools all in one setting. Collect general information, talk about financial aid, talk about different programs all in ONE NIGHT!

If you are interested in attending the event, please contact Chad Dee, Higher Education Specialist at 269-782-0887 to make arrangements! We will be carpooling from the Education Department located on Sink Road in Dowagiac.

Departure time is 5 PM SHARP. (Please eat prior to attending as there will not be enough time to stop for dinner.) Estimated return time is 9 PM.

WIA Services

Are you interested in creating or updating your resume?

A Resume Workshop is scheduled at the Pokagon Band Offices:

- Dowagiac Education Office on October 4th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please respond by Friday, September 26th
- Mishawaka Office on November 1st from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please respond by Friday, October 24th

Space is limited at these locations.

Are you Native American tribal cardholder living in our 10-county service area, 18 years old or older and low-income, who needs extra assistance with tuition and/or mileage for classroom training at a college or university, or to complete your GED?

Are you a Pokagon Band member who wants to continue your education by completing your GED?

Do you want to gain work experience in an IT, office, or educational setting? Available positions are limited. Positions available for maximum of 20 weeks.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Native American living in the 10-county service area/
- Must meet income guidelines, be unemployed and not in workforce.
- Must be interested in furthering your education and job experiences in same area
- as open position available.
- First come, first serve-basis (after having met requirements)

If you are interested, please contact Traci Henslee at: Ph.#269-782-0887 Toll-free#1-888-330-1234



“Dan King, Penny Brant, Laurel Bieschke, and Becky Accoe are looking forward to a busy year with great children in the Pokagon Band Department of Education’s K-12 Program.”

New Faces Going Great Places in the K-12 Program!

We have a great group of people working together in the K-12 Program this year! This summer brought several exciting changes to the staff and its lively program. Here is a bit about each of the four in the K-12 Program:

Becky Accoe began working as an Education Associate for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians at the end of August. She enjoyed meeting students and parents while passing out backpacks during the Pow-Wow. Becky is a recent graduate of Western Michigan University with a Bachelor in Elementary Education and a minor in science, mathematics and integrative creative arts. She plans to further her education by gaining a Masters degree from Spring Arbor University. In her free time, Becky enjoys reading, riding her horse Sandy, camping, helping out on the family farm in Dowagiac and playing her Wii. Becky is looking forward to a future of educational fun within the Potawatomi culture.

Please welcome Laurel Bieschke, Education Associate, who began working in the Department of Education at the end of May. Laurel is from South Bend, IN and feels honored to drive the scenic route to Dowagiac every morning to serve the Pokagon community. She

earned her B.A. in English-Creative Writing from Indiana University, where she also minored in Cultural Anthropology and International Studies. She decided to delay graduate school for a few years in order to pursue her writing and find a creative and meaningful job. Eventually she would like to earn an M.A. in Activist Anthropology at the University of Texas-Austin but is making herself learn Spanish first! Laurel is looking forward to learning from the community as much as she is to teaching, so please don't hesitate to give her a call. Penny Brant excitedly accepted the position of Education Coordinator in June. She started working with the Department in June of 2007 as Education Associate after Substitute Teaching and working with her husband in Bridgman in their photography studio. Penny's Bachelor of Arts is from Grand Valley State. Life interests include music, beadwork, sewing, and reading. Time spent with her husband, Dan, and their children and grandchildren outranks even the best of chocolates! She is delighted and honored to have this career, to work with the children, families, and Department of Education staff - and looks forward to great adventures!

Monday, August 25th, Dr. "Dan" King, Education Associate, checked in as a new member of the K-12 Program in the Department of Education. Dan currently lives in Coloma, Michigan with his wife, Carole. They moved here last summer from Southeastern Virginia where Dan retired in 2000, from the US Coast Guard, after 40 years of service. Dan enjoyed retirement for 8 years when he read about the job opportunity for Education Associates. He attended Central Missouri State University where he earned his BSED (1975) and MSED (1976) in Industrial Arts Education. Dan taught Drafting, Metal shop, Woodshop and Electronics in public schools in Maryland and Texas then moved to South Dakota in 1977 where he taught Drafting and Woodshop at the Flandreau Indian School, an off reservation boarding high school. In 1982 moving to Virginia he became an Education, Training and Computer Specialist. He earned his Doctorate in Education from NOVA Southeast University in 1993 and retired at age 60 in 2000. Dan said "The opportunity to return to the workforce in this environment is really an honor."

Summer Enrichment

Tribal Council supported a wonderful program this year on behalf of our 7th through 12th grade members, the Summer Enrichment Program. Members were invited to apply for a scholarship to cover tuition and possibly transportation - not to exceed \$500 - for a summer program, camp or workshop. Twenty-two Pokagon Band children had experiences this summer that will be enriching the rest of their lives. What they have reported back through a feedback questionnaire is too important and rewarding to keep quietly in my files. Chi Migwetch to all who participated - Tribal Council, Department of Education, families and the students! Enjoy!

Featured this month is Michael Gamache. He is a Ninth Grader at Marcellus High School. His mom is Patricia Gamache.

Where was your experience, what camp or workshop?
I attended an advanced skateboard camp at the Sherman Lake Camp, YMCA, in Augusta, Michigan.

Did your experience meet your expectations?
Yes, the experience met my expectations. I felt very happy to be able to go and grateful for the opportunity my tribe afforded me.

What was the most enjoyable part?
The most enjoyable part was that we got to skateboard pretty much all

day with some counselors who really knew their stuff when it comes to skateboarding. We also did a lot of swimming and were able to be outdoors all day, every day.

What was the most difficult part?
The most difficult part was letting go of my fears and trying new things.

Would you repeat this event again? Why or why not?
Yes, I would repeat this event again if I could because I learned a lot and like to keep learning and also liked meeting new friends.
What about this experience will be your strongest memory?
My strongest memory will definitely be the new friends that I have made.

How might this Summer Enrichment experience help with your future?
This experience will help with my future by knowing that it is okay to be with new people and you have to put aside your fears and try new things.

Would you suggest this for other Pokagon children?
I would suggest it for other Pokagon children because what a great way to spend a week in the summer, outside and getting exercise and making new friends.

Any other comments?
Thanks again to the tribe for this awesome opportunity. It helped my summer go by fast.



2008 Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Dance Contest Winners

Girls Traditional Ages 5 – 11

1st Mary Bush - MBPI - Michigan

Girls Jingle Ages 5 – 11

1st Maya Skyler - Oneida/Odawa - Michigan
2nd Ahamekwan Wemigwase - LTBB - Michigan
3rd Sienna Goodrich - Wikki/Ojibwa - Michigan

Girls Fancy Ages 5 – 11

1st Miigwaans Smith - LCO - Wisconsin
2nd Alexa Oldman - N. Arapho/Odawa - Michigan
3rd Cicilee Shinner - GTB - Michigan

Boys Traditional Ages 5 – 11

1st Alonzo Oldman - N. Arapho/Odawa - Michigan

Boys Grass Ages 5 – 11

1st CJ Lasley - Ojibwa/Oneida/Ho-Chunk - Michigan
2nd Chayton Hedgepeth - Oneida/Cherokee - Ontario
3rd Chinodin Atkinson - Ojibwa - Indiana

Boys Fancy Ages 5 – 11

1st Calvin Ballew - Pokagon Potawatomi - Michigan
2nd Caden Dreaver - Cree/Oneida/Odawa - Michigan
3rd Cauy George - Chippewa/Oneida - Michigan

Teen Girls Traditional Ages 12-17

1st Cecilia Hill - Navajo/Ojibwa - Illinois
2nd Skylar Ballew - Pokagon Potawatomi - Michigan
3rd Lilianna Hill - Navajo/Ojibwa - Illinois

Teen Girls Jingle Ages 12-17

1st Cheyenne Petoskey - Ottawa/Chippewa - Michigan
2nd Sarah Ballew - Pokagon Potawatomi - Michigan
3rd Shay Skyler - Oneida/LTBB Odawa - Michigan

Teen Girls Fancy Ages 12-17

1st Maria Webster - Menominee/Oneida - Wisconsin
2nd Cassandra Gibson - LTBB - Michigan
3rd Kiana Kishigo-Wood - LTBB - Michigan

Teen Boys Traditional Ages 12-17

1st Brandon Fones - Menominee - Wisconsin
2nd Kino Pyawasit - Menominee - Wisconsin
3rd Angus Bush - MBPI - Michigan

Teen Boys Fancy Ages 12 -17

1st Anthony Klein - Ojibwa/Oneida/Ho-Chunk - Michigan
2nd Elmer Denny - Menominee - Wisconsin
3rd Arlan George - Chippewa/Oneida - Michigan

Teen Boys Grass Ages 12-17

1st Zachary Platero - Navajo - Michigan
2nd Stanley Morseau III - Pokagon Potawatomi - Michigan
3rd Jake Laraway - Pokagon Potawatomi - Michigan

Golden Age Women

1st Debbie Klein - Oneida - Michigan
2nd Debbie Plain - Anishnaabe - Ontario
3rd Clovia Malatare - Ogalala Lakota - Indiana

Golden Age Men

1st Joe Plain - Anishnaabe - Ontario
2nd James Gibson - Litter River - Michigan
3rd Clarence White - Pokagon Potawatomi - Indiana

Women's Traditional Ages 18 – 49

1st Elizabeth Ballew - Saginaw Chippewa - Michigan
2nd Angel Starr - Omaha/Odawa/Arikara - Illinois
3rd Catherine Gibson - LTBB - Michigan

Women's Jingle Ages 18 – 49

1st Josee Starr - Odawa/Omaha/Arikara - Indiana
2nd Alexarae Funmaker - Anishnaabe - Michigan
3rd Kelly Jo Funmaker - Ho-Chunk - Illinois

Women's Fancy Ages 18 – 49

1st Heather Skylar - Oneida/Odawa - Michigan
2nd Netawn Smith - LTBB Odawa - Wisconsin
3rd Barbara Whitehead O'Rourke - Winnebago/Sioux - Illinois

Men's Traditional Ages 18 – 49

1st Greg Morsaw - Pokagon Potawatomi - Michigan
2nd Jefferson Ballew IV - Pokagon Potawatomi - Michigan
3rd Bernard Webster - Menominee/Oneida - Wisconsin

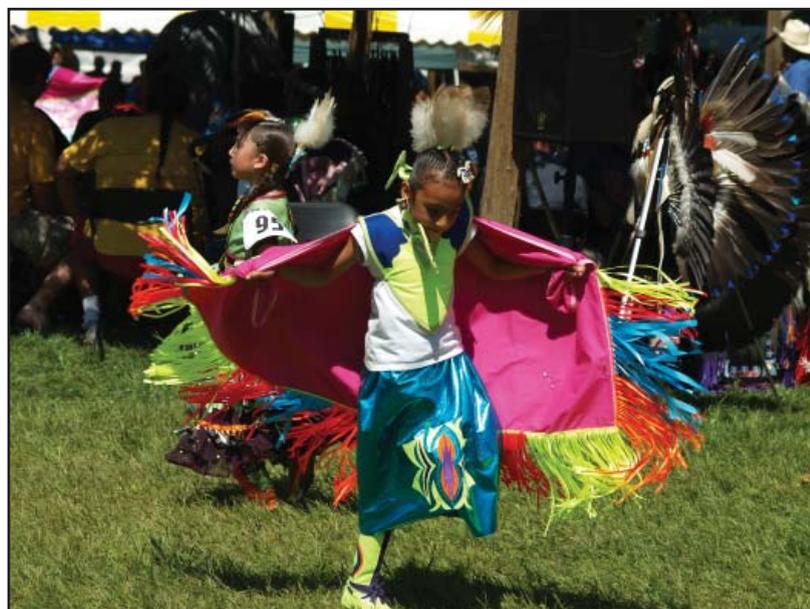
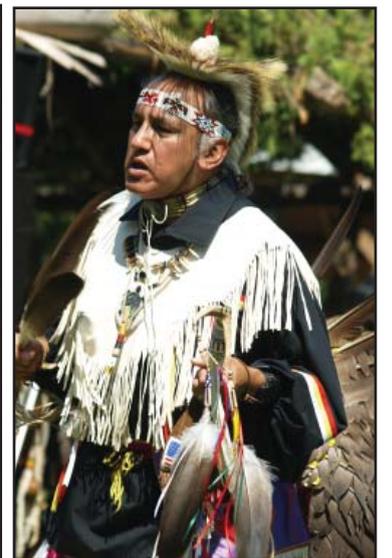
Men's Grass Ages 18 -49

1st Armando Lucio - Apache - Indiana
2nd Josh Thompson - Mohican Stockbridge - Indiana
3rd Calvin Hill - Navajo - Illinois

Men's Fancy Ages 18 – 49

1st James Chupco - Menominee/Seminole/Creek Michigan







NATIVE VOTE

I want to apologize for the delay in articles. It seems there was some misunderstanding about whether this is a political article or an article about politics. Clearly this is about politics and hopefully the information will provide you with 1) encouragement to register to vote, if you haven't, 2) encouragement to vote for the candidates of your choice, and 3) to provide you with links to information that will make you a more informed voter. I WILL SAY ONCE AGAIN, THIS IS NOT AN ARTICLE TO CONVINCING YOU TO VOTE FOR PARTICULAR CANDIDATES OR PARTY, BUT ONLY TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO GET INVOLVED.

I'm sure everyone knows the party conventions are over and the candidates for all of the elective offices have been nominated. We are now in the season of serious campaigning which may make it difficult to find the truth.

You have until October 6, 2008 to register to vote. You can vote on-line by going to: www.michigan.gov There you will find the following information which I have reprinted for your convenience.

How do I register to vote in Michigan?

To register to vote you must be ...

- a U.S. citizen;
- at least 18 years of age by election day;
- a resident of Michigan and the city or township where you are applying to register to vote.

Where. You can register to vote for federal, state, and local elections by mail; at your county, city, or township clerk's office; or by visiting any Secretary of State branch office.

In addition, the following State agencies offer voter registration services to their clients: Department of Human Services, the Department of Community Health and the Department of Career Development. Military recruitment centers also provide voter registration services.

When. You must register at least 30 days before the election. This gives the clerk time to process the forms and send you a Voter Identification Card. You must also re-register to vote whenever you move to a new city or township.

How. If you move within a city or township, you must update your address. This can be handled through your local clerk, at a Secretary of State branch office, by mail or at any other location where voter registrations are accepted. Michigan voters must use the same residential address for voter registration and driver's license purposes. Consequently, if you submit a driver's license address change, it will be applied to your voter registration. Similarly, if you submit a voter registration address change, it will be applied to your driver's license.

First-time voter. If you have never voted in Michigan and register by mail, you must appear in person to vote in the first election in which you wish to participate. This requirement does not apply if (1) you personally hand deliver the mail registration form to your county, city or township clerk's office instead of mailing the form (2) you are 60 years of age or more (3) you are disabled or (4) you are eligible to vote under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

If you have never voted in Michigan and register by mail, you may also be subject to a new identification requirement provided under federal law. The identification requirement is explained on the mail-in registration form.

Moving: Whenever you move to a new city or township, you must re-register to vote. If you move within a city or township, you must update your address. This can be handled through your local clerk, at a Secretary of State branch office, or by mail. Michigan voters must use the same residential address for voter registration and driver's license purposes. Consequently, if you submit a driver's license address change, it will be applied to your voter registration. Similarly, if you submit a voter registra-

tion address change, it will be applied to your driver's license.

Mail-in Forms. A mail-in voter registration form (PDF file) can be obtained here. Mail the completed form to the address indicated on the form. If you register by mail, you must vote in person at your assigned precinct the first time you vote, unless you are:

- disabled as defined by state law
- 60 years of age or older
- temporarily residing overseas.

If you are temporarily outside the U.S., you may use a Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) form to register. The FPCA forms are distributed through U.S. embassies and military bases. A Michigan resident who moves and registers out of state may not re-register to vote in Michigan until he or she reestablishes residency here.

You may also register at the same time you renew your driver's license by mail. Eligible drivers receive a voter registration application in the mail with their driver's license renewal information.

Locate your clerk.

Outside the U.S. If you are temporarily outside the U.S., you may use a Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) form to register. The FPCA forms are distributed through U.S. embassies and military bases. A Michigan resident who moves and registers out of state may not re-register to vote in Michigan until he or she reestablishes residency here.

You may also register at the same time you renew your driver's license by mail. Eligible drivers receive a voter registration application in the mail with their driver's license renewal information.

Additional information and assistance can be obtained through the Federal Voting Assistance Program and the Overseas Vote Foundation

Accessibility Voting

Federal and state law requires every city and township to provide accessible registration and voting locations for voters who are disabled.

If you require voting assistance, ask the election workers for help; a reason for the needed assistance does not have to be stated. Two inspectors will assist you in the voting station. An elector who is blind, disabled, or unable to read or write may be assisted with his or her ballot by any person of the voter's choice, except the following: the voter's employer or agent of that employer, or an officer or agent of a union to which the voter belongs.

For more information, contact your city or township clerk. Hearing-impaired residents may contact the Bureau of Elections at (517) 241-4320 (TTY).

Absentee Ballots

Absentee voter ballots are available for all elections. They provide voters with a convenient method for casting a ballot when they are unable to attend the polls on Election Day.

As a registered voter, you may obtain an absentee voter ballot if you are:

- age 60 years old or older
- unable to vote without assistance at the polls
- expecting to be out of town on election day
- in jail awaiting arraignment or trial
- unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons
- appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside of your precinct of residence.

A person who registers to vote by mail must vote in person in the first election in which he or she participates. The restriction does not apply to overseas voters, voters who are handicapped or voters who are 60 years of age or older. (Voting in person on one governmental level clears the restriction on the other levels. For example, if a voter subject to the restriction votes in person at a school election, the voter would be free to obtain an absentee ballot for the first state election in which he or she wishes to participate.)



Requesting an Absentee Voter Ballot

- Download your absent voter ballot request.
- Send your absentee ballot request form to your local clerk.
- Solicitud para obtener Papeletas para Votar en Ausencia (Absent Voter Ballot Application)

Your request for an absentee voter ballot must be in writing and can be submitted to your city or township clerk. (For assistance in obtaining the address of your city or township clerk, see www.Michigan.gov/vote) Your request must include one of the six statutory reasons stated above and your signature. You must request an absentee voter ballot by mailing the online application, with a letter or post card, or you can obtain a pre-printed application form at your local clerk's office. Requests to have an absentee voter ballot mailed to you must be received by your clerk no later than 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election.

Once your request is received by the local clerk, your signature on the request will be checked against your voter registration record before a ballot is issued. You must be a registered voter to receive an absentee ballot. Requests for absentee voter ballots are processed immediately. Absentee voter ballots may be issued to you at your home address or any address outside of your city or township of residence.

After receiving your absentee voter ballot, you have until 8 p.m. on Election Day to complete the ballot and return it to the clerk's office. Your ballot will not be counted unless your signature is on the return envelope and matches your signature on file. If you received assistance voting the

ballot, then the signature of the person who helped you must also be on the return envelope. Only you, a family member or person residing in your household, a mail carrier, or election official is authorized to deliver your signed absentee voter ballot to your clerk's office.

If an emergency, such as a sudden illness or family death prevents you from reaching the polls on Election Day, you may request an emergency absentee voter ballot. Requests for an emergency ballot must be submitted after the deadline for regular absentee voter ballots has passed but before 4 p.m. on Election Day. The emergency must have occurred at a time that made it impossible for you to apply for a regular absentee voter ballot. Your local clerk will have more information about emergency absentee voter ballots.

Voting is one of the most cherished and fundamental rights in our country. If you are eligible to obtain an absentee voter ballot and cannot attend the polls on Election Day, use of the absentee voter ballot is strongly encouraged.

You will find additional information on-line if you have other questions. As you can see, you can register, request an absentee ballot, and vote without ever leaving home.

In addition, I am including several links that will allow you to review the candidate's position on issue of interest to you. If you don't subscribe to a newspaper and have access to a computer you review the party and the candidate's platform and follow their campaign.

- <http://reznetnews.org/article/wyoming-caucus/indian-vote%3A-when-candidates-come-calling>
- <http://www.reznetnews.org/article/obama/natives-hail-role-shaping-issues-democratic-convention>
- <http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080914/NEWS15/809140407>
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rebecca-ford/mccain-courts-the-indian_b_102568.html
- http://nativevote.org/documents/PlatformFINAL_WithCover.pdf
- [http://nativevote.org/documents/2008%20Democratic%20Platform%20\(final\).pdf](http://nativevote.org/documents/2008%20Democratic%20Platform%20(final).pdf)
- <http://www.democrats.org/>
- <http://www.gop.org/>
- <http://nativevote.org/>

This site can provide a window for a significant amount of election information.
<http://www.ncai.org/>

There are other numerous internet sites to visit to find more information about your party and candidate of choice. I would encourage you to fully investigate and then make an informed vote either by absentee ballot or on November 4, 2008.

The following link is to an article that speaks to the obstacles that Native Americans are overcoming as our voting participation increases and candidates look at the impact Indian Country has on elections.

http://nativevote.org/images/docs/The%20American%20Indian%20Vote%20A%20Brief%20History%20_2004_.pdf

This links speaks to the reason you should vote in all elections.
<http://nativevote.org/documents/Final%20Why%20Vote%20060108.doc>

Matt Wesaw, Native Vote Coordinator
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday Lisa
 Hope you have a great day .
 We are so proud of you. Have
 a wonderful day and we'll see
 you soon . Good luck on
 your volleyball games.
 We love you very much.

Your loving Daddy and
 Mama from Florida

Happy Birthday Derek AKS known
 as PoppyHope you have a great
 birthday . We Love and appreciate
 you and all you do for us.

Love Dad and Mom McKinney

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
 Corey Rangel
 October 9

Love, Michelle & Bradley

Happy Birthday to
 Kelli Ottinger Sept. 4th

Love, Bobby, Jessie
 and the Chit-linns.

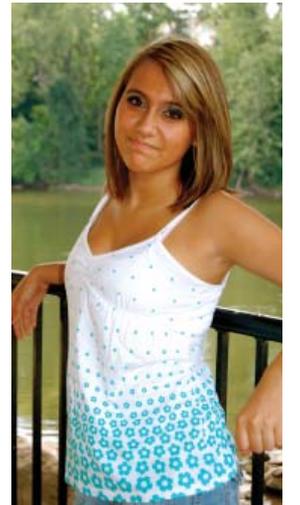
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
 Brittainy Rangel
 October 31

Love, Michelle & Bradley

Today you turn 16! Even though
 you are getting older, you will
 always be mom's ladybug. I love
 you daughter from the moment
 they put you in my arms.

Sky, you are a wonderful sister.
 I love you more than anything.
 Have a wonderful day today.
 You deserve it. Love you, Jess.

Happy Birthday we love you
 Jessica, Mom, & Kady.



Happy Birthday you guys! Our pride and joy, Ace
 Allen Forster was born on his inle Kevin's Birth-
 day, Oct 12th, 1 year ago. Your family wishes the
 both of you the Lord's blessing on this day and
 always to Kevin, We Love you!

To Ace, Mom and Dad, Sister Madison Love you!
 And that goes for all the rest of us.



Happy 37th Birthday
 Konnie Grubb-Birks

From Mom and Dad
 Love Always



Happy Birthday,
 Raymond Morseau III
 45 yrs. 10-9-08

Love, Mom-Bette,
 and brother-Brian.



September 1st
 Happy First Birthday to
 Hugo Gregory Alexis!

We love you tons!



Shannon "Scott" and
 Heidi (Topash) Greer of
 Fort Myers, Florida are thrilled
 to announce the birth of their
 second child, Connor Scott.

Connor was born May
 16, 2008 at 10:55 a.m. He
 weighed 7 pounds 15 ounces
 and was 20-1/2 inches long.
 Welcoming Connor is big sis-
 ter, Quinn, great-grandmoth-
 ers Erma Keith of Spokane,
 Washington and Fannie Mae
 Hochstetler of Schoolcraft,
 Michigan and grandparents
 Dean and Carole Greer of
 Spokane, Washington and
 Paul and Dorothy Topash of
 Wesley Chapel, Florida.

We, the family of James F. Wesaw, who passed
 away August 14, 2008 in Dowagiac, MI would
 like to thank all who showed their support during
 our difficult time. We received many phone calls
 and visitors. Each of your condolences means so
 much to us. Thank you for all who sent flowers,
 and food for the family along with great conversa-
 tion. Although it is still a tough time for us, you
 gave us strength to through the days of preparing
 him for his journey. We would also like to thank
 Pat Warren for the beautiful ribbon shirt that he
 wore on his journey home.

Megwetch and God Bless
 The family of James F. Wesaw.

When you went away

When you went away on that August day,
 I knew we'd meet again.
 Where rivers flow, where life has no end.
 In that faraway land, as was God's plan,
 For everyone, for you, for me.
 There will be no more tears, no more pain.
 Our hearts will finally be free.
 Although I love and miss you,
 I know one day I'll see you.
 For one day, my time will also come.
 He will call my name, as he did yours.
 And we'll meet at the gate by the sun.

Happy Birthday Carla
 October 14
 ~Love Mad

Happy 13th Birthday
 India Wesaw Oct. 10th
 Love, Your Family

Happy 16th Birthday Matt
 Mersereau Oct. 6th

Love your family.



Congratulations! Greg
 morsaw for taking first
 place in the mens tradi-
 tional dance catagory at the
 kee boon mee kaa.

Love your family.

MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS



Thank you Ribbontown singers for letting my son be apart of the group. Even though is was only for a short time, thank you especially John Warren for the gift of the drumstick. We will take care of it. Thanks again!

Alicia Jackson.

A sister is a gift to the heart, a friend to the spirit, a golden thread to the meaning of life.
~Isadora James

Happy Birthday to my exceedingly beautiful sister Cheryl Lee!

With all my love, Rhonda Kay



Happy 40th Birthday Todd Wesaw

Love Jill, Zachary and Sidney

Happy 16th Birthday, Justin Mersereau Oct. 6th

Love your family.

Happy Halloween "BOO!" Dakota "Cody" Hulbert And Happy 13th Birthday. We are very proud of you!

Love, Aunt Do, Grammy, and Papa

Happy Birthday to Shirley Linn Sept. 12th

Love, Bobby, Jessie and the Chit-Linns.



Congratulations to our parents F. Gordon and Bea Wesaw. We celebrated with them on their 65th Wedding Anniversary. August 28, 2008. Their children are Ron, Dorene, and Debbie. They have four grandchildren: Ron Jr., Jeff, Cody, Lisa. And 5 great grand children: Jessie, Tara, Brendan, Jordan, Mason, and one on the way.

Congratulations to the organizers of the waterwalk in Dowagiac, Michigan. Majel I am so glad to have come along as far as I did, special thanks to you. I don't think I would have participated because of the distance from Grand Rapids if the walk didn't have you attached to it. I do honor the other women involved, especially the dedication of Cleora and Cindy (WOW). The feast was fantastic especially seeing the Chief's participation (thank's John and family) What a great weekend! All the volunteers for the Pow Wow are to be commended. Thank-you Pokagon Council and staff and thank-you Pow Wow committee.

Megwetch, Wawaana Kookoosh, Roger Williams, Kchinodin

Women's Talking Circle

Our next gathering will be Sunday, October 5, 2008, 1 p.m. at the Teaching Cabin at Rogers Lake property. As usual, please wear your skirts, bring your shishigwanek mine nech dewegenek (rattles and hand drums) and bring a snack to share.

We must offer chi-migwetch to scores of people for the success of the Pokagon Water Walk held the Friday before our Kee Boon Mein Kaa Pow Wow. To all of you who came for Opening Ceremony at Gage Street and the many more who came for Closing Ceremony at Rogers Lake, we say wewene. For all our Veterans (Rusty Green, Roger Williams, Chris Ballew, Joe Topash) who carried the Eagle Staff and the Pokagon flag and to Clarence White for bringing the Eagle Staff, we say wewene. To Crystal

Morseau and Chad Gillespie for carrying our banner and all those who carried the copper pail of our Sacred Water and all those who walked with us that day, we say wewene. To Officer Doug Callahan of our Tribal Police and Chief Tom Atkinson of the Dowagiac Police for protecting us on the twelve mile journey, we say wewene. To John and Angie Miller and Goffy Waubaunsee for the gift of nourishment at the end of the walk, we say wewene. To all of the Pow Wow Committee and Tribal Council for supporting and encouraging us in this Sacred Walk, we say wewene. If we missed anyone, please forgive us but know we have much gratitude in our hearts for you also. It was a beautiful day for our community.

Cleora Morseau mine Majel DeMarsh

The Pink Shawl Project

Pokagon Potawatomi Health Services invites Native women in the Band's service delivery area to make a shawl for their own personal use during the Band's first Pink Shawl Project. Cultural teachings, sewing instruction and health education will be provided in a series of ten workshops. Participants can pick whatever date(s) they want to attend. Various key cultural presenters and health educators will be present on different days. All supplies and instruction will be provided free of charge. The program is available to Native women and girls and to non-Native women who are mothers of Native children and/or spouses/partners of Native women. Registration is required. Contact: Julie Farver for additional information.

Healthy snacks will be provided at each session: fruit, vegetables, cheese and crackers, along with water.

The pink shawl project promotes breast health awareness. It is also an opportunity for Native women to bond together, form new friendships and renew old ones. All fabric provided by Health will be 100% good quality cotton. Women can choose between ribbon or fringe. We will be making basic, simple shawls—not of the contest powwow type. Once these shawls are smudged with sage, they will become medicine. Our goal is to "dance out" 50 shawls at the Holland Powwow on Saturday, Oct. 25th at the Holland Civic Center in Holland, MI. Please join us. No sewing experience required!

Wed: 10 - 1 Sat: 10 - 4
Mon: 10 - 6 Sat: 10 - 11
Mon: 10 - 13 Wed: 10 - 15
Sat.: 10 - 18 Mon: 10 - 20
Wed: 10 - 22 Sat: 10 - 29

For more information, contact: Julie Farver (269) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777

Saturdays: 10:00 am -1:00 pm; Mondays & Wednesdays: 6-8 pm. All sessions at Elders Hall, 53237 Townhall Rd., Dowagiac, MI 49047



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Tribal Council E-Mail Directory

Office Phone: 1-888-376-9988

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 FAX (269) 782-6882

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 Toll Free (800) 517-0777
 FAX (269) 782-4295

**Health Services /
 Behavioral Health**
 57392 M 51 South
 (269) 782-4141 /
 Toll Free (888) 440-1234
 FAX (269) 782 - 8797

**Resource Development/
 Environmental**
 32142 Edwards Street
 (269) 782-9602 Phone
 (269) 783-0452 Fax

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 FAX (269) 782-0985

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 58620 Sink Rd.
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 FAX (269) 782-1028

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 32142 Edwards St.
 (269) 782-1763 /
 Toll Free (888) 782-1001
 FAX (269) 782-1964

Commodities
 (269) 782-3372 /
 Toll Free (888) 281-1111
 FAX (269)782-7814

Head Start
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 (269) 783-0026/
 (866)-250-6573
 FAX (269) 782-9795

South Bend Area Office
 310 W. Mc Kinley Ave. Suite 300
 Mishawaka, IN. 46545
 (574)-255-2368 /
 Toll Free (800) 737-9223
 FAX (574) 255-2974

Housing Department
 32142 Edwards St.
 (269) 783-0443 /
 Toll Free (877) 983-0385
 FAX (269) 783-0452

Tribal Court
 58620 Sink Rd.
 (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

Election
 32142 Edwards St.
 (269) 782-9475 /
 Toll Free (888) 782-9475

Spouses Of Tribal Members Can Now Apply for The Temporary Staffing Pool!

The Pokagon Band Temporary Pool will begin accepting applications not only from Tribal Members but also their spouses. Native American preference still applies, meaning, the spouses will be considered if a Pokagon Band member is unavailable for the position.

The temporary positions pay \$8.50 per hour.

Tribal Members interested in assisting with filling temporary vacancies on an "on-call" basis are encouraged to call Lori Harris at (269) 782-8998 or 800-517-0777. Employment applications are available at the Pokagon Band Administration Office at 58620 Sink Road Dowagiac.

Applicants must pass the following background checks:

- Criminal background
- Motor vehicle report
- Work history
- References
- Tribal membership (spouse of enrolled tribal member)
- DSH clearance (if applicable)

You must submit to and pass a Drug and Alcohol Test.

Temporary personnel will be subject to applicable rules of the Pokagon Band Personnel Policy Handbook.

This is an excellent opportunity for our Membership to occasionally supplement their income, gain experience while, aiding us in continuing smooth delivery of services.

Please call for an appointment today!



HOUSING ANNOUNCEMENT

THE POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS IS SEEKING TO UPDATE RECORDS FOR INDIAN-OWNED CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES. ANYONE WORKING IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRADES IS ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AT 783-0443.

Pokagon Band Administrative Office
58620 Sink Rd.
Dowagiac, MI 49047

