

# POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT September 2010



## Potawatomi From Around the Nation Gather in Oklahoma Pokagons Travel by Bus to Participate in Event

by Melissa Rodriguez

The adventure began at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 5 when 32 Pokagon Band citizens, mostly Elders, met at the bus depot in Dowagiac and boarded the bus. We were determined to go to Shawnee, Oklahoma, or bust, to celebrate and participate in the 2010 Potawatomi Gathering. You could feel everyone's excitement and anticipation: what could we expect? What kinds of thing would we do at the Gathering? Some of us had already experienced a Potawatomi Gathering, while others were going for the first time.

The 17-hour bus ride was full of laughter, talking, movies, raffles, and sleeping. But once we arrived at the Citizen Band's gathering grounds, there was no time for resting. Participants could choose from such activities as workshops for gourd making, flute making, basketry and beading, language classes, swimming, discussions on tribal history and

ceremonies, and, of course, the Fire Lake Casino. There were also many tournaments to partake in: softball, horseshoes, volleyball, Putt-Putt, archery, checkers, chess, and dominoes. The Pokagon Band can be proud to announce that we have a champion checker player: Broderick Race beat out everyone else in the checkers tournament to take first place. Way to go, Brody!

At any given time you could look around the gathering grounds and watch everyone interacting with each other. Talking and laughter could be heard all around you; what a wonderful sound!

In the evenings the Grand Entry took place and there was drumming and dancing until 9:30. It was, as always, moving to watch and participate with our Potawatomi brothers and sisters during this one time of year that we all travel to be together. On Saturday participants witnessed the Handing Off Ceremony announcing that Hannahville Indian Community will host the Gathering of



Above, Jackie Trux, left, and Sally Herrera, right, dance into the evening.

Potawatomi in 2011.

Way too quickly it was Sunday morning, and we once again boarded the bus (with a little less enthusiasm as when we left on Thursday) and headed home to Michigan. Although we were all exhausted from the heat, which climbed to 104 degrees during the Gathering, we left Oklahoma with joy and memories in our hearts that we will carry for years to come. Thanks everyone for making this trip a memorable and fun time for me. When I told people we would be taking a bus to Oklahoma, some looked at me like I was crazy, but I knew I would have fun. Boy, did I! The bus travelers were the best. Everyone helped out along the way, and I want to thank you, especially my husband Tony. See everyone next year in Hannahville!

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Above, Butch Starrett and Theresa McFall enjoy the Gathering. Right, the intrepid Pokagon travelers stop for a photo at a Route 66 attraction.



## Pokagon Intern Discovers Family's Link to the Past

When 21 year-old Caleb Wesaw began his internship with the Pokagon Band's Department of Natural Resources this summer, he expected to learn how to research land classification rules and conduct property analyses. But learning more about his heritage wasn't something he anticipated.

Wesaw, who will be a sophomore at Lake Michigan College, is from Hartford, and he knew that his last name is a significant one in the Pokagon Band's history. But when tribal historic preservation officer Michael Zimmerman Jr asked which of the three Wesaw family lines he was a member of, and how far he could trace his ancestors back, Wesaw drew a blank.

"I said, 'Oh, maybe twenty years,'" he laughed.

Zimmerman asked if Wesaw might be a part of the family related to Mota Wesaw, the leader of villages in what is now Niles and Marcellus,



The old iron kettle used in the 19th century still belongs to the Wesaw family.

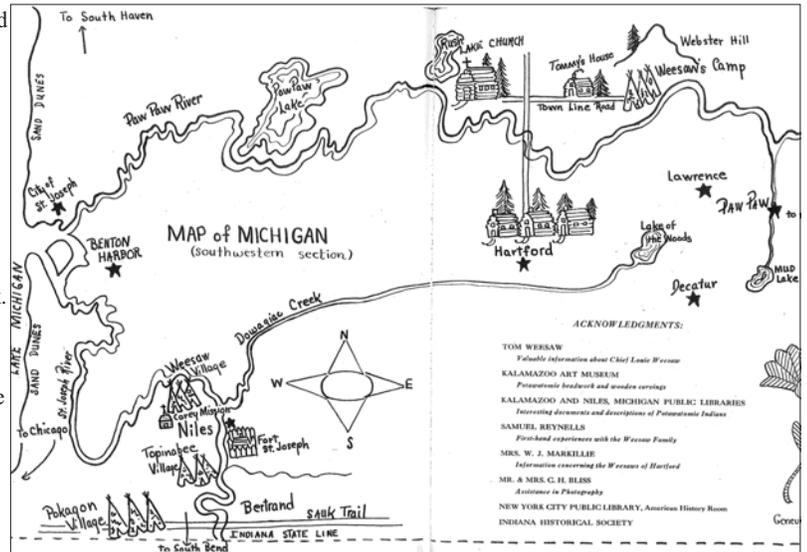
Michigan.

"I decided to go and find out," said Wesaw. "I called my grandfather, and he told me his father and grandfather's name."

A couple of weeks later, the intern brought in an old children's picture book called *Tommy and the Indians*, which had been in his family his whole life. Wesaw says his father bought him and his sister Natalie first editions of the book. He showed it to Zimmerman, and asked whether it might be useful in helping determine his ancestry. It turns out the book he had owned all his life was the key in deciphering the story of Wesaw's family heritage.

The book, published in 1950 and written by Genevieve Cross, tells a story about a friendship between Chief Louis Wesaw and a young boy named Tom whose pioneer family settled in southwest Michigan. A hand-drawn map details with impressive precision the Paw Paw and St. Joseph River valleys, and the locations of former Pokagon Band villages and European forts. But what was most interesting to Wesaw was a page in the front of the book showing photographs of Tom Wesaw and his four grandchildren. Captions beneath the photos name Tom as Chief Louis Wesaw's grandson, and say that he has two treasured possessions which belonged to his grandfather: a logging chain and a large iron kettle.

According to Zimmerman, the book proves Caleb Wesaw is a descendant of Louis Wesaw, and connected to Leopold Pokagon distantly through marriage. Back in the



The map from the book *Tommy and the Indians*.

mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, Anaquiba and his wife Katabwe had several children, including Topinabee the Older, Sawawk, Chissahecon, Chebass, Kaukema, and Soowaneruk. Topinabee the Older had several children with his wife Nogewi, including Topinabee the Younger, Mimikwe, Elizabeth, Sinogogua, and Waabizi. Mota Wesaw would marry Sinogogua and father Michael, Samuel, John, Louis, and Mota Wezo. Louis, known as "Chief Louis" in the book, was the father to Tom (who would go on to become a member of The 1st Michigan Sharpshooters, Company K in the Civil War). That Tom's son, Tom, was Gerald Wesaw's father. Gerald is Caleb's grandfather, and one of the children pictured in *Tommy and the Indians*.

"This is what's possible," said Zimmerman. "If enough people get together and talk about family history in detail, I think you'd find

this occurring more frequently. It's assumed people around here are related, but it's generally not known exactly how."

As for Caleb Wesaw, he and his family are happy to understand more about their lineage. And the large iron kettle in his grandfather's house—once used by Mota Wesaw to make stew and iskgamizige, boiling sap for sugar making—takes on a greater significance now.

"It's pretty neat; it goes beyond the roll. This one piece of the puzzle was the connector," he said. "Hopefully it won't end with me. We have better proof of who we are and where we come from."

If you'd like to learn about assistance in finding your family's heritage and filling in your family's tree, contact Michael Zimmerman Jr, the tribal historic preservation officer at (269) 782-9602 or [michael.zimmerman@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:michael.zimmerman@pokagonband-nsn.gov).

## 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 guidelines printed on page 13 of this issue.

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

Pokégnek Yajdanawa  
Box 180  
Dowagiac, MI 49047

[newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov)

## Vaccinations for Adults: You're Never Too Old to Get Immunized

By Shelly Smith, PharmD,  
Pokagon Band Pharmacist

You never outgrow the need for vaccines. The specific immunizations you need as an adult are determined by such factors as your age, lifestyle, high-risk conditions, type and locations of travel, and previous immunizations. Throughout your adult life, you need immunizations to get and maintain protection against: flu, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, shingles, pneumococcal, and HPV.

### Pneumococcal:

You need a dose if you are over 65 years old, or smoke, or if you are between the ages of 2 and 64 years old and have chronic medical conditions like diabetes, COPD, asthma or other lung disorders, heart failure, or alcoholism. One revaccination may be required five years after the first dose.

### Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Td, Tdap)

Tetanus boosters have been recommended every ten years to prevent lock jaw after injury or exposure from deep cuts or

accidents. Adacel, a newer agent, had been recommended to be used as one of the boosters injections to protect our small children from pertussis or whooping cough. Recommendations are for all mothers to receive the vaccination just after birth to protect your newborns. Ask your doctor for Adacel vaccination prior to discharge if you have not already gotten it.

### Zoster (shingles)

If you are age 60 or older you should get this vaccine now to prevent the debilitating pain with a shingles infection.

### Human papillomavirus (HPV)

It is recommended so young women aged 13- 26 years can protect themselves from this virus, which can be associated with cervical cancers, by getting a Gardasil vaccination. The vaccine is given in three doses over six months.

Finally, the flu season is nearly upon us again. Last year there was a great deal of publicity about H1N1 vaccination. The reason why that vaccination had to be given as a separate injection is because it was not one of the virus strains previously seen as problematic. This unique strain of H1N1 had origins from pig species and had never been known to cause any human infection. Vaccines are normally produced six months in advance of the coming season, so this strain

was not included in last year's seasonal flu vaccine.

This year it is all rolled into one vaccine. It is highly recommended everyone get the seasonal flu vaccine each year. While you may not ever get sick, you still can be a carrier of the virus to others who are not as healthy as you, including older family members or very young children. Most susceptible are babies younger than six months who cannot get this vaccination. All household members or close contacts, including daycare or babysitters of young babies, should get the vaccine to protect the child.

The Pokagon Department of Health Services will be providing seasonal influenza clinics for all tribal citizens. Please call ahead to make appointments to keep accurate records, and look for the first clinic in early October. We will be providing the seasonal influenza vaccine free to all members, and will not reimburse for this vaccination to any outside providers through CHS. Please call for an appointment for any of the above vaccinations, and watch for the flu clinic dates in the next issue of *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*. Any questions? Please call the pharmacy department at 782-4141 ext 335.

### Pokégnek Bodéwadmik Ogitchew Society

- ❖ Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 at Elders Hall, 53237 Townhall Road, Dowagiac. All tribal veterans are welcome to participate in all events.
- ❖ The Veterans Color Guard has been invited to participate in opening ceremonies at the Reaffirmation Day Celebration September 18 at Rodgers Lake beginning at 10 a.m.
- ❖ Registration Forms are available for the Ogitchew Society. Upon completion and return of registration forms and proper documentation, you will receive a branch of service hat and an Ogitchew shirt. To obtain a registration form please contact Butch Starrett, Veterans Committee Chairman, at:

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

- ❖ The code development code is available for review by any tribal veteran. Please contact Butch Starrett, Veterans Committee Chairman, at the address above.

## Newsletter Changes In Store

You may notice some changes in *Pokégnek Yajdanawa* over the next few months. The Pokagon Band now has a director of communications, and therefore more resources to spend writing articles, taking photos and keeping readers updated on newsworthy tribal events and stories.

Plans are underway to revise the design and augment the content of the newsletter, and we'd like to hear your feedback, suggestions, and story ideas for the future editions of *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*. Please send your comments and ideas to Paige Risser, director of communications, at [newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov).

## What I Did during My Summer Vacation: Pokagon Campers' Letters

The Department of Education's summer enrichment program provides Pokagon youth with a stipend to use toward the summer camp of their choice. Here are two postcards the department received from grateful young men who made the most out of their vacation.



head coach Joker Phillips. I also like when we had scrimmage games and the tournament, which my team won. Thank you for sponsoring me and my camps.

Jacob Pennington  
7<sup>th</sup> grade  
Morton Middle School, Lexington, KY

I attended the University of Kentucky's football camp this summer. My lifelong dream is to go there for college and play quarterback. My favorite part of camp was when we got to meet all the coaches, like



I was able to attend YMCA Camp Pentalouan at Blue Lake in Montague, Michigan. I got to paddle boat, kayak and sail with all my new friends I met at camp. My time at camp was six days and five nights, and we had 11 boys in my cabin. My favorite part of camp was the swim test. By the second day I was the best swimmer for my age, with a blue wrist band. I just want to say thanks.

Chance Heineman

## Q & A Profile with Chief Rachel Sadowski

I usually write articles on public and personal safety subjects, but often I will throw in an interview with someone who works or volunteers for the Band or is a Pokagon Band citizen. I believe it is important for everyone to know their neighbor. Many times we know of them, but we don't know them. Though we are part of one community, we all have many different experiences and these experiences shape our lives.

This interview was conducted with Chief Rachel Sadowski of the Pokagon Band Tribal Police Department August 9.

**Q.** What do you do for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians?

**A.** I am the Chief of Police. My job as the Chief of Police requires I attend meetings with various tribal departments to discuss such items as grant writing or community programs. I meet with area law enforcement

agencies as well as the FBI to compare information and gather intelligence that ultimately protects the Pokagon Band and their citizens. I meet with Tribal Council to present budget proposals, staffing concerns, and to present proactive community awareness efforts such as the Community Resource Officer division.

**Q.** When and where were you born?

**A.** I was born on January 25, 1976 in Wayne Michigan. I believe the hospital has changed its name. It was Annapolis Hospital, and now it's called Oakland Hospital.

**Q.** Where did you grow up as a child?

**A.** I grew up in Clayton, Michigan in Lenawee County. My

parents have a small piece of property there. They still live there.

**Q.** What do you remember most as a child?

**A.** My dad was a steel fabricator and he would make us all kinds of cool toys. We would be running around the house and property with steel toys. Those were fun times.

**Q.** What event in your life has had the most effect on the way you view

life?

**A.** As a child who experienced both physical and mental abuse, I decided to become a police officer. As a police officer I was able to help victims make it through the process of seeing their offender go to jail. Helping children and youth is very important to me.

**Q.** Who do you most respect, and why?

**A.** My father. He is the hardest working man I know. I remember him getting up early in the morning, and going to bed late after work. My work ethic comes from him. If my dad could still be working he would be. When I think of my dad, I think of the phrase "never give up."

**Q.** If you could meet anyone, past

or present, who would it be and why?

**A.** My Great-Grandmother. The last record of her was in the 1910 census, after that she disappeared. No one in the family ever speaks of her. I would like to know what happened to her.

**Q.** When you hear the word "respect," what do you think of?

**A.** I think of my father. He has always been my role model. He is everything to me. I love him so much. I've always wanted to be just like him. As a young girl my mother would say "you are just like your dad."

**Q.** How long have you worked for the Pokagon Band?

**A.** I started with the Pokagon Band November 15, 2004. It's easy to remember because November 15 is opening day of gun deer season in Michigan.

**Q.** What brought you here?

**A.** I wanted a new and different type of law enforcement environment. I describe this job to everyone as a hybrid type of law enforcement. Our area of coverage includes four counties in Michigan and six counties in Northern Indiana. Our officers carry three types of citation booklets, state, federal, and tribal. This means our officers are required to know state, federal, and tribal law. They handle all types of cases which range from felony assaults to misdemeanor theft.



Chief Rachel Sadowski



### Jaime Sumners

Community Resource Officer

Pokagon Band

Tribal Police Department.

58155 M-51 South

Dowagiac, MI 49047

269.782.2232 Office

## Police Explorers Program In the Works

The Pokagon Police Department is looking at launching a Police Explorers Program, and the department has received many calls of interest. The response is encouraging. For those who are interested, we are still in the development stages, working on putting together a presentation for Tribal Council approval defining the costs and administrative structures.

Teens ages 14 to 20 could participate in a program that allows them to become familiar with their police department, and explore whether they want to pursue a career in law enforcement. Teens might learn the ins and outs of accident and domestic violence investigation, building/vehicle searches,

firearms safety, and parade and drill skills.

A minimum of five youths and five adults would have monthly meetings at the police department and would receive a uniform, duty gear (a duty belt, handcuffs and case, flashlight and holder) and they will spend their time with police explorer advisors who will be their instructors. There is also a chance for the group to participate in state and national competitions.

"I can personally say that the Police Explorer Program is a great thing, as I was one 'back in the day,'" says Police Chief Rachel Sadowski-Spiegel. "The program showed me so many things that pushed me ahead in my college classes."

### Take Advantage of Home Safety Inspections

The Tribal Police Department offers a home safety inspection free to all Pokagon Band citizens. Call the Tribal Police to schedule an appointment at 269.782.2232 and ask for Officer Sumners or Officer Hohnke.

## Pokagon Pharmacy Under Development; Seven Day Renewal Notice Requested

By Shelly Smith, PharmD, Pokagon Band Pharmacist

The dictionary defines *home* as any place of residence, refuge or shelter. The Department of Health Services is committed to creating a *medical home* for you. A medical home is a place where you can expect or seek a complete circle of healthcare services, providing you with unbroken quality care from a team of professionals, including doctors, nurses, and pharmacists who will work together to restore your health.

We are excited to be involved in developing your tribal pharmacy through the Department of Health Services. We wanted to take a moment to share with you our programs and plans to that

describe our part in your medical home.

Pharmacy will work hard to deliver the medications that are needed for your wellness, but more importantly, the clinical pharmacist will assess and help the medical staff to adjust your drug therapy to best meet your health needs. Our goal is to minimize the dependence on medicines and bring good health back to our community.

Looking at drug lists and working with your provider takes extra time and attention. Pharmacy is working hard to get the medications you need to you, but your safety and quality care is our main purpose. We ask for your help and patience as we work through this process. The

pharmacy staff requires extra time to process and make intervention as needed in your drug therapy.

It is also our goal to include you as an active player in your health. We want to better educate you on your medications and disease states, and empower you to be involved in your care. Keep an eye on your medications as they run low, and be aware of when you will need refills. We respectfully request a seven day advance notice for all refill requests or prescription renewals of a medication you are already taking. Please call all your refills to the pharmacy department at 782-4141 ext 335. Be sure to provide the following information: Your name, date of birth, a phone number at which

you can be reached at within two hours, and the exact medication names you wish to be refilled.

For any prescriptions that are new to you, never been taken before, or an adjustment in your current treatment we will make every effort to make them available within 24 hours. Our medical staff is asking you to participate in creating your overall wellness. If you have appointments, come prepared with a list of current medicines you are taking. Bring in the bottles the medicines are in so we can review them with you. You deserve the extra mile in providing the best care possible. Help us to provide you a medical home for maintaining and restoring your health.

## Back to School: Pack Nutrition into Your Kid's Lunches

By Susan Gundersen, RD, Public Health Nutritionist

Are you looking for tasty school lunch ideas that kids will actually look forward to eating? Or perhaps you regularly see that well-prepared, nutritious lunch make a round trip from home to school and then back home again with very little of it being eaten. The well-packed lunch box or bag that your child will actually look forward to eating takes a little planning, some smart shopping, and the helping hands of your youngster.

The formula for packed lunch essentials includes foods from four of the food groups including

- A protein source
- A whole grain
- Crunchy foods (vegetables or fruit)
- Something to drink (milk bought at school or 100% fruit juice).

**Tip #1:** borrow from the success of the pros. Assemble your own "lunchable," but make it a healthier version with lower salt and low-fat meat and cheese choices.

**Tip #2:** buy some small containers and use them to hold salsa, hummus, bean dip, low-fat ranch, yogurt, etc. Kids love to dip so include healthful dippers—baked corn/flour chips, pretzel sticks, raw veggies, cracker bits, apple wedges, grapes, just to name a few. Or try a food safe container like a flat, plastic, mini tackle box with its many divided compartments and



tight fitting lid to hold mini portions of several choices of food items.

**Tip #3:** Variety rules! Use cookie cutters to press out different shapes of whole grain bread and let your kids assemble their own "sandwiches" either

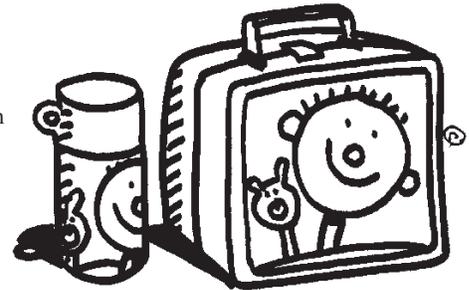
at home or at school. Substitute soft pita "pocket" bread, fresh tortillas to make wrap sandwiches, or try mini bagels, English muffins, or biscuits in place of regular bread.

A cup of dried cereal or several crackers can replace that slice of bread, too.

**Tip #4:** Remember it is wonderful to give kids a choice but as parents, it is our responsibility to limit options to healthy ones. Manageable choices are a few items to select from. Ask if they'd rather have grapes or strawberries, baked chips or pretzels, chicken or peanut butter.

**Tip #5:** Don't forget to involve your child. Remember the special trips to the store to buy that special style lunch box? A child who is old enough to carry a lunch box is old enough to learn to take care of it. Easy tasks are: throw away food wrappers, get individual containers soaking, or wipe out the inside and outside. A bonus is you're teaching them to look after themselves.

Lunch is an important part of the school day. As parents we want to make it nourishing and trust that it will be eaten. Our children look forward to this time away from



learning. So, don't forget to pack some love too. Write a note, send a picture, happy face, sticker, joke or a favorite comic strip from the morning newspaper. For recipes or comments, please call Susan, RD, public health nutritionist at Health Services, at 269-782-4141.

The Pokagon Band Department of Health Services will now accept a copy of a citizen's tribal identification card and a Michigan/Indiana license or a copy of a Michigan/Indiana picture identification card as the necessary proof of identification for department needs.

Mark your calendars:  
Men's Wellness Fair  
Thursday, October 7, 2010  
3:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
Pokagon Band Health Services  
Plan to join us and  
watch for the mailing in October  
Call 888-440-1234 for more details

## Health Services Moving to a Managed Care System

On October 1, the Department of Health Services will begin a 120-day process of coming into compliance with Indian Health Services policy regarding Contract Health Service funding. To ensure proper use of CHS and clinic services, DOHS will transition all eligible Pokagon Band citizens to a managed care approach. This Q&A will help citizens better understand the need for this change, and how it will all happen.

**Q: Why is the Band switching to a managed care approach?**

**A:** Indian Health Services provides Contract Health Services funding to those tribes who are starting and have no structure in place to offer health care to its citizens. However, once a tribe builds a clinic and sets up an organization to provide primary and chronic disease care to citizens, CHS funding should only be used for referrals to outside health care specialists that

the Band's clinic can't provide.

**Q: The current system is working for me. Is this change necessary?**

**A:** Not only is it necessary, if this transition does not happen, the Pokagon Band risks being out of compliance, being the subject of an investigation, losing health care autonomy, and having funding reduced or eliminated. Plus, the DOHS is committed to being the best financial stewards possible.

**Q: What does DOHS managed care mean for me?**

**A:** The Department of Health Services will become your lifelong medical home. The health care providers will know and understand your medical history, and can participate completely in your health care. The medical staff, behavioral health staff and social workers on staff can make sure that your care is holistic, medically sound, necessary and

of the highest quality. The staff will know patients well, and provide a continuity of care. Plus, DOHS will be able to bring more specialty care services into the clinic. Under the current system, there's no way to verify that citizens are receiving quality care.

**Q: How much will this cost?**

**A:** This transition will save the Pokagon Band money. For example, we currently spend hundreds of thousands of dollars a year on prescription medication. Part of the transition will be to establish an on-site pharmacy at the clinic. Once DOHS has its own pharmacy up and running, it can reduce pharmacy costs and maximize government pricing, and staff pharmacy professionals will be able to provide high-quality, one-on-one services to Band members. And that savings ultimately can be put back into providing better services to citizens.

## September Students of the Month

by Rebecca Accoe and Susan Doyle, Education Associates

**Joshua H. Rader** is a tenth grader at Shannon Forest Christian School in Greenville, SC. Joshua's parents are Lawrence "Dino" Rader, Jr. and Lisa Rader. His brother is Lawrence "Freddy" Rader, III. Joshua enjoys all types of food, including sushi. Joshua likes to hang out with his friends and play video games. He plays baseball, basketball, and soccer for his high school. However, he likes pitching the most. Given that he likes playing on his high school sports teams, his goal is to finish high school with good grades and go to college at Clemson University or the University of South Carolina to study accounting. Since Joshua is outside of the tribal area he tries to take advantage of the Summer Enrichment Program. When asked what makes you most proud to be Native American, Joshua answered, "I think I am a very special person to be a Native American. It is not something that many people can say about themselves. My grandfather was from Dowagiac and told me and my father several stories about our tribe. One day I hope to go to

Michigan to find out more about my heritage."



**Collin Church**, above, is an 11<sup>th</sup> grader from Hopkins High School. He is the son of Conrad and Kathy Church. He has a sister named Cassandra. Collin has been involved in tribal activities by attending summer camp in Dowagiac. He also participated in MSU's Native American and Hispanic Business Students' workshop in 2009 and Summer Enrichment. He enjoys lacrosse, soccer, basketball, and he loves ramen noodles. Someday he would like to be a math teacher.

## Tribal Member Labor Pool Created for Housing Contracts

The Department of Housing is creating a tribal citizen labor pool for the construction of the Community Center on Dailey Road in Dowagiac. If you have been on a previous list, please reapply.

The labor pool list will be available to the contractors who will be working on that project. We will amend the list at the beginning of future projects as they develop. Applying for the labor pool does not guarantee that a tribal member will be employed. When contractors look for additional people, they may require an interview and citizens will be chosen according to the needs of the contractor. For safety reasons, unskilled people cannot be placed into skilled positions. Ultimately the contractor is responsible, so we cannot require them to make any placements that they are not comfortable with. Contractors will be required to access the tribal labor pool prior to hiring from the general public.

In order to be placed in the labor pool, interested citizens must complete a general application. This application will be available at the housing office in the new administration building. The application will be asking for skill sets and job experience. Please bring that information with you when you come to fill out an application.

Any questions regarding the labor pool or application process can be directed to April Shepard, Department of Housing, at (269) 783-0443.

He is proud to be a Native American because the culture is so rare and it is cool to be special and unique. He also loves being Native American because of the awesome fry bread and corn soup; he says, "It's the best in the world."

## Four Winds News

Two recent changes to Four Winds personnel policies can affect Pokagon citizens and spouses. Any Pokagon citizen or spouse who is offered a position at Four Winds will be eligible to start with full time status, even if the position is posted as part time. And any Pokagon citizen or spouse who has been separated for cause, but still maintains a rehire status, may apply for rehire after three months as opposed to the standard six months. Both changes are already in effect.

Plus, after due consideration, the Gaming Authority has authorized changing the discount tribal citizens receive at The Buffet from 25 percent to a 40 percent discount. This applies to parties of up to seven diners on one citizen's identification card.

## Pokagon Band Honors High School Graduates at Senior Awards Banquet

By Becky Accoe

Graduate highlights by Becky Accoe, Penny Brant, and Susan Doyle, K-12 staff

The Pokagon Band celebrated its high school graduates at the Senior Awards Banquet July 9 at Southwestern Michigan College. The night began and ended with a hand drum song performed by John T Warren. Alicia Atkinson accompanied him with the songs. Prayer for the food was given by Tom Topash. Graduates, guests, and Pokagon Band staff enjoyed a catered dinner, slideshow presentation listing the senior's accomplishments and future plans and goals, and an awards ceremony. High school graduates that attended the ceremony received a special tote filled with supplies to get them started on their first few college years. Leather portfolios were presented to the GED recipients through the Workforce Investment Act program. Many graduating high school Pokagon members will be pursuing a two to four year degree from a college or university. The high school seniors feel a great sense of accomplishment having graduated from high school, please congratulate the below students on their success.



**Ashleigh Marie Holovack** is the daughter of Victoria & Bennie Davis II and Scott & Rebecca Holovack. She graduated from Baker High School in Baker, FL. She participated in band, drama, JROTC, and the National Beta Club. She graduated with 3.8 GPA and was a recipient of the Bright Futures Scholarship. Her graduation plans are to join the U.S. Navy in pursuit of a career in law enforcement while continuing education in forensic science. Congratulations, Ashleigh!

country states (varsity), track & field state qualifier (varsity), regional champs, student & class council. He plans on attending Ferris State University this fall. He would like to go into pre-med. He will possibly run cross country and track, and try out for the basketball team. Keep up the good work!



**Ashley Farver** is the daughter of Brad and Julie Farver. She graduated from Schoolcraft High School in Schoolcraft, MI. She participated in the National Honor Society all four years, varsity basketball three years (won Districts in 2010), and varsity softball four years. Ashley's graduation plans are to attend Kalamazoo Valley Community College this fall, with a scholarship to play softball. Then she would like to transfer to Central Michigan College for sports medicine degree. Weye I, Ashley!

**Jared Fabian Wesaw** graduated from Volinia School, in Cassopolis, MI. He participated in the Volinia Maple Fest. He has been involved in the Pokagon Band through the Notre Dame Labs and Summer Programs: 2007, 2008, and the 2009 Summer Youth Internship. His graduation plans are to attend Southwestern Michigan College to pursue a degree in Psychology. After that he will transfer to Western



Michigan College for Bachelors Degree. His mother is Jamie Ledesma and Rhonda Keene is his aunt. We are proud of you, Jared!

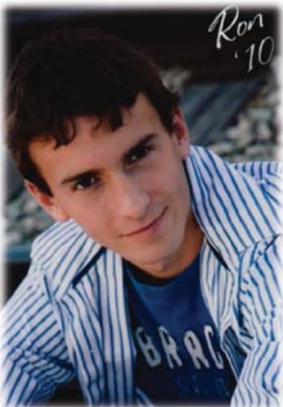
nursing program. Keep up the good work!



**Michael Newcomer** is the son of Melissa and Tony Rodriguez. He graduated from Niles High School in Niles, MI. His plans include continuing with the paramedic program through SMC and then onto a four year college after receiving Associates. He has received his EMT Certification and plans to apply to Medic One of Berrien County. Michael, we are proud of you!



**Skylar Rae Herman** is the daughter of Rechelle Herman (Morseau). She graduated from Niles High School, Niles, MI. She participated in: Women's Choice, Counterpoints, and cheerleading for four years. Skylar was second runner up for Miss Niles and was first runner up for Homecoming Queen. She worked for Pokagon Summer Youth Internship Program two years with the Head Start program. She plans on attending Southwestern Michigan College and will enroll in the



**Ronald Gary Puruleski** is the son of Ronald Puruleski and Roberta Hesselink. He graduated from Cadillac Senior High School, Cadillac, MI. He was involved with many things in high school including: cross



**Aaron Riley Bickel** is the son of Deidre Ecker and Mike Bickel. He graduated from Mishawaka High School, Mishawaka, IN. His plans include college and the Army. Congratulations, Aaron!

*Continued on page 10*

Happy 2nd birthday to  
David Carlyle Shepard III  
Son of Shannon Meyers and David Shepard Jr.  
We love you very much!  
Love,  
Mom, Grandma Falk, your sister Taylor, and  
your brothers Jackson and Kenny



Congratulations  
Devin Wyld Boehm on receiving your  
black belt! And a big happy birthday Sep-  
tember 1st. 11 years old! Happy birth-  
day, too, David Boehm, September 12.  
Love, Grandma Petey/Mom

Congratulations to Michael Newcomer,  
son of Melissa Rodriguez, step son of Tony  
Rodriguez, and grandson on Marie Manley,  
for the receiving your EMT License and  
for your new job position at Medic 1 in  
Benton Harbor! We are so very proud of  
you and all your accomplishments!

Love,  
Mom, Tony, Richard and Grandma

Happy Birthday  
Gary Morseau  
Love,  
Martha, Josh, Sydney, and Chelsy



Happy FIRST Birthday to my wonderful  
daughter, MaKenzie Elizabeth Martin, 9/9  
Love, Mommy, Nana & Papa, Uncle Bud  
and Angel



Congratulations Brianna Cadoret  
on your graduation from Central  
High School! And good luck at  
college in Texas this Fall.  
Love, your family



Happy 3rd Birthday  
Evie Alexandra 9/8  
I can't believe it's gone  
by so fast.  
I Love You,  
Mommy



Happy 1st Birthday Andrew  
Love Mom, Dad, Lilly and Kendyl  
Nana and papa John, Papa,  
Greatgrandma Peters,  
Aunt Sheree and family  
Uncle Brandan and family

Congratulations David and Brianna  
on your new beautiful baby daughter,  
Lillian Reagan Wesaw. Born August 5,  
2010 at 6:39 a.m., weighed 5 lbs., 14.6  
ounces, 19 1/4 inches long.

Happy Birthday!  
Kayley Gillette-9/1  
Aunt Marie Cundet-9/13  
Aunt Sandra Wallin-9/20  
Ashley Cundet-9/22  
Love, Kathy

Happy 40th Birthday!  
Lisa Johnson-9/30  
Love ya, Kathy & Mike

Happy Birthday!  
Mike Goodson-9/6  
I Love You, Kathy

Happy 1st Birthday!  
MaKenzie Martin-9/9  
We Love You, Aunt Kat & Uncle Mike

Happy Birthday MOM!  
We love you!  
Ashley, Lilly and Andrew  
Sheree, Aidan  
and Brandan

Decendents of James Alexander Wesaw  
and Edith V. Johnson met Saturday August 7,  
at the home of Harry and Jodi Wesaw, Lake  
Of The Woods, Decatur. Francis Gordon  
Wesaw, 85, their only surviving son, was  
unable to attend. Family members from age  
1 through 87 enjoyed a delicious potluck,  
games, and water sports. Boat rides were  
very popular. Photos and memories were  
exchanged, and plans made for next year.

In Loving Memory of Our Father  
Oddil A. Shaer  
January 8, 1938 to August 29, 2009

Do not stand at my grave and weep.  
I am not there, I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow.  
I am diamond glints on snow.  
I am the sunlight on the ripened grain.  
I am the gentle autumn rain.  
When you awaken in the morning's hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
of quiet white doves in circled flight.  
I am the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry;  
I am not there, I did not die.  
*Hopi Indian Prayer*

We Miss You and We Will Love You Always,  
Maria, Gianna, and Liana



Happy 5th Birthday Lilly  
Love Mom, Daniel, Andrew and Kendyl  
Nana and Papa John, Papa,  
Greatgrandma Peters,  
Aunt Sheree and family  
Uncle Brandan and family

## Minors Trust Info

To help keep you informed of ongoing market and economic events and our related strategies, our investment management professionals host a series of Investment Market Update calls. Please take time (approximately 30-40 minutes) to listen to these calls, you will find the information shared to be of value. While representatives cannot take questions during the calls, they will work to address topics sent prior to each call. If you have a specific question or topic you would like to have addressed, please contact the U.S. Bank Private Client Reserve and they will pass along the information to the speakers. In addition, if you are unavailable to listen to the live calls, you will be able to access a recorded replay. Details are provided below.

### Next 2010 Call Dates

**Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**

### Call Time

11:00 a.m. (central) / 12:00 p.m. (eastern)

### Phone Number: 888-790-4906

Participant password: U.S. Bank

### Recorded Replay Phone Number: 866-351-2778

### U.S. Bank Speakers:

**Mark Jordahl** – President, Wealth Management Group

**Tim Leach** – Chief Investment Officer, Asset Management Group

### Plus, other key investment and economic experts

Questions? Please call (800) 863-3479, the U.S. Bank Private Client Reserve exclusive number for all Pokagon Citizens.

*continued from page 7*

**Jamie Ann Brown** graduated from Brown's Home School, during which she played basketball and earned the Gazette's Player of the Year, First Team Point Guard, and National's Home School Third Team Point Guard. Other activities included soccer, volleyball, and a rock band. Artistically, she earned the Best of Youth division – Art Market- Eiteljorg Museum – Black Ash Basket. Her parents are Jim and Jennie Brown. Jamie will be attending Grand Valley State University in Allendale, MI to study Graphic Design. Good going, Jamie!



Congratulations to **Shandiin Church**, for graduating from Albuquerque High School. Shandiin's parents are Leonard K. and Lora Church. Shandiin participated in: varsity volleyball, basketball, track, Army Jr. ROTC, and Varsity Unarmed Drill Team. She also received special recognition for being an Albuquerque Public Schools 2009-2010 Selfless Senior. Shandiin plans to attend the University of Michigan to major in sociology. After graduating from U of M her goal is to commission into the U.S. Marine Corps to become a military police officer and then become a civilian cop in the state of New Mexico. We are so proud of you, Shandiin.



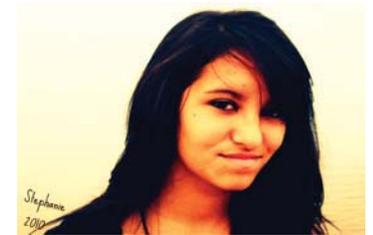
Please join us in congratulating **Scott Gephart**, son of Ruth and

Donald Gephart, for graduating from Michigan Lutheran High School in St. Joseph, MI. Scott participated in: varsity soccer (captain and named MVP for soccer), selected to Basketball and Football Sports Fest for Michigan, varsity basketball (team MVP) and football (special teams MVP). His graduation goals are to be the kicker/punter for a collegiate football team. Weye i, Scott!



Best wishes to **Samantha Smalley**, of Watervliet, MI, for graduating from Watervliet High School. Beth Edelberg is the mother of this graduating high school senior. Samantha participated in cheerleading and volleyball. She was involved in Pokagon Band Programs which included working at Head Start through the Summer Youth Internship Program. After graduation from high school, Samantha plans on enrolling at Lake Michigan College to become an Ultra Sound Technician. Congratulations, Samantha! A special congratulation goes to **Derrek Hiler** for graduation from Dowagiac Union High School. Derrek's mother is Shannon Adams. Best of luck, Derrek. **Dylan Johnson** graduated from Edwardsburg High School, Edwardsburg, MI. His parents are Lisa and Van Johnson. His MME scores made Dylan eligible for the Michigan Promise Scholarship and he received the Michigan Competitive Scholarship Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Academic Achievement, as well as the Silver Level Certificate for NCRC. Dylan has been part of the Pokagon Band's Summer Youth Internship Program for two years, working in the Maintenance Department. Future plans are college and then eventually enter the Marines. Good job, Dylan. **Taylor Ann Koselak**, the daughter of Rob and Leslie McCreary, graduated from Mishawaka High School in Mishawaka, IN. Now that she has graduated from High School, Taylor is planning to enjoy time with her family and friends and attend college. Weye I, Taylor!

**Corey Ridenour** of Kalamazoo, MI, is Kelli Ridenour's son. He has been active in academics and graduated with Honors, has been a member of the: National Art Honor Society, Renaissance Council (both on the Executive Board, and as Treasurer), and Ignite Mentoring for three years. He volunteered over 500 hours through Community Service. Corey participated in sports, as well: football (including a semi-pro team), track and field, and he kept statistics for both men and women's basketball teams as all three levels of play. Weye I, Corey!



Congratulations to **Stephanie Pearl Smedberg** of Pullman, MI, for graduating from Great Lakes Adventist Academy in Cedar Lakes, MI. Stephanie's parents are Steven Smedberg and Minnie Barnes. Stephanie was born in Escanaba, Michigan. She plans to attend SMC this fall. Keep up the good work, Stephanie.



We are pleased to recognize **Michael A. Warren** for graduating from Hudsonville High School, Hudsonville, MI. Michael's parents are Jodi and Ken Warren. He participated in: football, baseball, and band. His graduation plans include enrollment at Grand Rapids Community College for fall 2010. Michael plans on taking classes for botany. Best of luck, Michael.

**As the banquet cakes stated,  
Mno ki-mikche'wi!  
You worked well!**

## New Construction Spurs Apprenticeship Opportunities

By John Hieronymus, Human Resources

Recently, representatives from the Pokagon Band, the U.S. Department of Labor and several Michigan state agencies met to discuss a Pokagon Band apprenticeship program to provide on-the-job and class room training to for tribal citizens. State and federal funding is currently available to help pay for the development of apprenticeship programs that could support tribal construction projects. Based on this initial meeting, staff is developing a proposal for Tribal Council to review that would spell out the structure of this program, the training areas that would be offered, and a project time line of when the various stages would be ready. Read on for more information

**Q:** What is an apprenticeship?

**A:** It is a combination of on-the-job learning and related classroom instruction where workers learn the practical and conceptual aspect of a highly skilled occupation. Apprenticeships can be sponsored by individual employers, joint employer and labor groups and employer associations.

**Q:** In what jobs are apprenticeships available?

**A:** The Pokagon Band would start with the basic carpenter/millwright job because of its

broad nature. Eventually, we would like to increase the types of jobs that will be covered to include other trades such as pipe fitter, HVAC technician, or electrician. The Department of Labor has approved more than 860 different occupations for apprenticeships.

**Q:** How long does an apprenticeship take to complete?

**A:** Most programs require four years and at least 2,576 hours to complete. Two thousand hours are devoted to on the job learning under the supervision of a journey-level craft person or trade professional. Five hundred and seventy-six hours of related classroom instruction are provided at a community college program or apprenticeship school.

**Q:** How does the apprentice get paid?

**A:** Usually, certified programs pay the apprentices a percentage of the area's prevailing craft wage, and pay increases are possible as the apprentice completes classes and demonstrates increased skills on his or her particular craft. As the apprentice completes classes and consistently performs assignments at required skill levels, his or her percentage of the craft's prevailing wage will increase, to the point that when the apprenticeship is completed, she

or he would be earning whatever the qualified current journey person in the labor market would be paid. The apprentices would be the employees of the Tribe's sub-contractors.

**Q:** What are the entry requirements for an apprenticeship?

**A:** The Pokagon Band can set up an apprenticeship committee that would determine the exact entry requirements. Age minimums are typically set at 18 years old, but some programs provide for 16 year olds to enroll in a school-to-registered apprenticeship program option. The classroom training is based on reading and math skills at a tenth grade level; if the candidate is currently in the process of earning a GED, he or she can get started, based on what the committee would eventually agree to. The reading and math capabilities would need to be at a level to complete the required classes, and getting a GED completed within an agreed to time period. All candidates would be interviewed by a panel, and qualities such as dependability, working well with others, safe working habits, ability to lift/carry/climb/hammer/saw/read a tape measure/use hand tools/be alcohol and drug free are probed to select candidates that have the

highest potential of successful program completion.

**Q:** Would there be other options that would include preparing to become a licensed sub-contractor in Michigan or a different craft trade after starting the program?

**A:** We are interested in providing training and experience that will positively impact tribal citizens and their families in building marketable skills and earning a good living. To that end, we have been discussing certificates of completion at one, two, three and four years, which would allow for apprentices to work for a variety of co-sponsors that are working for the tribe. Apprentices could also sit for the state of Michigan's licensing exam and go into a business for themselves or another firm. We want the program to grow and be flexible to match the tribe's needs and the interests' of our apprentices.

**Q:** If I am interested in learning more about apprenticeship opportunities with the tribe, what can I do?

**A:** Interested candidates can send their resume and a cover letter explaining their interest in our program via email: [hrjobs@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:hrjobs@pokagonband-nsn.gov), fax: 269.782.4253, or mail (Attn: HR Apprenticeship, P.O. Box 180, Dowagiac, MI 49047).

## Learn How to Build Wealth by Investing

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn how to invest your personal funds.

Door prizes galore!

While many of us know that it's wise to prepare for retirement, the thought of making decisions about stocks, bonds, and mutual funds can be intimidating. Our upcoming September workshop will demystify the entire process of investing. Fred Lamb, and Kathy Ann Reinhardt, Relationship Managers with Key Bank, will review types of investments, help us understand what to look for and what to look out for when making investment decisions. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer period. So don't miss out--learn how to make your money for you.

**What:** Financial Planning Workshop

**When:** Thursday September 16<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

**Where:** Key Bank building, 202 S. Michigan, South Bend, Indiana

**For Whom:** All Pokagon Band tribal citizens and spouses/partners--*regardless* of level of income or county of residence

**What else:** Light meal and refreshments will be served

**What to do:** Call right away! Seating is limited. Contact April Shepard, Housing Department at (269) 462-4251 or (877) 983-0385

**What not:** Please note that childcare will **not** be provided

Brought to you by Pokagon Band's Community Financial Empowerment Program which offers workshops and individual assistance in 1) personal financial management skills, 2) small business development assistance and 3) wealth building.

## Celebrate Reaffirmation Day September 18

Mark your calendars for the Pokagon Band's Reaffirmation Day celebration Saturday, September 18 at Rodgers Lake in Dowagiac. Come for food, fun, cultural activities and giveaways (we have a huge amount of donated tableware products from American Greetings--mostly napkins--to distribute). Please be ready to present your tribal ID to participate in the raffle drawing, and bring your own lawnchairs. Pokagon tribal art vendors are welcome, please call Melissa Rodriguez at (269) 462-4203 for details. The Tribal Police Department will be hosting a Bike Rodeo and giving away bicycle helmets for both adults and children, which will be fitted specifically to ensure your safety. Bring your bike and try out the safety/obstacle course, too. And if you haven't had a chance to check out the new administration building, two tours during the day will showcase the facility.

### Reaffirmation Day Schedule

**8 a.m.**  
Fun run/walk  
**10:00**  
Opening ceremonies  
**10:30**  
Bike rodeo and helmet giveaway/check  
**10:30 - 11:30**  
Historical presentation with Ben Secunda, Ph.D.  
**11:30**  
Administration building tour  
**noon**  
Lunch  
**1 p.m.**  
raffle drawings  
**1:30**  
Administration building tour

## Native Foster Parents Needed

Our traditions tell us the most sacred beings among our Anishnabe people are our children and our Elders. Our children have just come from being with the Creator in the Spirit World, and our Elders are facing the West on their way to the Spirit World to be with the Creator again.

As a Tribal nation, we recognize our responsibility "to provide for the welfare, care and protection of the children," through our Child Protection Code. "The care and custody of the Pokagon Band children are vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Band, as such the welfare of its children is of paramount importance to the Band" says our Family Welfare Commission Ordinance.

There are no words in the Potawatomi language for the term "foster parents." Native people have had to adapt, and the use of this term is now a necessity. Sometimes within our family framework there is turmoil and our children suffer. Some of our children need care and protection. Do you have in your spirit and your home a place for a child who needs a temporary family? Have you ever thought about being a foster parent?

We realize you will have many questions about foster parenting and we urge you to contact our Social Services Department at (269) 782-8998 and ask for Mark Pompey, Director, or Kathleen McKee, our Indian Child Welfare Worker.

### South Bend Area Office Schedule

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

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

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

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

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

## Changes Made to the Band's Burial Fund Code

The Tribal Council amended the Pokagon Band Burial Fund Code. For a copy of an amended version of the Burial Fund Code, please visit the Band's website at [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov). Provided below is summary of the amendments.

### *Eligibility for the Burial Benefit— Changes to Eligibility Requirements Regarding Children Who Are Not Enrolled*

Children of Pokagon Band members who are eligible for enrollment with the Band, but not yet enrolled, are covered by the Burial Benefit only if they are 5 years of age or younger. The Burial Benefit now covers Stillborn Children.

### *Payment of Burial Benefit – Changes to Payment Structure Regarding Distribution of Excess Funds*

Previously, after the payment of monument, funeral, and funeral luncheon costs, any Burial Benefit funds remaining were distributed. The Burial Benefit of \$10,000 will now be used solely to pay for the cost of a monument, funeral, and luncheon. After the payment of those three expenses, no excess funds will be distributed.

### *Reimbursement for Prepayment of Funeral and/or Monument Expenses – New Provision Permits Reimbursement for Prepaid Expenses Now in Limited Circumstances*

If a Pokagon Band member prepaid the cost of his or her funeral and/or monument expenses via an irrevocable agreement with a funeral home or monument company on or before May 8, 2010, then the Pokagon Band will reimburse the Pokagon Band member the cost of such prepaid expenses, in accordance with the dollar limitations provided for funeral and monument expenses in the Code. Following reimbursement by the Band of the prepayment expenses, the member will not be covered by the Burial Benefit upon his or her death, to the extent the Band previously reimbursed the member for such expenses.

This is only a summary. Please review the Burial Fund Code for more specific details. If you have additional questions concerning these amendments or the Burial Fund in general, please contact the Band's Department of Social Services at (269) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777.

## Campers Enjoy More Culture, Crafts and Canoeing

By Rebecca Accoe

With great input from last year's summer camp kids and counselors, this year's summer camp had more culture, crafts, and canoeing. The Pokagon Band's

Summer Camp was split into three sessions with more than ninety campers.

Session I, second through fourth graders, participated in a Summer Ceremony at the Long House, language classes, a nature walk, fishing, canoeing, and camp

fires. Session II, high schoolers, enjoyed several Sunrise Ceremonies at the Ishkode'. This particular group of campers made wind turbines, solar panels, leather bags, lacrosse sticks, and corn soup. The campers also attended fire teachings for the men and water ceremonies for the women. Session III, fifth through eighth graders, attended a drum social and a sunrise ceremony at the Ishkode', learned pow wow etiquette, and how to peyote stitch

feathers. They also made solar powered cars.

All groups dealt with the weather's torrential down pours, strong winds, and power outages. Campers and staff handled themselves very well and made the best of risky weather. Most kids will be back next year, and we can't wait.



John Pigeon helps campers plant sweetgrass and cedar trees by the ponds in the camp grounds near Rogers Lake.

Deadline to receive changes/updates/additions in Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date for direct deposits
Monday, August 16, 2010	Mon, Aug 30, 2010	Tues, Aug 31, 2010
Wednesday, September 15, 2010	Wed, Sept 29, 2010	Thurs, Sept 30, 2010
Friday, October 15, 2010	Thurs, Oct 28, 2010	Fri, Oct 29, 2010
Monday, November 15, 2010	Tues, Nov 23, 2010	Wed, Nov 24, 2010

### Guidelines for Pokégnek Yajdanawa Submissions

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

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.

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.

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.

### Per Capita News

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

- 1499 Peter Cusi Gibbons-Ballew
- 3282 Daniel Sanderson
- 0083 John Dylan Watson
- 0406 Michael Lynn Hewitt
- 0433 Elizabeth Alexandra Gray
- 0434 Thomas Charles Abercrombie
- 0857 Peter John Ramirez
- 1283 Jodi Lynn Burfield
- 1445 Michael David Bush
- 1446 Bobby Marcus Haynes
- 1506 Michaela Lynne Canard
- 2795 Edward F Cushway
- 2805 Isabel Marie Campos

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

- BRANDIE SHENEE ANTISDEL
- RUBY TUESDAY BALEY
- MICHAEL ALLEN BARR
- NICHOLAS RAY BENNETT
- FELICIA CHRISTINE BIXLER
- IAN THOMAS CURREY
- PAUL ISAAC GIBSON
- ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA GRAY

## From the Tribal Chairman

I had the privilege of joining tribal leaders, federal officials, tribal and human rights advocates, and tribal law enforcement officers last month for a ceremony at the White House to witness President Barack Obama sign into law the Tribal Law and Order Act. The President signed into law this historic legislation that will enhance tribal law enforcement and the coordination of enforcement with United States government. This act reaffirms President Obama's and the United States government's federal trust responsibility to work with tribal nations to strengthen our governments, our people and our communities. The intent is that we will use the tools in the Tribal Law and Order Act to crack down on crime and make our communities safer.

Currently, Indian

reservations nationwide face violent crime rates more than 2.5 times the national rate. Some reservations face more than 20 times the national rate of violence. More than 1 in 3 American Indian and Alaska Native women will be raped in their lifetimes, and 2 in 5 will face domestic or partner violence. The Department of Justice has also found that at least 86 per cent of rape and sexual assault perpetrators are non-Indian.

The Tribal Law and Order Act takes a comprehensive approach to address these shortfalls by establishing accountability measures for federal agencies responsible for investigating and prosecuting reservation crime, and by providing tribes with additional tools to combat crime locally. The Act provides law enforcement officials and tribes increased

evidence sharing and federal declination data recording, access to national criminal history records, improved tribal court sentencing authority, and enables deputization of either federal or tribal agents as the situation requires.

At the ceremony, Mr. Obama said that all people, whether they live in our biggest cities or our most remote reservations, have the right to feel safe in their own communities, and to raise their children in peace, and enjoy the fullest protection of the law. He reminded us that he campaigned on this issue, and that during a tribal conference last year, he pledged his administration's fullest support for this bill. We are glad he made good on his word.

On August 13 council member Steve Winchester and I were able to meet with Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels. While this meeting was informal, it was historic in the sense that leaders of these two sovereign governments had not previously met. The meeting took place at the Fair Oaks Dairy just off I-65 north of Rensselaer at a stop on the governor's annual charity motorcycle ride with more than 400 other bikers through Indiana. Steve and I were able to speak privately with the governor and present him with the book *Queen of the Woods*. The governor took a quick look at the book and noticed there was native language used, and he made the comment that he would have to learn Algonquin to completely read the book. This struck a positive note with Steve that Governor Daniels understood the root of our language. He also mentioned that he understood we are the only federally recognized tribe in the state. Governor Daniels was very receptive and after we mentioned some of the services we provide our citizens who live in Indiana, and that we were looking forward to developing a working relationship with his administration, he responded, "We're friends now, bring me some projects." We now



have an open invitation to contact the governor when the need arises.

I think we will soon have our first appointments by the governor and I'm now very comfortable that we have developed our relationship in Indiana to the point that our calls will be answered. I wish to thank our lobbying team, John Clark, and Noel LaPorte and Howard Edelson, for their work to make this happen, and tribal council for their support. Unfortunately the photos that were taken weren't of a quality that could be reproduced for inclusion in the newsletter.

In closing, I hope you all will join us to remember another White House ceremony that took place, this one on September 21, 1994. Our Reaffirmation Day celebration will be Saturday, September 18. Although we've always been a sovereign community, we recognize this each year at this time to commemorate when the U.S. government reaffirmed this fact for itself. Back in 1994 President Clinton made all the years of effort by hundreds of our people who fought for our acknowledgment worthwhile as he signed into law our federal recognition act. Please join us, it's sure to be a great event.

As always, my phone is on and my door is open. If you are in the area, please stop in and say hi.

Matt



### Tribal Council September Calendar of Events

- 6 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
  - 7 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
  - 11 Tribal Council Citizen Meeting, 10 a.m. Lodge
  - 13 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
  - 14 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
  - 20 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
  - 21 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
  - 27 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
  - 28 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
  - 30 Tribal Council Special Session, 6 p.m., Lodge (tentative)
- Please check the website, [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov) or call 1-888-782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

## Family Welfare Commission Looking to Fill Open Positions

The Pokagon Band is seeking applications from Pokagon Band members interested in serving on the Pokagon Band Family Welfare Commission. There are currently three open seats on the five member Commission. In order to protect the best interests of our children, the Pokagon Band Tribal Council formed the Family Welfare Commission by adoption of the Family Welfare Commission Ordinance on November 6, 2001. The Commission was designed not only to protect the best interests of Pokagon Band children, but also to: Promote the stability and security of Pokagon Band families; Recommend to the judicial and administrative agencies involved, a course of action for the guidance and care of Pokagon Band children which most preserves the unity of the family; Recommend actions that will best serve the cultural, spiritual, emotional, mental and physical welfare of the child; Recommend a continuum of services for Pokagon Band children and their families with emphasis whenever possible on prevention, early intervention, and community based alternatives; Recognize and acknowledge the cultural traditions of the Pokagon Band for child-rearing and family preservation. The Commission meets approximately once each month at Elders Hall, depending on the needs of the Commission, and meets at additional times as may be needed to address other specific matters. Family Welfare Commission members typically spend several additional hours per month preparing for Commission meetings or engaged in other Commission activities. The Family Welfare Commission Ordinance is available at the following internet address: <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm>.

Family Welfare  
Commissioners are compensated

as independent contractors in the amount of \$75 for attending each Family Welfare Commission meeting. In addition, Commission members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Family Welfare Commission business.

### Qualifications of Commissioners

A. A Commissioner may not also be a member of Tribal Council.

B. An individual considered for appointment must be an enrolled Tribal member, at least 18 years of age, with knowledge and experience demonstrated through educational, occupational or volunteer activities in the following areas:

1. childhood education;
2. childhood development;
3. Pokagon Band or other tribal customs and traditions pertaining to child rearing;
4. governmental and private programs to assist children and families in need; and
5. individual and family dysfunction, the types, causes, and treatment.

C. Neither an employee nor the spouse of an employee of the Band or of the federal government, or a state or local government, who is involved with or possibly involved with the delivery of services relating to child welfare matters within the scope of the Commission duties and authority may be appointed or serve as a Commissioner.

D. Immediate family members,

as defined in the Pokagon Band Child Protection Code, of any family may not serve simultaneously on the Commission.

### Requirements for Appointment to the Commission

A. Commissioners must sign and abide by a statement acknowledging the standards of confidentiality required for serving as a Commissioner.

B. Commissioners must submit to and pass a background check conducted by the Tribal Police Department subject to such written guidelines or procedures as may be established by the Tribal Police Department. The background check serves the purpose of assisting the Tribal Council in determining whether a prospective Commissioner could pose any risk to the safety or welfare of a child or may otherwise be unsuitable for appointment to the Commission. The background check shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the Commissioner's criminal history, including any arrest record and history of investigation by State Systems for suspected child abuse or neglect. A background check shall be conducted prior to the appointment or re-appointment of every Commissioner.

C. Every Commissioner shall be of good character and reputation, shall not associate with dishonest or disreputable persons, and shall exhibit high moral standards at all times.

### Appointment Process

Appointments to the Family Welfare Commission are made by the Tribal Council. Each Commissioner shall serve a term of three (3) years.

### How to Apply

Contact the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777 to obtain an application. Please submit a completed application to: Mark Pompey, Director Pokagon Band Department of Social Services 58620 Sink Road Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Questions concerning the Family Welfare Commission may be directed to the Director of Social Services, Mark Pompey, at 800-517-0777 or [mark.pompey@PokagonBand-NSN.gov](mailto:mark.pompey@PokagonBand-NSN.gov).

*Note: Posting to be removed by November 2010.*

### Ethics Requirements

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

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik ❖ Pokagon Band of Potawatomi  
Tribal Council Directory

**Chairman**

Matthew Wesaw  
517-719-5579 or 574-591-9806  
[Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

**Vice-chairman**

Butch Starrett  
269-591-2901  
[Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

**Secretary**

Faye Wesaw  
269-782-1864  
[Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

**Treasurer**

Troland Clay  
269-591-5205  
[Troland.Clay@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Troland.Clay@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

**Members at Large**

Steve Winchester  
269-591-0119  
[Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

Michaelina Magnuson  
269-591-5616  
[Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

Alice Overly  
269-240-8041  
[Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

John Warren  
269-214-2610  
[John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

Marie Manley  
269-214-2609  
[Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

Tom Topash  
269-470-3745  
[Tom.Topash@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Tom.Topash@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

Lynn Davidson, Elders Representative  
269-240-8092  
[Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary  
269-591-0604  
[Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov)  
Council Lodge Phone: 1-888-376-9988

**Tribal Council**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-6323 /  
Toll Free (888) 376-9988  
FAX (269) 782-9625

**Elders Program**  
53237 Townhall Rd.  
(269) 782-0765 /  
Toll Free (800) 859-2717  
FAX (269) 782-1696

**Administration  
Information Technology**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998 /  
Toll Free (800) 517-0777  
FAX (269) 782-6882

**Social Services**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998 /  
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

**Natural Resources**  
32142 Edwards St.  
(269) 782-9602 Phone  
(269) 783-0452 Fax

**Education and Training**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-0887/  
FAX (269) 782-0985

**Finance**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998 /  
Toll Free (800) 517-0777  
FAX (269) 782-1028

**Enrollment**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-1763 /  
FAX (269) 782-1964

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

**Head Start**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(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**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 783-0443 /  
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**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-9475 /  
Toll Free (888) 782-9475

**Human Resources/Compliance**  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 782-8998

**Tribal Citizens' Spouses May Apply for Temporary Staffing Pool**

The Pokagon Band temporary pool will accept applications from tribal citizens and their spouses. Native American preference still applies, so the spouses will be considered if a Pokagon Band citizen is unavailable for the position. Pay for temporary positions is \$8.50 per hour.

Tribal citizens 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, a motor vehicle report, work history, references, tribal membership (or spouse of enrolled tribal citizen) and 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 to occasionally supplement income and gain experience while aiding the government in continuing smooth delivery of services. Call for an appointment today.

**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: milk, tea, coffee, water, and Crystal Light Beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, pickles, and onions served with sandwiches. Bread/ Rolls and butter are also included.		1 Beef Roast Potatoes Carrots Spinach Salad Fruit/ Roll Dutch Apple Pie	2 <u>Business</u> Grilled Pork Chop Baked Potato Green Bean Garden Salad Applesauce/ Roll/ Cake	3 Salmon Patties Wild Rice Butternut Squash Coleslaw Roll
6 <b>Closed Labor Day</b>	7 Chili Dogs W/ Bun Relish Tray Squash Salad Peaches	8 Buffalo Tacos W/ Beans, lettuce, onion, tomato, and cheese Flour tortilla or hard shell Strawberries and Raspberries	9 Sausage and Sauerkraut Mashed Potatoes Carrots Lime Jell-O W/ Pears Cornbread	10 Beef or Veggie Burger Relish Tray Baked Chips Veggie Kabobs Oatmeal Raisin Cookie
13 <u>Language</u> Roasted Garlic Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Veggie Tray Yogurt W/ Fruit	14 Ham Sweet Potato Succotash Garden Salad Lemon Meringue Pie/ Roll	15 Chicken, Broccoli, Rice, and Cheese Casserole Cucumber Salad Melon Tray Cornbread	16 <u>Social</u> Ground Beef Spaghetti Garden Salad Green Beans Garlic Bread Cottage Cheese & Peaches Ice Cream	17 Fish Square on a Bun Baked Beans Coleslaw Fruit Salad
20 <u>Language</u> Buffalo Stuffed Cabbage Mashed Potatoes Peas and Onions Cucumber Salad Peanut Butter Cookie/ Roll	21 <b>Closed Reaffirmation Day</b>	22 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Wax Beans Garden Salad Blueberry Pie/ Roll	23 Turkey Mashed Potatoes Brussels Sprouts Tomato Salad Strawberry Angel Food Cake	24 Tortilla Crusted Tilapia Rice Corn on the Cob Garden Salad Brownie
27 <u>Language</u> Pork Roast Red Potatoes Mixed Veggies Garden Salad/ Beets Applesauce/ Roll	28 BBQ Chicken Italian Pasta Salad Collard Greens Fruit Salad Roll	29 Ham and Bean Soup Tomato Salad Yogurt W/ Fruit Cornbread	30	

**Tobacco Sales**

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

**WALK IN THE SHOES  
OF OUR ANCESTORS**



**LEARN TO SPEAK  
BODEWADMI**

Jim Thunder, Lou Aitkens, Mary Jane Thunder, Kim Wensaut, and Thomas Lofton are instructing in the Potawatomi Language at Love Creek Games, Instruction and activities in September 10-12 at Love Creek Nature Center in Dowagiac. Contact Education Department for details, 782-0887.

Wwi kkendananawa ewi kkenomagewat Bodewadmi seshmowen ode Nishwahdek usseth ngot wah pon ebmesengek.

*They will learn to teach Bodewadmi language now as the 21st hundred year marches through.*

*- Jim Thunder, Sr., Forest County Potawatomi Nation*

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