



THE POKAGON FUND

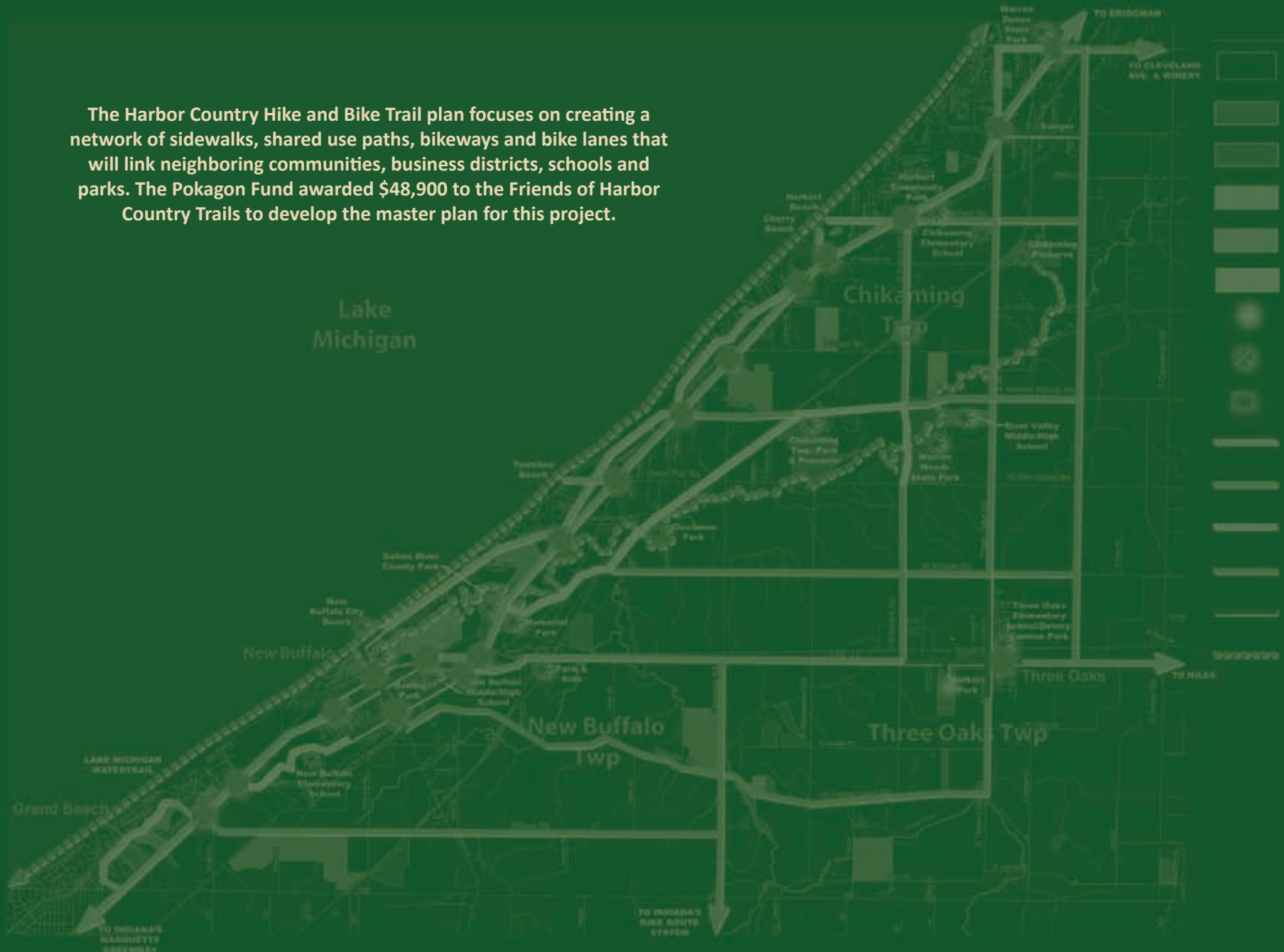
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...building communities

The Harbor Country Hike and Bike Trail plan focuses on creating a network of sidewalks, shared use paths, bikeways and bike lanes that will link neighboring communities, business districts, schools and parks. The Pokagon Fund awarded \$48,900 to the Friends of Harbor Country Trails to develop the master plan for this project.



Letter from the Chairperson

It has been an honor to be appointed by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians to represent the Band on the Board of Directors of The Pokagon Fund.

In 2000 the Pokagon Band entered into an agreement with the City and the Township of New Buffalo to create The Pokagon Fund. It took an additional seven years to lay the groundwork and build the casino, which opened in August of 2007. You'll find more on the history of the Band and the Four Winds Casino Resort on pages 6 & 7.

Since 2007 The Pokagon Fund has supported initiatives in the Harbor Country region as well as the trust land consolidation sites of Dowagiac and Hartford. In fact, since we began funding projects in the fall of 2007, The Pokagon Fund has awarded 147 grants, representing a total of \$4,944,292 in project funding.

On behalf of The Pokagon Fund Board of Directors, I would like to thank our grantees for the outstanding work they do each day, and we look forward to being of continued service to The Pokagon Fund communities.

Sincerely,



Marchell J. Wesaw

Letter from the Executive Director

It has been a busy year for The Pokagon Fund. You'll find that many of the projects we've highlighted in this report involve blueprints, master plans, or maps for projects like bike trails, park plans, and planting fields. Our grantees have successfully taken ideas from conception to materialization, enhancing the community along the way. It is our privilege to support these projects that positively impact the New Buffalo area. I hope you enjoy the stories that fill the pages of this report.

In addition to providing over \$2,400,000 in funding to our grantees, we initiated some exciting new projects. In 2009, we began offering capacity building seminars to our grantees on the topics of fundraising, board development, and marketing and public relations. We believe that helping non-profit organizations grow stronger and learn best practices allows them to be better stewards of the grant awards they are gifted. The seminars have been well attended and we are thankful our grantees find them useful, and as an added benefit, enjoy the networking opportunities.

Also this year, The Pokagon Fund convened representatives of all the municipalities in Harbor Country – from Michiana to New Buffalo to Sawyer and all places between – for a meeting to discuss community needs and solutions. You can be sure we will keep you apprised of future developments!

Best regards,



Mary Dunbar

Financial Statements



Income and Expenses

	2009	2008
INCOME		
Revenue sharing	\$ 6,278,847	\$ 4,958,266
Interest income	\$ 124,316	\$ 48,690
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 6,403,163	\$ 5,006,956
EXPENSES		
Grants awarded	\$ 2,441,609	\$ 1,708,494
Administrative expenses*	\$ 179,948	\$ 162,099
Land	\$ 36,500	0
Building and improvements	\$ 607,459	0
Less depreciation	(\$ 7,881)	0
Income in excess of grants and expenses	\$ 3,145,528	\$ 3,136,363
<p><i>*Administrative expenses represent 2.8% of total income in FY 2009, and 3.2% in FY 2008. Fiscal Year runs July 1 through June 30.</i></p>		

Breakdown of Administrative Expenses

	2009	2008
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
Payroll and board stipends	\$ 104,154	\$ 78,538
Advertising & PR	\$ 15,943	\$ 25,000
Taxes	\$ 10,359	\$ 4,876
Benefits	\$ 9,889	\$ 6,051
Office supplies	\$ 7,933	\$ 3,340
Depreciation	\$ 7,162	\$ 719
Technology costs	\$ 4,175	\$ 5,888
Meals/entertainment	\$ 4,123	\$ 1,912
Utilities	\$ 3,564	\$ 2,497
Meetings/travel	\$ 3,450	\$ 2,230
Insurance	\$ 2,930	\$ 1,987
Accounting	\$ 1,745	\$ 2,047
Dues/subscriptions	\$ 1,636	\$ 1,549
Legal	\$ 1,200	\$ 23,100
Education/seminars	\$ 865	\$ 1,375
Repairs/maintenance	\$ 445	0
Licenses	\$ 375	0
Temporary labor	0	\$ 960
Other	0	\$ 30
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 179,948	\$ 162,099

The Pokagon Fund Leadership

Directors

Marchell Wesaw

Chairperson, Pokagon Band Representative

Marchell J. Wesaw serves as a Councilperson for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and a Director of the Pokagon Band Gaming Authority. In addition to chairing The Pokagon Fund Board of Directors, she sits on the Pokagon Band's Judicial Selection Committee, the Band's Finance Board, and the Tribal Development Program Committee at the Four Winds Casino Resort. Marchell has focused much of her tribal work on infrastructure development, dedicating her attention to tribal sovereignty, election standards, educational programs, and human services. Born and raised in South Bend, Indiana, Marchell attained her Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University and her Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law. She currently directs the Advocacy Center Program for the United Religious Community of St. Joseph County, Indiana.

Rose Dudiak

Vice Chairperson, New Buffalo Township Representative

Rose is a lifelong resident of New Buffalo. She has been married to her husband Cliff for 36 years and they have two grown children, Brianna and Mitchell. Rose has been involved in local politics for over a decade, including the New Buffalo School Board and the New Buffalo City Council, where for two years she served as Mayor. She has recently been elected to the position of New Buffalo Township Supervisor. Rose has served on the Cemetery Board, the Ambulance Board, the Galien River Sanitary District Board, and was also an original board member of The Pokagon Fund.

Bob Westergren

Treasurer, City of New Buffalo Representative

Bob was born in Nebraska and grew up in Chesterton, Indiana. He graduated from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado in 1959 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. Bob served in the US Army as a Combat Engineer; he then worked in the steel industry for 33 years with National Steel, where he was the Vice President of Marketing and Sales for 12 years. Lastly he served as Plant Manager for the Midwest Steel Plant in Portage, Indiana. Bob and his wife, Juli, have lived in New Buffalo for over 10 years. They have two children, Matthew and Sydney, and three grandsons. Previously Bob served as Mayor, Councilman, Planning Commissioner, and Tax Review board member for the City of New Buffalo.

Vickie Wagner

Secretary, At-large Director

Vickie is a resident of Three Oaks, Michigan, and is the Director of Development at the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame. Before joining the Institute, she was associate faculty at Indiana University and Ivy Tech State College and the Tech Prep Specialist at Purdue University. Vickie received her degrees from Capital University and Michigan State University. She is a member of the River Valley Board of Education, Berrien County Land Preservation Board, Berrien County Planning Commission and The Region of Three Oaks Museum Board. Vickie is one of the original board members of The Pokagon Fund.

Viki Gudas
At-large Director

Viki grew up in Chicago, receiving a bachelor's degree in English from Loyola University and a master's in Public Administration from DePaul University. The majority of her career has been spent in marketing management for non-profit organizations including the American College of Healthcare Executives and the College of American Pathologists in Chicago, and Michigan Works in Benton Harbor. She has also worked in private industry, most recently as Marketing Director for McDaniel Fire Systems in Valparaiso, Indiana. Viki and her husband, Ray, lived part-time in Harbor Country since 1986 and relocated to Union Pier permanently in 1995. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the Harbor Country Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Alice Overly
Pokagon Band Representative

Alice is a Tribal Citizen of The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. She has been involved in supporting her fellow Tribal Citizens for many years, serving on several committees prior to the Band's Federal Recognition in 1994. Alice has also served on Tribal Council and has been the Band's representative to the Governor's Native American Council for four years. Currently, Alice is serving again on the Tribal Council, as well as the Gaming Authority for the Four Winds Casino Resort. She is one of the two Band representative on The Pokagon Fund Board, and is an alternate on the Business Board at the Four Winds. Alice has been married to her husband, David, for forty years. They are the owners of David Overly Plumbing and Heating, Inc. in Peru, Indiana. They have two wonderful daughters, four grandsons, and two terrific great-grandchildren.

Staff

Mary Dunbar
Executive Director, The Pokagon Fund

Mary was hired as The Pokagon Fund's first Executive Director in July 2007. Prior to accepting her current position, she was director of community affairs for WSBT-TV in South Bend, Indiana, worked in the non-profit sector as a consultant, and created numerous nonprofits, including Make a Difference Michiana and the Diaper Bank of Michiana. She recently moved from South Bend and now calls New Buffalo her home. She has two grown children, Michael and Lauren.

Kelly Matti
Grant Administrator, The Pokagon Fund

Kelly works closely with The Pokagon Fund grantees and manages the grantee database. Prior to joining The Pokagon Fund, she served non-profit organizations for nearly 15 years as a special event manager, director of development and most recently as president of Junior Achievement of Michiana. Kelly is a graduate of Grand Valley State University, where she met her husband Michael. They currently reside in Stevensville with their three children, Joshua, Allison and Lauren.

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians' Quest For the Four Winds Casino Resort



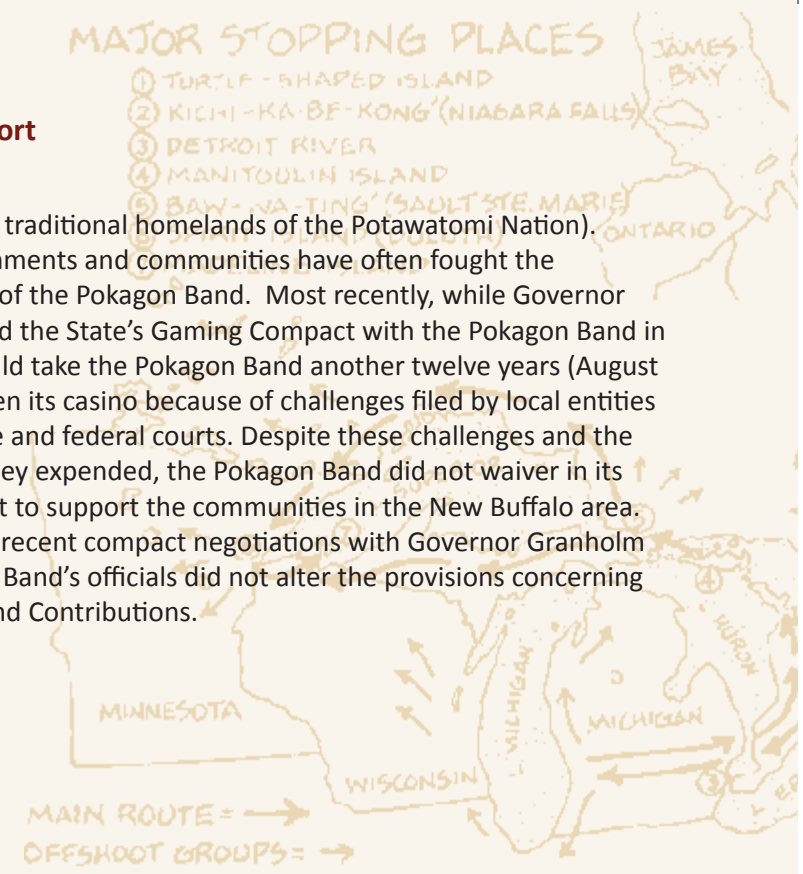
The Pokagon Fund is supported solely by contributions made from a percentage of the profits of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi's Four Winds Casino Resort. These contributions are a current-day extension of the philosophy Leopold Pokagon espoused in his leadership:

To collaborate with governments and educational systems to improve the lives of the Potawatomi and of those in the local communities.

Over the centuries the Potawatomi have lived in Southwestern Michigan and Northern



Indiana (the traditional homelands of the Potawatomi Nation). Local governments and communities have often fought the sovereignty of the Pokagon Band. Most recently, while Governor Engler signed the State's Gaming Compact with the Pokagon Band in 1995, it would take the Pokagon Band another twelve years (August 2007) to open its casino because of challenges filed by local entities in both state and federal courts. Despite these challenges and the resources they expended, the Pokagon Band did not waiver in its commitment to support the communities in the New Buffalo area. Even during recent compact negotiations with Governor Granholm in 2008, the Band's officials did not alter the provisions concerning Pokagon Fund Contributions.



September 21, 1994:

President Clinton signs legislation formally granting recognition to three Michigan Indian tribes, including the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians based in Dowagiac.

November 1994:

In a unanimous vote, more than 200 members of the Pokagon Band reportedly authorize their Tribal Council to pursue a casino as a source of revenue for tribal programs.

September 1995:

Michigan Governor John Engler signs gaming compacts with the Pokagon Band and three other Michigan Indian tribes.

May 1996:

Pokagon Tribal Council announces its selection of New Buffalo Township as the site of the tribe's proposed casino.

December 1998:

In a late session that stretches into the next day, the Michigan Legislature adopts a resolution approving gaming compacts with the Pokagon Band and three other state tribes.

March 2000:

A local agreement is signed between the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, the City of New Buffalo, and the Township of New Buffalo creating The Pokagon Fund.

GWEE-GEE-GING'
(CANADA)

The Pokagon Fund is at times confused with the Local Revenue Sharing Board (LRSB). Local Revenue Sharing Board payments are intended "to provide financial resources to those political subdivisions of the State that actually experience increased operating costs associated with the operation of the Four Winds Casino Resort." The Pokagon Fund was created as a mechanism under which the Pokagon Band would provide support for local governments, charities, non-profit and non-governmental organizations in the New Buffalo area. Pokagon Fund distributions do not focus on increased operating costs incurred because of the development of Four Winds in the area; rather, they are designated for "local government programs and other programs benefitting seniors, children and



schools; student scholarships; compulsive treatment programs . . . land preservation and acquisition; and local economic development projects." Unlike LRSB payments which arguably make local political subdivisions whole for the costs incurred because of the casino, The Pokagon Fund distributions add to or enhance

local communities with resources otherwise unavailable to them. From Little League equipment to major wildlife area improvements, The Pokagon Fund distributions are doing just what Pokagon Band leadership intended over the years: creating community collaborations of which we all can be proud.



January 2003:

A federal judge throws out most of a lawsuit blocking the casino but lets stand an argument by New Buffalo based Taxpayers of Michigan Against Casinos (TOMAC) regarding the casino's socioeconomic impact.

July 2004:

The Michigan Supreme Court rules 5 – 2 the state Legislature did not violate the state Constitution when it approved gaming compacts with the Pokagon Band and three other state Indian tribes.

January 2006:

A federal appeals court rules an amended environmental impact statement is sufficient, clearing the way for the land to be placed in trust for the casino.

June 3, 2006:

Ground is broken for the Pokagon's Four Winds Casino Resort.

June 1, 2007:

The Michigan Supreme Court rules against TOMAC's final attempt to invalidate the Pokagon Band's gaming compact.

August 2, 2007:

Opening day for Four Winds Casino Resort.

Timeline provided by the South Bend Tribune



Our New Home in New Buffalo

In September 2008, The Pokagon Fund Board of Directors purchased property at 821 East Buffalo Street in New Buffalo with the intention of renovating the building to become the future home of The Pokagon Fund. “We wanted to put down roots as we plan to be here for many years, funding worthwhile projects that positively affect the people in this region. We look forward to being an integral part of the community,” shared Executive Director, Mary Dunbar.

The Pokagon Fund felt it was important to support the work of local businesses in the community. The design for the remodeling project was provided by local architect Neringa Peseckas of Neringa Design. Jonas Stirbys of New Buffalo Construction was the general contractor, and Sawyer Garden Center provided landscaping.

The building contains offices for Mary Dunbar, Executive Director, and Kelly Matti, Grant Administrator, a conference room for board meetings, and room for future growth.



The Pokagon Fund has reserved space in the lobby of the building to display the handiwork of Pokagon Band artisans. The Fund is working with Tribal artisans to provide various art forms such as baskets, drums, regalia, paintings and more. The Pokagon Artisan Project will be implemented in the summer of 2010, and will be a great tribute to the Pokagon Band for all they have done for the community by creating The Pokagon Fund.

During its first two years of existence, The Pokagon Fund was housed at the Frankle Law Firm, 121 West Merchant Street in New Buffalo. Larry Frankle, one of the original board members of The Pokagon Fund, passed away in April 2008. The Pokagon Fund would like to thank Larry and his family for their generosity in allowing us to use space at his law firm for the past two years. The Pokagon Fund has honored Larry's memory by hanging his photograph in the new conference room.



\$100,000 to Chikaming Open Lands for the Galien River Marsh Restoration



Chikaming Open Lands is a non-profit conservation organization whose goal is to preserve the natural beauty of the land. In 2002, the Sima Family of New Buffalo donated 156 acres to Chikaming Open Lands to create

the Louis J. Sima Great Lakes Marsh, located on the Galien River in New Buffalo. The Galien River is a beautiful natural waterway that feeds into Lake Michigan. The marsh that surrounds the river is environmentally significant as one of the few Great Lakes marshes remaining in southwest Michigan.



The marsh is home to some beautiful natural vegetation including sedges, rushes, grasses, lilies and the more endangered cup plant and swamp rose mallow. However, these native plants are being threatened by invasive plants such as purple loosestrife and phragmites.

WETLAND BOARDWALK

The photographs on these pages depict various efforts to eradicate these non-native plants: releasing *Galerucella* beetles which feast only on purple loosestrife (left) and spraying the phragmites (right) which resulted in an 80-85% reduction of that weed in the marsh.



\$50,096 to Chikaming Township for The Planting Fields



In a collaboration between Chikaming Township and the River Valley Garden Club, a community garden was created. Chikaming Township donated land at the Chikaming Preserve and the garden club provided oversight of the project.

The land was marked off and tilled, and the soil amended. Irrigation was installed as was fencing to keep the deer out.

The plots were made available to anyone in the area who was interested in having a garden, and participants were all encouraged to “plant a row for the hungry.”

Sawyer Garden Center donated over 300 tomato plants and 100 pepper plants; they also donated cabbage, cucumbers, watermelon and cantaloupe. The harvest supported the Food Pantry in Three Oaks, local women’s shelters, and soup kitchens. Local high school students were invited to help with



the harvest and delivery of the vegetables to the soup kitchens and food pantries.

Gardeners took care of others' plots, watering and weeding for their neighbors when they were unable. A Chicago couple, Bob and Carol Blitstein, who have a second home in Union Pier (pictured) planted kohlrabi, peppers, herbs, flowers, chamomile and more. They mentioned that they share their vegetables with an elderly neighbor.

The Blitsteins also told a story of how the “gardening community” came together to help a fellow farmer who became ill and couldn’t tend to his crops. Everyone rallied and helped water and weed his garden. The farmer was amazed and moved to tears when he returned to see how all his plants had thrived due to the care and nurturing of the gardening community.



\$16,550 to Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra for Water's Edge Summer Fest



July 2009 marked the second annual Independence Day concert in New Buffalo. The Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra performed an outdoor concert at Lion's Park in New Buffalo, followed by fireworks over Lake Michigan. The concert, sponsored by The Pokagon Fund, provided free admission to all.



\$8,965 to St. Mary of the Lake and New Buffalo Area Schools for Girls on the Run®

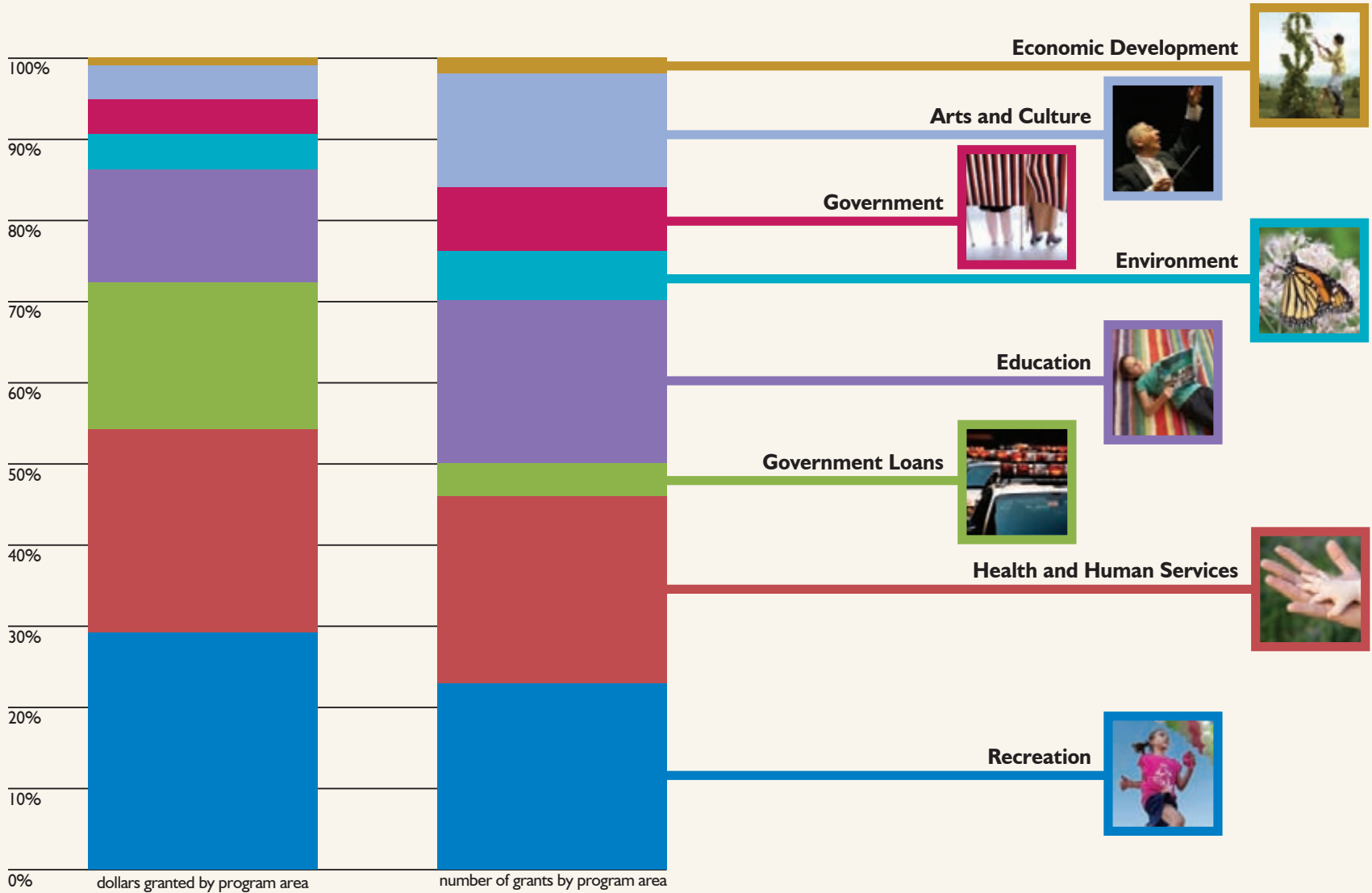
The Pokagon Fund awards its 100th grant!

Girls on the Run® is a national program that combines training for a 5K running event with self-esteem enhancing, uplifting workouts. The goal of the program is to encourage positive emotional, social, mental, spiritual and physical development.

Sixty-two girls, grades 3-5 from St. Mary of the Lake and New Buffalo Elementary participated in the program. Each received new running shoes, trained for and completed the 5K race along with 225 girls throughout Berrien County.



Grants Awarded in Fiscal Year 2009



Arts and Culture

Children's Music Workshop for CMW Scholarships

\$5,000 provided scholarships for CMW's programs, including one fall and spring production and seven weeks of summer workshops for children.

Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce for the Dowagiac Ice Time Festival

\$3,000 for sponsorship of the Ice Time Festival in February 2009.

Dowagiac Dogwood Fine Arts Festival, Inc. for the Storyteller & Toast 'N' Jam

\$1,000 sponsored two of the festival's popular children's events - The Storyteller & Toast 'N' Jam.

Harbor Arts, Inc. for Opera at the Acorn

\$15,000 for opera performances at The Acorn Theater held in May, June, July and August as well as one performance at the New Buffalo Performing Arts Center in October.

Harbor Arts, Inc. for WRHC Radio – Expanded Operations

\$27,600 in the form of a matching grant provided operational support including the hiring of a second part-time staff member.

City of Hartford for 2009 Concerts in the Park

\$2,400 provided concerts at Ely Park each Thursday evening in the months of June, July and August 2009.

Hartford Public Schools for My Eye, My World, My Art

\$4,954 was used to implement an art program for 8th grade students devoted to the presentation of the camera, history of photography, and how to take good photographs.

New Buffalo Fine Arts Council for a Patriotic Concert

\$3,500 provided a Patriotic Concert of traditional American songs sung by professional singers including tenor Paul Mow.

Southold Dance Theater for The Nutcracker Ballet

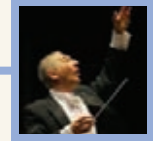
\$14,979 for the Southold Dance Theater to perform The Nutcracker Ballet at the New Buffalo Performing Arts Center allowing free admission for area residents.

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, Inc. for the Water's Edge Summer Music Fest

\$16,550 supported a summer music concert in New Buffalo that was free to residents of the local communities.

The Region of Three Oaks Museum for the Three Oaks Museum

\$20,000 provided a needs assessment study for The Region of Three Oaks Museum.



*“With these cameras came
a rejuvenation of creative
energy and an appreciation
of what is seen each day
in the life and world of
Hartford students.”*

*Sandra Pethick
Hartford Public Schools*

Economic Development



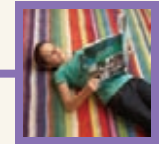
Executive Service Corps of Chicago (ESC) for Capacity Building for Non-Profits

\$15,000 for contracted services to determine the capacity building needs for local non-profit organizations and municipalities and to provide workshops to address those needs.

Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce for Strategic Planning

\$4,500 provided the costs of a professional facilitator to assist in developing a five year strategic plan with specific goals.

Education



Bellevia for Community Workshops

\$5,000 was awarded to provide workshops for adults and children including cooking classes, yoga, papermaking, homemade instrument making, music and dance sessions.

Galien Township Schools for Alternative Education

\$40,000 expanded the alternative education equipment at Galien Township Schools in order to provide students with needed computer and online classes.

Dowagiac Union Schools for Technology

\$18,050 purchased 5 new computers for the business and technology department at Dowagiac Union High School. The lab is available before and after school for students who do not have computers at home.

Hartford Public Library for Youth Summer Programs 2009

\$9,734 provided educational, fun and creative projects for children and teens in the Hartford area as part of the Hartford Public Library Summer Reading Program.

Hartford Public Library for Technology for Public Access

\$8,073 to make technology available for low income and poverty level adults and teens. Funds were utilized to purchase seven computer workstations, including software and installation.

Dowagiac Union Schools for the Dowagiac Middle School Library

\$20,244 purchased approximately 2,000 fiction and non-fiction books for the library.

Hartford Public Schools Community Education Summer Schools

\$78,775 provided a six-week summer school program that targeted 150 K-8 students who were identified as at-risk of not meeting state standards in math, reading and writing.

*“Thank you for your
wonderous generosity,
we can’t wait to start
reading!”*

*Ashley, 6th Grader
Dowagiac Middle School*

Hartford Public Schools for Elementary Schools Library Revitalization
\$20,000 updated two elementary school libraries to meet the needs of the students including updating library software, staff laptops, inventory scanners and barcode readers, and replacing visual equipment and old and outdated books.

Hartford Public Schools for Read Naturally
\$8,852 to implement Read Naturally for sixth graders, a reading program based on teacher modeling, repeated reading and progress monitoring.

Junior Achievement of Michiana for JA Works!
\$12,350 supported financial literacy and work readiness programs in the River Valley, New Buffalo and Dowagiac Union School Districts.

New Buffalo School District for Summer Enrichment
\$58,332 was granted for instructors, supplies and materials for the summer school and summer enrichment programs in New Buffalo.

New Buffalo Service League for the Pokagon Scholarship Fund
\$6,000 provided scholarships to six graduating high school students.

River Valley School District for Social Studies Curriculum
\$45,000 purchased social studies books and materials for grades K-12 in the River Valley School District.

River Valley School District for Culinary Arts + Community
\$4,077 provided the costs for guest speakers in the culinary arts classroom as well as field trips for interested members of the class and culinary arts club members. In addition, funding allowed for student visitation of culinary colleges and provided funding for the instructor.

St. Mary of the Lake School for Social Studies Curriculum
\$4,500 purchased a new social studies series for grades 2 through 8.

Tri-County Head Start for Bus Harnesses and Straps
\$2,500 provided seat harnesses and straps for all Tri-County Head Start buses and vehicles. These vehicles transport low income pre-school children in Cass, Van Buren and Berrien Counties.

“It’s good to know that people like you care about our education.”

*Tom, Student
St. Mary of the Lake*

Environment

Berrien County Parks Commission for a Scale Model of the Galien River County Park
\$4,000 provided a presentation quality architectural scale model of the major improvements in the Master Plan.

Chikaming Open Lands for the Galien River Marsh Restoration
\$100,000 is assisting with the restoration of the 300 acre Galien River Marsh.

“...when Chikaming Open Lands has completed this project, we will be among the best-positioned land trusts in the country for targeted, well-considered conservation.”

*Elizabeth Nellums
Land Protection Specialist
Chikaming Open Lands*

Chikaming Open Lands for the Umbrellas of Harbert Matching Gift

\$1,500 in matching funds were provided to charities from the proceeds of the Umbrellas of Harbert.

Chikaming Township for Chikaming Township Recycling

\$20,000 provides a recycling container in Chikaming Township for a three year duration.

New Buffalo Township for a Recycling Station

\$7,740 allows the township to add a second weekly pickup from May 3, 2009 to January 3, 2010.



Government

Chikaming Township for Meeting Room Equipment
\$7,100 provided improvements to the audio and visual components in the township meeting room.

City of New Buffalo for the Business Improvement District Master Plan
\$31,745 provided for a Business Improvement District Master Plan, which addresses pedestrian and vehicular movement and safety concerns.

New Buffalo Township to Amend Zoning Master Plan
\$6,700 to hire McKenna and Associates, Inc. to advise the Planning Commission on required Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance Amendments.

New Buffalo Township for Voter Privacy Booths

\$2,400 was used to purchase three new voter privacy booths for elections. The booths allow twelve voters to vote simultaneously.

New Buffalo Township for the Land Values Study

\$51,800 hired professional appraisers to complete the land values assessment for the township.



Government Loans

New Buffalo Township for Public Safety Loans

\$490,438 was provided in the form of interest-free loans to fund police protection.



Health and Human Services

Animal Lovers for Spay/Neuter for Cats/Dogs

\$10,000 provided low-cost or subsidized spaying and neutering for dogs and cats in The Pokagon Fund service area.

Berrien County Shrine Club for Transportation to the Shrine Circus

\$1,300 was awarded to rent charter buses to transport handicapped children to the March 2009 and 2010 Shrine Circus Events.

Cass County Council on Aging for the Handy Helpers Program

\$10,000 for supplies and materials, which along with volunteer assistance, provided home repair and/or maintenance for seniors in need.

“Kindness like yours makes a difference. Thank you so much for the food gift cards.”

*Anonymous recipient
New Buffalo Service League
Holiday Support Project*

The Children’s Assessment Center for Services for Child Victims

\$14,090 will provide forensic interviewing and counseling services to child crime victims from the New Buffalo area.



Harbor Country Emergency Food Pantry, Inc. for Community Economic Relief

\$5,000 in unsolicited funding was provided to agencies that worked directly with those in need during tough economic times.

Harbor Country Emergency Food Pantry, Inc. for Holiday Support

\$5,000 supported local families in need during the holidays.

Irish Connection for Holiday Support

\$4,350 supported local families in need during the holidays.

Irish Connection for Community Economic Relief

\$5,000 in unsolicited funding was provided to agencies that worked directly with those in need during tough economic times.

Health and Human Services



Michiana Center for Gambling Recovery for a Building Purchase

\$350,000 for the purchase of a building as the future location of Michiana Center for Gambling Recovery.

Michiana Center for Gambling Recovery for Operational Expenses

\$125,000 for operational expenses related to the startup of MCGR.

New Buffalo Service League for Holiday Support

\$5,000 in funds supported local families in need during the holidays.

New Buffalo Service League for Community Economic Relief

\$15,000 to provide economic relief to those near or at the poverty level.

River Valley Senior Center, Inc. for the Umbrellas of Harbert Matching Gift

\$1,500 in matching funds were provided to the River Valley Senior Center from the Umbrellas of Harbert charity event.

River Valley Senior Center, Inc. for Heating and Air Conditioning

\$27,965 provided a new furnace and air conditioning, replacing an old furnace and 11 air conditioning window units.

Senior Nutrition Services for Holiday Support

\$5,000 provided nutritious holiday meals to seniors during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. In addition, meals were delivered to homebound clients.

Toys for Tots for Holiday Project Support

\$2,500 supported the Toys for Tots organization providing holiday gifts for local children.

Volunteer Center of Southwest Michigan for the Youth Volunteer Corps

\$7,977 supported the creation of a youth volunteer corps to provide a resource for ongoing youth volunteer projects within the community.

Recreation

Chikaming Township for the Townline Bike and Walking Path

\$44,200 created a bicycle path along the North Side of Townline Road from Lakeshore Road to Lake Avenue to eventually connect with the proposed Harbor Country Hike and Bike Trail.

Chikaming Township for The Planting Fields

\$50,096 supported the creation of gardening plots for individuals to plant and grow their own gardens.

Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce for Dowagiac Fun Fest

\$5,000 sponsored the Dowagiac Fun Fest, a three day festival that provides vocal, instrumental and dance performances as well as children's entertainment and interactive educational workshops.

Edward C. Sexton American Legion Post 169 for Legion Pavilion Revitalizing

\$6,000 for the renovation of the American Legion pavilion utilized by the community.

“The scenic views and vistas of the Harbor Country are a wonderful asset and treasured resource and bike trails would allow more people to enjoy them.”

*Jeanne Dudeck, Supervisor
Chikaming Township*

Friends of Harbor Country Trail for the Harbor Country Hike and Bike Trail Master Plan

\$48,900 to study and plan a regional non-motorized trail system which will connect the local communities.

Hartford Council for Recreation for Recreation Improvements

\$150,000 made improvements to the ball park including the addition of restrooms, a concession stand and field maintenance equipment.

Hartford Community Center for a Community Fitness Center

\$150,000 for a newly constructed, fully equipped fitness center and gymnasium building, providing the community a resource for physical activities and community gathering.

LaSalle Council of Boy Scouts of America for After School Scouting

\$6,600 for a collaborative effort between Bison After School Scouting Enrichment and New Buffalo Elementary School. The funding provided a weekly scouting opportunity for students in grades 1 through 5 as well as a day camp opportunity each year.

Library Friends of Three Oaks for the Three Oaks Christmas Parade

\$200 sponsored the Three Oaks Library Christmas Parade festivities.

City of New Buffalo for the Beach Walkway

\$26,619 supported the purchase and installation of a sturdy, weather resistant rollup walkway from the beach concession area to the shore.



Recreation

New Buffalo Halloween Committee for the Halloween Community Parade
\$200 for the Halloween parade and candy for the children.

New Buffalo Rocket Football for a New Equipment Shed
\$5,500 provided supplies to build a bigger storage shed to house the youth football and cheerleading equipment.

New Buffalo Sports, Inc. for 2009 Uniforms
\$5,000 provided uniforms for the 2009 season.

New Buffalo Sports, Inc. for Sports Scholarships
\$500 in unsolicited funding was given to New Buffalo Sports for scholarships to those players who may need financial assistance to participate.

New Buffalo Sports, Inc. for Concessions Equipment
\$2,750 provided new concession stand equipment for the 2009 season.

New Buffalo Township for Phase 2 Memorial Park
\$463,590 provided for Phase 2 of Memorial Park, including the purchase of a playground, splash pad and improvements to the existing pavilion.

Patrick Hamilton Parent Teacher Organization for a Community Playground Build

\$39,595 funded the refurbishment of the playground area at Patrick Hamilton Elementary School. The playground is utilized by both school children and area community children.

St. Mary of the Lake School for Girls on the Run®

\$3,840 supported a collaborative effort between New Buffalo Area Schools and St. Mary of the Lake School. Funding provided girls ages 8-13 the opportunity to participate in a program that teaches self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running.

Three Oaks Business Association for the Three Oaks Fireworks Display

\$4,000 supported the fireworks display held on July 4, 2009.



OVERLOOK TOWER WITH
ELEVATED WALKWAY

LOUIS J. SIMA
INTERPRETIVE CENTER



INCLINATOR AND STAIRS TO LOWER TRAILS

LODGE

GATEHOUSE

In Fiscal Year 2008, The Pokagon Fund awarded a \$15,000 grant to Berrien County Parks and Recreation Commission to develop the master plan for the Galien River County Park. In Fiscal Year 2009, an additional \$4,000 was awarded to create a scale model of the plan. The plan includes an interpretive center, trails, elevated boardwalks, and viewing decks on the river with accessible landings for kayak and canoe access.



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