

Community

Caring

Giving

Support

Hope



THE POKAGON FUND
BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

The Pokagon Fund Mission

The mission of The Pokagon Fund is to enhance the lives of the residents in the New Buffalo region through the financial support of local governments, nonprofit, charities and other organizations.

From the Chairman of the Board

It has been an exciting year with the much anticipated opening of the new Four Winds Casino Resort and the subsequent creation of The Pokagon Fund.

Both have been in the planning for many years. The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians first entered into an agreement with the City of New Buffalo and the Township of New Buffalo in 2000, and since that time secured Tribal land and built the casino. The Pokagon Fund was incorporated shortly thereafter. The Pokagon Fund Board of Directors has been meeting since that time preparing to distribute funding to grantees. The culmination of all this hard work has led us to the point where we are today – providing grant funding to support the people in our service area.

We're very proud of the impact that the Four Winds Casino Resort has had on the local community through donations made to The Pokagon Fund. At the end of our first fiscal year (June 2008) The Pokagon Fund had awarded \$2,502,683 for 56 projects. Quite an exciting first year!



Sincerely,
[Signature]
Chairman of the Board

From the Executive Director

I contend that I have one of the best jobs in Harbor Country!

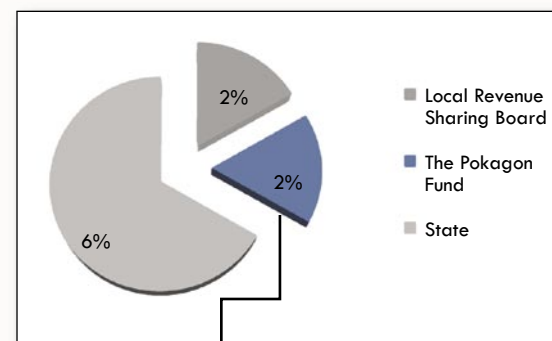
It is such a privilege to meet with potential grantees and hear about their various projects. Everyone is so passionate about their ideas and their projects, and experiencing their passion first hand is one of the best parts of this job.

Witnessing the impact of the projects we have been able to fund in this short time boggles the mind. Feeding and clothing the poor, providing educational opportunities to youth, supporting technology upgrades at libraries and schools, preserving the environment, enhancing local parks, supporting mentoring programs for kids, or meals for the elderly; it's astounding the myriad of projects The Pokagon Fund has supported.

You'll find a complete list of projects we have funded in our first fiscal year in the subsequent pages of this report. I hope reading about all the projects we have funded will spark great ideas among future grantees!



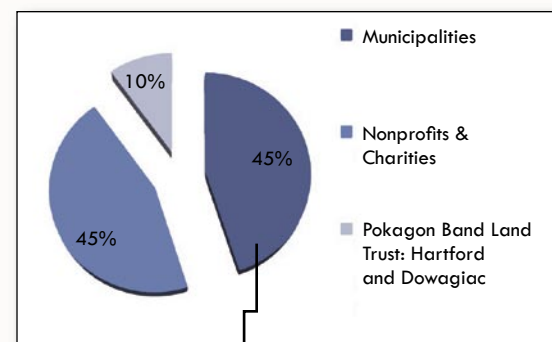
Best regards,
[Signature]
Executive Director



POKAGON BAND CONTRIBUTIONS

- Local Revenue Sharing Board (2%)*
 - State of Michigan (6%)*
 - The Pokagon Fund (2%)*
- *percentage of electronic gaming revenue

The 2% allocated to The Pokagon Fund is distributed in the following manner:



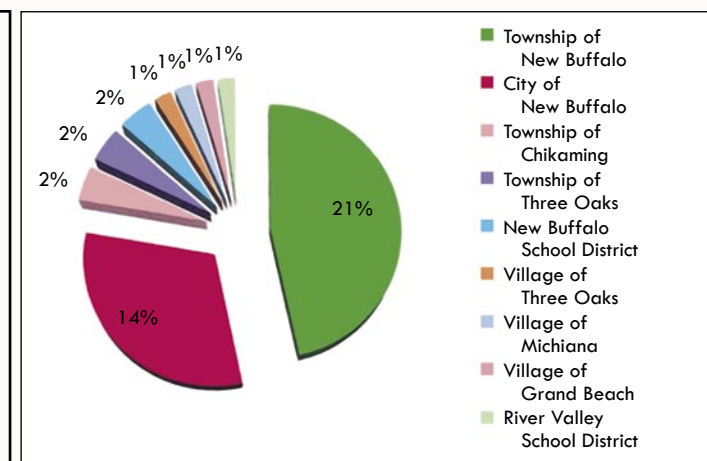
THE POKAGON FUND DISTRIBUTIONS

- 10% to communities surrounding Pokagon Band trust land (Hartford and Dowagiac)
- 45% to Nonprofits and charities
- 45% to Municipalities

The 45% allocated to municipalities is further broken down in this manner:

MUNICIPALITY DISTRIBUTIONS

- 21% Township of New Buffalo
- 14% City of New Buffalo
- 2% Township of Chikaming
- 2% Township of Three Oaks
- 2% New Buffalo School District
- 1% Village of Three Oaks
- 1% Village of Michiana
- 1% Village of Grand Beach
- 1% River Valley School District



Fund Income and Expenses Fiscal Year 2008

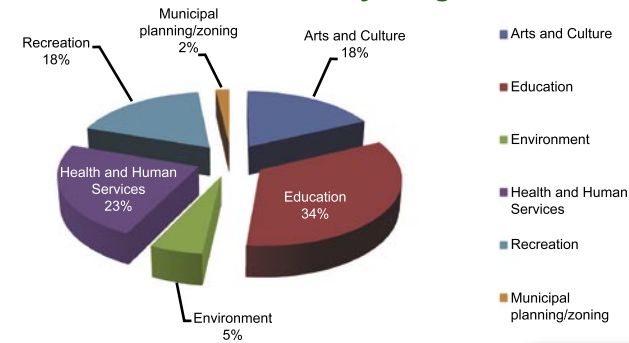
INCOME

Four Winds Casino.....	\$	4,958,266
Interest Income.....	\$	48,690
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$	5,006,956

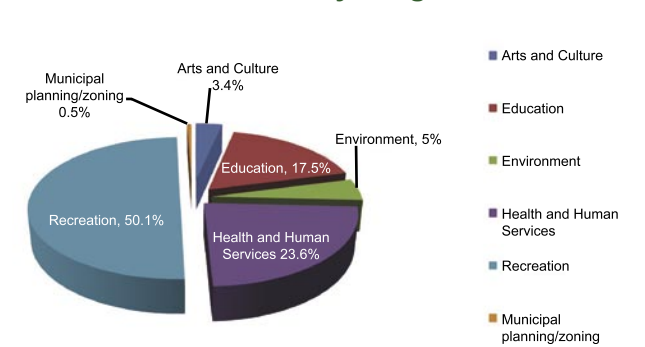
EXPENSES

Payroll & Board Stipends.....	\$	78,538
Benefits.....	\$	6,051
Professional Fees		
Legal	\$	23,100
Accounting	\$	2,047
Other.....	\$	13,851
Taxes	\$	4,876
Depreciation	\$	719
Travel and Meetings.....	\$	2,230
Printing.....	\$	138
Other	\$	30,549
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$	162,099
Grants Paid.....	\$	1,708,494
TOTAL EXPENSES AND DISTRIBUTIONS	\$	1,870,593

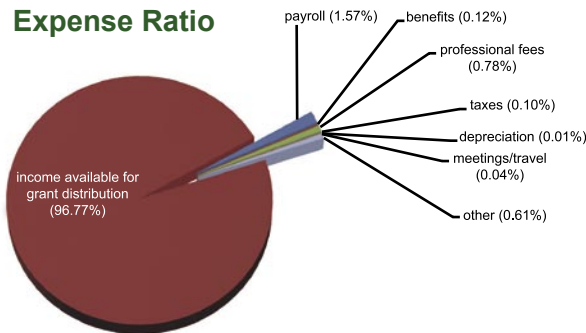
Number of Grants by Program Area



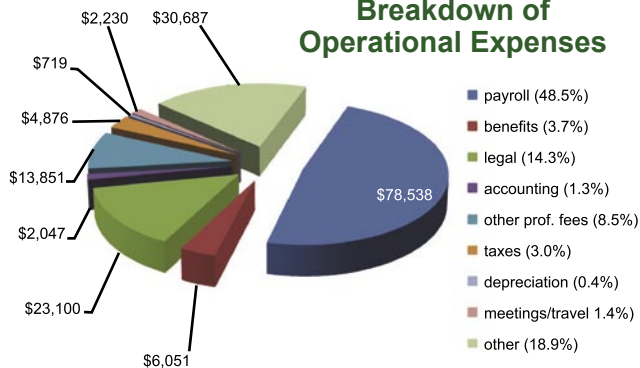
Dollars Granted by Program Area



Income to Expense Ratio



Breakdown of Operational Expenses



How to Apply for Grant Funding

The Pokagon Fund accepts applications for funding from municipalities, nonprofits, charities, and other organizations that provide services to the residents of the townships of New Buffalo, Chikaming and Three Oaks and all the villages and cities within those townships. Additionally, 10% of its funding is directed to the areas of Hartford and Dowagiac in Michigan.

Because of the limited geographical service area, The Pokagon Fund chooses not to restrict funding by program areas. The Pokagon Fund will entertain grants for initiatives in the areas of health and human services, education, arts and culture, recreation, and environment.

All grant proposals must be submitted electronically. The application form can be found on The Pokagon Fund website. Review of grant proposals occurs on an ongoing basis. There are no deadlines; grants are reviewed in the order they are received. The Pokagon Fund makes every effort to respond to all grantees within 90 days of the submission of the proposal.

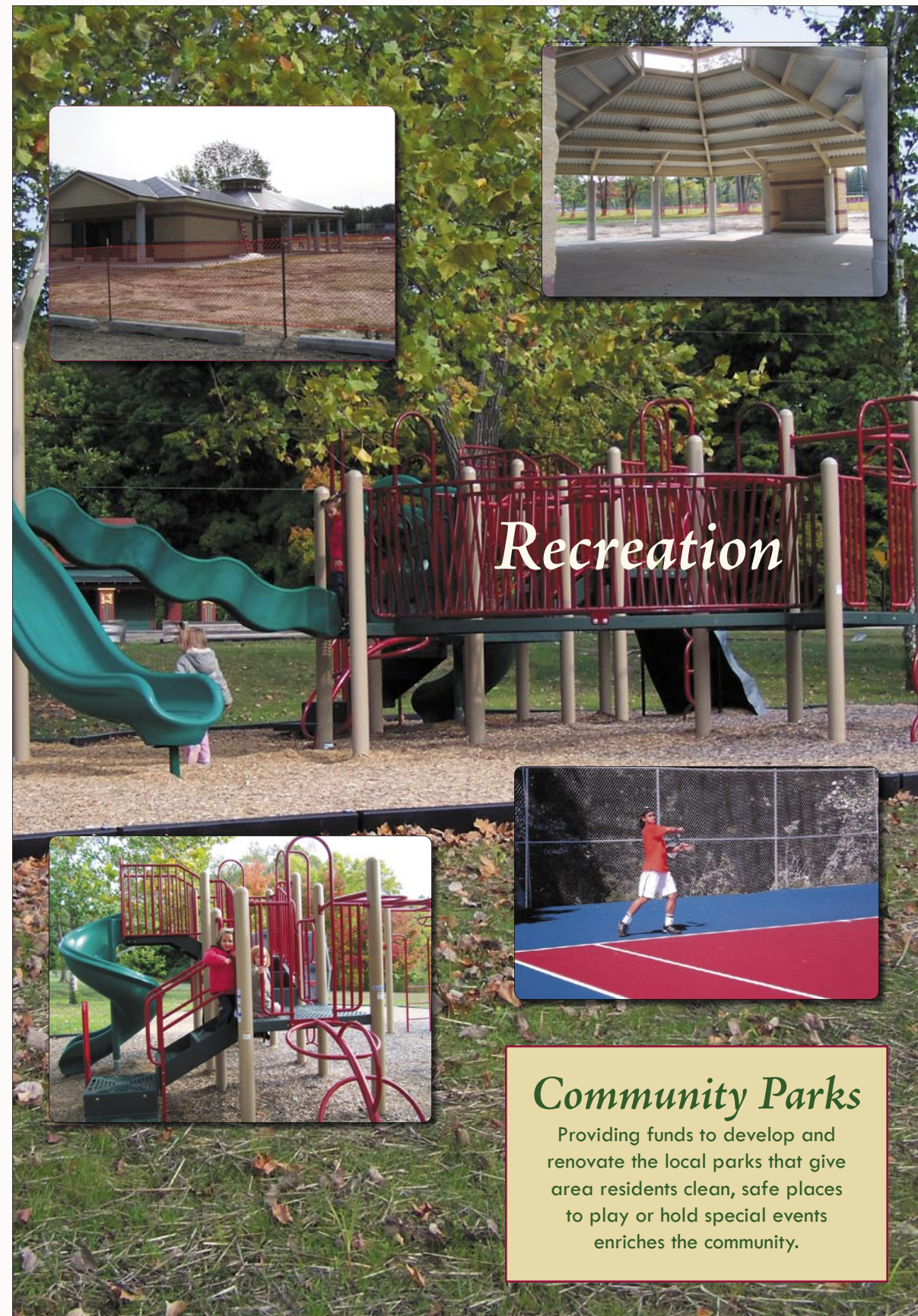
To learn more about the grant process, go to www.pokagonfund.org.

Environment and Preservation



Land and History

Helping to preserve the ecosystems in our community is just one of the benefits The Pokagon Fund has brought to the area.



Recreation



Community Parks

Providing funds to develop and renovate the local parks that give area residents clean, safe places to play or hold special events enriches the community.



Alphabetical List of Grants

Animal Lovers, Inc. for Spay/Neuter Program

\$10,000 provided low cost or free spaying and neutering of pets for low income families

Area Agency on Aging Region IV for Senior Assistance

\$1,940 was used to raise awareness and host workshops for seniors to assist them in obtaining their economic stimulus checks

Berrien County Cancer Services for Nursing Care and Support

\$10,000 provided skilled nursing care to cancer patients in-home or at the workplace

Berrien County Health Department for Three Oaks Office Equipment

\$5,500 purchased office furniture, upgraded computers, temperature probes, portable freezers and sensaphones

Berrien County Parks Commission for Galien River County Park

\$15,000 underwrote the cost of a master plan designing the park layout

Borgess Lee Memorial Hospital for Emergency Room Facilities

\$500,000 was granted over three years to support the expansion of the emergency room facilities in Dowagiac; \$83,333 of this grant was awarded during this fiscal year

Chikaming Open Lands for Priority Property Project

\$19,676 funded a project which identifies properties that are critical to the local ecosystem and to develop a plan to conserve these properties

Chikaming Township for Harbert Park Playground

\$47,000 funded the expansion of the playground which included the addition of a climbing wall and other playground equipment along with expanding the cushioned areas around the playground

Chikaming Township for Harbor Country Recreational Brochures

\$9,000 underwrote the cost of printing brochures that promote safe recreation in Harbor Country

Community Action Agency for Utility Assistance

\$10,000 for an unsolicited grant of which \$6,934 provided support utility payments for gas, electric and deliverable fuel bills for the underserved

Dowagiac Fine Arts Festival for Festival Sponsorship

\$500 supported presentations by nationally-renowned storytellers, authors, musicians and artists

Dowagiac Fun Fest for their Summer Festival

\$6,000 underwrote vocal, instrumental and dance performances and children's workshops

Dowagiac Ice Time Festival for their Annual Event

\$1,000 supported the event which showcased the art of ice sculptures by culinary chefs and timber and wood artisans

Dowagiac Union Schools for Life Skills Classes

\$2,000 funded this educational project that helps students gain greater knowledge in the area of nutrition, as well as learn marketable skills

Dowagiac Union Schools for Newspaper/Yearbook Project

\$3,000 in grant funding was used for the purchase of computer memory and cameras to be used in creating the newspaper and yearbook

Harbor Country Food Pantry for Holiday Projects

\$5,000 in unsolicited funding provided food to the underserved of the communities in and around New Buffalo during the holiday season

Hartford for Concerts in the Park

\$2,500 funded free concerts each Thursday evening during the months of June, July and August at Ely Park in Hartford, MI

Hartford Community Center for After School Tutoring Program

\$50,000 supported the tutoring program and allowed for the purchase of computers, work stations, reading and math curriculum materials, and supplemental reading materials

Hartford Public Schools for Family Reading Night

\$15,200 in grant funding supported family reading activities including guest readers, authors, and speakers exposing the participating families to a variety of jobs and cultures

Hartford Public Schools for Hartech Visual & Applied Arts Department

\$33,100 was used to purchase computers and software necessary for the creation of Hartech, integrating technology with math, science, social studies and language arts

Hartford Public Schools for Community Education Summer School Program

\$50,000 funded a summer school program that targeted 100 at-risk K–8 students who need additional help in math, reading and writing

Hospice at Home for Life is Precious Program

\$15,000 underwrote the expense of granting last wishes to hospice patients and their families

The Irish Connection for Holiday Projects

\$5,000 in unsolicited funding provided food to the underserved of the communities in and around New Buffalo during the holiday season

Junior Achievement of Michiana for Preparing Young People Program

\$15,000 supported a program that teaches children the concepts of financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and workplace readiness

League of Women Voters for a “Get Out to Vote” Initiative

\$5,000 assisted in hosting public forums, public service announcements, high school essay contests and more in an effort to raise awareness of the issues and increase voter turn out

Lewis Cass Intermediate School District for School Supply Spectacular

\$3,000 in funding underwrote the expense of school supplies for the students in the Dowagiac Schools

Michiana Center for Gambling Recovery

\$11,365 in grant funding created an organization that will assist individuals recover from compulsive gambling behaviors

New Buffalo City for Oselka Park Improvements, Phase 1

\$253,000 funded new multi-use pavilion with restrooms, concessions, and a covered picnic area, as well as reconstruction of the soccer field, a new little league baseball field, fencing and an irrigation system

New Buffalo Community Youth Center for After School and Summer Programs

\$5,000 supported a safe haven for youth, with the goal of providing education, recreation, and community involvement to the youth of our community

New Buffalo Rocket Football for New Equipment

\$12,600 in grant funding allowed the league to purchase new helmets and padding to ensure the safety of the children

New Buffalo School District for Fitness & Fun; Healthy Hearts

\$6,700 created a project which promotes health and wellness among children while teaching the students how to track their progress

New Buffalo School District for Summer School Program

\$58,717 in funding of which \$29,934 supported creative writing, outdoor science exploration, fitness and self-image, nuclear physics, summer fit club, and robotics in the summer of 2008

New Buffalo Service League for Scholarship Program

\$6,000 funded six \$1,000 scholarships for high school seniors entering college

New Buffalo Service League for Holiday Projects

\$5,000 in unsolicited funding provided food to the underserved of the communities in and around New Buffalo during the holiday season

New Buffalo Sports, Inc. for Baseball and Softball Programs

\$10,000 purchased new uniforms and assisted in maintaining the facility

New Buffalo Township for Memorial Park Improvements

\$239,000 was awarded to create a playground and splash pad, concrete walkways, trails, bridges, basketball court and ice rink, sand volleyball court, additional restrooms and more

New Buffalo Township for Public Safety Loans

\$304,469 in the form of a loan provides for police protection in the New Buffalo area

New Buffalo Township for Zoning Land Use Map Revision

\$14,000 funded a consultant to review and evaluate land uses which have changed due to the rapid growth in the area

New Buffalo Township Public Library for Needs Assessment Study

\$14,462 supported a plan to determine current and long-term library needs

Opera at the Acorn for 2008 Opera Season

\$10,000 underwrote opera performances held at The Acorn Theatre and New Buffalo Performing Arts Center

Pokagon Head Start for School Bus Purchase

\$74,825 purchased a school bus providing safe and reliable daily transportation for children in the Dowagiac area attending the Head Start program

Purdue North Central for The Pokagon Fund Endowed Scholarships

\$60,000 provided two \$1,000 scholarships each year for perpetuity, to students living in The Pokagon Fund service area

River Valley School District for Community Tennis Courts

\$4,350 supported the repair and resurfacing of the community tennis courts in Three Oaks

River Valley School District for Learning with Robotics Program

\$4,401 supported a program providing learning experiences in math, science, technology and communication for upper elementary and middle school students

River Valley School District for Technology Curriculum

\$29,250 provided 65 new computers for all students in Grades K–12 in the River Valley School District

River Valley School District for Hands-on Astronomy

\$5,000 funded the purchase of high quality telescopes, binoculars and star charts to implement an astronomy program for elementary school children

St. Mary of the Lake Schools for Technology Improvements

\$2,300 purchased graphing calculators for St. Mary’s middle school students

Senior Nutrition Services for Holiday Projects

\$5,000 in unsolicited funding provided food to the underserved of the communities in and around New Buffalo during the holiday season

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra for Summer Festival

\$38,000 underwrote two orchestra performances in New Buffalo

Swiss Institute of Criminology for COPSMART Program

\$12,000 funded a counseling program which provides mental health services for law enforcement officers and their families in New Buffalo and surrounding areas

Three Oaks Flag Day for 56th Annual Event

\$5,000 supported the festival which includes food and craft booths, musical entertainment, a rodeo, sports tournaments, and parade which is touted as the world’s largest Flag Day parade

Three Oaks Little League for Pony League Field

\$40,000 underwrote the expense of the development of the field, back stop, fencing, bleachers, dugout and a press box

Three Oaks Township for Spring Creek School Restoration

\$4,000 allowed an architect to be hired to prepare plans for the preservation of this historic building

Toys for Tots for Holiday Projects

\$5,000 provided toys to underprivileged children in and around New Buffalo during the holidays

WRHC-Radio Harbor Country for Annual Operations

\$14,300 allowed for the reconfiguring of the studio, increasing staffing and air time, and underwrote show syndication

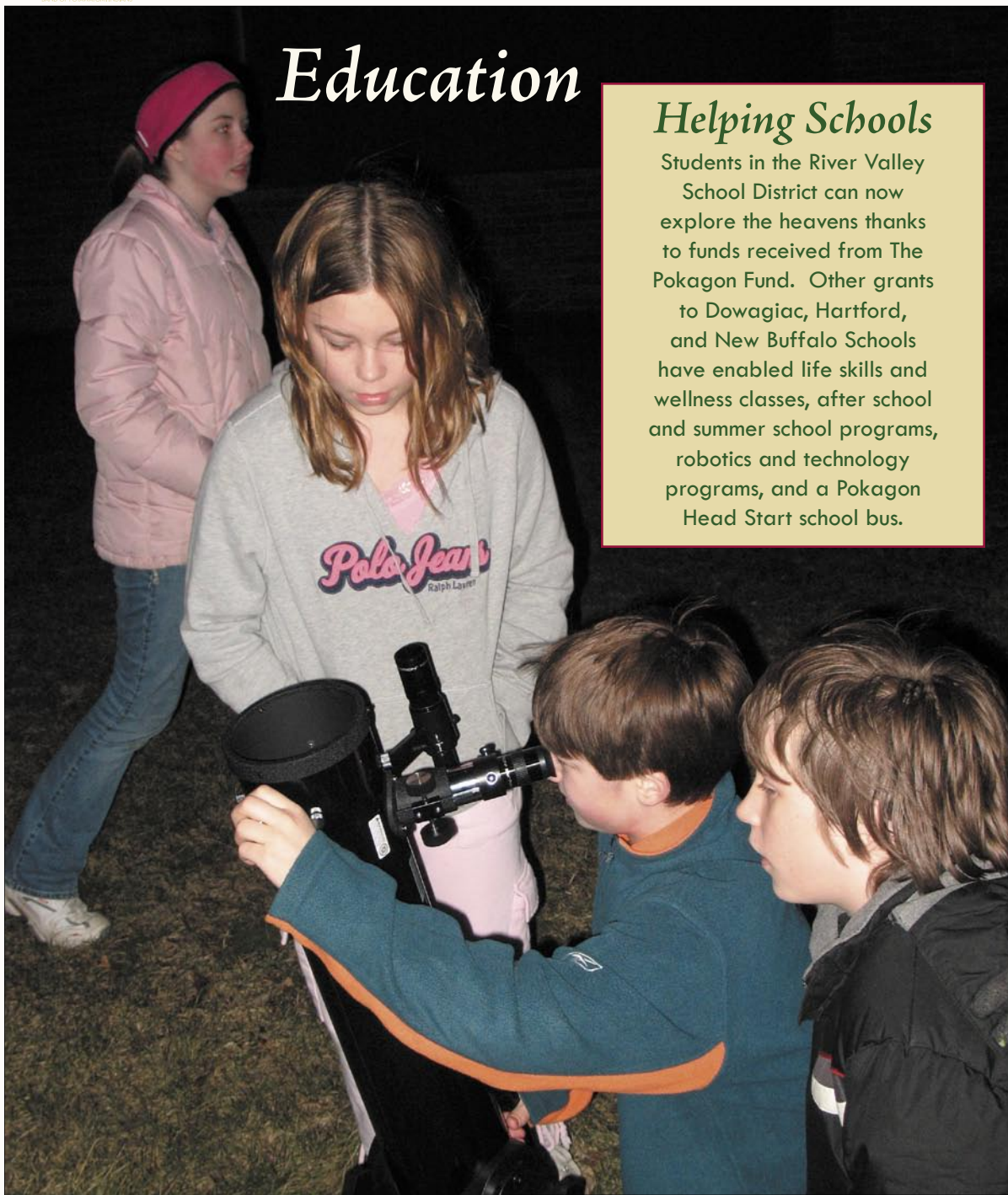
Village of Grand Beach for Clubhouse Beautification Project

\$31,946 allowed for work on landscaping, irrigation, repair of the patio, and installation of new railing at the village’s clubhouse

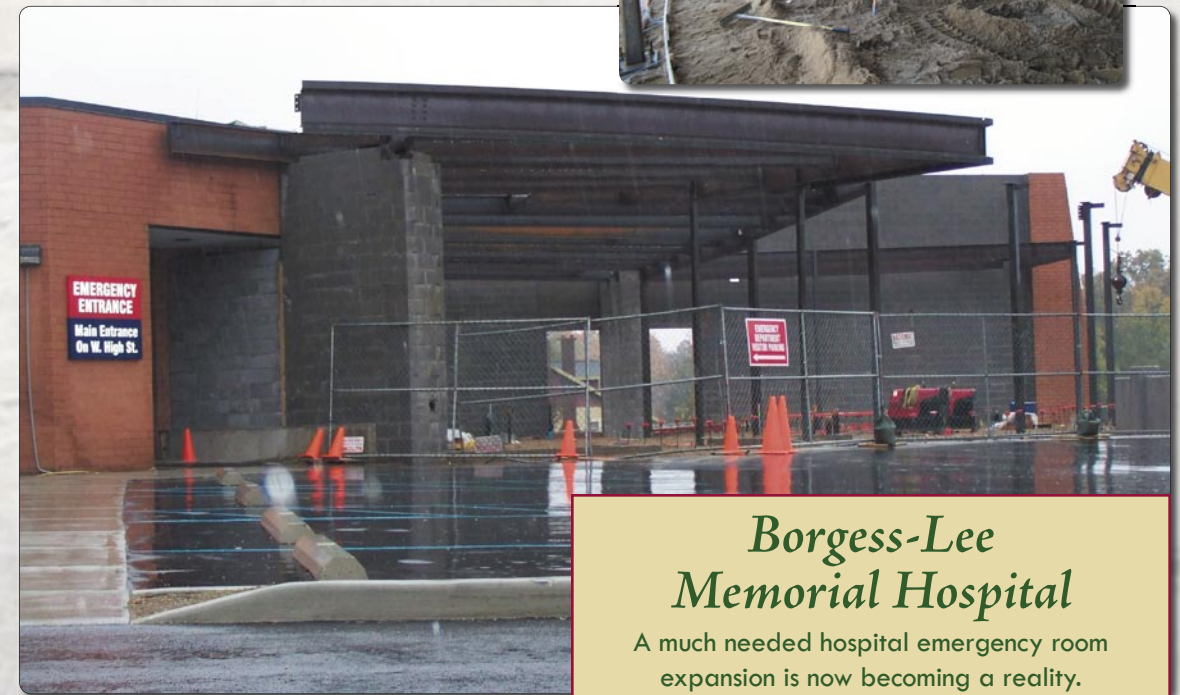
Education

Helping Schools

Students in the River Valley School District can now explore the heavens thanks to funds received from The Pokagon Fund. Other grants to Dowagiac, Hartford, and New Buffalo Schools have enabled life skills and wellness classes, after school and summer school programs, robotics and technology programs, and a Pokagon Head Start school bus.



Health and Human Services



Borgess-Lee Memorial Hospital

A much needed hospital emergency room expansion is now becoming a reality.

The Pokagon Fund Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for The Pokagon Fund is made up of seven members. Four directors are appointed: two by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, one by the City of New Buffalo, and one by the Township of New Buffalo. The four appointed directors choose three at-large board members.

DIRECTORS

John Miller, Chairman of the Board, Pokagon Band Representative

John graduated from Hartford High School and obtained a degree in hospitality management from Lake Michigan College. Currently, John is the Tribal Chairman of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and President and CEO of the Pokagon Band Gaming Authority, which manages one of the largest employers in the area, The Four Winds Casino Resort.

Larry Frankle, Vice Chairman, New Buffalo Township Representative

Larry graduated from Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois and Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago-Kent College of Law. He practiced law in Chicago and was an Assistant Public Defender in Champaign, Illinois, and is a licensed attorney in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and California. He and his wife Ellen became full time Michigan residents in 1983 and opened a law practice in New Buffalo. They have two daughters, Jamie and Stephanie. Larry is a Michigan licensed Real Estate Broker, a Trustee of La Lumiere School in LaPorte, Indiana, a member of the New Buffalo Township Fire Administration Board and a newly-elected Trustee of New Buffalo Township. A member of The Pokagon Fund Board since its inception, he now serves as Vice Chairman of the Board.

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 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 ten years. They have two children, Matthew and Sydney, and three grandsons. Bob has also previously served as Mayor, Councilman, Planning Commissioner, and Tax Review Board Member for the City of New Buffalo.

Vickie Wagner, Secretary, At-large Director

Vickie, a Three Oaks resident, 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. She focused on comprehensive school reform and school improvement initiatives for high school leaders and teachers. She received her degrees from Capital University and Michigan State University. Vickie is a member of the River Valley Board of Education, Selective Service, UN Association of the USA – Berrien County Chapter, Berrien County Planning Commission, Berrien County Land Preservation Board, and the Boards of Three Oaks Museum and Library Friends of Three Oaks. Vickie is one of the original members of The Pokagon Fund Board.

Dr. Stan Showalter, At-large Director

Stan has lived and worked in the Harbor Country area since 1967. He was Director of Psychological Services at the Indiana State Prison for many years and served as a consultant to the Department of Corrections, the Berrien County Sheriff's Department, and various law enforcement agencies. Now semi-retired, Stan maintains a private counseling practice in Lakeside, Michigan. He is one of the original members of The Pokagon Fund board.

Judy Winchester, Pokagon Band Representative

Judy is the Tribal Secretary of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and is active in national Native American organizations, including the Board of Directors for American for Indian Opportunity, Inc., the American Indiana Ambassadors Program, The Ambassador Alliance and the Museum of the American Indian. She has published several articles on the leadership among Native Americans and the Ambassador Alumni Association. Judy is a retired Indian Outreach Worker and lives in Sister Lakes with her children, Robbie and Jenna.

Quincy White, past Treasurer, At-large Director

Quincy graduated from Yale University and the Harvard Law School, and much later, attended University of California Berkeley. He served as an officer in the US Air Force, ending as the commanding Air Police Officer of Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. He spent over 30 years practicing law at the firm Sidley & Austin in Chicago. For 14 of those years he also served as Honorary Consul General for Pakistan. After retiring, he worked for New Buffalo Township as Trustee, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, briefly as Township clerk and for 15 years on the Planning Commission. His roots in the area go back to a house his grandparents built in 1925. Sadly, Quincy passed away on October 10, 2008. He leaves behind a wife, Joyce, two daughters and three grandchildren.

The Pokagon Fund Staff

Mary Dunbar, Executive Director, The Pokagon Fund

Mary, a social entrepreneur, has founded two regional nonprofit organizations: Make a Difference Michiana, an organization that raises awareness, volunteers, and donations for more than 300 regional nonprofits in Northwest Indiana and Southwest Michigan; and the Diaper Bank of Michiana, which will provide diapers to the underserved. Prior to joining The Pokagon Fund, Mary provided consultation to local nonprofit organizations and churches. She also served as Director of Community Affairs for 22 WSBT, the CBS affiliate in South Bend, Indiana. While there she created the station's holiday campaign, 22 Ways of Giving, for which she won a national award for community service. Mary grew up in Louisville, Kentucky and graduated from Western Kentucky University. She has two children, Michael and Lauren, who both attend Indiana University.

Kelly Matti, Grant Administrator, The Pokagon Fund

New to The Pokagon Fund staff in September 2008, Kelly has 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. She 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.

