

# Livonia Family YMCA

# Indian Guides

# Smoke Signals



November 2003

Volume 35 Issue 3



## Federation Chief Report

Hi Braves,

As winter starts nipping at our faces we find ourselves preparing for the Thanksgiving Parade. This is a good opportunity to show the community our spirit and dedication to our kids/fathers. Hopefully, it will not be too cold so we have good participation. We should plan to meet behind the SBC building (known by all but a few as the Ameritech Building) around 8:00am. Donuts and drinks will be available after the Parade in the Mall as usual.

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## Upcoming Events

Thanksgiving Parade

**Saturday, November 22**

**Be there—8am**



Winter Fun Night

**Saturday, Dec 13**

**7-10PM, Bring a new friend**

Winter Campout, Brrrrr!

Camp Pandalouan (Muskegon)

**Jan 16-18, 2004**

## In this issue:

- Parade Map
- Community Service request

Maps and detailed images may not reproduce well in this printed newsletter. You can go to our website for better viewing. I call it the See Clearly method!

**[www.lyig.tripod.com](http://www.lyig.tripod.com)**

## Federation Chief Report — Continued

A **BIG** thanks goes to the Canoe Nation for setting up the fantastic Fall Fun night! It is always great to get out with the boys and watch them play with their fellow braves. Who would have thought of bobbing for apples in a pool and the crab soccer was an excellent opportunity for the older braves to once again realize how old we really are and how fast the younger braves are... I can't wait until the Winter Fun night that the Buffalo Nation is preparing for us on December 13th. I hope to see you all there.

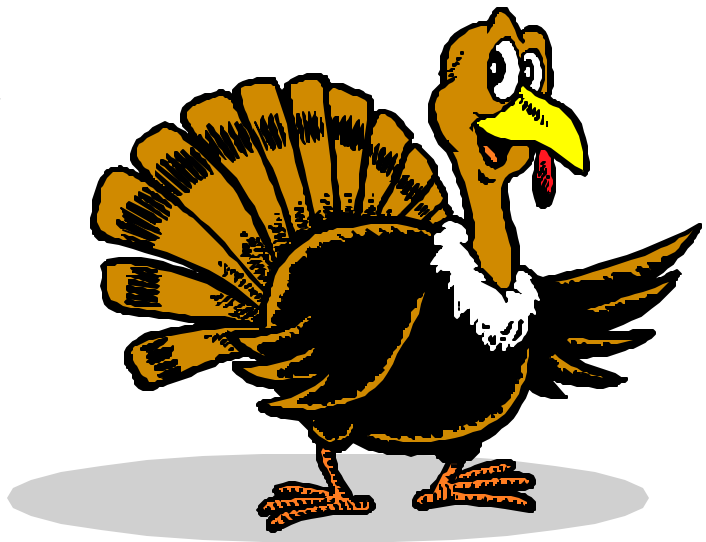
It is also not too soon to start thinking about the Winter Campout. We are going to Camp Pandalouan near Muskegon. This should ensure plenty of winter's finest snow for outdoor activities. This is a new camp for all of us, so we are quite excited to explore the new facility.

Just a gentle reminder, please give your fundraiser money to the Assistant Federation Chief now that the can drive is done. Hopefully you all were able to sell many of the pizza coupons and collect cans on November 1st for the program. To date, only a small portion of the total funds anticipated have been turned.

See everyone at the Parade!

Pals Forever,

Silver Fox, Golden Fox, and Gray Wolf  
Federation Chief



## Assistant Federation Chief Report



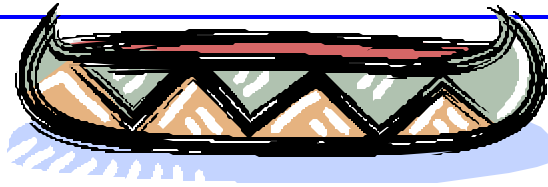
Hope everyone had a Happy Halloween and brought home lots of treats! The Fall Fun Night on October 18 was a great success! All braves big and small enjoyed all of the activities...crab soccer, paper airplane contests, and our favorite, bobbing for apples in the pool! What a blast to see all the little braves swimming around trying to catch an apple. A "Good Job and Thanks" goes to Greg and Pat of the Canoe Nation for planning and organizing such a great event.

**FUNDRAISING UPDATE:** By now, everyone should be completing the fundraising activities. Feedback from some of the tribes indicate that the bottle/can drive was very successful. Remember, all funds are due on November 15, so please turn in your monies to me as soon as possible. Federation officers, Nation officers, and Tribal Scouts are asked to collect from your tribes and bring to the next Federation meeting. Also remember that you can mail checks made payable to "**Livonia YMCA Indian Guides**" to my home address.

Please see the special information on the upcoming Thanksgiving Parade on November 22 in this issue of Smoke Signals. Also coming up before the Christmas holiday is the Winter Fun Night on December 13. Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving holiday with your family!

PALS Forever,

Howling Wolf, Running Tiger, and Swimming Fish



## **Canoe Nation Report of the Mad Moon**

The Falling Leaf Moon has blown by us in a flurry of activity as our hopes of having the wind remove all the leaves from our yards evaporate and the Mad Moon is upon us. The Mad Moon has brought us the eerie beauty of the Lunar Eclipse. It is the month that we rake in the fruits of our fundraising efforts and turn it into Father and Son Fun by getting those funds in on time (November 15) and closing the fundraiser out so that the money can be put to good use creating memorable Federation Events.

It was wonderful to see some unfamiliar faces at the Fall Fun Night. It was great to see all the familiar faces too, but we applaud those who brought friends so that they can see first hand Sons and Fathers having fun together. Passing the word to friends is our greatest recruiting tool and will ensure a strong program for years to come if we talk it up and bring friends to see what it is all about.

We had a successful time with the bottle and can drive this year. We slowly cruised our tribal territory in our Conestoga pickup with a bottle and can sorting factory going in the back. Near the end of the day's journey, one home owner had five 60 gallon plastic bags full of returnables. We hauled them over to our factory on wheels. I didn't hear gleeful shouts of "Yeah, we're rich!" The shock on the young braves' faces wore off as we addressed the challenge of fitting them all in our vehicle. We heard a bunch of aluminum crushing as we pushed the last bag in, slammed the tailgate shut, and closed the cap. We needed a lot of space to do our sorting after that pickup so we went over to Riley Middle School and spread our treasures out in the parking lot. Two hours later we had a container of pop tabs for the Kidney Foundation, sticky hands with a worthwhile suggestion to bring surgical gloves next time, a gorp bucket to dispose of, a trash bag of stray items, a non-returnables but still recyclable bag, and best of all, a load of bottles and cans to turn in. Over the next two days we made three trips to Meijers to turn in all that we had gathered. Talking Rock counted the money and was curious about what the Indian Guides used it for. When he found out that we use it for our Campouts, Fun Nights, Banquet, and other Federation events and property, he seemed pretty satisfied that all his work had been worth the effort.

The next federation event is the Thanksgiving Day Parade on November 22. This is a great opportunity to show our enthusiasm for spending time with our sons. Bring former members of your tribes back for one last chance to walk together as Indian Guides. It's an 8 am gathering time at Plymouth and Merriman.

The Winter Fun Night is on Saturday, December 13. This is a great time to bring friends from your neighborhood and introduce them to the Parent/Child programs.

Remember that there are Honor Tribe awards and Activity Awards. The Activity Awards are for those individuals who attend 10 of 12 Federation Events. Honor Tribe is for those tribes that hold at least six tribal meetings for the 2003 - 2004 program year and have at least one tribal member at every Federation Event. These are great goals to shoot for and make that quality time with Father and Son a reality.

Pals Forever,

Respectfully submitted

Running Deer

Straight Arrow

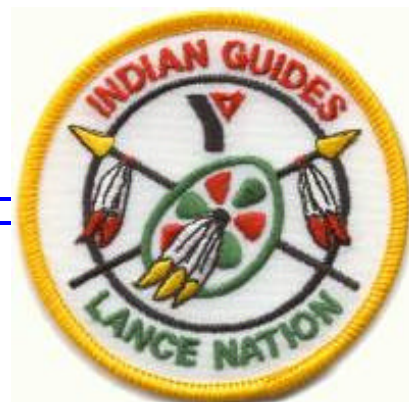
Talking Rock

## **From the Crow's Nest**

The mighty Crow are proud to announce the birth of Trevor's (Black Bat) new sister. Our tribe chief Shawn (Big Buck) and his wife (Hiding Doe) are enjoying their new addition by spending sleepless nights, changing, feeding and most importantly loving on Daddy's little girl. She is sure to become a great Princess. We look forward to a new tribal adventure soon.

Your pals,

Big Chow and Tickle Tiger



## **Lance Nation Speaks**

We have confirmed March 27th 2004 at the LIVONIA MALL (7 Mile and Middlebelt) as the date and location for our annual Pinecar derby event, so write it in your calendar. Car kits will be available in January for all your planning sessions. Tickle Tiger has made the goal to be a repeat champion so everyone needs to find the speed tricks. We are looking forward to our upcoming events including the Livonia Parade, Winter Fun night at the Y, and roller skating, and before you know it we will be at our winter camp.

You're Pals,

Big Chow and Tickle Tiger

Lance Nation Chief

...A voice from our recent past speaks to us...

## **Community Service**

No, this is not just another ploy to get my name mentioned in the finest newsletter in the country. There is a real need and a call to action for all tribes looking to help out in our community and earn the highly prized silver and blue community service patch. The Livonia Goodfellows (the new group of people that have to put up with me) are in need of volunteers to sort the thousand's of donated canned goods collected thru-out the city over the last couple months. The Goodfellows have always been able to count on the sharp eyes and quick fingers of the "Greatest Federation in the nation", the Livonia Family of Indian Guide programs for this important task.

WHAT: Livonia Goodfellows canned goods sorting

WHERE: Marshall Elementary School  
33901 Curtis - West of Farmington Rd/ South of 7 mile.  
(please use 2<sup>nd</sup> door on west side of building entrance)

WHEN: December 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

REMEMBER: Wear your vests and tell them **Full Moon** sent you.

Kurt, Angie and I all miss you. Wishing you the very best this holiday season.

Pals Forever,

Full Moon