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Bozho Nikan,

In my previous *HowNiKan* article, I mentioned that my term would be up this spring and I would be running for re-election. The filing period passed, and I am unopposed, So, I will be your District #1 representative again for the next four years. I given (thanks from the heart) for allowing me to serve in this capacity. While I am on the subject of elections and voting, I want to say that I have supported Chairman John Barrett for Chairman for many years and will continue to do so due to the past history of growth and progress under his guidance. That being said, **PLEASE VOTE!!** If you don't vote for your choice, you are in effect voting for the opposition. Remember your vote does count; in the last election I won by one vote. Let's make District #1 the highest-voting district in the Nation.

I have spoken several times in this article about my perceived notion of the Nation's need for an assisted living facility for our elders. Perhaps the first step has been taken.

In the latest quarterly meeting of the legislature, we voted on bill #09-51-rshhs, which I sponsored. The question: Shall the Citizen Potawatomi Nation approve a resolution authorizing and supporting a grant application to the Administration for Native Americans entitled "CPN Senior Support Network."

Consider: The proposed Citizen Potawatomi Nation Senior Support Network will develop and implement a culturally sensitive case management model to provide comprehensive coordination of medical, personal, and social services for tribal elders and their families. The grant period is for two years with non-federal match to be provided by the CPN through program related salaries, fringe benefits, and equipment already approved in the annual budget. The proposed budget is \$599,173.00. This was **APPROVED** on February 25, 2009. It is One small step for our Nation and one giant step for our elders.

There have been many requests at this office and other district offices for a return to the old regional meetings. The executive board has begun holding Tribal Area Gatherings. The first was held in Las Vegas, in the District# 6 area on Saturday February 21. I was able to attend this meeting as my wife Julia and I were on a short vacation in Las Vegas at the time. There was a short PowerPoint presentation of Potawatomi History from pre-history to present by Chairman Barrett, including a progress report of the Nation. Lunch was served.

After lunch, the families were invited to introduce themselves and tell how they were connected to the Nation. We got to meet many new friends and learned of new family connections.

The District #1 meeting was held on March 15, beginning with lunch at 1 p.m. Our members were informed by mail of the time and place.

At some time during the coming year, I intend to hold district meetings somewhere near the eastern boundaries of District #1 for those of you who have never been able to attend one of these events. During the next four years I hope to involve more of our members in these meetings by bringing them closer to your location.

If you are interested in receiving your Native American name please let me know. There is a certain protocol to be followed and I can help you with that.

As mentioned earlier in this article, the quarterly meeting of the legislature was held on February 25. It was streamed on the internet, and this time all the bugs were worked out and it worked very well. For those of you who would like to watch the proceedings via the internet, the instructions are always on the Web site. Just click on government then legislature and follow the prompts.

Our government structure is unique to the CPN. No other tribe has district representatives that cover every state in the union. The jurisdiction and governmental powers of the CPN exercised by three separate branches of tribal government: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial. What makes this so important is that no one branch or individual exercises total control of the operation of the Nation.

This was not always the case. Thanks to the vision of the present administration, Chairman John Barrett and Vice Chairman Linda Capps, we now have this very successful form of government that is being copied by other Native American tribes. If you have not received e-mail or regular mail with updates or meeting notices, it's because I don't have your e-mail or regular mail address. If you would like to receive these updates, please send me your address of choice to the address below or via phone.

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Migwetch,
Nikan

**“THANK YOU! I AM HONORED TO BE
YOUR DISTRICT #1 REPRESENTATIVE
FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.” - ROY SLAVIN**



Please join me in Re-electing
CPN CHAIRMAN
JOHN 'ROCKY' BARRETT
MAKING SURE CHANGE MEANS PROGRESS.

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