A thousand participants turned out for the Choctaw Nation’s annual commemoration of our ancestors’ long walk from Mississippi this year. The event was held at Millerton, Oklahoma followed by an enjoyable day on the grounds of Wheelock Academy. More photos on Page 5.

“A god has blessed our tribe with the ability to sponsor these fund-raising efforts, and I pray that he will bless America and its citizens.”

— Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Chief Gregory E. Pyle and members of the Tribal Council presented over $75,000 in funds to the Firefighters National Trust on Thursday, May 30th, immediately following ceremonies marking the end of recovery efforts at the World Trade Center site in New York City. Choctaw Nation raised the donation through tribal businesses and individual gifts to contribute to the victims and families of those affected by the tragedies of September 11, 2001. The Firefighters National Trust has a September 11 Scholarship Program that provides assistance to the children and spouses of firefighters who were killed during the tragedy.

Viewing the site from ground level, Chief Pyle, Council Speaker Kenny Bryant and Tribal Councilman James Frazier were awed by the tremendoous size of the area that was devastated. Rescuers and recovery personnel who had returned to witness the ceremony commented on the magnitude of the effort it took to get the site to the stage it is in currently in.

One worker who had volunteered the first five weeks after the collapse said he was amazed that he was standing on rubble that was ten stories above ground and now it is cleaned out seven stories beneath ground level.

The ceremonies included the removal from the site of an empty casket, symbolic of the lives that were lost. 1,626 death certificates were issued without recovered bodies.

The travel plazas owned and operated by the tribe donated 100% of their gasoline and diesel sales for one week, raising $20,884.15.

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Captain Rochell Jones of Engine 4 and Captain Paul Mallory of Ladder 10 of the NYFD were on hand to witness the presentation of funds from the Choctaw Nation. Chief Pyle, Council Speaker Bryant and Councilman Frazier presented the check to Firefighters National Trust Executive Director Steve Careaga.

Fourth book in series ready for publishers

The fourth in the Choctaw Nation’s wonderful collector’s series of five children’s books is now at the publishers. It is a must-have for your collection.

The book will be back from the printer and ready for delivery the first week of August.

“The Stomachache Tree” was written by Mary M. Fye, translated by Henry J. Willis and illustrated by Norma Howard. Editor-in-chief is Joy Calburn.

The book can be purchased for $20 plus shipping from the Choctaw Crafts & Books Store, P.O. Box 661, Durant, OK 74702, 580-931-9144 or toll-free 888-932-9199. Place your order now and be one of the first to receive “The Stomachache Tree.”

Davis, Wade receive certification

Alice Billy Davis of Roland, Oklahoma and Roland Wade of Valljo, California received their teacher certification during the Regular Session of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council, June 8 at Tushka Homma.

Roland is certified to conduct community classes.

Alice will be serving as the facilitator for the One-Net Distant Learning class beginning in Poesia High School in August.

There will be more than 30 schools in the Choctaw Nation on One-Net this fall.

In other business, Council members approved a grant application for up to $229,000 for the Choctaw Nation Recovery Center for a Treatment System Plan. The Council approved the 2002-04 grant budget for the Office of Environmental Health, OEH provides educational outreach material on lead poisoning and preventive techniques, conducts lead-based paint inspections and conducts blood-lead screenings for tribal children.

A grant application was okayed for the tribe’s initial participation in the program, the Choctaw Nation Housing Authority has been awarded five previous grants totaling $525,301.

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

Serving 131,609 Choctaw Worldwide

www.choctawnation.com

June 2002 Issue

Rural Development officials observe

Choc-taws’ success

The State Director of the U.S. Department of Rural Development, Brent Kising, along with Rural Development Housing Director Mike Strumme and Rural Development District Director Joe Daniel, visited the Choctaw Housing Authority to announce that the Housing Authority has been awarded a Rural Development Housing Preservation Grant in the amount of $63,261.

Kising and other Rural Development officials also recognized the success of the Housing Authority’s administration of Rural Development’s Housing Preservation Grant program (HPG). The Director and his staff, along with Tribal and Housing Authority officials, visited program participants to see firsthand the impact the program has had in improving the living conditions of elderly and disabled home owners.

Since the tribe’s initial participation in the program, the Choctaw Nation Housing Authority has been awarded five previous grants totaling $525,301.

See GRANT on Page 9

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OEH provides educational outreach material on lead poisoning and preventive techniques, conducts lead-based paint inspections and conducts blood-lead screenings for tribal children.

A grant application was okayed for the tribe’s initial participation in the program, the Choctaw Nation Recovery Center for an Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Competitive Grant through the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

“Highly support this bill,” said Council Speaker Kenny Bryant. “We have seen what good this program can do.”

Funding of $50,000 was approved for additional staging and work area at the Stigler Modular Home Plant.

The Councilmembers discussed a new Internet domain name for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. It was agreed to register the new site with non-profit status.

See COUNCIL on Page 9
Dear Chief Peyle,

I have recently completed a statewide study of diabetes mellitus in American Indian children and adolescents. I conducted this study in the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in order to address the unique needs of Native American children and to contribute to the global research on this important subject. I would like to share some of the key findings of this study with you and the Choctaw Nation.

The study was based on a sample of 200 American Indian children and adolescents who were enrolled in the Choctaw Nation Diabetes Wellness Center. The results indicate that diabetes mellitus is a significant health problem among Native American youth, with a prevalence of 5.5%.

The findings of this study are important for several reasons. First, they highlight the urgent need for more targeted and culturally appropriate diabetes prevention and treatment programs for Native American children. Second, they provide valuable data that can inform policy decisions and funding priorities.

I am grateful to the Choctaw Nation Diabetes Wellness Center, under the leadership of Ms. Sharon Passmore, RN, for their cooperation and assistance throughout this study. Their commitment to improving the health of the Choctaw Nation has always been your main concern as tribal leader. It is not a random occurrence that the health sector has blossomed under your leadership. Thus, I am confident that the health sector and diabetes control efforts in particular, will continue to receive your constant attention and support to be one of your top priorities.

Thank you once again, Chief Peyle.

Boussina H. Sambo, MD, MPH

Tribe supports exceptional programs
Dear Editor,

I wish to extend my thanks to the Choctaw Nation Diabetes Wellness Center for their partial fulfillment of the requirements for completion of my Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

I conducted this study in order to provide the assistance promised to me by the Executive Health Director, his staff, and the diabetes treatment center of the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center. The medical director, Dr. M. Alam, and the Director of the Diabetes Treatment Center, Mr. Shannon Pameron, RN, graciously and repeatedly provided access and assistance. Their cooperation allowed me to conduct the kind of thorough chart review which is crucial to the success and validity of this type of research.

Due to the extensive study of the Indian children of Oklahoma, I have traveled extensively across our state and nation. I have met many people in this process and that health sector and diabetes control efforts in particular, will continue to receive your constant attention and support to be one of your top priorities.

Thank you once again, Chief Peyle.

Boussina H. Sambo, MD, MPH

Student pursuing career in journalism
Dear Chief Peyle,

I will graduate from the University of Arizona this May with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication and a minor in history. I am graduating Phi Beta Kappa with distinction, but more important, I am the first person in my family to graduate from college.

I will be pursuing a career as a television reporter.

The choice of my career is a result of my attendance at the Choctaw Nation very much. My grandfather, Chief Pyle, was a great leader. It is not a random occurrence that the health sector has blossomed under your leadership. Thus, I am confident that the health sector and diabetes control efforts in particular, will continue to receive your constant attention and support to be one of your top priorities.

Thank you once again, Chief Peyle.

Gregory E. Pyle

Completion of diabetes study
Dear Chief Peyle,

I have recently completed a statewide study of diabetes mellitus in American Indian children and adolescents. I conducted this study in the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in order to address the unique needs of Native American children and to contribute to the global research on this important subject. I would like to share some of the key findings of this study with you and the Choctaw Nation.

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Thank you once again, Chief Peyle.

Boussina H. Sambo, MD, MPH

FAPA member appreciates support
Dear Editor,

I would like to express my appreciation to the Choctaw Nation for helping me financially with my FAPA travel grant. With your support, I will now be able to continue my FAPA projects. I appreciate the support that the Choctaw Nation very much.

Bruce West

Heavener, Oklahoma

DHS Choir competes in St. Louis
Dear Chief Peyle and Assistant Chief Bailey,

I want to thank both of you and the Tribal Council for assisting myself and several Choctaw students in our recent trip to St. Louis, Missouri with the Durant High School Choir.

We participated in several community events where you will glad to know that we received the Gold Medal Rating in all competitions along with Sweepstakes. St. Louis is a wonderful place to visit. We found the historical district as well as the downtown area, and did have fun at Six Flags and spent a little time shopping for souvenirs of our trip.

We work hard all year long at fund raisers to raise money for our trip, and this year with the help of the Choctaw Nation it was easy to make our trip more enjoyable. Your support and leadership for the young Choctaw are greatly appreciated.

Kristin Blalock

Durant, Oklahoma

FFA chapter reaching goals
Dear Choctaw Nation,

Thank you for your support and at the 2002 LaFayette County Livestock/4H Auction, through your support you have helped me and the FFA chapter to reach many goals.

Susana Minap, Whitesboro FFA

Choctaw language courses at OU
Dear Chief Peyle,

I am making preparations for the Fall 2003 semester, during which I will be teaching Intermediate and Advanced Choctaw Language courses here at OU. I also commented to have a vision for a future Choctaw Language Program that is available to members and non-members of the tribe who want to learn the Choctaw language. I understand that the Choctaw Language Program includes the work of several people, and I want to congratulate everyone for their dedication and hard work. I hope that this program will be successful.

Everywhere I go to attend language workshops, seminars and conferences, people come to me and comment on the work that Choctaw Nation is doing. Though I am not in the tribe that is associated with Choctaw Nation, I have good feelings people are taking note of what and the Tribal Council are doing. Again, thank you.

Lorey Sealy

University of Oklahoma

FFA chapter reaching goals
Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank you for being such a great support to my FFA chapter throughout the year.

I appreciated the support that the Choctaw Nation very much.

Lorey Sealy

University of Oklahoma

FAPA member appreciates support
Dear Editor,

I would like to express my appreciation to the Choctaw Nation for helping me financially with my FAPA travel grant. With your support, I will now be able to continue my FAPA projects. I appreciate the support that the Choctaw Nation very much.

Bruce West

Heavener, Oklahoma

Reunions
Hopkins/Wade Family Reunion
The Hopkins/Wade Family Reunion will be held on July 10-11 in Talihina. The family reunion will be held at the Old Indian Church. More information can be found in the newspaper.

Pelbworth/Pebworth Family Reunion
The Pelbworth/Pebworth Family Reunion is scheduled for this summer. It will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning, July 19-21 at Lake Texoma Norman Park. If you would like more information about the family reunion, please call 580-924-4148 for more information.

The BISHINIK is printed each month as a service to Tribal Members. If you are receiving more than one BISHINIK at your home or if your address has changed, we would appreciate hearing from you.

The BISHINIK reserves the right to edit submitted material which it finds inaccurate, profane, offensive or morally unacceptable. Copy may be returned under the above conditions.

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BISHINIK

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Lake Texoma Resort Park is located five miles east of Kingston, Okla.

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BISHINIK

2
Tribe presents scholarships funds to families of firefighters killed at WTO

It was an humbling experience to visit the site of the World Trade Center on May 30th. The terrorist attack devastated an enormous area of property, and directly affected countless lives. The Council and I were honored to meet some of the incredibly brave family members of individuals who were killed on September 11th, as well as the police officers who volunteered during the massive rescue and recovery efforts. Buildings surrounding the perimeter of the collapsed buildings are in various stages of disrepair. One of the representatives of the firefighters' National Trust told us that three of the buildings in the immediate vicinity were under demolition on September 11th. These churches, St. Paul's, St. Peter's and the Trinity Church did not even have windows broken, according to this source. The enormity of this, in sight of such massive destruction, was enough to leave us awestruck.

The symbolic ceremony to carry out the empty casket, representatives of the lost lives, was a moment of great dignity. Police women and fire fighters and rescue workers lined the long ramp that was used for access of vehicles to the bottom of the seven-story-pit. A semi-trailer truck hauled out the last of the steel beams, draped with a large American flag. The honor guard limbed behind this truck, two by two, until all were on ground level, above the enormous hole. Applause broke out for these heroes, and shouts of “USA! USA!” were heard above the clapping. The faces of the families were uplifted. After the last of the honor guard left the ramp leading to the bottom of the recovery site, families and friends gathered for a meal, children played “Spiderman,” and conversations of those loved ones were interpreted with plans for the future.

There were memorials posted throughout the Trade Center site. Many of these memorials were sent from children across the United States. One huge poster board that was pinned to the wall beside the fire station located at Ground Zero was sent by Tyler from Pennsylvania. His note read “Thank you for every thing you did for the people in New York. And please don’t be sad all your friends are now very happy in Heaven!”

Randy Resendiz was a flag sent by President Bush, huge posters bearing the names of the lost firefighters, police and Port Authority officers, and even a sign being signed by those who offered assistance so that it could be placed in a museum. A large banner outside by the edge of the pit read We Will Never Forget.

A walk through the streets brought us to Firehouse Engine 10, Ladder 10, where Speaker Kenny Bryant, Councilman James Frazier and presented a donation on behalf of all Choctaw people to the families of firefighters lost at the World Trade Center.

The funds, which totaled $75,869.85, will be used to provide educational scholarships for the families of firefighters who were killed that day. The donation was accepted by Steve Callahan, Director of the Firefighter National Trust, who expressed gratitude that people were still offering financial assistance.


2002 Jones Academy seniors

Kathy Alexander is from Oklahoma City and has resided at Jones Academy since the fourth grade. She is the daughter of Bobbie Alexander and Deanna Lewis. Kathy was a member of the Choctaw Nation Upward Bound Math and Science Program. She excelled in math and science.

Kathy Alexander is from Oklahoma City and has resided at Jones Academy since the fourth grade. She is the daughter of Bobbie Alexander and Deanna Lewis. Kathy was a member of the Choctaw Nation Upward Bound Math and Science Program. She has not declared her major in computer science.

Shari McClure is the daughter of Pamela Manning and the late Gerald Dean Bonaparte. William is from Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is an honors student at Hartshorne as well as a student council officer and representative. He was on the Choctaw Nation Upward Bound Math and Science Program where he excelled in math-science. He is enrolled at Tulsa Community College where he will study computer science.

Randy Robinson has attended Jones Academy since the first grade. His permanent residence is in Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Randy was in honors choir and Gifted and Talented at Hartshorne. He has also received the Presidential Tribute to Excellence in the arts. Randy plans to attend the University of Oklahoma and pursue a career in the arts.

Anthony Robinson is from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is the son of Donna Michelle Robinson. Anthony is planning to join the military. Anthony Robinson has attended Jones Academy for 11 years. He is from Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is the son of Walter and Sherry Williams. Anthony is in the Choctaw Nation Upward Bound Math and Science Program as well as Gifted and Talented. He is enrolled at the University of Oklahoma where he plans to pursue a career in physical therapy.

Lavrene Barris is from Tahlequah, Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Gary and Gladys Barris. She is interested in receiving post-secondary training from the Talking Leaves Job Corps Center in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Lavrene Barris is the daughter of Daniel Cloud and the late Darleen Kloos. She is from Gardenville, Nevada. She has registered to attend classes at Mesa Community College in Mesa, Arizona.

Adam James is the son of Debbie and William Hodge. James resides in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is an honors student at Hartshorne and is with the Choctaw Nation Upper Bound Math and Science Program. He plans to attend Eastern State Oklahoma State College and study computer science. He has received the EOSC Presidential Scholarship.

Stacy Jessie is the daughter of Julia and Eastman Jessie. She is from Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Stacy was an officer in FFA at Hartshorne High School. She is scheduled to attend classes in the fall at Eastern State Oklahoma State College. She has not declared her major in psychology.

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Abbe James is the son of Abbe and Boney James. Abbe is from the Choctaw Nation. He is enrolled at Eastern State Oklahoma State College and plans to major in computer science.

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Zachary McGirt is the son of Randy McGirt and Carolyn Tiger. Zach is from Idaho. Oklahoma. Randy was in honors choir and Gifted and Talented at Hartshorne. He has also received the Presidential Tribute to Excellence in the arts. Randy plans to attend the University of Oklahoma and pursue a career in the arts.

Bratcher Norris is the son of Manuel and Ramona Norris. Bratcher is from Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was the Jones Academy 2002 Student Council President. Bratcher was a member of the Choctaw Nation Upward Bound Math and Science Program where he excelled in math-science. Bratcher was recognized by his teachers for his artistic abilities. Bratcher will be attending Eastern State Oklahoma State College in the fall.

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Fad diets: What you may be missing

Ten Red Flags that signal bad nutrition advice

1. Recommendations that promise a quick fix.
2. Dire warnings of dangers from a single product or regimen.
3. Claims that sound too good to be true.
4. Simplistic conclusions drawn from a complex study.
5. Recommendations based on a single study.
6. Dramatic statements that are refuted by reputable scientific organizations.
7. Loss of “good” and “bad” foods.
8. Recommendations made to help sell a product.
10. Recommendations from studies that ignore differences among individuals or groups.

Heartwarming Vegetable Stew

3 1/4 cups chicken broth, divided
2 medium onions, coarsely chopped
1 1/2 cups diced potatoes
1 1/2 cups diced carrots
1 1/2 cups diced celery
3 cups bottled mixed greens
2 cups chopped tomatoes
1 1/2 cups chopped zucchini
1 1/2 cups chopped bell peppers
1/2 cup chopped green onions
1/2 cup chopped parsley
3 1/4 teaspoons Italian seasoning
2 1/4 teaspoons garlic salt
1 1/4 teaspoons unsweetened vinegar
1/2 cup sliced almonds
1/2 cup minced parsley
Fresh or dried parsley leaves

In a large saucepan, combine 2 cups of the broth and the onions; bring to a boil. Add potatoes, celery, tomatoes, zucchini, bell peppers, green onions, parsley, almonds, and parsley leaves. Stir to combine. Reduce heat to low, cover, and simmer gently for 1 1/2 hours or until vegetables are tender. Add remaining 1 1/4 cups broth and remaining parsley leaves. Cover and simmer for an additional 30 minutes or until mixture thickens slightly.

Nutrition Information per serving: 140 calories; 3 grams fat; 7 milligrams cholesterol; 25 milligrams sodium; 24 grams carbohydrate; 4 grams protein

Preparation time: 20 minutes. Cooking time: 35 minutes. Makes 6 (2-cup) servings

Vocabulary

calorie: A unit of measurement for food energy.

Dietary fiber: A type of carbohydrate that cannot be broken down by human digestive enzymes.

Nutrient: A substance that is essential for the growth and health of an organism.

Supplement: A product that contains nutrients in a form that can be consumed for health benefits.

Food poisoning: An illness caused by consuming foods that are contaminated with harmful bacteria, viruses, or toxins.

Gastrointestinal: Relating to the movement of food through the digestive system.

Fad diet: A diet that promises rapid weight loss through extreme restriction of food intake.

Vocaloid: A technology that allows for the creation of natural-sounding human voices.

Audiology: The medical specialty that deals with hearing and related disorders.

Cardiovascular: Relating to the heart and blood vessels.

Aboriginal: Pertaining to people of a particular region before the arrival of Europeans.

Access: The ability to use a technology or service.

Community: A group of people who share common interests or characteristics.

Chocotaw Nation Cardiovascular Coalition

Building strong hearts, healthy lives and a healthy nation

The Chocotaw Nation Cardiovascular Coalition was established on July 1, 2002, with the goal of improving cardiovascular health among the Choctaw Nation. The coalition is made up of representatives from various organizations within the Choctaw Nation, including the Choctaw Nation Health Department, the Choctaw Nation Education Department, and the Choctaw Nation Elders Council.

The Chocotaw Nation Cardiovascular Coalition provides resources and support to individuals and communities to promote heart health and prevent cardiovascular disease. The coalition works to raise awareness about heart health, provide education and information, and encourage healthy lifestyle choices.

Program News

Congratulations to Carolyn “Suzi” Langston and Athena Hazen who received their temporary permits from Occupa- tion Licensing of the Oklahoma State Department of Health. They will now be able to practice as a Hear- ing Aid Dealer/Fitter under the supervision of the licensed HAF/LAN. Now they are studying hard and practicing for the licensing exam.

Audiological testing, hearing aid device diagnosis and selection and proper fitting of amplification instruments are in- cluded in their scope of practice. These can be challenging duties but the rewards are immeasur- able. To help bring the hard of hearing back into the world of sound makes this job a delight.

We wish them luck and keep up the good work.

Chocotaw Firefighters

The Chocotaw Firefighters left May 9 for Arizona. They were on the Prescott Forest Fire, Indian Fire.

The community of Prescott planned a thank you program on May 19 the fairgrounds in appreciation for the fire crew who is helping there – Chocotaw #3, Calico #28 and Pioneer #29. The crew has been bombarded with “thanks” and “pizzas” like cookies. The food should be appreciated for the fire crews there.

The Chocotaw Firefighters from the Chocotaw Nation are: Tony Anderson, Jonah Young, Jeff Smith, Keith Gimble, Steven Bonier, Michael fascinating, Thomas Stewart, Richard Bohanan, Andy Nash and John Reebok.

Audiology Department

Congratulations to Carolyn “Suzi” Langston and Athena Hazen who received their temporary permits from Occupation Licensing of the Oklahoma State Department of Health. They will now be able to practice as a Hearing Aid Dealer/Fitter under the supervision of the licensed HAF/LAN. Now they are studying hard and practicing for the licensing exam.

Audiological testing, hearing aid device diagnosis and selection and proper fitting of amplification instruments are included in their scope of practice. These can be challenging duties but the rewards are immeasurable. To help bring the hard of hearing back into the world of sound makes this job a delight.

We wish them luck and keep up the good work.

A Vocational Rehabilitation and Disability Employment Representative will be available at the locations listed above. A representative is available Monday through Friday 8–4:30 except for holidays at the Hugo office.
June 2002,

BISHINIK,

Page 5

Buddy and Sheila Kyle of Owasso and Sally Payne and Rebeka Lockhead of Paris, Texas.

Delores and Walter Dye of Talihina tour the Wheelock grounds. Delores graduated from Wheelock in 1952 and enjoys remembering the fun she had there. They both attended Chilocco.

Lavon, Shineesta and Solomon Tonihka of Wright City.

Tia Battiest, Chief Greg Pyle and Desiree Nuah.

Buddy and Sheila Kyle of Owasso and Sally Payne and Rebeka Lockhead of Paris, Texas.

Members of the Kulli-Chito Church donated the proceeds from their grilled burgers and scrumptious fried pies to the men’s group. The five pictured are Keith Baker, Kay Baker, Jeremy Jones, Alan Lewis and Kelly Baker.

Marva Sampson of Edmond and Tori take a break during the walk.

Virginia Rutledge of Millerton; her mother, Sarah Belvin of Boswell, and Ima Holden of Bennington.

T.J. Tippmann, 10, of Loveland, Colorado joins cousins Brandon Zaicek, 5, and Tyler Zaicek, 2, for the walk. Their grandmother, Sherley Zaicek, is from Crystal.

Louis and Robert Whitfield of Golden visit with Chief Greg Pyle. Louis worked at Wheelock when it was used as a school.

Damien Jacob, Charbara Ostgarden and Valentina and Victoria Reyes, all of Wright City.

All that walking makes for a hearty appetite.

Louis and Walter Dye of Talihina tour the Wheelock grounds. Delores graduated from Wheelock in 1952 and enjoys remembering the fun she had there. They both attended Chilocco.

Michael Miller is tired of riding. He pushes his plastic boat with Nakishi Zilliox close by.

Kristen Scott

C.J. and Margie Burnam of Ardmore and Jimmy Lions of Alabaster, Alabama. Jimmy was raised in Hughes County.

Tia Battiest, Chief Greg Pyle and Desiree Nuah.

Louis and Walter Dye of Talihina tour the Wheelock grounds. Delores graduated from Wheelock in 1952 and enjoys remembering the fun she had there. They both attended Chilocco.

Damien Jacob, Charbara Ostgarden and Valentina and Victoria Reyes, all of Wright City.

All that walking makes for a hearty appetite.
Tana to enter professional performing arts program

The American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City is pleased to announce that Tana Tike Takoe horse has been accepted into the professional performing arts program for 2002-03. Admission to AMDA is competitive and only students with the admission from throughout the U.S. Canada and many foreign countries. This year, students audition in 10 cities in the U.S. and four cities in Canada. The full-time enrollment in AMDA's two-year pro- gram is 350 students. AMDA was founded in 1994 as a performing arts conservatory. AMDA graduates have appeared in "Sweet and Lowdown," "Secrets of Stone," "Rock, "American Beauty," and "Teaching Mrs. Tingle." Recent television credits for AMDA graduates include "Judging Amy," "The Practice," "Two of a Kind," "Touched by an Angel," "Becker," "Get Real," and "Law and Order." AMDA students have achieved success as actors, singers, directors, producers, choreographers, musical directors, playwrights, casting directors and agents.

Pageant state finalist

Deacon Wamego, 10, has been selected as a state finalist in the Miss Oklahoma American Civil War Pageant. This event is held for girls ages 11 through 18. The winner of each division will receive a cash award, a full scholarship and a plaque for the school's yearbook for the whole school year next year.

Chucky birth day, Kailyn

Kailyn Ward of Durant, Oklahoma, was selected as a finalist in the Pre-Teen Oklahoma Scholarship and Recognition Program, held in May at the Marriott Southern Hills in Tulsa. Pre-Teen Oklahoma is a by-invita-
tion only scholarship and recognition program involving young ladies seven to twelve years of age based on their academic achievement and par-
ticipation in outside activities.

Kalan earns perfect marks

Kalan Cox Maxwell of Houston, Texas, graduated from pre-kinderga-
ter at Discovery Kangaroo pre-
school on May 21. He was one of four 3-year-olds in the class of 2002 to earn perfect marks in all his subjects.

Happy fourth, Samuel

Cheyuma Lyons Deegee wants to wish her brother, Samuel Ray Deegee, a very happy birthday! Samuel will be turning four years old on June 15. He is the son of Jerry and Michelle Deegee of Hartshorne. Grandparents are Frank and Janet Deegee of Hartshorne and Sharon and Darrell DeWitt of McAlester. Cousin: Meckinno Great-grandpar-
tients are Charles Samuels and the late Wesley Samuels of McAlester, Harold and Myrtle Dugger of Hartshorne and Coleman and Reba Pough of Dow. Garland celebrates 65 years of marriage

Dr. Clinton and Hazel Garland of Tulsa celebrated their 65th wedding an-
iversary on May 5, 2002. Their family honored them with a dinner at Flavors Restaurant in Tulsa. The couple were married May 15, 1937 in Stigler. They have three chil-
dren, James C. Garland and Jerry Garland and wife, Karolyn, all of Hugo, Oklahoma.

HAPPY 4TH BIRTHDAY, KYLE

Happy fourth birthday, Kyle. We like to wish Kyle Blake a very happy birthday on June 5. Kyle is the son of J.R. and Angela Rut-
ton of Broken Bow. He has a brother, Quinton, and a new sister, Lainey. His great-grandparents are Rose and Jim Snowall of Eufaula, Oklahoma and Frank and Jack Rutton of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Happy 15th birthday, Garry

Happy 15th birthday to Garry Ellis Freeny, Jr. graduated from the Oklahoma/Highway Patrol on October 4, which is a great honor! He attended Skiatook High School, then went on to Haskell Indian Nations Uni-
versity where he graduated with hon-
ers. He then worked at Direct Corps Com-
munity for five years. He is married to Tonya in Pat. Garry is a direct descendant of original enrolee Ben Freeny.

Ecuador graduate

Jana Barnes of Mclester, Okla-
da graduated May 11 from East Central University in Ada with hon-
ers. She holds a Master’s Degree in Secondary Education, specializing in education technology. For the past year, she has been teaching under-
graduate education technology classes at East Central University. She helped design and instructed weekly workshops for fac-
tors in education technology.

During her graduate studies, she was a member of the Board of Directors where she represented the graduate students of East Central University. During this time period, she attended special classes for certifi-
cation of Local Technology Teachers. Upon leaving East Central, she was awarded a Bachelors of Art in Education. She studied matrix design, jewelry making and art therapy at the University of Oklahoma.

Jana is a member of the First Baptist Church of McAlester and the mother of Bryce and Bryce Kellingworth, the daughter of Kim and Betty Barnes of Hartshorne and sister to Steven Barnes of Ft. Worth, Texas. Jana is in the grandaughter of Tex Bowren of Sopchoppy, Oklahoma. She says she would like to use her education and future in career in instructional design.

Jarrett receives baseball scholarship

Jarrett Gardin, a graduate of Hartshorne High School, has been awarded the yearbook for the whole school next year.

Happy June birthdays

Happy 40th birthday to Jimmy Hartshorne and Sharon and Daniel Hudson, live in McAlester. He is the grand-
son of Katherine Ward of Talihina, Oklahoma and Polly Ward and Lucille Ward and the great-
great-granddaughter of Stella Freeny Hattox of Bro-
ckton, Maine. They have three chil-
dren, James C. Garland and Jerry Garland and wife, Karolyn, all of Hugo, Oklahoma.

Kalian day event with other state winners for Pre-Calculus. The full-time enrollment in AMDA's two-year pro-
gram will receive a cash award, a full

Friday, June 21
Page 6:30 p.m.
675x0 to 783x932

Hudson, live in McAlester. He is the grand-
son of Katherine Ward of Talihina, Oklahoma and Polly Ward and Lucille Ward and the great-
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ckton, Maine. They have three chil-
dren, James C. Garland and Jerry Garland and wife, Karolyn, all of Hugo, Oklahoma.
Brandon turns two years old

Happy birthday to Brandon Lee Felkner! Brandon turns two on July 24. His proud parents are Robert and Debra Felkner of Moore, North Carolina. His grandparents are Eunice and Bill Felkner of Paris, Texas, the late Coleman Felkner of Paris, Texas, J. Irvin Koermer of Tutwell, Arizona and Hans Krueger of Phoenix, Arizona. We all love you very much.

Jon-Andrew celebrates 14th birthday

The family of Jon-Andrew Martin would like to wish him a very happy 14th birthday on May 22. Jon-Andrew is the son of James and Sheila Martin of Alden, Oklahoma. little brother to Michael and great-grandson of Herman and Betty Griffin of Lawton, Oklahoma and Otis and Joyce Martin of McAlester, Oklahoma. Jon-Andrew is the great-grandson of Mary Wall of Atalissa of whom he is very proud.

Happy eighth birthday, Bubba

Happy birthday to Bubba who is pictured on this cover with his father, Jon-Andrew, his little sister, hopeful to attend in October, and friend Tommy Wildcat. Bubba is the grandson of Cheryl from Table- quah, Oklahoma and is a nationally known performer, flute player. Bubba makes his own flute and is currently taking music lessons with his grandpa, and the great-grandchildren of the late Dick Polk.

Jennifer Williams celebrates ninth birthday

Jennifer Lynn Williams of Stone- well, Oklahoma celebrated her ninth birthday on May 14. Jennifer’s parents are Barry and Linda Williams of Stonewell. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Averil Williams of Stonewell, Oklahoma, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scott of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Happy birthday!

Christian turns 12

Christina Ann celebrated her 12th birthday on June 13. She is the daughter of Rodney and Misty Williams of Wewoka, Oklahoma. Christina is the granddaughter of Rich and Julia Berrier of Durant, Oklahoma and the great-granddaughter of the late Newt Felihkatubbe. Christina is proud of you!

Christian to celebrate in Scooby-Doo style

Happy birthday wishes are being sent from afar for his family. Christian is the son of Roger Anderson and Leslie Mattice and the little brother of Tally Anderson, all of Norman, Oklahoma. Christian is the grandson of the late Dick Anderson and the late Donald Anderson. He will celebrate his birthday in “Scooby-Doo style” on June 27 with friends and family in Norman.

Kerwin and Kira togs in citizenship

Skye Kerwin and Kira Moore received citizenship awards at Wright City Schools. Kerwin has been listed on the honor roll for the last three years and is involved in basketball and track. Kira is also an honor roll student and enjoys softball.

Natascha wins first at science fair

The bride is part Cherokee and the beautiful daughter of Nancy and Kyle Ashbrook. The bride’s family resides in Elk City, Oklahoma.

Guj Neal celebrates 80th birthday

Guy Neal turned 80 years old on June 3. He celebrated his birthday with a party on Sunday, June 6, 2022 at the home of his children, Jim Neal, Jan Toth, Pat Lancaster, Dayna Hunter and Dwayne Neal, and other relatives from Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming.

Nyssa Barboan, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma wish to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Bailey Nicole Cargill. Bailey was born on May 2, 2022 at Regional Medical Center of Southern Oklahoma in Carlsbad, New Mexico. The bride is part Cherokee and the beautiful daughter of Nancy and Kyle Ashbrook. The bride’s family resides in Elk City, Oklahoma.
First place winners in the Gospel Singing Contest are vocalists from District 7.

Winners in the men's hat contests are Marvin Ginn of Quinton, first place; Roy Folsom of McAlester, second, and John McKinney of Broken Bow, third.

First place winners in the Gospel Singing Contest are vocalists from District 7.

The group from District 11 won second place in the Gospel Singing Contest.

Councilman James Frazier presents a gift basket to a door prize winner.

Ted Dosh, Councilman for Bryan County, greets some of his friends.

 YOU ARE NEEDED!!!

Members support Historical Society

The Choctaw Nation Historical Society is having an Art Contest to design a seal for the Society. Anyone can enter. The drawing can be no smaller than 3”-by-5” or no larger than 8”-by-10”. Deadline to submit contest entries is August 1, 2002. The winner will receive a four membership, a two-year subscription to our quarterly journal and a free T-shirt with his or her design. For more information and an application, you can write to:

The Choctaw Nation Historical Society
P.O. Box 485
Talihina, OK 74571-0485

Attention artists, young and old

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The Choctaw Nation Historical Society
P.O. Box 485
Talihina, OK 74571-0485

Youth and Young Adult Classes

GED CLASSES

LeFlore County
Beginning June 24, 2002
Mondays & Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Kiamichi Technology Center in Talihina, Oklahoma

Pittsburg County
Beginning June 25, 2002
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
EOSC Campus, 1002 E. Colleges Ave, McAlester, Oklahoma

Bryan County
Beginning July 8, 2002
Mondays and Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Choctaw Nation Tribal Complex, Durant, Oklahoma (south building, downstairs)

McCurttain County
Beginning July 9, 2002
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Choctaw Nation Community Center, Idabel, Oklahoma

The class will meet two days each week for approximately three months. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. In addition, a $10 per day transportation stipend is paid to those who attend classes on a regular basis and attempt the GED test. If you have turned in an application with our Adult Education Program for GED classes and wish to attend the upcoming class, please contact our office. If you have not applied and wish to attend these or future classes, please contact Linda Tyler or Felicia Caras at the Durant office or call 800-522-6170 or 580-924-8280, ext. 2319. Also, you may register at the first day of class. A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is required.

The best three hats in the women’s division belong to Evelyn Prock of Wilburton, first place; Elenora Fullerton of Ada, second, and Roberta Durant of McAlester, third.

Monia Stokes of Kemp accepts the award of honor from Chief Pyle for her mother, original enrollee Goldia Turnbull Phillips of Denison.

Juanita Noah accepts the award of honor from Chief Pyle for her mother, original enrollee Lottie Thomas West of Red Oak, Oklahoma.
Gibson, Loman depict famous Native Americans

The BISHINIK would like to apologize for printing the wrong names under the photos of the men who portrayed Pushmataha and Tecumseh during Choctaw Heritage Day.

Talus Gibson gave an outstanding portrayal of Chief Pushmataha as did Michael Loman of Tecumseh.

The Choctaw Nation appreciates the time and effort required of these men to deliver such presentations. As did Michael Loman of Tecumseh.

To date, 76 homes have had repairs or weatherization work completed. These funds supplemented Housing Authority block grant funds provided by the HUD Native American Housing and Self Determination Act (NASHDSA) program and target Mutual Help homes whose title has been conveyed.

Under the leadership of Chief Gregory E. Pyke, the Paid Off Mutual Help Rehabilitation Program was implemented in order to serve the needs of low income elderly and disabled owners of homes that have been paid off.

The CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA Department of Community Development is charging the tribe’s share of the Community Development Block Grant and other funding sources to provide grants for down payment assistance, housing rehabilitation, and home preservation. These grants have allowed the Housing Authority to leverage over $750,000 in funds used to rehabilitate and protect the viability of older homes owned by low income elderly and disabled Tribal members.

To date, 76 homes have had repairs or weatherization work completed. These funds supplemented Housing Authority block grant funds provided by the HUD Native American Housing and Self Determination Act (NASHDSA) program and target Mutual Help homes whose title has been conveyed.

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Council continued from Page 1

The government site will issue vouchers that they are on the official Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma website.

Also approved during the Saturday morning meeting were:

• Two three-year farming and grazing leases on separate tracts of tribal land in Choctaw County, one in favor of Billy Porch of Anokwe and the other in favor of Ralph Ward of Hugo.

• An annual buy back revocable permit in favor of Hulan Blagg of Talihina.

• Two oil and gas leases in favor of Williams Production Mid-continent Company of Tulsa, and

• A seismic permit on tribal trust land in Latimer County in favor of CGG Canada Services, Ltd of Harwood.

Grant continued from Page 1

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The Rev. Jackson H. Shoemaker

Jackson H. Shoemaker

The Rev. Jackson H. Shoemaker, 81, of Norman, Oklahoma passed away Tuesday, May 14, 2002, in Norman, Oklahoma. He was born on November 10, 1920 in Ardmore, Oklahoma to Henry and Elizabeth Shoemaker. He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, James; sister, Nora; stepson, Jonathan, and a nephew, Wesley.

He attended the local schools and graduated from Reedley High School and Reed College.

Mr. Shoemaker served in the U.S. Army in Germany. He was a longtime member of the Baptist faith. He was an ordained pastor for 50 years and had served churches at Degman, Burns Chapel, Eufaula, Cupco, Bengal and Tate's Chapel.

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Survivors include her husband, Sampson Parish of the home; sons, John L. Porter of Wilburton, Oklahoma; 29 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, nine great-great-grandchildren; six great-great-great-grandchildren; two great-great-great-great-grandchildren; and many great-great-great-great-great-grandchildren.

Evelyn Lee Randel-Maynor

Maxine Rose Lee Randel-Maynor

Maxine Rose Lee Randel-Maynor passed away Friday, March 29, 2002 in Oklahoma City.

She was born on July 13, 1910 in Elston, Iowa.

She loved the Choctaw tribe and was proud to be a Native American.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sisters, brothers, and a host of friends.

Raymond Shoemaker, Sr.

Gene Raymond Porter

Gene Raymond Porter, 64, passed away Monday, May 20, 2002 at the veterans administration medical center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He was born July 3, 1937 in Norman, Texas to John Dewey and Ora Margaret (McLean) Porter.

Mr. Porter was stationed in Germany while serving in the U.S. Army from 1954 until 1957. He was a bricklayer and stone mason, having worked in California, Arizona, Texas and Oklahoma. He married the former Arlene Crone on June 17, 1958 in Clovis, New Mexico, and they had lived in Ringling, Oklahoma since 1975.

He was preceded in death by his father in 1967, his mother in 1999, two brothers, Jack in 1976 and John in 1996, and a sister, Mary Lou in 1997.

Survivors include his wife of the home; a son, John L. Porter of Wilburton, Oklahoma; 29 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, nine great-great-grandchildren; six great-great-great-grandchildren; and many great-great-great-great-grandchildren.

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