By Bent Moss

School may be out for sum-
mer, but the learning has not
stopped. This is especially
true for participants of the Work-
force Investment Act (WIA).
WIA, an annual program
lasting five weeks of the sum-
mer began on June 1. It allows
students, ages 14-21 to attend a
summer job at various work-
sites within the 10-1/2 counties
of the Choctaw Nation. These
students are able to gain work
experience while employed at
a multitude of businesses such
as libraries, flower shops, day
cares and convenience stores.

Summer 14-19 students are
participating in the program.
All participants are able to
work up to 40 hours a week and
are paid for their work hours.
They will be able to learn from
the ground up of the business
for which they choose to work.
“We want to teach them skills
to be dependable and respon-
sible,” stated Patty Mink, Direc-
tor of WIA. “We want to give
them valuable work experience
and get them used to the work-
force,” she continued.
WIA is a beneficial program
not just for the students, but
for all involved. Choctaw Na-
tion pays for the wages of the
participants, giving the work-
site the means of labor for
only the cost of training a new
employee. Also, the wages the
students earn are usually spent
within the community, which
boosts local businesses.
The students are allowed to
choose the business where
they will be able to learn from
the ground up of the business
for which they choose to work.

At Red River Museum, sullen
would assist museum visitors.

WIA youth attend a day of Xtreme Possibilities = Power

Chocataw Youth obtaining valuable work experience

Self-Governance witnesses offering testimony in favor of passing HR 4437 included Marvin D. Levine, chairman of the Three Affiliated Tribes in North Dakota, Gregory E. Pyle, Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Donovan Gomez, Tribal Program Administrator for the Taos Pueblo in New Mexico. They are pictured here with Congressman Dan Boren.

By Judy Allen

Chocataw Chief Gregory E. Pyle was invited to testify in front of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources on the historic dialogue with Tribal Self-Governance. His testimony requested that Congress pass HR 4437, which would create consensus between the Title IV Self-Governance initiative in the Department of Interior and the Title V Self-Governance initiative in the Department of Health and Human Services.

According to Chief Pyle and others who spoke in favor of passing HR 4437, Title IV and Title V are two different sets of admin-
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“Self-governance is about tribal empowerment, accountability, responsibility and self-sufficiency,” said Chief Pyle. “There are 290 tribes under self-governance because it places management responsibility in the hands of those who care most about seeing Tribal programs succeed and services to citizens improved – the Tribal government itself,” said Chief Pyle.

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we celebrated Amber's graduation on June 5.

The Choctaw Nation's jet descend over our home into Nampa. It was a wonderful feeling to see Josh was flown from San Antonio, Texas, to provide service to this organization last October when he was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device while serving as a Marine sniper in Afghanistan. The program made it possible for my daughter's father to support the life and ways of the Choctaw People.

I could not have made it here in Hartshorne to sit for my board exam. After becoming licensed to practice medicine in Poteau as a graduate pharmacist intern three years of my tuition.

If you are receiving more than one BISHINIK at your home or if your address or phone number has changed, please call Ext. 2101 for Lillie. We have given people from all over southeastern Oklahoma the fortune of being accepted into the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy and graduates have gone on to lead successful careers in health care.

I am currently working for the Choctaw Nation. My job is awaiting my return to Oklahoma State University. First爅am, and then a year at the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy and graduate school.

I have been so humbled in spirit by the support of our families, friends, and co-workers. We might not have understood how you others depend on us. How important just being there meant. The love of a kind suddenly brings this full view. No amount of preparation can prepare us for this loss of a husband, a father, a grandfather, a great-grandfather, a brother, an uncle, a very close friend that Christian that Virgil was. Only the power of a personal relationship with the Lord can take us through these kinds of times in our lives. Virgil had that relationship. Because of his family and church leadership, we too have this relationship.

I have just returned from a trip to Caddo to help close the Turnbull Cemetery. This is a once-a-year project, it was my first time to go and where the majority of our people are buried. Not only must I count for the first time who made that final journey, but also the opportunity to see the graves and headstones of my ancestors. The cemetery is a beautiful site. I felt so honored to have been invited.

I am a descendant of Turner Brooks Turnbull; John and Julia Perkins Turnbull; Junius Mathis and Anna Ann Perkins; Robert Lewis and Effie Mathis Plaster; John Mathis and Elizabeth Mathis. My great-grandparents; Angeline Mathis Turnbull and William Mathis were buried there.

I am one day to go to our tribal headquarters in Durant. It is such a beautiful building and great to see the tribal leaders and all the help who have helped me. I just want to say thank you for all the help I received while at the headquarters and that I am proud to be a Choctaw of the Choctaw Nation.

I am honored to be a Choctaw of the Choctaw Nation. As long as I live, I will keep our traditions strong and always be proud of being Choctaw. The Watson Board of Education is a great institution.

The touching of lives and hearts

On Monday, May 10, 2010, Elder Virgil Ott of the 1st Baptist Church in Durant passed away and left behind a family and a community that loved him and who will miss him. Virgil Ott had been in good health up until he went to Heaven on May 7, 2010.

Mr. Ott was a great man in so many ways. He had a true heart and concern for people.

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Our Goal: Aspiration to protect water resources in our state

From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

It is important that this very serious matter reach all of our Tribal members. We have a deep-rooted history and heart-felt connection to our land and our natural resources and our environment. Water is vital to our Tribal existence and was blessed in Oklahoma with beautiful rivers and lakes that have supplied our families, towns, wildlife, environment and recreational activities. Sustainable development for all of Oklahoma is incredibly important. Our water resources are depending on all of us to protect the resources that are available to us. If we do not protect these resources will still be accessible. The leaders of our tribe and citizen will be talking about your concerns.

The sports area has had some tremendous improvements as well. Shading is over all the bleachers, inflatables are being rear ranged, and water slides have been installed.

The Choctaw Nation has a plan to get the Festival moving again. We will be getting the Festival Day program with the full printed and on line web page. Entrance to the Festival and concerts are free, and everyone is welcome.

The Festival is very important and we will be seeing the results of an all-inclusive energy project by the Choctaw Nation.

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Tushka Homma. This larger-than-life statue of a warrior poised est (and largest) piece of artwork commissioned by the tribe at homage being paid to Choctaw heritage. The theme of the event, the arts and crafts building is very attractive, incorporating colors and shapes that fit well with the landscape and coordinate with the cafeteria constructed last year.

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Welcome to summer! With all the wonderful fireworks and family gatherings, let’s not forget to keep our children safe and sound. When evening grilling arrives, another Ben- net family recipe is sure to be a hit. What better time than summer to in- troduce some new and maybe a different spin? Skewer and grill fruits and vegetables. What a wonderful way to enjoy the bounty of seasonal fruits and vegetables. Let’s not forget to introduce some new and maybe a different spin to prepare to take the GED test. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. The class will serve up summer favorites...with a spin. 1 teaspoon each 1/4 cup red bell pepper, finely chopped 1 jalapeno, finely chopped 2. Grill over medium heat and season inside and out. 3. Remove the filets and season with Salt and Garlic, 1 teaspoon each 1 green onion, chopped 1 tablespoon lime juice 1 tablespoon lime juice 1 tablespoon lime juice 4. Add up to more ounces of mixed salad, side dishes, and desserts. Chuck Tyn McNeil of Oklahoma City is a child swimming pool safety expert. He is advising parents to make sure that no pool grates around the entire pool and be sure to check the pool first. If the un- attends to prevent it. As an example, at the Choctaw Nation, an exper- imental group focused on pregnant teen mothers, their child, male partner and extended family members. They are provided through prenatal education, relationship enhancement pro- grams, and parenting workshops. For more information or questions about child safety please call: Angela Dancier, Director, at 977-285-8609.

Prevent child injuries

Children + summer + vehicle = deadly combo

Over the past few months, nine children have died while alone in a vehicle, and summer hasn’t even officially begun. Did you know that a child’s body heats up three to five times faster than an adult’s? It only takes a few minutes to become dangerously overheated. Every year, more than 30 children die because they are alone in a car. In just 10 minutes a car’s temperature can rise 20 degrees—and it can continue to rise. If left unattended, the windows help prevent the temperature in vehicle interiors from reaching dangerous levels. In fact, heat-related deaths are not a problem if people talk to their children’s pediatricians if they see signs of depression and suspect drug use.

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The Oklahoma Farm Service Agency (SBA) recently an- nounced the date and location of the next Veteran Outreach workshops. The upcoming workshop will be held in Oklahoma City on August 25.

The SBA is proud to announce that it will be hosting the next Veteran Outreach workshop in Oklahoma City. The event is scheduled for August 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Choctaw Nation Cultural Center located at 700 Choctaw Ave, Claremore, OK 74017.

During this event, the SBA will provide valuable information on how to start and grow a business. They will also offer assistance for those who want to expand their operations or improve their existing businesses.

In addition to providing resources and guidance, the SBA will have representatives available to answer any questions that attendees may have.

If you are interested in attending the next Veteran Outreach workshop, please be sure to register in advance. This event is open to all veterans, active military, and military spouses. To register, please visit the SBA’s website at www.sba.gov or call 1-800-654-6272.

We encourage all veterans and military members to attend this event and take advantage of the resources offered by the SBA. Together, we can help our veterans achieve their goals and build successful businesses.
Texas. She is also the granddaughter of John and Francis Brown of Oklahoma City. Elizabeth would be a kindergarten graduate in May 2010. She is the daughter of John and Mary Payne of Hugo, and Cary Peters of Broken Bow, who are the parents of excellent students in the 8th grade! Proud parents are mother Mary Payne of Hugo and Cary Peters, step-father Larry Bourque.
New member of the Wahkinney family

Gina Ratais Irene and Joseph Ronald Wahkinney were married on June 11 at the Grandisson Inn in Oklahoma City. Officiating was Jody Kellogg from the Emmaeus Baptist Church.

Gina is the daughter of Patricia Rodrigues of Wilbur, Ore., and the late Harold Irene, Joseph is the son of Kevin and Vera Wahkinney of Lawton. She attended Williamette University and graduated in 1999. Joe attended an art academy in Portland. They attended the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences and graduated in 1999. They reside in Oklahoma City at the Grandisson Inn.

Meadows, Ferguson marry

Mjt. Jonathan D. Ferguson, USMC of Ohio and Diane E. Meadows of San Diego were married May 21 in Las Vegas. The couple was attended by their parents, David and Helen Ferguson of Ohio, Jaron Jacobson and Jennifer Meadows of California and Vincent and Fran Ferguson of Pennsylvania.

The groom is the grandson of the late Homer and Minnie Voyles, formerly of Tahlequah. The new couple plans a delayed honeymoon. They will temporarily reside in California.

Jones and Hanickwicz

On June 20, Charles Jones and Kristy Hanickwicz were married in Eureka Springs, Ark. Together they have six children and five grandchildren. Charles and Kristy currently reside in Tulsa. They will relocate to southwest Oklahoma in the near future. They are looking from Spire to Tahlequah.

Saphire is 21!

Saphire Storm Alexander celebrates her 21st birthday July 2. She is the daughter of Gena and Joey Wahkinney and Guy Alexander. Her grandparents are Patricia Roberts of Wilbur, Ore. and Guy Alexander. Her grandparents are Patricia Roberts of Wilbur, Ore. and Guy Alexander. She was joined by her two daughters, Rebecca Traeusro and Sam, who is Sandra’s twin brother.

Geraldine was raised in Hartshorne and attended school there. She has lived in Atoka, Okla., for 64 years and has a son, Sam, who is Sandra’s twin brother.

She is the great-granddaughter of the late Joe Hoklotubbee, granddaughter of original enrollee Adeline Hoklotubbee Price, great-granddaughter of the late Garret B. Price and grandson of Robert Price. She grew up in Tahlequah and attended school there. She grew up in Tahlequah and attended school there.

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Enroll Now @ Jones Academy!

We are accepting applications for the 2010 Fall Semester. We have openings in specific grades 1-12. Tour our elementary school facilities and dorms. Come Join Us! Be a Part of the Future! Take advantage of the residential program benefits:

- Tutorial Assistance for All Grades (Grades K-12)
- Rewards for Academic Achievement
- High School Graduation Expenditure Paid Scholarships
- Career Counseling/College and Post-Secondary Preparation
- Voc-Tech Training
- Summer Youth Work Program
- Medical and Counseling Services Provided
- Alternative Education Program
- Cultural Activities
- Recreational Activities & Educational Trips
- Agriculture Program

Please call for a tour or an application at toll free (888) 767-2518 or access www.jonesacademy.org or write to:

Jones Academy
1145 N. Main
Hartshorne, Oklahoma 74447

B.J. Numn, Jones Academy Agriculture Supervisor.

Rock Creek
FFA student raises champions

Ashton Thompson of the Rock Creek FFA participated in the 2010 Oklahoma Youth Expo in Oklahoma City. Ashton exhibited the Division 2 Champion Cross Gilt (which she raised) and was the third gilt overall at the Expo.

Rosiere awarded scholarships

Three Jones Academy students were inducted into the Oklahoma Honor Society for the 2009-10 academic year. The students were selected based upon their GPAs during the spring and fall semesters of 2009. Ashton Thompson of the Rock Creek FFA participated in the 2010 Oklahoma Youth Expo in Oklahoma City. Ashton exhibited the Division 2 Champion Cross Gilt (which she raised) and was the third gilt overall at the Expo.

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Chocotaw SAP students win Udall Scholarships

Three Chocotaw Nation (ONC) Scholars are named as 2010 Udall Scholars. The ONC/NYO/ONF Scholarships are awarded to Native American college students who demonstrate leadership in environmental and public policy initiatives. TOHATI (Tribal Opportunities for Higher Achievement Through Indian Training in Institutions) is America's most prestigious scholarships.

The Udall Foundation provides annual awards for college students intending to pursue careers related to the environment, as well as Native American career development. Each scholarship carries a $7,000 award that pays for college education costs, including tuition, fees, room and board.

Kelbie Kennedy/Eastern Oklahoma State College President of the OSU chapter and Stewart L. Udall’s vast experience in the field of environmental and tribal governance. She plans to pursue a career in International Law.

Kelbie Kennedy
Lauren A. White
Charly Bowley

Kelbie Kennedy is a sophomore English major graduating this spring from Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilmar. She will be attending University of Oklahoma in the fall as communications major in Native American studies and international studies. The goal of her career is to be a communications and environmental journalist.

Lauren A. White

Lauren A. White/Oklahoma State University

Lauren is a scholarship graduate from the First-Generation Program at OSU. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. She is an avid reader of books, magazines and newspapers. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends, traveling, playing tennis, reading and watching the Oklahoma Sooners and Dallas Cowboys.

Charly Bowley

Charly is a sophomore Environmental Science Policy major at Oklahoma State University. She plans to pursue a career in international sustainable development after getting her master’s degree in sustainable society.

Kelbie Kennedy

Kelbie was born and raised in Yuba, Oklahoma. Her Native American heritage has greatly influenced her path, and she will use the knowledge she gains to help the Chocotaw Nation of Oklahoma with its future international initiatives. Kelbie takes great pride in being a positive role model for students through her many campus roles on campus. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends, as well as traveling and camping.

Lauren A. White/ Oklahoma State University

Lauren is a daughter of two Choctaw law school graduates. The University of Oklahoma is located in Norman, Oklahoma, and is one of the top 25 public research universities in the nation.

Chocotaw Spotlight

Blake Redwine – SAP Spotlight Student

Blake Redwine is a Finance major graduating this spring from the University of Oklahoma, where he is currently a full-time student and a member of the Chocotaw Nation of Oklahoma. Blake is a member of the National Honors Society and a member of the Oklahoma State University chapter of the National Society of Black Students. Blake has been involved in various community service programs and has volunteered his time to help others.

Blake Redwine

Blake Redwine was born and raised in Yuba, Oklahoma. He is a member of the Chocotaw Nation of Oklahoma and the Choctaw Nation of Mississippi. Blake is a member of the National Society of Black Students and a member of the Oklahoma State University chapter of the National Society of Black Students. Blake has been involved in various community service programs and has volunteered his time to help others.

SAP has awarded Redwine with a full-ride scholarship for his outstanding academic performance and leadership qualities. Blake Redwine is one of the many students who have benefited from the SAP Scholarship Program, which has helped many Native American students achieve their dreams of a college education.

SAP was formed in 2006 to fight discouragingly high college dropout rates in Native American communities. The program was created in response to the Native American tribe's concern for college preparation and retention for Native Americans. From its beginning, SAP has expanded its program to include student members and many as actively involved parents. The program, which is unique in Native American education, has seen dramatic growth in the past three years. The program has seen an increase in visits and more than 85 percent in page views and visitation time. Today, SAP's web site receives more than 1,000 visitors per month. An average visitor spends nearly eight minutes on the site, browsing five different pages. The growth in SAP's online newsletter has been equally dramatic. Nearly 30 new receive SAP News, the bi-weekly online newsletter for the Scholar-ship Advisement Program. SAP's revised newsletter can be found at the following URL: www choctawnation-sap.com. In addition to the new sections for college preparation and retention, the site also includes a new collection of other online pages, new stories and updated or expanded topics.

Staff

• Peer Advisers
• College Partners
• Favorite Web links

SAP's Web site is a major communication tool that can help them prepare for and achieve college success, "Much of the information we deal with, or that our students need, is time-sensitive. Our blog is a big part of our overall strategy for helping our students. In our program we place to give our feedback," says Williams. "It’s the best place for the latest news and information from SAP." The site is designed to help students, parents and friends find the most relevant information for the latest news and information from SAP. The site is designed to help students, parents and friends find the most relevant information for the latest news and information from SAP. The site is designed to help students, parents and friends find the most relevant information for the latest news and information from SAP.

Career Development Marketing Coordinator Kelli Ottom and Robin Courney, Director of Career Development.

Career Development receives marketing award

Cotchotaw Nation Career Development received an American Marketing Association Award of Excellence for its marketing efforts at their annual Career Expo.

At the Oklahoma City American Marketing Association Awards ceremony last week Kelli Ottom of Chocotaw Nation Career Development accepted the award for marketing efforts of the 2010 Career Expo held in McAlester. The competition was fierce and each campaign was judged in the following areas: insight, objective, strategy, tactics, budget and measurable results.

"What this was the first year our team entered the competition, we were surprised that we came out on top. We were thrilled to have won this competition and it has given us a strong foundation for our future marketing efforts," said Ottom.

"It’s great to see that our efforts have been recognized and that we have been able to provide our students with the latest and most relevant information," said Ottom. "We are honored to have received this award and we would like to thank all of our partners, including our friends at the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, for their support and dedication to our students.

The Southern Oklahoma Indian Credit Association offers small business, home, home improvement and agriculture loans. To be eligible to apply, a person must reside within the 110 county service area of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and must possess a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) from a federally recognized tribe.

For more information, please contact Susan Edwards at 580-924-4280 or toll-free 800-522-6170.

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Scholarship Advisement Program (SAP) has unveiled a major upgrade of its Internet Web site. The update is much more than a cosmetic facelift according to SAP staff. It is a major communications tool that meets the needs of SAP’s dramatic growth over the past three years. In addition to its new sections for college preparation and retention, SAP’s new web site also provides a triage of new social media communication tools including a Web log (blog) at choctawnation-sap.com as well as a Facebook page and Twitter.

The new site nearly triples the content of the original and includes:

• Artwork
• Articles
• Calendar
• Facebook, Twitter, and blog links
• Resume Building
• Summer programs
• College Selection Guide
• Summer programs

The new site nearly triples the content of the original and includes:

The logo and brand identity of the program was created by the Oklahoma State University Student Design Center. The site was designed to be accessible to all visitors to SAP.

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The logo and brand identity of the program was created by the Oklahoma State University Student Design Center. The site was designed to be accessible to all visitors to SAP.
The Choctaw Museum was recently remodeled and is now open. About 15 permanent exhibits were added. "Every Labor Day we try to open a new exhibit," said Regina. Last year, the Choctaw historical park was added and is located in front of the museum.

One of the newer exhibits is the Choctaw kids exhibit, added in 2008. Probably the most important exhibit, according to Regina, is the Trail of Tears exhibit. There are actual artifacts that were carried on the trail. "It is a very emotional exhibit," said Regina. The Trail of Tears exhibit also contains actual quotes from people who experienced the trail firsthand. The most-visited exhibit by children would be the Choctaw language exhibit. Regina says, "There are several animals on display and you can listen to a Choctaw children's story told in the Choctaw language."

When asked what her personal favorite was, the museum director and caretaker just couldn't choose one. "I put my heart and soul into every exhibit that is here," Regina said. Regina has set up and maintains all of the exhibits on display. The museum not only holds Choctaw artifacts and exhibits, it also is home to the Choctaw artist gallery. The annual Choctaw Art Show is held at the museum over Labor Day weekend each year. Regina has official training with the Smithsonian, so she has expertise in museum and artifact care. All artifacts are housed by museum standards and the museum is well-equipped with a five-monitored alarm system. Regina encourages the people of the Choctaw tribe to share their artifacts and family history. "I want people to feel secure enough to bring their family stuff here so all Choctaw can enjoy it," she said.

The Choctaw Museum is visited by a large variety of people. The guest book contains signatures from visitors coming from across the United States, as well as foreign countries such as Germany and Japan. There is a gift shop that has hand-made Choctaw items that are available for purchase. The museum is open seasonally, during the summer months. 16 hours of operation are Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**3-on-3 Basketball**

**September 4**

**3-on-3 Basketball**

**September 4**

**T-shirt & Souvenirs**

**Order Form**

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Price includes post & handling.

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**T-shirt sizes available are:**

- Child (Small, Medium, Large, X-Large)
- Adult (Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, XXL, XXXL)
- Youth (2-4), (6-8), (10-12), (14-16)
- Adult (Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, XXL, XXXL)

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**Registration at 4:30 p.m. • Contest starts at 5:30 p.m.**

A-t-shirt will be given to each participant who finishes the challenge. For more information, call Jason Campbell at 800-522-6170, ext. 2787.
CHOCTAW women. Most family members had extensive land and stock holdings, many original allotments.

The Choctaw pony was known for its stamina and was commonly referred to as "the tires of the nation." This was because the Choctaw people relied heavily on their horses for transportation, work, and recreation. The pony was a symbol of the Choctaw people's connection to the land and their cultural identity.

The Choctaw pony was also known for its role in the Choctaw people's economy. Horses were used for plowing, hauling goods, and even as a form of currency. The value of horses was high, and the Choctaw people took great care in their selection and breeding. The horses were often branded with the initials of the owner, which helped to identify them.

There are many stories and legends about the Choctaw pony, and the people were proud of their heritage. The Choctaw pony was a symbol of the Choctaw people's resilience and adaptability in the face of adversity.

The Choctaw pony was not only a practical animal but also a source of pride and identity. The people took great care in the selection, breeding, and care of their horses, and the ponies were often passed down through generations.

In conclusion, the Choctaw pony was an important part of the Choctaw people's culture and history. It played a significant role in the economy, transportation, and recreation of the Choctaw people and was a symbol of their resilience and adaptability. The people took great pride in their heritage and the role of the Choctaw pony in their cultural identity.
Jonathan "Jack" T. Taylor

Jack Taylor was born on July 29, 1945, in McAlester to Manuhett and Harry Taylor. After a long and valiant battle with COPD, he passed away on May 23, 2020, surrounded by family and friends.

Jack grew up in Chickasha, graduated from Chickasha High School in 1963, and attended Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. He served in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1967 and attended Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Jack married the love of his life, Patricia Mae (Untylie) Taylor, on December 23, 1969. Together they raised their four children, Donna, Dawn, Dan, and Jeff. Jack was proud of his work as a carpenter and respected by his peers. His honesty, true professionalism, and respect for others.

He was preceded in death by another son, fearful and wife, Debbie of Casper, Wyo. He is survived by his three brothers, Carl Durant, John Ross, and John Ross Jr.

Bernie Hewitt, 84, passed away on April 30, 2010, after a lengthy illness. She was a devoted Catholic and very much loved by all who knew her. She was a devoted daughter of her mother and father, and a great-grandmother of a local real estate company. She passed over her mutter's exam and decided to attend Oklahoma State University.

She attended Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

She was a member of the American Legion and VFW.

She was born in Durant on April 28, 1921, to Ira Joseph Horn and Minnie Duncan Horn.

She attended and graduated from Caddo Public Schools and attended Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

She attended the University of Oklahoma and married her husband during their four-year service in the U.S. Army in World War II, the 25th's hero in Oklahoma.

She was a member of the First Methodist Church of Edmond, a member of the American Legion and VFW.

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Chief Pyle is 2010 Red Earth Ambassador

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, 2010 Red Earth Ambassador, rides in the annual parade.

Sisters Mary Ann Allen, Betty Flurry and Joyce Robison are happy to Chief Pyle in Oklahoma City.

Miss Indian Oklahoma Dayla Amos is driven in the Red Earth parade by her dad, Councilman Mike Amos, and brother Andrew.

Choctaw Senior Citizens gather for annual event

Hat winners in the men's division are first place, Jim Cott; second place, Roy Espenshade; and third place, William Johnson.

Women winners in the hat contest are first place, Sylvia Compton; second place, Eva Lanning; and third place, Shirley McAlin.

Idabel Senior Citizens win third place in the gospel singing contest.

Durant Gospel Singers win first place.

Second place is the Gospel Singers from Broken Bow.

Wild Onion Dinner held in Wilburton

Candace Baker, 2007-08 first runner-up Miss Choctaw Nation, and Little Miss Choctaw Nation Jannita Gonzalez.

Councilman Joe Coley is pictured with Frances Daugherty, Margaret River and Betty Thomas at Wilburton’s Wild Onion Dinner on June 7.

Assistant Chief Gary Batton, Councilman Joe Coley and Chief Gregory E. Pyle. The Chief and Assistant Chief were given bolos with the Choctaw Seal.


Chief Pyle visits with sisters Christen and Raven Noriega.

Councilman Joe Coley stops to say hello to Willahemina Bryant and son Kenneth Baker.

Chief Pyle and Ruthie Samuel, Martha Mackey and Aveline Wilson.

Bobby Coley and Jones Academy Administrator Brad Spears.
Stickball—The Choctaw national sport

Question: I'm curious about the importance of stickball in Choctaw communities past and present. How was it used to settle disputes between communities? How was it played today?

Answer: Stickball has been the Choctaw national sport for centuries. In the Choctaw language, it is known as "fabvssa," which translates to "woven leather lace." The ball is thrown and caught with two sticks, known in Choctaw as "stickball sticks." The game itself is reminiscent of a baseball, with players trying to hit a ball and score points. However, the rules have differed between communities.

In the past, stickball games were often preceded by a stickball dance, where players would warm up and prepare for the game. During the game, players would use their athleticism and strategy to score points. The night before the game, players and their families would gather around the stickball field, bringing their fires to protect themselves from the elements.

Today, stickball games continue to be played and enjoyed by Choctaw communities. The Choctaw World Stickball Championships are held in Mississippi, with the goal of promoting and preserving the game's cultural significance.

Moreover, stickball is not only a game but also a form of art. Stickball is often referred to as "the Choctaw national sport," and its importance to Choctaw communities cannot be overstated.