



August 2018 Issue

Two-Year Journey Ends With Headquarters Grand Opening



(top left, from left) Assistant Chief Jack Austin Jr. the late District 9 Councilman Ted Dosh and Chief Gary Batton, along with fellow councilmen, City of Durant representatives and tribal members turn dirt at the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Tribal Headquarters on March 29, 2016.



(above) District 1 Councilman Thomas Williston, District 12 Councilman James Frazier, District 10 Councilman Anthony Dillard and District 2 Councilman Tony Ward visit during the Groundbreaking for the new headquarters. Behind them, District 5 Councilman Ron Perry and District 7 Councilman Jack Austin Sr. visit with a group of people.



(above) The new Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Tribal Headquarters is a stunning piece of architecture. The headquarters is located on the Durant Campus at 1802 Chukka Hina. The charter busses parked in front of the East wing give perspective to the size and scope of the new 500,000-sq.-ft. building.

(below) Choctaw Chief Gary Batton cuts the ribbon on the new headquarters as Chickasaw Gov. Bill Anoatubby and Miss Choctaw Nation hold the ribbon steady. Members of Tribal Council, the Judicial branch, Chahta royalty, tribal members and guests smile as the ribbon is cut.



Tribal Members and Guests Celebrate All Services Being in One Location

by STACY HUTTO

A two-year wait came to an end with the Grand Opening of the new Choctaw Nation Headquarters on the Durant campus. A need for a cohesive headquarters arose when Choctaw Nation outgrew the previous headquarters located at the corner of Locust and 16th and many services were spread through Durant. On March 29, 2016, a Groundbreaking Ceremony was held for the new headquarters on the Durant campus next to the Choctaw Nation Regional Health Clinic. The final beam was set in place in a Topping Out Ceremony on Nov. 18, 2017. Before the final beam was set in place it sat in front of the headquarters on 16th Avenue for a few days to give employees and tribal members a chance to sign it.

Tribal members came from all over the Choctaw Nation the day the final beam was placed. Many of them took the opportunity to sign the beam before a crane lifted it into its final resting spot. Tribal employees began moving into the new headquarters in the middle of April. The first departments to move into the headquarters were Land and Title, Education, Language, Vocational Rehab and Burial. Until the new headquarters was completed the government and commerce sides of the Choctaw Nation were separated. The last department, the Division of Commerce, moved into the new headquarters the beginning of June. Now, instead of having to drive all over Durant, tribal members can come to one location to have all their needs taken care of.

During the Grand Opening Chief Gary Batton said it is “our people’s house” adding, “It is where the spirit of faith, family and culture can be lived out daily.” The cultural aspect can be seen throughout the new headquarters in many different ways. The diamond is an important symbol in Choctaw culture. The diamond often represents the Eastern Diamond-back Rattlesnake, but when in a border, such as on the outside of the headquarters and in Choctaw clothing, it represents a pathway. As soon as you turn onto Chukka Hina you see diamond stepping stones placed within the landscaping. When visiting the headquarters diamonds can be found in many places inside such as the water wall behind the front desk and the walls of the gift shop.

Diamonds can also be found in the windows of the headquarters. The natural stone on the outside of the building represents our connection with nature while the red brick is a reminder of the former headquarters, which will eventually be used as a museum, and the Capitol Building in Tvshka Homma. Each floor of the headquarters represents a different element of nature. The elements represented are earth, wind, fire sun and water. The Leaning Pole at the intersection of Chukka Hina and the roadway leading to the headquarters represents the Iti Fabbassa in migration stories that led our people to our homeland. The Standing Pole in front of the entrance to the headquarters represents we are home. Roots, the restaurant in the headquarters, has the Choctaw Family Tree, which features diamonds, feathers and leaves. Another tribute to family, an art collage of Choctaw people and their families mounted on acrylic, can be found in Roots near the doors leading to the outside patio. In addition to the new headquarters and clinic, the 80-acre campus off of Big Lots Road contains Child Development Center, Community Center, Food Distribution Center, the Wellness Center and more.

A paved walking path gently winds its way through the different buildings on the campus. At the end of the year the new Judicial Building will be completed. Also recognized at the grand opening ceremony was the Choctaw Nation Wellness Center. Within walking distance of the headquarters, it is a modern architectural structure of 55,000 square feet that includes basketball courts, fitness studios, cycling room and an indoor elevated track. Many different types of classes are offered at the Wellness Center and instructors can help find the best one for you. The unique design of the building has already won awards. On Feb. 5, Alva Roofing was awarded the 2017 Steep Slope Project of the Year for the 35,000-sq.-ft. barrel roof that curves from a 50-ft.-high point down to the ground.



The Durant Campus is truly a one stop for tribal members. Families can come to the campus and make a day of it. From the walking track to exploring the inside and outside of the new headquarters to enjoying a meal by the amphitheater next to the pond. Roots, a restaurant open to the public, has outside seating in addition to inside seating.



Information about the Labor Day festival in Tvshka Homma is available in this issue of the *Biskinik*. In this issue readers will find the schedule for the Labor Day Festival, entertainers and registration information for different events. A separate Labor Day Festival schedule and map will not be mailed out.

Choctaw Nation Continues to Thrive



Chief Gary Batton

Our annual Labor Day festival is right around the corner. Soon the capital grounds will be filled with thousands of visitors. The festival is so much more than concerts and carnival rides.

The five-day event is a great time for the Choctaw people to gather and share our faith, family and culture.

During this time of year, I find myself reflecting on the past, present and future of our tribe.

During the 1830s over 15,000 Choctaw people were removed to Indian Territory and of these approximately 3,000 people did not make the journey; we called this the Trail of Tears and Death.

Once our ancestors made it to their new home, they faced many hardships. Yet, Choctaw people are resilient and overcame adversities.

After arriving in Indian Territory, our ancestors worked hard to regain our identity as a tribe and government. They authored a new constitution, set up a court system and named Tvshka Homma the new capital.

In 1866, Choctaw Chief Allen Wright gave present-day Oklahoma its name. Oklahoma means “red people” in Choctaw.

Like many native languages, ours was nearly lost. There are many Choctaws still living today who re-

member a time when speaking the Choctaw language was the cause of punishment.

Now, our language is taught in 44 high school classrooms across the state and in 19 community classrooms in Oklahoma and two in California. It is so great to hear our language come back to life.

The nation has grown so much over the years. Our tribe now has 200,000 members, making us the third largest in the country.

The Choctaw Nation and our over 10,000 employees work hard every day to help the Choctaw people. We offer around 130 programs and services to our members.

Our clinics and wellness centers help our tribal members live happy, healthy and productive lives.

We have wellness centers in each of the 12 districts. Since its opening in 2017, a total of 63,332 primary care visits have taken place in the new Choctaw Nation Regional Medical Clinic in Durant.

Our services not only help our tribal members living in the 10½ counties, but many of our programs serve tribal members regardless of their location.

Any Choctaw tribal member pursuing a higher education degree may apply for assistance from the Choctaw Nation Higher Education program.

Every day our nation grows and we continue that growth through our various construction projects.

One of those exciting projects is the new brick homes being built throughout the 10½ counties through the Choctaw Housing Authority’s new lease-purchase LEAP Program.

The first of these housing additions was dedicated on June 15 in Hugo.

Other towns that will be receiving LEAP homes include Atoka, Antlers, Broken Bow, Calera, Cameron, Coalgate, Heavener, Idabel, McAlester, Stigler and Wilburton.

We are also working hard on getting new independent elder living communities finished in Antlers, Atoka, Broken Bow and Coalgate. These facilities help our elders live healthy, productive and independent lives.

The nation has many other construction projects underway. I am excited to see all the progress we are making.

It has been amazing to witness that growth and watch our people thrive. From the time I started at the nation, 31 years ago, to present day, it is amazing how far our nation has come.

I look forward to seeing the growth in store for our tribe in the future. I also look forward to seeing you all at the Labor Day festival.



by Charles Clark

Chief Gary Batton explores one of the new LEAP homes after the dedication in Hugo. Chief Batton looks out the window with the two boys who now call the house home. LEAP homes are planned for all districts in the 10½ counties of the Choctaw Nation.

Safeguarding the Future With Programs for Youth



Assistant Chief Jack Austin Jr.

During the months of June and July the Choctaw Nation Youth Outreach program held fundraisers throughout the tribal service area to raise money for the Sole Mates program.

Sole Mates purchases a new pair of shoes for youth outreach participants who have actively participated in the program for the past year.

The group set up donation sites at the Choctaw Travel Plazas to accept monetary donations so that each child in the program can begin the new school year with a new pair of shoes.

During the month of July, they also held a yard sale in Hugo in combination with a car wash and hamburger sale.

Last year enough money was raised to help 225 Choctaw youth. The number of youth this year has significantly increased and the Outreach team has kept diligently planning more fundraisers to be able to provide shoes for all of the youth in the program.

They had raised over \$4,000 by early July to help meet the goal for this year of reaching over 300 of our youth.

Yakoke to everyone who has dedicated time to these efforts and to those who have donated. Having one pair of new shoes can make a huge difference in how these children feel as they start the new school year.

Another program making a difference for our youth is Chahta Inchukka, a Tribal Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visitation program grant by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Chahta Inchukka provides home visitation services twice a month utilizing the Parents As Teachers evidence-based curriculum. Home visits are focused on the development of the child, both mentally and physically, as well as the overall well-being of the family.

It is the goal of Chahta Inchukka to help parents be the first and best teacher for their child and to grow children that are ready to learn once they reach Head Start and kindergarten so that they may continue to be successful in learning.

The program serves Native American families who have a child under the age of one and can meet at least one of the eight federally mandated eligibility criteria. Chahta Inchukka has four home visitation specialists and can serve a maximum of 68 families at a time.

With the addition of this program, Choctaw Nation Outreach staff are now able to provide better services and interventions for our children and families through these home visits.

Shyla Ludlow joined the Chahta Inchukka program in October 2017 and says it is one of the best programs she has ever been a part of. Being with this program has been a big help to her, helping to make sure her son is staying on track and progressing as he should.

Each month she is given new activities to do with her son and new information on his progression for his age range. She has told her home visitation specialist that when her son was six months old he received a vision screening through the program and with this screening they discovered he has vision problems and will need glasses.

Without the Chahta Inchukka program providing the screenings they wouldn’t have caught his vision issues until he was older and they could’ve worsened by then.

I am so grateful we can provide opportunities across our communities that allow people to be a blessing to others. Being able to personally be a part of blessing others certainly falls in line with living on the Chahta Spirit. I am reminded of Hebrews 13:16 (NIV), “And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”



by Choctaw Nation

Choctaw Nation Outreach employees Christi Hammons of Tribal PREP; Brandi Smallwood of Chahta Inchukka; Anglea Dancer, Better Beginnings Senior Director; and Barbara Moffitt of Chahta Villa Apela are a few of the Outreach employees that help tribal youth and their families.

BISKINIK

AUGUST 2018

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After a two-year journey the new Choctaw Nation Headquarters held a Grand Opening to welcome tribal members to their new home. The headquarters is located on the 80 acre Durant Campus located off of Big Lots Drive.

*Front Photos by Stacy Hutto, Deidre Elrod and Video Production
Durant Campus Map Designed by Commerce Marketing*

Biskinik Mission Statement: To serve as the source of information for Choctaw Nation tribal members by delivering community news through a variety of communication channels.

Stay Connected. ChoctawNation.com features access to information about tribal history, culture, news, services, government, businesses, applications and contacts. The Choctaw Nation’s official publication, the BISKINIK, is available to tribal members by mail and archived editions are on ChoctawNation.com.

- www.facebook.com/ChoctawNationofOklahoma
- www.twitter.com/ChoctawNationOK
- www.instagram.com/ChoctawNationOK
- www.youtube.com/ChoctawNationOK

ROCKSTAR BOOTCAMP*

August 8 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Courses:
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Rhett Laubach, YourNextSpeaker!
Sessions:
Jack Hedrick, Unboxed Training Solutions

Questions? Call: (580) 775-8557

***Mandatory for Incoming 7th Graders Attending Talihiina Public Schools**



Trail of Tears Bike Team Looks to Increase Membership



by Debbie Lloyd

The Choctaw Nation Trail of Tears Bicycle Team begin their ride in Mississippi and end their trek at the Choctaw Nation Headquarters in Durant, Oklahoma. Along the way, riders take time to explore significant Choctaw sites and reflect on their ancestor’s journey.

by TERESA EAGLE ROAD

The Choctaw Nation Trail of Tears Bicycle Team is inviting new applicants to join the 2019 bike ride. Our mission is to embrace the memory and perpetuate the spirit of our Choctaw ancestors, to bring honor and remembrance and to increase knowledge of Choctaw history.

We do this by living an active, healthy lifestyle and serving as an example for individuals, families and friends.

Below is a list on how to become an applicant to join the Trail of Tears Bicycle Team.

- Review policy and procedure guidelines. To receive an application please send an email to tdeagleroad@cnhsa.com, or mail your request to:

Teresa Eagle Road
Attn: RPMS
One Choctaw Way
Talihina, OK 74571

- Complete Trail of Tears Bicycle Team application before the Aug. 31 deadline.
- Provide evidence of adequate experience and fitness level by email or letter.
- Agree to adhere to the team training and conditioning schedule provided by the team, or an equivalent.
- Agree to ride every day during the Trail of Tears bike ride.
- Agree to S and Gear responsibilities, if the rider is unable to ride.
- Upon approval, you will receive a welcome email or letter in the mail from Team Leader Teresa Eagle Road.

• Trail of Tears riders will attend teleconference meetings, or meet face-to-face at a designated location.

The majority of riders on the Trail of Tears bike ride must be Choctaw, but members of other tribes and non-tribal members will be accepted.

There will be a limited amount of roster space, 18 riders, once the required amount of Choctaw participants have been met.

The roster will then be filled on a first-come, first-filled basis. The 2019 Trail of Tears Bicycle Team roster will be announced Feb. 28, 2019.

All members of the Trail of Tears Bicycle Team must agree to participate in two fundraisers, or contribute a minimum of \$300 to help offset costs.

The fundraisers are:

- Labor Day Stickball Field visitor’s side concession stand–Aug. 31 through Sept. 2.
- Youth Bike Ride, Durant Wellness Center–Sept. 29.
- Veterans 15k Run and 15k Relay–Nov. 3.

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Outreach Services Advocates for Elders in Need

by JIMMY SMITH

The Choctaw Nation Elder/Vulnerable Adult Advocacy program is under the division of Choctaw Nation Outreach Services. The program was established in 2004, through a grant from the Oklahoma District Attorneys’ Council, VOCA Grant (Victims of Crime Act). The program is dedicated to enhancing the safety of elder/vulnerable adults living within the Choctaw Nation boundaries. Program eligibility:

- Elders must be 55 years of age or older and the Vulnerable Adult must be 18 years of age or older.
- Reside within the 10½ coun-

ties of the Choctaw Nation Service Area. Services provided:

- Court System Advocacy
- Intervention Services
- Accompaniment to hospitals for medical examinations
- Emergency food, clothing, shelter
- Emergency legal assistance and other emergency services that will restore the victims sense of dignity and self-esteem.

The Choctaw Nation Elder/Vulnerable Adult Program provides community outreach, advocacy, training, preparation and distribution of program information and joint intervention with Oklahoma Adult Protective Services.

Referrals are accepted from outside resources as well as Tribal programs. If you know of a situation where we can be of service to our elderly tribal members please contact our office at (877) 285-6893.



NURSERY NEWS

Mary Susanna Holden



Mary Susanna Holden was born in Fontana, California, April 16, at 1:45 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds and 7.8 ounces and was 20 inches long. Mary is the first child of Ashley and Scott Holden. She is also the first grandchild of Glenn and Karalee Brouillette and Ken and Mary Holden.

Johnathan Anthony Gilmore Jr.



Johnathan Anthony Gilmore Jr. was born Jan. 11, at 2:01 p.m. He was 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 inches long. He joins his older siblings, Emeri, Averi and Cali. Johnathan is the son of Sabrina and China Gilmore. His Gummy and Grandma Debbie are happy he is here.

Willow Suzanne Nahani Spillman



Willow Suzanne Nahani Spillman was born at 11:53 a.m. June 19, in Sacramento, California. Willow was 7 pounds, 5 ounces and 19 inches long. She was born with a full head of hair. She is the daughter of Ellie Brown and Glenn Spillman. Willow joins sister Paris and brothers Caleb and Finn. Willow is the granddaughter of Gene and Barbara Spillman.

Recipe of the Month Baked Catfish



Recipe by Carmen Robertson

Ingredients

- 4 (4 ounce) fillets of catfish
- 1 onion, sliced
- 2 lemons, 1 for garnish
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- salt & pepper to taste

Preparation

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. Slice onion and lemon then place in bottom of the pan. Cut onion and bell peppers into strips.
3. Season fish with garlic powder, salt and pepper to taste.
4. Place fish on top and cover with foil.
5. Bake until fish is flaky. Approximately 15–20 minutes.

Nutrition Facts:

Servings 4
Serving size 257 grams (per serving)
Calories 249, Total Fat 12.3 grams, Trans Fat 0 grams, Cholesterol 74 milligrams, Sodium 86.9 milligrams, Total Carbohydrates 9.4 grams, Dietary Fiber 2.3 gram, Sugars 1.8 grams, Protein 25.9 grams, Vitamin A, 2 percent, Vitamin C, 58 percent, Calcium 4 percent and Iron 7 percent.

For further information, you may contact Choctaw Nation Nutritionist Carmen Robertson (800) 522-6170 ext. 2733, email crobertson@choctawnation.com or go to a Cooking with Carmen demonstration.

Location	Days	Hours
Antlers 580-298-3161	Every Tue.	8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Atoka 580-889-5825	Mon. Wed., Thurs. & Fri.	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Battiest 580-241-5458	1st & 2nd Tue. Every Month	8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Boswell 580-380-2518	1st Thurs. of Every Month	8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Broken Bow 580-584-2746	Daily Mon. - Fri.	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Coalgate 580-927-3641	1st Wed. of Every Month	8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Durant 580-920-2100 x-83517	Daily Mon. – Fri.	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Hugo 580-326-5404	Daily Mon. – Fri.	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Idabel 580-286-2510	Daily Mon. – Fri.	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
McAlester 918-423-6335	Daily Mon. – Fri.	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Poteau 918-649-1106	Daily Mon. – Fri.	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Smithville 580-244-3289	1st Thurs. of Every Month	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Spiro 918-962-5134	Wed., Thurs. & Fri.	8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Stigler 918-867-4211	Mon. & Tue.	8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Talihina 918-567-7000 x-6792	Mon., Tue., Wed. & Fri.	8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Wilburton 918-465-5641	Every Thursday	8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Building Healthy Families Through Good Nutrition

CHOCTAW NATION FOOD DISTRIBUTION

WAREHOUSES & MARKETS
Open 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
Thursday: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Antlers: 400 S.W. “O” St., (580) 298-6443
Broken Bow: 109 Chahta Road, (580) 584-2842
Durant: 2352 Big Lots Pkwy, (580) 924-7773
McAlester: 3244 Afullotha Hina, (918) 420-5716
Poteau: 100 Kerr Ave, (918) 649-0431

September 2018

ANTLERS
Market open weekdays September 1-30, except for:
Closed: September 3, 26, 27 & 28.
Cooking With Carmen: September 4 & 14, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

BROKEN BOW
Market open weekdays September 1-30, except for:
Closed: September 3, 26, 27 & 28.
Cooking With Carmen: September 6 & 21, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

DURANT
Market open weekdays September 1-30, except for:
Closed: September 3, 26, 27 & 28.
Cooking With Carmen: September 7 & 13, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

MCALESTER
Market open weekdays September 1-30, except for:
Closed: September 3, 26, 27 & 28.
Cooking With Carmen: September 11 & 20, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

POTEAU
Market open weekdays September 1-30, except for:
Closed: September 3, 26, 27 & 28.
Cooking With Carmen: September 10 & 17, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Spiro Hoop House Food Demo: September 12 & 19, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR A CHILD

FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

Choctaw Nation Veterans Dinners

Photos by Candace Leach, Casey Davis, Apryl Mock, Stacy Hutto, Payton Guthrie and Charles Clark.
Veterans Dinners photos continued on page 13

Idabel

Idabel Veteran's dinner photos will be published in the September issue of the Biskinik.



Bethel

Top Left: District 2 Councilperson Tony Ward leads the Pledge of Allegiance.
Top Right: The Choctaw Color Guard presents the American and Choctaw Nation flags.
Bottom Left: Austin Jefferson addresses those gathered at Bethel's veterans dinner, while Vernon Willis awaits his turn to speak.
Bottom Right: Young and old came together to honor our veterans.
Veterans not pictured: Richard Blake, Doug Bohannon, Walter Wilson and Everett Willis.



Broken Bow

Top: The Broken Bow veterans pose for a group photo.
Bottom Left: Employees serve up dinner to veterans and their families.
Bottom Right: District 2 Councilperson Tony Ward visits with veterans during the dinner.



Hugo

Top Left: Shirley Peters visits with a veteran at the Hugo dinner.
Top Right: Brecosha McGrew checks Stephanie Thorton's vitals. Free services were offered by Kindred Healthcare.
Bottom Left: District 8 Councilperson Perry Thompson chats with veteran James Williams.
Bottom Right: Amber Hood, 5, tells her grandmother Linda Knight a story over lunch.



Atoka

Top: Atoka veterans pose for a group photo.
Bottom Left: Veteran Maci Wagner leads the Atoka veterans in prayer.
Bottom Right: Choctaw Color Guard member Ronnie Scott poses for a photo with District 10 Councilperson Anthony Dillard.



McAlester

Top Left: Brothers John and Eddie McMurtrey attended the McAlester dinner.
Top Right: Vietnam veteran John Pope removes his hat as he salutes the flag.
Bottom: The McAlester community center veterans pose for a group photo with Chief Gary Batton, Assistant Chief Jack Austin Jr. and District 11 Councilperson Bob Pate.

Coalgate

Top: The veterans of the Coalgate community center pose for a group photo.
Bottom Left: District 12 Councilperson James Frazier speaks at the Coalgate veterans dinner.
Bottom Right: The District 12 princesses perform at the Coalgate veterans dinner.

EVENTS

Choctaw Nation Community Center
March Health Fairs

Wilburton
Wednesday, Aug. 8

Poteau
Wednesday, Aug. 15

All Health Fairs begin at 10 a.m. at the Choctaw Nation Community Center unless otherwise noted.

Indian Falls Creek

Sunday, July 29–Thursday, Aug. 2
Indian Falls Creek is a camp for the entire family. Information for registration, program, and housing can be found at IndianFallsCreek.net, or contact Executive Director Victor Cope at (405) 598-2067 or ndnrev@aol.com.

Oklahoma Corporation
Commission Pooling Hearing

Aug. 6
Corporation Commission offices
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Notice is hereby given that Charter Oak Production Co., LLC has filed a Force Pooling application Cause CD-201805282 with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission covering section 5 of Township 7 South, Range 3 East in Love County, Oklahoma, affecting unleased mineral owners of record. A hearing has been set before the Commission for Aug. 6, 2018. Any interested parties are encouraged to attend the hearing.
For questions regarding the application contact Greg Sellmyer at (405) 286-0361 or by email at greg@charteroakproduction.com

Wilson Family Reunion

Saturday, Sept. 1 at noon
Smithville Community Center

A potluck dinner will be served followed by a short business meeting and auction. There will be a cookout on Sunday, location to be determined later.
For questions or to give input, Jody Hendrickson at (918) 413-2084

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Legal Assistance

A licensed attorney will be available by appointment ONLY to provide assistance with simple legal documents free to all Choctaw members. Examples of matters that the attorney may be able to assist with:

- Family law (divorces, custody, child support)
- Contracts and leases
- Guardianships and modifications

The office does not provide representation in court or assist in criminal matters. At this time the legal department is not providing assistance with wills and probate. To make an appointment, or for any questions, contact Samantha Guinn at (580) 380-8149.

August Community Center Schedule	September Community Center Schedule
8-9 Wright City: 10-1 & 1:30-3	9-6 Antlers: 10-1 & 1:30-3
8-26 Idabel: 10-1 & 1:30-3	9-13 Bethel: 10-1 & 1:30-3
8-30 Poteau: 10-1 & 1:30-3	9-27 Spiro: 10-1 & 1:30-3

Gary Batton
Chief

Jack Austin Jr.
Assistant Chief

The Official
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of the
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Lisa Reed, Executive Director
Stacy Hutto, Managing Editor
Apryl Mock, Reporter/Photographer

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The BISKINIK is printed each month as a service to Tribal Members. The BISKINIK reserves the right to determine whether material submitted for publication shall be printed and reserves the right to edit submitted material which it finds inaccurate, profane, offensive or morally unacceptable. Copy may be edited for space, proper grammar and punctuation. Copy will be accepted in any readable form, but where possible, it is requested that material be typewritten and double spaced. You must include an address or phone number where you may be reached. Due to space limitations and the quantity of article submissions, we are unable to include everything we receive. Items are printed in the order received.

If you are receiving more than one BISKINIK at your home or if your address needs to be changed, our Circulation Department would appreciate hearing from you.

The BISKINIK is a nonprofit publication of the Choctaw Nation.

Circulation is monthly. Deadline for articles and photographs to be submitted is the first day of each month to run the following month.

Editor's note: Views and opinions in reader-submitted articles are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Choctaw Nation.



CHR Fall Fest

Wednesday, Sept. 12
Starts at 10 a.m.
McAlester Expo Center

The theme this year is Traditional. Everyone is welcome to attend.
For more information, call (580) 271-1033

LETTERS



On behalf of my dad, Glen Terry, we want to thank Chief Batton for the Wisdom blanket. At 90 years old Dad is constantly complaining about being cold, so it is truly the best birthday present he received. As you can see from the photo above he uses it daily and proudly shows it off to visitors. Thank you!

Melinda Terry



My mother, Jonnie Peck Parker turned 100 years old on June 10. Her youngest brother B.G. Peck obtained this Choctaw blanket from the tribe and presented it to her. I have included a picture of my mother and her brother holding up the blanket. My mother personally wrote a thank you note to the Chief.

Dortha Parker Biggs
Medicine Park, Oklahoma

The day after the Grand Opening of the Choctaw Nation Headquarters was the premier of the first Choctaw Preferred Supplier Vendor Fair. Hundreds of buyers and vendors attended the event, which began with an unforgettable powwow inspired Grand Entry. Boyd Miller and his team delivered a once-in-a-lifetime, breathtakingly proud Chahta moment. He is building a legacy that encourages development and success among Choctaw business owners.

The commitment of the Choctaw Nation to keep business and dollars among the Chahta people and entrepreneurs in Indian Country is an unparalleled example of servant leadership. With our tribal membership soaring above 200,000 people, including lawyers, electricians, teachers, plumbers, business owners, doctors and more—the tribe can accomplish anything. The Preferred Supplier Program recognizes this strength through diversity, collaboration and a shared passion for the Choctaw Nation. For my business, I anticipate the vendor fair to be the best return on investment yet. On behalf of the vendors of the Preferred Supplier Program, thank you to Chief, Assistant Chief, Tribal Council and the Preferred Supplier Program staff for such a positive experience.

Jack Hedrick-Lightfoot, M.S.
President, Unboxed Training Solutions, LLC

Southeastern Oklahoma Indian Credit Association
and Choctaw Revolving Loan Fund

The Southeastern Oklahoma Indian Credit Association offers small business, home, home improvement, and agriculture loans. To be eligible to apply, a person must reside within the 10 ½ 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. Micro-loans are available for emergency home improvements and small businesses. The loans are available up to \$2,500 and are to be repaid within 24 months. To be eligible to apply you must be Choctaw, possess a CDIB and reside within the 10 ½ county area of the Choctaw Nation.

For more information, please contact Susan Edwards at (580) 924-8280 ext. 2161 or toll-free (800) 522-6170.

If you are interested in applying for a loan from the SOICA or the Choctaw Revolving Loan Fund, there will be a representative from the Choctaw Nation Credit Department at the:

Broken Bow Community Center
August 10
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Biskinik Announcement
Policy

We welcome all letters from Choctaw tribal members. However, because of the volume of mail, it isn't possible to publish all letters our readers send. Letters chosen for publication must be under 150 words. We require full contact information. Only the writer's full name and city will be published.

All events sent to the Biskinik will run the month of the event or the month prior to the event if the event falls on the first of the month.

We apologize for any inconvenience. This is a necessary adjustment due to rising production and mailing expenses.

Mail to: Biskinik
Attn: Notes to the Nation
P.O. Box 1210
Durant, OK 74702
or email to: biskinik@ChoctawNation.com

Choctaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation

September 2018

Durant - Monday, Wednesday and Friday Broken Bow - Monday, Wednesday and Friday Idabel by appointment
Phone: (580) 326-8304; Fax: (580) 326-0115 Email: ddavenport@choctawnation.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Talihina 10:00-2:00	6	7 Crowder by appt.	8
9	10 Idabel by appt.	11 Antlers by appt.	12 Poteau 11:30-1:00	13	14	15
16	17 Wright City by appt.	18	19 McAlester 10:00-2:00 Stigler by appt.	20	21 Atoka & Coalgate by appt.	22
23	24 Broken Bow by appt.	25	26 Wilburton by appt.	27	28	29
30						



Choctaw Nation Roads Projects Help Neighboring Communities

by CHARLES CLARK

The Choctaw Nation Transportation Department is doing more than filling potholes.

In the past three years, the Choctaw Nation has completed work on 18 county roads in southeastern Oklahoma for a total expenditure of \$31,555,690.28.

The 36.7 miles of construction have called for widening, leveling, resurfacing, ditching, redesign of utility lines, fencing, signage and more.

Counties include Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, Coal, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, McCurtain, Pittsburg and Pushmataha.

Significant improvements have been made since 2006, when the Choctaw Nation

started its roads program. In addition to the roadwork, bridges, school parking lots and walking tracks have been constructed by the Choctaw Nation Transportation Department.

The road construction and funding of projects have brought recognition. This year, state and national awards resulted from the cooperative efforts between the Choctaw Nation, county governments and Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

According to Executive Director of Land & Title Wayne Wylie, the process requires several steps before work begins on any project.

First, the project idea must be presented to the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council.

The council's recommendations are then passed to the Choctaw Nation Transportation Department, located in the Choctaw Nation Headquarters, 1802 Chukka Hina in Durant.

After review by that department, the remaining recommendations are sent to Chief Gary Batton's office. Once approved by Chief Batton, a final list is returned to the Transportation Department to be placed in the line-up of projects. Wylie and Director of Transportation Bill Blankenship are tasked with acquiring engineering plans, easement rights and pulling together construction companies to do the job.

Nine road construction projects were approved for recommendation by the Tribal Council during its May 12 meeting. Transportation has 32 projects currently in various stages of planning and design.

Assistant Chief Jack Austin Jr., said, "Our ability to assist with the many roads and bridges across the Choctaw Nation is a great opportunity to partner with county officials to provide safe driving conditions for our tribal members, along with their neighbors from their communities, on current roadways in need of attention."

Assistant Chief Austin mentioned the many entities that benefit from the roads projects.

"Many school buses, church vans, personal vehicles and public transportation travel these roads every day. Being able to partner with our county officials is just another way of pulling together to make the Choctaw Nation and southeastern Oklahoma a great place to live and visit," Assistant Chief Austin said.

A good example of a project is Voca Road, located west of Highway 75, one mile north of the Caney exit in Atoka County.

The narrow two-lane dirt and gravel road had a well-traveled section replaced with a concrete road, each lane 10 feet wide with 2 feet of new shoulder on each side. Ditching was improved for water run-off and in several places on private property bordering the roadway, fencing had to be replaced.

This resulted in four-strand, wood post fences improved with five-strand, metal post fences and metal-pole cattle gates.

Also, new steel tin horns with metal flanges were placed under a number of refurbished driveway entrances.

Another recent road project was Nixon Road, west of Coalgate, off Highway 31. The new concrete road not only affected the 25 native families residing along the route, but the daily drive for countless commuters in the community.

The Nixon Cemetery also received a new concrete entry that provided smoother access and redirected water overflow from ditches away from the cemetery.

The roadwork has a positive effect on native employment, too. According to Blankenship, companies used for construction are mostly Indian-owned out of Poteau, Enid and Oklahoma City.

"There also is an agreement that if additional workers are needed there will be Indian-preference in hiring," he said.



Photos by Charles Clark

A slip form paver follows trucks dumping concrete in one of the final steps of resurfacing Nixon Road in February 2016. Nixon Road saw 5.11 miles of improvements.



Photo by Charles Clark

In addition to pavement, improvements on the roadway include the intersection with NS 378 Road, where concrete curbing, concrete retaining walls and ducts now prevent flooding.

The next scheduled ribboncutting is for 6.9 miles of "Old 21," also known as Kulli Road in McCurtain County.

The ceremony starts at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 2, south of Idabel, at the intersection of Highway 259 and County Road E2180. The date and time of the ceremony is subject to change.

However, drivers are not waiting on the ribboncuttings and dedications. Four miles of road serving Durant Public Schools in Bryan County, 2.5 miles of North Perry Road in Haskell County and 4 miles of Tannehill Road in Pittsburg County are among projects completed and already in use by the public.

Choctaw families reside on all rural county roads where improvements are made. To date, 5,887 tribal families are being served. Once open however, the entire community benefits from the safety and convenience of the enhanced roadways.

Choctaw Nation WIC and Farmers Market Nutrition Programs Open

The Choctaw Nation WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Programs are currently in full swing.

Seniors interested in the seniors program may request an application from the nearest Choctaw Community Center or call Peggy Carlton, Choctaw Nation Farmers Market Coordinator, at (580) 916-9140 ext. 83812 to request an application be mailed to their home.

When mailing in an application be sure to include a copy of CDIB card, income verification and residency proof.

If these required documents are not included with the application, it will be placed on hold until the required documentation is received.

A follow-up letter will be sent to explain what was missing.

This is a first-come, first-serve program and checks will be available until funding is depleted.

Requirements are:

Must reside in the Choctaw Nation 10½ counties service area, proof of address, Native Americans 55 and older, non-Native Americans 60 and older residing in a Native American household, must provide income proof, disabled persons at least 55 or older receiving congregate services living in housing for the elderly.

Eligible participants will be mailed \$50 in checks that can be exchanged with authorized farmers for fresh fruits and vegetables.

WIC participants may visit their nearest Choctaw Nation WIC clinic and inquire about farmers market checks. Participants must be in a current certification and receiving checks from the Choctaw WIC program.

Infants must be at least 4 months old to receive farmers market checks.

Each qualifying participant will receive \$30 in checks to be exchanged with authorized farmers in the area for fresh fruits and vegetables.

You do not have to have a WIC appointment to pick up your checks, you may walk in and ask for them.

To avoid long waiting times be sure to call first and ask about a convenient time.

Farmers Market partici-



pants will also receive a list of farmers in alphabetical order by county. The list has the farmers phone numbers so participants may call and inquire of the location

of the farmer that day and what they have available.

You do not have to be a farmers market program participant to purchase from the farmers, the public

is encouraged to visit Choctaw Nation's authorized farmers and select from fresh, delicious fruits and vegetables grown in your area.

Secretary Carson Comes to Poteau to Kick Off EnVision Center Demonstration

Under the leadership of President Donald J. Trump, the Administration is committed to reforming government services and expanding opportunities for more Americans to become self-sufficient.

The EnVision Center demonstration will be in Poteau, Oklahoma and will offer HUD-assisted rental housing participants, owned and operated by the Housing Authority of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, access to support services that can help them achieve self-sufficiency, thereby making scarce federal resources more readily available to a greater number of households.

The EnVision Centers demonstration is premised on the notion that financial support alone is insufficient to solve the problem of poverty.

EnVision Centers will provide communities with

a centralized hub for support in the following four pillars: (1) Economic Empowerment, (2) Educational Advancement, (3) Health and Wellness and (4) Character and Leadership.

The Economic Empowerment pillar is designed to improve the economic sustainability of individuals residing in Choctaw Nation HUD-assisted rental housing by empowering them with opportunities to improve their economic outlook.

The Education pillar seeks to bring educational opportunities directly to Choctaw Nation HUD-assisted rental housing and includes partnering with public and private organizations that approach education in non-traditional ways on non-traditional platforms.

The Health and Wellness pillar is designed to improve access to health outcomes by individuals and

families living in Choctaw Nation HUD-assisted rental housing.

The Character and Leadership pillar is designed to enable all individuals and families residing in Choctaw Nation HUD-assisted rental housing, especially young people, reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens by encouraging participation in volunteer and mentoring opportunities.

Through results-driven partnerships with federal agencies, state and local governments, non-profits, faith-based organizations, corporations, public housing authorities (PHAs), tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) and housing finance agencies, EnVision Centers will leverage public and private resources to help individuals and families living in HUD-assisted housing climb the ladder of opportunity.

JOIN US THIS FALL ENROLL AT JONES ACADEMY

We are accepting applications for the 2018 Fall Semester. We have openings in specific grades 1-12. Tuition, travel, and services are cost-free to families. 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 (1st-12th)
- Rewards for Academic Achievement
- High School Graduation Expenses Paid/ Scholarships
- Career Counseling/College and Post- Secondary Preparation
- Voc-Tech Training
- Summer Youth Work Program
- Medical and Counseling Services Provided
- Alternative Education Program
- Traditional/Cultural Activities
- Recreational Activities & Educational Trips
- Agriculture Program

Apply today
CHOCTAWNATION.COM/APPLYING-JONES-ACADEMY
(800) 522-6170

909 JONES ACADEMY ROAD
HARTSHORNE, OK 74547

JONES ACADEMY

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

GROWOK

Workshop: Get to Know Your Perfect Customer

"This class greatly helped us refine our vision and our approach into the market. Greatly helpful to young companies."
-Trevin Cole, CllqFilik

The GrowOK program is designed to confirm your business' product match with the perfect customer.

Our Partners

Cherokee Nation
Chickasaw Nation
Choctaw Nation
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
U.S. EDA
Oklahoma Business Roundtable
OCAST
REI
IZE, Inc.

Are you just starting your company and have few or no customers yet?

GROWOK is right for you!

Is your company growing or do you want to expand to a new customer segment?

GROWOK is right for you!

You must be an Oklahoma resident to participate and the deadline to apply is one week prior to the workshop date.

Cost: \$375 FREE for Oklahoma residents thanks to a grant from the U.S. EDA and regional partners
Find a workshop near you!

September 21 Purcell

October 19 Okmulgee

This one-day intensive workshop is held from 9am to 4pm.

Register today, seating is limited!

All registrations include free lunch!
To learn more about the program visit [GrowOK.org](#)

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Choctaw Nation Ag Outreach and POSSE Team Up in the Classroom

by LARRIANN CHAMBERS

Choctaw Nation Agriculture Outreach believes partnering with other Choctaw Nation programs can only improve and expand the level of outreach and education to Choctaw Nation’s tribal members, communities and youth. That is why Agriculture Outreach was proud to partner, yet again, with the Choctaw Nation Partnership of Summer School Education (POSSE).

For the past two years, Ag Outreach has been for-



by Choctaw Nation Ag Outreach

Choctaw Nation Tribal Extension Agent Nikki Schuth-Mitchell teaches students about dairy science while giving them the hands-on experience of milking Bessie the cow.

tunate to have received the UDSA 2501 Socially Disadvantaged, Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Grant from the USDA Office of Outreach and Advocacy.

Through this grant, Ag Outreach has been able to bring agriculture to classrooms across Choctaw Nation all year round.

Throughout the summer, Choctaw Nation Ag Outreach traveled across southeast Oklahoma to bring agriculture to the classrooms of summer schools throughout Choctaw Nation.

The Ag Outreach program offered lessons that ranged from dairy production to fruit and vegetable production; each lesson encompassing the value of agriculture and where our food comes from.

Each agricultural lesson, not only showed students a different aspect of agriculture and how it affects their daily lives, but also gave them a hands-on experience of working with various agricultural products.

“We’re planting the seeds for future agriculturalists. Getting them interested and involved at a young age ensures that we have people to produce food for our



by Choctaw Nation Ag Outreach

Choctaw Nation Tribal Agent Macy Vansickle teaches students from the Choctaw Nation POSSE program about fruits and vegetables and where they come from. Students were also given information on the Atoka Farmers’ Market.

future,” said Nikki Schuth-Mitchell, Tribal Extension Agent and Project Manager for the 2501 Socially Disadvantaged, Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Grant.

The Tribal Extension Agents of Agriculture Outreach have a passion for the Agricultural Industry and use every opportunity to share that industry with the young minds of our future generations.

For more information about Ag in the Classroom or agricultural youth activities, you can contact Nikki Schuth-Mitchell at (580) 924-8280 ext. 2987.

Choctaw Code Talkers from WWI and WWII Honored With Monument in Antlers

by KELSEY BROWN & STACY HUTTO

On Friday, July 3, a crowd of over 75 people gathered in Antlers to dedicate a monument that was set in place to honor the Choctaw Code Talkers of World War I and World War II.

“Most people don’t know about our Choctaw Code Talkers,” said Chief Gary Batton.

Batton explained that this monument is a way for people to learn about our Code Talkers and what they’ve done for this country.

In October of 1918, some of the Choctaw men were overheard speaking their Native language by their commander.

He recognized the potential of their Choctaw culture and language, and quickly formed an idea.

Training the Choctaws to use their words as “code,” they were placed strategically on front lines and at command posts to relay messages and confuse the enemy.

Victor Brown, James

Edwards, Otis Leader, Solomon Louis, Walter Veach, Tobias Frazier, Robert Taylor, Jeff Nelson, Calvin Wilson, Mitchell Bobb, Pete Maytubby, Ben Carterby, Albert Billy, Ben Hampton, Joseph Oklahombi, Joe Davenport, George Davenport, Ben Colbert and Noel Johnson are the 19 Choctaw men documented as being the first to use their own language as a “code” to transmit military messages.

James Edwards helped work out the code words to use in the transmissions.

“Twice big group” in Choctaw was used for battalion, “eight group” was a squad, “fast shooting gun” meant machine gun and “big gun” was field artillery.

Victor Brown was proud of “fooling the Germans” with the Choctaw Language.

Tobias Frazier was among the Choctaw men who helped break the Hindenberg line in 1918.

These are only a small snippet of what the Choctaw warriors from World War I accomplished.



by Kelsey Brown

Chief Gary Batton, Assistant Chief Jack Austin Jr., Choctaw Council, British Royal Airforce and Descendants of the Choctaw Code Talkers stand next to the newly dedicated Choctaw Code Talkers Monument.

This year marks 100 years since the Choctaws of World War I volunteered their service to the United States, joined the Army and traveled to a foreign land.

Native Americans did not receive nationwide citizenship until 1924, yet the Choctaws were courageous and had a desire to serve in the war.

On Sept. 6, 2013, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation dedicated 60 miles of Highway 3 to

be recognized as the “WWI Choctaw Code Talkers Highway.”

The Monument in Antlers marks the west end of the 60-mile stretch.

The monument begins by stating, “The United States Army Choctaw Code Talkers of World War I and World War II have left a lasting legacy for the Choctaw Nation, the State of Oklahoma and the United States of America.”

This monument is one of several ways that the

Choctaw Code Talkers Association has acknowledged and celebrated the historical achievements of these brave young men.

In southeastern Oklahoma 23 county bridges are being dedicated and named after the 19 Choctaw Code Talkers who served in World War I and four from World War II.

The four Choctaw warriors who fought in World War II were Schlicht Billy, Andrew Perry, Davis Pickens and Forreston T. Baker.

The Choctaw Code Talkers Association is in the process of raising funds for a second monument to be placed in Broken Bow on the west end of the highway.

The Code Talkers Association is also looking for new members.

To send a donation, or to request a membership application send a letter to:

Carole Ayers, CCTA Treasurer
8692 Homestead Rd.
Kingston, OK 73439.

SPRIT OF EDUCATION

EXPAND YOUR HORIZON

The Choctaw Nation offers Distance Learning High School Equivalency classes for all members. Classes are 3 days a week for 9 weeks with all books, supplies and testing fees provided. Must have:

1. A tribal membership or CDIB card
2. A Social Security card, driver's license or state issued ID

Session 1 starts on August 6, 2018. All classes will be on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at the following locations:

Bethel/Battiest Bethel/Battiest CNO Community Center	Atoka Atoka Vocational Technology Center
Smithville Smithville CNO Community Center	Coalgate Coalgate CNO Community Center
Wright City Wright City CNO Community Center	Talheim Talheim CNO Community Center
Antlers Old Antlers CNO Community Center	

800-522-6170 ext. 2122
www.ChoctawNation.com

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma *Living out the Chohta Spirit*

Choctaw Nation Head Start

Now accepting applications for Children who will be 3 or 4 years old by September 1.

Choctaw Nation Head Starts are now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year. There are currently openings in Antlers, Broken Bow, Coalgate, Hugo, Idabel, McAlester, Poteau, Wilburton and Wright City. For an application, or for more information please contact Crystal Thompson at (580) 924-8280 ext. 4649, by email at cdthompson@ChoctawNation.com, or go to www.ChoctawNation.com.

BEAT THE HEAT: Extreme Heat

Heat-related deaths are preventable

WHAT: Extreme heat or heat waves occur when the temperature reaches extremely high levels or when the combination of heat and humidity causes the air to become oppressive.	WHO: Children More males than females are affected Older adults Outside workers People with disabilities
WHERE: Houses with little to no AC Construction work sites Cars	HOW to AVOID: Stay hydrated with water, avoid sugary beverages Stay cool in an air conditioned area Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothes

During extreme heat the temperature in your car could be deadly!

Outside Temperature 80°	Inside 109° Time Elapsed: 20 minutes	Inside 118° Time Elapsed: 40 minutes	Inside 123° Time Elapsed: 60 minutes
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HEAT ALERTS: Know the difference.

HEAT OUTLOOK Minor Excessive heat event in 3 to 7 days	HEAT WATCHES Excessive heat event in 12 to 48 hours	HEAT WARNING/ADVISORY Excessive heat event in next 36 hours Major
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DID YOU KNOW?

Those living in **urban areas** may be at a greater risk from the effects of a prolonged heat wave than those living in rural areas.

Sunburn can significantly slow the skin's ability to release excess heat.

Most **heat-related illnesses** occur because of overexposure to heat or over-exercising.

During 1999-2009, an average of **658** people died each year from heat in the United States.

\$30 BILLION estimated total cost of the 2012 US drought and heatwave.

Choctaw Nation Emergency Management

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response

Halito! Chahta Anumpa KIL Ikhvna!

Let's Learn the Choctaw Language!

Registration is Now Open!

June 1 through August 9 for the Chahta Anumpa Internet Classes

www.choctawschool.com

Need more information?
Please call (800) 522-6170

JT – 5163 or Junior – 4021 or Lillie – 2101

YAKOKE!

COLLEGE CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

NEED COLLEGE CLOTHING?

- The Choctaw Clothing grant is a **one time only** allowance.
- A grant of \$300 is provided for a semester GPA of 3.00-4.00
- A grant of \$250 is provided for a semester GPA of 2.00-2.99

Spring awarding is June 1 - September 1

For more information, please contact
(800) 522-6170 ext. 2175 or ext. 2463

APPLY ONLINE
ccaapplication.choctawnation.com
Paper applications NO longer accepted

STORIES

Richard Jay Wilson

Richard Jay Wilson, 71, of Tumwater, Washington, passed away April 1.

Richard was born May 6, 1946, to Mamie and Charles Wilson in Olympia, Washington.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents; wife Amy Wilson; grandparents Tecumseh and Amanda Sumpter; brother Tommy; sister Sheila; nephew Richard Parks Jr.; and niece Teresa Parks.

Richard is survived by sisters Cheryl Wilson and Barbara Wilson; nephews Charles, Christopher and Smith; nieces Leila, Lydise, Toni and Tawnya; as well as many other family, friends and loved ones.

Richard was laid to rest at Mills & Mills Memorial Park in Tumwater.

For the full obituary, please visit [Dignity Memorial](#).

Samantha “Sami” Williams

Samantha “Sami” Sue Williams, 33, of Lane, Oklahoma, passed away May 24.

Sami was born Aug. 20 1984, to Richard Miller and Brandiale (Leiter) Walker.

She was preceded in death by her father; adoptive mother Cynthia Miller; grandmother Alice Smith; and brother Willy Miller.

Sami is survived by her husband Brandon Aldava; daughters Zoey and Journi Aldana; mother; sisters Nichelle Darrow and spouse Justus, Shelli Walker, Kathy Ernst and spouse Edward and KC Goff; nieces Brooke-lynnne and Peyton Darrow, Emily Harmon and Rhiannon Ernst; nephews Jacob Harmon and R.J. and Rudy Ernst; grandfather Jesse Smith; sister-in-law DeeAnn Harmon and spouse Baldric; and mother-in-law Vickie Ibarra.

For the full obituary, please visit [Brown’s Funeral Service](#).

Kim Muncreif

Kim Ivan Muncreif, 61, of Madill, Oklahoma, passed away March 29.

Kim was born Feb. 3, 1957, to Richard and Sunny (Pierce) Muncreif in Pampa, Texas.

Kim was preceded in death by his father; and brother-in-law Wesley Watkins.

He is survived by his mother; sister Richeta Tyner; niece Brandi Wheeler and spouse Matt; nephews Dustin Watkins and spouse Lindsay and Matthew Tyner and spouse Staci; great-nieces Scottie, Mattie and Anna; and great-nephews Draydin, Weston and Devon.

For the full obituary, please visit [Watts Funeral Home](#).

Nolan Russell Boatright

Nolan Russell Boatright, 20, of Seattle, Washington, passed away May 5.

Nolan was born Feb. 21, 1998, to Ken and Jodi (Regan) Boatright in Seattle, Washington.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather Ron Boatright.

Nolan is survived by his parents; brother Will; maternal grandparents Jim and Jo Regan; and paternal grandmother Dottie Boatright.

Please consider donating in Nolan’s memory to the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

For the full obituary, please visit [Biogift.org](#).

Ruel Michael McDaniel

Ruel Michael McDaniel, 67, of Stillwater, Oklahoma, passed away May 28.

Ruel was born Aug. 22, 1950, to Chub and Mahala (Daffin) McDaniel in Atoka, Oklahoma.

He was preceded in death by his father; stepson Jamey Finch; niece Rona Cavender; and Jan McDaniel.

Ruel is survived by his wife Vicki (Lee) McDaniel; mother; daughters Melissa Denton and spouse Mikey and Valerie Phillips and spouse Cody; sisters Alvanell Morris and spouse Johnny and Lola Irion and spouse Bill; brothers Chock McDaniel and spouse Veronica and Phil McDaniel and spouse Joyce; and grandchildren Mitchell Wilfong, Deryn Wilfong, Caden Pogue, Gabe Phillips, Kennedy Pogue, Zachary Finch and Mason Finch.

For the full obituary, please visit [Brown’s Funeral Service](#).



Vivian C. Allen

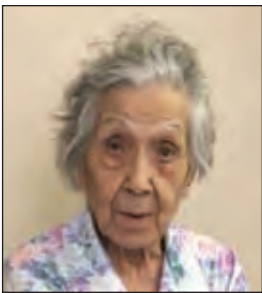
Vivian C. Allen, 95, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, passed away May 13.

Vivian was born July 24, 1922, to David A. Roebuck and Elizabeth Underwood Roebuck in Antlers, Oklahoma.

She was preceded in death by sisters Geneva Carr; Beatrice Ringwald and Viola Fromme; brothers William, Jessie and Dewey Roebuck; half-sisters Georgia Self, Elizabeth Carter and Flossie Carter; and husbands Loyd Helton and Leon Allen.

Vivian is survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and a host of friends.

For the full obituary, please visit [Serenity Funeral Service](#).



Leo Smallwood

Leo Smallwood, 100, of Rattan, Oklahoma, passed away May 26.

Leo was born July 22, 1917, to W.M. and Lydie (Wright) Smallwood in Nelson, Oklahoma.

Leo was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Jane Smallwood; parents; uncle Billy Smallwood; aunt Lydie Smallwood; sister Mary Hester; and brothers William Smallwood, Roy Smallwood and Gilbert Smallwood.

Leo is survived by sons Stephen Smallwood, Eddie Smallwood and spouse Vicky, Mark Smallwood and spouse Stephanie and Charles “Dusty” Smallwood and spouse Karen; daughters Nancy Rose and spouse Curtis and Gayle Johnson and spouse Rick; grandchildren Misy Kropp, Kurt Rose, Megan Gross, Spencer Smallwood, Wade Smallwood, Sloan Smallwood, Ryan Johnson, Rhett Johnson, Ty Smallwood, Tara Smallwood, Sara Cocke and Blair Smallwood; and 14 great-grandchildren.

For the full obituary, please visit [Serenity Funeral Services](#).



Billy Ray Jim

Billy Ray Jim, 32, of Atoka, Oklahoma, passed away May 23.

Billy was born Feb. 11, 1986, to Eldene and Evangeline (Meashintubby) Jim, in Talihina, Oklahoma.

He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents Emmitt and Susan Jim; and nephew Titus Jim.

Billy is survived by son Brently Mitchell; sisters Lucretia Chapman, and Beverly Vanriette and spouse Darrell; brothers Jeremy Jim, Eldene Jim Jr. and spouse Jennifer Ludlow, Herman Meashintubby and spouse Crystal and Christopher Davis; uncles Lee Jim and spouse Yvonne and Daniel Jim and spouse Geneva; and aunts Ann Sleeper, Better Helsley and spouse Jack and Rhonda Jim.

For the full obituary, please visit [Brown’s Funeral Home](#).



Jaqueline “Jackie” Hull

Jaqueline “Jackie” Marie Hull, 71, of Terrell, Texas, passed away May 7.

Jackie was born March 10, 1947, to George and Opal (Orbaine) Leckenby in Omaha, Nebraska.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 27 years, Samuel Charles Hull; parents; and brother Anthony Allen.

Jackie is survived by daughters Shandel Rane Blake and spouse Dusty and Verla Marie Opal Hull; sons Samuel Allen Hull and George Harlan Hull; grandchildren William, Samuel, Lizabeth, Madison and Elias; great-grandchildren Zachary, Tristan, Calvin, Hendricks and Marleigh; brothers Anthony Allen and George Allen and spouse Jackie; sister Ellis Harms; and friend Susie.

For the full obituary, please visit [Goggans Funeral Home](#).



Robert “R.C.” Bullard

Robert “R.C.” Carl Bullard, 83, of Columbus, Kansas, passed away April 18.

R.C. was born Jan. 7, 1935, to Harvey and Carrie Bullard.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Roy Lee Bullard; sisters Ruby Mae Ragan and Clara Anderson; and grandson Austin Wiebe.

R.C. is survived by his wife Delores (McIlrath) Bullard; daughter Robin Wiebe and spouse Steve; sons John Bullard and spouse Shanel and Bret Bullard and spouse Rhonda; and grandchildren Angela Miller, Amara Barber, Arika Livesay, Nicholas Bullard, Nicole Bullard, Michael Bullard and Kennedy Bullard.

For the full obituary, please visit [Midland Cremation](#).



Louis Zirl Roulain Jr.

Louis Zirl Roulain Jr., 63, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, passed away May 6.

Louis was born Aug. 23, 1954, to Julia and Louis Roulain, Sr. in Anadarko, Oklahoma.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Keith Roulain; and sister Eldena Burns.

He is survived by daughter Angela Johnson and spouse John; son Louis Roulain III and spouse Jennifer; grandchildren Christina, Caitlyn and Louis IV; sister Judy Roulain; and brother Kevin Roulain.

For the full obituary, please visit [Demuth Funeral Home](#).



G.W. “Dub” Ivins

G.W. “Dub” Ivins, 85, of Maxwell, Texas, passed away April. 22.

Dub was born Dec. 17, 1932, to George and Oma Ivins in Love County, Oklahoma.

Dub was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years Ouetha (Smith) Ivins; and his parents.

Dub is survived by his wife of 14 years Linda (Wills) Ivins; daughter Rita; sons Roger and Robbie; step-daughter Kelly; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Dub was laid to rest with military honors presented by the Choctaw Color Guard.

For the full obituary, please visit [Flanagan-Watts Funeral Home](#).



Sandra “Sandy” Denise Miller

Sandra “Sandy” Denise Miller, 51, of Barlesville, Oklahoma, passed away May 17.

Sandy was born Oct. 2, 1966, to Edgar Lee and Claudia Rebecca (Pattison) Crabtree in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Sandy was preceded in death by paternal grandparents Edgar and Helen Crabtree; and maternal grandparents Clarence and Gladys Pattison.

Sandy is survived by her husband of 29 years, Matthew Miller; sons Grant Miller and spouse Christina and Brian Miller and spouse Chrystal; daughters Elizabeth “Dalynnne” and spouse Michael and Nicole; grandchildren Logan Miller, Clinton Miller and LaKoda Miller; father and stepmother Edgar and Beverly Crabtree; mother Becky Hunter; brothers Marchmont Big Eagle and spouse Tara and Jason Crabtree; and sisters Tonya Beach and spouse Jason and Tobi Crabtree.

For the full obituary, please visit [Stumpff Funeral Home](#).



Jim Kindred Jr.

Jim Kindred, Jr., 82, of McAlester, Oklahoma, passed away Dec. 30, 2010.

Jim was born April 9, 1928, to Jim Kindred Sr. and Phoebe (Clay) Kindred in Weathers, Oklahoma.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents; brother Jack Moore; and sister Mildred Shaw.

Jim is survived by his wife Sue Kindred; daughters Cheryl Nunn and Donna Williams; sons Jeff Painter and Joe Painter; grandchildren Mollie Nunn, Kindra Williams, Kiley Williams, Abbie Painter, Anna Painter and Jake Painter; great-grandchild Rhylan Williams; and sisters Virginia McAlister and Myrtle Hopper.

For the full obituary, please visit [Bishop Funeral Service](#).



Hannah Bolding

Hannah Bolding, 31, of Atoka, Oklahoma, passed away May 19. Hannah was born Dec. 27, 1986, to Louis Lee Bolding and Retha Gail (Stilwell) Bolding in Ada, Oklahoma.

Hannah was preceded in death by her mother; brother Harley Bolding; and sister Hillari Bolding.

She is survived by her father and spouse C.J.; sons Peyton Keith Calder and William Ethan Eggros; sisters Holly Bolding, Halena Bolding, Carmen Bolding, Cheyenne Bolding and Bobbie Rose Weeks and spouse Andy; brothers Harvey Bolding, Heath Bolding, Harlan Bolding and Harrell Bolding and spouse Kimberly; step-sister Jennifer Reyes; sister-in-law Rebecca Bolding; and best friend Dusty Coats.

For the full obituary, please visit [Miller & Miller Funeral Home](#).



Mary Lou Marshall

Mary Lou Marshall, 97, of Plano, Texas, passed away May 11.

Mary was born Jan. 9, 1921, to Preston Roy and Bertha E. (Chambers) Izard in Roff, Oklahoma.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband of 42 years, Libern Carl Marshall.

Mary is survived by sons Jerry Marshall and spouse Jan and Jim Marshall and spouse Billie; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

For the full obituary, please visit [Criswell Funeral Home Chapel](#).



Mariquinn Cole

Mariquinn Cole, 91, of Wilson, Oklahoma, passed away April 25.

Mariquinn was born May 30, 1926, to Russell Albert Sr. and Gladys Aribell (Gardner) Lindsey in Wilson, Oklahoma.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and brothers Bill Lindsey and R.A. Lindsey, Jr.

Mariquinn is survived by brothers Dwain Lindsey and spouse Sheila and Deryal Lindsey and spouse Wanda; sister Joyce Cooper; and sister-in-law Elaine Lindsey.

For the full obituary, please visit [Harvey-Douglas Funeral Home and Crematory](#).



Obituary Policy

Obituary submissions are for Choctaw Nation tribal members only and are free of charge. The Biskinik will only accept obituary notices from funeral homes. Family members/individuals may submit funeral notices as long as the notice is from the funeral home or printed in their local newspaper through a funeral home service. Full-length handwritten notices will not be accepted. The Biskinik strives to serve all Choctaws, therefore, any handwritten notices received will be searched online for official funeral home notices. If none are found, efforts will be made to contact the family and make arrangements for an official notice. Due to space limitations, there is a 150 word limit for obituaries. The online issue of the Biskinik will contain links to the full obituaries.

Send official obituary notices to:

Biskinik
PO Box 1210
Durant OK 74702

or email: biskinik@choctawnation.com

Labor Day 5K

The 2018 Choctaw Nation Labor Day 5K will be held in front of the Tvshka Homma Capitol Building on Saturday, Sept. 1, at 7:30 a.m.

The race is free with an overall Male and Female Champion. Several divisions with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be available to runners:

Ages 12 and under; Ages 13-15; Ages 16-19; Succeeding 5 year age brackets up to 70 and older for women and 75 years and older for men. All finishers will receive a free t-shirt. Race day registration will be available from 6:15 a.m. to 7:15 a.m.

Pre-registration is available through the following link: <https://register.chronotrack.com/r/39100>

Post Purchase Education Workshop

How to Love Your Home

August 7th
Antlers

August 29th
Stigler

Our free course for homeowners provides cost saving and helpful repair information for the sustaiment of your greatest investment, your home!

Please contact Neile Vance for more information, or to preregister (580) 579-7319 | nvance@choctawhousing.com

CHOCTAW YOUTH HUNT

DRAWING: SEPTEMBER 10

WHITETAIL DOE HUNT

Choctaw Youth from the 10½ counties of the Choctaw Nation will be randomly selected on September 10 for a one-day Whitetail Doe Hunt at the Choctaw Hunting Lodge. Selected hunters may bring one parent/guardian with them for support during this experience.

(Must be between the ages of 13 - 18 years old to be eligible.)

CHOCTAW
HUNTING LODGE

For more information or an entry form please email: choctawlodge@choctawnation.com or call: (800) 522-6170 ext. 2681

9

New Labor Day Recycling Prize Reward

Each year the Choctaw Nation Recycling Center offers a prize reward for turning in a sack of recyclables to the recycling booth. This year, instead of t-shirts, the prize reward will be a Luksi hat made of 100 percent recycled materials.

2018 Labor Day Softball/Fast Pitch Tournament

Applications for the Labor Day Softball Tournament are due by August 10.

Please send applications to Hugo Community Center,

Attn: Larry Wade, 1304 W. Victor, Hugo, OK 74743.

2018 LABOR DAY VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

SIGN UP TODAY!
Get your team registered today.
Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis.
Registration is free.
Contact Crystal Thompson,
cdthompson@choctawnation.com

800-522-6170
www.ChoctawNation.com

2018 LABOR DAY

TOUGH TOUGH CHOCTAW

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
Registration at 3:00 p.m.
Event begins at 4:00 p.m.

There will be a male and female division.

Prizes awarded for First and Second Places.
Free T-shirts to participants.

Contact Waddel Hearn
800.522.6170 (ext.2524) • whearn@choctawnation.com

Chahta Anumpa Aiikhvna

◆◆◆ Lesson of the Month ◆◆◆

Chahta Anumpa Kil Ikhvna!

Let's Learn the Choctaw Language!

Chahta Anumoat ik hypim illo kashke! Achunachit ikhvna micha kil anumpoli. Akkishtvla pa holisso apisa micha tvmaha lukoli yohmi ka himak afam-mi 2018-2019 ya aiabvcha chi ka takohmay. Hypim anumpa kil okchalinchaske! Let us not allow our Choctaw Language to die! Let us strive to learn and speak the language. Below are listed schools and communities which offer the Choctaw Language for the 2018-2019 school year. Let's keep our language alive!

High Schools

Achille	Idabel
Antlers	Keota
Atoka	Kinta
Battiest	Kiowa
Bennington	LeFlore
Bokoshe	McAlester
Boswell	Mill Creek
Broken Bow	Moyers
Buffalo Valley	Panola
Caddo	Pittsburgh
Cameron	Pocola
Choctaw Nation	Inter-Local Quinton
Coalgate	Rock Creek
Colbert	Silo
Coleman	Stringtown
Durant	Stuart
Fort Towson	Talihina
Haileyville	Valliant
Hartshorne	Whitesboro
Haworth	Wilburton
Howe	Wister
Hugo	Wright City

Community Classes

Ada	Hugo
Antlers	Idabel
Atoka	Marlow
Ardmore	McAlester
Broken Bow	Norman
Claremore	Oklahoma City
Coalgate	Poteau
Crowder	Wilburton
Del City	Wright City
Durant	

Colleges

Ardmore Higher Learning Center
Carl Albert Junior College-Poteau
Southeastern Oklahoma State University:
Durant and Idabel Higher Learning
◆ SOSU at Durant-One can receive a minor in the Choctaw Language with 18 credit hours.

Out-of-State

South Gate, California
San Francisco, California

www.choctawschool.com

CHOCTAW NATION

Agriculture Expo

AUGUST 4 | 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Durant Event Center | 3702 Choctaw Rd Durant, OK 74701

- Fresh Local Produce
- Agricultural Services
- Demonstrations
- Farm & Ranch Equipment Vendors
- Guest Speakers
- Door Prizes
- and so much more!

FREE ADMISSION | OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
For more information, contact Macy Vansickle at 580.924.8280 ext. 4276 or mvensickle@choctawnation.com



PRESENTED BY CN AGRICULTURE OUTREACH

2018 LABOR DAY

Chief Patton's
Youth FITNESS CHALLENGE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

Registration at 5:00 p.m.
Event begins at 6:00 p.m.

This annual event promotes fitness and health in a fun and challenging atmosphere. The challenge will conclude with a tug-o-war contest and each participant will receive a free T-shirt.

Contact Waddel Hearn

800.522.6170 (ext.2524)
whearn@choctawnation.com

Choctaw Nation HSE/GED Classes

Traditional HSE Classes

HSE classes will meet each week for approximately 12 weeks. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. You may print an application packet online at www.choctawnation.com (click the Tribal Services tab, then Postsecondary tab) before the first class or you may enroll the first night of class with the instructor. For further questions, please contact Lisa Bebout at the Durant Adult Education office at 800-522-6170, ext. 2122. (A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is required.)

Bryan County, Durant

Beginning date and time
July 10, 2018, Tuesday

Tuesday and Thursday evenings,
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Choctaw Nation New Tribal Complex
1802 Chukka Hina Dr., Durant

(Check in with receptionist at entrance.)

Choctaw County, Hugo

Beginning date and time
July 5, 2018, Thursday

Tuesday and Thursday
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Choctaw Nation Community Center
408 N. "M" Street, Hugo

Leflore County, Poteau

Beginning date and time
July 2, 2018, Monday

Monday and Wednesday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Carl Albert College, Ollie Bldg.,
Room 1220, Poteau

Pittsburg County, McAlester

Beginning date and time
July 3, 2018, Tuesday

Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Eastern Oklahoma State College
McAlester Campus, Clark Bass
Building, McAlester

Distance Learning HSE Classes

Session 1- Starting August 6, 2018

Distance Learning HSE (High School Equivalency), classes are available at the locations below. Distance Learning Technology is implemented in these classes which allows the student and teacher to see and hear each other on large monitors. Students are able to interact with the instructor as she prepares students for the HSE exam. Classes meet 3 days each week for approximately 9 weeks. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. If you have questions about these classes, please contact Lisa Bebout at the Durant office, 800-522-6170, ext. 2122. A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is required. Enrollment for the new classes begins the first day of class and closes to new students on the fourth day of class.

Atoka

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Atoka Vocational Technology Center

Antlers

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am - 12:00pm
Choctaw Nation Community Center

Coalgate

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Atoka Vocational Technology Center

Bethel/Battiest

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Choctaw Nation Community Center

Smithville

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Choctaw Nation Community Center

Talihina

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Old Choctaw Nation Community Center

Wright City

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Choctaw Nation Community Center



Iti Fabussa

Choctaw Cultural Art in the Works

From time to time the Historic Preservation department employs cultural artists to create art for our “Iti Fabvssa” articles and presentations that we use to strengthen our community. We would like to share about the process that goes into making these pieces and encourage the community to take part in an artist workshop in August.

Our current Choctaw Cultural Artist, Brittany Armstrong, will share her experience working with historical resources to create visual representations of our Choctaw traditional ways.

Choctaws have excelled in artistry for hundreds and thousands of years. Think about all of the things we need, use, or decorate that our ancestors needed to make by hand: buildings, games, cooking and eating utensils, baskets, jewelry, boats, weapons, clothing, maps, body paint, tattoos, blankets and even gifts and memorials.

If you were a Choctaw person that lived 200 years ago or 1,000 years ago, do you know how you would decorate yourself, your belongings, your home or your community? Why does adding cultural information to our Choctaw visual arts enrich our community today?

This summer Armstrong, a tribal member and a new graduate of the University of North Texas, started her cultural artwork by drawing clothing from the 1700s and old Choctaw construction.

Armstrong’s first drawing, Figure 1, shows a Choctaw man’s clothing from the 1700s with a breechcloth, leggings, garters and moccasins.

His pucker toe moccasins, the Southeastern style of



Drawing by Brittany Armstrong

Figure 1: Drawing of a typical Choctaw man’s clothing in the 1700s.

footwear, would not be worn all the time but were more commonly worn over rough terrain and in the winter.

The man’s leggings were typically worn together with moccasins and go from the ankle up to the thigh. These were tied to the belt and garters were then tied around the leggings, below the knees, to keep them secure.

Garters could be made of buckskin strips or even a thin finger woven and beaded band. The breechcloth was made from a rectangular strip of buckskin that passed through the legs and hung over a belt at the front and back of the hips. The Choctaw man seen here is holding an iti tanampo, literally a ‘wooden gun,’ or Choctaw style bow.

A Choctaw woman’s clothing from the 1700s, seen in Figure 2, could vary greatly in style. Women also wore moccasins, these being tall pucker toe moccasins, for win-

ter or foot protection when needed.

For covering, a woman commonly wore a twined skirt. Twining is a special technique that predates weaving as we know it; you can see a close up of the textile structure in the women’s clothing drawing.

These skirts could be made of various plant fibers or mixed with animal fibers. The Choctaw woman in Armstrong’s drawing is holding a kiti, or a Choctaw mortar and pestle for grinding corn.

Because we are currently working with the community to revitalize similar clothing and textiles, we look to a wide array of resources for information about how this clothing was made and worn; we had to think about how the clothes would look as they were worn and how these looked close up or from a distance.

As the summer progresses, Armstrong plans to draw a view of Choctaw social structure in the 1700s.

This next project involves making many choices about how Choctaw people would distinguish themselves during this time period with clothing, tattoos, tools and posture to show their social position.

There are various sources we can look at to gain a better understanding of how Choctaw people traditionally dressed and carried themselves hundreds and thousands of years ago.

The many resources available to us as a Choctaw people can enrich our artwork with Choctaw traditions.

Our primary resource is our community and our elders.

The stories, memories and records of our Choctaw life ways held by our people form an invaluable treasury of Choctaw culture and history.

By spending time with our families and communities, we can remember and record these stories in our artwork.

When we need more information that may have passed out of memory, we can look at ethnographic writings and archaeological records.

While many of the archaeological and ethnographic accounts come from difficult places in our history and from times of historical trauma, we can use these to rebuild and reintegrate traditions that are sleeping.

The early Europeans who traveled in Choctaw country, traded with Choctaw people, opened missions or schools in Choctaw country and even fought with or against the Choctaw people often kept records of what they saw during these meetings.

These writings are an important resource that we, as Choctaw people, can reclaim for the rebuilding of our culture and traditions.

One such resource is a book by John R. Swanton which brought many ethnographic accounts about Southeastern tribes together into one large book, “The Indians of the Southeastern United States, 1946.”

Swanton’s book is available in several places online, free of charge. There you can find quotes from many people in the 1700s who wrote about what they saw among the tribes of the Southeast.

Information about our Choctaw clothing, tattoos, customs and stories are just some of the things included in this book.

Many of our “Iti Fabvssa” articles refer to these ethnographic resources. Past articles can be easily accessed online at www.ChoctawNation.com under History & Culture for research and incorporation into Choctaw artwork.

As for archaeological resources, rich information about Choctaw society can be learned through this information as well.

For example, although most clothing from the past has long ago decayed, we can see examples of clothing through sherds, as in Figure 3, left behind from broken pottery found at old Choctaw village sites.

Choctaws and other tribes used recycled cloth to help make large pottery pieces like pans and these cloths left an imprint of their structure on the back.

By looking at old pieces of Choctaw pottery, we learn about Choctaw cooking vessels and clothing. These we could incorporate into making new Choctaw cultural art and use in textile revitalization efforts.

We also continue to learn about Choctaw pieces in museums around the world. Using old Choctaw artisan work, recreated pieces for display, or art depicting Choctaw people in the past, we can learn about Choctaw traditional arts that are sleeping.

These pieces may have left the Choctaw Nation 300 years ago and are only now returning their knowledge to our people.

Through a project called the Chahta Imponna Database, the Historic Preservation department is collecting information and pictures of these special pieces for community members to learn about and for Choctaw artists to incorporate into their artwork.

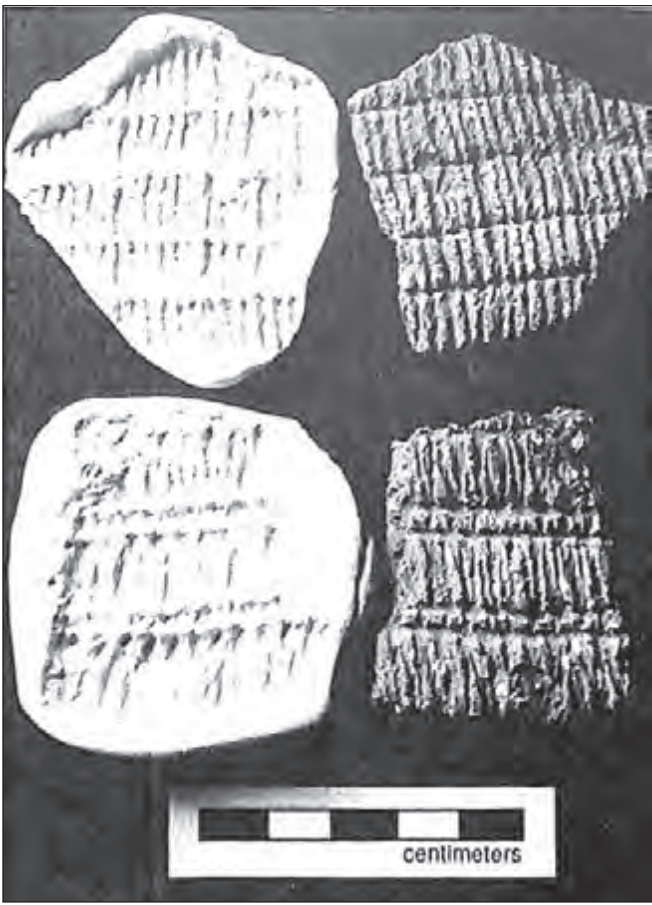


Photo Provided by Mississippian Village Textiles at Wickliffe, 1992

Figure 3: Examples of potsherds with textile impressions and the casts made of them.

We are happy to provide information about old Choctaw culture and history for artists looking to enrich their knowledge of the old ways.

Why does it matter and who does it affect to create art that reflects the old, traditional Choctaw ways? Through art, we can provide our community and our youth access to the traditions that may be sleeping, but are still waiting for our attention.

These traditions are part of our identity as Choctaw people and help us remember who we are. By visualizing the traditional Choctaw lifeways, we can better understand our Choctaw ancestors and the lessons they still have to teach us.

Would you like to know about more resources for creating Choctaw cultural art?

The Historic Preservation is offering a sketching workshop with a Cultural Artist in August for any interested Choctaw artists; no experience necessary, materials will be provided. The deadline to register for the 2D Cultural Art Workshop is Monday, Aug. 6.



Drawing by Brittany Armstrong

Figure 2: Drawing of a typical Choctaw woman’s clothing in the 1700s.

For details about the workshop or inquiries about Choctaw art and culture, please contact Jennifer Byram or the Historic Preservation department by calling (800) 522-6170 ext. 2512 or emailing jbyram@ChoctawNation.com.

Editor’s Note: For any references used and more photos please visit ChoctawNation.com and click on History & Culture.

16th ANNUAL CHIEF BATTON LABOR DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Date: Sunday, September 2, 2018

Team Prizes

1st Place
2nd Place
3rd Place

Individual Prizes

Closest to Pin
Longest drive

- Hosted by Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Sycamore Springs Golf Course, Wilburton, OK
- 9 hole, Par 36
- 4-person Mixed Scramble, 18 holes
- Teams selected by Handicap, 100% Blind Draw
- First Group of Teams tee off at 8:30am, 2nd group at 1:30
- No requests for partners.
- One mulligan per player (NEED NOT PURCHASE)
- Door Prizes will be given.
- FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS.
- THERE WILL BE NO CASH PRIZES

Deadline to Enter: August 27th; No applications or requests will be taken prior to July 24th. First 72 Registered Golfers Will be Accepted

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, ST, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Handicap: _____ Shirt Size: _____
(Valid Handicap Card required) Tee Time: 8:30a or 1:30p
Mulligan Purchased: Yes or No (circle one)

Mail Entry Form to Nate Cox, 2101 West Arkansas St., Durant, OK 74701
For More Information please contact Nate Cox or Gregg Robinson at (580) 380-1633. or (580) 916-0510
Email: ncox@choctawglobal.com

3-on-3 Basketball

War Hoops
Saturday, Sept. 1

Category / Division	circle one:
4 MAN ROSTER	
WOMEN ALL STARS	AGES - 18 & UP
NEW YOUNG GUNS	AGES - 10 TO 25
NEW OLD TIMERS	AGES - 35 & UP
4 MAN ROSTER	
MINI COED	AGES - 9 TO 11
TWEENS COED	AGES - 12 TO 14
TEENS COED	AGES - 15 TO 18

Entry form must be postmarked by August 25:
Labor Day 3-on-3 Basketball, ATTN: Kerry Steve
P.O. Box 1210, Durant, OK 74702
Teen players who are 18 must still be in high school LIMITED TO THE FIRST 20 TEAMS

Student School and Activity Fund

Need money to buy school or activity clothing?

- \$100 VISA gift card available nationwide for Choctaw Tribal Members who are attending 3 year old daycare to 12th grade.
- Each student with a tribal membership can receive funding one time per school year.
- Apply online at ssaapplication.choctawnation.com

Applications for 2018-2019 School Year
Available July 1, 2018 - May 1, 2019

For more information contact
Jessica Huffman or Patricia Gibson
(800) 522-6170 ext. 2175 or 2463

Homebuyers Education

Are you interested in becoming a home owner?

The Choctaw Nation Housing Authority offers FREE workshops for potential and new homeowners. All materials are furnished.

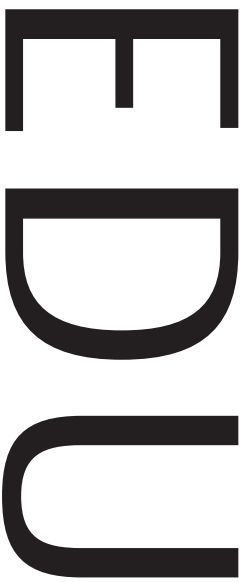
For more information on dates and course locations, or to preregister, contact Neile Vance at 580.579.7319 or nvance@choctawhousing.com

Goodman Earns Doctor of Osteopathy



Dr. Frank Goodman recently earned a Doctor of Osteopathy from William Carey School of Osteopathic Medicine in Hattisburg, Mississippi. While at William Carey University, Dr. Goodman held a position as National Coordinator for the Student American Academy of Osteopathy. Dr. Goodman also received the Outstanding Student Award in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine from the faculty at the Senior Awards Banquet. Dr. Goodman will be continuing his education as a Family Medicine

Resident at the Oklahoma State University Medical Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Dr. Goodman is planning on a career in family medicine and osteopathic manipulative treatment. He plans to use his skills to make an impact in a rural community. According to Goodman, his wife and son Nathan have been his greatest motivations on his journey to become a physician. Goodman is the grandson of John Jones and Helen Jones and son of Kimberly Warfield and Thomas Warfield.



Conner Completes OUHSC Residency

Dr. Andrew Conner recently graduated from Neurosurgery residency training at The University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. While at The University of Oklahoma, he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. Dr. Goodman is also the author of 29 peer reviewed scientific publications with an emphasis on neuro-oncology and brain network theory. In the fall, his recent work on brain network theory and anatomy, will be published in the peer-reviewed journal “Neurosurgery.” Dr. Conner is the son of Rick and Tammy Conner. He wishes to thank the Choctaw Nation for their support throughout his academic career.



Smith Earns Ph.D.

Tessa Smith of Merced, California, has completed her Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of California. Her family would like to express their gratitude to Chief Batton and the Choctaw Nation for their support. Tessa earned her undergraduate degree in Economics at Stanford University and was a member of the Stanford Native American Organization. Her family wishes her success in the many years ahead as she continues on her path to become a professor at the University of Pittsburg. May God continue to bless you on your journey.

Dempsey Attends Boys State

Brawley Dempsey poses for a photo with Congressman Markwayne Mullin at Boys State. Boys State is among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for high school students. It is a program where each student becomes a part of their local, county and state government. Dempsey is a senior at Rattan High School.

Dunston Selected for University of Pennsylvania College Horizons

Owen Dunston was selected to attend a program called College Horizons at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. It is a weeklong program that connects college representatives from dozens of schools across the United States with Native American students to help prepare them for the college. College Horizons connects essay specialists and college counselors to Native students to help each student find the right college fit for them. Dunston worked alongside 60 other students from 40 different tribes until late at night writing and rewriting essays, filling out applications and researching scholarships, all while living and eating on a real college campus. According to Dunston, “While at College Horizons, I formed exceptional bonds with not only the college representatives, but also with the fellow Native



students. “Before the program, I felt disconnected from my tribe because I live far away from Durant. “But during the program, I met Natives from all over the United States. “Meeting kids from

other tribes as well as fellow Choctaws and learning their traditions illuminated the truth that being Native is more than just a checked box and that my tribe is a community that goes beyond borders.”

Porter Earns Master of Arts at Brandman University

Brandi Porter has earned a Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership in from Brandman University. Porter is the granddaughter of Olene and Havnear Vencill. Porter said, “I would like to thank my friends, family, Steve Gaedke and Choctaw Nation’s Higher Education staff for supporting my academic dreams. I could not have done it alone.”



King Graduates OU with Public Relations degree

Hannah King graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor’s degree in Public Relations. Hannah will continue her education at the University of Oklahoma College of Law. Hannah is originally from Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Her parents are Leslie Watkins and Bruce King. She is the granddaughter of Richard and Joy Orr of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, and Kenneth and Betty King of Seminole, Oklahoma.

Nicole Narcomey Graduates SOSU with Master of Science

Nicole Narcomey graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University with a Master of Science degree in Native American Leadership. In 2013, she received her Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Marketing. She is the daughter of Lee and Joyce Watkins and sister of Jeff. In her spare time, she enjoys making banaha with her father, singing Choctaw hymns and is a member of the Tushka Homma Ohoyo Stickball team. Nicole and her husband Ethan live in Durant where she works for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in Cultural Services.



Ludlow Named Scholastic Champion

Arian Ray Durant Ludlow was named the Grand Champion of the Smithville School Board of Education Scholastic Sweepstakes. Head of School Board, Lee Brown presented an engraved plaque to Ludlow on May 18.



“ I love working for my tribe and I know that I am on the right path.

— Michele Meza
Quality Manager, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Michele Meza Selected for Leadership Native Oklahoma

by APRYL MOCK

Michele Meza has been selected to participate in the 2018 Class of Leadership Native Oklahoma. LNO is a unique leadership experience for governmental and business leaders in Indian Country, provided by the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma. Annetta Abbot, AICCO Executive Director and LNO Chairperson, described LNO as, “... a unique opportunity to foster cohesiveness from a group of tribes and tribal leaders. The LNO program continues to grow and has received a great response from the participants and the tribes.” The course consists of seven monthly sessions, which began in March. The sessions teach new skill sets and provide many opportunities for participants to network. Meza has over 24 years of experience in business within Indian Country, as well as the private sector. She holds a Master’s degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship. Meza is

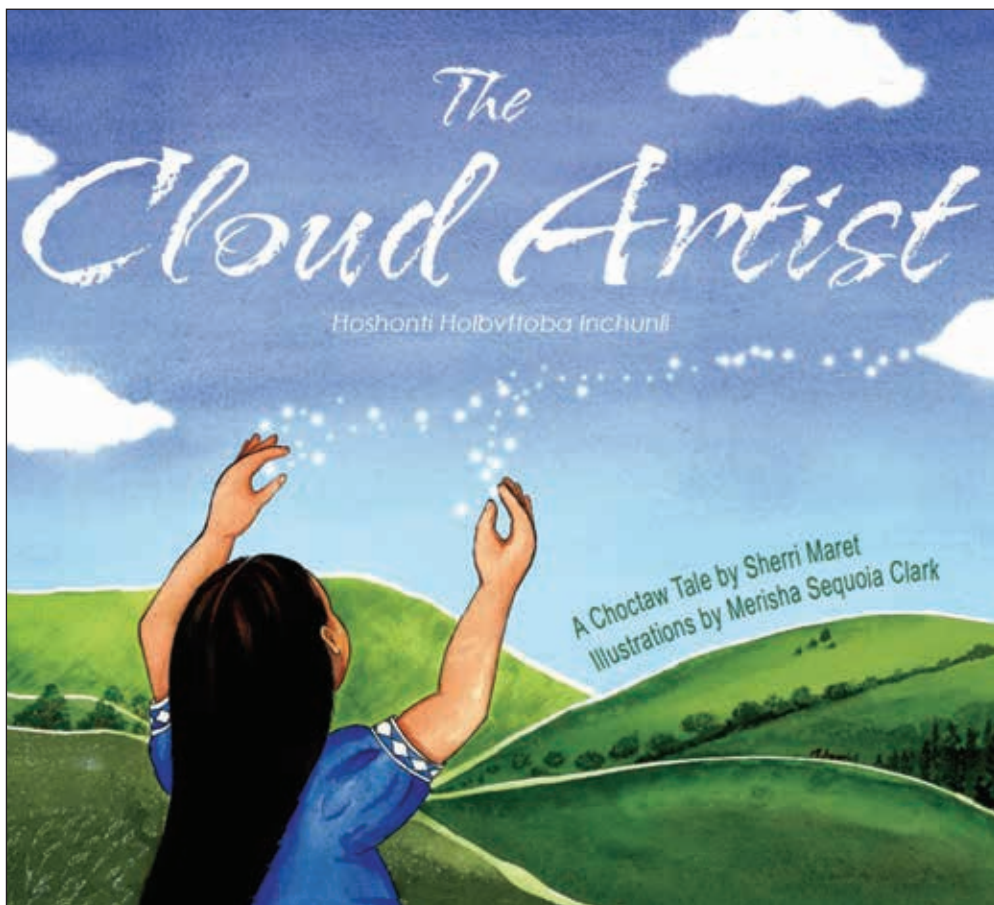
currently a Quality Manager in Compliance within the Commerce Division at the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Meza said, “The LNO program has given me a platform to generate a healthy dialogue with other leaders. I have developed a sense of camaraderie with my fellow participants, which has allowed us to address issues that affect our people, our tribes and our communities.” Meza is a first-generation college graduate with more than 15 years of experience serving underprivileged women and children on tribal reservations. She promotes literacy among native youth and is an advocate for domestic violence survivors. “I feel most accomplished when working with youth. It’s so rewarding to watch a child grow and develop the necessary skills they’ll use throughout their lives,” Meza said. As a domestic violence survivor, Meza feels a deep understanding and urge to help others experiencing domestic abuse. “When I first meet these

women, I see the pain in their eyes. I work with them to create goals and develop a plan of action. “After weeks or even months of work, I get to see a beautiful transformation in these women. It encourages me to keep going,” Meza stated. LNO hopes to continue fostering innovation and cooperation among tribes and tribal members across Oklahoma while promoting economic growth. “As you can see from the caliber of our 2018 class, we have several outstanding leaders doing great things for the tribes across Oklahoma and for the economic benefit of our native businesses,” said Bailer Walker, AICCO State President. Meza is thankful for this opportunity and is extremely proud to be a part of the Choctaw tribe. She shared, “The nation has supported me throughout my career and has given me the opportunity to serve my people through employment and leadership training opportunities. “I love working for my tribe and I know that I am on the right path.”



Photo Provided

Maret Releases New Choctaw Children’s Book



Sherri Maret has released “The Cloud Artist: A Choctaw Tale” to outstanding reviews. The children’s book made waves as a finalist for the Oklahoma Book Award and The First Nation Communities Read Award. According to Maret, this tale is a bit of historical fiction, a lot of fantasy and a dab of tall tale. In it, we meet a little girl who can use the sky as a canvas and the clouds as paint. It is written in both English and Choctaw, with translation provided by Dora Wickson. The book also contains dreamy illustrations by Merisha Lemmer Clark. “The Cloud Artist: A Choctaw Tale” is available at The Choctaw Museum, [The Choctaw Store](#) and bookstores across the U.S. and Canada.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Billie J. Stearns celebrated her 93rd birthday on June 21. Her family wishes a happy birthday to their wonderful mother.



Jonnie Peck Parker, celebrated her 100th birthday on June 10. Happy birthday Jonnie!



Julie Deanne Pace celebrated her 42nd birthday on June 2. Her mother, Tammy Nunn, wishes her a very happy birthday!



Patrick Pace celebrated his 35th birthday on July 3. His mother Tammy Nunn wishes him a happy birthday!



June, Dick Sidles Will Soon Celebrate 50th Anniversary

June and Dick Sidle will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 31. They married Aug. 31, 1968.

Lawrence inducted in to Gaylord-Pickens Museum



David Calvin Lawrence was inducted in to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame Gaylord-Pickens Museum on June 28. David is the son of the late Leroy and Jessie Lawrence and the brother of the late Kenndy and Russell Lawrence, all of Hugo, Oklahoma. His family is very proud of him. Congratulations David!

Hays Family Traces Lineage back 10 Generations



Photo by Krislan Turner

Jonna and Velma of the Hays family traveled from California to obtain their CDIB cards. Their brothers, Oakley, Larry, Nathan and Terry met with them for a family reunion. While here, the Hays family traced their lineage back 10 generations and found they are related to two past chiefs, Chief Harkins and Chief Leafhorse. Oakley Hays said, “We really enjoyed it. We stayed at the casino, visited the new headquarters and the new wellness center. I’m glad we got to come.” Originally a family of 14, the Hays siblings now number nine. The siblings not pictured are Joe, Madeline and Garry.

Guy Neal turned 96 on June 3rd. He celebrated with his children, Dwayne Neal, Dayna Hunter and Jan Toth, as well as several nieces, nephews and friends. Happy birthday Guy!



District 10 Takes 2nd in Competition

District 10 Councilperson Anthony Dillard accepts second place in the singing competition on behalf of his seniors. The District 10 seniors competed at the 33rd annual Seniors Day.



Cody Crank to Compete in Extreme Mustang Makeover



Cody Crank, 33, of Talihina, Oklahoma has been selected to compete in the Extreme Mustang Makeover.

The event will take place Sept. 6-8, at the Will Rogers Equestrian Center in Fort Worth, Texas.

The purpose of the event is to showcase the beauty and versatility of wild horses.

Trainers will have been given approximately 100 days to gentle a wild horse they picked up in May.

The mustangs competing in the Extreme Mustang Makeover challenge will be virtually untouched prior to pick-up.

The trainers and mustangs will compete in a

series of classes that will showcase their new skills.

The horses will compete in a handling and condition class, a pattern class and a combined trail class.

The top ten competitors will then compete in the freestyle finals.

Mustangs competing in the Player's Choice Extreme Mustang Makeover will be available to the public through an auction event on Saturday, Sept. 8, following the competition.

The trainers will compete for an estimated prize of \$130,000, as well as a custom-made A Cut Above belt buckle.

Crank uses natural horsemanship training methods and has trained

more than 100 horses.

He is married to Lara Crank and is the father of Shali Bridges, Kali Bridges and Justin Crank.

The Extreme Mustang Makeover is made possible through a partnership with the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program and the generosity of sponsors such as Western Horseman, Martin Saddlery and Classic Equine, Resistol, RAM Rodeo Series, Weisbery Family Foundation, A Cut Above Buckles, Equestrian Singles, Best Ever Saddle Pads and RIDE TV.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, please visit www.extrememustangmakeover.com.

Levi Coleman named Athlete of Character



Southwestern Christian University sophomore Levi Coleman was honored at the 2017-18 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Champions of Character Awards Luncheon May 15.

The tennis player was honored as a Collegiate Student-Athlete of Character Award winner.

The award recognizes individuals who embody the NAIA's five core values

of integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership.

The award winners were selected based on the way they demonstrate these values throughout their daily lives.

McElhaney Signs with Seminole State College



Photo Provided

Dakota McElhaney, of Choctaw Nation, signed on June 4 with Coach Rob Bennett to play golf for Seminole State College.

Dakota is a 2018 graduate from Savanna High School. Dakota's father, Dave McElhaney, mother Angie McElhaney and brother Cayden McElhaney were present for the signing.

Dakota first became interested in golf at the age of 10 while attending Choctaw Nation Summer Golf Camp.

Both she and her brother attended these camps, which have given both children an opportunity to improve on their abilities.

Dakota has been a member of National Honor Society throughout high school as well as a prominent player for basketball and softball.

Dakota's plans are to complete the Registered Nurse program at Seminole State College then obtain a Bachelors of Nursing.

Neighbors Honor Veteran with Artwork



In June, Tommy Davis was presented with two patriotic paintings created by his neighbor Rhonda Schwerdel and her daughter Lauren Martin.

Davis is originally from Talihina, Oklahoma.

He began his military career in 1969, by enlisting

in the United States Marine Corps.

Davis continues to contribute to his community by volunteering for military veterans and the elderly.

He is the father of Walter R. Davis and Jacob P. Parker Davis.

Family of Marines Gather to Observe Memorial Day



(Left to right) Brandon, Richard, Brent and Gary Bronaugh gathered to celebrate Memorial Day.

All four men have proudly served in the United States Marine Corps. Thank you for your service, gentlemen.

Choctaw Nation Veterans Dinners

Photos by Candace Leach, Casey Davis, Apryl Mock, Stacy Hutto, Payton Guthrie and Charles Clark.

Veterans Dinners photos continued from page 4



Stigler

Top: The Stigler veterans pose for a group photo with District 5 Councilperson Ronald Perry.

Bottom Left: The Stigler community honored their veterans with songs.

Bottom Right: Councilperson Perry thanks the Stigler veterans for their service.

Poteau

Top left: District 4 Councilperson Delton Cox welcomes everyone to the Poteau veterans dinner.

Top Right: The Poteau community center had a full house during the veterans dinner.

Bottom (front row left to right) Bob Free, Curtis Loyd, Lory Smith and Floyd Mortenson

Back Row: (left to right) Phillip James, Jerry Wisner Councilperson Cox, Joseph Moore and Ray Luman.

2018 PRINCESS PAGEANT

The 2018 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival begins with the Princess Pageant on Thursday, Aug. 30, at 6:00 p.m. at the amphitheater in Tvshka Homma.

Each talented young lady will compete within her respective division for the titles of Little Miss Choctaw Nation, Junior Miss Choctaw Nation and Miss Choctaw Nation 2018-19.

Each contestant qualified to appear in the pageant by winning their district pageant.

The contestants also finished their interviews with the pageant judges before the pageant at the festival.

They will each be judged on personality, goals as princess, beauty and poise, traditional dress and traditional accessories.

All junior and senior contestants are also required to compete in the traditional talent category.

Senior Miss Division



Mandy Steele, District 1

Mandy Steele, of Idabel, Oklahoma, is the 22-year-old daughter of Roger and Shanna Steele. Mandy is currently a sophomore at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.



Reba Ludlow, District 6

Reba Ludlow, of Talihina, Oklahoma, is the 18-year-old daughter of Naomi Ludlow. Reba is currently a freshman at Haskell Indian University.



Loren Crosby, District 7

Loren Crosby, of Wright City, Oklahoma, is the 19-year-old daughter of Kenneth and Ann Crosby. Loren is currently a freshman at Carl Albert State College.



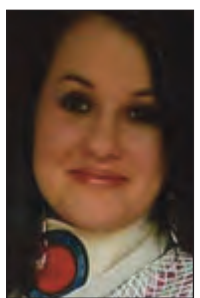
Christian Potter, District 9

Christian Potter, of Durant, Oklahoma, is the 20-year-old daughter of Latisha Potter. Christian is currently a junior at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.



Callie Armstrong, District 10

Callie Jo Armstrong, of Caney Oklahoma, is the 19-year-old daughter of Mike and Brandy Armstrong and Mandy and Hark Lawson. Callie is currently a sophomore at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.



Cheyhomma Dugger, District 11

Cheyhomma Dugger, of Hartshorne, Oklahoma, is the 21-year-old daughter of Jerry and Michele Dugger. Cheyhomma is currently a senior at Northeastern State University.

Junior Miss Division



Chasely Roberts, District 1

Chasely Roberts, of Idabel, Oklahoma, is the 13-year-old daughter of Lindsey Roberts. Chasely is in the 6th grade at Denison Elementary.



Kaden Mora, District 2

Kaden Mora, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, is the 14-year-old daughter of Christy Jefferson. Kaden is a freshman at Battiest High School.



Aryanna Ludlow, District 3

Aryanna Ludlow, of Talihina, Oklahoma, is the 16-year-old daughter of Jessica Ludlow. Aryanna is a junior at Talihina High School.



Raven Noriega, District 6

Raven Noriega, of Wilburton, Oklahoma, is the 15-year-old daughter of Raymond Noriega and Crystal Kinley. Raven is a sophomore at Wilburton High School.



Emily Forbit, District 7

Emily Forbit, of Wright City, Oklahoma, is the 17-year-old daughter of Melissa Maytubby. Emily is a junior at Wright City High School.



Kalin Beller, District 9

Kalin Beller, of Durant, Oklahoma, is the 15-year-old daughter of Brandon and Crystal Beller. Kalin is a sophomore at Durant High School.



Hailie Pittman, District 10

Hailie Pittman, of Atoka, Oklahoma, is the 14-year-old daughter of Eric and Rachel Pittman. Hailie is in the 8th grade at McCall Middle School.



Alexis Futischa, District 11

Alexis Futischa, of McAlester, Oklahoma, is the 15-year-old daughter of Jonathan Futischa and Curt and Jacqueline Washington. Alexis is a freshman at McAlester High School.



Cherokee McCoy, District 12

Cherokee McCoy is the 13-year-old daughter of Thomas and Krista McCoy. Cherokee is in the 7th grade at Wallace Byrd Middle School.

Little Miss Division



LeAndra Carter, District 1

LeAndra Carter, of Haworth, Oklahoma, is the 9-year-old daughter of Marcus Carter and Andrea Fox. LeAndra is in the 4th grade at Denison Elementary.



Aiden Jessie, District 2

Aiden Jessie, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, is the 10-year-old daughter of Ryan Williston and Faith Jessie. Aiden is in the 4th grade at Lukfata Elementary.



Soledad Garcia, District 3

Soledad Del Carmen Garcia-Mejia, of Talihina, Oklahoma, is the 8-year-old daughter of Nakisha Garcia-Mejia. Soledad is in the 3rd grade at Talihina Elementary.



Aiana Holman, District 6

Aiana Holman, of Wilburton, Oklahoma, is the 12-year-old daughter of Crystal Holman. Aiana is in the 6th grade at Panola Jr High.



Mia Reich, District 7

Mia Reich, of Wright City, Oklahoma is the 10-year-old daughter of Jay and Melissa Roberts-Reich. Mia is in the 4th grade at Finley Reese Elementary.



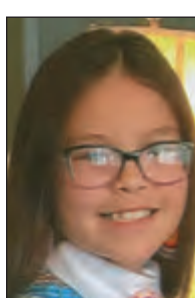
Mackenzie Caldwell, District 9

Mackenzie Caldwell, of Durant, Oklahoma, is the 11-year-old daughter of Jeremey and Christen Caldwell. Mackenzie is in the 6th grade at Durant Intermediate School.



Jordyn Washington, District 11

Jordyn Washington, of McAlester, Oklahoma, is the 9-year-old daughter of Curt and Jacqueline Washington. Jordyn is in the 3rd grade at Emerson Elementary.



Checotah McCoy, District 12

Checotah McCoy is the 11-year-old daughter of Thomas and Krista McCoy. Checotah is in the 4th grade at EE Emerson Elementary.

Make a Difference in a Child's Life
By Living Out the Choctaw Spirit

AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 3 ♦ TVSHKA HOMMA

LOST CHILD STATION

For the safety of our members and visitors, a Lost Child Station will be located at main entrance. Wristbands will be available at all entrances.

Princesses on Parade during 32nd Annual Red Earth Festival



2017-18 Choctaw Royalty Jade Cossey, BreAnna Jefferson and Mya Thomas enjoy their ride in the Red Earth Parade.



District 6 and 10 Princesses wave from atop their parade truck.

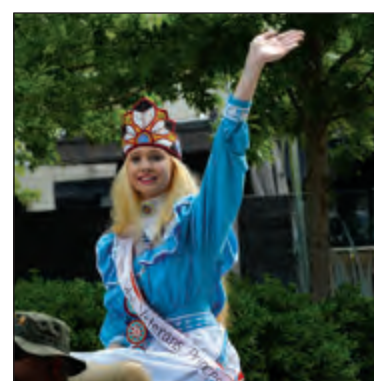
Red Earth photos by Kendra Germany



Little Pittsburg County Powwow Princess Qianna Atchico waves to the crowd.



Miss Oklahoma Indian Biker Cheyenne Joslin and Jr. Miss Oklahoma Indian Biker Jessica Meikle participate in the 32nd Annual Red Earth Festival Parade.



Vietnam War Veteran's Princess, Sydney Anderson-Cullum waves during the Red Earth Parade.



2018 LABOR DAY FESTIVAL

AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 3 ♦ TVSHKA HOMMA, OK

◆ FEATURED ENTERTAINERS ◆

15



TRACE ADKINS
FRIDAY - 9:00 P.M.



KIP MOORE
SATURDAY - 9:00 P.M.



CHRIS TOMLIN
SUNDAY - 9:00 P.M.



NEAL MCCOY
FRIDAY - 7:00 P.M.



DAN + SHAY
SATURDAY - 7:00 P.M.



JASON CRABB
SUNDAY - 7:30 P.M.



JERRY TIMS
FRIDAY - 6:00 P.M.



KYLIE MORGAN
SATURDAY - 6:00 P.M.



THE KINGSMEN QUARTET
SUNDAY - 6:30 P.M.



THE WILLIAMSONS
SUNDAY - 5:30 P.M.

All concerts in
Amphitheater.

www.ChoctawNation.com

Program agenda, dates and times subject to change.

Free Admission to
all concerts.

Festival Map

No Alcohol, Drugs, Personal Golf Carts or ATVs on grounds.
Your attendance at the festival is permission to be photographed and/or
videod to be used in publications by Choctaw Nation.
Labor Day Festival schedule, dates and times subject to change.





AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 3 ♦ TVSHKA HOMMA

◆ Thursday ◆

8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.-Capitol Museum hours
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.-Museum Gift Shop hours
6:00 p.m.-Princess Pageant, Amphitheater

◆ Friday ◆

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.-Capitol Museum hours & Museum Gift Shop hours
9:00 a.m.-Midnight-Choctaw Store hours
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.-Crafts for youth at playground by CCA & YAB
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.-Education Tent hours
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.-Mobile Library at playground
10:00 a.m.-Arts and Crafts exhibits
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.-Going Green Tent hours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-Information Booth hours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-Biskinik Building hours
10:00 a.m.-Choctaw Social Dance Class on Capitol lawn
Noon-5:00 p.m.-Quilt entries at Information Booth
Noon-6:00 p.m.-CDIB/Membership/Photo ID building hours
Noon-6:00 p.m.-Voter Registration hours
Noon-8:00 p.m.-Healthy Living Expo, next to Council Chambers
2:00 p.m.-Gourd Dancing on Capitol lawn
5:00 p.m.-Registration for Chief Batton Physical Fitness Challenge, on Council Chambers lawn
6:00 p.m.-Chief Batton Youth Physical Fitness Challenge
6:00 p.m.-Gourd Dancing on Capitol lawn
6:00 p.m.-Midnight-Carnival
6:00 p.m.- **Jerry Tims**, Amphitheater
7:00 p.m.-Stickball Tournament at Stickball Field
7:00 p.m.-Pow Wow Grand Entry on Capitol lawn
7:00 p.m.-Fast-Pitch Tournament at Red Warrior Park
7:00 p.m.-**Neal McCoy**, Amphitheater
9:00 p.m.-**Trace Adkins**, Amphitheater

Inter-Tribal Pow Wow
Friday on Capitol Grounds
2 p.m.: Gourd Dancing
5 p.m.: Break
6 p.m.: Gourd Dancing
7 p.m.: Grand Entry

6:30 p.m.- **The Kingsmen Quartet**, Amphitheater
7:30 p.m.- **Jason Crabb**, Amphitheater
7:00 p.m.-Children's stickball exhibition, stickball field
7:00 p.m.-Traditional Choctaw Hymn Singing, Chapel
8:00 p.m.-Women's stickball exhibition, stickball field
9:00 p.m.-Championship stickball game, stickball field
9:00 p.m.- **Chris Tomlin**, Amphitheater

Choctaw Village Activities
Saturday
10:00 a.m.: Choctaw Dancing
10:30 a.m.: Stickball Skills
10:30 a.m.: Choctaw Hymns
11:00 a.m.: Storytelling
11:30 a.m.: Rabbit Stick Throw
1:00 p.m.: Stickball
1:30 p.m.: Language
1:45 p.m.: Corn Game
2:15 p.m.: Choctaw Dancing
3:00 p.m.: Community Language Presentations

Sunday
Noon Choctaw Village
1:00 p.m.: Rabbit Stick Throw
1:30 p.m.: Storytelling
2:00 p.m.: Corn Game

◆ Monday ◆

8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.-Capitol Museum hours
8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.-Museum Gift Shop hours
9:00 a.m.-Noon-CDIB/Membership/Photo ID booth hours
9:00 a.m.-Noon-Voter Registration hours
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.-Choctaw Store hours
9:30 a.m.-Cultural Activities, Amphitheater
• Tim Tingle, Storytelling
• The Johnsons, Traditional Singing
10:00 a.m.-Labor Day official ceremonies, Amphitheater
• Opening Prayer
• Posting of Flags-Choctaw Nation Color Guard
• National Anthem
• The Lord's Prayer in Sign Language-Choctaw Royalty and Brad Joe
• Introduction of Tribal Council and Judges
• State of the Nation Address by Chief Gary Batton
• Door Prize Drawings
11:30 a.m.-Free lunch for everyone, cafeteria
Noon-Pick up quilts from Quilt Show
Noon-3:00 p.m.-Carnival

◆ Saturday ◆

6:15 a.m.-7:15 a.m.-5k registration, Capitol Museum
7:30 a.m.-5k Race begins and ends at Capitol Museum
8:00 a.m.-Fast-Pitch Tournament continues
8:00 a.m.-Fittest Choctaw Registration, at Council Chambers lawn
8:00-8:30 a.m.-Co-ed Volleyball Check-in
8:30-9:30 a.m.-Choctaw War Hoops, 3-on-3 Basketball Team Check-In
9:00 a.m.-Midnight-Choctaw Store hours
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.-Crafts for youth at playground by Daycare & YAB
9:00 a.m.-Co-ed Volleyball Tournament
9:00 a.m.-Quilt Show at Information Booth
9:00 a.m.-Horse Shoe Tournament
9:00 a.m.-Fittest Choctaw, Council Lawn
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.-Education Tent hours
9:45 a.m.-Terrapin Race Registration at playground
10:00 a.m. - Choctaw War Hoops, 3-on-3 Tournament
10:00 a.m.-Noon-Buffalo Tours, load bus at Capitol Museum
10:30 a.m.-Terrapin Races, playground
10:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m.-Choctaw Village activities (see schedule)
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.-Going Green Tent hours
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.-Greenhouse Tours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-Information Booth hours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-Capitol Museum hours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-15th Annual Choctaw Nation Art Show, Capitol Museum
10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.-Museum Gift Shop hours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-Healthy Living Expo, next to Council Chambers
7:00 p.m.-Drawing at Healthy Living Expo ,
• MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN and PRESENT ID
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-Biskinik Building hours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-CDIB/Membership/Photo ID hours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-Voter Registration hours
Noon-Midnight-Carnival
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.-Mobile Library at playground
3:00 p.m.-Tough Tough registration on Council Chambers lawn
3:00-5:30 p.m.-Community Language Presentations, Village Amphitheater
4:00 p.m.-Tough Tough contest on Council Chambers lawn
6:00 p.m.-**Kylie Morgan**, Amphitheater
7:00 p.m.- **Dan + Shay**, Amphitheater
8:00 p.m.-Stickball Tournament at field north of carnival
9:00 p.m.-**Kip Moore**, Amphitheater

Carnival Times
Friday: 6:00 p.m.-Midnight
Saturday: Noon - Midnight
Sunday: Noon - Midnight
Monday: 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Times subject to change depending on weather conditions

Choctaw Nation Museum hours
Thursday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday: Noon - 4:30 p.m.
Monday: 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

◆ Sunday ◆

8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.-National Choctaw Day of Prayer, Chapel
8:00 a.m.-Bow Shoot, Choctaw Village
8:00 a.m.-Fast-Pitch Tournament continues
8:30 a.m.-Golf Tournament, Sycamore Springs Golf Course, Wilburton
9:00 a.m.-Quilt Show at Information Booth
9:00 a.m.-Midnight-Choctaw Store hours
10:00 a.m.-Worship Services at Chapel
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.-Going Green Tent hours
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.-Biskinik Building hours
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.-Information Booth hours
Noon-Choctaw Village Activities (see schedule)
Noon-Gospel Singing begins at amphitheater (for updates visit www.ChoctawNation.com)
Noon-Domino/Checker Tournament registration (see map)
Noon-2:00 p.m.-15th Annual Choctaw Nation Art Show, Capitol Museum
Noon-4:00 p.m.-Greenhouse Tours
Noon-4:30 p.m.-Museum Gift Shop hours
Noon-4:30 p.m.-Capitol Museum hours
Noon-6:00 p.m.-CDIB/Membership/Photo ID booth hours
Noon-6:00 p.m.-Voter Registration hours
Noon-Midnight-Carnival
1:00-5:30 p.m. – Healthy Living Expo, next to Council Chambers
• 1:00 p.m. – Connecting Native Kids to Insurance Coverage
• 1:30 p.m. – Limited Mobility Exercises
• 2:00 p.m. – Tobacco Prevention/ Education
• 2:30 p.m. – Healthy Families
• 3:00 p.m. – Weight Loss (Interactive)
• 3:30 p.m. – Healthy Eating for Kids
• 4:00 p.m. – Diabetes Prevention
• 4:30 p.m. – Couch Prevention
• 5:00 p.m. – Souce to 5K
• 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Blood Sugar & Blood Pressure checks
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.-Mobile Library at playground
1:00 p.m.-Domino/Checker Tournament (see map)
1:30 p.m.-Golf Tournament, Sycamore Springs Golf Course
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.-Choctaw Village activities (see schedule)
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.-Education Tent by Outreach Services Youth Activity
1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.-Choctaw Code Talker Association Board Meeting, Council Chambers
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.-Buffalo Tours, load bus at Capitol Museum
4:00 p.m.-Choctaw Dancers, Capitol lawn
5:00 p.m.-Stickball exhibition, Capitol lawn
5:30 p.m.- **The Williamsons**, Amphitheater

Pastor Olin Williams

Forgiveness is Freedom

Forgiveness is a wonderful and gracious act of God that releases joy and peace unto one that truly believes in his redemption plan.

What is forgiveness? We will look into the 16th chapter of the book of Leviticus in the Old Testament to get a visual understanding of the origin of this process.

Herein is portrayed the Day of Atonement, or Yom Kippur, which became the day of Israel's national cleansing from sin.

The word atonement has the idea of covering sin from the face of God by the shedding of innocent blood. Thus the term means to reconcile man to God.

The ceremony on the Day of Atonement was exercised by the High Priest. He would select two goats to be symbols of God's forgiveness of the people.

In representing the sins of the people and himself, the High Priest would place his hands on the goat's head which signified a transfer of sins to the innocent animal.

The goat's throat was slit and blood was let out to picture the forgiveness of sins by the shed blood of the innocent animal.

The second goat was secured and again the sins of the people were imputed to the animal by the laying of hands by the High Priest. This second goat was released into the wilderness to never return. This goat became known as the Scapegoat, which symbolically carried away the sins of the people. This defines forgiveness to mean "to send away or canceled debt."

Jesus Christ became that innocent blood sacrifice on the cross. He became our atonement for sin, not only in the cleansing and debt cancelling aspect, but that He removed our transgressions far from us.

We were forgiven to forgive others. We are living in a society which is becoming more constricting by the ravages of crime, drugs, social injustice and moral decline.

Medical science and technology have extended knowledge toward the future, but the hearts of people are fearful of the hopeless and uncertain future.

Talks of freedom and rights are rampant, but the soul of man is increasingly in bondage. There are feelings of guilt, inferiority, emptiness and rejection.

Accepting God's forgiveness and relaying that same forgiving spirit to others is a freedom only enjoyed by those who have an intimate relationship with God, the "Author of Forgiveness."



Pastor Olin Williams
Employee Chaplain

District 6 August Events

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Volleyball practice every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. | • Casino Day (Bus leaves for Durant at 8 a.m.) |
| • Senior Citizens Lunch every Wednesday 11:00 a.m. | August 10
• Senior Shopping Day |
| • WIC every Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. | August 14
• Bible Study 7:00 p.m. |
| August 1
• Community Pickup
• Senior Bingo | August 21
• Bible Study 7:00 p.m. |
| August 3
• Taco Sale 11 a.m.– 1 p.m.
• Community Meeting 1:45 p.m. | August 24
• Senior Shopping Day |
| August 7
• Bible Study 7:00 p.m. | August 28
• Senior Night 6–8 p.m. |
| August 9 | Volleyball games to be announced |