



Briggs has new partner

Choctaw Nation Tribal Police officer Lt. Stan Briggs has a new partner on the job – a 14-month-old Belgian Malinois named Taz. Taz will assist the Tribal Police Force by sniffing vehicles for drugs and searching buildings and suspects as needed in locations throughout the Choctaw Nation’s 10-½ counties and by request from other local agencies.

The Tribal Police received Taz in late February after he completed his specialty training in the detection of illegal drugs and substances at Canine Unlimited of Tulsa, Inc. With the average career span for a drug canine being seven to eight years, Taz will be a valuable asset to the Choctaw people for years to come.

Memorial walk set for May 15

T-shirt order form on Page 8

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Gary Batton and the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council would like to invite everyone to participate in the tribe’s annual Trail of Tears Walk. The commemorative walk will be held Saturday, May 15, at Tushka Homma.

Everyone is asked to come early and park at the Capitol Grounds. Those who wish to join in the walk can ride a bus to the starting point. The walk will begin at 10 a.m. with opening remarks by Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Batton, Council Speaker Delton Cox and Chaplain Bertram Bobb. A free meal will be served to all who spend this special day with us.

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The Mission of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

To enhance the lives of all members through opportunities designed to develop healthy, successful and productive lifestyles.



The BISHINIK is printed on recycled paper.

Let’s get cookin’

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Gary Batton and Chef Loretta Oden joined forces recently to cook up some Choctaw fare in Oklahoma City that featured some dishes of past and present. Much of the food was what many people had previously seen as Cajun, as filé is originally a Choctaw spice from the ground sassafras leaves that was introduced to the Cajun French hundreds of years ago. The Choctaw traditional shirts that the Chief and Assistant Chief are seen wearing in this photo are originally from the influence of French designs, so it seems a fair trade-off!

Lt. Governor Jari Askins and many state Legislators and officials including Attorney General Drew Edmondson came out for the event to eat and visit.



Students awarded for academic excellence

Choctaw Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton handed out certificates and Wal-Mart gift cards to 60 Durant Intermediate School students on March 12, as part of the Choctaw Nation program Success Through Academic Recognition (STAR). The STAR program was initiated in the fall of 2007 and is an education incentive program that rewards Choctaw students in grades 2-12 with gift cards for showing excellence in their schoolwork and attendance.

See STAR on Page 7



Choctaw Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton pose with Choctaw STAR program students from Durant Intermediate School who were presented with certificates and Wal-Mart gift cards in recognition of their excellent academic achievements and attendance.



Travel Plaza #1 open for business

A ribboncutting on March 11 celebrated the reopening of Durant’s Choctaw Travel Plaza #1. Located on the east side of Hwy. 69/75 near the Casino Resort, it was the first travel plaza, truck stop and smoke shop built by the Choctaw Nation 22 years ago. A total renovation of the business began in October 2009 and was completed in February 2010.

The renovations at the 6,000-sq.-ft. facility include the addition of new fuel pumps, a point-of-sale system, and three eateries – Hot Stuff Pizza,

Nixon’s Barbeque and Choctaw’s own line of sandwiches. The addition of LED lighting throughout the interior and exterior of the business helps further the goal of the Choctaw Nation to “go green.” Also, the travel plaza still houses a casino.

With fuel and diesel supplied by Phillips 66, autos, buses and RVs are welcomed; however, the plaza is no longer a truck stop. Travel Plaza #2 on the west side of the highway still serves as a truck stop.

Canadian JOM among the best

Canadian Public School exemplifies the theme of this year’s Oklahoma Johnson-O’Malley Conference, “Weaving Tradition, Culture and Education for the Future,” and was recognized as the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma’s top JOM Program of the Year.

“As we weave the unique traditions and treasured cultures of our tribes, we create strength assuring that our young people are afforded the very best educational process,” Chief Gregory E. Pyle said. “That education then is woven into the foundation that is Oklahoma’s Johnson-O’Malley Program.

“We are proud to have such dedicated parents and staff who make the needs of the Native American students a priority.”

Superintendent Rodney Karch and JOM Coordinator Tonya Finch accepted the award at the conference’s annual banquet March 24 at the Marriott Southern Hills in Tulsa. Other members of Canadian’s JOM program include Vice Chairperson Kristy Lokey, Secretary Misty Davis and members Jennifer Gray and Cena Harjo.

Also awarded at the banquet were Byng Public School, Chickasaw Nation; Zion Indian Education Committee, Cherokee Nation, Lone Star School, Muscogee-Creek Nation, and the Bureau of Indian Education’s exemplary school of the year, Konawa.



Choctaw Nation JOM Director Rebecca Hawkins, Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Canadian JOM Coordinator Tonya Finch and Canadian Superintendent Rodney Karch.

The annual three-day training conference began March 22 with workshops on a variety of subjects ranging from school wellness to weaving place mats, all to assist the parents and staff members in the development of JOM programs. Keynote speakers included Cpt. Christopher M Grant (ret.), former Chief of Detectives of the Rapid City, S.D.,

See JOM on Page 7

Tribe mourns loss of original enrollee

Dorothy Arnote West passes away at 107



Friends and family said goodbye to the tribe’s oldest of its three remaining original enrollees on March 22. Dorothy Arnote West of Antlers, Okla., passed away at the age of 107 on March 18, 2010. She was born August 15, 1902, in Antlers, Indian Territory, the daughter of Andrew Jackson Arnote and Annie (Taaffe) Arnote.

Dorothy lived most of her life in the area, graduating from Antlers High School. After graduation she attended the University of Oklahoma in Norman where she earned her BA Degree in Economics in 1923. Dorothy married Powell West on June 19, 1925, in Kansas City, Mo., and worked for eight years for the Daily Oklahoman as the Society Editor. She partnered with her husband in business, writing news stories as they co-published the Shawnee-American from 1933-1944. They moved to Antlers in 1944 where they operated the Ford Dealership and then later the West Post & Pole Company. After high school and one and one-half years of college, Dorothy took a semester out and taught school at Divide, back when she rode her horse from Antlers on Sunday, taught school during the week and rode home on Friday after school. Later she returned to school to obtain her teaching certificate and began a 13-year teaching career including one year at Tuskahoma, and 11 years at Moyers.

Dorothy enjoyed walking and did that every day until she reached the age of 96. She played tennis, was a dedicated OU fan, enjoyed teaching, had a love for children, and was a faithful member of the Antlers First Presbyterian Church.

Dorothy’s home was the hub for family gatherings. In addition, she worked for 30 years researching the history of this area and published “Pushmataha County, the Early Years” when she was 100 years old.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents; husband Powell West in 1978; two daughters, Ann West Elms in 2002 and Sally

See West on Page 7

It is our duty to protect our water and other natural resources for future generations



From the Desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Water issues in Oklahoma have undergone years of discussion. Management of our environment, our lands and the water is a responsibility the Choctaw Nation takes very seriously. We feel we have a duty to safeguard and manage the water and lands for future generations. The Choctaw Nation is committed to developing a plan that truly protects Southeast Oklahoma and our state. We respect the rich bounty of water, forests and wildlife and want to see it preserved and protected for all time.

The Choctaw Nation believes the HIGHEST priority for Southeast Oklahoma water resources, both now and in the future, is fulfilling the needs of Southeast Oklahoma. The next highest priority should be meeting the needs of the rest of Oklahoma, when necessary.

Before any plans are developed to move water from Southeast Oklahoma, it is vital that comprehensive studies on and the impacts of any possible changes be completed, examined by the public, and verified by independent experts.

Good decisions come from having good information. An appropriate, extensive study will help make sure that whatever decisions are made protect the quality of our lakes and streams and assure the wise use of this precious resource. Water is needed for personal use, for economic development, tourism, safety, health, wildlife protection and recreation including sport fishing and hunting.

Treaties between the tribes and the government of the United States guarantee the tribal ownership of the water rights. Nevertheless, we want to work with others to find a solution that is beneficial to all of Oklahoma.

There are few things as significant to us as the protection of our water upon which all of life depends. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma considers it our obligation to watch over the resources that are within our boundaries.

I have walked the woods and canoed the creeks of Southeast Oklahoma for decades; I want to make sure my grandchildren and great-grandchildren and yours can share those same great experiences. That is why we must protect the quality and quantity of our natural resources.

God puts no price tag on the Gift of gifts

Thank you (yakoki), for your prayers for the Chaplain's Corner in the Bishinik. May God continue to bless you.

Often the church has banged away negatively at evils, but has left men puzzled, without reminding them that God is interested in our finding a satisfying way of life.

We Christians have talked so much of the negative side of Christian experience that we have forgotten to emphasize the positive, joyous, and victorious experience of daily fellowship with Jesus Christ.

The Old Testament prophet Isaiah looked out on a people who longed for happiness and security but were looking for it in the wrong places. They were running to the marketplace and to places of amusement, spending their money for things which brought them no permanent satisfaction.

Isaiah stood before them one day and said in Isaiah 55:1-2:

"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come buy wine and milk without money and without price.

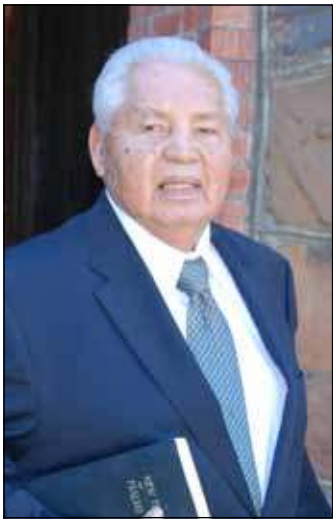
"Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness."

Notice that Isaiah didn't speak negatively and berate them for their sins. He didn't grab the bottle from the drunkard's hand, he didn't lecture them about the evils of gluttony, he didn't shame them for their immoral practices. He left all that for the moment.

He simply asked them, "Are you getting what you want out of life?" "Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your labor for that which satisfieth not?"

If Isaiah were living today, he would probably stand here

Chaplain's Corner



Rev. Bertram Bobb
Tribal Chaplain

and ask, "Are you getting what you want? Are you finding satisfaction?"

He would say to the actress, who has gained fame and fortune, but living a life hungrily; "Are you getting what you want?" He would say to the successful business man, "Are you getting what you want?"

He would say to the laborers who are enjoying the high standards of living, "Are you getting what you want?" He would say to the young people today, "Are you getting what you want?"

Isaiah did not leave them with an unanswered question. He went on to tell them that there is a satisfying way of life, if they wish to seek it. He exhorted them to stop their vain searching and start searching for happiness where it is really found.

Jesus said to the rejected, thirsty, unsatisfied Samaritan woman in John 4:14:

"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing

up into everlasting life."

Just as the body of man cannot live without water, the spirit of man cannot be satisfied apart from God. He alone can satisfy our spiritual thirst. David the psalmist said in Psalms 107:8-9:

"Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

"For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."

When Satan tried to tempt Jesus into the same trap made of "things" that lures men in this day, Jesus said in Matthew 4:4:

"... Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Bread is important, but it is not all-important. Pleasure and recreation have their place, but they must not have first place. Money is necessary, but is not a satisfying substitute for God.

Isaiah reminds us in Isaiah 55:2, "... hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness."

This is the secret of soul-satisfaction: "Let your soul delight itself in fatness." Remove the barriers, and let your soul find the fulfillment of its deepest longings in fellowship with God.

God said, through the prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 55:1, another significant thing in our text, "... come, buy ... without money and without price."

He is saying, "Salvation is FREE! God puts no price tag on the Gift of gifts, it is FREE. Preachers are not salesmen for they have nothing to sell. They are the bearers of Good News, the good tidings that "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures" (I Corinthians 15:3). And that the grace of God ... hath appeared to all men." (Titus 2:11)

It is as Isaiah said, "Without money and without price."

God is not a bargaining God. You cannot barter with Him. You must do business with Him on His terms. He holds in His hand the priceless, precious, eternal gift of salvation, and He bids you to take it without money and without price.

Today I challenge you! You, who have spent your money for that which is not bread and your labor for that which satisfieth not, come and receive this life-giving, soul-satisfying gift from the hand of God: Salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord! Will you trust Jesus Christ as your Savior today?

Pray for America and for our leaders, continue to pray for our brave men and women in service.

I appreciate the determination of our Original Enrollees

From the Desk
of Assistant Chief Gary Batton

I recently had the honor of attending the funeral of a Choctaw Original Enrollee. Dorothy Arnote West passed away at the youthful age of 107. Hearing about her lifetime of accomplishments made me reflect on how important it is to continue learning constantly through our lives. Dorothy was born in 1902 in Antlers, Indian Territory, and was one of the first to complete all four years at the newly built high school building in Antlers. After graduation in 1919, she attended OU and received her degree in economics. She was a reporter for the Daily Oklahoman, and later moved back to Antlers and served as a school teacher at Divide Community.

She was married to her husband, Powell, for more than fifty years. For eleven years, they owned and ran the newspaper at Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Dorothy's son, Bob, told me that after her husband had passed, Dorothy was scared of living alone but decided she was not going to allow fear to take over her life. So Dorothy began new experiences like taking a dancing class. She began writing a book on the history of Pushmataha County and published it when she reached 100.

Dorothy's granddaughter told me that she learned a new word every day of her life and that she walked at least two miles per day until she reached the age of 86. She learned to golf because her husband was a great golfer and supposedly her goal was to beat him. I could go on and on. I was fortunate enough to have met Dorothy and even though she has passed she still touches my life through the understanding that I constantly need to be a life-long learner. You never get too old to learn something new.

Only two Original Enrollees of the Choctaw Nation are still living – Georgia Mae Roebuck Self of Antlers and Ruby Lee Trammell Brewer of Rush Springs. In 1907, 18,804 Choctaws were recorded on the Dawes Rolls. Today, the Choctaw Nation has close to 200,000 tribal members. Our ancestors have given us a great legacy! We have been truly blessed.



Receiving certifications to teach the Choctaw language are Raymond Davis, DeAnna Moore, Justin Fite, Caleb Taylor, Anjanette Williston, Elsie Hicks, Kandace Folsom and Nicholas Charleston. They are pictured with Assistant Chief Gary Batton, Community Language Director Richard Adams and staff member Amy Eyachabbe, and Councilpersons Ted Dosh, Anthony Dillard, Delton Cox, and Kenny Bryant.

Language teacher certificates presented at Council meeting

Several Choctaw language teachers were presented their certificates during the March Tribal Council Meeting at Tushka Homma. Elsie Hicks, Justin Fite, Anjanette Williston, Kandace Folsom, Caleb Taylor and DeAnna Moore will be teaching classes in the Durant area. Raymond Davis of Idabel and Nicholas Charleston of Oklahoma City also received their certifications. Forty-one teachers are now holding community classes.

New business addressed by Tribal Council members included council bills on:

- modification of the 20-year long range transportation plan;
- two grazing leases;

- an oil and gas lease;
- the Indian Land Consolidation Program;
- authorization of application and proposed acquisition and holding of title to a parcel of land in trust by the United States of America for the benefit of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma;
- application to the Institute of Museum and Library Service for Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Grant; and,
- adoption of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Control Ordinance.

The Tribal Council meets in regular session on the second Saturday of each month in the Council Chambers at Tushka Homma.



Are you ready to purchase a new home?

The first step in the home-buying process is attending a

Homebuyer Education Class

Come to one of our Homebuyer Classes nearest you to learn the important steps in the home-buying process. You will become more aware of the benefits and risks associated with owning your own home. We make the process fun and educational, so call us for an appointment today! To register, call Debbie Childers at 1-800-235-3087, ext. 297, for one of the following classes:

• April 13	Talihina Choctaw Community Center	4:30 p.m.
• April 21	Atoka Choctaw Community Center	4:30 p.m.
• May 3	Durant Choctaw Community Center	4:30 p.m.
• May 12	Wilburton Choctaw Community Center	4:30 p.m.
• May 20	Poteau Family Investment Center	4:30 p.m.

Milk and dairy foods are healthy habits

Which milk should your child drink? Choose skim or 1% milk for children over the age of 2 years.

All types of milk – whole, 2%, 1% and skim – have the same amount of calcium, Vitamin D and protein.

Skim and 1% milk have all the nutrition that growing children over the age of 2 need without the extra fat.

Drink milk at meals

This is a healthy habit for your child to learn at home, their school will be serving milk at mealtimes.

1. Drink milk at meals with your child. Your child learns

by watching how you and others eat.

2. Offer milk in a special cup.

3. Use a small cup that your child can easily hold.

4. Pour a small amount of milk into a cup. Pour more milk into the cup when your child asks for more.

5. Do not offer juice or other sweet drinks at mealtime.

6. Offer water to drink if your child refuses to drink milk.

Other ways to drink milk

• Eat breakfast cereal with milk

WIC

Women, Infants and Children

- Add milk to tomato soup
- Make pudding with milk
- Mix hot cocoa with milk instead of water
- Use milk in macaroni and cheese, scalloped potatoes and mashed potatoes.

If your preschool child doesn't drink 16 ounces of milk each day, offer other calcium-rich foods. These foods have the same amount of calcium that is in 4 ounces (1/2 cup) of milk:

1. 4 ounces yogurt
2. 4 ounces pudding
3. 1 string cheese

4. 3/4 ounce natural cheese
5. 1 cup cottage cheese
6. 1/2 cup (4 ounces) calcium-fortified juice.

Can my child drink too much milk? Yes, if your child drinks more than 24 ounces of milk in a day, it's probably too much milk. Drinking too much milk can ruin a child's appetite. Your child may be filling their small tummy with milk and not eating other healthy foods such as fruits, vegetables, bread and meats.

EAT SAFE: Chunks of cheese may cause choking in preschool children.

Courtesy of Nutrition Matters Inc.

NURSERY NEWS

Lawrance Wesley Doyle II

Christy and Lawrance Doyle are the proud parents of Lawrance Wesley Doyle II. Lawrance was born Sept. 9, 2009, at 7:58 p.m. at the Providence Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan. He weighed eight pounds two ounces and was 21 inches long.

Grandparents are Jamee and Leon Page of Jay, Richard Doyle of Sulphur Springs, Ark., and great-grandfather James Turnbull of Jay.



Adrianna Marie Gist-Cantwell

Adrianna Marie Gist-Cantwell was born Feb. 22, 2010, in Talihina to Julie Gist and Matthew Cantwell. She weighed seven pounds 15 ounces and was 20 inches long. She is the granddaughter of James and Susan Cantwell of Poteau and Marilyn Gist and John Gist of Spiro. She is the grand-daughter of Johnny and Edith Ward of LeFlore and James Cantwell of Wilburton and the great-granddaughter of Imogene Welch of Reichert and Mary Tiner of Wilson.



Quinton John Culbreath

Thomas and Grace Culbreath are proud to announce the arrival of Quinton John Culbreath. He was born Feb. 9, 2010, at 10:05 p.m., at Paul's Valley General Hospital. He weighed eight pounds two ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

Quinton was welcomed by big brother Hayden, two years old. Grandparents are John and Vicky Mayfield of Durant and J.D. and Donna Culbreath of Mead. Proud aunts and uncles are Sara Mayfield of Durant, Jim and Deanna Culbreath of Calera and Allen and Brande Serner of Calera.



Dalton Lee Peel

Danny and Hannah Peel are proud to announce the birth of their son, Dalton Lee Peel. Dalton was born on Oct. 21, 2009 at OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City. He weighed four pounds and eight ounces and was 16.4 inches long. He was welcomed home by his siblings, Ashtyn and Jacob.

His grandparents are Bruce Bacon of Daisy, Kam Harden of Holdenville and Brenda and Danny Peel of Stringtown. Greatgrandparents are Jack and Imogene Bacon of Daisy, Calvin and Beth Gann of Antlers, Joyce Winsor and the late Hollis Magby of Stringtown and June Peel and the late Earl Peel of Wetumka.



Seamus Rei Murphy

Seamus Rei Murphy was born at 3:09 p.m. on Jan. 2, 2010, at Castle Medical Center in Kailua, (O'ahu) Hawaii. He weighed 10 pounds and eight ounces and was 24 inches long.

His proud parents are Remy and Heather Murphy of Kane'ohe, Hawaii. His grandparents are Jeff and Kumiko Murphy of Houston, Texas and Thomas McVay of Red Bluff, Calif., and Mary Ann Mitchell of Gig Harbor, Wash. His great-grandparents are Billy and Aaron Loder of Wichita, Kan., and Toshiko and the late Edward Enomoto of Seattle, Wash., and the late Mary Rose and Thomas Ober McVay of Long Beach, Calif., and the late Jacob Ross and Elva Wilson of Red Bluff, Calif. His great-great grandmother was original enrollee Vivian Rice of Ada.



Xandz Larenz Hoover

Xandz Larenz Hoover was born on Feb. 26, 2010, to Christopher and Madelyn Hoover of Mcloud. Also welcomed him are his big sisters, Iysis and Aidan. Xandz weighed eight pounds one ounce and was 21 inches long. He is the grandson of Bill and Pat Hoover of Tulsa, Marquetta Murdock of Mcloud, and Gerald and Cindy Shores of Perkins.



Abriella Rae Belvin

Abriella Rae Belvin was born on Dec. 28, 2009, at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in Durant to Peyton Belvin and Brandon Jarvis.

Grandparents are Tim and Stacie Belvin, great-grandmother Linda Stilwell, and great-great-grandmother Frances Arnold, all of Durant.



Adyson Grace Young

Tye and Deanna Young are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Adyson Grace Young, who was born Feb. 15, 2010, at 12:27 p.m. She weighed five pounds 15 ounces and was 18 inches long. Adyson is welcomed by big brother Tanner and big sister Lainey.

She is the granddaughter of Kay Young of Stratford, Roy Young and Jimmy and Bevilyn Wright of Dalhart, Texas. Great-grandparents are Margaret and the late Kenneth Pate, from whom Adyson get her Native American heritage, George and Barbara Avent of Dalhart and Cecil and Pat Wright of Stratford. She is the great-great-granddaughter of Maudie Jenkins of Breckenridge, Texas.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

DO YOU HAVE A GOOD MEMORY? OR KNOW SOMEONE WITH A MEMORY PROBLEM?

OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH USING TELEMEDICINE-BASED MEMORY TESTING!

The Choctaw Nation Memory Clinic in Talihina is examining the feasibility of using telemedicine or videoconference technology to study different ways of testing memory and other cognitive abilities.

This research may help bring new diagnostic services to rural and underserved populations and aid in the development of new memory testing procedures, so WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! Volunteers must be willing to travel to Talihina to participate.

We need people with and without memory problems over the age of 50. Must have CDIB Card to participate. The study takes approximately 2 hours, and those who complete testing will receive a \$25 Wal-Mart gift card.

For more information, please call 1-866-800-6514
Choctaw Nation Memory Clinic

Choctaw Nation WIC

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN



SITE	PHONE	HOURS	DAYS
Antlers	580-298-3161	8:30-4:00	Every Tuesday
Atoka	580-889-5825	8:00-4:30	Every Mon., Thurs. & Fri. 1st, 3rd & 4th Wed.
Bethel	580-241-5458	8:30-4:00	1st Tuesday
Boswell	580-380-2517	8:30-4:00	1st & 2nd Friday
Broken Bow	580-584-2746	8:00-4:30	Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Fri. 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesday 2nd Wednesday
Coalgate	580-927-3641	8:30-4:00	Daily
Durant	580-924-8280 x 2255	8:00-4:30	Mon., Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 3rd & 4th Friday
Hugo	580-326-5404	8:00-4:30	Mon. & Fri., 1st & 3rd Thurs. 1st/2nd week - Mon., Tues. Wed., Fri.; 3rd/4th week - daily
Idabel	580-286-2510	8:00-4:30	Daily
McAlester	918-423-6335	8:00-4:30	2nd Thursday
Poteau	918-647-4585	8:00-4:30	Every Wed., Thurs. & Fri.
Smithville	580-244-3289	8:30-4:00	Every Monday & Tuesday
Spiro	918-962-5134	8:00-4:30	Every Tuesday & Wednesday 1st & 2nd Thursday
Stigler	918-967-4211	8:30-4:00	
Talihina	918-567-7000 x 6792	8:00-4:30	
Wilburton	918-465-5641	8:30-4:00	

Growth charts at well-baby check-ups

A wide range of healthy shapes and sizes exists among children. How does a doctor figure out whether a child's height and weight measurements are "normal?" Growth charts are a standard part of any checkup, and they show health care providers how kids are growing compared with other kids of the same age and gender. They also allow doctors and nurses to see a pattern of kids' height and weight gain over time, and whether they're developing proportionately. Some factors that affect a child's growth are genetics, gender, nutrition, physical activity, health problems, environment, and hormones all influence a child's height and weight. If a growth charts shows a different pattern, it does not necessarily mean

there's a problem. The doctor will interpret the growth charts in the context of the child's overall well-being environment, and genetic background. Boys and girls are measured on different growth charts because they grow in different patterns and at different rates. Babies also have different charts depending on their age in months.

If you have any specific questions regarding your child's growth – talk to your doctor.

Choctaw Nation AFL Project

The Choctaw Nation Adolescent Family Life (AFL) Project is an innovative program focused on pregnant teens, their child, male partner and extended family members.

The AFL program provides opportunities for a brighter future through integrated services within the Choctaw Nation and other agencies. Participants will expand their knowledge through prenatal education, relationship enhancement programs, and parenting workshops.

Striving for healthy outcomes in adolescent family lives is our program goal. Services are provided through Choctaw Nation Outreach Services to pregnant Native American Teens under 19 years of age or otherwise qualified through an eligible Native American.

For more information or questions about eligibility please call Angela Dancer, Project Director, at 877-285-6893.

Healthful foods for disease prevention

Halito, and welcome to spring! April is National Cancer Control Month. Research has shown that poor diets and sedentary lifestyles are among the most important contributors to cancer risk. The American Cancer Society maintains that besides quitting smoking, achieving and maintaining a healthy weight, being physically active on a regular basis and making healthy food choices are the best ways to reduce your risk of cancer. This also holds true for preventing/controlling type 2 diabetes and heart disease.

Eating a healthy diet can be achieved by incorporating these three recommendations to your current diet:

• Vegetables and fruits: have at least 5 servings of vegetables and fruits each day. Try to eat vegetables and fruits w/ bright colors; red, orange, deep green, and blue

• Whole grains: have at least 3 servings of whole grains each day. Good sources of whole grains are oatmeal, whole-wheat bread and brown rice.

• Lean meats: when looking for good sources of protein, focus on lean chicken, baked or broiled fish and soy. By avoiding processed meats such as hot dogs, bologna and luncheon meat as well as red meats you will be helping your body to prevent cancer as well as heart diseases.

Here is a tasty recipe for dinner that brings to your table color, flavor and protection for your body from cancer.

Roasted Garlic & Chicken in Foil

Canola or olive oil nonstick cooking spray
2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
Black pepper to taste
Sea salt to taste (optional)
2 teaspoons olive oil
6 garlic cloves, peeled
1/2 onion, sliced thin
1 1/2 medium sized carrots (or 1 large), sliced thin
1 medium sweet potato, peeled and sliced thin
1 tomato, sliced
1 teaspoon dried chervil or other herb of your choice
2 tablespoons dry white wine, or chicken broth

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Put a 2 1/2-foot-long piece of foil in a 9 x 13-inch baking pan. Coat top of foil with nonstick cooking spray.
- Lay chicken breasts in the middle of foil. Sprinkle tops with pepper and seasoning salt to taste, if desired. Put olive oil in a small cup. Peel garlic cloves and dip in oil. Drop 3 garlic cloves evenly over each chicken breast.
- Lay onion slices over the chicken. Spread carrots, then potato slices, over the top. Top with tomato slices.
- Sprinkle each piece with chervil. Drizzle remaining olive oil over the chicken, then drizzle with wine.
- Fold foil over to wrap chicken and vegetable mixture well. Bake for 1 hour or until done. Cut into center of chicken to make sure chicken is cooked through.
- To serve, make sure every portion has a chicken breast and a sampling of the various vegetables. Drizzle some of the juices over the top.

To double this recipe, make two foil-wrapped chicken-and-vegetable packages. They will both fit in the 9 by 13-inch baking pan and will still bake for 1 hour.

Yield: 2 servings.

Per serving: 321 calories, 31 g protein, 33 g carbohydrate, 6.5 g fat, 68 mg cholesterol, 4 g fiber, 110 mg sodium (seasoning salt is optional). Calories from fat: 19%.

Nutrients: 196% Daily Value for vitamin A, 57% DV for vitamin C, 23% DV for vitamin E, 53% DV for selenium, 20% DV for folic acid.

Serve with a spinach salad and fresh fruit and you will have a wonderful, colorful and healthful meal. I hope you enjoy this recipe and for further information you may contact Erin Adams, RD, at Choctaw Nation Diabetes Wellness Center 800-349-7026, ext. 6959.

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Happy birthday, Kalan and Skye

Kalan Koi Maxwell and Celestial Skye Maxwell just celebrated their birthdays. Kalan turned 13 on March 10, and Skye turned 1 on Feb. 24. Both are the children of Zach Maxwell of Hugo. Kalan is in seventh grade at Hugo Junior High and plays in the band. Skye lives with her mother on the Mississippi Choctaw Indian Reservation.



Happy 50th anniversary

Jimmy and Kaye Hulsey celebrated their 50th anniversary this month. They were married on April 9, 1960, in Oklahoma City. They have three daughters, seven grandsons and one great-granddaughter. Jimmy is the grandson of original enrollee Alonzo Hulsey.



Twin brothers turn 60

Twins Tim and Kim Davis celebrated their 60th birthday on April 2, 2010.

They were born in Carlsbad, N.M., to Doris Davis of McAlester and the late Elmer Davis.

Tim Davis lives with his wife, Lisa, and his family in Dairy, Ore. He is an equipment salesman for Floyd A. Boyd Co., a John Deere Dealership.

Kim Davis lives in Longview, Texas with his wife, Deborah, and his family. He is a self employed housing builder.



Happy birthday, Gabriel

Gabriel Louis will celebrate his 14th birthday on April 22, 2010. He is in the 8th grade and enjoys track, basketball, football, school, video games, going to church, and being with his family, friends and dogs. Sending his birthday wishes are his mom and family.

Gabriel would like to send birthday wishes to his uncle Ray and Caleb, who will celebrate his third birthday on April 16.



Mother /daughter graduate together

Mother and daughter, Lindsay and Tammy Collins of Ada graduated together with master's degrees at East Central University in Ada. Kenneth Battles of Antlers is a proud grandpa and dad. They would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for their support. Lindsay received a Master's in Human Resources while Tammy received a Master's in Education with emphasis in sports administration.



Congratulations, Kodi

Kodi Morrison, a 2009 graduate of Varnum High School, walked on to the OU women's basketball team the spring semester. She was an All-State basketball and softball player and is the only player from Oklahoma, as well as the only Choctaw on the team. Kodi is the daughter of Fred and Ella Morrison of Seminole and the great-granddaughter of original enrollee, Minerva Anderson Mangrum. Her brother, Clint Morrison of Durant, is a pharmacist for the Choctaw Nation in Hugo.



Happy 65th anniversary

Happy 65th anniversary to Gene, a Muscogee-Creek, and Adabell (Eastep) Lee, a Choctaw, of Paden, Okla. They both grew up in the Paden area and were married in Okemah on April 14, 1945. Gene retired from Oklahoma State Corrections Maintenance Department and Adabell is a homemaker; both are involved in the community.

They have 14 children: Howard Self, Ada Johnson, Jack Lee, Kathy Smock, Tunney Lee, Sherdell Lee, Clonda Rogers, James Lee, Mary Elizabeth Lee, Vickey Lee, Mickey White, Johnny Lee, Shay Lackey, Anthony Lee and one unofficially adopted daughter, Diane White. They also have 25 grandchildren and 34 great-grandchildren.



Happy 21st birthday

Happy 21st birthday to Travis Lacquement. Your family wishes you a fun birthday and is very proud of the outstanding man you have become.



Happy 80th birthday

Four generations of family members gathered in central Texas in March to celebrate Kenneth Oliver's 80th birthday. In addition to the family members living in Texas, his family traveled from California, Missouri and Kansas to be in attendance. Two grandsons, both currently deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, were unable to attend. Kenneth Oliver's mother was an original Choctaw enrollee.



Flute presented to McAlester Center

Jack Drummond presented the McAlester Choctaw Nation Community Center with a hand carved Red Cedar



Eagle flute created by Terry Frazier. Drummond recently won the flute at the Oklahoma State Convention of National Letter Carriers. From left, Drummond; Cheyoma Dugger, Pittsburg County Little Miss Choctaw Nation, daughter of Sharon Martin and granddaughter of Wesley Samuels; and Bob Pate, District 11 Councilman.

90th birthday party is April 24

Mildred Green will be given a 90th birthday party from 2 to 4 p.m. on April 24 at the Marie Bailey Community Center, 1200 Jack John Circle in Ada, Okla.

Anyone who wishes to see or send a greeting to Mrs. Green is invited to do so. Of course she would love to see all of you. It is going to be a big day for her. We are all proud of her, she is a wonderful person and we appreciate her very much. Mildred is proud to be turning 90 years old.

The party is given by her sons and daughters and all the in-laws.



Happy birthday, E.J.

Happy birthday to E.J. Johnson of Atoka from your entire family. E.J. turned 80-something on April 12.



Also, happy birthday to Kenneth "K.J." Johnson on April 27.

Look who's 3

Happy birthday to Colt Crader who turned three on March 11, 2010. He celebrated with his friends at Chuck E. Cheese. He enjoys going to the Cowboy Church, playing with best friends Dallas and Bud and riding on the tractor. His parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins all send him the best of birthday wishes.



Happy first birthday

Jaden Elan Storie had his first birthday on Feb. 18, 2010. His parents are Jeff and Darlene Work Storie of Dallas, Ga. His paternal grandparents are Larry Storie of Maryville, Tenn., and Nancy Bale of Clarksville, Ind., and his maternal grandparents are Betty Work of Farris and the late Paul Mayo of Atoka. He celebrated his birthday with his family with a trip to the circus and a birthday party.



Happy 50th birthday

Happy birthday to Gregory Dean Shaw of Tecumseh. He celebrated his 50th birthday on April 4, 2010.

He is the oldest son of Merle and Melba Shaw and brother to Lisa Essary and Sherri Bowers, all of Tecumseh.



Happy birthday, Aire

Aire Sequoyah Thorne turns 15 years old on April 14, 2010. She attends Moore High School and is on the tennis team.

Her parents wish her a very happy birthday, as well as her sisters.

Aire's grandparents are Gene and LaHoma Murphy Crauthers of Oklahoma City and the great-granddaughter of the late William and Ella Murphy of Idabel.



Happy birthday, Ronnie

Ronnie Smith Jr. celebrated his 12th birthday on April 8, 2010. His family wishes him a very happy birthday. His parents are Ronnie and Deloures Smith and grandparents are Evelyn Johnson and the late Eulus Johnson Jr. His aunt is Annett Johnson and sister is Danielle Smith.



Happy 50th birthday

Betty Lea Zimmerman will celebrate her 61st birthday on April 14, 2010. Her family wishes her the best birthday and continued blessings and happiness.



Folsum-Campos in Iraq

Staff Sgt. Monica Folsum-Campos is a member of the Air Force Reserves and is stationed in Iraq. Monica was in ROTC for three years before graduating from Lawton High School. She has been in the Reserves for 10 years. Monica is pictured with her son, Anthony, and she also has a daughter, Andolyn, and husband, Cesar Campos. Her proud parents are Richard Sr. and Wilda Folsum of Comanche, Okla. Monica comes from a family with a military background. Her father, retired Sgt. 1st Class, was in the Army for 21 years. An older brother, Richard Jr., served in the Marines and National Guard, and another brother, Aaron, is also in the Air Force Reserves.



Future hockey star

Kyler Moseley, age eight, played goalie on Feb. 2, 2010, at the American Airlines Center in Dallas, Texas. He is a Mite level goalie on the Blackhawks team in the Dallas Stars Youth League and has been playing for four years. Next season, he will advance to play Squirt level hockey. Kyler is an up-and-coming goalie who is gathering a lot of attention from local sporting personalities. He may one day be in the NHL himself. He hopes to attend either Michigan State University or Oklahoma State University on a hockey scholarship. He is already thinking ahead for what will help him become a professional – perhaps the first Choctaw in pro-hockey! Kyler is the son of Kristin (Burton) and Matthew Moseley.



Happy 90th birthday

Hazel Cochnauer was born April 6, 1920, in Boswell. Wishing her a wonderful 90th birthday are her son and his wife, G.W. and Paulette Cochnauer; daughters, Janelle Cochnauer and Reba Moore; 11 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. They all wish her the happiest 90th birthday and many more!



Happy 73rd birthday

Charles Patton will celebrate his 73rd birthday on May 3, 2010. His children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren all want to wish him a very happy birthday.



Happy birthday, Trishelle and Chaney

The family of Alfreda John of Choctaw, Miss., would like to send Trishelle Latrice John and Chaney Hunter John very happy birthday wishes. Trishelle turned 4 years old on March 15. She is the daughter of Felicia John. Chaney celebrated his birthday on March 26. He is the grandson of Alfreda and the late Freeman John and the great-grandson of the late Lucy and Justin Hardy.

Happy 18th birthday

Happy birthday to Ashlyn Choate of Broken Bow. Ashlyn turned 18 on April 1. Wishing her a happy birthday is her grandmother Barbara (Shomo) Tonihka, who says Ashlyn has been a big help in her life. No matter the weather - hot, cold or wet - Ashlyn will always run her errands and pick her up for church. She also bakes cakes and cookies for her grandmother.

Also wishing her a happy birthday are her parents, Russell and Annette Choate, her sister, Brooklyn, aunt Adrienne Gregory, all of Broken Bow, and uncles Johnny and "Bear" Tonihka of Durant.



A double celebration

Sisters Ruth Thompson and Juanita Thompson held a double wedding ceremony on the same day as their mother's 94th birthday, Feb. 20, 2010. Ruth exchanged vows with Kozy Washington and Juanita with Lance Loud. Ruth was escorted by her son, Jerome Burk. Juanita was escorted by her sons, Tray and Cole Burk. The sisters both wore red dresses and the men wore black tuxedos with red accessories.

The reception and birthday party were held at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds in Paris, Texas. They would like to thank their sister, Margaret Watts for the decorations, and their cousin, Arthur Fulsom, for presenting two special gifts to Caroline Thompson and Colleen Gardner. He also provided barbeque ribs for the reception. Approximately 50 people attended, enjoying the good food, music and getting acquainted with new family members and friends.



Murray appointed to Naval Academy

Sean Daniel Murray has received congressional nominations and appointment to the United States Naval Academy to be a member of the graduating class of 2014. He is the son of Mark and Susan (Holman) Murray of St. Louis, Mo., formerly of McAlester, and the grandson of Dan and Sally Holman of Oklahoma City. Sean is a proud Choctaw. He will graduate in May from De Smet Jesuit Catholic High School in St. Louis with honors. He is a member of the National Honor Society and the De Smet Compañeros Mentoring Program. While maintaining honor roll grades, he has also been active serving his community with many service projects as a member of the De Smet Magis Men service club. He has been a starter on the rugby team for two years and helped lead the team to the 2009 Missouri state championship. He received nominations to the U.S. Naval Academy from his two Missouri U.S. Senators and his U.S. Representative. Sean was honored with other nominees at a reception in February hosted by the Honorable 2nd Missouri District Representative, W. Todd Akin. Sean plans to study engineering and play rugby while at the U.S. Naval Academy. He looks forward to joining the brigade of midshipmen and proudly serving the United States as a Naval officer.



Tornado preparedness

Tornado season is upon us. It began in late March and will last through August. With tornado season you should be prepared for any storm issues that arise. The following information provides tips for you and your family to become better prepared in the event that a tornado is in your area.

Prepare your tornado plan: Discuss with your family what to do and where to seek shelter in the event that a tornado is in your area.

If your house doesn't have an underground storm shelter, you should choose the area that is the lowest, smallest and most central. Often this is a cellar or basement, or it could be a central hallway or bathroom. Make sure you are as far as possible from outside walls and windows.

Know the dangers of mobile homes: For those living in mobile homes, your tornado plan should take you to a preselected, permanent structure. If the warning time is not sufficient, you should never attempt to drive when a tornado is near. You are safer lying in a ditch or depression than driving or remaining in a mobile home.

- Prepare your tornado kit: Every household should have an emergency kit that is easily accessible when tornado conditions arrive. A tornado kit should include:
- Battery-powered radio or television
 - Flashlight
 - Extra batteries for both the flashlight and radio
 - First aid kit
 - Sturdy shoes for every member of the family
 - Identification and cash
 - Spare set of keys to vehicles
 - Water
 - Non-perishable food



Spanish Line 1-800-793-1552
TTY 1-877-777-6534

You may be eligible for FREE patches and gum!

Did you know that people who call the helpline program and also use the patch, gum or other quitting medications are more than twice as likely to quit?

The phone call to the Helpline is **FREE** and so are the services they offer. Most people that call the Helpline are eligible to receive **FREE** patches and gum.

More importantly the Helpline works! Thousands of Oklahomans have already called the Helpline and found out that the Helpline coach made sense and gave them ideas about how to quit and stay quit. You are just one phone call away from getting the help that will be just right for you.

QUIT NOW – there's never a better time!
What are the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline hours?
Sunday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-2 a.m., and the call is **FREE!**
What happens when I call the Helpline?

A helpful assistant will ask you a few questions. Next you'll talk to a quit coach who can help you get ready to quit tobacco for good. With help from your coach you'll set a "quit date" and prepare for a healthy lifestyle change. In a short time you'll receive helpful materials in the mail. After your quit date, your coach will check in with you to see how you are doing. And you can always call the Helpline anytime you are struggling. This is the **FREE** help you have been waiting for!

When You're Ready to Quit, We're Ready to Help!

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

ANTLERS
Market open weekdays May 3-25, except for: May 5: Idabel 9-11 a.m.; Broken Bow 12-2 p.m. (market closed) May 12: Bethel 9-10:30; Smithville 12-2 (market closed) May 31: Tribal Holiday Closed May 26-28 for inventory Cooking with Carmen: May 7 & 19, 10 a.m.-12 noon
DURANT
Market open weekdays: May 3-25, except for: May 31: Tribal Holiday Closed May 26-28 for inventory Cooking with Carmen: May 11 & 21, 10 a.m.-12 noon
MCALLESTER
Market open weekdays May 3-25, except for: May 31: Tribal Holiday Closed May 26-28 for inventory Cooking with Carmen: May 5 & 17, 10 a.m.-12 noon.
POTEAU
Market open weekdays May 3-25, except for: May 31: Tribal Holiday Closed May 26-28 for inventory. Cooking with Carmen: May 3 & 13, 10 a.m.-12 noon.

CHOCTAW NATION FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday thru Friday. We will take lunch from 11:30 to 12 noon

WAREHOUSES & MARKETS
Antlers: 306 S.W. "O" St., 580-298-6443
Durant: 100 1/2 Waldron Dr., 580-924-7773
McAlester: 1212 S. Main St., 918-420-5716
Poteau: 100 Kerr, 918-649-0431

FOOD DISTRIBUTION SITES
Bethel: Choctaw Community Building
Broken Bow: Choctaw Family Investment Center
Idabel: Choctaw Community Center
Smithville: Choctaw Community Center
Stigler: Choctaw Community Center

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OCTA holds Wild Onion Dinner

Phyllis Been, president of the OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, serves two special guests, Jessica Schoon, the District 3 Little Miss Choctaw Nation Princess, and her twin, Jasmine. Jessica and her family attended the OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance's Annual Wild Onion Dinner in Oklahoma City on February 27.

Also, pictured above right, is newly elected 2010 Board Chair Paula Mitchell, shown handing a plate to Jessica who will serve a patron anxiously waiting for delicious scrambled eggs, fresh wild onions, seasoned salt pork, pinto beans, mashed potatoes, pashofa, banaha, fried chicken and fluffy frybread! Nearly 300 attended the successful wild onion dinner and bake sale fundraiser.

The OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance holds regular meetings on

the second Monday of every month at the OCTA building, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd. in Oklahoma City. A potluck supper is held at 6 p.m. and the business meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Special guest speakers in May

Several representatives of the Choctaw Nation are scheduled as guest speakers in upcoming months. They will explain their respective programs and be available to answer any questions. Programs scheduled for May 10 are:

- Scholarship Advisement
- Veterans Advocacy
- STAR
- Career Development

Tips on saving water in the home

1. **Never put water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden, or cleaning.**
2. **Verify that your home is leak-free, because many homes have hidden water leaks.** Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.
3. **Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers.** If your faucet is dripping at the rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year which will add to the cost of water and sewer utilities, or strain your septic system.
4. **Check for toilet tank leaks by adding food coloring to the tank.** If the toilet is leaking, color will appear within 30 minutes. Check the toilet for worn out, corroded or bent parts. Most replacement parts are inexpensive, readily available and easily installed. (Flush as soon as test is done, since food coloring may stain tank.)
5. **Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily.** Dispose of tissues, insects and other such waste in the trash rather than the toilet.
6. **Take shorter showers.** Replace you showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version. Some units are available that allow you to cut off the flow without adjusting the water temperature knobs.
7. **Use the minimum amount of water needed for a bath by closing the drain first and filling the tub only 1/3 full.** Stopper tub before turning water. The initial burst of cold water can be warmed by adding hot water later.
8. **Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face.** Brush your teeth first while waiting for water to get hot, then wash or shave after filling the basin.
9. **Retrofit all wasteful household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictors.**
10. **Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or properly set the water**



- level for the size of load you are using.
11. **When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water.** Quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet.
 12. **Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting the tap run every time you want a cool glass of water.**
 13. **Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods.** Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or by using the defrost setting on your microwave.
 14. **Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly.** Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing food waste instead of using a garbage disposal. Garbage disposals also can add 50 percent to the volume of solids in a septic tank which can lead to malfunctions and maintenance problems.
 15. **Consider installing an instant water heater on your kitchen sink so you don't have to let the water run while it heats up.** This will reduce heating costs for your household.
 16. **Insulate your water pipes.** You'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats up.
 17. **Never install a water-to-air heat pump or air-conditioning system.** Air-to-air models are just as efficient and do not waste water.
 18. **Install water softening systems only when necessary.** Save water and salt by running the minimum amount of regenerations necessary to maintain water softness. Turn softeners off while on vacation.
 19. **Check your pump.** If you have a well at your home, listen to see if the pump kicks on and off while the water is not in use. If it does, you have a leak.
 20. **When adjusting water temperatures, instead of turning water flow up, try turning it down.** If the water is too hot or cold, turn the offender down rather than increasing water flow to balance the temperatures.
 21. **If the toilet flush handle frequently sticks in the flush position, letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it.**

Eastern Oklahoma Ag Trade Show to be held in Poteau

The 4th Annual Eastern Oklahoma Ag Trade Show will be held at the LeFlore County Fairgrounds just south of Poteau, Oklahoma on Thursday, April 22.

Speakers will discuss topics of interest for both poultry and livestock operations. The morning sessions will be begin at 8:50 am and be primarily of interest to poultry producers. Topics and speakers for the morning sessions will include the following: Raising a Health Flock will be presented by Dr. Josh Payne, OSU Extension; Poultry Diseases and Diagnosing Flock Health Issues will be addressed by Dr. Sarah Steinlage, Elanco; and completing the morning session topics, Summertime Ventilation will be discussed by Bob Rochelle, Intervet. Three hours of Poultry Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) will be offered to those attending all of the morning sessions.

The afternoon session beginning at 1:00 pm will focus on livestock issues. Master of Beef Advocacy will be presented by Heather Buckmaster, Oklahoma Beef Council. Dr. Daniel Stein, OSU Extension will present New and Old Tools in Genetic Selection. The afternoon session should conclude by 3:30 pm.

A free lunch will be provided. Over 30 exhibitors are expected to be on hand at the event. Display booths will range from Ag chemicals, farm equipment and supplies, metal and fencing supplies to feed and seed dealers, lending institutions, and government services.

Door prizes will be awarded throughout the morning and afternoon sessions.

Pre-registration to attend the

trade show is not necessary. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend. Over 600 attended last year.

This event is being sponsored by the Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, and Sequoyah County and Talihina Conservation Districts, OSU Cooperative Extension Service, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, OK Cattlemen's Association, Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Oklahoma Tribal Conservation Advisory Council, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Farm Service Agency.

Please call Lisa, LeFlore County Conservation District office, at 918-647-3554 for additional information.

Choctaw Nation to host agriculture outreach meeting in Durant

Attention all Choctaw Nation agriculture producers! The Choctaw Nation will be hosting a USDA/OSU/OTCAC outreach meeting at 6 p.m. on April 29 at the new Choctaw Nation Community Center located at 2750 Big Lots Pkwy. in Durant. Turn west on Big Lots Parkway from South Ninth Street in Durant and the center will be on your right, or go north of the Choctaw Casino on Enterprise Boulevard and turn east on Big Lots Parkway, the center will be on your left.

This meeting is being sponsored by the Farm Service Agency Outreach Program, the Oklahoma Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (OTCAC), and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Participants also include the OSU Cooperative Extension Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Planned speakers and topics include:

JJ Jones, Oklahoma State University – the economics of outside hay storage verses storage in barns;

Kevin Dale, Farm Service Agency – low interest hay barn loans;

Greg Mathis, Farm Service Agency – loan

cash flow requirements;

Paul May, Natural Resources Conservation Service – Conservation Stewardship Program; and

Oklahoma Tribal Conservation Advisory Council – closing remarks

The Choctaw Nation will be providing a meal for the first 175 registered guests. Please contact the OSU extension service in Durant at 580-924-5312 to register for the meal by no later than April 23. All agriculture producers are welcome to attend the meeting which will begin at 7 p.m., but only the first 175 persons registering in advance will receive a meal registration. The meal will be served at 6 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS: Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting/event/function should contact Kevin Dale at 580-924-4131, Ext. 2, or Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339, and kevin.dale@ok.usda.gov by April 23, 2010.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity employer and provider.

To the Youth of the Nation

Growing with Pride, Hope and Success

Second Place Essay Winner
By Amber Pool, Youth Advisory Board

Each day, more and more civil conflicts emerge in modern-day society. Within each of those days, our world is being torn into many different directions, causing nations to turn to violent solutions, such as war. These students are tarnishing our individual cultures, which, eventually, will leave our world in fiery ruins for future generations. However, through all the dismay and corruption, some people still find hope for tomorrow, with the generation of today. These people are the Choctaw Nation.

Many people consider the Nation as overly pampered casino owners who try to buy their youth into culture. Those people should be sympathized with, due to their lack of insight and exposure to a community that believes in itself. Yes, the Choctaws give a lot to its members, for many reasons, one being pride. They take pride in the people who will run tomorrow's future. So much so, that they are willing to give to those who need it the opportunity to get where they want to go in life.

One thing, having pride, eventually leads to another reason such as hope. The Choctaws, having pride in their youth, gives people hope, when hope may not have existed before. A great example of this is the Choctaw Nation boarding school, Jones Academy. Jones is a private school founded by Wilson Jones to give those Choctaw students who, in some situations, are considered "hopeless cases." However, the Nation takes pride in these "lost causes" and takes them in with open arms when others turn them away. By doing this, they establish a new, stronger feeling of hope into the hearts of these individuals, encouraging them to succeed.

The Nation's rate of youth success rises every year, proving that introducing pride and hope to a child or teen can have a miraculous outcome. The Choctaw Nation is increasing its youth's standards, not only scholastically, but in their life altogether through one of the simplest, but most effective way, caring. A key to success for a child is to have the opportunity to feel cared for. It gives them confidence to do what they desire most. The Choctaws have many programs for student success such as the Youth Advisory Board, Upward Bound/ Upward Bound Math and Science, Youth Centers, Johnson-O'Malley, and the list continues, making it pretty obvious that the Nation cares for its future.

As made obvious, the Choctaw Nation strives to better today's generation so tomorrow's youth will learn from them and come together. The Nation is not only growing with pride, hope and success, but in unity, friendship and a chance for a longer tomorrow.

STAR program is statewide

Continued from page 1

Chief Pyle said he was proud of the students at DIS and he thanked them as he shook their hands and handed out their personalized certificates and gifts cards.

"You all are doing so well coming to class and making great grades. We appreciate each and every one of you. You are our future. Thank you for making this such a great program," he told the students.

According to Seth Fairchild, STAR program coordinator, "The program encourages the academic success of Choctaws by providing them with an incentive to strive for the highest possible level of achievement. This is an exciting addition to the education services that the Choctaw Nation is able to offer the youth of our tribe."

Currently, the program serves eligible Choctaw students attending an accredited school within the state of Oklahoma and has approximately 9,800 students participating from 560 individual schools. The plan is to expand the program in the near future to eligible Choctaw students nation-wide.

"We have seen a steady increase in the number of awards we've given since the inception of the program. One of our goals is to increase the number of new student awards given as well," said Fairchild. "We want to help provide goals and direction for our Choctaw students, as well as increase their retention and graduation rates."

According to Chief Pyle, the Choctaw Nation awards scholarships to students embarking on their collegiate career but there was also a need to recognize the younger members of the tribe for the hard work they put into their academics.

"This program started out in just the 10-1/2 counties and we were amazed at the success of the students," said Chief Pyle. "I'm particularly proud of the STAR program because I believe it instills in the students a desire to do the very best they can and that starts at an early age. Our hope is that by starting young they'll be more successful in their studies throughout school and as they continue their higher education."

In total, more than 200 Choctaw students in the Durant School system earned awards this semester.

The Durant Intermediate School students who were recognized were: DeMarius Anderson, Emilie Ansel, Harrison Bates, Guy Carey, Lila Creason, Sarah Dalrymple, Brandon Davis, Alissa French, Shayla Harper, Keagan Hines, Kristen Hobbs, Brittney Ingram, Jon Michael Kennedy, Nicholas Kuykendall, Cassidy McCann, Cheyenne McGee, Skyler McKaughan, Madyson Mullens, Raeni Robinson, Jonathan Shepherd, Desimber Wynn, Destinee (Sevedge) Lewis, Daurah Amos, Brayden Bentley, Katrina Bills, Tyler Campbell, Jaden Crites, Hayden Hamill, Hunter Hamilton, Sydney Hampton, Michael Harp, Tre Harper, Brenna Hibbs, Tezla Johnson, Alyssa Matthews, Madilyn Scott

Maradeth Shelton, Paul Shepherd, Peyton Stephens, Jatelyn Wallace, Alaytra Williams, DeMario Gray, Travis Nichols, Megan Aplin, Lacey Elrod, Christina Gomes, Logan Hibbs, Jacob McLarry, Christian Potter, Hannah Robinson, Tyler Stovall, Ciera Taylor, Jordan Williams, Sydney Youngblood, Alexis Mosley, Jesse Odell and Harley Shelton.

West's legacy lives on through several generations

Continued from Page 1

West Swatek in 2005: an infant brother, Lawrence, and two other brothers, William Arnote in 1965 and Jay Arnote in 1960; one sister, Vivienne Miller in 1967; and one grandson, Christopher Elms in 2002.

She is survived by one son, Robert "Bob" Powell West and wife Jeanie of Valliant; one sister, Suzanne Holloway of Tulsa,

Scholarship program is semi-finalist for Harvard's Honoring Nations Award

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (CNO) Scholarship Advisement Program (SAP) has been selected to advance to the semi-final round of evaluation for Harvard University's 2010 Honoring Nations, a program administered by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

SAP was created in 2006 to help overcome consistently high Native American college dropout rates. SAP prepares CNO students for college and, once enrolled, keeps students on track to earn a college degree. Since its founding, SAP has grown to more than 2,800 enrolled students and 2,600 enrolled parents.

Created in 1998, Honoring Contributions, in the Governance of American Indian Nations (Honoring Nations),

is a national awards program that identifies, celebrates, and shares outstanding examples of tribal governance. The program is administered by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Honoring Nations was launched in 1998 with the support of the Ford Foundation and awards spotlight tribal government programs and initiatives that are especially effective in addressing critical concerns and challenges facing the more than 560 Indian nations and their citizens. Honorees serve as sources of knowledge and inspiration throughout Indian Country and beyond. The program seeks to distribute information about tribal government programs, practices, and initiatives that are especially effective in addressing key needs, problems,

and challenges facing American Indian nations.

Since the program's creation more than one-quarter of the tribes in Indian Country have applied for an award. At the heart of Honoring Nations is the principle that tribes themselves hold the key to positive social, political, cultural, and economic prosperity and that self-governance plays a crucial role in building and sustaining strong, healthy Indian nations.

The evaluation process for Harvard's 2010 Honoring Nations awards is rigorous. Initial applications were submitted in January 2010. They have been evaluated and reduced to 30-35 semi-finalists (like SAP) who are then asked to submit supplemental information and a letter of endorsement from the chief executive of the nation. In mid-April, the Honoring Nations Board of Governors and

the Harvard Project staff will choose up to 10 programs to receive site visits.

In May, June, and July 2010 one-day site visits will be conducted and finalists will be notified. In mid-October, finalists will gather in Phoenix, Az., for the final round of evaluation held in conjunction with the annual session of the National Congress of American Indians.

Finalists will be asked to make a 10-minute presentation to the Honoring Nations Board of Governors and the public. The Board will then deliberate and select High Honors and Honors recipients. High Honors receive a \$20,000 award to share their success story with others. Honors receive \$10,000. Awards will be announced and all programs celebrated at an honoring ceremony that night.



Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma dignitaries pose for a photo with Canadian JOM representatives Rodney Karch, superintendent, and Tonya Finch, coordinator. Pictured are Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Gary Batton, Councilpersons Anthony Dillard, Delton Cox, James Frazier, Joe Coley,

Ted Dosh, Jack Austin, Charlotte Jackson, Bob Pate, Mike Amos, Perry Thompson, and Ted Dosh, JOM Director Rebecca Hawkins, Miss Choctaw Nation Ashton Rachele DiNardo, Jr. Miss Stephanie Tehauno and Little Miss Juanita Gonzalez.


JOM serves 9,700 students in the Choctaw Nation

Continued from page 1

Department's Criminal Investigation Division and the former commander of the Rapid City Area Gang Task Force; Rhett Laubach, owner of YourNextSpeaker, LLC, and a professional speaker who has taught leadership skills for over 15 years; and Chief Earl Old Person of the Blackfeet Nation, under whose leadership the

tribe has built a community college, industrial park, community center and tourist facilities.

The Choctaw Nation instituted the Johnson-O'Malley program in 1984. There are 72 schools participating in the program in the 10 ½ counties of the Choctaw Nation, serving 9,700 Native American students from age 3 through the 12th grade.




Chahta Tikba Aiiisht Anumpoli: Speaking of the Choctaw Ancestors NAGPRA Consultation Conference

Moundville, Alabama
May 19-21, 2010

This conference, sponsored by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, will bring together for the first time nationally renowned specialists on Choctaw / ancestral Choctaw history from the three federally recognized Choctaw Tribes, Moundville Archaeological Park, Universities across the Southeast, and the Smithsonian Institution to discuss:

- Choctaw Origins
- Possible Choctaw Connections to Moundville
- Tracing Choctaw Cultural Affiliation under NAGPRA
- Pre-Contact Choctaw History
- The Relevance and Importance of Choctaw NAGPRA
- Possibilities for Improving the NAGPRA Process

Registration is Free! Please contact Cyndi Houser at cjhouser@choctawnation.com



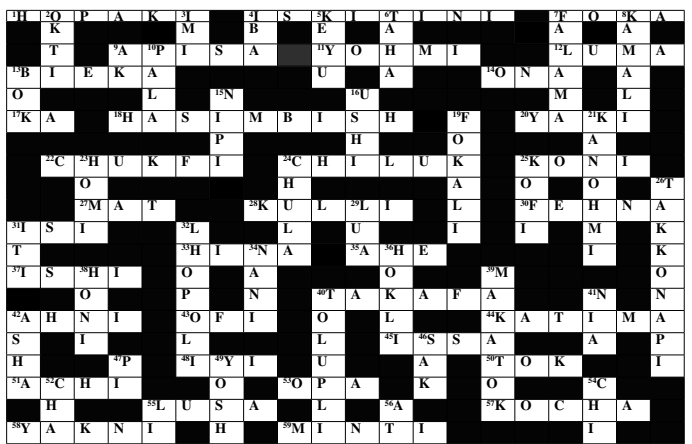


Happy birthday, Dr. Seuss

McAlester Head Start students celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday by turning into Thing One and Thing Two. The students enjoyed reading and learning all about Dr. Seuss books. With the help of the teachers, students and Dr. Seuss books we are able to make the books come to life for early reading skills.

Choctaw Crossword

Answer to Puzzle in March BISHINIK



Chahta Words of the month		
English	Choctaw	pronunciation
garden	osapushi	o.sa.pó.shi
seed	nihí	ní.hí
soil, dirt	lukfi	lok.fí
rain	umba	ón.ba
sun	hvshi	ha.shi

Okl.; grandchildren, Steve and Katherine Elms of New York, N.Y., Vicki and Linn Marshall of Dickson, Okla., Dan and Lynette West of Valliant, Patrick and Judy Elms of San Diego, Calif., Robert and Terry Lindsay of Locust Valley, Long Island, N.Y., Michael and Wendy Swatek of Norman, Okla., Mike and Karla Davidson of San Diego, Calif.; 17 great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews as well as many other relatives and friends.

Tribal member donates large artifact collection to Choctaw Nation

A long standing practice of hunting and looting Native American artifacts, for both historical and aesthetic purposes, has taken sacred items out of the hands of the tribes that created them and, in many cases, put them into the hands of private collectors. This unfortunate trend hinders the preservation of certain aspects of Native American culture and the education of present and future generations of tribal members. The artifacts left by ancestors of the tribe are valuable assets to the Choctaw heritage.

One man in particular is doing his part to offset the trend by giving back to the Choctaw Nation. John Hornbrook, a Choctaw Nation tribal member originally from Lawton, Okla., now residing in Indiana, inherited a

large collection of artifacts after a family member passed away. Initially, he had planned to pass them on to his son and grandsons, but together they felt that the collection would be better served back in the hands of the entire tribe.

Hornbrook, along with his son, Robert, and grandsons, Lucas, age nine, Tristan, age seven, Aiden, age three, and Noah, age two, donated more than 50 Native American artifacts and materials so that all tribal members would be able to enjoy and learn from them.

Not knowing the origin of many of the artifacts, which included items such as pipes, axes, artwork and pottery, but knowing that Choctaw tradition dictates that items removed from burial sites be reburied in

or as close to the original site as possible, he contacted Terry Cole, the Choctaw Nation Tribal Historical Preservation Officer.

“I worked with Terry and Chief Pyle before and I knew they would do the right thing by the culture,” said Hornbrook.

Shortly after receiving the artifacts, Cole and Dr. Ian Thompson, the Tribal archaeologist, began the task of photographing, logging and making determinations of the origins of the items.

“Terry had me examine the pieces in detail, document the collection and figure out which artifacts had a high probability of coming from a burial or were of highly significant spiritual contexts. I then took the remainder to the museum,” said

Thompson.

“His donation is significant to the Tribe because it represents a return of important ancestral materials into Native American hands,” he continued.

Those artifacts that Thompson and Cole determined to be possible burial material were reburied in accordance with Choctaw tradition.

“The Choctaw Nation re-buries materials from human burials and other spiritually significant contexts in a respectful way, under the advisement of elders, and without a showy ceremony. The remains are always buried in a protected place where they are not in danger of being dug up again,” continued Thompson.

Museum director Regina Green, who has worked at the

museum for 10 years and received training with the Smithsonian Institute, said the donated collection was varied and very appreciated.

“We found the uniqueness of his collection fascinating,” said Green.

The museum, which is free of charge and open to the public, currently has more than 1,000 artifacts in their collection – all from private donors like Hornbrook.

“We’re grateful for donations like the one from Mr. Hornbrook. The museum continually adds to its collection and donations like this one help to further the mission of the museum by allowing us to build on existing exhibits and helping to create new exhibits,” she continued.

Hornbrook tries to get back to Oklahoma as often as possible and a visit to the Choctaw Nation headquarters and the museum are always on his to-do list. He plans to bring his grandsons to the museum someday when they’re older so they can also see first hand and learn from the artifacts of their ancestors.

“For centuries, the general trend has been for historical and ancestral objects to be taken away from Tribal groups. Mr. Hornbrook’s gift is helping to counter that trend,” said Thompson. “The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma gratefully thanks Mr. Hornbrook and his family for donating this collection to the Tribe. Through doing this, they have helped the Choctaw people.”

WIC program in need of local farmers

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has been awarded a grant for the Senior and WIC Farmer’s Market Nutrition Programs. Due to limited funding, the first year will only include the counties of Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, Pushmataha and McCurtain.

These programs are designed to allow low-income seniors and WIC participants to purchase

“locally grown” fruits and vegetables from farmers’ markets and roadside stands, as well as, allowing local farmers to “come to the people” on-site at the local Choctaw Nation community centers on designated days.

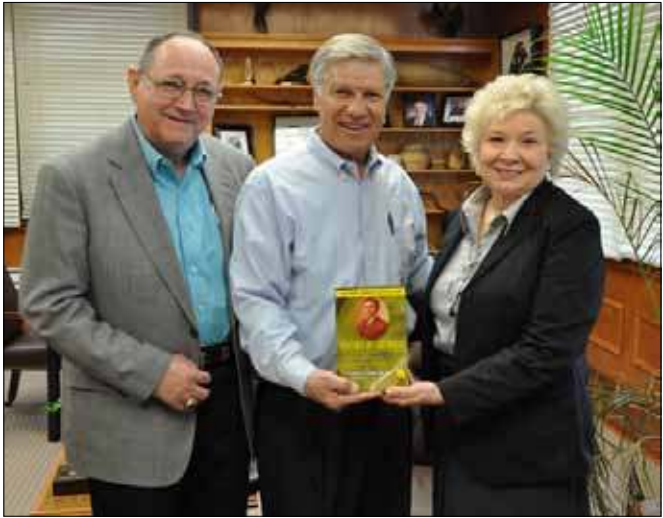
To become authorized, farmers must reside within the above-named counties or live within the adjacent counties

and they must grow at least four varieties of fruits or vegetables. Farmers with large gardens as well as hobby farmers can become authorized farmers.

“Locally grown” is produce grown only within the borders of Oklahoma and/or border counties adjacent to the State of Oklahoma within the confines of the Choctaw Nation’s Southeastern Oklahoma service area.

Under no circumstances may produce grown outside of the United States and its territories be considered eligible foods.

All farmers interested in participating in the Choctaw Nation Senior and (WIC) Farmer’s Market Nutrition Programs, please contact the Program Coordinator, Peggy Carlton, at 800-522-6170, ext. 2303, by April 15, 2010.



Wayne and Carolee Maxwell present Chief Pyle with a copy of the book they co-wrote about Carolee’s grandfather, Charles Watson McGilberry, “Touched by Greatness.”

Steve Benefield among state’s most admired CEOs



Steve Benefield

Congratulations to the 2009 Honorees for Oklahoma’s Most Admired CEOs, whose nominees included Steve Benefield, Executive Director of the Choctaw Defense manufacturing business in McAlester and Hugo. Other honorees in the audience with Steve this year included names all of us recognized such as Aubrey McClendon of Chesapeake, Larry Nichols of Devon, Tom Love of Love’s Travel Stops, Kelly Brewer of Lakeside Women’s Hospital, George Basore of Scott Rice, Tom McDaniel, Okla-

homa City University, Ann Felton, Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity and a score of other valuable Oklahomans.

Each and every one of these Oklahomans deserved to be chosen, and the honor of being nominated for the coveted award of Outstanding CEO of the Year for 2009 is enough to make all of Steve’s peers and fellow employees very proud.

“It made me feel great to see the smiles on his wife and team members’ faces as they heard his name called as a nominee,” said Chief Gregory E. Pyle.

The event, hosted by The Journal Record, was created to honor CEOs who consistently demonstrate strong leadership, integrity, values, vision, commitment to excellence, financial performance and commitment to community and diversity.

2nd Annual Talihina Farmers’ Market 5K Run

Sponsored by the Choctaw Nation Wellness Center
Talihina, Oklahoma

May 15 – 9:00 a.m.

1st and Dallas St. in downtown Talihina

Pre Registration at;

Talihina Farmers’ Market

PO Box 723, Talihina, Ok 74571

Send \$10 with your name, address, phone number and/or email.

Registration can be done by 8:30 a.m. on site

For more information call:

918 429-9925 or 918 567-4084

Choctaw float wins first place

Oklahoma Choctaw Tribal Alliance (OCTA) entered a float in Oklahoma City’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade on March 13, winning first place.

OCTA board member Joyce Robison is shown with Oklahoma City’s 2010 St. Patrick’s Day Grand Marshal, Dr. Tom McDaniel.

Dr. McDaniel, president of Oklahoma City University, stopped by the float to thank the OCTA for participating in their annual parade.



Joyce Robison and Dr. Tom McDaniel

Choctaw man honored in book written by granddaughter

In the Autumn of 2007 Wayne and Carolee Maxwell began an unforeseen, but incredible journey together taking them to a small hamlet in south central Pennsylvania. There, in a quaint and prestigious Ivy League prep school they discovered an old and tattered file folder, unopened since 1917. This antiquated folder contained the intriguing records of Charles Watson McGilberry, a full-blooded Choctaw boy from Oklahoma. “Charlie” McGilberry wasn’t just another student or just another Indian. He was Carolee’s beloved grandfather. She had come to this strange world of academia to only see where her “papa” had chosen to attend after graduating with honors from Oklahoma’s Chillico Indian School. The contents of the old folder revealed much more than was ever expected.

Charlie was most definitely an anomaly. A fierce competitor on the football field, in the classroom or on the debate team and later as a military officer, he was destined to be a great Indian educator. The story takes the reader through the insecurities, discrimination, winning of acceptance, the stripping of honor and perseverance eventually leading to triumph.

A sometimes sad and shocking, but beautiful story that must never be lost again with the ages is revealed in detail in the Maxwell’s book “Touched by Greatness” which has recently gone into print, published by Encouragement Solutions, LLC.

A number of book signings are currently being scheduled in the Oklahoma City and Tulsa area. Times and locations of individual signings will be made in the near future. Books may also be purchased by emailing 4yellowbird@suddenlink.net or by visiting the website www.touchedbygreatnessbook.com. The book can also be found at Hastings Book Stores in Ada and Norman and will be available at the Chickasaw Dynamic Women’s Conference to be held at East Central University in the Student Center on April 8.

Choctaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation

MAY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Durant 8:00-4:30	4	5 McAlester 10:00-2:00 Stigler By Appt.	6	7 Broken Bow 9:00-12:00 Idabel 1:00-3:00	8
9	10	11	12 Antlers By Appt.	13	14	15
16	17 Durant 8:00-4:30	18 Poteau 11:30-1:00	19 Talihina 10:00-2:00	20	21	22
23	24 Crowder By Appt. Wright City & Bethel By Appt.	25 Wilburton 10:30-2:00	26 Atoka 9:30-11:30 Coalgate 12:30-2:30	27	28	29
30	31					

A Vocational Rehab representative will be available at the locations listed.
A representative is available Monday through Friday 8-4:30 except for holidays at the Hugo office.

TRAIL OF TEARS



CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

T-shirt Order Form

T-shirts are black. Sizes available are:
Children – (2-4), (6-8), (10-12) and (14-16)

Adults – Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, 2X, and 3X

Item	Size	Quantity	Total Price
------	------	----------	-------------

T-shirt – \$10 ea.

Cap – \$10 ea.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number _____

E-Mail _____

Price includes postage and handling. Limited supply of Children and 3X sizes.

To order, send payment (NO PERSONAL CHECKS) with completed form to:

Trail of Tears Walk T-shirt
P.O. Box 1210, Durant, OK 74702-1210

Early political structure

Question:

What was the Choctaw political structure like at the time of Chief Pushmataha?

– Todd

Answer:

Dear Todd,

In the past, just like today, the political structure of the Choctaw Tribe reflected the makeup of the communities that sustained it. The political structure was designed to support the values commonly held between these communities and to direct their interactions with each other and with non-Choctaw groups. It has always adapted and changed to fit the needs of each new generation.

Pushmataha (1764? -1824) served as a Choctaw Chief during the first decades of the 1800s. Before this time, Choctaw government was decentralized with individuals and settlements having a great deal of leeway in making their own decisions. Sometimes, this saw different Choctaw towns supporting opposing parties during military conflicts, and even fighting each other in the Choctaw Civil War (1747-1750). By Pushmataha's time, this decentralized form of government was slowly being shaped into a structure with leaders who could speak for the Choctaw people as a whole.

From the earliest written texts on the subject (1702), and still during the early 1800s, the Choctaw Tribe was comprised of three geographic and political districts (Galloway 2008:74). Ahepvt ("Potato eaters") was located in the north-eastern part of the Choctaw homeland, Okla Falaya (literally "Long People," referring to the geographical shape of the district) was located in the west, and Okla Hannali "Six Towns" was located in the south (Halbert 1901). Each of the three districts had a Miko, or "Chief." Pushmataha was Chief of the Okla Hannali District from 1800-1824. During many of the same years Apukshunnubbee was Chief of the Okla Falaya District, and Mushulatubbee was Chief of Ahepvt District.

Each of the three Districts maintained their own fires (see March's edition of Iti Fabvssa for the traditional importance of fire to Choctaw communities), and normally functioned autonomously. However, they consulted with each other on external matters that affected the whole Tribe (Claiborne 1880:490). In the 1700s, the French began referring to one Choctaw leader as the "Principle Chief." This reflected the their own concept of a "King," but the position was not recognized within Choctaw society itself until immediately before the Trail of Tears. Nevertheless, during times of major war, a single leader, such as Pushmataha, would emerge to temporarily coordinate the efforts of Choctaw forces (Galloway 2008:75).

Each of the three Choctaw Districts was itself made up of many large and small settlements. According to early documents (c.f. Anonymous 1918[1755?]:54-55) the political structure within each Choctaw village consisted of several positions. The village chief presided over the village, welcomed visitors, and represented the village in dealings with other Choctaw villages. The village Tvshkamiko, or "warchief presided over war endeavors. He was assisted by two Tvshkamikushi "little war chiefs," who served as his lieutenants. The Tishomiko, or "servant chief," acted as the speaker for the chief and arranged dances, feasts, and ceremonies. Men holding the office of Tishomiko, often became village chiefs. In reality, this structure of leadership organization probably varied somewhat between villages, but the above positions appear to have been a widespread Choctaw



Iti Fabussa

form that was maintained into the early 1800s.

Within traditional Choctaw society, men were further divided into four political ranks, which were given relative preference in decision-making meetings. The first rank was comprised of individuals holding the offices just described, these were the leaders. The second was, Hattak Holitopa or "Beloved Men," respected elders who carried the traditions of the Tribe. The third rank was Tvshka, or "warriors," individuals who had proven themselves in battle and received a war name (this is the origin of today's Choctaw surnames that end in "abi," meaning to win or kill). The fourth rank was Hattak Himitta, or "Young Men," males of any age who had not proven themselves in battle.

In traditional Choctaw society, leadership often followed through family lines. Up until at least 1820, it is clear that Choctaw leaders relied upon their Iksha, or "clan," for support, and that the Iksha were a major political factor that obligated their members to certain duties (see Swanton 2001:78). For example in the traditional Choctaw judicial system, when an individual was accused of a crime, a trial was held in which members of his Iksha were his defenders, while those of the opposite Iksha served as prosecutors (Wright 1828:225). Still, a potential leader's personal merit and popularity were the most important factors in his rise to leadership. This is evidenced in the life of Pushmataha himself, whose family origins were and are unknown.

For a young Choctaw man, the path up the political scale could begin with proven success in men's activities, such as stickball and warfare. It continued with success in local leadership positions, such as leading a war party, or speaking for the village chief. With success in these roles, a person could become a village chief by popular consensus. Under the right circumstances, a successful and popular village chief could become a District chief.

Meetings of the Choctaw government were highly symbolic and spiritual events. Major decisions at the village and Tribal levels were made in a council of leaders. It appears that important matters were discussed either around a fire, or when the sun was shining brightly (see December's Iti Fabvssa for an explanation of the importance of this in Choctaw thought). If the meeting was to discuss civil matters or peaceful relations, symbolism involving the color white was prevalent. If the meeting was to discuss war, the symbolism incorporated the color red. Before the speaking began, a pipe was passed between participating parties, the belief being that the tobacco smoke would carry their words up to God. During the meeting, speeches were delivered and, as time allowed, all individuals' points of view given on the matters at hand without interruption. After listening to the talks, the leader gave his opinion, which was usually approved by the council (Claiborne 1880:491). Such council meetings were often lengthy, and accompanied by stickball games and dances.

Choctaw leaders met with the leaders of other Districts, or of other Tribes, they employed a standardized greeting, which included the words, "Holitopa chia-hoke," meaning "you are very beloved." Today, this has been shortened to the common Choctaw greeting "Halito." Ceremonies were often conducted as a means of fostering positive diplomatic relationships between Choctaw representatives and the people with whom they were negotiating (see O'Brien 2008b:161). This sometimes involved adoption of the outsiders into a Choctaw Iksha, and swapping the fire of a Choctaw District with the fire of the other group. Choctaw representatives are documented to have carried a District Fire several hundred miles for this purpose when first establishing formal ties with the United States (speech by Chief Tobocah in Martin 2008 [1786]:243).

The power of a Choctaw leader lasted only as long as his support from the people. This support was fostered by his skills as a leader, his charisma, and his ability to give gifts to his followers (O'Brien 2008a:104-105). He rarely or never had the power to force his people to act against their will, even in wartime.

The political roles of Choctaw men were complimented by those of the women. Recognized as givers of life, women traditionally had a great deal of power in Choctaw society. Iksha membership was handed down through the female, rather than male line. Women were the major food producers and property owners, and it is probable that they traditionally had a great deal of say in the distribution of resources within the village. Choctaw women also traditionally accompanied their men on diplomatic missions and took part in the associated ceremonies. Mikos are said to have kept their wives informed about what happened at council, and upon a Miko's death, his wife sometimes temporarily filled his position (Swanton 2001:100). Nevertheless, by Pushmataha's time, women's formal leadership power within Choctaw society had diminished as a result of interactions with Euro-American groups who believed women were incapable of filling such important positions (Pesanatubbe 2008:82-85).

The years of Pushmataha's service as chief encompass major events in Choctaw history and rapid changes in Choctaw society. On an economic level, the Choctaw export economy shifted from heavy involvement in the fur trade to becoming focused on cattle production and the southern plantation economy (Carson 2008). Militarily, Choctaw warfare shifted from small skirmishes of the type that had occurred for millennia, to major protracted battles. On a political front, France, Spain, and England ultimately gave up their century-long claim to the Choctaw homeland, and were replaced by the United States. This meant that individual Choctaw Districts and towns could no longer pit multiple Euro-American nations off against each other in treaty negotiations, but rather that the Choctaw Tribe

had to speak with a unified voice. At the same time, U.S. citizens increasingly began pushing in on Choctaw lands and to demand Choctaw land cessions. Attempting to understand their viewpoint is one reason that some chiefs began welcoming Protestant missions and educating their children in boarding schools during these years. All of this helped set the stage for a new brand of Choctaw chiefs, including Greenwood Leflore and David Folsom, who rose to power after Pushmataha's death. Six years after his passing, the last of the Choctaw Homeland was ceded to the United States; the Trail of Tears began; and a whole new chapter was opened on Choctaw history and government.

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The Idabel pottery class, firing their pots. From left to right: Mary Hardy, Charlotte Davis, Walker Davis, Shirley Lambert, Dorothy Henson, Bill Lambert, Karen Downen (teacher).



The Poteau pottery class, with some of their recent work. Left to right: Regina Green, Dan Franklin, Gary Cooley, Judy Cooley, Mary McMahan.

Traditional Choctaw Pottery

Class Times and Locations:

DURANT
April 18th, May 2nd, May 16th
5:30-9:30 p.m.
Cultural Events Building, 4451 Choctaw Rd.

POTEAU
April 5th, April 19th, May 3rd
5:00-9:30 p.m.
Poteau Field Office, 208 B Street

IDABEL
April 6th, April 20th, May 4th
12:30-4:30 p.m.
Idabel Field Office, 2408 Lincoln Rd.

ATOKA
April 8th – 5:30 p.m.
Atoka Field Office, 1410 S. Gin Rd.

For dates and times please call 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2216

ATTENTION CHOCTAW ARTISTS

If you are interested in participating in a Juried and Judged Choctaw Indian Art Show, let us hear from you!

Please fill out the following interest form in order to receive more information regarding the show which will be at Tushka Homma, Oklahoma, during the Annual Choctaw Labor Day Festival. Included will be following categories: Painting, Graphics, Cultural, Sculpture, Jewelry, Pottery and Basketry.

Please fill out the form and return it to the address below. Art information packets will be mailed beginning in May.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Artistic Category _____

You must be at least 17 years old and have a membership card issued by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Return to: **Sue Folsom, Executive Director**
Choctaw Nation Tribal Complex
P.O. Box 1210
Durant, OK 74702

For more information, call Sue Folsom at 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2559.

OBITUARIES

Beryle Deyne “Jackie” Davidson

Beryle Deyne “Jackie” Davidson passed away Feb. 25, 2010. She was born April 27, 1928, in Lodi, and raised in Red Oak.

Married to Homer J. Davidson Sr., he preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her step-daughter, Lil Favors; son Steve Davidson; parents Les and Thula Markham; father Bill Bradshaw Sr; and brother Bill Bradshaw Jr.

She is survived by her brother, J. D. Bradshaw of Red Oak; sisters Debbie Willson of Seminole, and Shari Maxwell of Yukon; sons, Homer Davidson Jr. of Aumsville, Ore., Hal Davidson of Washougal, Wash.; step-daughter, Billye Tidwell of Paris, Texas; 11 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; numerous great-great-grandchildren.



Jimmie Thomas Gremen

Jimmie Thomas Gremen, 90, of Rosenberg, passed away Feb. 20, 2010 in Richmond. Jimmie was born Dec. 8, 1919 in Antlers. He was proud of his Choctaw heritage. Jimmie was a member of the American Legion Post No. 350 in Needville. He served his country in the Marine Corps, retiring after 20 years. Jimmie then went to work as a warden with the Texas Department of Corrections, retiring with them after 20 years.

Jimmie was preceded in death by his wife, Alreedea Dunn Gremen; parents, Petross Graman and Ice Lee Garza; and brother, Jack Hart.

He is survived by his daughter, Mary King and husband Mitch; siblings, Max Gremen and wife Bertie, Mary Jane Kent, and Billy Hart and wife Janice; along with numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.



Rebecca Ann Quinton

A woman of character and full of life, Rebecca Ann Quinton was born July 31, 1945, in McAlester, Okla.

She passed away in the early morning hours on April 19, 2009. She was 63 years old. Becky worked for Steve Meador & Associates as a court reporting firm. She had been in the court reporting and legal profession for over 30 years. She was very active in politics and was a big supporter of the Democratic party. Her biggest joys were sports, poker, “The Price is Right,” and of course her grandkids.

She is survived by her daughters, Shelli Quinton-Dawson and Tawna Crist, her son-in-law, Rodney Crist, and her two grandchildren, Kyle Dawson and Rachael Crist, all of Edmond, Okla. She had many cousins.

Becky had a great love for her family and had many friends that stretched across the country. Her love and spirit will remain etched deep in our hearts and souls forever. She touched many lives with her giving spirit whether you wanted it or not, and her laughter, she could never hold back. She never knew a stranger and would start up a conversation with anyone she came across.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Willie Mae Crawley, and her dad, Othel Crawley.

Sherry Lois Rush

Sherry Lois Rush was born on Aug. 14, 1960, in Oklahoma City to Nina (Kelley) Park and Loyd Glover. She passed away Oct. 31, 2009, in Altus. She attended school in Wellington, Texas. She worked alongside her sisters at Jimbo’s convenience store for several years and at the Dollar General. At both places, she enjoyed being around people, associating with the public and was liked by all her customers. She loved collecting antiques, Coca-Cola products and rocks from Quartz Mountain. She liked working on jigsaw puzzles, reading Stephen King books, collecting jewelry boxes, painting, gardening and being outdoors.

Her maternal and paternal grandparents, Jess and Grace Kelley and Miles and Edna Glover, preceded her in death.

Survivors include son Billy Mack Rush of Oklahoma City; mother Nina Park of Altus; father and stepmother Loyd and Ann Glover of Chickasha; sisters Nita Glover of Altus and Virginia Cass and husband Brandon, of Kingsville, Texas; and brothers Tony and Johnny Glover, both of Amarillo, Texas; nephews Daniel Glover of Aurora, Colo., and Nathaniel Jackson of Kingsville and many friends.



Moss Scroggins

Moss Scroggins, 76, of Paris, Texas, passed away Jan. 11, 2010, at his home.

He was born on Aug. 3, 1933, in Kowna to George and Pearl Pope Scroggins. He married Mary Francis Easter on Oct. 12, 1962, in Palestine, Texas. He was a member of the Breakfast Optimist, Kiwanis and a past member of the Reno Volunteer Fire Department. He was recently baptized and became a member of Lifeline Worship Center in Reno, Texas. He was a cattle buyer and then went into furniture sales, owning and operating the auction in Reno and in the past loved to help out at the Paris Rodeo grounds.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Mary Scroggins; children Cloyd “Buster” Scroggins and wife Kathy, Stacy Walker and husband Mark, George Scroggins, Elmo Ostrander and wife Diane, Marlin Ostrander; grandchildren Jason Scroggins, Brett Scroggins, Ryan Scroggins, Corey Scroggins, Haskell Walker, Lacy Adams, Kassidy Moree, Brooke Scroggins, Will Scroggins, Elmo Ostrander Jr., Luke Ostrander, Thaddeus Ostrander, Rose Ostrander, Cody Ostrander, Ruby Ostrander, Lacy Ostrander, Wyly Ostrander, Marlin Ostrander Jr., Partick Flowers; great-grandchildren Alexis and Donovan; brother James Thomas Scroggins; numerous nieces, nephews and friends, and special freind Tony Cravens.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Pearl Pope Scroggins; sisters Bernice, Verda and Leveta; brothers Merle, Leonard and Marvin.



Delia Carterby Wesley

Delia Carterby Wesley, 80, of Wright City, passed away Feb. 10, 2010, at the McCurtain Memorial Hospital in Idabel. She was born March 17, 1929, in Nashoba, the daughter of Ben and Sema (Battiest) Carterby.

Delia was a member of the Big Lick Methodist Church, Divide Community. She enjoyed visiting with children, grandchildren and friends. She had made many honorary walks commemorating the Trail of Tears. She enjoyed attending community functions, gospel singings, and going to basketball games to watch her grandchildren play. She was a member of the Choctaw Code Talker Family; her father was a World War I Code Talker.

Delia was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Drex, LeRoy and Calvin Loman; sisters, Rhoda Jones, Burnette Turner, Naomi Carterby, Mary Wilson, and Mae Carterby; a son-in-law, Harold Wright; a step-granddaughter, Sherrie Wallace; and a grandson, Billie Joe Davis.

She is survived by her husband, Williston Wesley of the home; five daughters and their spouses, Geraldine Wright, Charlene and Johnny Columbus Sr., Janelle Wesley and Franklin Tonihka, Jolene and Greendale Davis, Edith and Danny Jones; five sons and their spouses, Williston and Virginia Wesley, Jimmy and Debbie Wesley, Benny and Lisa Wesley, Howard Wesley, Bobby and Susan Wesley; 37 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.



Howard E. Goines

Howard passed away on March 1, 2010. Born on Feb 26, 1921, in Spiro to Everett and Augusta Victoria (Folsom) Goines, an original enrollee, he is survived by his wife of 68 years, Elsie (Daugherty) Goines; brothers, Theodore and Jerrell Goines; daughters, Nan Nelson, Paula Belden, and Danna Shirley; grandchildren, David Nelson, Rhonda Huddleston, Kristen Grigson, Robbin Taylor, Jordan Heath, and Russell and Aaron Shirley; and great-grandchildren, Sarah Nelson, Rachel and Ryan Taylor, Mackenzie Pierce, and Emma and Bella Grigson.

Having served in World War II from Dec 1942 to July 1945 in Knettishall, England, he received the Air Force Presidential Unit Citation, European/African/Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, WWII Victory Medal, and Army Good Conduct Medal.

Howard and Elsie migrated to California in 1946; living in Pinole, Rodeo, and finally Napa, where they have resided for the past 12 years. A long career as an iron worker and then with Dymo Industries brought retirement in 1980. As a faithful blood donor, he gave 71 times totaling almost 9 gallons.

Howard will be remembered for his many talents but especially for his 45-year hobby of antique car restoration. A member of the Diabolo A's, Napa Valley A's, and Model A Ford Club of America, he fully restored a number of cars and assisted in the restoration of many more.



Patty Sue (England) Howard Finch

08/20/1937 to 02/12/2010, went to join her family in Heaven after an extended illness. A 42 year resident of Dallas, TX, she was preceded in death by her spouse of 42 years, Royce Allen Finch; Parents William Mitchell and Virginia Alice England (Bixby, OK); Brother William Crosby England (Oologah, OK); Nephew Guy Mitchell England (Houston,TX); Grandparents E.E. and Lucy England (McAlester, OK) and Homer and Hazel Crosby (Canon City,CO) as well as numerous great-grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles and other family members.

Survived by Son Charles Norman Howard (Dallas, TX); Daughter Vicki Lynn Johnson and spouse George Tolbert Johnson, III (Tulsa, OK);Grandchildren Matthew Edward Gregory and spouse Danielle Gregory (Owasso, OK); Nya Lynn Gregory Acree and spouse Phillip Acree (Orlando, FL); Jonathan Seth Gregory (Tulsa, OK); Jon Ewing and spouse Tamarisk Ewing (Springfield, MO); Great-Grandchildren: Leah, Connor, Cadence, Korbin and Jaelyn, Sister-in-law Katherine England (Oologah, OK); Nieces Danita Minor and spouse Robbie Minor (Oologah, OK); Mica England (New York, NY); Great Nephews Daniel,Jacob and Cody; Favorite Cousin Eugene Bonino and spouse Will (San Francisco, CA).

Patty loved her Choctaw heritage and was a Tap, Jazz and Ballet dancer at Will Rogers High School. She was proud of her years as a Rainbow Girl and enjoyed Country Music. She was a long time member of Miss Jean’s Dance School. She and her spouse founded Finch Roofing in Dallas,TX and were in business for 40 years. A very beloved Mother, Grandmother, and Great Grandmother, she will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Gloria Cles (Risner) Moore

Gloria Cles (Risner) Moore died at the age of 88 from age related illness on Jan. 2, 2010. She was born in Bennington on July 12, 1921 to George and Clesbulina (Hart) Risner. Her father George, was the great-grandson of original enrollee George Wesley Risner. Gloria achieved a nursing degree at University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and worked most of her life in that occupation. She had three children, Sandra Breaux, (deceased), Joseph T. Breaux and Kathleen Breaux. She was married to Joe Breaux in 1943 for a time, and then to Patrick H. Moore.

She survived all of her siblings, Lucy Mae, Maxie, Amelita, Stanley, Donald Risner. She is also survived by six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Richard Dale Dyke

Richard Dale Dyke, 46, of Tulsa, died July 2, 1989, in Tulsa of a heart attack. Richard was born November 13, 1943 in McAlester. He was a truck driver and a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include his mother, Alene Dyke of the home; three sisters, Carole Clarke and Belinda King, both of Bakersfield, CA. and Cionnie Hudson of Cove, Ark; four brothers, Gary Dyke, Donnie Dyke, and Rickey Dyke, all of California, and James Dyke, Jr. of Oklahoma. He left several aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews. Mr. Dyke was preceded in death by his father, James E. Dyke in 1982 and by a sister, Phyllis Dyke in 1965.

Sue Woodard

Sue Woodard, 78, of Paris, passed away March 5, 2010, at Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas as a result of a fall. Sue was born Aug. 11, 1931, in the Direct Community to Elmer Andrew and Opal May Smith Daniels.

She graduated from Direct Schools with honors and married Wilburn Zane “Buddy” Woodard on Jan. 14, 1950, in Paris. Mrs. Woodard worked as a cashier for several businesses around Paris and was blessed with the ability of making friends with everyone she met. She was a member of the Direct Church of Christ.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend always making sure the kids made it to sporting events and their activities. She was a seamstress and loved to do crafty projects and be around her family. In early years, she was an excellent volley ball player.

Mrs. Woodard is survived by her husband, Buddy Woodard of the home; four children, Ricky Woodard and wife Carole of Blossom, Randy Woodard and wife Kathie of Paris, Andy Woodard and wife Donna of Arthur City, and Robin Bratcher and husband Ronnie of Reno; nine grandchildren, Angie Willis and husband Nolan of Reno, Ashley Echols and husband Brent of Powderly, Chase Woodard of Paris, Chance Woodard of Paris, Colby Bratcher of Reno, Emalee Bratcher of Reno, Aimee Cobey and husband Stephen of Reno, Angie Crozier and husband Steve of San Antonio, Texas, and Missy Gogolewski and husband Scott of Cedar Park, Texas; her sister, Evelynne Moore Morris of Paris; six great-grandchildren, Delaney, Alie, Emma, Ava, Aiven and Acen; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two granddaughters, Krystal Woodard and Kayleigh Nicole Bratcher.



Clara June McLain Rolen

Clara June McLain Rolen, age 81, took the trip of a lifetime Saturday morning, Feb. 13, her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, took her home to heaven. June was born on June 20, 1928, to George W. and Winnie McLain, in Featherston, Okla. God’s providence in her life was evident from the beginning as June, along with her school teacher mother and evangelist father, moved often planting churches throughout Oklahoma.

Her love for Christ, as well as her pride in her Choctaw Indian heritage came from her father. June invited Christ in her life at age 9 in Oklahoma City.

By age 12, June was playing piano at church meetings and revivals. And at sweet 16, in 1945, she graduated from Shawnee High School in Oklahoma.

June married her husband of 63 years, Lonnie Rolen, on Sept. 29, 1946 at the Kerman Free Will Baptist Church. Their vows took place between Sunday school and church service, along with two other couples, as time was precious during the harvesting/ginning season in the area. God blessed them with a daughter and a son.

Her career as a full charge bookkeeper began for a florist in Oklahoma. Once in California, the Kerman Bank of America was blessed by her aptitude with numbers. It was 12 years of experience under Dan Hiebert at the Kerman Co-op Gin that provided June with what she called an equivalent of “a college degree” in accounting. Her bookkeeping career continued at Link Care Center in Fresno, where she worked from 1980 until her retirement in 1994.

Serving Jesus Christ was June’s greatest passion throughout her life. In partnership with her husband Lonnie, the couple planted and pastored churches in Firebaugh (1953), Blythe (1954-1955), Calwa (1956-1959), Clovis (1959-1964), and Memorial Free Will Baptist in Fresno (1965-1992), which merged with New Hope Community Church in 1992, where the couple served both the congregation and community as Pastor Emeritus and wife.

June’s spiritual leadership was evident in her positions for Women’s Ministries, where she presided many years as Local Church President, District President (Central Association of Free Will Baptist), California State President, and National President from 1983 to 1987, of the W.N.A.C. (Women Nationally Active for Christ) of Free Will Baptist churches. June also served in many other denominational leadership roles. She was Clerk-Treasurer for the Center Association of Free Will Baptist Churches, and also served over 20 years in the same capacity for the California State Association of Free Will Baptist. She was the Director of the Executive Office of the California Free Will Baptist, and the Editor of VOICE, the state paper for the denomination. From 1968-1972, June served as the bookkeeper at California Christian College in Fresno.

She was the daughter, wife and mother of a preacher.

June is survived by her beloved husband Lonnie; daughter Janice Little and her husband, Eric; son Tim McLain Rolen and his wife, Shelly; three grandsons, Brant Rolen and Chad Rolen and his wife, Missy, and the boys’ mother Lori; Andrew Little; and two granddaughters, Ashlee and Samantha, who entered her life these past two years.

She also leaves behind many other family members, friends, and strangers who witnessed the love of Christ through her wise and loving words and actions.

Carolyn Jeanne John

Carolyn Jeanne John passed away Feb. 19, 2010, in Durant at the age of 94.

She was born Oct. 18, 1915, in Boswell, the daughter of Isaac G. Jones and Elsie (Taylor) Jones and had lived all of her life in Boswell.

Her parents preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by a son, Stanley Wayne John, and a daughter, Arica Carol Williams.

Carol was of the Presbyterian faith.

Survivors include one grandson, Michael John and wife Michelle; one granddaughter, Lea Williams; great-grandchildren, Dathan John, Zachary John, Riley John and Kayla Whitaker, along with other relatives and a host of friends.

