

Leading the Nation for a decade

Lt. Gov. Jari Askins joins thousands celebrating Pyle’s 10 years as Chief



Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton present Oklahoma Lt. Gov. Jari Askins with a Pendleton blanket.

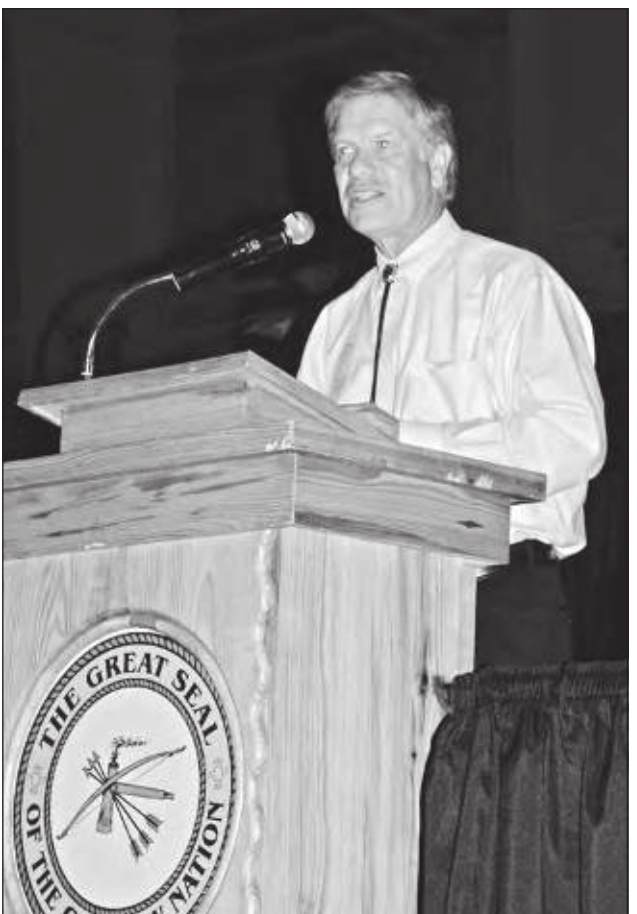
Gregory E. Pyle became Chief on June 6, 1997, and for 10 years has guided the Choctaw Nation forward as its leader.

The economic growth of the tribe is unparalleled with an increase of 700% in the number of employees. This impacts tribal and non-tribal elements of any community.

Tribal members have doubled and today have a wide variety of programs available to them including Higher Education Scholarships helping an average of 5,000 students annually around the United States. Housing assistance and home loan programs are available as well as state-of-the-art health facilities.

On June 6, 2007, the Choctaw Coliseum in Durant opened its doors to 2,500 tribal members, state and city officials and friends and family of Chief Greg Pyle who welcomed the chance to celebrate his 10 year anniversary with him.

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Broken Bow celebrates opening of a new health clinic and a new ballfield complex



A grand opening was held June 27 at the new Broken Bow Urgent Care Clinic, one mile east of Broken Bow on U.S. 70. The \$3.5 million, 6,281-square-foot facility was constructed totally with tribal funds. Staff includes a physician, a mid-level Behavioral Health provider a licensed Behavioral Health counselor, and a public health nurse. WIC and community health services are also available at the clinic.



Everyone gathered June 22 for a fun evening at Broken Bow – a delicious barbecue dinner and dedication of a new ballfield complex followed by games on the beautifully lighted and fenced fields behind the family investment center. Tribal funds in the amount of \$400,000 were used for construction of the complex which features two regulation baseball-size ball fields that can easily be converted to accommodate softball.



Shady Point playground equipment a reality!

Shady Point School held a celebration for the team of people who helped make a dream of new playground equipment a reality. Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Choctaw Councilman Delton Cox, Assistant Chief Gary Batton, U.S. Congressman Dan Boren and Lundy Keiger of AES, a power producer for OG&E, joined Shady Point Superintendent Sandy Thompson, Principal Marie Akins, townspeople and schoolchildren to cut a ribbon at the new playground.

The equipment was purchased through money raised by the school and donated by a contingent of caring people. The AES power plant agreed to match

the first \$10,000 that the school could come up with for new playground equipment. One of the first calls made was to District 2 U.S. Congressman Dan Boren. Realizing the immense safety issue, Boren contacted Chief Greg Pyle and shared the concern of replacing the old equipment. The Choctaw Nation Healthy Lifestyles Program was able to grant the school with a one time, \$5,000 gift.

The school held some very innovative fundraisers for the remainder of the needed cost to have the playground completed. A basketball tournament, Fall Festival, and saving box tops, ink cartridges and recycled

cell phones were all efforts the school participated in to finish paying for the playground equipment. “Big projects can be accomplished if we all work together,” said Principal Akins.

Chief Pyle talked about the importance of exercise for the young people and the pride in being able to assist in the fundraising. “We are all partners here – you can tell there has been a lot of work and a lot of love here.”

Before cutting the ribbon, Congressman Boren told the entire community who was gathered to participate, “Congratulations on facing this challenge with optimism and by seeking resources and working together.”

Tribal Council holds June regular session

Tribal Council members approved budgets, hay baling permits and grant applications in the June 9 Regular Session. Unanimous approval was given to the 2008 budget proposal for Jones Academy Academic Program and for the budget modification of the Injury Prevention Program.

Requests to apply for a R.E.A.C.H. Grant and a grant to enhance the safety of children received 12 yes votes at the Council meeting.

Approval was also undivided to apply to the National Endowment for the Humanities for a Collections and Resources Grant.

Several permits to allow baling of hay on tribal property in Choctaw, Bryan and Pushmataha counties were granted.

Choctaw grandmother celebrates 100th birthday

Georgia Sampson Brandy McKinney was born on June 27, 1907, at Coal Spring, Oklahoma to original enrollee Aves McAlester Sampson and Joseph Sampson.


Her first marriage was to Sam Brandy, a Louisiana Choctaw. They had two children, Eriss Brandy McKinney and Raymond Brandy. After his death, she married Robinson McKinney. They had three children, Diana McKinney Harris, Deroy McKinney and Hannah McKinney Blackowl. After he passed, she never remarried.

She has outlived two husbands, one daughter, one granddaughter, two great-grandsons, three brothers, and two sisters.

When she was able, she enjoyed fishing, making quilt tops, and cooking traditional food. She enjoyed going to church and singing. She is of the Presbyterian faith.

Georgia has 21 grandchildren, 59 great-grandchildren, 23 great-great grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson.

A 100th birthday party was hosted for her at the Memorial Heights Nursing Home in Idabel. After being presented with gifts from Choctaw Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Councilman Hap Ward and certificates from President Bush, Governor Henry and the Mayor of Idabel, Georgia announced she was tired and wanted to go to bed and take a nap while her guests enjoyed the cake and punch.



NOTES TO THE NATION



Boys and girls say thanks

Dear Councilman Amos and the Choctaw Nation,

The McCurtain County Boys & Girls Club took a total of 42 club members and volunteers to Magic Springs on June 7 for a summer reward trip. Club members who attended have finished the TRAIL (Together Raising Awareness of a Better Indian Life) program or are members of the Native American Mentoring Program. We would like to thank Councilman Mike Amos and the Choctaw Nation for allowing us the use of their buses for this trip. Without you we would not have been able to do this for our youth.

McCurtain County Boys & Girls Club staff and members

Soldier says thanks

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I want to say thank you for your support while I was overseas in Afghanistan. I thank you for the care packages and the knives.

**Harold Burris
Specialist U.S. Army Infantry**

Searching for descendants

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I am trying to trace any descendants of Jacobs. My grandpa John W. Jacobs was born in Troy-Pike Co., Alabama in 1867. He came to Tribbey, Oklahoma, approximately in 1880. There are descendants in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Carolinas, and Oklahoma. I would love to hear from anyone.

**Viola Green
Seagraves, Texas**

Kindness will never be forgotten

Dear Choctaw Nation,

The tragedy at Virginia Tech on April 16 took the life of our dear Lauren McCain. She was a student majoring in International Studies, and a thankful recipient of the Choctaw Nation Scholarship Program. She was very proud of her Native American heritage and very grateful for the assistance offered by the tribe.

Please allow us to express our deepest gratitude to Chief Pyle, Mr. James Dry and Mrs. Diane Perrin. They were among the very first to offer assistance in our time of need, and provided generously for us as we were preparing to make the most difficult journey of our lives.

Our family has forever been changed, but we will never forget the outpouring of kindness that has been shown to us by people from the Choctaw Nation and all across America.

Thank you to all who have prayed for us throughout this ordeal.
**Mrs. Ruth McCain Boydstun, Sandra McCain
Garner, Tom, Ryan, Will, Josh, Shelly and Amanda Garner**

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

has a new phone number!

1-866-933-2260

Call today & start planning for that new career!

Supporting our youth

Dear Councilman Thompson and the Choctaw Nation,

Thank you so much for supporting Hugo Skate Park. It is exciting to see this grassroots effort come to fruition. It wouldn't be possible without people like you who believe in Southeastern Oklahoma and its people. Thank you so much.

**Rhonda Rolf
Skate Park Chair**

Thank you

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I want to say thank you for putting rural water in for me.

**Glenda Brown
Bokoshe, Oklahoma**

Special thanks

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I'm writing to say thank you so much for all of the help you have given me through the years and the recent help with my move into city limits. Being a young single parent without a vehicle, this has made the simple necessities of living more accessible and allowing for my short term goals to become achievable.

**Melissa Collier
Durant, Oklahoma**

Thanks to all

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Please let it be known that the entire Williams Family wishes to say thanks to all who helped from the Choctaw Nation in assisting in the food preparation and serving, May 4, at the Choctaw Community Center in Idabel in honor of our dear sister, Olivia Longoria, who passed away on April 29. Also a special thanks to Shirley Hardy, Matilda Davis, Margaret McKinney, Teresa Davis, Jackie Davis, Lydia McClure, Stephanie Wesley, Solomon Tonihka, Jean Noahubi, and Anthony Noahubi.

Family of Olivia Longoria

Seeking information

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I am attempting to find the organization dates of the following Choctaw Churches in Oklahoma:

Mr. Zion Presbyterian Church near Battiest
Kulli Chito Presbyterian Church near Bethel
Good Spring Presbyterian Church near Boswell
Homer's Chapel Presbyterian Church near Boswell
Kulli Tuklo Presbyterian Church near Broken Bow
Oka Achukma Presbyterian Church near Broken Bow
St. Matthew Presbyterian Church near Broken Bow
Mountain Fork Presbyterian Church near Eagletown
Big Lick Presbyterian Church near Smithville
Nanih Chito Presbyterian Church near Smithville
Spring Hill Presbyterian Church near Honobia
Sandy Creek Presbyterian Church near Filmore
Buffalo Presbyterian Church near Watson
Luksokla Presbyterian Church near Wright City
St. John Presbyterian Church near Wright City

If you can be of any assistance with this information it would be greatly appreciated. I am speaking with members of these churches and also am in contact with the Choctaw Agency Churches Administrative Council.

**Marcus R. Barber
MBarber624@aol.com**

Bishinik brings surprise

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank the staff at the Bishinik for doing such a wonderful job. I live in San Bernardino, California, and I receive a Bishinik paper faithfully every month. I especially give thanks for the May 2007 issue!

I received my Bishinik paper on Friday, May 18. That day, I was rushing to get home to get ready for work. I changed clothes, grabbed my mail and off to work I went. While at work, things slowed down so I decided to read my Bishinik paper. When I opened it, I couldn't believe my eyes. I layed the paper down on the table and rubbed my eyes to see if I was seeing correctly. There on the front page was a picture of my great-grandmother, Callie Smith Gladney.

I recognized her without reading the article. I met her for the first time in August 1995. I haven't been able to go see my family in Oklahoma due to the cost of living and hardships. I ask for special prayers from the Choctaw Nation that I may be able to reunite with my family one day soon. May 18 was one of the most exciting days of my life and September 22, 2006, was another exciting day for me, when I was able to meet Chief Gregory E. Pyle. Thank you all for helping me to see brighter days.

**Crystal M. Smith
San Bernardino, California**



Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Jones Academy Hartshorne, Oklahoma

Positions Available

- * Home-Living Assistants (Full Time & Part Time)
- * Cook
- * Recreation Aide
- * Special Education Paraprofessional
- * Teacher Assistant/PE Coordinator
- * Agricultural Aide (Full Time/Part Time)

*All Applicants

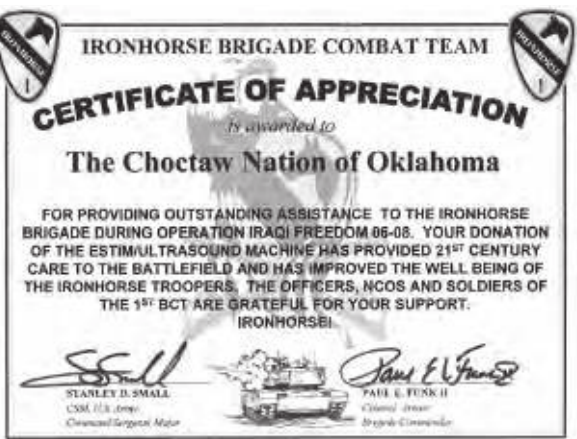
Good interpersonal and communication skills
Experience in caring for and educating children/young adults
Ability to supervise children/young adults
Good organizational skills
Motivated & Dependable
Have a valid driver's license

To Apply:

Send resume and request employment application

Brad Spears Phone (918) 297-2518
Jones Academy (888) 767-2518
HCR 74, Box 102-5
Hartshorne, OK 74547 spears_brad@yahoo.com

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Tribal policies and procedures state that Native Americans will be given preference at initial hire.



Ironhorse Brigade sends certificate of appreciation



Thanks to all

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Words are inadequate to express our appreciation to our family and many friends for the prayers and love you shared during the loss of Jason, our son, brother, husband and dad. Thanks to our church family, Paris Church of God, the Bagwell Baptist Church and the many other church families for all you have done. A special thanks to Pastor Doug Holt and Pastor Pat Travis for the wonderful messages you ministered at the memorial service. Also a special thanks to Sandy Holt for the beautiful ministry in song. We also thank Fry & Gibbs Funeral Home for the professional job you performed arranging the funeral.

Jason was a very tender-hearted, loving, caring, ambitious young man. These characteristics cause many people to love him and respect him. Life on this earth will never be the same without Jason, but very soon we are looking forward to joining him in heaven.

Thanks to all his customers who patronized him in his business.

There were over 500 present at his memorial service.

**The family of Jason Wayne Wear
Don, Ruth, Julie, Tina**



Thanks to all

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to take the time to thank you and the Choctaw Nation for the help that I have recently received from the Tribe. When you think of the role of a Tribal Chief many things come to mind. A Chief takes care of his people, looking out for the young of the tribe. He wants the tribal members to be educated and self-sufficient and a productive member of the tribe. A Chief also attends to the needs of each member. I feel that you fit this role of a Chief and a leader above expectations! Thank you for being the caretaker of the Tribe and I look forward to having you as our Chief of the Great Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for years to come.

**Leonard D. Kirkes
Tuskahoma, Oklahoma**



OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance

has a new website that they would like everyone to visit
www.okchoctaws.org

A note of appreciation

Dear Assistant Chief Gary Batton and Choctaw Nation,

Just wanted to give my sincere appreciation for the assistance that was rendered to my brother, James "Rod" Taumby. He is a diabetic amputee and fell and broke his hip in May. It has given us hope for healing. This would not have been made possible without the persistence of Beth Alexander and the personal attention of Assistant Chief Gary Batton. Thank you Choctaw Nation.

**Frances Carney
Tulsa, Oklahoma**

Choctaw Language Free Online Classes

Open entry registration will begin on July 1 for the Fall 2007 Semester

Go to:

www.choctawschool.com

**to access the registration page, list of required materials, times and dates of classes offered
1-800-522-6170, ext. 5163 or 2102**

Gregory E. Pyle The Official **Gary Batton**
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If you are receiving more than one BISHINIK at your home or if your address needs changed, we would appreciate hearing from you.

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BISHINIK® 2007



Rewarding students for excellence in academics

From the Desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is beginning an Education Incentive Program to reward students grades 2 through 12 who show an ex-

cellence in their schoolwork and attendance.

Beginning at the end of the fall semester, students who are members of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma may apply to receive awards from the tribe if they have all A's on

their report card, all A's and B's, or Perfect Attendance.

In addition to a Certificate of Recognition, an incentive gift will be given to each student.

This new program will encourage the academic success

of Choctaws by providing students 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.

Honored to represent Choctaw tribal members



From the Desk of Assistant Chief Gary Batton

The past month as Assistant Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has been full of awesome experiences, and one of the most humbling was a recent trip to the Capitol of our Nation. Chief Pyle allowed me to represent him and our tribal citizens at a signing ceremony with leaders from several other tribes at the Oval Office with President George W. Bush.

Entering the White House with District 2 Congressman Dan Boren was awe-inspiring. Walking the halls of the home and workplace of the most powerful leader in the world, I gave thanks for the men and women in the Armed Services. It is because of them that we have the most important

leader in the free world. I am sure my eyes were as big as the saucers in the China Room as I soaked in the sights inside the White House. I truly enjoyed looking at the historic decorations that I had seen pictures of and read about as we passed the doorways and rooms on the way to the Oval Office.

President Bush spent time visiting with members of all the tribes present and joked that the Oval Office was named because it was "round." The legislation that he signed in our presence was HR 1676, the Native American Home Ownership Opportunity Act of 2007, which reauthorizes the Section 184 Loan Guarantee Program administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Congressman Boren introduced the legislation earlier this year. There are 24 tribes in Oklahoma who participate in the program, including the five tribes invited to the ceremony at the White House.



Associated Press Photo

President George W. Bush signs the Native American Home Ownership Opportunity Act of 2007 in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington. Present for the signing are Seminole Nation Chief Enoch Kelly Haney, Cherokee Nation Chief Chad Smith, Congressman Dan Boren, Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby, Congressman Tom Cole, Choctaw Nation Assistant Chief Gary Batton and Creek Nation Chief A.D. Ellis.



Choctaw students honored at Southeastern University

On May 11, Southeastern Oklahoma State University and Choctaw Nation's Scholarship Advisement Program hosted an Honor's Reception for Choctaw students. These students had to graduate with a 3.0 cumulative gpa or higher in order to qualify.

Chief Gregory E. Pyle congratulated and commended the honorees by draping the

Honorary Graduation Stole over each student at the ceremony. SOSU President Jesse O. Snowden praised each of the distinguished honorees on their accomplishments.

Also pictured are Choctaw Nation Executive Education Director Joy Culbreath, Choctaw Nation Director of Scholarship Advisement Jo McDaniel, SOSU Native American

Counselor Chris Wesberry, and students Crystal Battles-Flint, Amanda Beaubien, Michael Campo, Hailey Coe, Geron Crowder, Wanda Finley, Cassandra Herring, Eric House, Leonard Howard, Hayley Jones, Julie Kitchell, Rebecca Mills, Jeremy Reynolds, Pamela Ruth-erford, Carrie Scrivner, Arlene Stiles, Jennifer Wallace, Deidre Wesley and Jessica Zachry.

We are to let our light shine

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is growing both in population and economically. The Choctaws have had a rich Christian heritage even prior to the Indian Removal Act in the early 1830s.

Will you continue to pray for the spiritual life of our nations to grow, remembering "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." (Psalms 33:12).

A nation can rise no higher, can be no stronger, and be no better than the individuals which compose that nation.

There is nothing wrong with the nation, the trouble lies with

the nation's people. If the nation is bad, then the people are bad. If the nation is confused the people within the nation are confused. If this is a godless nation then the people are godless.

Today people are looking for joy in life and I would like to share with you and challenge you with a joy that can be yours.

This joy can be yours as you lead a person to accept Jesus Christ as his or her personal savior – this could be your loved one, your friend, or anyone. To lead someone to Jesus Christ and help him or her to grow in Him is the joy of Christian service.

It has been my privilege to see many sad troubled faces changed into a glowing testimony of happiness and satisfaction in the Lord. Only Jesus Christ can perform this kind of transformation and this is a living proof of the transforming power of God.

Along with the joy that can be received in the Lord's service now, there is another wonderful promise recorded in the Book of Daniel 12:3: "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."

This is a testimony of an old man and one who had the richest and deepest experience of any man living on the earth at the time.

Daniel was taken to Babylon when he was a young man, some Bible students think he was not more than 20 years old.

If anyone had said, when this young Hebrew was carried away into captivity, he would outrank all the mighty men, probably no one would have believed it. Yet, for 500 years no man whose life is recorded in history shone as did this man. He outshone Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, Cyrus and Darius and all the princes and mighty men of his day.

We hear and often say that the mission field we are laboring in is hard, that it is a difficult one. But think of the field in which Daniel had to work. He was not only a slave but he was held captive by a nation that hated the Jews, the Hebrews, Israelites. He did know the language, he was among idolaters – people who worshipped other gods.

Yet, Daniel began at once to shine, he took a stand for God from the very first and stood with Him through his whole life. He gave his life as a youth to God and he continued faithful right on until his ministry was finished. Notice

Chaplain's Corner



Rev. Bertram Bobb Tribal Chaplain

that all those who have made a deep impression on the world have shone most brightly have been men who lived in a dark day.

Look at Joseph, he was sold as a slave into Egypt by the Ishmaelites. Yet he took his God with him into captivity. He remained true to the last, he did not give up his faith because he had been taken away from home and placed among idolaters. He stood firm and God stood by him.

Look at Moses who turned his back upon the treasures of Egypt and identified himself with his despised and down-trodden nation, choosing rather

to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. If a man ever had a hard field, it was Moses, yet he shone brightly, he never proved unfaithful to his God.

Talk about a mission field being a hard one, see how the Apostle Paul shone for God as he went out, the first missionary to a heathen world telling them of the God whom he served, and Who had sent His Son to die a cruel death in order to save the world.

Men reviled him and his teaching, they laughed him to scorn when he spoke of the crucified one but he went on preaching the gospel of the Son of God. He was regarded as a poor tent maker by the great and mighty ones of his day but no one can tell the names of his persecutors or of those who lived at that time, unless their names happened to be associated with his and they were brought into contact with him.

Now the fact is, all men like to shine. We may as well acknowledge this fact. See how men struggle to get into the front ranks. Everyone wants to outshine his neighbor or his competitor. There are very few who shine in the world.

But in the Kingdom of God, the very least and the weakest may shine, if they will. Not only one can obtain the prize but all may have it, if they will. How empty and short are the glory and the prize of this world.

If we are wise, we will live for God and for eternity. We will forget ourselves and will care nothing for the honor and glory of this world. If any man, woman or child by a godly life live an example can win one soul to God their life will not have been a failure.

God has left us down here to shine. This earth, if we are a Christian, is not our home, our home is in heaven.

Jesus Christ was the Light of the world, but men put out that Light. Before Jesus died on the cross, He said to His disciples: "You are my witnesses, go forth and carry the gospel to the perishing nations of the earth." (Acts 1:8).

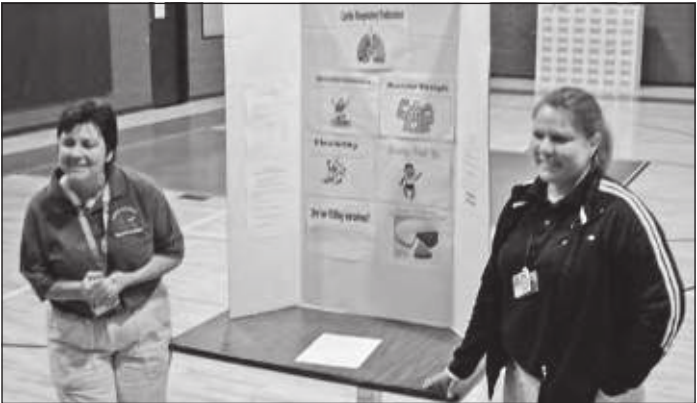
So God has called us to shine just as much as Daniel was sent into Babylon to shine. We are to let our light shine. It does not say to make your light shine. You do not have to make your light shine, all we have to do is to let it shine.

Pray for America. Pray for our Spiritual leaders.

CHOCTAW NATION VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

AUGUST	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	A Vocational Rehabilitation representative will be available at the locations listed. A representative is available Monday thru Friday 8-4:30 except for holidays at the Hugo office.			1 Durant 10 am-12 pm	2	3 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	4
	5	6 Antlers by appt only	7	8	9	10 Broken Bow 10 am-2 pm	11
	12	13 Wright City by appt only	14 Durant by appt only	15	16	17 Poteau 11:30 am-1 pm	18
	19	20 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	21 Crowder and McAlester by appt only	22 Stigler by appt only McAlester 10 am-2 pm	23	24 Bethel by appt only	25
	26	27 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm	28	29 Atoka 10 am-2 pm Coalgate 10:30-1:30	30	31	

Jones Academy holds Health Fair



Choctaw Nation staff with Project Child, Healthy Lifestyles, REACH, Community Health Nurses, Hospital Public Relations and Diabetes Wellness Center provided valuable information to elementary students at Jones Academy. Each program educated students on healthy lifestyle habits. Jones Academy would like to thank all Choctaw Nation staff and programs represented who provided a fun-filled afternoon for the students.



To the Youth of the Nation: The media and tobacco use

By Danielle Adams

As a person of society, you are reading this. As a person of society, I am writing this. Our society is pressured every day even when you do not immediately recognize pressures that are there. They are there. When you are a teenager as I am, you feel pressures from everywhere, not only your peers but the media is a big influence. The media persuades us in all ways of life, believe it or

not, and whether you choose to comply is your choice. For instance, media uses tobacco commercials, power walls, TV programs, and movies to sell a drug to not only adult viewers but kids my age and younger.

Did you know the average age for children who start a life-long addiction is 13 for smoking tobacco, which is just as addicting as cocaine and heroin and has the same withdrawal symptoms such as irritability, insomnia and nervousness. The

average age of smokeless tobacco users is 12 years old! It is a fact most new tobacco users are adolescents, not adults.

Do you smoke or chew tobacco? If so why do you think you do it? Do you believe that it calms you down or relieves stress? Truthfully, the nicotine in tobacco is a stimulant. Stimulants speed your body up! In addition, no other drug keeps a user as busy as smoking. Wow! So now, you are thinking if it speeds up my body maybe I'll

lose weight. Have you ever thought or heard that "smoking will help me lose weight" or "I will gain weight if I quit smoking?" In reality statistics show only one-third of new smokers or ex-smokers gain weight and the other two-thirds either stay the same or lose it! Did you know that the idea of smoking equaling weight loss comes from tobacco company advertising campaigns. What better way to get a person's attention than to say you will

look better and lose weight easily if you use our product but it really does neither. Why are most women's cigarettes called "slim" or "light?"

When you walk into a convenience store or gas station do you ever happen to notice the great power walls of tobacco with childish amusing flavors such as grape, cherry or peach – flavors you would find in a candy store. Cherry skoal is for someone who likes the taste of candy. Children like candy.

Please talk to your children. If you're an adult and you smoke, it's not too late to quit. By quitting now you can reduce the years of damage you put on your body. Please don't wait for your doctor to tell you that you have a smoke-related disease, heart complications or lung cancer. Do not be told you only have two weeks to live. "Time goes you say ah alas time stays we go." – Dobson For more facts click on to www.okswat.com.

Great summer workouts

By Lynn Bode

With warm weather season now in full gear, exercisers want to take their workouts outside and break out of their indoor fitness ruts. But, when temperatures reach record highs and humidity levels soar, traditional outdoor workouts become less appealing. So how can you stay cool while still enjoying outdoor physical activity? One word – water.

Water exercises are the perfect way to work out under the sun without overheating. You can get a total body workout without even breaking a sweat! And don't worry if you aren't a veteran swimmer. Aquatic workouts aren't limited to just swimming. There are many other forms of pool exercises. You don't even have to be a regular exerciser to try aquatic fitness. One of the great things about working out in the water is that even fitness novices can easily perform many of the moves.

It's also an excellent fitness choice for all ages, from the very young to seniors. Water exercise is a very good way to burn calories, improve your strength and flexibility, tone up, improve your cardiovascular system, and just get more fit overall. And, the types of workouts are practically endless. Most land exercises can be modified and re-created in water. Other benefits include:

- lower injury risk
- less sweating
- challenges your body in a very different way than it is accustomed to
- refreshing way to work out
- water provides natural resistance so no equipment is needed
- can increase/decrease intensity (difficulty) simply by alternating between shallow and deep areas
- good low-impact exercise choice for pregnant women
- reduces joint compression and downward gravity pull (in other words – easier on the joints)
- even people who can't exercise on land can often exercise in the water
- excellent rehabilitation exercise for people recovering from an injury
- less stress on bones and muscles
- great option for people with arthritis

For more information call

Choctaw Nation Wellness Education / REACH 2010 at 800-349-7026, ext. 6044 or 6958.



Youth Fitness Camp gets visit from Power Team

On June 5, the Choctaw Nation Tribal Grounds were alive with activity. The annual REACH 2010 Youth Fitness Camp for 8- to 12-year-olds was held. Kids from around Choctaw Nation were transported in to learn about fitness and good nutrition, while engaging in hands-on learning and physical activity games.

Nutrition was taught by Raina Sparks, CNHCC dietician. Strength training was taught by Jason Carter, CNHCC Pharmacist, and Richard Brantley, CNHCC Physical Therapist. Additional games were led by Kim Cripps and Ambre Curran.

That afternoon the kids got to see a world class performance of strength, power, speed and motivation by two members of The Power Team, John Kopta and Matt Dopson. John Kopta stands 6'0" and weighs 250 pounds. He has been with The Power Team for over 20 years and holds the world's record for breaking blocks of ice with his head. Matt Dopson stands 6'3" and weighs 305 pounds and leg presses over 2,000 pounds.

The Power Team has performed in over 25,000 schools across the United States over the past 25 years. The Power Team has been on "Walker Texas Ranger," ABC, CBS, and Extreme Sports Network to name a few. The kids were dazzled as the Power Team blew up water bottles, broke baseball bats behind their backs and on their thighs, exploded pop cans, bent metal with their hands, and between their teeth, lifted and spun the kids while they held onto a metal bar, and broke cement blocks with their heads. Their message to the kids was to live a life of excellence, make the right choices, set goals, resist peer pressure, overcome the past, academic achievement, respect authority, and be aware of the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

The REACH 2010/Wellness Program would like to thank everyone who helped with the camp, the presenters and their assistants, transportation, maintenance department, Core Capacity, DWC, Happy Heart CVD, Preventive Health and anyone else who helped make this camp possible. A special thank you to The Power Team for making this a memorable camp.



Act will help ensure Oklahoma students with diabetes are safe at school

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) applauds the recent signing of the "Diabetes Management in Schools Act," legislation that will help ensure that Oklahoma public schools are responsive to the medical and educational needs of students with diabetes. The ADA, including volunteers throughout the state, was a leading supporter of the bipartisan legislation, which will allow school personnel to be trained in diabetes care appropriate for the student and allow students

with diabetes to self manage their disease on school property. Diabetes management is accomplished with blood glucose monitoring, administration of insulin and other medications, as well as proper nutrition and exercise. Many children are able to handle their own daily care, while some may need adult assistance. Representative Doug Cox (R-Grove), was the original author of the legislation, which also had the support of Speaker Lance Car-gill (R-Harrah), Senate Presi-

dent Pro Tem Mike Morgan (D-Stillwater), and Co-President Pro Tem Glenn Coffee (R – Oklahoma City).

"It is vital that all Oklahomans unite to manage, treat, educate and cure this disease. The only way to avoid, or minimize, potentially costly and deadly diabetes complications is to aggressively and proactively manage the disease 24/7," said Melissa DeShazo-Atnip, a parent of a child with type 1 diabetes and the Co-Chair of the ADA's Fam-

ily Resource Network in Oklahoma City. "Diabetes does not magically go away at the steps of the schoolhouse. Because of this legislation, our children will finally feel medically safe at school and parents will have peace of mind knowing their kids truly are being cared for. Additionally, school personnel will have the training, tools, and resources they need to welcome our children with diabetes into their classrooms."

The Diabetes Management in Schools Act establishes that

a diabetes medical management plan be developed by the student's health care team so his or her needs and the school's responsibilities are clearly stated. The bill states that while the school nurse has the central role in the provision and coordination of diabetes-related care at school, school personnel who wish to volunteer as "volunteer diabetes care assistants" will also be trained to provide supplemental diabetes care, particularly when the school nurse is unavailable.

Additionally, the bill ensures that schools are open toward blood glucose monitoring, offering students the ability to monitor in the classroom or wherever they happen to be. The bill also addresses insulin administration, whether it is performed by the student or a properly trained school staff member.

For more information please call the American Diabetes Association at 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383) or visit www.diabetes.org.

Becoming a healthier family

Involving the whole family is the best way to promote better eating habits and healthy activities for your children. A whole-family approach simply means that everyone – parents and kids alike – works together as a team to achieve good health and well being. As with any team, there’s a leader or coach – and that’s you!

- **Lead by example.** Adult family members are important role models. Talk about why you eat fruit as a snack, take an exercise class, or go for walks.
- **Start ‘em young.** Don’t wait until your child is at an unhealthy weight. It’s much easier to maintain a healthy weight than to lose pounds later.
- **Be active together.** Make it usual for the family to be ac-

tive. Being active as a family allows kids to expend energy in a positive way, and adults reap the health benefits, too.

- **Cook together.** It may be impractical to do it every day, but invite kids into the process of preparing food. They’ll gain an understanding of healthy ingredients and older kids will enjoy having the authority to select and prepare foods they like and will be more likely to eat what they’ve made. It may even inspire them to make healthy choices on their own.
 - **Eat together.** Eating a meal as a family sends the right messages about nutrition. Kids will see their parents eating healthy food and may be inspired to try new foods. They will also come to see mealtime as a time for socializing and sharing.
- Choctaw Nation Healthy Lifestyles

WIC Family meals: More than just eating together

When we and our parents were growing up, we didn’t get called twice to the dinner table. Our Moms let us know that family meals were important and we’d better be there on time. That was our connection time as a family. With our busy schedules today, we must work very hard not to lose this “family” time.

Nothing earth-shaking has to happen during family meals. We can talk, laugh and clean up spills that happen. We can share our day, and smile at each other. Meal time can be those tiny threads of togetherness that weave us into a family.



Tips for Making Family Meals Easier

- » Prepare meals for the week on Sunday. Freeze them for quick meals throughout the week.
- » Ask older children to wash vegetables. They will enjoy eating them more if they helped prepare them.
- » Use the crock-pot to slow-cook stews, soups and roasts. Come home to great smells and tastes.
- » Kids love picnics anytime, even in the winter. Spread a blanket on the floor. (Hint: Even left-over food tastes great when served picnic style.)
- » Turn off the TV so you can focus on your family!

Start your own traditions and celebrate the simple pleasure of eating together again. We all want to be “families that care enough to enjoy each other every day.”

Courtesy of Mass.gov/wic



With the birth of Kayden Lynn Nichole Harvey, the family can proudly say they have five generations of Choctaw women. Pictured clockwise from top left are Cheryl Hudson, Sharon Huelsman, Teresa Harvey, Kayden Harvey and La Rieta “Bille” Koos.

NURSERY NEWS

Kayden Lynn Nichole Harvey

Kayden Lynn Nichole Harvey was born April 26, 2007, in Tulsa. She is the daughter of Teresa Harvey, granddaughter of Cheryl Hudson, great-granddaughter of Sharon Huelsman and great-great-granddaughter of LaRieta “Billie” Koos and is a descendant of Choctaw original enrollees Ida McCaull and W.E. Anderson.



Latrista Minor

On February 5, 2007, the Burk and Thompson family was blessed with the arrival of the daughter of Theresa and Coyal II, weighing 7 pounds 6 ounces and measuring 17 inches long. She is the granddaughter of Juanita and the great-granddaughter of Caroline. All are of Paris, Texas.



Choctaw Nation WIC Breastfeeding Classes

Class One	Location	Class Two
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	Kimberly Lain	
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July 10	Atoka Choctaw Community Center 10 a.m.-12 noon	July 17
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July 19	McAlester Breastfeeding Room in WIC office in new clinic 10 a.m.-12 noon	August 2
---------	--	----------

August 7	Durant Durant WIC office 1601 N. Washington 10 a.m.-12 noon	August 14
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August 28	Atoka Choctaw Community Center 10 a.m.-12 noon	September 11
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September 6	McAlester Breastfeeding Room in WIC office in new clinic 10 a.m.-12 noon	September 20
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	Ami Richards	
--	---------------------	--

July 10	Broken Bow Breastfeeding Room in WIC office in new clinic 10 a.m.-12 noon	July 17
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July 24	Hugo Choctaw Nation WIC office 10 a.m.-12 noon	July 31
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August 7	Broken Bow Breastfeeding Room in WIC office in new clinic 10 a.m.-12 noon	August 14
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August 21	Hugo Choctaw Nation WIC office 10 a.m.-12 noon	August 28
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	Erin Boman	
--	-------------------	--

July 19	Poteau Choctaw Community Center 10 a.m.-12 noon	July 26
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August 2	Poteau Choctaw Community Center 10 a.m.-12 noon	August
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	Talihina 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month in WIC office at the hospital. 10 s.m.-12 p.m.	
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Kimberly Lain, CBE, CLC
Bryan, Atoka, Coal and Pittsburg County
1-800-522-6170, ext. 2507
Erin Boman, CBE, CLC
Haskell, LeFlore and Latimer County
918-567-7000, ext. 6792
Ami Richards, CBE, CLC
Pushmataha, Choctaw and McCurtain County
Broken Bow 580-584-2793

Choctaw Nation WIC WOMEN, INFANT AND CHILDREN

Serving the Choctaw Nation at 15 sites

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

Summertime health safety for expecting mothers and children

By Brandi Smallwood
AFL Outreach Worker

Summertime is here and with it comes hot days and lots of fun in the sun. The heat that comes along with those summer days can cause many health concerns for children and expecting women such as dehydration and overexposure to the sun. However there are some simple steps that we can take to protect ourselves and our children while still enjoying all the activities that summer brings.

Dehydration and heat exhaustion are the most common problems caused by exposure to the hot weather. Dehydration is especially a concern for women who are expecting as it can cause preterm labor or an increase in the baby’s heartbeat. Some of the warning signs of dehydration include thirst, dry or chapped lips, fatigue and constipation, dizziness, nausea, and muscle cramps. Infants are also at a higher risk for dehydration since their bodies cannot regulate the rate at which they perspire as well as adults and older children.

In order to prevent dehydration we should drink at least eight to ten glasses (64-80 ounces) of water a day and stay inside with an air conditioner or fan during the hottest time of the day from noon until 5 p.m. If you must be outside, remember to wear loose fitting, light colored clothes and drink plenty of water. You can also carry a spray bottle with you to cool yourself down when you feel hot or apply ice to your pulse points such as your wrists, forehead and the back of your neck.

Overexposure of the skin to the sun is another major cause of damage from summertime activities. Since babies have very delicate skin they are at the highest risk of skin damage from the sun. It is thought that the amount of sun that a young child is exposed to can be a determining factor in their chances of developing skin cancer later in life. Therefore, infants should be kept out of the sun

as much as possible. When going outside babies should be dressed in loose-fitting clothing and large hats to provide shade for their face and neck. Infant safe sunscreen of at least an SPF 30 should be applied to any exposed areas at least 20 minutes before going outside and then every 30 minutes thereafter. Sunburn is even more likely when at the beach due to the reflection of the sun off the water and the wind. Children and adults should apply sunscreen before exposure to the sun and then every 30 minutes thereafter. Dressing children in colored cotton T-shirts can also help cut their risk of sunburn.

Exposure to the sun can cause problems other than just skin damage for pregnant women. Swelling of the feet and ankles is a normal part of late pregnancy for most women. However increased heat can cause excessive swelling if activity is not regulated appropriately. When swelling occurs, rest your feet and legs at an elevated level above you heart for 20-30 minutes. If you notice swelling in your face, eyes and/or hands contact your physician as this could be a sign of a potentially dangerous form of high blood pressure know as pre-eclampsia that occurs during pregnancy. Preventative actions for swelling include: decreasing the amount of salt you consume, drinking plenty of fluids, wearing comfortable loose-fitting clothing and resting with your feet elevated whenever possible.

Just remember to take care or your body when spending time outside. Follow these simple precautions to avoid your risk of dehydration, skin damage, and swelling. Have fun and enjoy your summer because it will be gone before we know it.

The Choctaw Nation Adolescent Family Life (AFL) Project is an innovative program focused on pregnant teenagers, 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 external agencies.

Bad for your heart, bad for your brain

Medical doctors working with the Choctaw Nation have found evidence that having diabetes and high blood pressure can be bad for brain health. In a study sponsored by the Alzheimer’s Association and the National Institute on Aging, doctors from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center found that members of the Choctaw Nation diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease more often had diabetes and high blood pressure than did Choctaw elders who did not have Alzheimer’s disease.

Alzheimer’s disease is the most common cause of severe memory loss in elders. The early signs of the disease are very similar to normal aging – a little trouble remembering names and slowness in learning and recalling what a person already knows. As the disease progresses, it becomes difficult to remember the names of

familiar people such as family members. Persons with the disease ask the same questions over and over again because they can’t remember the answers they were just given. Eventually, persons with Alzheimer’s disease lose the ability to find their way around and to dress themselves.

The research done in the Choctaw Nation suggests that Choctaws who keep their blood pressure and blood sugar in good control are probably less likely to develop severe memory problems than those who do not. Avoiding weight gain and regular exercise are two good ways to prevent both high blood pressure and diabetes.

The Choctaw Nation offers treatment of memory problems in elders. For information, contact the Choctaw Nation Memory Clinic at 866-800-6514.

PEOPLE YOU KNOW



Brothers and sisters join to wish dad a happy Father’s Day and birthday

Edgar Stevens Sr. of Boswell will turn 73 on July 20. His family celebrated with him on June 17 to honor him on Father’s Day and for his birthday. Edgar Stevens and the late Etta Stevens had 11 children which include as pictured, from left, Edgar Stevens Jr., Mark Stevens, Betty Logue, Rebecca Acuna, Anita Stevens, Ricky Stevens, Wanda Vanderveen, and Vickey Allen. Seated with Mr. Stevens is Rita Vinyard and Peggy Sanders. Not pictured is the late Harry Phillips. Edgar also has 26 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. He is a proud member of the Assembly of God Church of Boswell and enjoys singing and listening to Choctaw Hymns.



Phase 1 complete

Congratulations to the Crowder Choctaw Language Community Class for just completing Phase 1 of the Choctaw Language. Pictured above are, in front, Reanna Allen; Language Teachers Ray and Ann Tobey, Lleah Allen, Regina Sherman; Language Director Richard Adams; Martin and Frances Killingsworth, Kyle Sherman, Charles and Vannesa Allen. Not pictured was Margaret Yocco.

Brittanie is salutatorian

Brittanie is the 2007 salutatorian at Tupelo High School. She is the daughter of Buck and Connie Williams and the granddaughter of John and Betty Edwards of Coalgate, and the late W.C. and Stella Williams of Coalgate. She has one sister, Amanda Frederick from Allen. Brittanie is graduating with a 4.29 grade average and will be attending nursing school at Murray State College in the fall.



Lansdell going to world series 9-U AA Baseball

Hunter Griffin Lansdell is going to the world series in Pensacola, Florida, July 15-22. He plays pitcher and first base. He would like to thank Choctaw Nation for all the support they have given him in helping make his dream come true.



Allen earns degree

Taryn D. Allen has recently graduated from Bacone College with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Business Administration. Taryn is the daughter of Joyce and Lyle Deere of Muskogee and Robert W. Allen of Bristow. Maternal grandparents are Narcissa Wilson and N.B. Moore. Maternal great-grandparents are original full-blood Choctaw enrollees Carrie Johnson and Noah Carlo Wilson. Taryn is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and is presently working as an accountant at Creek Nation Casino.



Head Start graduate

Aubri Lynn Brauning graduated May 23 from Seminole Nation Mekusuke Mission Head Start. During the school year in December 2006, Aubri was selected to be Queen of Head Start for the school year 2006-2007. She played her first season of T-ball this year. Aubri Lynn is the daughter of Justin Brauning and Amber Coon of Seminole, the granddaughter of Jimmy and Kay Brauning of Bowlegs and Jimmy and Susan Harjo of Seminole, she is the great-granddaughter of the late Charley “Sonny” Leader and Helan Leader of Bowlegs and Wayne and Nelmon Brauning of Seminole. Aubri is the great-great-granddaughter of Mary Lois Geer Clifford of Ada.



Jordan and Conner celebrate birthdays

Jordan celebrated his eighth birthday on February 6. His baby brother Conner, celebrated his first birthday on April 1. We celebrated on March 31 at Chuck E. Cheese’s. Their parents are Tereasa and Brian Janway of Cameron. Their maternal grandparents are Raymond and Mary Johnson, also of Cameron. Their paternal grandparents are Vernon and Liz Janway of Wellston and Barbara Flanary of Brookland, Arkansas.



Herman graduates

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Cacy Michelle Herman who recently graduated from State University of New York at Stony Brook. Herman received a Bachelo’s of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree with emphasis in Anthropology and History.

Little angel turns 1

Happy 1st birthday to Attisyn Jayde Herndon. Attisyn is the daughter of Jessica Herndon of Talihina. She is the granddaughter of Richard and Lodie Herndon of Talihina and Heidi Caywood of Watonga.



Countz graduates from Eastern Oklahoma State

Krystle Elaine Countz of Stuart has graduated from Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton. Ceremonies were held on the front lawn May 4. She majored in Elementary Education and will transfer to East Central University in Ada this summer to complete her studies.



She thanks the Choctaw Nation Higher Education Department for assisting with her studies as she was awarded the Choctaw Scholarship in 2005. She is proud to represent the Choctaw Tribe.

Krystle is the daughter of Pam and Eric West of Stuart and Jimmy and Donna Countz of Savanna. She is the fiance of Jeff Bennett of Savanna.

Grandparents include, Buck and Fances Jones, of Arpelar, Sue Countz, McCalester, Taylor and Barbara Countz, Indianola.

Great-grandparents include Mack Jones and Lorene McClen-don, Areplar. James Countz, Indianola. Roger and Leonda Shields of Stuart.

Krystle’s great-great-great-grandmother Beulah Abigale Mackey was an original enrollee.

Freeman graduates law school

On Saturday, May 5, the University of Tulsa School of Law announced that Candice Joan Freeman graduated with highest honor. She received The Order of the Curul Chair, Martin Fellows Smith Award, was President of Native American Law Students Association and Managing Editor, Energy Law Journals “year-in-review.” She also has a B.A. degree from Steven F. Austin University.



Candice is the great-grandaughter of original enrollee Ada Wilson Pugh. Her parents are Buck and April Freeman of League City, Texas and her grandparents are Alvin and Marilyn Moore of Octavia, Oklahoma.

Valerie earns degree

Valerie Celeste Webster of Fort Worth, Texas, graduated on May 14 from University of Texas at Arlington. She received a Bachelor’s of Science degree in kinesiology. Valerie is a descendant of Harrison Wood.



Happy birthday

Ty and Dally Warner would like to wish a belated birthday to their brother, Justin Warner, who celebrated his thirteenth birthday on June 1.



Justin is the son of Terrie Ann Parker Warner and a stepson to Clint Lane both of Commerce, Texas. He is the grandson to Mary and Bob Warner of Pecan Gap, Texas, and the late William Parker, formerly of Idabel, and the great-grandson of the late Harrison and Susan Parker of Cooper, Texas. All of Justin’s cousins wish him a happy birthday, too.

Jackson earns degree and gives special thanks

Kimberly Anne Jackson graduated from Gannon University, located in Erie, Pennsylvania, in May with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Legal Studies with a minor in English. Kimberly would like to thank the Choctaw Nation and the Department of Higher Education for their assistance during her college years at Gannon University. Kimberly recently accepted a position as a litigation paralegal in the area of medical malpractice with a well-established law firm in Erie. Kimberly thanks all for helping her achieve her goals.



Moffitt graduates from Stanford University

Joshua Gem Moffitt graduated June 17 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Management Science and Engineering. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Josh on his accomplishments.



Brother, sister birthday

Chance Wafford celebrated his seventh birthday on November 22 and his sister, Emma Wafford, celebrated her fifth birthday on January 15. They celebrated with friends and family. Proud parents are Scott and Katrina Wafford of Fort Gibson. Grandparents include Mike and Jo Ann Scantlen of Stigler, Martha Shipley of Fort Gibson and Dan Wafford of Fort Gibson.



Twins turn 11

Mahli and Bethanie Webster of Grant turned 11 on April 30. They are fraternal twins and both walked the Trail of Tears walk for the second year with their family this May.



Double celebration

Caroline Thompson celebrated her 90th birthday on February 20 and on Mother’s Day she had another special celebration. Caroline, aka Sarah, is a very special person. She loves her family, friends and fellow church members. She is a lady of joy and harmony, the mother of four girls and four boys and God has blessed her to have all eight. She would like to extend a special thank you to her nieces, nephews and cousins in the Oklahoma area. She would like them to know that she appreciates them keeping in touch.



Kobe turns 5

Happy birthday to Kobe Anderson from his Dad, Papa, Nana, Aunts and Uncles. Kobe will be five years old on July 30.



Lark graduates

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Codi Lynn Lark for earning a degree in Agricultural Business and Agricultural Economics at New Mexico State University.

Lucas continues educational success in college

Ellyott Lucas has completed her first year of college. She attends Oklahoma City University. Ellyott graduated from Holdenville High School in May 2006. She was one of five valedictorians maintaining straight A’s for 13 years. She received the Bill and Melinda Gates 10 Year Scholarship, an American Indian Scholarship and the OCU tuition waiver scholarship. This scholarship is in recognition of Ellyott’s academic performance and involvement in extracurricular activities.



Ellyott maintained a good grade average while working part-time, and was voted Employee of the Month. She is enrolled in summer classes at OCU.

The family of Ellyott Lucas would like to say that they are very proud of her.

Birthdays celebrated

Johnla Horton Roe recently celebrated birthdays of two of her sons, David Roe, 53, and Danny Roe, 52. She also celebrated birthdays with her grandson, Logan Callagan, 3, and her great-grandson, Jacob Price, 2. We are all very proud of our Choctaw heritage and enjoy the Bishinik newspaper. My mother, Grace Wallace Horton, was an original enrollee.



Look who turns 14

Sean Micheal Smith turned 14 on June 30. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith of Bakersfield. They wish him a happy birthday.

Rita turns 65

Aged 65 on July 5, 2007, Naomi “Rita” Payton Phillips says, “when the U.S. government says that I am old, I must accept the fact that I am old.” Birthday greetings from family throughout Oklahoma and the Choctaw Nation.



Crum celebrates birthday

Robert William Crum celebrated his 13th birthday on June 2. He is the son of Vicki Smith. Mom, brother Todd, and Grandma want to wish Robert a happy birthday.



Ursula gets diploma

Ursula Nancy Villarreal graduated from Sam Houston High School in Arlington, Texas, on May 25. Ursula will now go on to pursue her degree in nursing and sign language. Her family would like to give her best wishes for the future.



Nickolas turns 1

Nickolas was a few days old when this picture was taken, holding him is his big granny, Susie. We would like to wish Nickolas Ray Mendoza, a happy first birthday on June 2.



Congrats to graduate

Congratulations to Christopher L. Cruz on a job well done. Christopher graduated from Jones Academy May 14 and had a birthday on May 16. Everyone is so proud of you.



Guess who’s four

Tryston Lane Ingle will turn four on July 22. He has big plans for a constuction worker party to celebrate his special day. Tryston is the son of Larry and Michelle Ingle of Summerfield, the grandson of Melanie Morris and Larry Ingle Sr. Happy birthday from all of us.





Family has special reunion

This is the family of Dortha Mae Cobb Nickels, 79, of Amarillo, Texas. The whole family gathered in Amarillo on Memorial Day weekend to take this picture. The picture includes her three daughters, Linell Carter of Amarillo, Charlotte Smith of Oklahoma City, and Freda Nixon of Durant and their children and grandchildren. Dortha’s mother was Irene Victoria Gardner Cobb, her grandfather was Rudolphus Canten Gardner of Bennington.



Wilson honored with prestigious award

David Wilson, conference superintendent for the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Phillips Theological Seminary at the Oklahoma United Methodist Annual Conference in Oklahoma City, May 30.

Jones Academy students making a difference

Two sixth grade Jones Academy students: Audrea Ketcher and Britton Williams won the Go Breakfast Challenge. Each sixth grade student was given the opportunity to create a healthy well-balanced breakfast menu. Community Dietitian Raina Sparks and Kitchen Staff Supervisor Margaret Allen chose winners for the Go Breakfast Challenge. Student’s menus were judged on using at least three major food groups from the food guide pyramid, creativeness, portion control, preparation, and color. Sparks stated, “I am very pround of all my students, they have achieved so much this year, I feel like they are making a positive effect on their lives and others.”



Debra gets inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

Debra C. Hood was inducted into the Mu Chi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Connors State College on April 26. Hood is majoring in Nursing, is the daughter of Webb and Corene Rouell of Muskogee and the late Ona and Zena Wood of Keota and is married to Bruce Hood of Tahlequah. In order for Debra to be eligible for membership she had to be in the top 20 percent of the class and must maintain high academic standing during college.

Thomas graduates magna cum laude

Holly Lynn Thomas graduated magna cum laude from Oklahoma State University on May 5, 2007, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in marketing and management. Holly was also selected as an Outstanding Senior of the university and one of the Top 10 graduates of the Spears School of Business. Holly is the daughter of Rex and Deborah Thomas of Edmond, the granddaughter of Doyle Davis and Wyota Earl Davis of Oklahoma City and the great-granddaughter of Helen Amelia Stanley Earl, an original enrollee. She is employed by Eli Lilly as a pharmaceutical sales representative. Holly would like to express her deepest appreciation to the Choctaw Nation for their generous support during her collegiate years.



Blaine turns the big 4

We would like to wish Blaine Malachi Dale Standridge a Happy birthday. He turned 4 on June 24. He is the son of Crystal Harley and Ronald Standridge. He also has two sisters Chelsey and Ronica Standridge all from Broken Bow.



Alicia celebrates birthday

Happy birthday to Alicia Salina Fink, who turned 10 on June 17. Alicia will be in the fifth grade at Southern Hills Elementary in Oklahoma City. She carries a 3.9 GPA and enjoys art, music, reading, and science. Her love for art won her first place in 2006 at the Oklahoma City Public Schools Native American Student Services Art Show. She loves playing with her dog, Sammy Ruddle, roller-skating, Girl Scouts and practicing her faith at St. James the Great Catholic Church in Oklahoma City. Alicia is the daughter of Anna Maria Fink, granddaughter of R. Don Fink and great-niece of Lonnie R. Fink of Oklahoma City. She is the great-granddaughter of Lon R. Fink, great-granddaughter of the late Anna Jo Fink and the great-great-granddaughter of the late Effie Calvert of Atoka.



Lavan earns college degree

Thank you Choctaw Nation for your monetary support during my college endeavors. Tiffany Lavan, the great-great-great-great granddaughter of George Washington Harkins, recently graduated from the University of San Diego with a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies and a minor in International Relations. Tiffany plans to take some time off and travel before she returns back to school to persue her Master’s in Geography.



Britton graduated from the Metro State University

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Courtney Dawn Britton of Poteau. Courtney graduated in May from the State University of Denver with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, with emphasis in computer generated artwork for printing and a minor in management.



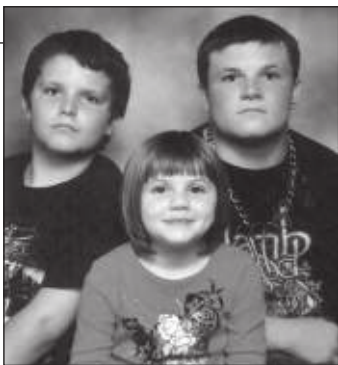
Rose earns diploma

Stephanie Paige Rose graduated from Burleson High School on May 30. She is the daughter of Mike and Rhonda Rose, also of Burleson. She will be attending college at the University of Texas in Denton. All of the family wish to let her know how proud we all are of her, she is very talented and gifted and we are blessed to have her in our lives. Good luck from mom, dad, sister, and everyone else.



Birthday wishes

Happy birthday to Zachery, 15, Corey, 12, and Sierra Mitchell, 6. They are the great-great-grandchildren of original enrollee, the late Claude and Maude Paddock of Armstrong, the late C.W. Mitchell of Durant, Lorenda Mitchell of Durant, and Cris Brooks of Amarillo. They are the great-grandchildren of Aliene Waffle of Lone Wolf, the late Bill Edwards of Durant. Grandparents include Freddie and Linda Mitchell of Mill Creek, Mike and Linda Mackey of Amarillo, and David and Sonja Hash of Sherman. The proud parents are Heath and Elisa Mitchell of Durant and Amber Elmore of Austin.



Holders celebrate 54 years of being happily married

Clark and Peggy Holder will be celebrating 54 years of marriage on their anniversary, July 23. Clark and Peggy enjoy life and take pride in raising their 12-year-old granddaughter, Kristianna, pictured with Clark and Peggy.



Congratulations on your graduation

Aleccis M.D. Davis graduated from NEAHSC on May 17. Aleccis has been accepted and will be attending Prairie View A&M University to pursue her degree in medicine.



Houck, Owens Wed

Charles Houck and Tina Owens met in junior high and lost touch with each other, a few years later they reunited and wed on April 21 at Milwood Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. The parents of the groom are Everett and Mabel Houck, and the parents of the bride are Gene and Velita Owens. May they have a long lasting and blessed marriage.



Birthday girl

Happy 7th Birthday to Creed Peirce, with her mom Deana, in Bricktown in Oklahoma City.



Cooper graduates with Bachelor’s

Michele Lyn Cooper recently graduated from the University of Arkansas in Fort Smith. Michele received a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education.

All Indian State Men’s Fastpitch Tournament
July 13-15 at Wheeler Park, Oklahoma City
Entry fee deadline: July 9

All Indian State Women’s Fastpitch Tournament
July 28-29 at Wheeler Park, Oklahoma City
Entry fee deadline: July 23

All Indian State Slowpitch/Coed Tournament
August 10-12 at Wheeler Park, Oklahoma City
Entry fee deadline: August 6

Sponsored by ONASA
Entry fee \$250 each tournament
Host hotels available; Food vendors

For more information call
CeCe Floyd 405-943-7935 or Tony Hudson 405-408-8922

Thompson graduates

Jerry Calvin Thompson of Durant graduated in May from Southeastern Oklahoma State University at the age of 69 with a Sociology degree. A luncheon was held at Chili’s shortly after, hosted by the Senior Citizens Center of Durant.



Hooter to set sail

DCFN Earl Hooter Phillips of the USS Enterprise recently received a promotion to E-4. He is now an NCO in the U.S. Navy. Hooter turned 20 on April 18, and has been in the Navy for two years. He is the great-grandson of the late Mary Gray, the grandson of the late Ella Perkins and the son of Nancy and Jan Harkins of Poteau. Hooter is set to depart for the Middle East on July 9. Your family would like to tell you “great job!”



Congratulations

Teddy and Carla Boehm would like to congratulate their son, Dallas Boehm, who graduated from Ingleside High School on June 1. Congratulations Dallas!



Congratulations!

Congratulations, to Kenda O’Neal, a senior at Cameron High School, and Matthew Cantwell, a senior at Poteau High School. Kenda is the granddaughter of Jackie and Brenda Sweeten, daughter of Kendall O’Neal and Lisa Martin. Matthew is the son of James and Susan Cantwell and grandson of Johnny and Edith Ward. Both are great-grandchildren of Imogene Welch. Matthew and Kenda will continue their education at Carl Albert State College in Poteau.



Herrera graduates and says thanks

I wish to thank the Choctaw Nation for its financial support over the last four years. The Higher Education Scholarship has enabled me to complete my degree in Mechanical Engineering within four years. I am very appreciative of this award and once again want to offer my thanks.



Little Miss Choctaw Nation District 8

Shiana Nicole Acuna was named Little Miss Choctaw Nation District 8 on May 29. She is 9 years old and attends Boswell Elementary. She is on the Superintendent’s Honor Roll, Girl Scouts, and a member of the First Assembly of God Church.



Jennifer turns 14

Jennifer Lynn Williams of Idabel celebrated her 14th birthday on May 14. She is the daughter of Barry and Linda Williams of Idabel. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Arvel Williams of Summerfield and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scott of Idabel.



Warren earns Master’s

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Lendy Kay Warren for her recent graduation from the Oklahoma State University. Lendy completed her Master of Science degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders in May.



Brewer wins first in JOM art contest

Britton Brewer of Davis won first place recently in the 2007 Johnson-O’Malley (JOM) Art Contest. The competition was open to students at all 53 JOM schools within the Chickasaw Nation boundaries. The four winning pieces have been sent on to compete at state level. Students were able to submit entries using pencil, charcoal, pastels, colored pencil, crayons, markers, acrylics, watercolor, tempera or oils.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
4th Annual
Birthday Singing
honoring
Truman Jefferson
Saturday July 21, 2007
Eastside Community Building
Broken Bow, Oklahoma
(next to Lily Mae Young Park)
Supper-5:30p.m. *Singing-7:00p.m.
Emcee: Truman Jefferson
For more information call 580.286.9216

Special Guests:
Kinsman, Wright City, Ok
Jan Virgil, Walters, Ok
Edgar Taylor, Sobol, Ok
Andrew James Co., Wilburton, Ok

Featured Group:
Master’s Touch,
Oklahoma City, Ok

Bring your lawn chairs
Concession Available at 8:00 p.m.
Event hosted by Truman’s Children:
April Burris, Vicky Bailey, Priscilla Wallace
and Robert A. Jefferson

Congratulations, Chief, on 10 great years!



Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton receive gifts of peace pipes during the 10-Year Celebration on June 6.



Aline Ward is one of several McAlester area senior citizens who traveled to Durant for the event.



Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton present a Pendleton blanket to storyteller Tim Tingle. The Pendleton features the "Little Brother of War" Choctaw pattern.



Leon Bohanan of Smithville and son Edrin Bohanan give Chief Pyle an OU dream catcher.



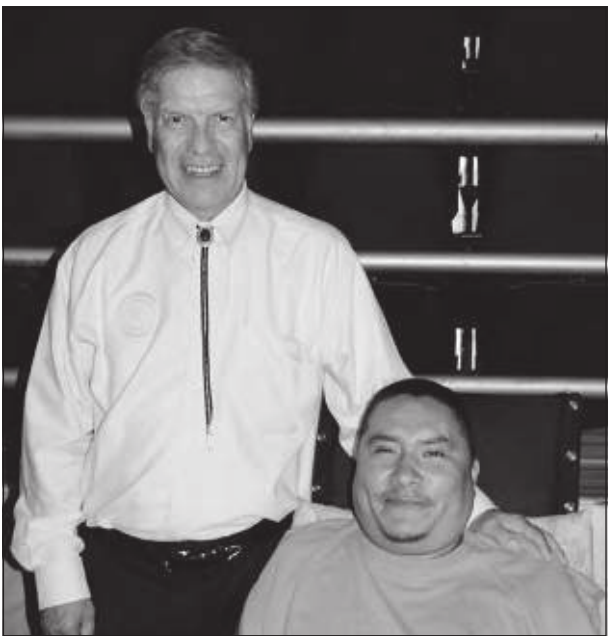
Among the many enjoying the meal are Roger Pittman, Twilia Pittman, December Pittman, Charlotte Kindred and Britney Pittman of Atoka. December was recently crowned 2007-08 District 10 Little Miss.



Showing off two-week-old Evan are his parents, Ashley and Dwayne Sorrells, and proud grandpa Darrell Sorrells with Assistant Chief Batton.



Maci Wagoner sits by her grandmother, Veronica McDaniel.



Chief Pyle visits with Allen Battiest of Idabel.

Summer camps in full swing



Golf camps in early June at Chickasaw Point began a summer packed full of youth camps hosted by the Choctaw Nation. Two separate camps were held for junior and senior golfers. Also scheduled for this summer are softball, baseball, basketball, football and cultural camps throughout the 10 1/2 counties of the Choctaw Nation. More photos will be included in the August edition of the Bishinik.



Glenn and Marilyn Reynolds, Nathan, Jared and Rachel of Long Beach, California, stopped by the Choctaw Nation Headquarters to visit with Chief Greg Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton. The family was then headed to Tushka Homma to visit the capitol grounds. Chief Pyle presented the family with a book about the history of the Choctaw Nation.

USDA accepting Farm Service Agency County Committee Member nominations

The Oklahoma Farm Service Agency (FSA) is accepting nomination forms for eligible candidates to serve on local FSA County Committees throughout the Choctaw Nation. The nomination period ends August 1, 2007. Almost anyone participating or associated with agricultural land and who is of legal voting age can be nominated as a candidate. All nomination forms must be received in a County FSA Office or postmarked by August 1, 2007. Voting takes place between November 2 and December 3, 2007.

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 near 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 give us a call for an appointment today!

It's so easy and convenient for you to apply online to purchase or refinance a home!

www.choctawfinance.web-loan.com

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

ANTLERS
August 2: Idabel 9-11; Broken Bow 12-2 (warehouse closed).
August 7: Bethel 9-10:30; Smithville 12-2; (warehouse closed).
Closed for Inventory August 30-31.
Warehouse open: August 1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29.

DURANT
Warehouse open weekdays August 1-29.
Closed for Inventory August 30-31.

McALESTER
August 1: Stigler 9-12 (warehouse closed).
Warehouse open weekdays August 2-29.
Closed for Inventory August 30-31.

POTEAU
Warehouse open weekdays August 1-29.
Closed for Inventory August 30-31.

**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
Antlers: Choctaw Community Center, 306 S.W. “O” St., 580-298-6443
Durant: Warehouse, 100 Waldron Dr., 580-924-7773
McAlester: Warehouse, 1212 S. Main St., 918-420-5716
Poteau: Warehouse, 100 Kerr, 918-649-0431

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

In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, political beliefs, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call 800-795-3272 (voice) or 202-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Focus on skin cancer

Submitted by Choctaw Nation Project Safe

Did you know that only five or more sunburns double your risk of developing skin cancer? That may partly explain why one million Americans develop skin cancer each year. Chances are you’ll spend a lot of time outdoors in the sun this summer. So it’s time to learn more about skin cancer and ways to shield yourself and your loved ones from the sun.

What is skin cancer?
Skin cancer begins – you guessed it – in your skin cells. Normally, your skin cells grow and divide to form new cells, and every day your skin cells grow old and die, and new cells take their place. However, sometimes this orderly process goes wrong – new cells form when they aren’t needed and old cells don’t die. These extra cells can form a mass of tissue called a tumor, but the tumor can either be cancerous or noncancerous.

The two most common types of skin cancer are:

- **Basal cell skin cancer** – Grows slowly, rarely spreads, and is most common on the face and other sun-exposed areas.
- **Squamous cell skin cancer** – Usually starts on sun-exposed skin and sometimes spreads to lymph nodes and organs in your body.

Fortunately, skin cancer is largely preventable and curable if caught early.

Who’s at risk?
Scientists cannot explain why one person develops skin cancer and another doesn’t. Research shows, however, that people with certain risk factors are more likely than others to develop skin cancer. Those risk factors include:

- Overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun, sun-lamps, and tanning beds or booths;
 - Fair skin that freckles or burns easily;
 - Red or blond hair and light-colored eyes;
 - Scars, burns, or unusual moles on the skin;
 - History of other skin diseases;
 - Family history of skin cancer;
 - Infection with human papillomaviruses;
 - Suppressed immune system; and
 - Exposure to arsenic.
- If you think you may be at risk of skin cancer, you should discuss this with your doctor.

What are the signs and symptoms?
Often the first sign of skin cancer is a change on the skin. Not all skin cancers look the same. Watch for:

- A small, smooth, shiny, pale, or waxy lump;
- A firm, red lump;
- A sore or lump that bleeds or develops a crust or a scab;
- A flat red spot that is rough, dry, or scaly and may become itchy or tender; or
- A red or brown patch that is rough and scaly.

It’s a good idea to do a skin self-exam after a shower or bath, using a full-length mirror and hand mirror.

What about diagnosis and treatment?
If anything looks suspicious, you should see your doctor right away. The earlier skin cancer is detected, the better your chances for a full recovery. Usually, your doctor will remove all or part of the area that does not look normal. This sample is sent to a lab, where it’s examined.

If the sample shows you have cancer, the doctor will check your lymph nodes to see how far the cancer may have spread. You and your doctor will then go over your treatment options, and you may want a second opinion.

What are the preventive measures?
Protecting yourself from skin cancer generally means limiting your time in the sun (especially the midday sun) and avoiding other sources of UV radiation like sunlamps and tanning booths. Also, be aware that UV radiation is reflected by sand, water, snow, and ice and can go through windows and clouds.

If you must be in the sun, protect yourself with long sleeves and long pants, a hat, and sunglasses that absorb UV rays. Sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 may also help filter the sun’s rays, but you still need to cover with clothing.

Come join us at Jones Academy!

Jones Academy is accepting applications for the 2007-08 calendar school year. Openings are available in grades 1-12. Come take advantage of these residential program benefits:

- Tutorial assistance for all grades (1st-12th)
- Rewards for academic achievement
- College and post-secondary preparation
- Career counseling
- Vo-Tech training
- High school graduation expenses paid
- Scholarships
- Summer Youth Work Program
- Medical and counseling services provided
- Alternative education program
- Traditional/Cultural activities
- Recreational activities and educational trips
- Agriculture program



Please call for a tour or an application at toll-free 888-767-2518 or access www.choctawnation.com or write to:

**Jones Academy
HCR 74 Box 102-5
Hartshorne, OK 74547**

Representatives from Jones Academy will be at the Family Investment Centers this summer. Please contact your community centers for the dates and times.



A night to remember – Senior Citizens Prom

The teenagers weren’t the only ones who caught Prom Fever in Choctaw County, so did the Senior Citizens and together, they danced the night away.

The Senior Citizens Prom, “A Night To Remember,” was held on May 25 at the Choctaw Nation Cultural Center in Hugo. The elders arrived around 4 p.m. in their prom attire and were escorted inside by the youth to the fully decorated facility. The ladies were given a corsage and the men were given boutonnières. Photos were taken of each prom participant, with a background of black and silver star streamers and red balloons.

An array of festive food lined the tables, which included, sandwiches, punch, cake, cookies, and chips. The tables shimmered with table cloths, center pieces and balloons which were red, black and silver. The walls were lined with silver and the stage and ceiling was draped with sparkling lights.

Everyone was serenaded by the music of the 50’s and 60’s and Stephen Moffitt did a wonderful job as he entertained the dancers with his rendition of several songs. The dance floor filled slowly at first, but soon it was a jam-packed party as youth and seniors swayed to the tunes of yesteryear and participated in dance contests.

Nothing was spared for the glitzy affair including the royal court. This was a highlight of the evening with the crowning of the Prom King and Queen who were voted on by the individuals who attended the prom. This year’s King was Gerald Rodgers and the Queen was Marie McLemore.

The Choctaw Nation Youth Advisory Board began preparing for the event in March, organizing committees to work on invitations, decorations, photos, flowers, donations, designing and distributing fliers, and planning menus. Everyone age 55 or older was invited.

Around 50 were in attendance and the Seniors came from nursing homes in Choctaw and Push counties and area Senior Citizens Community Centers. The local businesses and organizations were very generous in their donations of door prizes and food and the Soper school donated their prom decorations.

The Choctaw Nation Youth Advisory Board would like to say Thank You to all of the individuals, businesses and community for their participation which made this Senior Citizen Prom “A Night To Remember.”

Celebration at Bethel



Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Gary Batton and Councilmen Mike Amos and Delton Cox present the keys to a new van to the senior citizens of the Bethel Choctaw Center.



Ellwood and Leyvoyce Ludlow are among the many Choctaw citizens who came to the celebration at the Bethel Community Center.



Claudia Salazar and her mom, Rhodie Salazar, enjoy the meal and fellowship at Bethel.

Youth Summit 2007



Clockwise from left, Sam Parton with the Team Thunder dragster, astronaut John Harrington, and youth enjoying the high-energy motorcycle stunts of Thunder X.



“Xtreme Knowledge is Power” was the message of the 2007 Youth Summit held June 5 in the Choctaw Coliseum. Approximately 4,000 students from age 14 to 21 were bused in to Durant from all over Oklahoma.

Live entertainment included the roaring, thrill-packed Thunder X, a cross-country motorcycle stunt show. The stunt riders were as young as 12 years old.

Motivational speakers included Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Gary Batton, Sam Parton with the Team Thunder Dragster and crew, former astronaut and member of the Chickasaw Nation John Harrington, and Olympic Gold Medal Gymnast Shannon Miller. Each emphasized the importance of an education and following the right path while striving for your dreams.

The event was hosted by the Choctaw Nation, Creek Nation, Chickasaw Nation, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, KED-DO, Big Five Community Action Center, Department of Rehabilitation Services, State Department of Career Tech, Southern Workforce Investment Board, Southeast Workforce Investment Board and the Governor’s State Youth Council.



The Choctaw Nation donated a computer and printer on June 4 to the Kiamichi Country Genealogy Society. Pictured are Becky Williams of the Broken Bow Library where the genealogy group has an office, Choctaw Nation Councilman Mike Amos, and Joe Hickman and Harriet Martin of the Kiamichi Country Genealogy Society.



Students studying the Choctaw language at OU recently made a tour of the Tribal Complex and visited Chief Pyle. Pictured with the Chief are Greg Rodgers, Eric Fisher, Leroy Sealy, Brenda Samuels, Morgan Hope, Amanda Howard, Breydan Pollard, Josh Flaggert, Michael Stewart and Marcellino Berardo.



Councilman Mike Amos visits with Ruby and Lyman Choate before the ribboncutting of the new Broken Bow Clinic.



The new Choctaw Nation Health Clinic in Broken Bow.



At the Broken Bow Center June 22 are Macy Bohanan, Tyler Tohano, Mason Bohanan and baby Nakota.



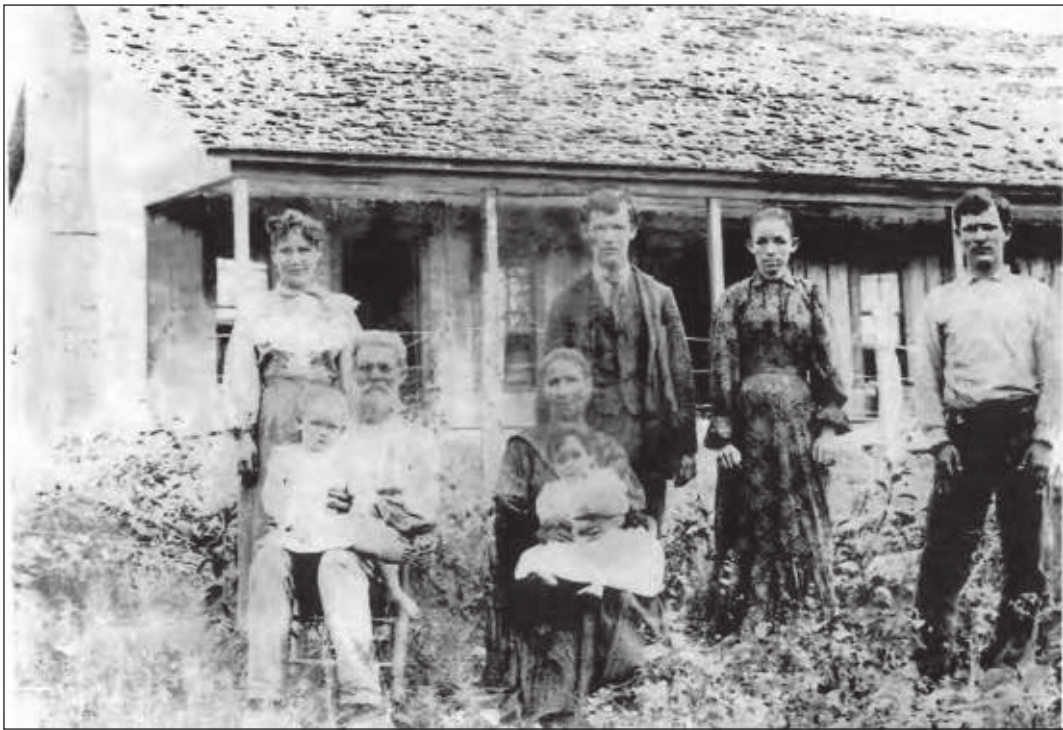
Rafael Uribe and Marland Ashalintubbi are ready to enjoy the good barbecue lunch served at the Broken Bow Family Investment Center.



Residents of the Broken Bow area listen as news of the Nation is brought to them.



Deedra Tönhka, Jaydon Baker, Enchil Tönhka, Michelle Tönhka and Dewayne Tönhka attend the dinner and ballfield dedication in Broken Bow.



The Gregory Family before 1905, from back left, Susan Gregory Powell, Edwin Sheppard Gregory, Algia Manley Gregory, and Enoch Bryce Gregory; sitting are Abraham Gregory and Mary Caroline Merryman Gregory.

A Choctaw journey

Submitted by Mike Rose

This journey started in 2003 when I was working on a project for the Postal Service in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I received a call from my Aunt Kay “Rose” Edwards who resides in California. She informed me that my grandfather, James Rose (deceased), had a sister in Sperry, Oklahoma, and that I should contact her. I was concerned that she did not know me from Adam and may not be interested in meeting me; but I did call and after 10 minutes of visiting with her I made plans to go see my great Aunt Irene “Rose” Eddings.

What a hoot she is and what a cook! This lady is in her 80s and can outdo most people 40 years younger!

The big question from her was “Son, Do you have your Indian Card?” I asked if this was all true, and she said “Yes! Don’t you know you’re Choctaw?”

I then remembered living as a kid in the San Joaquin Valley of California during the mid-sixties and my cousins saying that Grandpa is an Indian. I didn’t quite believe them because I never saw his headdress or moccasins or bow and arrow.

I drove to the Choctaw Nation in Durant, Oklahoma, as soon as I left Aunt Irene’s house to get the papers to fill out. I thought as soon as I showed my hand-written affidavit I would receive my card and be on my way.

But ... not so fast, I needed something called a complete disclosure birth certificate. I did have the one my mother had gotten from the hospital when I was born but it was not acceptable. The reason it was not acceptable was because of identity theft.

As I was leaving I showed the receptionist and the police officer at the front desk a picture of my great-great-great-grandmother. I did not know what her name was at the time. I told the receptionist that I sure wished I could find out more information about my Choctaw relatives. The receptionist was very informative and told me the amazing fact that there was a national archives in Fort Worth, Texas, that has a lot of information on the Choctaw and other Indian Tribes. How cool is that! I live just 12 miles south of Fort Worth in Burleson.

While waiting on the great state of California to send a certified copy of my birth certificate, I discovered that because the Indian bloodline was on my father’s side, I also needed, for the CDIB office, my father’s social security number.

This presented another problem as he and I were estranged at the time. I called my mother and with some research she was able to locate my father’s social security number on some old paperwork. I finally got everything submitted and felt I was on my way!

Robbie Todd of the CDIB office called one day to let me know things were looking good. They were just waiting on the BIA to respond. Robbie’s call was two days before the Tushka Homma 2005 Labor Day Festi-



Mike Rose and Choctaw artist Gwen Coleman Lester.



Mike Rose’s great-aunt, Gayle Rose Robberson, and his great-grandpa, Carlisle Norman Rose.



Sue and James Rose, grandparents of Mike Rose.

val and I thought I could pick up my card on the way to the festival. I really wanted to take my card with me and was going to show the world that I was Choctaw Indian and proud of it!

I arrived at the Capitol building and made my way to the CDIB office. Alas, Robbie was there but my cards weren’t. I was disappointed but it was okay because I was going to Tushka Homma to be with Indian people. My brother, Bill Rose, and his family as well as my aunt and uncle from California were going to be there, too.

We stayed at the Kerr Mansion in Poteau. What a beautiful place it is. The staff treats you like family, the rates are very reasonable and you get to see the terrific museum. There is even an old ledger book from Ainsworth’s Store in Skullyville available for viewing, if you ask for Carol Spindel or Barbara Caudell.

The festival was a wonderful experience, the kids had a great time on the rides, the food was good and the artisans were out in full force with their handmade products. The products were unique and unbelievably creative and at the Council House/ Museum there is actually a picture of Judge James Thompson who performed the marriage

ceremony in Skullyville for my great, great, great-grandparents, Abraham and Mary Gregory.

We drove to Skullyville the next day and found my great, great-great-great-grandparents William P. and Annie Scott Merryman’s graves. She came from Mississippi with her father, John, and her brothers, Washington and Morgan. I have not been able to find out her mother’s name or what happened to her.

This trip was of course, “The Trail of Tears.” I cannot imagine the horror of this trip for all of these people. The walking for three or four months and the treatment of these proud people really saddens me.

We made it back to Tushka Homma and decided to sit for awhile to watch gourd dancing. That is the first time I met Mickey Weryackwe. We recently had the opportunity to see Mickey in Durant, at the second annual Native American Dance Competition. That was another great time for my family.

My wife, Rhonda, decided she needed more jewelry so we went back to the arts and craft area. While there, I received a call from my brother, Bill, telling me that Robbie Todd wanted to see me at the membership office. When I arrived at the office I felt that everyone knew something but me and they did! My cards had come in from the BIA and Robbie brought them to me. What a nice thing to do. Now I can say that I received my membership to the Choctaw Nation at Tushka Homma, at the original Capitol grounds. What a blessing!

On the last day of the festival, I had the opportunity to tell Chief Pyle what a wonderful time we all had and how life-changing this whole experience had been for me personally. I also thanked him for being such a caring person who always seems to have time for everyone.

Curiosity got me in to genealogy and there is no going back for me. I now have approximately 150 documents and informative papers pertaining to my Choctaw family and am still searching.

I would like to thank the following people who helped me on my journey and have meant a lot to me: If I have left anyone out I apologize and am grateful for your help: Kay Edwards, Irene Eddings, Gail Robberson, Robbie Todd, Tim Tall Chief, Russ Merryman, Gaither Haynes, Gwen Coleman Lester, Mickey Weryackwe, Lisa Reed, Judy Allen, Arnulfo Pena, Eugene Folsom, Tom Swafford and Michael Roberts.

FIFTH ANNUAL GREG PYLE LABOR DAY GOLF CLASSIC Sunday, September 2 Sycamore Springs Golf Course

9-Hole Course, Par 36

Wilburton, Oklahoma

First Round of Teams tee off at 8 a.m. • Second Round of Teams tee off at 1 p.m.
4-Man Teams – 18 Teams – 36 Golfers for each start – First 72 Registered Golfers

Blind Draw Scramble by Handicap

Lunch for all golfers at noon

Entry fee: \$50 / Mulligans: \$10

Fee includes: Golf Shirt, Golf Cart, Goodie Bag (towel, tees, balls, etc., lunch)

Prizes: First Place Team \$200 each + trophy

Second Place Team \$100 each + trophy

Third Place Team \$50 each + trophy

Other Prizes: Closest to Pin, Longest Drive, etc.

Deadline to enter: August 17, 2007

For more information, call Kevin Gwin 800-522-6170, ext. 2517; cell 580-775-3982

Mail entry form to Kevin Gwin, P.O. Box 1210, Durant, OK 74702

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____
Handicap _____ Shirt Size _____
(Must have valid handicap card or phone # of club for verification)
Enclose Money Order or Cashier’s Check
LIMITED TO FIRST 72 GOLFERS!!!



Call for more information:

Kerry Steve or Tammye Gwin 580-920-0160 x 1125

James Dry 580-931-3100

Shawna Folsom 580-924-8280 x 2246

Games Begin @ 9:30



\$40 Entry 3-ON-3 CONTEST Saturday, Sept. 3, 2005 Team check in 8-9:00 a.m. <i>(Limited to first 25 teams w/ paid entry received)</i> 10-13 CO-ED <i>(5-person roster: 2 girls and 3 boys - Must have 1 girl on court at all times)</i> 4 Man Roster 14-18 Girls <i>(Must be in High School)</i> 14-18 Boys <i>(Must be in High School)</i> 1st – TBA 2nd – TBA 3rd – TBA 18-35 Men <i>(Must be out of High School)</i> 1st – \$400 Cash 2nd – \$300 Cash 3rd – \$200 36+ Old Timers Men 1st – \$400 Cash 2nd – \$300 Cash 3rd – \$200 ★ All players must show photo ID for men 18 & older ★	FREE 3-POINT CONTEST Saturday, Sept. 3, 2005 (First 25 Entries) Sign up at basketball courts Teens 14-18 (Must be in High School) 1st – Trophy 2nd – Trophy Women and Men (Must be 18+ and out of high school) 1st – Trophy & Cash Prize 2nd – Trophy & Cash Prize	FREE FREE-THROW CONTEST (First 25 Entries) Saturday Sept. 3, 2005 5:00 P.M. Ages: 6-9 10-13 14 -18 <i>(Must still be in High School)</i> Sign up at basketball courts Trophies + T-shirts given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each division.
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ENTRY FOR BASKETBALL CONTESTS		CHOOSE CATEGORY ENTERING:	
TEAM NAME _____	CONTACT _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-ON-3 CO-ED	
ADDRESS _____		<input type="checkbox"/> 3-ON-3 GIRLS	
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____		<input type="checkbox"/> 3-ON-3 BOYS	
PHONE _____		<input type="checkbox"/> 3-ON-3 MEN	
<small>Mail entry form + \$40 cashier's check or money order by Aug. 25, 2005 to: Labor Day 3-on-3 Basketball, P.O. Box 1909, Durant, OK 74702 All personal checks will be returned - no exceptions. Entries must be post dated Aug 20 th.</small>		<input type="checkbox"/> 3-ON-3 OLD TIMERS	
1. _____	2. _____	3. _____	4. _____
Name	Name	Name	Name
Birthdate	Birthdate	Birthdate	Birthdate
CO-ED ONLY			
5. _____			
Name			
Birthdate			

2007 CHOCTAW COMBINE

Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival
Friday, August 31
on the Council Chambers lawn
Registration at 5 p.m. – Combine starts at 6 p.m.

Trophies will be given to the top three competitors overall.

- 40-YARD SPRINT (pro time)
- BENCH PRESS (max reps 225 lbs)
- DEAD LIFT (max reps 315 lbs)

For more information,
call Jason Campbell at 800-522-6170

\$300 will be paid to the 1st Place winner overall, \$200 paid to 2nd Place overall and \$100 paid to 3rd place overall.

TOUGH, TOUGH CHOCTAW
Saturday, September 1
on the Council Chambers lawn
Registration at 4 p.m. – Contest starts at 5 p.m.
\$5 entry fee – Awards given to First and Second Place winners
For more information call Jeremy Loper at 1-800-522-6170

LABOR DAY Festival

August 30
thru September 3
at Tushka Homma

FREE
CONCERT
ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

6 p.m. Billy Currington
8 p.m. Charlie Daniels Band
10 p.m. Sara Evans

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

6 p.m. B.J. Thomas
8 p.m. Tracy Lawrence
10 p.m. Trace Adkins

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

8:30 p.m. Michael W. Smith

Trace Adkins

Sara Evans



Tracy Lawrence



Billy Currington



Michael W. Smith



Charlie Daniels Band

LABOR DAY FESTIVAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30

6 p.m. Princess Pageant

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

9 a.m.-7 p.m. Photo ID booth open
9 a.m. 4th Annual Choctaw Art Show, 2nd floor of Capitol Museum
10 a.m. Arts & Crafts exhibits open
12 noon-4 p.m. Health Expo, next to Council Chambers
12 noon-5 p.m. Quilt entries accepted at Information Center
2 p.m. Gourd Dancing on Capitol lawn
5 p.m. Choctaw Combine Registration on Council Chambers lawn
6 p.m. Choctaw Combine (Bench Press, Dead Lift, 40-yard Sprint)
Concerts at Amphitheater
7 p.m. Inter-Tribal Pow Wow Grand Entry on Capitol lawn
Fast Pitch Tournament begins at Red Warrior Park

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

6:30-7:45 a.m. 5k Registration at Hwy. 271
8 a.m. 5k begins at Hwy. 271
Fastpitch continues
3 on 3 Choctaw War Hoops Basketball registration
Horseshoe Tournament registration
8 a.m.-8 p.m. Health Expo, next to Council Chambers
9 a.m.-7 p.m. Photo ID booth open
9 a.m. 4th Annual Choctaw Art Show, 2nd floor of Capitol Museum
Playground supervised
Horseshoe Pitch Tournament
Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament
Quilt Show at Information Center
3 on 3 Basketball at Basketball Courts
Terrapin Races, playground "Fish Pond"
2 p.m. Buffalo Tours
2-4 p.m. Free-Throw Contest at Basketball Courts
4 p.m. 3-Point Contest at Basketball Courts
5 p.m. Tough, Tough Choctaw Registration, Council Chambers lawn
5:30 p.m. Tough, Tough Choctaw Contest, Council Chambers lawn
6 p.m. Concerts at Amphitheater

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

8 a.m. Chief Pyle Golf Classic at Wilburton Golf Course
11 a.m. Worship Services at Amphitheater
Registration for Domino and Checker Tournaments in Cafeteria
12 noon-8 p.m. Photo ID booth open
1 p.m. Domino and Checker Tournaments begin in Cafeteria
Activities begin in Choctaw Village
Choctaw Dancers, Capitol Lawn
1-5 p.m. Health Expo, next to Council Chambers
2 p.m. Gospel Singing at Amphitheater
2-4 p.m. Buffalo Tours
4 p.m. Choctaw Dancers, Capitol Lawn
5 p.m. Stickball Exhibition, Capitol Lawn

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

8 a.m.-1 p.m. Photo ID booth open
10 a.m. Posting of Flags by Choctaw Nation Color Guard, Amphitheater
The Lord's Prayer in Sign Language
Welcome and Announcements
10:20 a.m. Storyteller Tim Tingle
10:50 a.m. Introduction of Tribal Council and Judges
11 a.m. State of the Nation Address by Chief Gregory E. Pyle
Door Prize Drawings
12 noon Free meal for everyone
Pick up quilts from Quilt Show

— Events throughout the Festival —

Carnival Rides Free, courtesy of Chief and Tribal Council
Choctaw cultural demonstrations and storytelling at the village;
Stickball-Making, Bow-Making, Choctaw Basketry,
Choctaw Dressmaking, Beaded Jewelry, Flint-Napping

— Specialty Acts —

- Mechanical Bull • Mobile Archery Range
- Superplay • Rock-Climbing • Magician Russell Turner
- Robinson's Racing Pigs • Rosaire's Chimpanzees

CHOCTAW VILLAGE SCHEDULE

Saturday,
September 1

10 a.m. Choctaw Dancing
10:30 a.m. Stickball Skills
11 a.m. Banaha Making
11:30 a.m. Storytelling:
Tim Tingle

Children's Activities:

1 p.m. Stickball
1:30 p.m. Language
1:45 p.m. Arts & Crafts
2:15 p.m. Choctaw Dancing

Sunday,
September 2

1 p.m. Flint Napping
1:15 p.m. Silversmithing
1:30 p.m. Primitive Weapons
1:45 Storytelling:
Tim Tingle

Children's Activities:

2:15 p.m. Corn Game
2:40 p.m. Pottery

**Village Demonstrations
Saturday and Sunday**

Choctaw/Mississippi Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Tribal Membership Cards with Photo ID will be issued at the Tribal Membership Office on the Festival Grounds during the festival.

For more information, call 580-924-8280 or toll-free 1-800-522-6170

Labor Day 2007

T-shirts,
caps and bags



Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone Number _____

✓	Item	Size	Quantity	Total Price
<input type="checkbox"/>	A - Waterproof drawstring backpack with Seal - can be worn as backpack or carried - \$10.00	N/A	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	B - Labor Day Shirt - \$15.00	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	C - Labor Day Cap - \$12.00	N/A	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	D - Labor Day Cap - \$12.00	N/A	_____	_____

T-shirt sizes available are:
Children - (2-4), (6-8), (10-12), and (14-16)
Adult - Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, XX-Large and XXX-Large

(Price includes postage and handling)

Order Total

Send order form and payment (no personal checks) to:

Labor Day T-Shirt
Choctaw Nation Special Projects
PO Box 1210
Durant, OK 74702

10th Annual Labor Day

POW WOW

August 31, 2007

on the Choctaw Nation Capitol Grounds at Tuskahoma

MC – Tim Tallchief, Osage
Arena Director – Bill Takeshorse, Crow
Head Man – Terry Tsotith
Head Woman – Randi Santos
Head Gourd Dancer – Victor Issaac, Mississippi Choctaw
Southern Head Singer – Rowe Kishteton
Southern Drum – Rough Arrow Singers, Shawnee
Northern Head Singer – Alex Alvarez
Northern Drum – Medicine Tail, Alabama
Color Guard – Choctaw Nation

SCHEDULE

2 p.m. Gourd Dance
5 p.m. Break
6 p.m. Gourd Dance
7 p.m. Grand Entry
Registration closes

ADULT CONTEST

All Categories Separate

WOMEN'S
Cloth-Buckskin-Fancy Shawl-Jingle Dress

MEN'S
Fancy-Grass-Traditional-Straight

ALL GOLDEN AGE
COMBINED 55+

1st: \$500; 2nd: \$400; 3rd: \$300
4th: \$200; 5th: \$100

All Contestants must be in Grand Entry and participate in Inter-Tribal dances. Must be in regalia to receive prize money.

TINY TOTS CONTEST

Under 7 yrs
Head Man Straight Dance Special
~~~

Head Woman Special  
TBA

Bad Weather:  
Clayton HS Gym

## YOUTH CONTEST

All Categories Separate

SR/14-18 yrs old JR/8-13 yrs old  
18 yrs old must be in school

**SR/JR GIRLS**  
Cloth-Buckskin-Fancy Shawl-Jingle Dress

**SR/JR BOYS**  
Fancy-Grass-Traditional-Straight

**SR Girls/Boys**  
1st: \$150; 2nd: \$125; 3rd: \$100

**JR Girls/Boys**  
1st: \$125; 2nd: \$100; 3rd: \$75

For information: Willard Polk 580-924-8280, 2349/cell 580-380-5370 Sue Folsom - Special Projects 580-924-8280  
Public welcome, free admission, bring your pow wow chairs. All drums, princesses are invited.  
Call Willard for booth information. Booth fee is \$20.  
NO ALCOHOL OR DRUGS WILL BE TOLERATED



## Princess Pageant

6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 30  
at the Amphitheater  
Choctaw Nation Capitol Grounds

## Terrapin Race

The Choctaw Nation Terrapin Race will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 1, on the Tushka Homma Playground at the new "Fish Pond." There will be two categories in which to enter your terrapin – The Fastest Terrapin and Best-Dressed Terrapin. Prizes will be given to the winners.



to be held during the

## Labor Day Festival

August 31, September 1, 2

at the Choctaw Capitol Grounds  
in Tushka Homma, Oklahoma

\$150 entry fee – money orders only  
made out to Choctaw Nation Fast Pitch

– Deadline for entry is August 10, 2007 –

For more information, please call 580-924-8280  
or toll-free 800-522-6170, Ext. 2224 or fill out  
the application below and return to our office

Name of team \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one:

Men's team    or    Women's team

and return to:

Larry Wade  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1210  
Durant, OK 74702-1210

# Labor Day 5 KM Run

Race Begins at 8 a.m.

September 1, 2007

Tushka Homma, Oklahoma

Race day registration is from 6:30-7:45 a.m.  
in front of Crossroad Cafe  
on U.S. Hwy. 271, 5 miles north of Clayton.  
Pre-registration is \$10.00.

All entrants must be postmarked by August 27, 2007.

Race-day registration is \$12.00.

## Age Categories and Awards

Age 12 & under • 13-15 years • 16-19 years  
and succeeding 5-year age brackets  
up to 70 and older for women and  
75 years and older for men.

Top three finishers in each age bracket for men  
and women will receive medallions.

## RACE DIRECTOR

Linda Tyler – 580-924-8280, Ext. 2319  
Race Coordinator – Glen's Road Race

I know that running a road race is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter and run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I also know that although police protection will be provided, there will be a possibility of traffic on the course. I assume the risk of running traffic. I also assume any and all other risks associated with running this event including, but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including extreme cold and wind, and the conditions of the roads, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Furthermore, I agree to yield to all emergency vehicles. I also am fully aware that baby strollers and wheels of any kind (except competitive wheel chairs), animals (aside from canine participants in canine and human race) and head phones are strictly prohibited and I agree not to go back onto the course after finishing. Knowing these facts, and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or anyone else who might claim on my behalf, covenant not to sue, and waive and release and discharge any and all race sponsors, race officials, volunteers, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma employees and volunteers, tribal police including any and all of their agents, employees, assigns or arising out of, or in the course of, my participation in this event. This release and waiver extends to all claims of every kind of nature whatsoever, foreseen or unforeseen, known or unknown. The undersigned further grants full permission to sponsors and/or agents authorized to them to use any photography/videotapes, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this event for any purpose.

Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Waiver must be signed    Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applications for minors accepted only with a parent's or guardian's signature.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Age as of September 1, 2007 \_\_\_\_\_ Sex (M/F) \_\_\_\_\_

Check one T-shirt size only  
(Adult) S \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_ XXL \_\_\_\_\_

Detach and send entry form and fees to:

**Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Attn: Linda Tyler**  
**5KM Road Race/Walk**  
**P.O. Box 1210, Durant, OK 74702-1210**

## 4th Annual Art Show

Friday, August 31, and Saturday, September 1,  
on the second floor of the Choctaw Capitol Museum.

Museum hours during Labor Day Festival are:

Thursday, August 30: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Friday, August 31: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday, September 1: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, September 2: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Monday, September 3: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

## Quilt Show

Entries need to be dropped off at the  
Information Center

from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Friday, August 31,  
and picked up by noon Monday, September 3.

## Checkers

## & Domino Tournaments

There will be two divisions this year in  
the Checkers and Domino Tournaments including  
those 13 years old and under in one division and 14  
and over in the other. Registration is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Sunday, September 2, at the cafeteria.

**Choctaw Nation  
Co-Ed**

# Volleyball Tournament

Saturday, September 1, 2007

First 12 teams accepted  
Maximum 10 players per team  
Entry fee: \$100 (non-refundable)

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Form of payment:  
Cashier's Check or Money Orders Only  
No personal checks accepted

Mail entry to:  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma  
Co-ed Volleyball Tournament  
P.O. Box 1210  
Durant, OK 74702  
Attn: Rebecca Clapp

Deadline for entries:  
4:30 p.m. August 24, 2007

USA Volleyball Grass  
Rules enforced

For more information:  
580-924-8280  
Ext. 2212  
or 2258





OBITUARIES

### Leona Alice Perteet Earl

Leona Alice Perteet Earl passed away April 15, 2007, at her home, peacefully surrounded by her cherished family members. She was born July 28, 1913, in McAlester. She was the last surviving member of the John Perteet and Lizzie Sam family.

She moved to Arizona in 1932 and was certified at ASU as a Family Health Assistant and retired from the Salvation Army after working in Child Care Services for several years.

A loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother, Leona was a proud member of the Choctaw Nation and belonged to the Mesa Church of God. Leona’s faith, courage and hope touched many lives.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Clarence “Big Smokey” Earl; sons, John and Elmer “Little Smokey;” daughter, Evelyn Davis; grandson, Monty; great-grandson, Justin Clark; three brothers, Henry, Clarence and Felix Perteet; and two sisters, Fannie Spears and Allie Branner.

Survivors include her daughters, Faye Lafferty, Elizabeth Abbott and Marjorie Chandler; 21 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

### Delbert E. Black

Delbert E. Black passed away May 16, 2007, at Houston, Texas. He was born January 23, 1931, in Bethany, Oklahoma, to Homer H. and Eunice E. Vawter Black.

Mr. Black moved to Texas during World War II. He graduated from Longview High School, attended the University of Texas and then served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He moved to Houston where he worked for the USPS until his retirement.

Delbert was an avid reader of the Bishinik and was fond of West Texas, wildlife, American Indian lore and birds.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters.

Survivors include his brother, Wayne Black of Long Beach, California.

Both Delbert’s mother, Eunice Vawter, and his maternal grandmother, Martha Vawter, were original enrollees.

### Flora Cathern Evans

Flora Cathern Evans, 83, passed away December 18, 2006, in Newport, Washington. She was born May 30, 1923, in Spiro to Henry Birch and Jane Ethel Hiarker. She was very proud of her Choctaw heritage and her great-grandfather who was orphaned on the Trail of Tears.

She was married to Robert Lee Evans for 63 years until his death in 2001. A dedicated mother of six children, she went to work after they were grown at the Ventura County Hospital in Ventura, California, as a nurse’s aid until her retirement in 1984. Her passion was working at the hospital and taking care of the patients.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three sisters; her husband; a son, Elza Ray Evans; and two grandsons.

Survivors include her sister, Dortha Sue Birch and her children, Doris Benoit, Carolyn and husband Joe, Barbara Reames and husband Raymond, Clara Guzikowski and Robert Charles Evans; 14 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

### Anna Lavoyce Jennings Parks

Anna Lavoyce Jennings Parks, 80, passed away on March 11, 2007, at Bedford, Texas. She was born July 2, 1926, in Lawton. Her father, Lilburn L. Jennings, and grandmother, Mary E. Harris, were original enrollees.

A resident of Wichita Falls for 37 years and of Bedford for 20 years, she worked at Sears in various departments including catalog, payroll and the business office in both cities, and retired at age 78 after 45 years’ service.

Anna was a beautiful person inside and out. She was named Miss Electra (Texas) in 1942. She was a devoted wife and mother who set a loving example for her children by being their scout leader, room mother, and teacher of Christian values. She was also an excellent seamstress, a fabulous cook and wonderful homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents, LL. and Eula Jennings; twin sisters, Paula and Gig; and one brother, Sonny.

Survivors include a son, Gary L. Parks of Weatherford, Texas; daughter, Ann “Cookie” Marr of Bedford, Texas; sisters, Bobi Pierce White of Billings, Montana, and Linda Veteto of Richardson, Texas; grandchildren, Kenny Parks of Little Rock, Arkansas, Keith Parks of Reno, Nevada, Debbie Giles of Lake Jackson, Texas, and Jennifer Roberts of Haltom City, Texas; great-grandchildren, Brian and Danny Giles, David, Abigail and Gabriel Roberts, and Brayden Parks.

Anyone who knew Anna (or “Penny” as she was known by her California relatives) loved her. She was a remarkable soul who touched us all with her constant kindness and selfless spirit. Anna was an authentic Christian in every sense of the word, and is irreplaceable.

### William Ashby Edmonds

William Ashby Edmonds, 71, of Clinton, Oklahoma, passed away June 11, 2007, at the Clinton Veterans Center. He was born December 9, 1925, in Wilburton, Oklahoma, the son of E.C. Edmonds and Charlotte Hampton Edmonds.

According to the staff of the Veterans Center, he was well-loved and cared for, both by them and his fellow residents. He was well-known as “Wild Bill” for his outgoing personality, but was also described as very charming and polite.

He served in the Navy, both in World War II (May 9, 1944-May 24, 1946) and the Korean War (December 28, 1950-April 26, 1952). He was a ship fitter-metalsmith welder 3C, doing troop transport on the USS Dickens from the Philippines to Iwo Jima, as well as shipping ammo on the USS Virgo from the Philippines to Tokyo.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Ross Edmonds; and a sister, Lindel Belle Edmonds. He is survived by two sisters, Bernice Edmonds of Mustang, Oklahoma; two daughters, Billie and Debbie; and numerous nieces and nephews.

### James Amos Willie

James Amos Willie, 78, passed away February 3, 2006. He was born October 23, 1927, in McCurtain County. He was very proud to be a full blood Choctaw.

Mr. Willie served two times in the Armed Services, one in the Army and one in the Air Force.

He is survived by a son, Joel James Willie.

### Aaron Dry

Aaron Dry, 87, of Madill passed away May 8, 2007, at the hospital in Madill. He was born on March 16, 1920, to the late Eddie Earl Dry and Emily Mae Anderson Dry in Yanush, Oklahoma. Aaron was raised in Talihina, Oklahoma, and later attended the Goodland High School where he graduated in 1939.

Aaron was a member of the Flying Tigers as he served during World War II in the U.S. Air Force before attending the Southern Oklahoma State University where he played college tennis. Later he attended Central University of Oklahoma where he received a Bachelor’s Degree in Science. Aaron went on to Oklahoma State University where he received his Master’s Degree.

In 1948, he moved to Wilson, Oklahoma, and started his teaching career. He married Martha Jean Fuller on December 7, 1950, in Hugo. Aaron attended Tulsa University where he received his Doctorate in Education. He worked for several schools in Oklahoma as a teacher, coach, principal and a superintendent before moving to Madill in 1983. Aaron was affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. He enjoyed reading, history and biography.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Sherry Ann Abrahamson; and his twin brother, Earnest Dry.

Survivors include his wife of Madill; granddaughter, Kendra Blevins of Broken Arrow; grandsons, Kyle Abrahamson of Broken Arrow and Klynt Abrahamson of Madill; great-granddaughter, Jessica Blevins of Broken Arrow; sisters, Ozella Hibdon of Dallas, Gladys Boren of Roland and Verna Noble of Roland; and brother, Thomas Dry of Edmond.

### Leonard W. ‘Chuffy’ Tom

Leonard W. “Chuffy” Tom, 85, of Soper passed away May 25, 2007 at Paris, Texas. He was born April 24, 1922, in Soper, the son of Watson and Rosa Gardner Tom.

Leonard was a farmer and general laborer and he also repaired small engines. He was a member of Soper Assembly of God Church. He loved his wife of 41 years, his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and all relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, John Raymond Tom; sister, Juanita Short; and son, Preston “Sonny” Lawrence.

Survivors include four sons and daughters-in-law, Raymond and Claudia Tom of Hugo, Mike and Keshia Tom of Golden, Texas, Wayland and Dena Tom of Senath, Missouri, and Larry and Dottie Tom of Bennington; five daughters and sons-in-law, Linda and Scott Taylor of Soper, Sharon and Jim Davis of Soper, Lenora and Jr. Jackson of Hugo, Billie Strickland of Antlers and Barbara McKee of Hugo; one sister, Lora Mae Rhoden of Houston; 27 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren, seven great-great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews, relatives and friends.

### Jimmie Cordell Bartee

Jimmie Cordell Bartee, 66, of Marietta passed away June 17, 2007, at the hospital in Ardmore. He was born on February 10, 1941, in Tyler to Vernon Cordell Bartee and Nadia Hallmark Bartee.

He was raised in Tyler and he attended Madill School where he graduated in 1959. Jimmie worked for WW Trailers and in 1965 he moved to Bridgeport, Texas, where he worked for General Dynamics and Boyd Build Industries. In 1978, Jimmie started the B&B Metal Buildings which he owned and operated for several years. In 2005, he moved to Marietta where he lived the rest of his life. Jimmie was of the Baptist faith and enjoyed hunting, fishing, his horses and loved his dogs.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Wendy Bartee of Marietta, Oklahoma; daughters and sons-in-law, Liz and Jim Price of Montague, Texas, Elaine and Charles Romines of Chico, Texas, Jamie and Matt Carr of Midland, Texas, and Julie and Marty Casillas of Bridgeport, Texas; sons, Jim Bartee of wife Kellie of Springtown, Texas, and Joe Bartee of Tulsa; sisters, Nadine Killion of Boonsville, Arkansas, Wanaloy Harris of Whitesboro, Texas, Evelyn Coleman and husband Martin of Independence, Missouri, Loyce Eldridge and husband Jerry of Madill and Phyllis Russell and husband Earl of Springer; brothers, Royce Bartee and wife Sharon and Terry Bartee and wife Valerie, all of Madill, and Tony Bartee and wife Marcy of Marietta; 17 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and his dog, Piper.

### Frances Lowery

Frances Lowery, 63, of Purcell passed away January 14, 2006, at OU Medical Center. She was born September, 27, 1942, in Terrell, Texas, the oldest of five children of Mitchell Hayes and Zora Mae Thrift. She grew up in the Dallas area.

At the age of 18 she married Sydney Kadwell and they had four daughters. Mrs. Lowery worked at various jobs in the Dallas area where she raised her children. After moving to Purcell she worked for Little Stinker Bait Co. On December 12, 1987, she married Roy Lowery in Purcell where they made their home.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Survivors include her husband, Roy Lowery, of Purcell; four daughters, LaVanda Stone and her husband, Patrick, of Ada and Theresa Haynes and her husband, Rocky, Elisha Groom and Michelle Engert and her husband, Mike, all of Purcell; three brothers, Mitchell Hayes and his wife, Evelyn, of Valley View, Texas, Roy Hayes of Killeen, Texas, and Tim Hayes and his wife, Linda, of Gainesville, Texas; one sister, Mary Cornelison of Mesquite, Texas; 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

### Annie Lee Bond Dodd

Annie Lee Bond Dodd passed away June 6, 2007, at Aztec, New Mexico. She was born August 2, 1932, in Duncan to Marvin and Agnes Nole Bond. She lived most of her life in Oklahoma City and was proud of her Choctaw heritage and the Oklahoma Sooners.

She was a graduate of Haskell School in Lawrence, Kansas, and attended South-eastern Oklahoma State University.

Survivors include her children, Samuel and Brenda of Little Rock, Arkansas, Loretta Manning of Jacksonville, Florida, and Joel and Linda of Farmington, New Mexico; seven grandchildren, Michelle, Mindy and Stephanie McCarty, Sandra and Samuel Dodd II and Olivia and Sophia Dodd; and two great-grandchildren, Jade Grandstaff and Lizabeth McCarty.



### Toney Goodman Jr.

Toney Goodman Jr., 71, a resident of Claremont since 1973, passed away at his home on May 7, 2007, after a battle with kidney cancer. He grew up in Madill where was born on August 15, 1935.

Following high school, he joined the U.S. Navy and served four years of duty in Hawaii and Corpus Christi, Texas. After being discharged with honors in 1959, he ventured directly to Nashville, Tennessee, to pursue his dream of becoming a famous country western singer.

After a year in Tennessee, during which the road to musical success was tough, Mr. Goodman decided it was time to see California. Upon arrival, he settled in Upland and immediately applied for a job at General Dynamics. He was hired as a welder and soon moved to the transportation department as a truck driver and dispatcher. After 35 years of dedicated service to the company, he retired in 1993.

In 1964, a few years after moving to California, Mr. Goodman met his future wife, Nancy, and on her 21st birthday. Her cousin, Mary, introduced them at a nightclub where she and Mr. Goodman worked. The two were married in 1969 and for many years after, Mr. Goodman continued to play music and was followed from nightclub and nightclub by a large group of fans.

With an impressive voice and talents on the electric bass, saxophone, steel guitar and banjo, Mr. Goodman played and sang backup for a number of country western stars, including Loretta Lynn. His own quest to find success as a famous country western singer did not come to full fruition, but his love of music and his flair for entertaining crowds persevered for over 30 years.

Mr. Goodman also coached his two daughters, Tonya and Stacee, in soccer and softball. The family vacations were spent on Lake Mead having fun boating, fishing and waterskiing with a boat full of their children’s friends.

Survivors include his wife of Claremont; his daughters and sons-in-law, Tonya and Ray Scott of Claremont, and Stacee and Kevin Reese, also of Claremont, and Stacee and Kevin Reese, also of Claremont; his grandchildren, Britanee, Haley, Brody, Luke, Liam and Teagan; brother and sister-in-law, Forest and Cathy Goodman of Oklahoma; brothers, Sam and Ben Goodman, both of Oklahoma; sister and brother-in-law, Peggy and Gene Skinner, also of Oklahoma; and by many nieces and nephews.

### Suveller Ned-Andrews

Suveller Ned-Andrews, 89, of Boswell passed away May 18, 2007, in Colbert. She was born March 23, 1918, in Hewitt, Oklahoma, to Marvin and Nellie Chatham Ned. Suveller attended school at St. Agnes Mission in Antlers. On May 5, 1936, Suveller married Bloomer Edward Andrews in Ardmore and to this union were born seven children.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; daughters, Theresa Maxwell, Bernice Ramirez and Lahoma Vivian Guinn; sister, Carrie Cotton; and brothers, Sylvester Ned and Gabe Ned.

Survivors include daughters, Mary Frances Andrews-Keigley, Holly Kenoyer and Debrah Andrews Taylor; son, Lewis Edward Andrews; grandchildren, Richard Guinn, Guy Guinn, Terri Guinn, Donald Madewell, Mary Houze, Crystal Brown, Mark Keigley, Paula Keigley, Daniel Keigley, William Owens, Brett Owens, Erik Maxwell, Robin Reed, Chris Reed, Lora Remlinger, Tod Kenoyer, Ruth Bailey, Chad Kenoyer, Suzette Stephens, Theresa Janz, and Branigan Taylor; 24 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; numerous other relatives and a host of friends.

### Eunella Myrtle Satterfield

Eunella Myrtle Satterfield, 69, of Hugo passed away May 24, 2007, at Hugo. She was born June 21, 1937, in Fort Towson, the daughter of Wister L. David and Jincie Nancy Gable David and lived in the Hugo-Fort Towson area most of her life. She married Floyd “Gene” Satterfield on August 11, 1962, in Fort Towson. He preceded her in death on September 27, 2003.

A homemaker and member of Corinth Baptist Church, Eunella enjoyed sewing, babysitting and watching her grandchildren’s ball games. She also enjoyed taking care of others and going to church.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Arville David, Hathaway David and Virgil David; and her grandson, Kevin David.

Survivors include three sons, Floyd Satterfield Jr. of Rattan, Keith Satterfield of Hugo and Gary Satterfield of Hugo; two daughters, Theresa Davis of Hugo and Gwen Coffman of Grant; one brother, Wyndle David of Sawyer; two sisters, Bertha Micco of Hugo and Louella Barnett of Oklahoma City; 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

### Arnold Floyd Harvey

Arnold Floyd Harvey, 74, passed away June 6, 2007, at Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he had been on an extended visit to his daughter and son-in-law’s home. He was born May 21, 1933, in Damon, Oklahoma, to Beard and Willie Harvey. He grew up on his father’s Choctaw allotment land at Damon, southeast of White Bluff.

Arnold served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. Returning to Oklahoma, he lived in the Wilburton area where he married and started a family. He worked as a superintendent on numerous construction jobs. He loved gardening and being with nature. Hunting and fishing were things he also enjoyed doing especially if he could teach somebody a better way of doing it, but most of all he loved the time he spent with his daughters and their families. He was baptized as an adult in the Freewill Baptist Church. He faithfully read the Bible daily. He was a good man who enjoyed the simple pleasures and will be missed by all.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Beard and Willie Terry Harvey; two brothers, Junior and Johnny; four sisters, Juanita Munnell, Oleta Harvey and Maggie James and one who died at birth.

Survivors include two daughters and their spouses, Diana and Steven Suttmiller of McAlester; Marcy and Pat Regan of Kalamazoo; five grandchildren and spouses, Cody Regan of Spartanburg, South Carolina, Casey Regan and Tracy of Lawrence, Kansas, Amanda and John Zachary of McAlester, Andrea and Blake Danyeur of Skiatook, Joshua and Jessie Suttmiller of Longtown; three great-grandchildren, Jasmine, Noah and Allison Zachary of McAlester; four sisters, Capitola Harvey of McAlester, Leola B. Sparks of Buffalo Valley, Geneva Houston of Albion, Inita Logan of Nowata; two ex-wives, Sharon Holbird of Wilburton and Ila Anderson Harvey of Texas; and numerous nieces and nephews and friends who loved him dearly.

