

Pro Patria Award presented to Choctaw Nation

Tribe acknowledged for its efforts in supporting National Guard and Reserves

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has earned Oklahoma's committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's highest honor, the Pro Patria Award. Brig. Gen. John W. Hubbard presented the award to Chief Gregory E. Pyle during a press conference on February 15 in the Durant Tribal Complex auditorium, during which Chief Pyle also signed a statement of support.

"We support our employees who serve in the military," said Chief Pyle to an audience including several of those employees in uniform accompanied by family members. "We have also

gone to great lengths to support military personnel who are Choctaw and friends of Choctaws." Some of those efforts include transportation to and from Fort Bliss, Texas, for National Guardsmen as well as welcome home and departure ceremonies and meals for the Guardsmen.

On several occasions, a special need has been brought to the attention of the tribe. Many thank you notes have come back to the tribal offices from soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan who have received special knives that can cut vehicle harnesses or safety straps quickly, walkie-talkies so that transport teams

can talk to each other when their visibility was too low to actually see each other, phone cards and other great items in care packages, and an ultrasound machine to check for embedded shrapnel.

"The Choctaw Nation has been very willing to support those serving our great country through all branches of the armed services," said Chief Pyle. "Employees are highly honored for their willingness to serve and the tribe is excited at receiving this award.

"Our Tribal Councilmembers are tremendous advocates for veterans and active military," Chief Pyle explained that the

Council approved funding to establish a Veterans Advocacy Program, an annual Veterans Ceremony and provided property and funding for a Veterans Cemetery.

The Choctaw Nation has also been nominated for the 2008 Freedom Award in the category of large employer. According to Walter Cross, the Executive Director of Oklahoma Employer Support of Guard and Reserves, the Freedom Award is given to only 15 outstanding employers of Guard and Reserve members nationwide and is presented in Washington, D.C., by the Secretary of Defense.



Brig. Gen. John W. Hubbard presents Oklahoma's Pro Patria award to Chief Gregory E. Pyle and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.



School day

Assistant Chief Gary Batton stopped by the Stigler Head Start recently to visit with teachers and children. Students this year are Markus Apple, Lacey Bumpers, Ryan Clark, Caden Cook, Heaven Covey, Madison Edwards, Dawson Jones, Jagger Mantooth, Cynthia Pruitt, Denver Reese, Joey Rhodes, Makenzie Smith, Toby Storment and Noah Thompson. In back are Supervisor Rebecca Good, Assistant Chief Batton, teacher Julia Underwood and teacher assistant Annie Dixon.

Museum receives generous donation

The Choctaw Nation Museum has received a wonderful donation from Ron Milam, a Choctaw from Corona, California. Ron is a longtime collector of Native American artifacts. He very generously donated 21 Choctaw cane baskets along with various other Choctaw artifacts.

The collection includes beautifully preserved baskets, some dating back to the 1800s, and an extremely rare cane Choctaw cradle board. The Choctaw Nation is thrilled to receive this donation and is planning an exhibit to highlight the baskets.

Baskets were a necessity in the everyday lives of the Choctaw people in times past. They were used for carrying supplies from one camp to another, gathering and storing food and herbs, food processing, and for fishing traps.

In modern times, Choctaw baskets are admired for their intricate design, beauty and



craftsmanship. If you would like to learn more about Choctaw baskets you are invited to visit the museum at Tushka Homma. The museum also has exhibits about language, Trail of Tears, an art gallery, ancient Choctaw pottery and much more. Admission to the museum is free.


CNO Health Services is awarded ACR Accreditation

Choctaw Nation Health Services in Talihina has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in mammography as the result of a recent survey by the American College of Radiology.

The ACR, headquartered in Reston, Virginia, awards accreditation to facilities for the achievement of high practice standards after a peer-review evaluation of the practice. Evaluations are conducted by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel and the adequacy of facility equipment.

The surveyors report their finding to the ACR's Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report.

The American College of Radiation is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic-interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, and nuclear medicine and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health services.



The Walk set for May 17

Annual event scheduled to be held at Wheelock Academy near Millerton

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Gary Batton and the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council would like to invite everyone to participate in the tribe's annual Trail of Tears Walk. The commemorative walk will be held Saturday, May 17, at the historic Wheelock Academy near Millerton.

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



Shriners show appreciation

Chief Greg Pyle accepts an award from the Bedouin Temple for a Choctaw Nation donation of a van to the Shriners to transport children to the hospital. Joe David Cook of Wilburton and Clint Warnock of McAlester presented the plaque as Council Speaker Delton Cox looks on.

Tribal Council approves establishing AMBER Alert Program

Tribal Councilmembers gave their support for establishing an AMBER Alert Program in the Choctaw Nation during their regular session in February.

The Choctaw Nation Tribal Police will form critical partnerships with other law enforcement entities, the broadcast/media industry, Department of Transportation and

other organizations to effectively recover endangered or abducted children. A pilot program established by the Office of Justice Program, it includes nine other Indian Tribes receiving grant funds to develop the plan. The amount of the grant funds ranges from \$125,000 to \$450,000, based on a needs assessment.

The Choctaw Nation Tribal Police Department will design and develop a plan for activating a local AMBER Alert system which includes purchasing equipment, training and building inter-agency relationships.

Other new business included modifications of FY 2008 Indirect Cost Budget, Tribal Operations Budget and Choctaw

Nation Injury Prevention Program. An Easement of Right of Way was granted Public Service Company of Oklahoma in Choctaw County.

Applications were also approved to the U.S. Department of Education Projects with Industry Grant and to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Assets for Inde-

pendence Demonstration Program.

Authorization was given for funds to purchase a number of animals belonging to 4H and FFA students in the Choctaw Nation who make the premium sale.

The Council meets at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of every month at Tushka Homma.

Chief Pyle speaks at Congressional Hearing on proposed gaming restrictions

Chief Gregory E. Pyle was among tribal and community leaders at a recent Congressional Hearing to speak against proposed restrictions for gaming machines. The hearing was spearheaded by Congressmen Dan Boren and Tom Cole, both of whom serve on the House Natural Resources Committee. The two Congressmen heard testimony on proposed rules from the National Indian Gaming Commission that would change types of machines at tribal gaming facilities, clarifying Class II from Class III machines.

The Choctaw Nation has a compact with Oklahoma that expires in 2020. As with other tribes, the Choctaw Casino offers a number of Class II and Class III games. The Class III are under a compact and a portion of the proceeds from them are paid back to the state. The Class II are more of a bingo-based game and are still available in the casinos because of the demand from the customers.

Chief Pyle told the committee of the many tribal programs that had been initiated and expanded, thanks to revenue from Choctaw gaming operations. Some of the recent successes mentioned were the addition this year of \$6 million to provide 5,000 college schol-

arships, \$2 million to the Summer Youth Work program to employ 1,300 young people, \$3.5 million in other education-related programs including Choctaw Language, Adult Education and a new STAR Education Incentive Program. An additional \$3.8 million was budgeted from gaming revenues this year for Career Development and \$7 million to Contract Health services not available in tribal hospital or clinic facilities.

"In order to maintain this level of tribal self-sufficiency, we must continue to have gaming in Oklahoma," said Chief Pyle. "Every tribal dollar spent on social services, education and health care means one less dollar that the State of Oklahoma or federal government will have to spend. Even though we have a compact with the state, tribes should still have the option of offering Class II games. That's where we started and our customers still enjoy them. If the restrictions proposed by the NIGC are implemented and a new Class II game must be developed that costs more to manufacture and it is not attractive to our customers, Class II games will no longer be economically viable."

Chief Pyle also said, "Our Choctaw vision statement is 'A na-



tion of healthy, successful and productive Choctaws.' Gaming helps us achieve this vision. The impact of gaming and tribal nations is helping Oklahoma grow and move forward."

NOTES TO THE NATION

Seeking church members

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I am trying to locate members of the Mt. Fork Presbyterian Church of Eagletown, Oklahoma. We desperately need help for the upkeep of the church. Attendance at church is down to only a handful of elderly people. The roof and the plumbing needs work, so any donations or volunteers who could work on these problems would be greatly appreciated. For more information you can write:

Mt. Fork Presbyterian Church
C/O Agnes Cole
HC 76 Box 496
Eagletown, OK 74734

Looking for relatives

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I am looking for information about my parents' families. My father's name is Richard Bertis. His mother and father's name are Denis Bertis and Edna Bertis. My father was kin to Maggie Byington somehow. I know he went to school at Goodland Indian School. My mother's name is Naomi Ruth Wallace. Her mother and father are Newt Wallace and Agnes Wallace. They used to live in Bentley. They have all passed on now, but if anyone has any information, please write and let me know. Thank you.

Glen Bertis 1411281-DN-211
6888 E. 133rd Road
Holdenville, OK 74848

Thank you

Dear Choctaw Nation,

My special thanks to our Choctaw Nation family. My blessings to our Chief Gregory Pyle, Assistant Chief Gary Batton and their families. I want to thank the entire staff of the Choctaw Nation in Durant, Oklahoma. Special thanks to Virgil Ott, Roger Hamill, Brandi Erwin, Dee Moore, Kim White, Staci Anderson, Charlene Grunstad and Kenni Elrod for going above and beyond with assistance on providing me with housing, food, and job inquiries. They went above their job duties to help provide for my needs and information. These individuals really know how to help the Choctaw people. Keep up the great spirits you all have been blessed with because you are in my prayers. God bless you and your families.

Randy S. Killingsworth

Note of appreciation

Dear Choctaw Nation,

We would like to express our gratitude for the help you gave us, when our Dad passed away. We are very grateful. God bless you.

From the family of Josiah Amos, our beloved father

Beyond the call of duty

Dear Chief Pyle,

My name is Lawrence Horn. I live in Vian, Oklahoma. The reason I am writing is to let you know about two remarkable women, Betty Jackson, a social worker from Hugo, and Paula Lynch, a social worker from Poteau. These two women are thoughtful of others and their tribe. My wife and I are both 51 years old with health problems, and are applying for SSI. Our electricity was turned off for two months. I called Choctaw Nation and they helped us. The electricity was turned on, and we were able to take hot baths without heating the water ourselves. They also helped me when I needed my high blood pressure medication filled. These caring women make me proud to be a member of the Choctaw Nation. I feel these two ladies are very special people. These women are valuable assets to the Choctaw Nation.

Lawrence C. Horn
Vian, Oklahoma



Do you recognize any of these ladies? The picture was taken at Wheelock Academy and labeled the "WOW Girls." If you can identify anyone in the picture, please call Barbara Grant at Wheelock Academy, 580-746-2139.

Financial aid appreciated

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank you on behalf of my son, Jason Sheman, and my grandson, Devin Sheman, for your financial support. Jason has just completed the LPN portion of his nursing program and is scheduled to take his exam in February. He hopes to continue with the RN program in the near future. Devin will travel to Australia next summer as part of the People to People Student Ambassador program. We are so thankful for your assistance which has helped make this possible for both of them. We were unable to attend the meeting in Seattle, Washington, last year but hope to attend the next meeting.

Jason is the great-grandson of William Bailey Wyers aka William Bailey Wear. We enjoy receiving and reading the Bishinik each month.

Judith Holden
Kelso, Washington



Softball team wins tournament

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for the recent donation that was made on my behalf to help with expenses for my trip to Hawaii. I was selected as a coach through an application process, which included coaching experience and recommendations. I proudly represented the State of Oklahoma and the Choctaw Nation as a head coach in the Hawaii Classic Invitational Tournament. The opportunity was a once-in-a-lifetime experience and one that will be a lifelong memory of mine.

I coached a team of 12 juniors and seniors from around the United States. The girls were from Washington, Pennsylvania, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, Illinois, and North Carolina. Their high school coaches nominated them as being 12 outstanding softball players and it proved to be true. We went undefeated throughout pool play where we played all of the teams in the tournament and went on to win the championship with a record of 9-0. I had the privilege of being the first female coach to ever win the championship.

I had a wonderful time not only being in Hawaii but getting to coach in the tournament. I appreciate the Choctaw Nation for their support. They helped make this dream a reality.

Jo Lynn Tonihka
Battiest High School Softball Coach

Thank you

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Thank you Choctaw Nation for your help. We could not have buried our special mother without your help. A special thank you to Dr. Hannah and Renee Evans at Idabel Indian Clinic. We appreciated all their patience. My mother was very proud of her heritage and we plan to pass it on! Thank you.

Family of Bertie Leota Daniel Williamson



Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Choctaw Nation and those who have supported my son with well wishes and packages. Geoff Rauch is the great-grandson of Alexander E. Wade. He is a specialist with the 113th Military Police unit based out of Brandon, Mississippi, which is currently overseas. He is scheduled to return home from deployment in June 2008.

Monte Rauch

Gregory E. Pyle The Official **Gary Batton**
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The BISHINIK is printed each month as a service to Tribal Members. The BISHINIK reserves the right to edit submitted material which it finds inaccurate, profane, offensive or morally unacceptable. Copy may be edited for proper grammar and punctuation. Copy will be accepted in any readable form, but where possible, it is requested that material be typewritten and double spaced. You must include an address or phone number where you may be reached.

If you are receiving more than one BISHINIK at your home or if your address needs changed, we would appreciate hearing from you.

The BISHINIK is a nonprofit publication of the Choctaw Nation.

Circulation is monthly. Deadline for articles is the 10th of the month for the following month's edition.



Seeking information on relative

Dear Choctaw Nation,

At left is a picture of my Indian grandfather's mother holding Coleman Lawrence (deceased). He is the baby brother of my mother, Dorothy Lawrence Corley.

The other picture is of a girl I do not know holding my brother, Doyle Lawrence, when he was a baby. My brother died when he was 15 years old.

Anyone related to or who knows these people please contact:

Niketa Corley
8770 Old Hwy 70
Bokchito, OK 74726



A healthy, successful and productive Nation



From the Desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

A Nation of healthy, successful and productive Choctaws. That is a vision that I see in the future for all of us. The Tribal Council and I want tribal members to have resources that enable them to be educated, healthy and self-sufficient. With these goals in mind, scholarships are constantly offered, clinics are being constructed, and businesses are being expanded to create additional jobs. It is very uplifting to know

that prayer will be offered at each meeting that the tribe has. Every Council meeting, every community gathering and every dinner begin with an invocation. The Tribal Council selects a Chaplain from among their peers and the Choctaw Nation is honored to have a lifetime Chaplain, Bertram Bobb, to serve us through his ministry. A deep belief in God has been the source of strength for Choctaw people for many generations and we encourage His guidance in the future. A compassionate and caring

spirit is vital in jobs for Choctaw Nation services. The programs that are available in social services, housing, health, education, training and emergency services are intended to improve the lives of those in need. The Choctaw Nation has grown at a tremendous rate over the past few years. We now have 8,000 employees, and there are almost 190,000 tribal members worldwide. The tribe has come a long way since that treacherous journey across the Trail of Tears in 1832 when a few

thousand people set foot in Indian Territory. Choctaws have been a vital part of Oklahoma's history, even naming the state, and we are continuing to make history, here and abroad. The Choctaw Nation has been successful in business, successful in delivery of services and successful in creating a viable government process that we can all participate in. I have great hope for the future and my prayer for each of you is that your family members will each have a successful, healthy and productive lifestyle.

Events continue to preserve heritage of Choctaw Nation

From the Desk of Assistant Chief Gary Batton

The Choctaw Nation is very interested in preservation of heritage. Pride in our culture is shown through the very successful School of Choctaw Language that is teaching through public schools, the Internet and community classes. There are also numerous youth groups that promote language, Choctaw social dancing, crafts, and other heritage-based programs through events. Gatherings such as the one in Bakersfield, California, the first weekend in May and the Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma August 28 through September 1 this year will also feature many hours of opportunities to share Choctaw heritage.

One of the most stimulating ways I have found to "re-live" heritage is through stories. Our ancestors had verbal legends about creation, migration, eclipses caused by black squirrels eating the sun, and many other topics that were captured by writers in the 1700s and 1800s. Many of the children's folklore are still told today. I have listened to different speakers tell about "Why Rabbit Has a Short Tail," "How Turtle's Shell Got Its Cracks" and "The Show-Off Turkey" and have enjoyed the stories each time I hear them. We are very fortunate to have some tremendous storytellers who attend tribal functions and are willing to share their talent. During both the Bakersfield Gathering and the Labor Day Festival, storyteller Tim Tingle will be featured. Tim has won many awards for his books and stories,

most recently the 2008 American Indian Youth Literature Award for "Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom" in the Picture Book category. Tim will also be at the Choctaw Nation Storytelling Conference in McAlester May 30 and 31 at the Choctaw Community Center. Friday, May 30th, Tim will work with adults on storytelling skills and that evening, everyone will be entertained with Gospel singing and storytelling. May 31st, demonstration Inter-Tribal Dancing, blow dart contests and a bow and arrow competition will be added to the storytelling agenda. Everyone is welcome to attend. It is important to honor those who came before us by remembering our heritage. I hope that you and your family are able to enjoy some part of Choctaw history.



Mills celebrates 103rd birthday

Family and friends gathered January 31 at the Quinton Community Center to join original enrollee Irene Exodus Roberts Mills in celebrating her 103rd birthday. Council Speaker Delton Cox and Councilmen Bob Pate and Joe Coley are among the many who attended the party. Seated with Mrs. Mills is her granddaughter, Glenda Stephens.

Choctaw hymns are a blessing

Several Choctaw churches have celebrated their 100th year of ministry in southeast Oklahoma. A few churches have carried on the singing of the traditional Choctaw hymns. These Choctaw hymns and portions of the Bible were written in Choctaw over 150 years ago. The reading of the Choctaw Bible is rare.

The original hymns were written by Presbyterian Church missionaries and printed by the John Knox Press and carried on by the American Bible Society with the printing of portions of the Bible: the Pentateuch, Joshua, Psalms and the New Testament in the Choctaw language. These printers have ceased printing the Scripture portions.

Listening to and singing the Choctaw hymns continue to be a blessing.

In the midst of all the frustrations that the individual and the world faces today, what is the attitude of the Christian? What should be the attitude of Christians?

There is one bright light of hope, and that is the promise of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Gospel of John 14:3:

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

Choctaw Hymn number 120, written in the Choctaw language, reads in the first verse of the hymn: "On that day, last day, here on earth, Jesus will return proclaiming, my dear children, I am coming for you."

Please read I Thessalonians 4:13-18. Verse 18 reads: "Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Choctaw Hymn 120 is entitled "Judgment." Jesus will come for His own before the Judgment. He will pour out His Wrath - Judgment - on all those who have rejected Him as Savior. This hymn is an Invitational Hymn.

The salvation of an individual rests squarely on the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 2:8 reads:

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God."

Salvation is not by education, evolution, politics, technology, military power or universal church that can influence Legislation in the Congresses of Nations so as to produce the acts of man that all hate evil, and sin will be abolished. The salvation of society will come about by the powers and forces released by the Return of Jesus Christ.

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ will change every aspect of life on this earth. Jesus Christ will reign in Righteousness. There will be no disease. There will be no death. There will be no more wars. Nature will be changed. Man will live as God originally intended him to live.

We have never had a lasting, satisfactory, peaceful social order. There is nothing today that offers any hope that is better. It is impossible to build a peaceful world on the cracked foundation of human nature. As someone has said, "No arrangement of bad eggs will give you a good omelet."

Chaplain's Corner



Rev. Bertram Bobb
Tribal Chaplain

The importance of this Hope of Christ's Return is established by the frequency of its being mentioned in the Bible. It is mentioned in all but four books of the New Testament. Jesus constantly referred to His Return, not only to His Disciples, but to others as well. One out of every 30 verses in the Bible mentions this subject.

There are 318 references to His Return in 216 chapters in the New Testament. One-twentieth of the entire New Testament

deals with this subject.

The Bible teaches it, the Apostles preached it, and the Church Creeds affirm it. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is the hope that we have.

His Second Coming will be with His warriors from Heaven to cope with any situation and to defeat the enemies of God until He has subdued the entire world. That no Christian should go around wringing his hands wondering what he is to do in the face of the present world situation.

The Scripture says that in the midst of persecutions, confusion, wars and rumors of wars, we are to comfort one another with the knowledge that Jesus Christ is coming back in triumph, glory and majesty.

Margurite Higgins, a war correspondent, received the much-coveted Pulitzer prize for International reporting in her coverage of the Korean struggle many years ago. She wrote an account of the Fifth Company of Marines, which originally numbered 18,000, in their combat with more than 100,000 of the enemy:

"It was particularly cold," she wrote, "Forty-two below zero that morning. The wary marines, half frozen, stood by their dirty trucks eating from tin cans. A big marine was eating cold beans with his trench knife. His clothes were as stiff as a board. His face, covered with a heavy beard, was crusted with mud. A correspondent asked him, 'If I were God and could grant you anything you wished, what would you like most?' That man stood motionless for a moment, then he raised his head and replied, 'Give me tomorrow'."

For the believer in Jesus Christ, the future is assured. Tomorrow belongs to you. We await the trumpet announcing the coming of Jesus Christ. The Christian has tomorrow when the Lord Jesus Christ shall reign.

Are you ready to meet Him? If you are not ready to meet the Lord Jesus Christ, you can be ready. Today, even right now, you can receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior by faith and be born again into the family of God and be ready to meet Him when He returns.

John 1:12 says: "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

I am praying for you. Happy Easter! Pray for America. And remember our brave men and women in our Armed Forces.

Trail of Tears

T-shirt Order Form

T-shirts are white.

Sizes available are:

Children - (2-4), (6-8), (10-12) and (14-16)

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



Item	Size	Quantity	Total Price
T-shirt - \$10 ea.	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
Cap - \$10 ea.	_____	_____	_____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone Number _____
 E-Mail _____

Price includes postage and handling. Limited supply of Children and 3X sizes. To order, send payment (NO PERSONAL CHECKS) with completed form to:

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

Healthy Lifestyles Recipe of the Month

**Oatmeal-Chocolate
Chunk Cookies**

- 5 Tbsp. no-trans fat margarine (with around 8 grams of fat per tablespoon)
- 3 Tbsp. light or fat-free cream cheese
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cup Splenda
- 1/4 cup egg substitute (1 large egg can be substituted)
- 6 Tbsp. whole-wheat flour (1/4 cup plus 2 Tbsp.)
- 6 Tbsp. white flour (1/4 cup plus 2 Tbsp.)
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup coarsely chopped Hershey's Sugar Free Dark Chocolate Candy (mini bars) or Dark Chocolate
- 1 cup quick-cooking oats

Preheat oven to 375° F. Coat cookie sheets with canola cooking spray.

In mixing bowl, cream together no-trans margarine, cream cheese, brown sugar, and Splenda. Add egg substitute or egg and beat well.

Add flours, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and vanilla to butter mixture and beat until well-blended. Stir in sugar-free chocolate chunks and oats. Blend thoroughly.

Drop rounded teaspoons of dough onto cookie sheet (about 15 cookies per cookie sheet). Bake in center of oven for about 6 minutes or until cookies are still soft but lightly browned. Remove cookies and let cool on wire rack.

Yields: 30 cookies.

Nutritional information: Per cookie: 60 calories; calories from fat 42%; 1.5g protein; 7g carbohydrate; 2.8g fat (1.2g sat. fat, 1g monounsaturated fat, 0.5g polyunsaturated fat); 1/5mg cholesterol; 1g fiber; 83mg sodium.

Choctaw Nation Diabetes Wellness Center
1-800-349-7026

Aerobic exercise has numerous health benefits

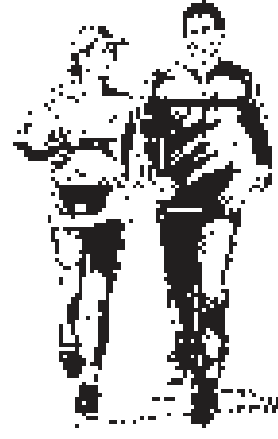
Aerobic or cardiovascular exercise has numerous health benefits including:

- ◆ Weight loss
- ◆ Reduced body fat
- ◆ Reduced blood pressure
- ◆ Improved cardiovascular health
- ◆ Increased HDL (good) cholesterol
- ◆ Decreased likelihood of developing diabetes
- ◆ Reduced chance of developing certain cancers

There are many ways to improve aerobic fitness. The only criteria are that you elevate your heart rate for 20 minutes or more at least three days per week. Popular activities that can be employed include:

- ◆ Walking, jogging, bicycling, swimming and roller blading
- ◆ Exercising to a video or DVD such as aerobic dance, jazzercise or chair aerobics (yes, there are entire exercise programs you can do while sitting in a chair!)
- ◆ Cardio machines – these are often best utilized parked in front of the TV. This allows you to get your cardio in while catch-

Healthy Lifestyles
Fitness Tip of the Month



ing up on the news or watching your favorite program.

- Treadmill – home units cost \$300 to \$1,000.
- Recumbent bike (these have lower back support and a more comfortable seat than the traditional exercise bike) – home models cost \$100-\$500.
- Elliptical trainer – home units cost \$300-\$1,000.

As with any new exercise program, check with your physician if you haven't exercised in a year or more or if you have health problems. Also, be sure to begin with a low intensity (the talk rule is a good guideline – you should be able to carry on a conversation with a little huffing and puffing while exercising).

Another useful rule is to select an initial pace that you feel you could maintain for an hour (even if you don't go that long). As the weeks pass, gradually increase the intensity and duration of the exercise bout by adding a few minutes each week.

Health and safety promoted at Hugo High School

Hugo High School Healthy, Fit and Safe Committee partnered with Choctaw Nation Healthy Lifestyles Specialist Kristi Adams to promote health and safety for an estimated 400 students at Hugo High School on January 18. Members of the committee include Vivian Shanklin, Assistant Principal, and Tommy Cummings, Principal.

Information was provided on many topics including tobacco, male involvement, alcohol, STDs, meth and your heart, community volunteer work, dating violence, physical fitness and nutrition.

Students were given the opportunity to have their blood sugar and blood pressure



checked and knowledge of the body mass index (BMI).

Presenters at the health fair included Choctaw Nation Lifetime Legacy, Choctaw Nation Healthy Heart, Choctaw

Nation CHR, Choctaw Nation Community Health Nurses, Choctaw Nation Diabetes Educators, Choctaw Nation Project Safe, Choctaw Nation Youth Outreach, Choctaw Na-

tion Healthy Lifestyles and Youth Advisory Board, 2M2L, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Project SPIT, SWAT and the state Department of Health/Male Involvement.



Yearly female cancer screening saves lives.

The recommended cancer screening examinations are:

- ✓ yearly breast exam for all women 18 years and older
- ✓ yearly pap exam for all women 18 to 65 years old
- ✓ yearly mammogram for women 40 years and older
- ✓ yearly colon cancer screening for women 50 years and older

All of these examinations can be performed at any Choctaw Nation Health Care Clinic or within the Family Practice Clinic and Women's Health Clinic at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina.

You may reach the hospital or any clinic at 800-349-7026, press "5" then listen for the clinic's number. Choctaw Nation Health Clinics are located in Broken Bow, Hugo, Idabel, McAlester, Poteau, and Stigler.

Please contact one of these clinics for an appointment soon.

Seven ways to be a better spouse

By John Place

Yesterday, I found out that a friend of mine is going through a divorce. The news of his pending divorce started me thinking about how fragile certain relationships can be, and about how important they are to our happiness and well-being.

I personally am a product of divorce. My parents split up when I was 7, and I grew up migrating back and forth between my mother's house and my father's apartment, never quite feeling whole, always missing whichever parent wasn't there, and always wanting to be someplace else.

As I grew older, I watched most of my friends, and even my siblings, tear through relationships like they were pinatas, scattering unhappiness everywhere.

And yet, somehow, growing up in the midst of all this dysfunction, I've managed to hold my marriage together. In fact, I'll go one better: I've managed to find the perfect woman for me. No matter what crazy twists and turns life brings me, I know I'll be all right because my wife is as constant as the Northern Star, forever guiding me home. Finding her was partly luck (or destiny, if you're a romantic) because I certainly could not have planned to meet the perfect woman the way I did. But some of what it takes to build a wonderful relationship isn't luck. So let's talk about that part: the part we control.

In the simplest possible terms, relationship success boils down to two things:

- 1) Picking the right partner
 - 2) Being the right partner
- Of course, nothing is really that simple. We could spend 100 pages on each of these, couldn't we? For the sake of brevity, let's spend a few high-power minutes talking about the second item: being the right partner.

That's not to diminish the importance of finding the right partner (after all, you could be the greatest guy or gal in the world, but you'll never find relationship utopia if you're with the wrong person). But once you find the right person, you've got to have the skills to keep that relationship in happy symbiosis, don't you?

Here are seven simple, ac-

**Choctaw Nation
Healthy Marriages/Healthy Kids
Couples Retreat**
Talking Tree Campground & Spa
April 25, 2008
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
53157 U.S. Hwy. 59, Hodgen, OK 74939

Lunch & Dinner provided
Contact 918-567-3386 or Fax 918-567-3917

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

tionable things that anyone can do to be a better partner:

1) Pay attention to your partner:

When your partner is talking, pay attention to what he or she is saying. I'm as guilty of not listening as anyone, but I do try. If I'm listening to the radio or watching television or spacing out while my wife is trying to talk to me, I have the good sense to understand that I'm being rude. If you're only 50 percent present in a conversation, you're basically telling your partner that he or she isn't worth your time. Of course, there is a flip side to this: If your partner is constantly interrupting you when you're in the middle of some other important activity, you might want to have a talk about that.

But let's be honest: if we have a problem paying attention to our partner, we probably know it. Do something to fix it. Pay attention. Stop spacing out. Your partner is worth your time.

2) Watch your tone:

Have you ever snapped at your spouse for no good reason simply because you were upset about some other unrelated thing? Or yelled at your partner for bringing up a stressful topic, even if he or she is on your side? When your partner says, "Hey, why are you yelling at me?!" you say, "I'm sorry. I'm not mad at you. I'm mad at the

situation."

News Flash: You're not talking to a situation. You're talking to a human being. Yes, we all deserve a little latitude from our loved ones when it comes to highly stressful situations. After all, no one is perfect. But a little common sense can go a long way when it comes to making sure our tone of voice is appropriate to the situation, the person we're talking to, and the feeling we're trying to convey.

I went through a period of time in my life when I'd let the stress of the day bleed out all over my relationships, snapping at people who didn't deserve it. Most of the time, I wasn't even aware of my tone of voice at all. And I cannot tell you how much of a difference it made when I finally learned to use a polite tone of voice with my wife. Tone of voice can be like a weapon. Avoid the arms race.

3) The golden rule:

Treat your partner the way you'd like to be treated, in all situations, all the time. To do this properly, you have to understand what makes your partner tick, which brings me to my next point...

4) Consider what's important to your partner:

Guys, you might not understand your wife's desire to spend money on an endless supply of purses and shoes. And ladies, you might not understand

your man's desire to buy an endless parade of home theater equipment. But relationships are about teamwork, working together to help each other be happy. This concept extends way beyond finances. You are not your partner. Your values and priorities may differ.

5) Remember that you and your partner decide the rules of a relationship:

The terms of your relationship are not decided by friends, parents, or co-workers. Yes, outside opinions can help you formulate opinions, but they cannot supplant the opinion of your partner. You're not trying to please the world. You're trying to please yourself and your partner. Never forget this.

6) Turn off the "understand me" impulse:

I know people who spend 10 minutes fighting about some innocuous topic, then spend an hour arguing about what caused the argument to begin with. We want to be understood, justified. We want our spouse to understand we're being reasonable, to comprehend our point of view even if it's not shared. The key question is whether your desire to be understood serves any practical purpose or is instead a selfish assertion of ego. If the latter, let it go.

7) Reach consensus on the big problems quickly:

Not every battle is worth fighting, but the big ones are worth tackling quickly, calmly, and decisively, or else they will forever fester beneath the surface of your relationship, wreaking untold havoc upon your happiness. When I first got married, I quickly came to realize that my wife and I had different priorities regarding money. To me, it's very important to keep a certain amount of money in savings and to pay all our bills on time. To her, these things were not so important. Knowing that money is a leading cause of divorce, I kept looking for ways to calmly broach the topic until finally we reached agreement on how to handle our finances. Problem solved. We haven't had a single argument about money in all the years since. The details of our compromise are not nearly so important as the fact that we saw the importance of reaching one.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

ANTLERS

April 3: Idabel 9-11; Broken Bow 12-2 (warehouse closed).
April 8: Bethel 9-10:30; Smithville 12-2; (warehouse closed).
Tribal Holiday: April 25.
Warehouse open: April 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24.
Closed for Inventory April 28, 29, 30.

DURANT

Warehouse open weekdays April 1-24.
Tribal Holiday: April 25.
Closed for Inventory April 28, 29, 30.

McALESTER

April 1: Stigler 9-12 (warehouse closed).
Warehouse open weekdays April 2-24.
Tribal Holiday: April 25.
Closed for Inventory April 28, 29, 30.

POTEAU

Market open weekdays April 1-24.
Tribal Holiday: April 25.
Closed for Inventory April 28, 29, 30.

**CHOCTAW NATION
FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

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

WAREHOUSE

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

FOOD DISTRIBUTION SITES

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

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Five generations of Jones Family

Five generations of the Malcom "Mack" Everett Jones family include, clockwise from left top, Mack; Buck Jones, great-grandfather; Pamela West, grandmother; and Payton Ryan Bennett held by his mother, Krystle Countz Bennett. All are from McAlester and are descendants of original enrollee Beulah Abigale Mackey.



Five generations of the McClendon Family

Pictured are five generations of Lorene McClendon's family. From left are Frances McClendon Jones of Arpelar, Lorene Brewster McClendon of Arpelar, Pamela Jones West of Stuart, Krystle Countz Bennett and son Payton Ryan Bennett of McAlester, and Pamela's great-great-grandmother, Beulah Abigale Mackey, was an original enrollee.



Celebrating five generations

From left are Grandma Bev Logan, Great-Grandpa Evert Canady, Great-Great-Grandma Ethel Talent, 4-month-old Meredith Mills and her mom, Lela Nicole Mills. The family took this five-generation picture as they celebrated Thanksgiving together in Albion, Oklahoma.

NURSERY NEWS

Easton Yannash and Weston Nashoba Miller

Shay Allen Miller and Christy Norton of Lone Grove are proud to announce the birth of their twin sons who were born at 10:51 a.m. November 8, 2007. Easton Yannash Miller weighed 5 pounds 10 ounces and measured 18.75 inches in length. Weston Nashoba Miller weighed 5 pounds 12 ounces and measured 18.5 inches. Proud grandmother is Evelyn Rose Miller and great-grandmother is Lula Parker of Lone Grove.



Gunner Paul Wilkins

Paul, Susan and big brother Lawson Wilkins are happy to announce the birth of Gunner Paul Wilkins at 8:54 a.m. January 21, 2008. He made his entrance at St. Mary's Regional Medical Center in Russellville, Arkansas. Gunner weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Joel A. Camp of Mead, Kathy Hanson of Hot Springs, Arkansas, and Roy and Faye Wilkins of Blue Ball, Arkansas. Gunner and his family reside in Danville, Arkansas.

Caliann Jaleah Benton-Frazier

Jason and Annette of Dallas, Texas, are very excited to announce the arrival of their beautiful baby girl, Caliann Jaleah Benton-Frazier, born at 1:31 p.m. December 29, 2007, in Dallas. Caliann weighed 7 pounds 3 ounces and measured 19.75 inches long. She was welcomed by her two sisters, Justine and Jordyn, and brother, Alex. Caliann is the third grandchild of Nathan and Teresa Benton III of Combine, Texas, and the sixth great-grandchild of Nathan and Aleine Benton Jr. of Arkansas City, Kansas. Also are proud grandparents Wanda and R.J. Frazier of Eagletown who are welcoming Caliann, their fourth grandchild.



Rylan Edward Mueller

Chad Edward and Cherie Mueller would like to announce the arrival of their son, Rylan Edward Mueller, born on June 30, 2007, at Presbyterian Hospital, Dallas, Texas. Rylan weighed 6 pounds 12 ounces. Very proud grandparents are Layne and Catherine Mueller, Danny Fluker and D.J. Hott. Rylan is the great-grandson of Claudine Impson-Wheeler and the late James Wendell Wheeler. Welcome, Rylan, to this great big wonderful family!



Brynn Layne Williams

Shawn and Martha Williams would like to announce the birth of their second daughter, Brynn Layne Williams. Brynn was born December 19, 2007, at the University of North Carolina Hospital in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Brynn weighed 8 pounds 1 ounce and was 19.5 inches long. Welcoming her baby sister home was 4-year-old Saige May Williams. Grandparents are the late Bill and Judy May of Chapel Hill, Jerry Williams of Antlers and Karon Clark of Atoka.



Miley Jo Wafford

Proud parents Scott and Katrina Wafford of Fort Gibson announce the birth of their daughter, Miley Jo Wafford. She was born at 4:43 p.m. December 26, 2007, at Muskogee Regional Medical Center, weighing 8 pounds 2 ounces and measuring 20.25 inches in length. She was welcomed home by her brother, Chance, and sister, Emma. Grandparents are Mike and Jo Ann Scantlen of Stigler, Martha Shipley of Fort Gibson and Dan Wafford of Muskogee. Great-grandparents are Adam and Nina Wafford of Fort Gibson.



Eloise Chaya Maddox

Greg and Zoe Maddox are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Eloise Chaya Maddox. Eloise was born January 30, 2008, in New York, New York. She weighed 7 pounds 11 ounces and was 21 inches long. Eloise is welcomed to the Choctaw Nation by her paternal grandparents, Gregory Maddox of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Deborah Maddox of The Villages, Florida, as well as her paternal great-grandparents, June Maddox and Bill Highnight, both of Ardmore, and her aunt, Leah Maddox of Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is also welcomed to the family by her maternal grandparents, Jim and Roberta Gottlieb of Fairfax, Virginia, and her uncle, Zachary Gottlieb of Zurich, Switzerland.



Hayley Renee Turner

Hayley Renee Turner was born May 17, 2007, to Jay and Amy Turner of Benton, Arkansas. Hayley is the first granddaughter born into the Bacon and Wall clans. She is the granddaughter of Patsy and Curtis Eyachabbe of Tulsa, the great-granddaughter of Jerline Flowers of Tulsa, and the great-great-granddaughter of Pat Presfield of Springdale, Arkansas.



Henry Coleman Hawkins

Todd and Shannon Hawkins of Austin, Texas, would like to announce the birth of their first child, a son. Henry Coleman Hawkins was born at 3:18 p.m. on June 11, 2007, at St. David's Medical Center in Austin. He weighed 7 pounds 15 ounces and measured 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are George and Edee Hawkins and Jimmy and Cindy Owens, all of Fort Worth, Texas. Henry is named after his great-great-grandfather, the late Jefferson Coleman Perry, and his great-great-great-grandfather, the late Coleman Perry, both original enrollees of the Choctaw Nation.



WIC Child's play

Your child is designed to move! Most kids like to climb, crawl, run, jump, swing, tumble, twist, stretch and peddle. In fact, active play is the "work" of a childhood. By moving more and sitting less, your child also learns to live in a healthful way.

- Curiosity and creativity as your child explores his or her world.
- Confidence and independence as your child learns to make choices and control his or her actions.
- Learning as your child's body and brain develop a better ability to learn.

endurance to explore and experience the world safely.

- Coordination of small and large muscles, which helps with overall learning.
- Body awareness as your child learns what his or her changing body can do.

Active play is fun for your child and you! When you move more, your child will too.

Nibbles for Health, USDA

Active play can develop body skills:

- Strength, flexibility and

Your depression can hurt your baby

Some mothers are depressed during pregnancy without realizing it. The hormonal changes of pregnancy often make the symptoms worse. Lots of moms feel sad for a short time after the baby is born. For some moms the bad feelings don't go away. The sadness gets deeper and becomes depression.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU ARE DEPRESSED?

- Not feeling happy about much of anything
- Not enjoying the baby
- Having a hard time getting up and going, day after day
- Sleeping a lot during the day or trouble sleeping at night
- Gaining or losing a lot of weight
- Not looking after yourself
- Feeling helpless, worthless or anxious
- Trouble coping, often feeling annoyed or stressed
- Using alcohol, drugs or other things to numb your feelings

DEPRESSION MAKES IT HARD ON BOTH YOU AND YOUR BABY. YOUR BABY MAY:

- Become depressed too
- Fail to grow or gain weight
- Become fussy and harder to soothe
- Not be interested in playing or exploring
- Be less affectionate and not want to cuddle
- Lose trust in caregivers
- Have behavior problems and trouble learning when he gets to school
- Have a difficult time relating to others growing up

Help is available – counseling and/or medication can make a difference.

Your home visitor or health care provider can get you help for depression.

Do it for your baby!


Do it for yourself!

This article is written by Becky Clay, AFL Technician. The Adolescent Family Life Program is an innovative program focused on pregnant teenagers, their child, male partners, and extended family members.

Choctaw Nation AFL Project

'A Brighter Future in Store'

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 provides opportunities for a brighter future through integrated services within the Choctaw Nation and external agencies. Participants will expand their knowledge through prenatal education, healthy relationship skills and parenting workshops. Striving for healthy outcomes in adolescent family lives is the purpose of our program. Services are provided through Choctaw Nation Outreach Service to pregnant Native American teens under 19 years of age or otherwise qualified through an eligible Native American. For more information or questions about eligibility contact Angela Dancer, Director of the AFL Project, at 580-326-7758 or 877-285-6893.



Choctaw Nation WIC

WOMEN, INFANT AND CHILDREN

SITE	PHONE	HOURS	DAYS
Antlers	580-298-3161	8:30-4:00	Every Tuesday
Atoka	580-889-5825	8:00-4:30	Every Mon., Thurs. & Fri.
		8:00-4:30	1st, 3rd & 4th Wed.
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	Every Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Fri.
		8:00-4:30	2nd & 4th Tuesday
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	Every Mon., Tues., Wed. & Thurs.
		8:00-4:30	3rd, 4th Friday
Idabel	580-286-2510	8:00-4:30	Monday and Friday
McAlester	918-423-6335	8:00-4:30	1st & 2nd week - Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri.
		8:00-4:30	3rd & 4th week - every day
		8:00-4:30	Every Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri.
		8:30-4:00	2nd Thursday
Poteau	918-647-4585	8:30-4:00	Every Thursday
Smithville	580-244-3289	8:30-4:00	1st, 2nd & 3rd Thursday
Spiro	918-962-3832	8:30-4:00	Every Tuesday
Stigler	918-967-4211	8:30-4:00	1st & 2nd Thursday
Talihina	918-567-7000 x 6792	8:00-4:30	Every Tuesday
Wilburton	918-465-5641	8:30-4:00	1st & 2nd Thursday

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

70th wedding anniversary

Ted and Hazel Block recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with a family party. Congratulations!



60th wedding anniversary

Charles and Hazel Carroll celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a dinner at Giacomo's in McAlester on February 23 with friends and family.



25th anniversary

Congratulations to Carlos and Elaine Williams Sam on their 25th wedding anniversary.

Carlos is the son of Cornelius and Norma Carney Sam of Red Oak, Oklahoma. Elaine is the daughter of the late Mr. Lonnie Williams of Norwalk, California, and Shirley Adair of Anaheim, California. Carlos and Elaine were married on February 19, 1983. They were both born in Tahihina, Oklahoma at the old hospital and as children they were both raised in Southern California. They both attended First Southern Baptist Indian Church in South Gate, California, where they also married.

Congratulating them on this momentous occasion are their children: Jerry, Sarah, Christine, and Catherine, as well as their grandchildren: Cheyenne, Joshua, Matthew, and Jacob.

Congratulations Mom and Dad (Grandma and Grandpa).



Happy birthday

The family of Robert Dan Bedingfield wish him a happy 73rd birthday on March 30. His wife, Dody, three daughters, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren wish him another happy year. Dan is very proud of his Choctaw Indian heritage and is the grandson of Mollie A. Bedingfield, an original enrollee.



Congratulations

Jeremy P. Gauna graduated from Palmer High School May 2007. During high school, he was an outstanding athlete with many awards for his accomplishments in football, basketball and baseball. He was an All-State in baseball his junior and senior years, offensive player of the year, first Team All-District shortstop his senior year, and his senior year even though he was not in track he competed in the district track meet where he qualified for regional. At regional, he placed first in long jump and second in high jump qualifying him for the state track meet where he placed fifth in the high jump. He has district awards for all four years in basketball. Jeremy is now attending Mt. View College, Dallas, Texas, where he was recruited to play baseball. While walking by the gym one afternoon, he went inside and while shooting baskets with the basketball players was noticed by the coach, so now he is also playing basketball for Mt. View College. He still managed to make A's his first semester. Needless to say, his family is very proud of his accomplishments and honored to watch him play sports.

Jeremy is the son of Paulette Robinson and James Gauna. He is the grandson of Jimmy and Elois Barcus, all of Palmer, Texas. Best wishes from Uncle Brian and Callie, Aunt Stephanie and Morgan, sisters, Samantha, Jessica, and Montanna.

Also, happy belated birthday wishes on January 7.



Student traces ancestry

My son Chandler J. Birrell, 11, recently participated in an immigration day and gave a project about his heritage for school. Although he could easily trace his parental side to Ellis Island in the early 1900's, he chose the harder route researching is Choctaw heritage and putting a time line together outlining the Trail of Tears. His namesake and great-great-grandmother was Nettie Mare West Chandler, original enrollee. His great-grandmother was Nettie Marea Chandler Tigert, also an original enrollee who grew up near Ada, Oklahoma.



Happy birthday

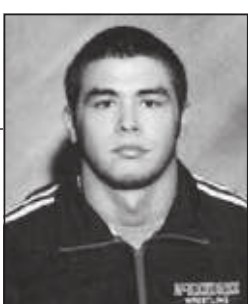
Kyanne Seeley turned one on March 13, 2008. Kyanne's parents are Tim and Trish Seeley. Grandparents are Leroy and Thelma Seeley, and Roberta and Dave Duley, Lathrop, Missouri. Happy Birthday from Dad, Mom, and big sister Kara.



Choctaw named outstanding NAIA wrestler

Josh Bryant was recently named outstanding NAIA wrestler. Josh graduated high school from Tuttle, Oklahoma with many titles including Wrestling State Champ and Football State Champs. Josh currently attends McKendree University in Lebanon, Illinois on a wrestling scholarship. The team participated at NWCA National Duals in Cedar Falls, Iowa and finished fourth overall. Josh finished the two-day event with a record of 3-1 by defeating three top-ranked wrestlers in the NWCA National Duals.

Josh is the son of Jimmy Bryant, Tuttle, grandson of Billy Bryant, Del City, and Lana Stone, great-grandson of Evelyn Stone, nephew of Tia Bryant, all of Tahihina and great-nephew of Kenny Bryant, Tribal Councilman.



Choctaw celebrates 80th birthday

On December 8, 2007, Nannie Bell Frahm (front row, right side) was surprised by family and friends at the local Senior Center, in Needles, California, to help celebrate her 80th birthday. Nannie Bell was born in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and is the daughter of Austin Secor. Later that evening, she was taken out to dinner in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, where they were joined by more friends and family. A good time was had by all.



Congratulations

On August 31, 2007, Cameron MacDowell, son of Kathy MacDowell, grandson of Nannie Bell Frahm and great-grandson of Austin Secor, graduated from Army Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Cameron is currently a senior at Advanced Technologies Academy in Las Vegas, Nevada. He has been a member of the Nevada Army National Guard since December 2006. He plans on attending college upon completion of his Advanced Individual Training, once he has graduated High School.



Happy birthday



Hunter would like to wish Auntie Bon (La Von Tonihka) of Wright City, Oklahoma, a very happy birthday on February 5.



He would also like to wish his brother Matthew Dean a happy sixth birthday on March 14. They are the sons of Carrie Gipson and grandsons of Sharon and the late Harold Gipson all of Wright City.

Happy birthday

Brandon Ty Labor, left, turned 4 on February 18, 2008. Aiden Ray Labor, right, turned 2 in November 2007. We want everyone to know just how special they are and to tell Brandon happy, happy birthday: Daddy BJ, and Papaw Hardy, Grannie Tammie, Uncles Tyler and Hardy Jr., Mawma Ruby, Gran Luvena and PaPa John Labor and all the rest of your family.



Choctaw excels academically

Cheyenne Fields competed in the Annual 2007-2008 Academic Decathlon held January 25 and 26 at the Oklahoma City Board of Education. Cheyenne is a freshman and represented Southeast High School. Cheyenne received medals for first place for art in the scholastic category, first overall in Speech, first overall in interview, and third place overall academics in the scholastic category.

We are very proud of her. She is the daughter of Darlene Bohanon Fields. Her Choctaw heritage comes from her maternal side, the Anderson/Bohanan Family. Her grandparents are Danuta Bohanon and Sammy Bohanon. Cheyenne is the great-great-granddaughter of original enrollee Sam Bohanon who was son of Liney Anderson and Robert Bohanon.



Happy birthday

I would like to wish my brother Rufus Amos a belated happy birthday. You are not only my brother but my friend as well. Happy birthday, from Sis and Bob.

Choctaw excels on ice

Claire Elizabeth Wood, daughter of Kelly and Diane Wood, granddaughter of Charles and Brenda Wood, and great-granddaughter of Georgia Bell, Touchstone Wood, and Minnie Kirby Gardner of Broken Bow, is making the Choctaw Nation proud with her accomplishments on and off the ice. Claire represented the State of Oklahoma and the Choctaw Nation at the state games of America in Colorado Springs, where she brought home a gold and silver medal. Claire has been figure skating for nine years and is a proud member of the Tulsa Figure Skating Club. Claire competes in solo freeskating and ice dance with her partner, JoeBen Wilson of Chelsea, Oklahoma. Claire trains on and off the ice five days a week, before and after school. Claire and her family often start their day at 4:45 a.m. to make sure that Claire is ready to take the ice at 5:30 a.m. Claire and her partner have won gold and silver medals in ice dance competitions in Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma.



Congratulations

Leasa Ailshie is a 2005 graduate from Claremore High School She was a point guard with the Claremore Lady Zebras basketball team. During her years with the team, they won three State 5A championships in basketball. She also qualified in Cross Country State Finals all four years. She belongs to the National Honor Society, Native American Club and the Math Club. She is in Who's Who in Academics, received the Tsa-La-Gi Award of Excellence in academics and was the Basketball Homecoming Queen.

After graduating high school, Aleasa attended Connor State College, where she had received a basketball scholarship. While there, Leasa set a school record of 17 assists in one game. She is majoring in pre-medicine.

Leasa is in her junior year at Sam Houston State University playing for the Lady Bearcats on a basketball scholarship. She is a starting point guard. Sam Houston is a NCAA Division I University, and is in the Southland Conference.

Leasa's parents are Robert and Marcia Flinchum Ailshie, Grandparents are the late Lawson C. Glinchum and Louise Bohanon Flinchum. She is a direct descendent of Turner B. and Jerrico Perkins Turnbull.



Happy birthday

The family of Jacob, Ileah, and Reanna Allen would like to wish a belated happy birthday to Jacob who turned 13 on December 3. Ileah turned 12 on March 9. Reanna who turned 9 on February 4. From Dad and Mom, Charles and Vanessa Allen, Uncle Bryan Frazier, Uncle "Nunny" Edmond Frazier Jr.



Happy birthday

I would like to wish my grandson, Drake Logan Stubbs, a very happy second birthday on March 1. Drake is our bundle of joy who brightens our days. His mother is Amber Hagger and father is J.D. Stubbs. Drake's grandparents are Becky Peters and Dwayne Taylor of Hugo and John and Rhoda Stubbs. His great-grandparents are Betty Shawhart of Fort Towson and Mary Wall and Georgia and John Stubbs, all of Boswell. Drake's uncles are Cody Peters and Canyon Taylor of Hugo, and he has one aunt, Jackie Stubbs of Boswell and cousin Slade. Tahasha Taylor, Cayden, and Cody Ward also wish Drake a happy birthday.



Happy birthday

Morgan Ashley Spray turned 5 years old on January 3. She had a Care Bear party at the day care she attends. Even at this young age Morgan is proud of her Choctaw heritage and she will tell you that she is "Indian of the Choctaw Nation like her papa." Morgan is the daughter of Stephanie Barcus Spray of Mesquite, Texas and Paul Spray of Arlington, Texas. Her grandparents are Jimmy and Elois Barcus of Palmer, Texas. Many happy birthday wishes from Uncle Brian, Aunt Callie, Aunt Paulette and cousins Jeremy, Samantha, Jessica, and Montanna.



Happy birthday

Happy birthday to Warren Wade of Grand Prairie, Texas, son of Charles and Nina Wade. Warren is a leap-year baby so this is his second birthday, but he is 8. Warren's grandpa C.W. Wade, Dallas, and Aunt Karen and Uncle Malcom, Norman, would like to wish Warren a happy birthday!



Congratulations

Daphne Riddle Swartz graduated from Texas Woman's University with a Master's of Science Degree in Counseling and Development. She is a member of Chi Sigma Iota, the National Society for Professional American Counselors, Texas Counseling Association, American Counseling Association, and the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapists. Daphne successfully passed her board certification exam and has earned the title of Nationally Certified Counselor and Licensed Professional Counselor-Intern.

Daphne is the daughter of Larry and Sheila Riddle of Sanger, Texas, and the granddaughter of Frances M. Conner and the late D.A. Riddle, formerly of Bennington, Oklahoma. She is currently employed as a Cottage Supervisor at Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home and plans to use her extensive experience working with juvenile offenders and at-risk youth to obtain a position as a counselor/therapist working with this population.

Daphne would like to thank the Choctaw Nation Higher Education Department for its financial assistance with both her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and her most recent accomplishment of the Masters of Science in Counseling and Development.



Happy birthday

Chance Ryon Wafford turned 8 on November 22, 2007. Emma Rae Wafford turned 6 on January 15, 2008. They live in Fort Gibson and go to Fort Gibson Public School. They celebrated their birthday with family and friends. Their parents are Scott and Katrina Wafford, Fort Gibson. Grandparents are Mike and Jo Ann Scantlen, Stigler, Martha Shipley, Fort Gibson, and Dan Wafford Muskogee. Great-grandparents are Adam and Nina Wafford, Fort Gibson.



Congratulations

Timothy Feltman turned 18 on February 8. A senior at Durant High School, Timothy will be going to Fort Benning, Georgia, after graduation to serve in the Army. He is the son of Vonnie and David Houser and Tim and Tina Feltman, all of Durant. His proud grandparents are Betty Robertson of Caddo, James and Phyllis Feltman of Pirtle, Norm Houser of Boswell and Alvin and Vicki Luna of Valliant. We are very proud of Timothy and want to wish him a happy birthday.





CHR Pat Mayer retires after 24 years with tribe

A retirement party was held January 23 at the Choctaw Nation Community Center in Coalgate for Pat Mayer, a tribal employee who has worked with the CHR program for 24 years.

Chief Greg Pyle and District 12 Councilman James Frazier presented Pat with a plaque in appreciation of her many years of dedication to the tribe.

"I love helping people," said Pat. "I love meeting people everywhere and have enjoyed every bit of my time with the Choctaw Nation. I learned something every day."

Pat will be working part-time for the OU College of Public Health.

\$80,000 scholarship established for Choctaw students

With matching funds from the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, insurance executive Brian Eaves has established an \$80,000 Chief Pushmataha college scholarship fund in memory of his Mississippi Choctaw great-great-grandparents, original enrollees Huddleston D. and Sebella "Seaby" Primus Sam. Eaves, an Oklahoma native who currently resides in Michigan and is a vice president of one of America's fastest growing retirement-focused companies, Jackson National Life Insurance, will donate \$40,000 to the fund. His gift of \$40,000 will be matched dollar for dollar by the Choctaw Nation through its Scholarship Advisement Program.

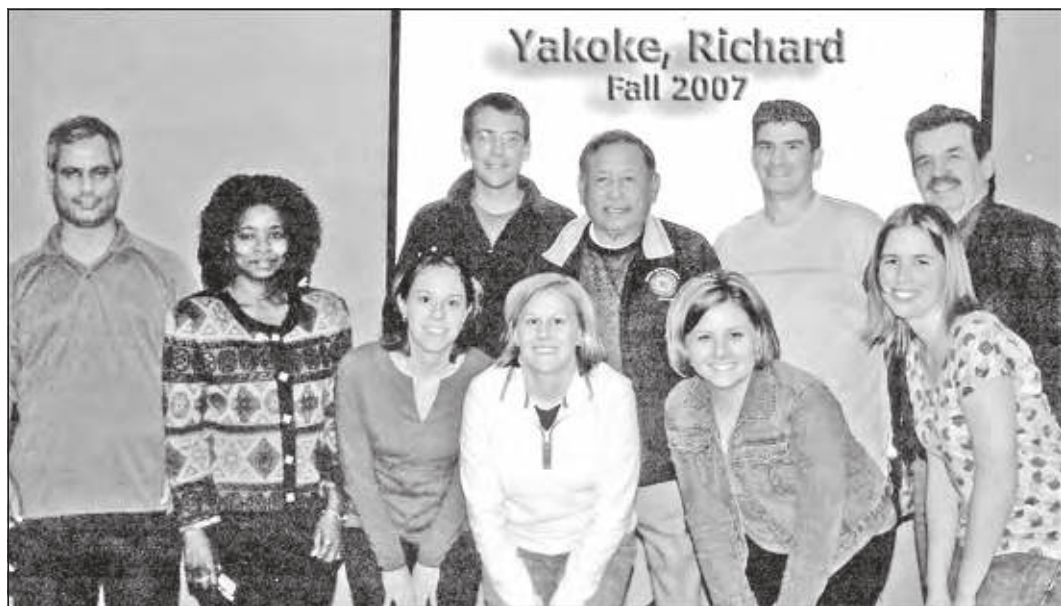
"I find the life and achievements of Chief Pushmataha to be both fascinating and inspiring. Given his views on education, I think he would be quite proud of the fact that today there are descendants of the Nation he governed who have the potential and the desire to be agents of positive change in American society. I am proud to be a direct descendant of a First American and I hope to find ways of bringing together like-minded Choctaws to promote education-related efforts for the Nation. I believe every Choctaw who wants a higher education should receive one and every Choctaw who has demonstrated potential should be motivated to get one," Eaves noted.

The scholarships will be distributed over a four-

year period to academically strong, high-potential college students who are members of the Choctaw Nation. Information regarding scholarship qualifications and applications can be obtained by contacting Jo McDaniel at 580-924-8280.

"Authorization of matching funds for education foundation donations has been a great motivation for individuals and organizations to set up special scholarships for Choctaw students. The Choctaw Nation Council and I are tremendous advocates for education, and we appreciate the generous donation made available through this new scholarship initiative," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "The tribe funds higher education with \$6 million annually, is building a \$10 million elementary academic building at Jones Academy, funds the School of Choctaw Language and provides over \$330,000 each year for an incentive program for students."

Eaves' ancestors, Huddleston and Seaby, both born in the Philadelphia, Mississippi area, removed to Oklahoma around 1900. As part of the Dawes Roll process, they were enrolled as members of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in 1902. Subsequent to enrollment, Huddleston and Seaby received two Choctaw County land allotments near present-day Hugo, where they would set up household with their three children, Abel (Eaves' great-grandfather), Elsie and Charles.



Choctaw language instructor works with TU students

The Department of Linguist at the University of Texas, Arlington, completed a field work research project during the 2007 fall semester which required the participation of Richard Adams, a native speaker from the Choctaw Nation. The purpose of the study was to gather data about the Choctaw language, its sound and structure.

Students were present to observe, learn and

participate in this process. Information gathered were sounds, words, phrases and sentences in Choctaw language which were recorded in notebooks, computer and audio airflow. Pictured are, front row, Abdul al Btoosh, Cecile Padayadi, Keri Henley, Lynelle Rhinier, Katie Welch, Gabrielle Zimmerman; back row, David Grave, Richard Adams, Matt Benton and Dr. Jerry Edmondson.



Choctaw Nation GED Classes



LATIMER COUNTY

Beginning date and time:
March 24, 2008
Mondays and Wednesdays
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Choctaw Nation Community Center
515 Center Point Road
Wilburton, Oklahoma

BRYAN COUNTY

Beginning date and time:
March 24, 2008
Mondays and Wednesdays
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Tribal Complex South building, downstairs
Durant, Oklahoma

McCURTAIN COUNTY

Beginning date and time:
March 25, 2008
Tuesdays and Thursdays
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
SOSU McCurtain County Campus Room 202
Idabel, Oklahoma

NORTH LEFLORE COUNTY

Beginning date and time:
March 25, 2008
Tuesdays and Thursdays
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center
Poteau, Oklahoma

The class will meet 3 days each week for approximately 9 weeks. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. In addition, a \$10 (per day) transportation stipend is paid to those who attend classes on a regular basis and attempt the GED test. If you have turned in an application with our Adult Education Program for GED classes and wish to attend the upcoming class, please contact our office. If you have not applied and wish to attend these or future classes, please contact Linda Tyler or Kathy Springfield at the Durant office, 800-522-6170 or 580-924-8280, ext. 2319. Also, you may register at the first class. A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is required.



Choctaw Nation



Distance Learning GED Classes

Beginning March 31, 2008

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Choctaw Nation Community Centers
Coalgate, Atoka and Talihina – 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Choctaw Nation Community Centers
Wright City, Bethel and Smithville – 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Distance Learning GED classes are now available at the above locations to students in the Choctaw Nation. An experienced GED teacher will instruct you, using the One-Net Distance Learning Technology. Distance Learning allows students and teacher to see and hear each other on large monitors. You will be able to interact with the teacher as she helps you prepare to take the GED test. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. The class will meet three days each week for approximately nine weeks. A CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) is required. For more information please contact Linda Tyler, Director, Choctaw Nation Adult Education, 1-800-522-6170 or 580-924-8280, ext. 2319.

ASA Softball Hall of Fame inductee

Congratulations to Al Roberson of Boswell for making the Oklahoma ASA Softball Hall of Fame. Al was inducted into the Hall of Fame on February 2 in Tulsa. His family and friends surprised him with a small reception the following weekend.

Al has played ball for over 40 years and everyone is very proud of his accomplishment.

Al started playing when he was about 6 years old and since then has only missed one season. He has played first base, third base and has pitched and played the outfield. He has coached softball and baseball for numerous years as well.

Al and his wife, Ella, have three daughters, Brandi, Carrie and Jessica. He always tried to coach his girls in summer league but when he wasn't on the field coaching he was behind the fence telling them what to do.

During ball season every



He taught his girls the game of softball very well.

Al coached many boys and girls as if they were his own. He could turn a young, immature team into a winning team who earned respect. He has coached young and old, men and women. Whether it be slow-pitch, fast-pitch, coach-pitch, T-ball, baseball, it still revolves around one thing – Ball – and he knows this game.

He has played at many of the area and district tournaments as well as making it as far as nationals in Kansas City in 1983. He continued playing even after finding out he needed a liver transplant. He never quit. He received the transplant in the Spring of 2000 and after several months of treatment and recuperation, he bounced back the next year.

Al never gives up and to this day he continues to coach and play softball.

Make It Happen!

Choctaw Nation Career Development 2008 Spring Career Expo

April 1, 2008

Lunch will be provided!

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the
McAlester Expo Center

Prize and Cash Giveaways!

Looking for a career change?

Let us help you Make It Happen!

- Industry professionals will be speaking on career opportunities
- On-site recruiters will be actively seeking to fill job positions
- Representatives from technology centers, colleges, and training facilities will be available to discuss training options
- A computer lab will be available for training and assessment
- Bring your resume and come dressed for success

Transportation will be available for tribal members.

Sign up for transportation at your local community center.

Contact Career Development for more information – 866-933-2260

CHOCTAW NATION VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
A P R I L			1 Antlers by appt only	2 Durant 10 am-12 pm	3	4 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	5
	6	7 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm	8 Wright City by appt only	9 Stigler by appt only McAlester 10 am-2 pm	10	11 Broken Bow 10 am-2 pm	12
2 0 0 8	13	14 Crowder and McAlester by appt only	15 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	16 Atoka 10 am-2 pm Coalgate 10:30-1:30	17	18 Poteau 11:30 am-1 pm	19
	20	21 Bethel by appt only	22	23 Durant by appt only	24	25 Tribal Holiday	26
	27	28	29	30			

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

2008 Choctaw Nation Livestock Show



Grand Champion Swine and Hamp Breed Champion, Felicia Nunn, Jones Academy, pictured with Brandon Spears, Jones Academy Agriculture, and Councilman Kenny Bryant.



Berk Breed Champion, Emily Jackson, Hartshorne.



Berk Reserve Breed Champion, Kolt Donaldson, Haworth.



Chester Breed Champion, Rachalle Dinardo, Jones Academy.



Chester Breed Champion, Blair Smallwood, Talihina.



Duroc Breed Champion, Alex Battiest, Broken Bow FFA.

The Choctaw Nation held its 17th annual Livestock Show February 2-3 in Wilburton and Durant. Youth from all over Oklahoma brought market swine, goats, sheep, heifers and steers to compete. Results from the two locations are listed through Page 13.

WILBURTON LIVESTOCK SHOW

— SWINE —

Grand Champion Swine – Felicia Nunn, Jones Academy.
Reserve Grand Champion Swine – Cheyenne Neal, Jones Academy.

Jr. Showmanship – Bryce Livingston, Wilburton.
Sr. Showmanship – Pamela Brittain, Moss.

Berk

Breed Champion – Emily Jackson, Hartshorne.
Reserve Breed Champion – Kolt Donaldson, Haworth.

Class I – 1st: Emily Jackson, Hartshorne; 2nd: Kolt Donaldson, Haworth; 3rd: Tristian Hill, Smithville; 4th: Brittan Raines, Red Oak; 5th: Lacy Emmert, Buffalo Valley; 6th: Leandra Henry, Buffalo Valley; 7th: Krystal McClendon, Eagletown.

Class II – 1st: Ariel LeForce, Broken Bow; 2nd: Kallie Crawford, Moss; 3rd: Desirea Duggan, Panola; 4th: Hailey Raines, Fanshawe; 5th: Dalton Coffey, Red Oak.

Chester

Breed Champion – Rachalle Dinardo, Jones Academy.
Reserve Breed Champion – Blair Smallwood, Talihina.

Class I – 1st: Rachalle Dinardo, Jones Academy; 2nd: Whitlee Curliss, Haileyville; 3rd: Whitlee Curlis, Haileyville; 4th: Alisha Picone, Jones Academy; 5th: Ethan Bean, Lufketa.

Class II – 1st: Blair Smallwood, Talihina; 2nd: Kaity Foster, Moss; 3rd: Allison Beames, Howe; 4th: Dalton Coffey, Red Oak; 5th: Bransen Shelton, Wright City.

Class III – 1st: Lane Trevino, Eagletown; 2nd: Christian Smith, Broken Bow; 3rd: Hunter Mason, Hartshorne; 4th: Krystal McClendon, Eagletown.

Duroc

Breed Champion – Alex Battiest, Broken Bow.

Reserve Breed Champion – Jessie Holt, Eagletown.

Class I – 1st: Kristen Hedge, Rattan; 2nd: Destin Moore, Wright City; 3rd: Rhett Phillips, Rattan; 4th: Brittny Doyle, Buffalo Valley; 5th: Kristen Houston, Buffalo Valley; 6th: Braden Medlock, Whitesboro; 7th: Jacob Stacey, Stuart; 8th: Jacob Stacey, Stuart.

Class II – 1st: Tyler Bible, Moss; 2nd: Tylor Bush, Haileyville; 3rd: Kaleb Barcheers, Hartshorne; 4th: Jady Wills, Kiowa; 5th: Sheleigh Swearingen, Clayton; 6th: Travis Mintz, Howe; 7th: Trey Wood, Rattan.

Class III – 1st: Jessie Holt, Eagletown; 2nd: Hannah Palmer, Idabel; 3rd: Brittany Webb, Rattan; 4th: weighed out; 5th: Cory Buchanan, Clayton; 6th: Jessica Smith, Hodgen; 7th: Taylor Canady, Talihina; 8th: Bradloc Christian, Broken Bow.

Class IV – 1st: Stormy Dul, Wilburton; 2nd: Alex Battiest, Broken Bow; 3rd: Stormy Dull, Wilburton; 4th: Randi Williams, Spiro; 5th: Kaity Foster, Moss; 6th: Kailey Sanders, Wetumka.

Hamps

Breed Champion – Felicia Nunn, Jones Academy.

Reserve Breed Champion – Cheyenne Neal, Jones Academy.

Class I – 1st: Hannah Palmer, Idabel; 2nd: Madison Hill, Smithville; 3rd: Katie Cox, Leflore; 4th: Whitney Noel, Rattan; 5th: Joseph Cox, Leflore; 6th: Trevor Mintz, Howe; 7th: Shayla Bullard, Red Oak; 8th: Dalton Wood, Hartshorne.

Class II – 1st: Lane Williams, Idabel; 2nd: Cheyanne Pilkington, Hodgen; 3rd: Bryan Lockaby, Panama; 4th: Shane Fry, Buffalo Valley; 5th: Dustin Duggan, Wilburton; 6th: Joshua Morgan, Red Oak; 7th: Nicholas Knowles, Buffalo Valley; 8th: Melinda Smith, Leflore; 9th: Ty Smith, Leflore; 10th: Shelby Bullard, Red Oak.

Class III – 1st: Felicia Nunn, Jones Academy; 2nd: Logan Byrd, Hartshorne; 3rd: Shelby Bowden, McCurtain; 4th: Pamela Brittain, Moss; 5th: Tyler Whitecotton, Bokoshe; 6th: Ty Pilkington, Hodgen; 7th: Matt Bruner, Haileyville; 8th: Cory Buchanan, Clayton; 9th: Ty Smith, Leflore.

Class IV – 1st: Cheyenne Neal, Jones Academy; 2nd: Kaylee Rodgers, Spiro; 3rd: Kareesa Kennedy, Albion; 4th: Chelsea Roba, Whitesboro; 5th: Freddy James, Wilburton; 6th: Sidney Moore, Jones Academy; 7th: Jordan Murray, Quinton; 8th: Justin Duggan, Wilburton; 9th: Tyler Manley, Hodgen.

Class V – 1st: Bryce Livingston, Wilburton; 2nd: Nichalle Evans, Jones Academy; 3rd: Morgan Mings, Whitesboro; 4th: Jarad James, Wilburton; 5th: Mikey Guazdausky, Wilburton; 6th: Lexie Moody, Moss; 7th: Charles Taylor, Poteau; 8th: Blaine Watts, Rattan; 9th: Dustin Duggan, Wilburton.

Class VI – 1st: Jacob Price, Spiro; 2nd: Braden Medlock, Whitesboro; 3rd: Blake Jackson, Hartshorne; 4th: Zach Smith, Broken Bow; 5th: Darylene Blaine, Jones Academy; 6th: Tanner Goforth, Moss; 7th: Colton Baker, Hartshorne; 8th: Trevor Smith, Hodgen; 9th: Micah Crenshaw, Red Oak; 10th: Dylan Kincade, Moss.

Class VII – 1st: Kareesa Kennedy, Albion; 2nd: Tyler Bible, Moss; 3rd: Tylor Bush, Haileyville; 4th: Samantha Anderson, Spiro; 5th: Donovan Morris, Spiro; 6th: Joe Paxton, Wetumka; 7th: Kelsey Brown, Buffalo Valley; 8th: Katie Williams, Spiro; 9th: Lane Hunter, Buffalo Valley.

Class VIII – 1st: Kaylee Rodgers, Spiro; 2nd: Whitney Sebo, Spiro; 3rd: Candance Baker, Hartshorne; 4th: Stephanie Brantley, Eagletown; 5th: Katie Cox, Leflore; 6th: Kailey Sanders, Wetumka; 7th: Tyler Mize, Spiro; 8th: Lane Bandy, Whitesboro.

Poland

Breed Champion – Paige Campagna, Red Oak.

Reserve Breed Champion – Jobie Howell, Jones Academy.

Class I – 1st: Jobie Howell, Jones Academy; 2nd: Schiann Laughlin, Canadian; 3rd: Leandra Henry, Buffalo Valley.

Class II – 1st: Paige Campagna, Red Oak; 2nd: Neosha Kauley, Jones Academy; 3rd: Matt Bruner, Haileyville.

Spot

Breed Champion – Paige Campagna, Red Oak.

Reserve Breed Champion – Kaity Foster, Moss.

Class I – 1st: Paige Campagna, Red Oak; 2nd: Raney Johnson, Wright City; 3rd: Tyler Donaldson, Haworth.

Class II – 1st: Kaity Foster, Moss; 2nd: Dakota Davis, Quinton; 3rd: Kallie Crawford, Moss; 4th: Ben Blankenship, Hartshorne.

York

Breed Champion – Kaylee Rodgers, Spiro.

Reserve Breed Champion – Ricky Morgan, Hartshorne.

Class I – 1st: Jennifer Williams, Idabel; 2nd: Bubba O'Bryan, Whitesboro; 3rd: Brent Anderson, Spiro; 4th: Lindsay Carter, Calvin; 5th: Emily Carter, Calvin; 6th: Lane Williams, Idabel; 7th: Shyla Ludlow, Smithville; 8th: Jady Wills, Kiowa; 9th:



Reserve Grand Champion Swine and Hamp Reserve Breed Champion, Cheyenne Neal, Jones Academy, pictured with Brandon Spears, Jones Academy Agriculture.



Paige Campagna of Red Oak won Poland Breed Champion and Spot Breed Champion.



Poland Reserve Breed Champion, Jobie Howell, Jones Academy, pictured with Brandon Spears, Jones Academy Agriculture.



Spot Reserve Breed Champion, Kaity Foster, Moss.



York Breed Champion, Kaylee Rodgers, Spiro.



York Reserve Breed Champion, Ricky Morgan, Hartshorne.

Emilie Cox, Leflore; 10th: Brittan Raines, Red Oak.

Class II – 1st: Cheyenne Rogers, Spiro; 2nd: Kallie Crawford, Moss; 3rd: Hunter Mason, Hartshorne; 4th: Tyler Pogue, Hartshorne; 5th: Tanner Bowden, McCurtain; 6th: Freddy James, Wilburton; 7th: Hillary Jernigen, Stuart; 8th: Kareesa Kennedy, Albion.

Class III – 1st: Kaylee Rodgers, Spiro; 2nd: Rick Morgan, Hartshorne; 3rd: RaeGail Wilson, Hartshorne; 4th: Lexie Moody, Moss; 5th: Jessica Smith, Hodgen; 6th: Kaitlynn Sebo, Spiro; 7th: Kailey Sanders, Wetumka; 8th: Travis White, Leflore.

2008 Choctaw Nation Livestock Show

Cross

Breed Champion – Hannah Palmer, Idabel.

Reserve Breed Champion – Colton Baker, Hartshorne.

Class I – 1st: Lane Williams, Idabel; 2nd: Joseph Cox, Leflore; 3rd: Whitley Curliss, Haileyville; 4th: Harley Roba, Whitesboro; 5th: Michael Crabtree, Whitesboro; 6th: Kacie Raines, Wister; 7th: Lacy Emmert, Buffalo Valley; 8th: Shyla Ludlow, Smithville; 9th: Ty Smith, Leflore; 10th: Tyler Donaldson, Haworth.

Class II – 1st: Courtney Wallace, Jones Academy; 2nd: Blair Smallwood, Talihina; 3rd: Jobie Howell, Jones Academy; 4th: Saul Martinez, Jones Academy; 5th: Joshua Morgan, Red Oak; 6th: Jennifer Williams, Idabel; 7th: Trevor Chance, Red Oak; 8th: Tiffany Noel, Rattan; 9th: Jarad James, Wilburton; 10th: Melinda Smith, Leflore.

Class III – 1st: Francis Brown, Jones Academy; 2nd: Brenna Fry, Buffalo Valley; 3rd: Tanner Goforth, Moss; 4th: Kolt Donaldson, Haworth; 5th: Ashley Blaylock, Poteau; 6th: J.D. Champion, Wilburton; 7th: Kaleb Barcheers, Hartshorne; 8th: Phyllis Doyle, Howe; 9th: Audra King, Buffalo Valley; 10th: Richard Howard, Hartshorne; 11th: Shaniqua Hokit, Buffalo Valley.

Class IV – 1st: Dakota Davis, Quinton; 2nd: Bryan Lockaby, Panama; 3rd: Jobie Howell, Jones Academy; 4th: Logan Odom, Albion; 5th: Emily Knowles, Buffalo Valley; 6th: Dustin Duggan, Wilburton; 7th: Dakota Davis, Quinton; 8th: Shayla Bullard, Red Oak; 9th: Brittany Doyle, Buffalo Valley; 10th: Justin Duggan, Wilburton.



Cross Breed Champion, Hannah Palmer, Idabel.



Cross Reserve Breed Champion, Colton Baker, Hartshorne.



Grand Champion Goat, Walker Gragg, Spiro.



Reserve Grand Champion Goat, Emily Jackson, Hartshorne.

Class V – 1st: Rachalle Dinardo, Jones Academy; 2nd: Mason Crenshaw, Red Oak; 3rd: Hannah Beames, Howe; 4th: Kacie Raines, Wister; 5th: Joe Paxton, Wetumka; 6th: Ashlee Blaylock, Poteau; 7th: Kerry Hollie, Bokoshe; 8th: Jady Wills, Kiowa.

Class VI – 1st: Hannah Palmer, Idabel; 2nd: Tristian Hill, Smithville; 3rd: Jacob Stacey, Stuart; 4th: B.J. Nunn, Jones Academy; 5th: Allysia Brown, Jones Academy; 6th: Blair Smallwood, Talihina; 7th: RaeGail Wilson, Hartshorne; 8th: Jacob Murray, Quinton; 9th: Ciara Rogers, Spiro; 10th: Nicholas Knowles, Buffalo Valley; 11th: Dakota Hokit, Buffalo Valley.

Class VII – 1st: Hillaree Cox, Spiro; 2nd: Bryce Livingston, Wilburton; 3rd: Whitney Sebo, Spiro; 4th: Paitin Robertson, Rattan; 5th: Dylan Kincade, Moss; 6th: Darylene Blaine, Jones Academy; 7th: Justin Frost, Wister; 8th: Brittany Doyle, Buffalo Valley; 9th: Jessica Sampson, Jones Academy; 10th: Kassie Holland, Talihina; 11th: Destiney Duggan, Panola.

Class VIII – 1st: Colton Baker, Hartshorne; 2nd: Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville; 3rd: Landon Moody, Moss; 4th: Travis Cox, Spiro; 5th: Sidney Moore, Jones Academy; 6th: Garry Thompson, Stuart; 7th: Mikey Guazdausky, Wilburton; 8th: Tanner Goforth, Moss; 9th: Lacy Emmert, Buffalo Valley.

Class IX – 1st: Lexie Moody, Moss; 2nd: Landon Moody, Moss; 3rd: Emily Jackson, Hartshorne; 4th: Freddy James, Wilburton; 5th: Logan Odom, Albion; 6th: Lane Hunter, Buffalo Valley; 7th: JohnRoss Christenberry, Cameron; 8th: Travis Mize, Spiro; 9th: Blaine Watts, Rattan; 10th: Nicholas Spearman, Quinton.

Class X – 1st: Lucas Morris, Vian; 2nd: Morgan Mings, Whitesboro; 3rd: Morgan Crenshaw, Red Oak; 4th: Trevor Smith, Hodgen; 5th: Whitney Sebo, Spiro; 6th: Rick Morgan, Hartshorne; 7th: Paitin Robertson, Rattan; 8th: Jarad James, Wilburton; 9th: Dalton Wood, Hartshorne; 10th: Landon Carper, Rattan.

Class XI – 1st: Bubba O'Bryan, Whitesboro; 2nd: Tylor Bush, Haileyville; 3rd: Bubba Knight, Red Oak; 4th: Rachel Smith, Heavener; 5th: Kelsey Brown, Buffalo Valley; 6th: Ariel LeForce, Broken Bow; 7th: Matt Bruner, Haileyville.

- GOATS -

Grand Champion – Walker Gragg, Spiro.

Reserve Grand Champion – Emily Jackson, Hartshorne.

Jr. Goat Showmanship – Adrianna Curnutt, Wister.

Sr. Goat Showmanship – Blake Jackson, Hartshorne.

Class I – 1st: Ramey Baughman, Hartshorne; 2nd: James Savage, Haileyville; 3rd: Cortney Love, Buffalo Valley; 4th: Shelbie Smith, Buffalo Valley; 5th: Calli Baughman, Hartshorne; 6th: James Savage, Haileyville.

Class II – 1st: Hunter Mason, Hartshorne; 2nd: Rachel Baker, Hartshorne; 3rd: Dakota Hokit, Buffalo Valley; 4th: Logan Suter, Haileyville; 5th: Shelbie Smith, Buffalo Valley; 6th: McKenzie Maxwell, Tuskahoma; 7th: Lane Bandy, Whitesboro; 8th: Ty Pilkington, Hodgen.

Class III – 1st: Michaela Phillips, Moss; 2nd: Jeffery Hardwick, Moss; 3rd: Sky Williams, Spiro; 4th: Dakota Hokit, Buffalo Valley; 5th: Logan Suter, Haileyville; 6th: Heather Finch, Canadian; 7th: Branden Potts, Clayton; 8th: Jacob Stacey, Stuart; 9th: Britany Watkins, Buffalo Valley.

Class IV – 1st: Kyle Pingleton, Hartshorne; 2nd: Cortney Brown, Wister; 3rd: James Savage, Haileyville; 4th: Brileigh Thornton, Spiro; 5th: Kirby Needham, Quinton; 6th: Jacob Stacey, Stuart; 7th: Kaela Potts, Clayton; 8th: April Brown, Clayton; 9th: McKenzie Maxwell, Tuskahoma.

Class V – 1st: Jeffery Hardwick, Moss; 2nd: Logan Suter, Haileyville; 3rd: Jacob Stacey, Stuart; 4th: Lane Bandy, Whitesboro; 5th: Justin Maxwell, Tuskahoma; 6th: Cody Bull, Panola; 7th: Kirby Needham, Quinton; 8th: Savannah Brannon, Crowder.

Class VI – 1st: Walker Gragg, Spiro; 2nd: Emily Jackson, Hartshorne; 3rd: Callie Curnutt, Wister; 4th: Megan Marrow, Whitesboro; 5th: Talon Coleman, Moss; 6th: April Brown, Clayton; 7th: Brianna Watkins, Buffalo Valley; 8th: Jaymie Watkins, Buffalo Valley; 9th: Dustin Finch, Canadian.

Class VII – 1st: Blake Jackson, Hartshorne; 2nd: Matthew Barnes, Spiro; 3rd: Adrianna Curnutt, Wister; 4th: Megan Marrow, Whitesboro; 5th: Megan Marrow, Whitesboro; 6th: Talon Coleman, Moss; 7th: Colton Woolbright, Wister; 8th: Dustin Finch, Canadian; 9th: Kirby Needham, Quinton.

- LAMBS -

Grand Champion Lamb – Matt Effinger, Canadian.

Reserve Grand Champion Lamb – Emily Shaw, Buffalo Valley.

Jr. Lamb Showmanship – Emily Shaw, Buffalo Valley.

Sr. Lamb Showmanship – Ariel LeForce, Broken Bow.

Class I – 1st: Bo Lewis, Kiowa; 2nd: Paige Campagna, Red Oak; 3rd: Jenny Morgan, Red Oak; 4th: Jenny Morgan, Red Oak; 5th: McKenzie Maxwell, Tuskahoma; 6th: Roberta England, Panama.

Class II – 1st: Katherine Ashby, Panola; 2nd: J.D. Chancellor, Talihina; 3rd: Amanda Hall, Poteau; 4th: Katey Johnson, Whitesboro; 5th: Shaniqua Hokit, Buffalo Valley.

Class III – 1st: Kristyn Adams, Wilburton; 2nd: Sara Effinger, Canadian; 3rd: Katie Williams, Spiro; 4th: Hailey Raines, Fanshawe; 5th: Heather Edington, Red Oak.

Class IV – 1st: Christen Shaw, Buffalo Valley; 2nd: Dallin Shaw, Buffalo Valley; 3rd: Shaniqua Hokit, Buffalo Valley; 4th: Katherine Goodman, Talihina; 5th: Lacey Hotubbee, Moyers; 6th: Matthew Barnes, Spiro; 7th: Bethany Shaw, Buffalo Valley; 8th: Dallin Shaw, Buffalo Valley; 9th: Justin Maxwell, Tuskahoma; 10th: Hailey Raines, Fanshawe.

Class V – 1st: Emily Shaw, Buffalo Valley; 2nd: Bethany Shaw, Buffalo Valley; 3rd: Madelyn Guazdausky, Wilburton; 4th: Ariel LeForce, Broken Bow; 5th: Rhiannon Bean, Broken Bow; 6th: Morgan Mings, Whitesboro; 7th: Jeffery Hardwick, Moss; 8th: Logan Suter, Haileyville.

Class VI – 1st: Matt Effinger, Canadian; 2nd: Ariel LeForce, Broken Bow; 3rd: Megan Lewis, Kiowa; 4th: Kristyn Adams, Wilburton; 5th: Madelyn Guazdausky, Wilburton; 6th: Scott Helm, Talihina; 7th: Cassie Watkins, Talihina; 8th: Randy Bean, Broken Bow.

Class VII – 1st: Kristyn Adams, Wilburton; 2nd: Blake Jackson, Hartshorne; 3rd: J.D. Chancellor, Talihina; 4th: Scott Helm, Talihina; 5th: Logan Suter, Haileyville.

- HEIFERS -

Grand Supreme Heifer – Autumn Cato, Webbers Falls.

Reserve Grand Supreme Heifer – Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville.

English

Breed Champion – Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville.

Reserve Breed Champion – Hailey Henry, McCurtain.

Class I – 1st: Jordan Thomason, Hartshorne.

Class II – 1st: Ashton Thomason, Hartshorne; 2nd: Derek Shaw, Buffalo Valley.

Class III – 1st: Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville; 2nd: Brooke Ramsey, Checotah; 3rd: Brooke Ramsey, Checotah.

Class IV – 1st: Ashton Forwoodson, Wilburton.



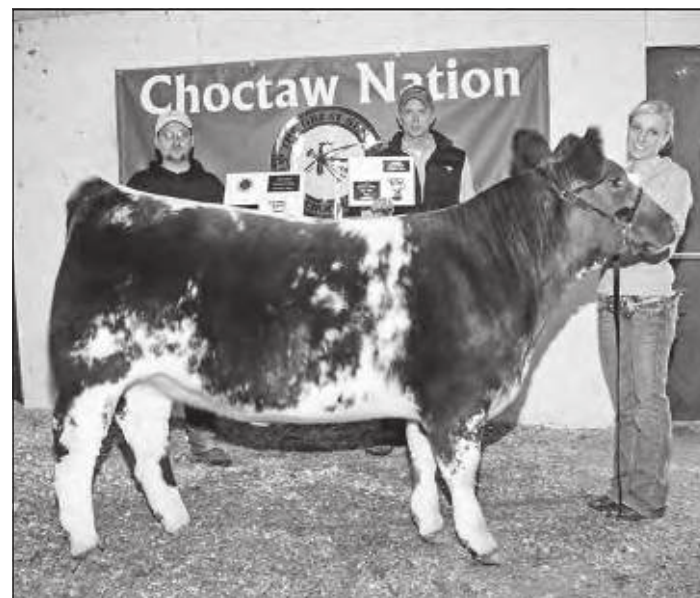
Grand Champion Lamb, Matt Effinger, Canadian.



Reserve Grand Champion Lamb, Emily Shaw, Buffalo Valley.



Grand Supreme Heifer, Autumn Cato, Webbers Falls. Pictured with Autumn are Councilmen Kenny Bryant, Bob Pate and Delton Cox.



Reserve Grand Supreme Heifer and English Breed Champion, Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville.



English Reserve Breed Champion Heifer, Hailey Henry, McCurtain.

Class V – 1st: Hailey Henry, McCurtain; 2nd: Kyle Pingleton, Hartshorne; 3rd: Candace Wilson, Clayton; 4th: Katherine Goodman, Talihina; 5th: Clint Crane, Wister.

Class VI – 1st: Ashton Thomason, Hartshorne.

2008 Choctaw Nation Livestock Show



Continental Breed Champion Heifer, Hailey Henry, McCurtain.



AOB Breed Champion Heifer, Autumn Cato, Webbers Falls, pictured with Councilmen Kenny Bryant, Bob Pate and Delton Cox.



Grand Champion and English Breed Champion Steer, Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville.



Continental Reserve Breed Champion Heifer, Leonard Oxtoby, Braggs.



Brahman Influence Breed Champion Heifer, Ace'Lee Pittman, Wright City.



AOB Reserve Breed Champion Heifer, Langston Upton, Wister, pictured with Councilmen Kenny Bryant, Bob Pate and Delton Cox.

Continental
 Breed Champion – Hailey Henry, McCurtain.
 Reserve Breed Champion – Leonard Oxtoby, Braggs.
 Class I – 1st: Tarah Satterfield, McCurtain.
 Class II – 1st: Leonard Oxtoby, Braggs; 2nd: Kassadi Click, Muldrow; 3rd: Brandon Johnson, Stigler; 4th: Chance Breseer, Hartshorne.
 Class III – 1st: Hailey Henry, McCurtain; 2nd: Todd McGee-, Red Oak; 3rd: Kristyn Adams, Wilburton.
 Class IV – 1st: Kyle Pingleton, Hartshorne; 2nd: Brittan Raines, Red Oak; 3rd: Crystina Marshall, Idabel.
 Class V – 1st: Brandon Johnson, Stigler; 2nd: Heather O'Neal, Talihiina; 3rd: Kelbie Kennedy, Talihiina; 4th: Kacee Knight, Leflore; 5th: Jessica Marshall, Idabel.

Brahman Influence
 Breed Champion – Ace'Lee Pittman, Wright City.
 Class I – 1st: Ace'Lee Pittman, Wright City.

AOB
 Breed Champion – Autumn Cato, Webbers Falls.
 Reserve Breed Champion – Langston Upton, Wister.
 Class I – 1st: Leonard Oxtoby, Braggs; 2nd: Brice Wilson, Po-teau; 3rd: Tyler Satterfield, McCurtain.
 Class II – 1st: Autumn Cato, Webbers Falls; 2nd: Jacob Hol-lan, Leflore; 3rd: Callie Long, Stigler; 4th: Jace Blaylock, Mc-Curtain.
 Class III – 1st: Landon Moody, Moss; 2nd: Langston Upton, Wister; 3rd: Bailey Henry, McCurtain.
 Class IV – 1st: Brandon Johnson, Stigler; 2nd: Audra Powell, Wister; 3rd: Heather O'Neal, Talihiina; 4th: Chelsea Blaylock, McCurtain; 5th: Derek Shaw, Buffalo Valley; 6th: Kelsey Crane, Wister.
 Class V – 1st: Langston Upton, Wister; 2nd: Tarah Satterfield, McCurtain.
 Class VI – 1st: Kelbie Kennedy, Talihiina; 2nd: Katherine Good-man, Talihiina.

- STEERS -
 Grand Champion Steer – Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville.
 Reserve Grand Champion – Trastin Blaylock, McCurtain.
 Jr. Beef Showmanship – Hailey Henry, McCurtain.
 Sr. Beef Showmanship – Brooke Ramsey, Checotah.

English
 Breed Champion – Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville.
 Reserve Breed Champion – Kyle Pingleton, Hartshorne.
 Class I – 1st: Tabitha Barnhouse, Haileyville.
 Class II – 1st: Kyle Pingleton, Hartshorne; 2nd: Troy Bowden, McCurtain.

Continental
 Breed Champion – Trastin Blaylock, McCurtain.
 Reserve Breed Champion – Noah Irwin, Hartshorne.
 Class I – 1st: Noah Irwin, Hartshorne; 2nd: Troy Bowden, Mc-Curtain; 3rd: Lane Williams, Idabel.
 Class II – 1st: Trastin Blaylock, McCurtain; 2nd: Kassadi Click,



Reserve Grand Champion Steer and Continental Breed Champion, Trastin Blaylock, McCurtain.



AOB Breed Champion, Cody Bull, Panola.

Muldrow; 3rd: Noah Irwin, Hartshorne; 4th: Randa Anson, Wis-ter.

AOB
 Breed Champion – Cody Bull, Panola.
 Reserve Breed Champion – Kagney Scarberry, Leflore.
 Class I – 1st: Glen Frost, Wister; 2nd: Katherine Ashby, Pa-nola.
 Class II – 1st: Kagney Scarberry, Leflore; 2nd: Kagney Scar-berry, Leflore.
 Class III – 1st: Cody Bull, Panola; 2nd: RaeGail Wilson, Hart-shorne.

DURANT LIVESTOCK SHOW

- SWINE -

Swine Grand Champion – Kirsten Rogers, Calera.
 Swine Reserve Grand – Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh.
 Sr. Showman – Seth Parish, Tishomingo.
 Jr. Showman – Madison Rogers, Calera.

Berk

Breed Champion – Blake Medders, Battiest.
 Reserve Breed – Crystal Reeder, Wapanucka.

Class I – 1st: Blake Medders, Battiest; 2nd: Crystal Reeder, Wa-panucka; 3rd: Samantha McCary, Battiest; 4th: Jayci Braudrick, Bennington; 5th: Anita Hudson, Harrah.

Chester

Breed Champion – Madison Rogers, Calera.

Reserve Breed – Jared Brooks, Wapanucka.

Class I – 1st: Jared Brooks, Wapanucka; 2nd: Caleb Rhoades, Turner; 3rd: Mekyla Jacobs, Coalgate; 4th: Jeremiah Weeden, Coalgate; 5th: Neiatha Hardy, Coalgate; 6th: Nate Hardy, Coal-gate; 7th: Damien Hamilton, Coalgate.

Class II – 1st: Madison Rogers, Calera; 2nd: Ross Davis, Dick-son; 3rd: Miranda Jone, Thackerville; 4th: Samantha McCary, Battiest; 5th: Caitlin Hudson, Harrah.

Duroc

Breed Champion – Seth Parish, Tishomingo.

Reserve Breed – Brittany Christian, Prairie Valley.

Class I – 1st: Logan Hatter, Wapanucka; 2nd: Jessica Collins, Wapanucka; 3rd: Taylor Dancer, Bennington; 4th: Elaina Watts, Battiest; 5th: Megan Garside, Stringtown; 6th: Deedra Tonihka, Battiest; 7th: Daniel Venable, Holdenville; 8th: Colby Cole, Stringtown; 9th: Morgan Perrin, Battiest.

Class II – 1st: Brittany Christian, Prairie Valley; 2nd: Kirsten Rogers, Calera; 3rd: Alissa Rhoades, Turner; 4th: Cooper Wood, Antlers; 5th: Megan Jones, Rock Creek; 6th: Logan Hatter, Wa-panucka; 7th: Joshua Lemmond, Wapanucka; 8th: Delano Zah-gotah, Battiest.

Class III – 1st: Seth Parish, Tishomingo; 2nd: Kara Bourland, Coalgate; 3rd: Brett Jennings, Byng; 4th: Jayci Braudrick, Ben-nington; 5th: Elizabeth Blansett, Antlers; 6th: Dalton Davis, Dickson; 7th: Kiley Russell, Caddo; 8th: Shiane Acuna , Bo-swell; 9th: Trevor Bonds, Soper.

Cross

Breed Champion – Kristen Rogers, Calera.

Reserve Breed – Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh.

Class I – 1st: Jordan Luman, Asher; 2nd: Jerry Don Lambert, Atoka; 3rd: Deedra Tonihka, Battiest; 4th: Dillon Cummins, Col-ber; 5th: Jess Buss, Wapanucka; 6th: Jared Brooks, Wapanucka;



Swine Grand Champion and Cross Breed Champion, Kirsten Rogers, Calera, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Swine Reserve Grand and Cross Reserve Breed Champion, Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Berk Breed Champion, Blake Medders, Battiest.

2008 Choctaw Nation Livestock Show



Berk Reserve Breed, Crystal Reeder, Wapanucka, with Councilman Mike Amos.



Chester Breed Champion, Madison Rogers, Calera, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Chester Reserve Breed Champion, Jared Brooks, Wapanucka, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Duroc Breed Champion, Seth Parish, Tishomingo, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Duroc Reserve Breed Champion, Brittany Christian, Prairie Valley, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.

7th: Clair Cole, Stringtown; 8th: Richard Bragg, Soper; 9th: Alexis Thompson, Hugo; 10th: Devin Bond, Hugo.

Class II – 1st: Misty Henderson, Soper; 2nd: Janica Williams, Rock Creek; 3rd: Lindsey Broughton, Tushka; 4th: Jake Allen, Caddo; 5th: Justin Hall, Tushka; 6th: Lindsey Broughton, Tushka; 7th: Sage Rice, Soper; 8th: Dustin Bailey, Hugo.

Class III – 1st: Bridgett Christian, Coalgate; 2nd: Baylor Jestis, Durant; 3rd: Casey Cook, Madill; 4th: Jackson Ferguson, Soper; 5th: Sam Roebuck, Soper; 6th: Dillon Burns, Coalgate; 7th: Shelby Gallant, Soper; 8th: Lance Moore, Madill; 9th: Baylee Whitley, Colbert; 10th: Kalie Foster, Wapanucka.

Class IV – 1st: Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh; 2nd: Kirsten Roger, Calera; 3rd: Cooper Wood, Antlers; 4th: Kara Bourland, Coalgate; 5th: Aspen Clemens, Coal County; 6th: Willie McKinney, Coalgate; 7th: Austin Lemmond, Wapanucka; 8th: Kendal Foster, Coleman; 9th: Elaina Watts, Battiest; 10th: Ashlyn Finch, Soper.

Class V – 1st: Kiley Russell, Caddo; 2nd: Jessica Collins, Wapanucka; 3rd: Corby Ake, Tupelo; 4th: Samual Fields, Wright City; 5th: Shelby Gallant, Soper; 6th: James Todd, Soper; 7th: Lakesha Hawkins, Madill; 8th: Dusty Belvin, Boswell; 9th: Morgan Ray, Hugo.

Class VI – 1st: Kirsten Rogers, Calera; 2nd: Austin Jestis, Durant; 3rd: Nathan Thompson, Hugo; 4th: Jake Johnson, Antlers; 5th: Blake Medders, Battiest; 6th: Delano Zahgotah, Battiest; 7th: Dylan Henderson, Soper; 8th: Hunter Ray, Hugo.

Class VII – 1st: Megan Jones, Rock Creek; 2nd: Bryce Carter, Soper; 3rd: Trevor Bonds, Soper.

Hamp

Breed Champion – Hayden Bell, Madill.

Reserve Breed – Mason Emert, Bennington.

Class I – 1st: Dakota Robinson, Caddo; 2nd: Malerey Luman, Asher; 3rd: Bridgett Christian, Prairie Valley; 4th: Grant Jeter, Tishomingo; 5th: Bryan Keller, Tushka; 6th: Drew Parker, Tupelo; 7th: Taylor Dancer, Bennington; 8th: Daniel Venable, Holdenville; 9th: Brain James, Hugo.

Class II – 1st: Kevin Adkinson, Tishomingo; 2nd: Aubree Goodwin, Calera; 3rd: Tandra Elkins, Coalgate; 4th: Madelynn Miles, Soper; 5th: Brady Jennings, Byng; 6th: Seth Parish, Tishomingo; 7th: Sean Keeler, Tushka; 8th: Lindsey Broughton, Tushka; 9th: Kevin Bond, Hugo; 10th: Kyle King, Kingston.

Class III – 1st: Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh; 2nd: Josie Redwine, Boswell; 3rd: Bradley Nichols, Colbert; 4th: Haden Bell, Madill; 5th: Megan Jones, Rock Creek; 6th: Breanna Baumert, Wapanucka; 7th: Bailey Priddy, Tishomingo; 8th: Jeromy Teal, Bennington; 9th: Delano Zahgotah, Battiest; 10th: Nathan Thompson, Hugo; 11th: Kalie Foster, Wapanucka.

Class IV – 1st: Caitlin Roebuck, Soper; 2nd: Ashley Jones, Thackerville; 3rd: Austin Clemens, Coal County; 4th: Dillon Burns, Coalgate; 5th: Brett Jennings, Byng; 6th: Joseph Thompson, Hugo; 7th: Madison Cress, Boswell; 8th: Cheyenne Frizell, Maysville; 9th: Kacy Davis, Maysville; 10th: Casey Cook, Madill; 11th: Kyle King, Kingston.

Class V – 1st: Haden Bell, Madill; 2nd: Mason Emert, Bennington; 3rd: Baylor Jestis, Durant; 4th: Sarah Thompson, Hugo; 5th: Keshia Fryer, Caddo; 6th: William Minyard, Bennington; 7th: Jase Holder, Atoka; 8th: Eric Tyler Minyard, Bennington; 9th: Erik Patty, Rock Creek; 10th: Taylor Henry, Kingston.

Poland

Breed Champion – Cooie Potts, Atoka.

Reserve Breed – Mariah Clagg, Maysville.

Class I – 1st: Cooie Potts, Atoka; 2nd: Mariah Clagg, Maysville; 3rd: Jacob Fielder, Maysville; 4th: Amber King, Kingston.

Spot

Breed Champion – Carly Davis, Maysville.

Reserve Breed – Mason Emert, Bennington.

Class I – 1st: Carly Davis, Maysville; 2nd: Josie Redwine, Boswell; 3rd: Brittany Christian, Prairie Valley; 4th: Brady Jennings, Caddo; 5th: Bailey Priddy, Tishomingo; 6th: Aaron Airington, Caddo; 7th: Jeromy Teal, Bennington; 8th: Anita Hudson, HARRAH; 9th: Damien Hamilton, Coalgate; 10th: Aaron Airington, Caddo.

Class II – 1st: Mason Emert, Bennington; 2nd: Holden Bell, Madill; 3rd: Caleb Rhoades, Turner; 4th: Ashley Jones, Thackerville; 5th: Taylor Runyan, Atoka; 6th: David Dill, Rock Creek; 7th: Pady Hobgood, Colbert; 8th: Samantha McCary, Battiest; 9th: Kaitlin Fryer, Caddo.



Spot Breed Champion, Carly Davis, Maysville, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Spot Reserve Breed Champion, Mason Emert, Bennington, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Hamp Breed Champion, Hayden Bell, Madill, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



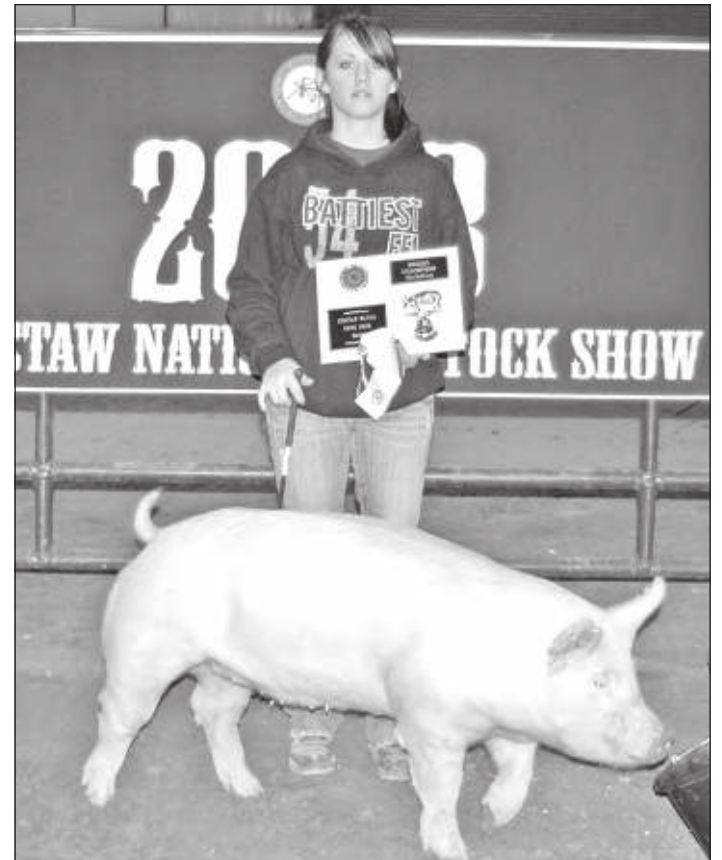
Hamp Reserve Breed Champion, Mason Emert, Bennington, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Poland Breed Champion, Cooie Potts, Atoka.



Poland Reserve Breed Champion, Mariah Clagg, Maysville, pictured with Councilmen Ted Dosh and Mike Amos.



York Breed Champion, Morgan Lee Perrin, Battiest.

2008 Choctaw Nation Livestock Show



York Reserve Breed Champion, Madison Rogers, Calera.



Sheep Grand Champion, Kelsey Jones, Thackerville.



Sheep Reserve Grand, Champion, Larriann Chambers, Tushka, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Goat Grand Champion, Kelsey Chambers, Tushka, pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh.



Goat Reserve Champion, Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh, pictured with Councilmen Ted Dosh and Mike Amos.

YORK

Breed Champion – Morgan Lee Perrin, Battiest.
Reserve Breed – Madison Rogers, Calera.

Class I – 1st: Morgan Lee Perrin, Battiest; 2nd: Grant Jeter, Tishomingo; 3rd: Kannon Jackson, Durant; 4th: Kanda Jackson, Durant; 5th: Holden Bell, Madill; 6th: Wyatt Hartsfield, Wapanucka; 7th: Robert Garside, Stringtown; 8th: Jeremiah Weedon, Coalgate; 9th: Taylor Henry, Kingston.

Class II – 1st: Jessica Collins, Wapanucka; 2nd: Mason Clagg, Maysville; 3rd: Ross Priddy, Tishomingo; 4th: Janica Williams, Rock Creek; 5th: Cheyenne Frizell, Maysville; 6th: Sahara Jump, Coal County; 7th: Jess Buss, Wapanucka; 8th: Caitlin Hudson, Harrah.

Class III – 1st: Madison Rogers, Calera; 2nd: Kesha Fryer, Caddo; 3rd: Kara Bourland, Coalgate; 4th: Jett Gardner, Antlers; 5th: Ashley Jones, Thackerville; 6th: Trey Herman, Soper; 7th: Kiley Russell, Caddo; 8th: Trey Herman, Soper; 9th: Chrissy Dill, Rock Creek.

– SHEEP –

Grand Champion – Kelsey Jones, Thackerville.
Reserve Grand – Larriann Chambers, Tushka.

Senior Showman – Colby Impson, Calvin.
Junior Showman – Julienne Fielder, Maysville.

Class I – 1st: Ethan Schuth, Durant; 2nd: Ashley Harris, Durant; 3rd: Jessa Jemison, Wapanucka; 4th: Jaylee Riley, Cottonwood; 5th: Macy Powell, Durant; 6th: Nicole Pittman, Boswell; 7th: Jaydin Riley, Cottonwood; 8th: Landon Lynch, Coalgate.

Class II – 1st: Larriann Chambers, Tushka; 2nd: Ethan Schuth, Durant; 3rd: Logan Lynch, Tupelo; 4th: Breanna Baumert, Wapanucka; 5th: Courtney Nolen, Calvin; 6th: Juan Lopez, Hugo; 7th: Cody Self, Soper; 8th: Jessica Williams, Ryan; 9th: Nicholas Roebuck, Coalgate.

Class III – 1st: Kelsey Jones, Thackerville; 2nd: Colby Impson, Calvin; 3rd: Shacole Thompson, Coalgate; 4th: Morgan Venable, Moss; 5th: LaTildra Bullard, Tupelo; 6th: Jaymin Riley, Coalgate; 7th: Jess Buss, Wapanucka; 8th: Alyson Chapman, Coalgate; 9th: Courtney Nolen, Calvin.

Class IV – 1st: Kelsey Jones, Thackerville; 2nd: Julienne Fielder, Maysville; 3rd: Nikki Schuth, Durant; 4th: Larriann Chambers, Tushka; 5th: Jayci Braudrick, Bennington; 6th: Tiffany Adkinson, Tishomingo; 7th: Jareth Ray, Wapanucka; 8th: Brooke Roebuck, Cottonwood.

Class V – 1st: Skyler Betterton, Sulphur; 2nd: Tanner McKee, Soper; 3rd: Randi Staton, Hugo; 4th: Jareth Ray, Wapanucka; 5th: Brooke Roebuck, Cottonwood; 6th: LaTildra Bullard, Tupelo; 7th: Morgan Venable, Moss.

Class VI – 1st: Nikki Schuth, Durant; 2nd: Colby Impson, Calvin; 3rd: Morgan House, Tishomingo; 4th: Jessica Williams, Ryan; 5th: Julienne Fielder, Maysville; 6th: Miranda Finch, Soper; 7th: Elaina Watts, Battiest; 8th: Nicholas Roebuck, Coalgate; 9th: Justin Long, Cottonwood; 10th: Justin Long, Cottonwood.

Class VII – 1st: Colby Impson, Calvin; 2nd: Julienne Fielder, Maysville; 3rd: Ethan Schuth, Durant; 4th: Mia McKee, Soper; 5th: Tyler Barnett, Achille; 6th: Skyler Betterton, Sulphur; 7th: Jessica Williams, Ryan; 8th: Alyson Chapman, Coalgate; 9th: Dillon Williams, Ryan.

Class VIII – 1st: Dylan Walker, Sulphur; 2nd: Randi Staton, Hugo; 3rd: Tyler Barnett, Achille; 4th: Nikki Schuth, Durant; 5th: Sonny Dutchover, Achille; 6th: Dillon Williams, Ryan; 7th: Breanna Baumert, Wapanucka; 8th: Mattie Ferguson, Soper.

– GOATS –

Grand Champion – Kelsey Chambers, Tushka.
Reserve Champion – Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh.

Senior Showman – Kelsey Moore, Madill.
Junior Showman – Jayci Braudrick, Bennington.

Class I – 1st: Daniel Venable, Holdenville; 2nd: Collin Stevenson, Caddo; 3rd: Bradley Martin, Boswell; 4th: Jacob Jones, Roff; 5th: Tanner McKee, Soper; 6th: Tyna McKee, Soper; 7th: Tad Holt, Bennington; 8th: Tayler Hedgecock, Durant.

Class II – 1st: Wyatt Hartsfield, Wapanucka; 2nd: Tracy Brown, Boswell; 3rd: Sydnee Hartsfield, Wapanucka; 4th: Dalton Davis, Dickson; 5th: Aaron Orr, Coalgate; 6th: Ross Davis, Dickson; 7th: Gunnar Hemingway, Fort Towson; 8th: Mia McKee, Soper; 9th: Tanner McKee, Soper.

Class III – 1st: Caleb Brown, Boswell; 2nd: Rebeckah Boykin, Soper; 3rd: Kristen Allen, Bennington; 4th: Ross Davis, Dickson; 5th: Brenton Berryhill, Boswell; 6th: Shane Jemison, Wapanucka; 7th: Jacob Jones, Roff; 8th: Tyler Johnson, Caddo; 9th: Abby Virden, Boswell; 10th: Peyton Joines, Caddo.

Class IV – 1st: Kelsey Chambers, Tushka; 2nd: Sadie Avants, Tushka; 3rd: Jamie Hollingsworth, Bennington; 4th: Kelsey Young, Soper; 5th: Daniel Venable, Holdenville; 6th: Michaela Jump, Coalgate; 7th: Collin Stevenson, Caddo; 8th: James Porter Goodwin, Boswell; 9th: Syamantha Smith, Stringtown.

Class V – 1st: Amber Frazier, Tushka; 2nd: Colton Slawson, Tushka; 3rd: Tyler Barnett, Achille; 4th: Isaac Cooper, Tushka; 5th: J.B. Bell, Madill; 6th: Dalton Davis, Dickson; 7th: Patrick Joines, Caddo; 8th: Jacob Jones, Roff; 9th: James Futrell, Soper; 10th: Crystal Reeder, Wapanucka.

Class VI – 1st: Kelsey Chambers, Tushka; 2nd: Mallory Miller, Bennington; 3rd: Nikki Hartin, Madill; 4th: Jareth Ray, Wapanucka; 5th: Crystal Reeder, Wapanucka; 6th: Tasha Lockler, Bennington; 7th: Dusty Belvin, Boswell; 8th: Crystal Reeder, Wapanucka; 9th: Aaron Orr, Coalgate; 10th: Brandon Lee, Wapanucka.

Class VII – 1st: Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh; 2nd: Rebeckah Boykin, Soper; 3rd: Wyatt Hartsfield, Wapanucka; 4th: Shelby Lewis, Allen; 5th: Dillon Burns, Coalgate; 6th: Russell Jones, Fort Towson; 7th: Stacey Bacon, Boswell; 8th: Michaela Jump, Coalgate; 9th: Judge Hartin, Madill; 10th: James Futrell, Soper.

Class VIII – 1st: Larriann Chambers, Tushka; 2nd: Kelsey Moore, Madill; 3rd: Shelby Lewis, Allen; 4th: Ralph Jareth Ray, Wapanucka; 5th: Tyler Johnson, Caddo; 6th: Shane Jemison, Wapanucka; 7th: Rilee Trammel, Fort Towson; 8th: Kayla Klogima, Calvin; 9th: Shelby Gallant, Soper.

Class IX – 1st: Jayci Braudrick, Bennington; 2nd: Taylor Bell, Madill; 3rd: Jayce Braudrick, Bennington; 4th: Dillon Burns, Coalgate; 5th: Rebeckah Boykin, Soper; 6th: Aaron Purkins, Caddo; 7th: Nikki Hartin, Madill; 8th: Michaela Jump, Coalgate; 9th: Aaron Purkins, Caddo; 10th: Judge Hartin, Madill.

Class X – 1st: Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh; 2nd: Shana Johnson, Allen; 3rd: Dillon Burns, Coalgate; 4th: Shelby Lewis, Allen; 5th: Madison Abney, Latta; 6th: Zach Pebsworth, Boswell; 7th: J.B. Bell, Madill; 8th: Shana Johnson, Allen; 9th: Madison Cress, Boswell; 10th: Kelsey Moore, Madill.

Class XI – 1st: Tyler Barnett, Achille; 2nd: Shana Johnson, Allen; 3rd: Kelsey Moore, Madill; 4th: Taylor Bell, Madill; 5th: Madison Abney, Latta; 6th: Dalton Davis, Dickson; 7th: Daxton Cox, Stringtown.



Grand Champion Heifer and AOB Breed Champion Heifer, Lauren Slover, Tishomingo, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.



Reserve Supreme Heifer and Breed Champion Continental Heifer, Timber Stephens, Atoka, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.



English Breed Champion Heifer, Colby Jones, Coalgate, pictured with Councilmen Ted Dosh, James Frazier, Perry Thompson and Anthony Dillard.



English Reserve Breed Champion Heifer, Joshua Eaves, Tushka, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.



Continental Reserve Breed Champion Heifer, Haylie McGowan, Colbert, pictured with Councilmen James Frazier, Anthony Dillard, Perry Thompson and Ted Dosh.

DURANT BEEF SHOW

Senior Showman – Timber Stephens, Atoka.
Junior Showman – Haylie McGowan, Colbert.

– HEIFERS –

Grand Champion – Lauren Slover, Tishomingo.
Reserve Champion – Timber Stephens, Atoka.

English

Breed Champion: Colby Jones, Coalgate.
Reserve Breed: Joshua Eaves, Tushka.

Class I – 1st: Colby Jones, Coalgate; 2nd: Joshua Eaves, Tushka; 3rd: Sara Benton, Boles; 4th: Dalton Smith, Boswell.

Class II – 1st: Joshua Eaves, Tushka; 2nd: Dusty Pebsworth, Boswell; 3rd: Jesse Pebsworth, Boswell.

Continental

Breed Champion – Timber Stephens, Atoka.
Reserve Breed Champion – Haylie McGowan, Colbert.

2008 Choctaw Nation Livestock Show



Brahman Influence Breed Champion, Dustin Cochran, Harmony.



Brahman Influence Reserve Breed Champion Heifer, Megan Garside, Stringtown, pictured with Councilmen James Frazier, Anthony Dillard, Perry Thompson and Ted Dosh.



AOB Reserve Breed Champion Heifer, Ridge Stephens, Atoka, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.



English Reserve Breed Champion Steer, Haylie McGowan, Colbert, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.

Class I – 1st: Haylie McGowan, Colbert; 2nd: Jacob Hartin, Madill; 3rd: Laramie Beal, Coalgate; 4th: Levi Shelby, Madill; 5th: Haylie McGowan, Colbert; 6th: Leslie Carter, Calera.

Class II – 1st: Luke Serner, Durant; 2nd: Taylor Mobbs, Tushka; 3rd: Lauren Slover, Tishomingo; 4th: Laredo Beal, Coalgate; 5th: Parker Mobbs, Tushka; 6th: Macheala Adkinson, Tishomingo; 7th: Kaci Trentham, Coalgate; 8th: Sarah Thompson, Hugo; 9th: Dillon Burns, Coalgate; 10th: Randi Staton, Hugo.

Class III – 1st: Timber Stephens, Atoka; 2nd: Dalton Smith, Boswell; 3rd: Jordan Mobbs, Tushka.

Brahman

Breed Champion – Dustin Cochran, Harmony.

Reserve Breed – Megan Garside, Stringtown.

Class I – 1st: Dustin Cochran, Harmony; 2nd: Megan Garside, Stringtown; 3rd: Robert Garside, Stringtown.

AOB

Breed Champion – Lauren Slover, Tishomingo.

Reserve Breed – Ridge Stephens, Atoka.

Class I – 1st: Joshua Hartin, Madill; 2nd: Dakota Robinson, Caddo; 3rd: Kevin Adkinson, Tishomingo; 4th: Kristi Harris, Durant.

Class II – 1st: Lauren Slover, Tishomingo; 2nd: John West, Mill Creek; 3rd: Caleb Eaves, Tushka; 4th: Kaitlin Hedgecock, Durant.

Class III – 1st: Ridge Stephens, Atoka; 2nd: Dakota Robinson, Caddo; 3rd: Jaime Williams, Antlers; 4th: Kristi Harris, Durant.

Class IV – 1st: Kent Davidson, Hugo; 2nd: Peyton Mobbs, Tushka; 3rd: Jeromy Teal, Bennington.

Class V – 1st: Lane Stewart, Lone Grove; 2nd: LeAnn Thompson, Hugo; 3rd: Krissy Langley, Soper; 4th: Kenzi Baldwin, Antlers.

Class VI – 1st: Luke Serner, Durant.

– STEER –

Grand Champion – Lane Stewart, Lone Grove

Reserve Champion – Joshua Hartin, Madill.

English

Breed Champion – Lane Stewart, Lone Grove.

Reserve Breed – Haylie McGowan, Colbert.

Class I – 1st: Leslie Carter, Calera.

Class II – 1st: Lane Stewart, Lone Grove; 2nd: Kevin Adkinson, Tishomingo.

Class III – 1st: Timber Stephens, Atoka; 2nd: Sahara Jump, Coal County; 3rd: Randi Staton, Hugo.

Class IV – 1st: Haylie McGowan, Colbert.

Continental

Breed Champion – Joshua Hartin, Madill.

Reserve Breed – Haylie McGowan, Colbert.

Class I – 1st: Joshua Hartin, Madill; 2nd: Liddy Lahman, Durant; 3rd: Tierra McAlpin, Tishomingo; 4th: Patrick Ferris, Wapanucka; 5th: John West, Mill Creek.

Class II – 1st: Ashton Thompson, Rock Creek; 2nd: Luke Serner, Durant; 3rd: Larado Beal, Coalgate; 4th: Terrick McAlpin, Tishomingo.

Class III – 1st: Haylie McGowan, Colbert; 2nd: Ashlyn Scott, Soper; 3rd: Laramie Beal, Coalgate; 4th: Aspen Clemens, Coal County; 5th: Kaci Trentham, Coalgate.

AOB

Breed Champion – Macheala Adkinson, Tishomingo.

Reserve Breed – Payton Sweeten, Dickson.

Class I – 1st: Mason Morris, South Garland.

Class II – 1st: Macheala Adkinson, Tishomingo; 2nd: Payton Sweeten, Dickson; 3rd: Kristi Harris, Durant; 4th: Jeromy Teal, Bennington.

Class III – 1st: Taylor Payne, Soper; 2nd: Cooper Wood, Antlers; 3rd: Dillon Bowen, Silo; 4th: Dusty Pebsworth, Boswell.

Class IV – 1st: Leslie Carter, Calera.

The staff and students would like to thank everyone who participated in making the annual Livestock Show the best ever!



Grand Champion Steer and English Breed Champion Steer, Lane Stewart, Lone Grove, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.



Reserve Champion Steer and Continental Breed Champion Steer, Joshua Hartin, Madill, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.



Continental Reserve Breed Champion Steer, Haylie McGowan, Colbert, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.



AOB Reserve Breed Champion Steer, Payton Sweeten, Dickson, pictured with Councilmen Anthony Dillard and Ted Dosh.

Choctaw Veterans Association meets

The executive council of the Choctaw Veterans Association held its quarterly meeting with 14 members present.

The Choctaw Veterans Association has a new cap available. It is similar to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion caps, black with gold piping.

For more information, please contact Nellie Hunter, Secretary/Treasurer, P.O. Box 116, Tupelo, OK 74572. Caps are \$8 each.

The Choctaw Veterans Cemetery is now open for burial. To arrange for a burial, please contact Terry Cole, Historic Preservation, P.O. Box 1210, Durant, OK 74702 or call 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2137. A copy of the burial policies and procedures can be obtained by contacting Nellie Hunter at the address above.

Jones Academy Super Students

Top scholars named for second nine weeks

Wilmer Guerrero and Gabriela Bernal were chosen as Super Students for the second nine weeks of Ms. Lori Wells first/second grade class. Both students are in the second grade. Wilmer is the son of Anita Jennings of Ada. His favorite subject is math. A motivated student, Wilmer enjoys learning new things. He also likes computer games and playing with his friends.

Gabriela is the granddaughter of Rose Neconie of Tulsa. She has a good attitude about learning. Gabriela likes to read and works hard to complete her assignments in class.

Mrs. Martin named Araceli Ortiz the third grade Super Student. Araceli is the daughter of Jody Ann Ortiz of Tulsa. The fourth grade Super Student is Sayra Rodriguez Chatkehoodle, the daughter of Sonya Chatkehoodle of Tulsa.

Jayelin Chatlin and Kayla Myers were chosen as Mr. Sirman's fifth grade Super Students. Jayelin is the daughter of Gale Chatlin of Sacaton, Arizona. Education is high on Jayelin's list. She likes math, reading, social studies and learning poems. Basketball is her favorite sport.

Kayla credits her teachers, her dormitory roommates and



Standing before the nearly completed school at Jones Academy are Super Students, in front, Wilmer Guerrero and Gabriela Bernal; middle, Kayla Myers, Araceli Ortiz, Sayra Rodriguez Chatkehoodle and Jaylin Chatlin; and in back, Alisha Picone, Gary Burris, Yoniyah Harjo and Constance Van Horn with Administrator Brad Spears.

friends for her love of school. She seeks help and gets it when needed. Her favorite subjects are reading, science and social studies. Kayla is the daughter of Deidre Myers and is from Wright City.

Mr. Martin named Constance Van Horn and Alisha Picone the sixth grade Super Students.

Constance is the daughter of Carmen Sweezy of Oklahoma City. She is a very dependable student and also plays the clarinet in the sixth grade band.

Alisha is involved in the Gifted and Talented Program, sixth grade band and basketball. Alisha is the daughter of Vincent and Sherry Picone of

Wilburton. Constance and Gary Burris were selected for the Super Student titles at the Jones Academy Alternative School. L.J. is the son of Chumona Deer of Okemah. Gary is the son of Gary Burris Sr. of Lawton. Congratulations!

Choctaw Nation MEMORIAL BRICK SIDEWALK

Wheelock Academy Museum & Gift Shop

Alumni/Families/Friends of Wheelock Academy
It's not too late to purchase your Memorial Brick for the Memorial Walk in and around Wheelock Academy. Come look and see how nice they look.

For tax deduction make check payable to:
CHAHTA Foundation, Wheelock Academy
or stop by

Wheelock Academy Museum & Gift Shop
on Hwy. 70 East, Millerton, Oklahoma,
and while there ... visit our gift shop and see the
assortment of gift ideas on hand!

– wheelock@valliant.net –
Open Monday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Hwy. 70 East 580-746-2139 Millerton, OK

Searching for Original Enrollees

The Choctaw Nation is asking for any assistance in identifying Original Enrollees who are living outside of the tribal boundaries. Three have been identified within the service area but none are documented as residing outside of the boundaries of the Choctaw Nation. Please contact Oneida Winship, Director, 800-522-6170 or 580-924-8280, ext. 2202.

Senior Day

Planning is under way for the 24th Annual Senior Day on May 28 at the Choctaw Bingo Pavilion in Durant. Don't miss it!

Senior Bingo

A change has been made in the dates of Senior Citizen Appreciation Bingo. They are: May 22, August 14 and November 13.

Gospel singing

Everyone is welcome to the Annual Frazier Memorial Gospel Singing, March 28 at the Crowder Choctaw Center, 707 Bond St. in Crowder. Emcee is Curtis Kenny. Singing starts at 7 p.m. Concession available.

Annual singing

The Choctaw Academy United Methodist Church in Rufe is holding its Annual Singing April 25. Emcee is Thurman Jefferson. Supper is 5:30 to 7 p.m. followed by a hamburger/hot dog sale. For more information contact Freeman Taylor at 580-876-3792 or Troy Blue at 580-876-3620.

Hartshorne reunion

The Hartshorne Class of 1998 is gearing up for its 10-year reunion in June. Any graduates from that year who would like to attend need to contact Kristin Cope Turner at keturner98@hotmail.com or 918-426-4696.

Chilocco reunion

The Chilocco Alumni Annual Reunion will be June 6-8 at the Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center in Oklahoma City. A special room rate is available starting June 5. For information on vendor booth space call Pauline Levi at 405-737-0174.

Chilocco alumni

The Chilocco National Alumni Association is inviting all Chilocco Indian School students and staff to attend its monthly meeting held at 1 p.m. on every fourth Saturday. A potluck lunch is enjoyed before each meeting held at Villa Eisen Bardt, 3801 NW 19 and Portland, Oklahoma City. The association is looking for classmates from the 1950s, '60s, '70s and '80s. For more information contact Betty Jones at 405-392-5536 or Charlotte Warrior at 405-948-4073.

Dyer-Labor reunion

Descendants and family friends of one of the oldest families in Southeastern Oklahoma – James Dyer and Malinda Labor Dyer – are meeting June 14-15 at Tenkiller Lodge, 26247 Hwy. 82 S., Park Hill, Oklahoma, 74451. We hope everyone will arrive by 11 a.m. on June 14 for lunch. If you could bring beverages, paper goods, or contribute to the potluck, it would be appreciated. A group will also be journeying down to McCurtain County and possibly the Bennington area to visit cemeteries, old home places, etc. of Dyers and Labors.

Jones, Doctor, Bond, Carney, Winship reunion

Families of Wilburn and Mary Ann Jones, George and Martha Doctor, Dee Rice and Anna Sue Bond, Bill Carney and James and Mary Winship are invited to a family reunion on June 15 at Billy Hooten United Methodist Church, Oklahoma City. The reunion, hosted by Janet Robertson, begins at 11 a.m. Please pass the word to other family members. For more information call 405-605-1337 or 822-9946.

Bakersfield gathering of Choctaw people to be fun-filled 2-day event

Visit with your Chief and Assistant Chief



Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton

The Okla Chahta Clan of California is excited about its 13th annual gathering of Choctaw people in Bakersfield. This year's event will provide an opportunity for everyone to visit with Chief Greg Pyle and the new Assistant Chief of the Choctaw Nation, Gary Batton. The gathering will be held on the soccer field at Bakersfield College, 1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, with ample paved parking close to the site.

Don't miss all the fun! On tap this year will be Choctaw storyteller Tim Tingle and numerous demonstrations and classes on how to make traditional Choctaw food, dresses and necklaces as well as social dancing and learning the Choctaw songs. Another must-see is the Choctaw ponies and among the many booths this year will be Choctaw artist Gwen Coleman-Lester with her fantastic Choctaw art.

Staff from the Tribal Membership Department in Durant will be on hand to help family members register with the tribe or to assist with new photo IDs or change of addresses. The importance of being a registered member of the tribe cannot be emphasized enough. Many Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma programs require both a CDIB and tribal membership cards.

Choctaw Nation health officials will be providing health screening, diabetes information and testing. Also, representatives of several Choctaw Nation programs will be on hand to help with questions on housing, health, higher education, genealogy, and veterans assistance, to name a few.

A Grand Entry opens festivities on Saturday with the

Pre-Register for the 13th Annual Gathering
Please pre-register for the FREE Saturday meal.

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone # _____
E-mail _____ Are you a tribal member? _____

Those who are attending with you:

Name _____ Adult/teen/child _____ Tribal? _____
Name _____ Adult/teen/child _____ Tribal? _____
Name _____ Adult/teen/child _____ Tribal? _____
Name _____ Adult/teen/child _____ Tribal? _____

– Camping on grounds of gathering –
Sign up now – limited number of spaces – they go fast – request early for a space!
YOU MUST REGISTER & PAY IN ADVANCE

If you cancel you must do so 2 weeks prior to get a refund so we can open to someone else. I wish to register for camping:

Name _____ E-mail _____
Address _____ Phone _____

Tent camping space * how many tents _____ \$10 one night (Friday or Saturday) or \$15 for both Friday and Saturday. Fee is per tent charge.
RV Camping (size and type) _____ \$10 – Friday or Saturday or \$15 for Friday and Saturday. Fee is per unit charge. All camping is dry – no electricity.

Please make checks payable to
Okla Chahta Clan of CA Inc. and mail to P.O. Box 80862, Bakersfield, CA 93380
All camping is for self-contained only. **No hookups – No electricity.**

For information: 661-393-6552 or www.oklachahta.org

Choctaw Nation Color Guard and all veterans leading the way into the circle. All veterans and active-duty military personnel are invited to participate in the opening ceremony. New this year is the "Young Warriors Society" for young men age 6 to 18 years old. Contact Ryan MacKay for more information at ryanmackay@earthlink.net.

The annual Okla Chahta Princess crowning will be on Saturday as well and all girls and young ladies up to 25 years of age are eligible to run for 2008 princess. For more information please contact Victoria at princessvixepooh@sbcglobal.net.

On Sunday, church services will be held with hymns being sung in Choctaw. All classes will be repeated

once after church. Everyone who has Choctaw traditional clothes is invited to wear them.

You must pre-register to tent/RV camp. Please e-mail Theresa Harrison at oklachahta@igalaxy.net or call 661-393-6552.

A special Choctaw rate is available at the Holiday Inn Select in Bakersfield. Please call 661-323-1900 and insist that you make reservations locally. Ask to be on the Special Choctaw Rate (single or double) which includes one free breakfast. Rates will go up April 15, so make your reservations as early as possible.

The gathering will take place rain or shine so bring plenty of shade, lawn chairs and enjoy the weekend.

TO THE YOUTH OF THE NATION

Why do teens need to care about the presidential elections?

By Jessie Blackwell
Choctaw Nation Youth Advisory Board

With primaries and caucuses already started in many states and the actual election less than a year away, it is important that even as teenagers, we start thinking about who we believe should be the next leader of our country. You may have the "I'm still young, I don't need to think about this stuff," mindset, but you should start to consider that the person chosen for this position will be making decisions that will affect your future.

There are many issues facing our country that will be dealt with differently by each candidate. A few of these issues are abortion, economic stimulus, energy, Iraq, same-sex marriage, and taxes. You may feel that you don't need to worry about these issues, but look at it this way: By the time of the next presidential election most of you will be able to vote and the way the previous president ran our country will affect your life and might restrict you from doing things you believe is right. Your religion or morals will have a lot to do with the way you think our country should be run, therefore, you really should look at some of the things each candidate stands for and see if it supports your beliefs.

Now, you may be thinking, "Okay, that's good, but I'm not old enough to vote." Well, you may be under 18, but being knowledgeable about what's going on in our country will make it easier for you when you are eligible to vote. So, get out there, get informed, and have a say in who runs our country.

◆ PRINCESS PAGEANTS ◆

– DISTRICT 4 –

May 10 at 4 p.m. at the Choctaw Community Center in Poteau. Deadline for applications is May 2.

– DISTRICT 5 –

May 21 at 1 p.m. at the Choctaw Community Center in Stigler. Deadline for applications is April 15.

– DISTRICT 7 –

May 30 at 6 p.m. at the Choctaw Community Center in Antlers. Deadline for applications is May 23.

– DISTRICT 8 –

May 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the Choctaw Community Center in Hugo. Deadline for applications is May 9.

– DISTRICT 10 –

May 17 at 6 p.m. at the Choctaw Community Center in Atoka.

Choctaw items available online!

The Choctaw Store is a new way to find those items you are always wanting including T-shirts, blankets, note cards and mousepads, all designed and produced by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Many more items are being added. Check it out at:

www.choctawstore.com

ATTENTION Choctaw Artists

If you are interested in participating in a Juried and Judged Choctaw Indian Art Show **LET US HEAR FROM YOU!**

Please fill out the following interest form in order to receive more information regarding the show which will be in Tushka Homma during the 2008 Labor Day festivities. Categories include: painting, graphics, cultural, sculpture, jewelry, pottery and basketry. Please fill out the form and return it to the address below. Art information packets will be mailed beginning in April.

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Telephone number _____
E-mail address _____
Artistic category _____

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

Return to: **Cindy Matson, HR**
Choctaw Nation Tribal Complex
P.O. Box 1210
Durant, OK 74702

For more information, call Cindy Matson at 800-522-6170, ext. 2481.

40th Annual Talihina Indian Festival Pow Wow

April 26

In the old school gym on Hwy 1 & 271, Talihina, Oklahoma



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2-5 p.m. Gourd Dancing
5 p.m. Supper
6-7 p.m. Gourd Dancing
7-10 p.m. Grand Entry & Intertribal dancing

Call Harry or Carol James at 918-567-2539 for reservations on arts & crafts spaces. \$25 for arts & crafts space plus an item donation. Bring your own table and chair.

Pow Wow sponsored by the Talihina Indian Club with assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment of the Arts.

HEAD STAFF

MC: Eddie Wilson, Cheyenne, Norman
Head Singer: Pat Oyebi, Inter-Tribal Drum, Kiowa, Stilwell
Head Man Dancer: Presley Byington, Choctaw, Idabel
Head Lady Dancer: Evelyn Kasworm, Cheyenne, Greenwood, Ark.
Head Gourd Dancer: Richard Emhoolah Sr., Kiowa, Idabel
Arena Director: Willard Polk, Choctaw, Bennington
Honor Guard: Choctaw Nation Color Guard

Club Princess: Miss Landry Danielle James
Honoree: Sylvester Moore, Choctaw Veteran, Talihina
Contests: Tiny Tots 6 years and under

- Cake Walk • Indian handmade arts & crafts • Food concession
- Public welcome • Frere admission • Bring pow wow chairs
- All princesses, clubs and drums welcome
- Not responsible for thefts/accidents • No firearms, alcohol or drugs!

2008 Choctaw Nation
Summertime
Storytelling Festival

May 30 & 31
Choctaw Community Center
McAlester, Oklahoma

Join us for some Choctaw Gospel Singing, Traditional Dancing, Free Breakfasts, Cultural Displays, Arts and Crafts and a whole lotta tellin'!

Hash-una-chi-ke
Everyone Welcome

For more information contact
Dena Cantrell - 918-423-4086
or www.choctawstoryfest.com