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August 2005 Issue

SOSU scholarship offered to Native Americans majoring in education

Native American students majoring in education in their junior or senior year of college may benefit by a new scholarship offered at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant, thanks to a team effort by the Choctaw Nation and SOSU.

The tribe and university have been awarded a federal grant of \$965,245 over the next four years that can pay costs related to tuition, books and daycare for the students, as well as offer a monthly allowance. In return, the recipients agree to teach in an area where at least 25% of the population is Native American.

The grant comes from the United States Department of Education as part of the Office of

Indian Education's Professional Development program, which trains qualified individuals to become teachers and administrators in Indian communities.

"I am thrilled with the announcement of this grant totaling almost a million dollars," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "This agreement will assist many tribal members, and will also fill much-needed slots at schools in the Choctaw Nation."

"The award of the grant reflects the strong partnership between SOSU and the Choctaw Nation and their joint commitment to providing quality education," said Southeastern President Dr. Glen D. Johnson. "The goal of the Native American

Excellence in Education Project is to recruit and train 12 highly qualified Native American students and place the participants in area schools with high Native American student populations. We are excited about working with the Choctaw Nation to implement this innovative program."

Chief Pyle voiced his appreciation of the team from Choctaw Nation who focused so much of its time toward applying for this grant.

"Our grants department, run by John Jackson and staffed by Angel Rowland and Dana Bonham, performed exceptionally in the grant-writing process. Their research skills, writing aptitude and overall dedication were instrumental in receiving this money."

Participating in the grantwriting project from Southeastern were Dr. Charles Weiner, Principal Investigator of the grant who serves as Director of Student Learning and Research and Coordinator, North Central Accreditation; Tim Boatmun, Director of the Academic Advising & Outreach Center (AAOC); Shari Williams, Native American Counselor at the AAOC; Ann McCullough, Academic Counselor at the AAOC; Dr. Charles Hickox, Director of Continuing Education; and Leah Anne Brooks, Coordinator of Research & Sponsored Pro-

The project director for the

scholarship grant at SOSU is Shari Williams, a Choctaw employed at the University the last three years serving as Native American Counselor. SOSU currently has over 450 elementary education majors with more than 25% being Native Ameri-

"With these grants, we do more than ask for excellence, we provide the tools to create it," said Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings. "We want to open up new worlds of opportunity for Indian families and communities."

A specialized counselor will be hired to work with each of the students on the program to manage every aspect of their education. To be eligible for the grant, applicants must have 56 hours of college credit and at least a 2.5 grade point average.

Staff and planning will be put in place for this fall with a few students fast-tracked into the program. Applications will be available at the first of the year for the remainder of the scholarship. Full implementation will begin in August 2006.

A survey of 12 schools in Oklahoma, including Battiest, Canadian, Bokoshe, Caddo, Dickson, Harmony, Heavener, Moyers, Stringtown, Zaneis, Talihina and Wright City show that an average of 43% of the students were Native American, yet the ratio of Native students to Native teachers at the same schools was 54-1.

Tribal Council okays funding

The 12 members of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council met in regular session July 9 at Tushka Homma. New business addressed included Council Bills:

- amending and clarifying an earlier Council Bill which established transportation services in Bryan, Coal, and Hughes counties, making the amount of funds recurring annually;
- approving modifications of the 2005 WIC Budget in the amount of \$1,966,817 along with grants in the amount of \$357,764 and the 2005 Food Distribution Budget in the amount of \$880,000, a 25% Tribal match to the USDA's 75%;
- providing for additional funds in the amount of \$500,000 for the Choctaw Homebuyer Program;
- designating the Choctaw Early Learning Council as the eligible local council for the purpose of applying for grants;
- providing necessary funding for supporting and sustaining the operation of tribally owned Backstretch LLC d/b/a Blue Ribbon Downs and approving the startup budget of gaming operations at the Blue Ribbon Downs Racetrack and Casino, and
- approving funding for remodeling the Choctaw Nation Nursing Home with \$425,000 from gaming funds.

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

Elections held in three districts

Primary elections were held July 9 for Council seats in District 4, District 6, and District 10. In District 4, incumbent Delton Ray Cox received the majority of the votes with 72.73%, a total of 488 votes. His opponent, Michael Doyle Morgan, received 183 votes, or 27.27%.

Incumbent Joe Ed Coley remains District 6 Councilperson with 84.87% of the votes. He received a total of 533 votes. Opponents Billy Ray White received 50 votes, 7.96%, and Nathaniel J. Moore Jr. received 45 votes, 7.17%.

District 10 will have a new Councilman. Anthony Glen Dillard received 60.57%, a total of 424 votes. Clayburn Dean Simpson received 28.71% or 201 votes, while incumbent Esias James Johnson received 10.71%, 75 votes. See Page 3 for complete election results.

REACH 2010 holds Youth Fitness Camp



The Tushka Homma Capitol Grounds were busy with activity on June 22. Sixty-six kids from within the Choctaw Nation attended the first Choctaw Nation REACH 2010 Fitness Camp. The focus of the camp was the five components of physical fitness. The kids and volunteers greatly enjoyed all speakers. There was a special speaker for the keynote session and teacher of the muscular strength and endurance, Amber Deluca. Amber was born in Peninsula, Ohio, and now resides in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She

More *CAMP* on Page 5





Choctaw author and storyteller Tim Tingle shares stories and legends during the second annual storytelling festival held in Crowder.

Tim Tingle featured at annual Choctaw Storytelling Camp

The Crowder Community Center in Crowder, Oklahoma, hosted the second annual Choctaw Storytelling Camp. The camp was conducted on June 22-25. Tim Tingle was the featured storyteller and instructor for the camp. Tim is an author who has recently been touring for his book, "Walking the Choctaw Road," which has been honored by the Oklahoma Reads Oklahoma project and was selected the Alaska Reads! Book of the Year for 2005.

This year's camp had over 100 participants, with children, adults and senior citizens all participating in the event. One noticeable change in the camp was the room that was used to record stories. The first camp only used a tape recorder in a room filled with several people. Now, storytellers are recorded in a soundproof room, so that the best quality of sound can be achieved. These hours of many different stories are gathered and will be put onto a CD.

If you would like to listen to Tim Tingle and his stories of Choctaw lore, you can hear him Monday morning before Chief Pyle's State-of-the-Nation address on September 5 during the Annual Labor Day Festival.

Tribes' Inter-Tribal Council honors top JOM students

The top graduating Johnson O'Malley seniors were honored by each of the Five Civilized Tribes during the quarterly meeting of the Inter-Tribal Council on July 8. The Seminole Nation presented the annual Louis Leflore Scholarship of \$650 to Nanell Emarthina. The scholarship is given each year to a student who has excelled in the professional health area.

Chief Gregory E. Pyle presented a plaque to the Choctaw Nation's top female JOM student, Sarah Enloe, Sarah, a graduate of Pittsburg High School, is the daughter of Glen and Mona Enloe of Pittsburg. She plans to attend college at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant, majoring in pre-med.

Joshua Tomlin, not present at the meeting, was also honored as one of the Choctaw Nation's top JOM students. Joshua is a graduate of Spiro High School. He will be attending the University of Arkansas-Ft. Smith campus, working toward a degree in pharmacy.

Also receiving scholarships were Matthew Gray of Claremore and Lindsey Conrad of Ft. Gibson of the Cherokee Nation; Michaela Worcester of

Ada and Chase Burris of Marlow of the Chickasaw Nation; and Whitney Tyler of Tulsa and Christopher Burwell of Dewar of the Muscogee-Creek Nation.

"The students are to be commended for their dedication," said Chief Pyle. "They have accomplished a great deal academically as well as being an asset to their communities."

Three Council Bills were on the agenda. Council members voted to accept a resolution supporting a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort, South Carolina, regarding historic artifacts and remains that may be found on the military base. While streamlining efforts of repatriation, there will be minimal disruption of Marine Corps and military operations.

To reaffirm the good working relationship between the Inter-Tribal Council and the Marine Corps, Col. Harmon Stockwell presented each of the tribal leaders with a Marine flag.

"It is an honor to be a part of history and to present each of you with something that is so sacred to More INTER-TRIBAL on Page 3



Chief Gregory E. Pyle presents a scholarship award to Sarah Enloe.

Letters



Scholarship eases financial burden

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I am writing to thank you for your generous support of my undergraduate education. Your scholarship greatly lessened my financial burden as I struggled to keep up with the high costs of learning. Your generosity covered my costs for books and school supplies for all of my college years and helped me keep up with my peers in a challenging academic environment. This aid was invaluable, as I could devote more time to my studies and less time working to fund my schooling. Since my graduation, I have been accepted as a Peace Corps volunteer. For the next two years, I will serve as an English teacher in Madagascar, and through my service, give back to the world a small part of the blessings I have received.

Thank you so much again for your support of myself and other Choctaw students at college campuses across the country.

> Natalie A. Walsh Okemos, Michigan

Clothing allowance helps with expenses

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank you for the clothing allowance that I was given this spring. I am going to school at Tyler Junior College for an associate's degree in radiology and this money came in very handy to help with my college expenses. I appreciate the help that the Choctaw Nation gives to those who choose to further their education. Thank you again and may God bless you.

Casey Oakes

Researching Spains, McKnights and Folsoms

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I am researching the Choctaw families of Spain, McNight and Folsom. In October 1875, Mary McKnight Spain petitioned the General Council of the Choctaw to be granted citizenship for herself and her children in the Choctaw Tribe. She stated that she was the greatgranddaughter of Nathaniel Folsom, a white man, and Aiichihoyo, a full-blood Choctaw woman. She was born in the old nation east of the Mississippi River and lived there until she became of age and married. In the year 1846, she moved with her husband, Thomas D. Spain, to Texas and remained there until about the year 1873 when she moved with said husband and their children to the Choctaw Nation where they resided in Blue County. Citizenship was approved October 30, 1877. The children of Thomas D. and Mary McKnight Spain were Philander, William Henry, Phidolia, Thomas G., Jubel B., David McKnight and Sidney Beauregard.

I would like to contact anyone related to these families. I would especially like to know the name of Mary McKnight Spain's parents. I will be happy to share any information that I have.

> **Joy Swihart** 264 N.E. 70th St. Blanchard, OK 73010 Swihart@oecadvantage.net 405-387-9413

Searching for information

Dear Editor,

I am searching for any information on a Morris Ratcliff or Ratliff. Please contact Kathy Huff at 580-622-2694. Thank you.

Tribe is fortunate to have wise leadership

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Today we received our copy of the BISHINIK and I, as usual, immediately went to the Chaplain's Corner to read it first. I find the Rev. Bertram Bobb to not only be a man of the Lord, but also a very wise person. His "good news" from Christ's Gospel is indeed very uplifting and enlightening in this very dark and sinful world we live

I believe the Choctaw Nation is very blessed to have the wise leadership of Chief Pyle and Assistant Chief Bailey. They are fortunate to have the guidance and counsel of the Choctaw Council who by working all together are giving the Choctaw people muchneeded assistance in health care and facilities as well as daily help in education and many other ways in which they need. If only all political bodies in this country were so dedicated, this world would be a much better place.

In the past while raising our children, the Choctaw Nation was very helpful when our children were attending college and this helped them tremendously to attain their degrees. This letter is intended only to voice Morene's and my support for the fine work you all are doing. We pray the Lord will continue to bless and guide each and everyone of you in your vital work for the Choctaw people.

Charles and Morene Gooch Ponca City, Oklahoma

BISHINIK deadline

Articles to be submitted for publication in the BISHINIK need to be received by the 10th of the month for the following month's edition.

Gregory E. Pyle Chief

Mike Bailey Assistant Chief

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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.

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District Princesses





Newly chosen Princesses for District 5 are, in left photo, Rachel Hogan of Keota, Jr. Miss; Brandy Sockey of Stigler, Little Miss; and Jr. Miss runners-up, Jennifer McGuire and Kristi McGuire, both of Keota. Councilman Jack Austin is pictured at right with his District 7 Princesses: Little Miss Mackenzie Maxwell, Sr. Miss Matilda Taylor and Jr. Miss Sheraya "Sissy" Caldwell. The District 7 Pageant was held May 13 at the Wright City Choctaw Community Center.

Students and parents benefit

Dear Larry Wade,

It was a pleasure to visit with you over the phone a few weeks ago regarding my son, Baxter, as he was preparing to graduate from Clayton. Our family has deeply appreciated the continued support the Choctaw Nation provides the students of our small rural community in Tuskahoma and Clayton. From pencils to medical care and summer jobs to field trips and events at the Council Ground to cultural camps and even emergency assistance, Choctaw Nation really has been a helpful support to parents trying to do their job. When CNO helps a student, they are helping the entire family.

> **Nancy Southerland-Holmes** Tuskahoma, Oklahoma

Reba concert a success

Dear Chief Pyle,

Personally and on behalf of the Texoma Medical Center Board of Directors, I would like to extend to you and the Choctaw Nation our appreciation for allowing us to use your new pavilion for the Reba McEntire Memorial Day concert. The venue contributed greatly to making the concert entertaining and successful.

Everyone involved in the event has commented on the cooperation and hard work your staff put forth in both preparation for and cleanup after the show. All personnel involved were responsive and accommodating to requests and suggestions from Texoma Medical Center employees and volunteers.

Again, thank you for your generosity and support of Texoma Medical Center's Memorial Day event. Please extend to all those involved in the concert the gratitude of the TMC Board and Administration.

> Allen Wheeler, Chairman **Texoma Medical Center Board of Directors**



Coming home to Oklahoma

Dear Choctaw Nation,

My name is Kristin Lynn Black and I was born April 13, 1987, in the Carl Albert Indian Hospital in Ada, Oklahoma. My great-great-grandmother was Cordila Stowers of Madill, Oklahoma. She had five children. Frances JoElla Bartee was her first-born and was my great-grandmother.

I called her Mam-maw. I remember Mam-maw telling me stories of the Trail of Tears and many more. She always taught me to be proud of my Choctaw Indian heritage. Mam-maw had four children and her last one is my Nana, Linda Sue Jacques of Houston, Texas. Nana had two children, Angie Davis of Norman, Oklahoma, and the oldest is my mom, Holly Davis of Houston. I should add these are all strong-willed women who never stopped stressing the importance of our roots. Thanks to my mom for pushing and making me believe in myself. I also want to thank the Choctaw Nation for the financial assistance you are providing me in continuing my education. My parents moved me to Texas 18 years ago when I was only four months old, but my American Indian Heritage roots run deep and I'm ready to come home to the great State of Oklahoma where I will attend the University of Oklahoma.

In my four years of attending West Field High School in Houston, I have accomplished many goals I set for myself such as serving as Vice President of Student Council, being an Honor Roll student, serving my school as the morning speaker for school announcements, graduating cum laude. These accomplishments have made me the person I am today. I have had the opportunity to develop friendships on a multi-cultural level. I've learned how important bridging the gaps of all cultural ideas and values are. I will continue to strive to ensure that my Choctaw Tribe is proud of me and my accomplishments as I start my new journey with fresh hopes and great aspirations back in the only place I call home – Oklahoma!

Talihina hosting Sign Language Club

The Choctaw Talihina Community Center, located off of Route 2 in Talihina, is hosting a Sign Language Club. We are learning to sign in ASL together. There are no fees, age, skill, or physical requirements to participate. We meet every Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m.

For more information, please call Rebekah Willis at 918-567-

Information Needed Past Princesses and Councilpersons

I am writing a paper on the past and present Princesses of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and on the past Councilpersons. This includes pictures of the young ladies at the time they were chosen to reign as Princess. It does not have to be one of them in traditional dress, but that would be appreciated. Information should include full name, age at the time, birth date, town and county, name of parents, grandparents, hobbies, participation in school, and name of school at the time and grade. Information needed on past Councilmen includes family's names, county served, and years served. Please place address on back of photos if you want them returned.

All information compiled will be kept on record in the BISHINIK. Please send information and picture to:

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Attn: Brenda Wilson **P.O. Drawer 1201 Durant, OK 74702**



Choctaw brothers serve as pages

Two Choctaw brothers recently served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives as personal pages. Standing with Masheli and Nahinli Billy are three Choctaw Representatives, Rep. Rex Duncan (R), Perry; Rep. Dan Sullivan (R), Tulsa, and their mom, Rep. Lisa J. Billy (R), Purcell.



AFA State Champs

Ardmore Attitude, a 10U fast-pitch softball team, placed first in the AFA State B Tournament, May 27-28 in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. This qualified the team for the National AFA B Tournament in Mustang, Oklahoma, in July. Team members from left, bottom row, are Brittney Jones, Jourdan Weatherford, Carlee Henderson, Taryn Callender, McKenzie Hunt and Danielle Smith; back row, Ashlee Raney, Coach Tina Callender, Kailey King, Kali Pena, Coach Scott Callender, Jordan Scott, Shanna Davidson and Coach Neil Raney.



Graduate looks to the future

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I am a graduate of the School of Library and Information Studies of the University of Oklahoma Class of 2004. I am writing to thank you and the Choctaw community for your assistance throughout my undergraduate and graduate studies. After graduating with my master's, I moved to Brooklyn, New York, where I worked at Queens Pub-

lic Library as a reference librarian. I am currently living in Ithaca, New York, where I am attending a summer intern position at Cornell University. This internship is for Native American librarians to gain skills in preservation and management practice. This is an excellent opportunity for me to continue learning by combining my love and interest in Native American culture and community with librarianship. I just wanted to thank you again for your support and hand in my education, which has helped me get to where I am today, and what I hope to accomplish in the future.

JonAnne Gilbreath Hobbs

Family expresses appreciation

Dear Choctaw Nation,

We would like to say thank you to Vicky Amos and all the others at Choctaw Nation who helped us out last month. Thank you.

Gary and Melinda Hicks

Everyone is invited to a

BENEFIT FUNDRAISER FOR A.J. KIRK

A Beans-n-Cornbread Supper with Peach Cobbler August 6 • 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. at the Chitwood Community Center Adults: \$5; Under 10: \$2:00

An Auction will be held at 6:30 p.m. All donations will be appreciated. Sponsored by: Bokchito Masonic Lodge #253 and the Bennington Ladies Club

Choctaw Manufacturing working for America

Media sources often seem to focus on gaming as a tribal business while not mentioning the many other revenue producers ran by Indian nations. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has several businesses that create employment and profits that are used to benefit people through services and additional jobs.

In addition to casinos, travel plazas, day cares, personnel services to military bases, smoke shops, hotel and restaurants, we also have top-of-the-line manufacturing plants. Choctaw Manufacturing and Development Corp. (CMDC) operates facilities in McAlester and Hugo and builds equipment and parts that are used by our military every day.

"Support Our Soldiers" is printed on huge banners that are hung at each CMDC facility along with American and Choctaw flags to remind all who enter that what we do is important and to show our respect for our fighting men and women.

CMDC has grown rapidly over the last several years and now directly contracts with the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines to supply hardware ranging from helicopter guidance and control parts to high tech space heaters used to heat command and control centers to Battle Damage Assessment Kits (BDAK) that contain items that can be used in an emergency to repair a military vehicle that has been damaged in combat. A CMDC-produced BDAK kit rides in every HUM-V in the Middle East.

CMDC now employees over 200 people in Hugo and McAlester and will likely be increasing that number significantly over the next two years as they ramp up to start producing the Marine Tactical Vehicle Replacement (MTVR) Trailer. This contract was recently awarded to CMDC by the Marines and will require that CMDC design, test and manufacture the next generation of medium-duty trailer for use with the MTVR. The MTVR truck is the Marines' latest and most advanced transportation vehicle. The Marines do not now have a trailer that can follow the truck over the terrain at speeds that the truck is able to travel. Current trailers are simply destroyed when put into full service with the new MTVR. It is CMDC's mission to design and manufacture a family of trailers that will match the performance of this vehicle in size and ruggedness. CMDC will deliver the first set of newly designed trailers to the Marines in early



Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb,

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey ...

Youth of Choctaw Nation learning from sports camps

I am very thankful that the Choctaw Nation has been able to sponsor so many sports camps for our youth this summer. The annual golf camp, held this year near Lake Tex-

More about the sports camps Page

oma, brought young Native Americans together with coaches and staff to learn both beginners and advanced techniques over a four-day experience. Golf teams formed as a result of this camp have done exceptionally well in tournament play and individual competition.

Baseball camps were held in June at Silo and Wilburton, with about 250 boys enrolled in the southern camp and almost 200 in the northern camp. These two-day camps were taught by Coach Billy Jack Bowen of the 2005 State Champion team from Silo. Boys age 8 to 18 learned fundamentals of hitting, batting and fielding.

Basketball enthusiasts gave such wonderful reviews the previous years that the Choctaw Nation hosted 12 sites this year, one in each council district. This is the first summer that softball



has been included in the roster. and approval of the Chief and Camps in Wilburton, Durant Tribal Council. and Wright City enabled young ladies to learn fundamentals to

improve their skills. All of these events are made possible through revenue produced by the tribal gaming industry, and with the planning

tion goes out to the staff at these camps who volunteered their time and energy to make sure the young people had a safe, enjoyable and educational experi-

Inter-Tribal continued from Page 1_

us - the Marine Corps flag," said Col. Stockwell.

The Inter-Tribal Councilmembers also approved a resolution in favor of the Chickasaw Nation Health System applying for a competitive U.S. Indian Health Native American Research Center for Health (NARCH) Grant for fiscal year 2006.

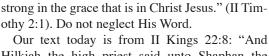
The final resolution of the meeting was passed supporting activities in educating the public about the Great State of Sequoyah Centennial this year as a forerunner of the upcoming State of Oklahoma Centennial in 2007.



Col. Stockwell presents Chief Pyle with a Marine Corps flag.

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma PRIMARY ELECTION Official Election Results - July 9, 2005

Tribal Council Member District 4	Spiro	Poteau	Summerfield	Heavener	Absentee	Total	%	
Delton Ray Cox	65	77	59	7	280	488	72.73%	
Michael Doyle Morgan	1	62	2	8	110	183	27.27%	
Tribal Council Member District 6	Wilburton	Quinton	Buffalo Valley	Red Oak	Absentee	Total	%	
Joe Ed Coley	95	29	52	83	274	533	84.87%	
Billy Ray White	7	0	2	2	39	50	7.96%	
Nathaniel J. Moore Jr.	4	0	1	2	38	45	7.17%	
Tribal Council Member District 10	Atoka	Lane	Stringtown	Kiowa	Caddo	Absentee	Total	%
Esias James Johnson	14	3	0	0	2	56	75	10.71%
Anthony Glen Dillard	44	30	16	12	24	298	424	60.57%
Clayburn Dean Simpson	96	33	8	3	1	60	201	28.71%



Thank God for His promises in the Bible. "Be

Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the Book of the Law ..."

Whenever anything is found, it means it has been lost. Today we are going to study about the Bible that was lost and found.

This text takes us back to the Old Testament kings, and at this particular time Josiah was the king, one of the best of all the kings of Judah.

Josiah became king when he was only eight years old. The Bible tells us that when he was 16 years old (II Chronicles 34:3) he began to seek after God and at the age of 20, young Josiah began a national reformation, a turning back to God across the whole land, after he finds the long lost Book of the Law.

First, Josiah wanted to restore Solomon's temple at Jerusalem. The temple and its services of worship had been neglected for many years. It is hard to think that the nation would have allowed this beautiful temple to be filled with rubbish and left in a shameful condition. But this was the case and we know why it was. The case was a neglect and finally a setting aside of the Old Testament as the guide Book for the nation of Israel.

Workmen were hired for the cleaning and the repairing of the temple. In the midst of the cleaning out of all the trash, the high priest found a dustcovered scroll which was called the Book of the Law - the laws of God given through Moses, in other words, Hilkiah found the lost Bible of that

How could this happen we wonder? For a long time the rulers, the priests and the people of Judah had no knowledge of their Bible which was called the Book of the Law. This neglect resulted in the spread of the teaching of Baal throughout the land of Judah. It also caused the neglect of the temple and its services of worship of God. It also resulted in the nation sinking into a low moral condition. This is going to happen to any individual or nation that forgets or neglects God's Word.

When Hilkiah, the high priest, found the long lost scroll and saw that it was the Law of God as given by Moses, he brought it to Shaphan, the Scribe. Then Shaphan took the Book at once to King Josiah and sand, "Hilkiah, the high priest, while he was cleaning the temple, found this Book."

"Read it to me!" commanded the King, and Shaphan began to read. Josiah, the King, was so surprised as he realized from the Word of God that his nation had departed from God in a terrible way. Then Josiah humbled himself in the dust. "Reformation!" Josiah said, "... shall begin with the King. The head of this nation will put himself in the dust and repent in sackcloth and ashes."

And then he said to all his officers and to those close to him, "We must repent for all our neglect, for all our sins, or the nation will be destroyed.

So REVIVAL began in Judah and the King and his people were spared. The lost Bible had been

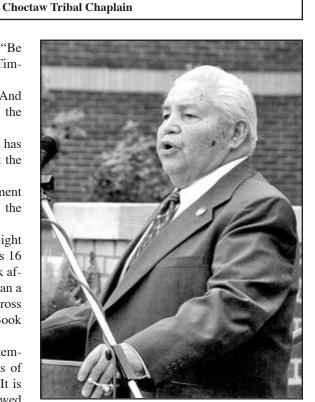
found and read and obeyed. Josiah assembled leaders from all over the nation and read to them the long, lost Book of the Law. Their reaction was like that of the King. They were convicted, they were humbled, and they were repentant when they realized how far the nation departed from the laws of God. They agreed with their young King, and they restored the temple and its worship of Almighty God. Not only did they do this but they decided to back Josiah in his campaign to wipe out every trace of Baal worship in the land and also all other forms

Idolatry means that which you worship, that is anything that comes between you and God. You may worship your automobile, you may think of your wife or husband or children more than you do God, or you may think or depend on your money more than God – this is idolatry.

All of this reformation was brought about because the long, lost Book, the inspired Word of God was found.

This old Testament record is a lesson of warning and encouragement for us. It shows what happens to people when they lose sight of God's Word and neglect the worship. But it also shows us the blessed results when people give God's Word and worship first place in their lives.

The sad truth is that many people have lost the Bible today even as it was lost in the time of Josiah. The Bible has been lost today through ne-



We ask your prayers for the Sunday, September 4,

CHURCH SERVICES

during the Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma.

Sunrise Services

7 a.m.

led by Eugene Folsom

Preaching Services

10 a.m. in the amphitheater

Hymn Singing

5:30 p.m. all-night

Choctaw singers are invited to participate.

gospel singing begins.

glect. Many have gone their ways, looking after their businesses, looking after the concerns and calls of daily living and have lost this Book of the Law of God. Yes, the Bible may be lost to anyone by neglect. The Bible may lie somewhere in the house, on the table or bookshelf, and weeks or even months may pass by and this Book of God is not read.

It may be lost by substitution. That is, we may put other things in its place. Jesus said to the Scribes and Pharisees of His day: "Ye have made the commandment of God of none effect by your traditions." (Matthew 15:6).

These Scribes and Pharisees, who were teachers of religion, set aside the Bible, the law of God, the divine revelation of God to man. They set it aside by substituting it with human commandments, human traditions. If we put anything in the place of the Bible, then the Bible is lost.

This is not all. Many have and we all are in danger of losing the Bible by mutilation, by taking out a little here, and a little there. You cannot treat the Word of God like that. The Bible is the Word of God.

God says for us to believe Him by faith. "Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness." (Romans 4:3). In Hebrews 11:6 we read, "But without faith it is impossible to please Him." Will you trust Jesus Christ as your personal Savior by faith?

Let us in every possible way magnify the Bible in every phase of our life. It is God's Word to a

lost and needy world. May God bless America.

A tip for kids with type 2 diabetes – Be active!

Why is being active so important?

Exercise is good for everyone, whether you have type 2 diabetes or not. Being active keeps your body healthy and strong. It can help you stay at a weight that's right for you or help you lose weight slowly.

Physical activity can make you feel better if you're in a bad mood, relax you, and help you sleep well. If you have diabetes, exercise can help your body use glucose for energy and lower your blood sugar or glucose.

What types of activity are good to do?

There are many ways you can

- stay active: • Walk the dog, take a hike, or ride a bike.
- Roller skate, inline skate, or ice skate.
- · Check out an aerobics tape from the library and work out at home.
- You can play basketball, baseball, softball, golf, soccer, tennis, or volleyball.
- Take the stairs instead of the elevator, skip rope, fly a kite, or play hopscotch.
- Think of other things you can do and just move it!
- Don't forget to have fun!

day. Be sure to do something you like to do. All information collected from the website: www.ndep.

How much exercise

do vou need to do?

If you haven't been very ac-

tive, start slowly. Try a few min-

utes each day. Slowly work up

to 30 to 60 minutes almost every

nih.gov. If you need further as-

sistance contact Raina Spears,

DWC, Talihina, 918-465-8030.

PINEAPPLE MELBA

| 1 fresh pineapple (market sliced, 12 rings)

3 Tbsp. sugar (Splenda) 1 can (8 oz.) sliced peaches, drained

1/2 cup raspberries Place pineapple rings on serving plate. Sprinkle with sugar. In

blender, blend peaches until smooth. Top pineapple with peach sauce and fresh raspberries. 12 servings.

Per serving: Calories 40.40; total fat 0.21g; sat. fat 0.01g; sodium 0.97mg; protein 0.29g; carbohydrates 10.29g; cholesterol 0mg; fiber

CARES Project Labor Day Tropical Paradise

The Choctaw Nation CARES Project would like to invite you to their Labor Day Tropical Paradise at the annual Labor Day Festival on Saturday, September 3, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Tropical Paradise will have a luau theme in which children and their families can enjoy different fun activities that will focus on building self-esteem, team-building, drug/alcohol prevention, and Native American culture. You can find the Tropical Paradise located at the playground on the Capitol grounds. The Tropical Paradise is free to the public.

Young women attend leadership health summit

Teens Kristie McGuire and Kealey Standridge, along with mentor Sandra Stroud, attended the first tribal young women's health summit in the nation. The theme of the summit, "Health and Traditions: Pathways for Life's Journey in Two Worlds," was sponsored by HHS Region VI Office on Women's Health, Office of Family Planning and other federal, state, and community organizations. The 2 1/2-day health leadership event was coordinated by the National Indian Women's Health Resource Center in Tahlequah. Oklahoma. Two young women, ages 14-16, and one older woman mentor attended from 39 tribes in Oklahoma and four tribes in Louisiana.

The summit enabled the young women to study teen health, develop community leadership skills, and plan a back-home community service health project. These young women will be working with their mentor on their project that will be submitted to the organizers for inclusion in a teen health monograph, and other special displays.

Young men, women invited to enter writing competition

Native Women in Agriculture is holding a writing competition for young Native American men and women who are enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe and entering grades 9-12 this fall or who were May 2005 graduates. The topic is "Healthy Land for Healthy People: How are they connected?" Deadline is October 15, 2005. Five finalists will be provided an all-expense paid trip to the 2005 Intertribal Agriculture Council and Indian Nations Conservation Alliance annual meeting, December 5-9, in Las Vegas. For more information, please call 405-259-2525.

Healthy Lifestyles

Avoid Heat Stress Problems

When the temperature rises as it does in the summer season, it gets even more difficult for the body to cool off. This can lead to heat stress and other heat-related illnesses. To fight off heat problems, your body tries to keep your internal temperature at 98.6 degrees ("normal") by:

*Sending more blood to the skin's surface (to release

*Increasing the amount of sweat it generates.

All of this requires a lot of energy, and can create "internal conflicts" that your body must deal with. On the one hand, it is trying to do things to cope with high temperatures. At the same time, some of the "adjustments" the body is making can cause other physical problems that can be just as damaging. So therefore everyone needs to know what can be done to help your body resolve this situation.

Your body fluids and minerals (also called electrolytes) are part of a delicate balance that must be maintained. If too much of either of them is lost your body can't function normally. While sweating helps cool your body, it also gets rid of both fluids and electrolytes. This can ultimately be very painful. To maintain your body's internal "balance," you must replace any fluids and electrolytes that are lost. It is the electrolytes most people tend to forget yet they are the most important. Electrolytes help your cells and muscles to function normally. Potassium and phosphate are two of the minerals that are most easily lost when your body temperature is high. These substances are especially important in keeping cells and muscles healthy.

Heat Stroke is the most serious heat-related illness. Heat stroke occurs when the symptoms of heat stress cannot be relieved (in other words when the body can no longer cool itself.) Heat stroke is extremely dangerous. If you have a heat stroke your body temperature rises so high that brain damage may occur. Death can even result if the body can no longer cool down quickly enough. Heat stroke has a number of symptoms:

*Hot, flushed skin.

*Very small pupils.

*Extremely high body temperature.

Tips to follow to prevent heat-related problems

- (1) Avoid alcoholic beverages. They are especially harmful. Not only do they not replace lost electrolytes but they accelerate water loss, which will make heat-related problems
- (2) Some medications can also compound heat-related problems. You should make sure you know how working in high heat affects any medication you are taking. Some medicines can actually accelerate dehydration.
- Avoid hot, heavy meals (they add heat to the body and restrict its cooling capacity). Instead eat light, cool meals and in small quantities if at all possible.
- (4) Exposing yourself gradually to high heat conditions will help your body adjust its cooling mechanisms appropriately. It can often take 5 to 10 days to get accustomed to high heat environments.
- Being physically fit can help your body cope with high heat, too. Extra weight forces the body's cooling system to work harder. Also good cardiovascular systems respond better to exertion, which helps the body cope with heat. Establish a regular exercise program if you don't already have one.
- Wearing loose, lightweight clothing is best in hot environments. The material should be made of cotton or cotton-blend which will help dissipate heat. Dark colors should be avoided since they absorb heat whereas white or lighter colors, on the other hand,
- Wear sunscreen to keep the skin from burning and generating extra heat. Other good ideas are to wear hats or caps with wide brims and sunshades when possible.
- Engineering controls can also reduce the affects of heat. Air-conditioning systems provide the best overall solutions. Fans can increase air movement and help evaporate perspiration effectively, too.

Remember that due to our individual physical makeup some people can never get used to working in heat. If you continue to have heat-related problems, consult with your local doctor.

Information obtained from Quality Safety and Health Products for Today and Tomorrow

Healthy Living = Longer Life

Stress & your body

With a meeting in two hours and a report to finish, you feel overwhelmed with stress. Your back aches and your stomach is in knots, but you resign to the tension, allowing it to build with every minute.

Ignoring the problem is probably the worst thing you can do. Like many people, you may believe that you just have to live with stress. Fortunately, this is not the case. You can help yourself relax – and it's not as hard as you might think. In just a few minutes you can ease the tension and strain that is wearing you out.

Take a deep breath. Now stop and think about what you just did. If you are like many people, your shoulders and chest raised as you inhaled. The problem is that you are not getting a deep enough breath when you breathe from your chest. Instead, try breathing from your stomach. You will get a deeper breath by doing so.

Relax.

Starting at your head, picture the stress leaving your face and scalp. Consciously relax that area of your body while continuing to breathe slowly and deeply. Then, move on down, stopping at each part of the body, until you reach your feet. By the time you finish, your entire body should be relaxed. Letting go of stress doesn't always have to be difficult or time-consuming. These tips can be practiced almost anywhere. The next time you are feeling tense, remember to use these stress-relieving techniques.

Do you relieve your stress or add to it?

1. When in a stressful situation, do you act like nothing's wrong?

A. yes

B. sometimes

C. no

2. After a hard day at work, do you often find yourself yelling at your kids or spouse?

A. yes

B. sometimes

3. Do your friends tell you to calm down when you are upset or anxious?

> A. yes B. sometimes

C. no

4. When things don't go as you had hoped or planned, does your back or stomach start to hurt?

> A. yes B. sometimes

If you answered yes to any of these, find ways to relieve the tension in your life. Too much stress can be hard on your health, your co-workers and most importantly your

Stomach - Stress can cause heartburn, cramps, and other digestive problems. A glass of warm milk or an antacid can help soothe the turmoil in your stomach.

Back – That ache in your back may be another symptom of stress. Stretching throughout the day can help decrease

Head – A pounding headache is often a signal that stress is getting the best of you. An alternative to aspirin is relax-

ation like taking a deep breath or going for a walk. Immune System - Chronic stress can make you more susceptible to sickness. Arm yourself by getting plenty of



For more information, call Wellness Education/ REACH 2010 at 1-800-349-7026, ext. 6044 or 6958.

Correct sippy cup use

Sippy cups when used for their correct purpose are wonderful. What parent hasn't breathed a sigh of relief when the cup was knocked over and juice or milk did not go everywhere!

These cups are an effective tool for shifting children from baby bottles or breastfeeding to regular cups, but parents should use the cups only as a transitional device. Many parents continue chronic use of sippy cups until age 3 to 4 or later.

Constant use of a sippy cup can cause childhood

Totally spill-proof sippy cups that have a stopper cause the child to suck and swallow at the same time. This can interfere with adult swallow pat-

Development of incorrect adult swallow patterns can directly impact facial muscle development, speech, and being able to speak words correctly.

It is not the sippy cup that is the problem, but in HOW it is used. Many parents do not know the dangers and risks of not using a sippy cup properly.

Children should be using a standard cup on a regular basis before age TWO.

Children should be seated while drinking during meals and eating snacks to help prevent choking, so walking around with a cup of any kind is not

If a child has a weight problem, not allowing

them to always have a sippy cup with juice, milk or other liquid will help parents control the amount of calories a child is consuming.

If your child has been on a sippy cup for a long time, try moving them to a regular cup gradually, and have them stay seated while drinking. Also, offer only water in your child's sippy, and other beverages in a regular cup. This will help make the transition to the regular cup more attractive.

Beware of sippy cup sizes

Portion size is so very important when it comes to helping our children eat well. Children who constantly carry a sippy cup around may be consuming 30 to 36 ounces of juice, milk, or other liquid from their sippy cup daily. It is no wonder they aren't hungry when it's time for the family

The average size of a sippy cup is 9 or 10 ounces. You must be a detective when purchasing sippy cups. Check the bottom of the cup for the size in ounces. It is usually written in the same color as the cup so it can be hard to spot. Many people are buying 12-ounce cups thinking they are only 8 ounces. Size of the cups does matter and we must be very well-educated consumers to buy the correct size needed to transition from bottle, to sippy cup, to regular glass, WHICH IS OUR MAIN GOAL WHEN USING A SIPPY!



Choctaw Nation WIC WOMEN, INFANT AND CHILDREN

Serving the Choctaw Nation at 14 sites

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. & 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	8:30-4:00	2nd & 4th Tues., every Wed. & Thurs.
Coalgate	580-927-3641	8:30-4:00	2nd Wednesday
Durant	580-924-8280 x 2255	8:00-4:30	Daily
Hugo	580-326-5404	8:00-4:30	Mon., Wed., Thurs., 3rd & 4th Fri.
Idabel	580-286-2510	8:00-4:30	Monday and Friday
McAlester	918-423-6335	8:00-4:30	1st & 2nd week - Tues., Wed., Fri.
		8:00-4:30	3rd & 4th week - every day
Poteau	918-647-4585	8:00-4:30	1st, 3rd, 4th wk - Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.
		8:00-4:30	2nd wk - Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Smithville	580-244-3289	8:45-3:45	2nd Thursday
Stigler	918-967-4211	8:30-4:00	1st & 2nd Monday
Talihina	918-567-7000 x 6792	8:00-4:30	Every Tuesday
Wilburton	918-465-5641	8:30-4:00	1st & 2nd Thursday

The "deepest cut" often overlooked in our youth

As the awareness of children's mental health continues to grow, and as the public becomes more aware of the different types of disorders affecting our children and adolescents (i.e. ADHD, bipolar, LD, etc.), one particular disorder is often overlooked or misunderstood self-mutilation. Throughout the Choctaw Nation, children and adolescents who would otherwise be classified as "the all-American kid," are cutting, burning, or otherwise self-injurying themselves as a means of managing emotional pain.

According to a study in the "Journal of Abnormal Psychology," from 14% to 39% of adolescents engage in self-mutilation behavior. Overwhelmingly, self-mutilators say they began cutting for one of two reasons: to feel less or to feel more. Some kids suffering from such problems as anxiety, depression, or borderline-personality disorder - a condition characterized by explosiveness and unstable relationships – find their pain so overwhelming that they simply shut off their emotional spigot. Cutting, they find, is a way to kick-start feelings when the numbness becomes worse than the pain. Other kids say the opposite – that their emotional turmoil is so great that they need something to serve as a bleed valve to calm them down in times of crisis.

Parents who are worried that their kids are cutting should look for a few flags. If a teen wears long sleeves and sweatpants in hot weather, there's a chance something is being hidden. Temperamental behavior, intense anger, and changes in sleeping and eating patterns may also be warning signs, but they are also part of the oridnary storms of adolescence, so be careful not to over-interpret.

Parents should also keep an eye out for hidden stashes of blades or bandages, and be aware of sudden shifts in mood. If a child is depressed and lethargic at one point, and then much better 30 minutes later, parents should try to account for the events during that time period.

For children and adolescents, the advice comes from former self-mutilators, who agree that the best thing cutters can do is come forward - talk about your problems with your parents, teachers, and friends. Self-mutilation may thrive in secrecy, fear, and emotional disharmony, but as with all wounds, a little fresh air in the open can help speed the healing.

If your child or adolescent is a victim of self-mutilation or for more information on selfmutilation, please contact the Choctaw Nation CARES Project office at 918-567-4128.

For 38 years, Dorothy Henson worked quietly and energetically behind the scenes as a teacher in the Dallas Independent School District (DISD). During those years preceding her retirement in 1995, countless impressionable young minds were positively touched by Dorothy's love of children and her lifelong effort to help them achieve their full potential. Hence, it was very fitting that on May 25. 2005, this long-time Dallas Indian educator was highly honored by the DISD at a public dedication ceremony for the "Dorothy Henson Addition for Ascher Sil-

DISD dedication honors educator

berstein Elementary School." DISD guidelines call for these kinds of honors to only go to those who have made significant contributions and whose example of service brings prestige and status to the District. The recently completed and impressive school addition includes new administrative offices, 17 new classrooms, a library, a science lab, and a covered driveway whereby parents can drop off or pick up their children. The dedication ceremony was attended by several local dignitaries, including Jim Scales, Deputy Superintendent; Board of Trustees member Ron Price; State Rep. Pitria McKinney, District 111; Associate Superintendent of Construction Services Dave Patton; staff of the DISD American Indian Education Program and the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas. Some of Dorothy Henson's career achievements include: Presidential Task Force, first Health Service secretary for the Dallas Inter-Tribal Center, charter member of the American Indian Center, YWCA's first Board Secretary, teacher representative of the DISD American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, and lastly, 10 years of service as a Saturday tutor for American Indian students at the Trinity River Mission.

Henson is the daughter of the late Isom Ward and Ruby Lee Ward of Idabel, Oklahoma, and now resides there.

To the youth of the nation ... Stay smoke free!

By Anna Johnson

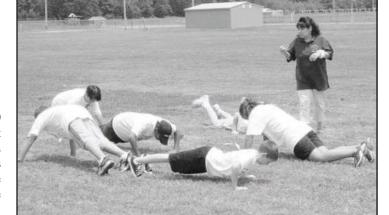
Choctaw Nation Youth Advisory Board

The American Lung Association estimates that every minute 4,800 teens will take their first drag off a cigarette. Of these 4,800, about 2,000 will go on to be chain smokers. About 80% of adult smokers started smoking as teenagers. The Teen Drug Abuse website states nicotine is considered the #1 entrance drug into other substance abuse problems. Teens between 13 and 17 years of age who smoke daily are more likely to use other drug substances.

Smoking cigarettes can cause many health problems such as high blood pressure, emphysema, lung cancer, and throat cancer as well as other major health issues. According to Teen Health, the consequences of smoking may seem very far off to many teens, but long-term health problems aren't the only hazard of smoking. Nicotine and the other toxins in cigarettes, cigars, and pipes can affect a person's body quickly, which means that teen smokers experience many of these problems:

- Bad skin. Because smoking restricts blood vessels, it can prevent oxygen and nutrients from getting to the skin – which is why smokers often appear pale and unhealthy.
- Bad breath. All those cigarettes leave smokers with a condition called halitosis, or persistent bad breath.
- Bad-smelling clothes and hair. The smell of stale smoke tends to linger - not just on people's clothing, but on their hair, furniture, and cars. And it's often hard to get the smell of smoke out.
- Reduced athletic performance. People who smoke usually can't compete with nonsmoking peers because the physical effects of smoking – like rapid heartbeat, decreased circulation, and shortness of breath impair sports performance.
- Greater risk of injury and slower healing time. Smoking affects the body's ability to produce collagen, so common sports injuries, such as damage to tendons and ligaments, will heal more slowly in smokers
- Increased risk of illness. Studies show that smokers get more colds, flu, bronchitis, and pneumonia than nonsmokers. And people with certain health conditions, like asthma, become more sick if they smoke (and often if they're just around people who smoke.)

Because teens who smoke as a way to manage weight often light up instead of eating, their bodies lack nutrients they need to grow, develop, and fight off illness properly. Staying smoke-free will give you a whole lot more of everything – more energy, better performance, better looks, more money in your pocket, and, in the long run, more life to live!



Camp continued from Page 1

attended college on a volleyball scholarship. An enrolled member of the Omaha tribe, Amber holds many prestigious titles. She is a former American Gladiator known as "Apache," and is called the Gladiator Girl. She was the American Fitness Club Women's bench press champion, NASA National American Record Powerlifting Bench Press, and North Coast Arm Wrestling Champion. She has appeared on magazines such as Musclemag, Ironman, Irony, Blackbelt, and others. Amber is also a Desert Storm Veteran.

Amber enjoys addressing the needs of the Indian population and communities by leading an authentic lifestyle and educating others, in a holistic approach, about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, and enhancing self-esteem through improved body image and sport. She continues to compete in bodybuilding while being employed full-time for the BIA in Albuquerque.

Teaching flexibility was Zella Kincaid, a blackbelt instructor from McAlester, Oklahoma. The kids were taught the importance of flexibility as well as being taught various types of stretches.

The body composition session was taught by Mary Nell Southard, RDLD, from Choctaw Nation. At this session the kids learned what the body is composed of and what is nutritionally necessary to maintain a healthy body.

Muscular endurance was taught by jumprope expert Kim Little and assisted by Irene Culley. Jumps were demonstrated by Kim and 14year-olds Kylee Robison and Danielle Marques. They are with the Muscogee-Creek Nation Wellness Center.

REACH 2010 staff Teresa Frederick and Doris Ward would like to thank everyone who helped make the camp a success. Without the hard work of the volunteers it would not be possible.

Elwell makes tribal history as youngest DOD intern

An 18-year-old Oklahoma City man is making tribal history this summer as he interns for the U.S. Department of Defense as the youngest Native American ever to serve in such capacity. Nathaniel David Elwell is one of 550 selected nationwide by the Wash-

Hornbrook receives promotion

Dr. John R. Hornbrook was promoted in

May to Professor of Education by the Board

of Trustees of Oakland City University. Dr.

Hornbrook has served as Associate Professor

of Education and Director of Student Teach-

ing since August of 2000. Prior to retirement



ington Center to be placed with a federal governmental agency in Washington, D.C. Elwell is one of only 60 selected for placement at the DOD where he will work at the Pentagon in Acquisitions, Technology, and Logistics for a 10-week period between May and August. Nathan just completed his freshman year of college at the Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Missouri. He is a U.S. Army ROTC 2+2 scholarship recipient which means the first two years of college, as a freshman and sophomore, are spent at Wentworth, and his junior and senior years will be at Central Missouri University. College graduation will be followed by a four-year tour of active duty, as a second lieutenant commissioned officer, and then four more years of inactive duty.

The son of Kenneth Elwell Jr. of McAlester, Oklahoma, and Karen Impson Elwell of Yukon, Oklahoma. Nathan has one sibling, Rachel Elwell, of Oklahoma City who recently returned from a yearlong tour of duty in Afghanistan. Nathan credits his sister for instilling in him at an early age a healthy sense of academic competition and says it is in her footsteps that he plans to follow in the U.S. National Guard when he begins his active duty assignment.

September 1

Stigler 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Poteau (A-L) 9 a.m.-2 p.m. September 2

Bethel 9-10:30 a.m. Smithville 12 noon-2 p.m.

September 6

Idabel 9-11 a.m.

Broken Bow 12 noon-2 p.m.

September 7

Poteau (M-Z) 9 a.m.-2 p.m. September 8

Warehouse opens

September 28

Last day for the month at Warehouse

Food Distribution Program workers will take a 30-minute lunch break from 11:30 to 12 noon.

Please bring boxes with you to pick up your commodities. If you cannot pick up commodities when you are scheduled, please notify the Food Distribution Office at 800-522-6170 so they can tell you where you need to go.

ANTLERS: Choctaw Community Center, 306 S.W. "O"

BETHEL: Choctaw Community Building.

BROKEN BOW: Choctaw Family Investment Center. **DURANT:** Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 100 Waldron

IDABEL: Choctaw Village Shopping Center. McALESTER: Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 1212 S.

POTEAU: Choctaw Family Investment Center.

SMITHVILLE: Big Lick Church.

STIGLER: Choctaw Community Building.

Food Distribution Program does not discriminate because of sex, race, color, age, political beliefs, religion, handicap or national origin.

New veterans organization for Native Americans

A national organization for Native American Veterans has started operations. Founded by Choctaw veteran Tom Berry, the National Native American Veterans Association (NNAVA) is headquartered in Oklahoma City. The idea for the new veterans organization originated when trying to research information on the Native American Veteran Direct Housing Loan being offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The purpose of the new organization is to reach out to all Native American Veterans and to encourage the usage of veterans benefits and entitlements. Native Americans, on a per capita basis, provide more members to the military services than any other sector of the U.S. population, but utilize the benefits and entitlements the least of any population

sector.

The organization is chartered as a non-profit corporation in Oklahoma and is filing for its tax exempt status with the IRS as a tax-exempt veterans organization. Membership in the NNAVA is open to all honorably discharged Native American veterans and current military members, as well as National Guard and Reserve Component members. In addition to working with individual veterans, the NNAVA is geared to work with Native American Nation and Tribal leaderships. The programs offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs to qualifying veterans can be integrated with existing Nation and Tribal programs which can lead to better and expanded services being offered by the individual tribes.

For information concerning the National Native American Veterans Association, visit www. nativeamericanveteransassoc. org, or contact Tom Berry at hashukmalli@sbcglobal.net.

from the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation in Evansville, Indiana, John spent 31 1/2 years as a teacher, counselor, and administrator. The last 11 years of his career, John was Principal of Howard Roosa Elementary School where he established a multicultural program which became a national model. **Labor Day Festival**

Ouilt Show

Entries need to be dropped off at the Information Center from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Friday, September 2, and picked up by noon Monday, September 5.

Checkers/Dominoes Tournaments

There will be two divisions this year in the Checkers and Dominoes Tournaments including those 13 years old and under in one division and 14 and over in the other.

	SUN	SUN MON		WED	THU FRI		SAT
S E P					1	2 Labor Day Festival	A Labor Day Festival
T E M	4 Labor Day Festival	Labor Day Festival	Stigler by appt only McAlester 10 am-2 pm	7 Atoka 10 am-2 pm Coalgate 10:30-1:30	8	9 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	10
B E R	11	Talihina 10 am-2 pm	Durant 10 am- 12 noon	Wilburton 10:30 am -2 pm	15	16 Poteau 11:30 am -1 pm	17
2	18	Antlers by appt only	Crowder and McAlester by appt only	21 Durant by appt only	22	Broken Bow 10 am-2 pm	24
2 0 0 5	25	Wright City by appt only	27 Bethel by appt only	28	29	30	

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

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

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION

PROJECT MOCCASIN

Help us support our Native American troops

It is a native tradition that when a warrior went into battle he would wear new moccasins. The new moccasins were to bring him home safely from battle or to ease his transition into the next life. With the number of Native American troops currently stationed in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan, the NNAVA has undertaken to send a new pair of moccasins to each of our native troops deployed. Each pair of moccasins is handmade in the traditional way, wrapped in red flannel, and then shipped to the addresses of our deployed troops. The cost to make and ship each pair is only \$21, due to the number of volunteers who are

donating their time. Help recognize the valor, sacrifice, and courage of our Native American troops. For additional information, contact Thomas Berry at 405-692-6365 or hashukmalli@sbcglobal.net.

People You Know



Happy seventh birthday, Trever

Trever Nathanael Wann will turn seven on August 18. He will celebrate with family and friends. Trever is the son of Janine Dills and Jerry Don Wann and the grandson of Gary and Jane Dills and Jerry and Ann Wann, all of Durant, Oklahoma. Trever's great-grandparents are Joe Kenneth and Mattie Maudine McClure and Bill and Corine Dills, all of



Durant, and Inez Wann, the late Leon Wann and the late Frank and Ethal Shelton, all of Kinta, Oklahoma. Jeremie, Kelsie and Mackenzie would like to tell their little brother a special happy birthday! Katie Bug also says hi. We all love you to the moon and back again a million times little man!

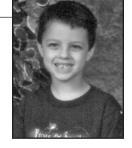
Ryan is turning four

Ryan J. Thorne of Tucson, Arizona, will celebrate his fourth birthday on August 28. Wishing him a happy birthday are his parents, Mike and Kristy; grandparents, Gene and LaHoma Murphy Crauthers of Oklahoma City, and other relatives. Ryan shares this date with his late great-grandmother, Ella Murphy of Idabel, Oklahoma.



Happy sixth birthday

Linda and Lee Knight of Hugo, Oklahoma, would like to wish their grandson, Gage Knight, a happy sixth birthday on July 29. Gage is the son of Donnie and Jacque Knight of Shawnee, Oklahoma. His other grandparents are Ray and Pat Booze of Shawnee, Oklahoma. Also, late happy birthday greetings to Christie Hood on June 8; Donnie



Knight on June 12; Linda Knight on June 18; and Thomas Hood on June 21. Congratulations to Donnie and Jacque Knight on their eighth wedding anniversary on May 30.

Tenth generation Choctaw

Dylan Michael Garcia celebrated his third birthday on July 7. He descends from the Spring and Oakes families of the Hugo, Oklahoma, area. "Binker" is the son of Kevin and Elizabeth Garcia and brother to Trevor and Amber of Hillsboro, Oregon. Grandparents are Stan and Nancy Spring-Garcia of Han-



ford, California, Sam Ashenberner of Beaverton, Oregon, and Paula Hughes of Cornelius, Oregon. Everyone says happy birthday, Dylan!

First birthday!

Carson Battiest will be one year old on September 27. Wishing him a very happy birthday are his "Nanny," sister Kathleen, Aunt Amy and cousin Sara. All are from Duncan, Oklahoma.



Happy 21st birthday

Happy birthday to Crystal Long who is turning 21 on August 26. Crystal is also a graduate of Carl Albert State College. She has her associate's degree in Allied Health Science and is currently working at the CNHCC in Talihina as a dental assistant. She would like to thank Larry Wade in the Higher Education Office for his support.



Happy birthday

Brenda Haycraft turned 39 years old on July 20. Brenda enjoys riding four-wheelers and spending time with her family. Happy birthday, Li'l Sis!



Look who's one!

Happy first birthday on June 24 to Kyleigh Renee Long. Kyleigh is the daughter of Kenneth and Crystal Long of Talihina, Oklahoma. She enjoys playing with her brother, Kenneth Long Jr., and with her toys. Kyleigh's grandparents are Charles and Ava Hilton of Tuskahoma, Oklahoma, and G.W. and Phyl-



lis Long of Talihina. Great-grandparents include Wilson and Deloris Taylor of Sobol, Oklahoma, Frieda Hilton of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, Vernon Long and Grace Long of Talihina, and Millard Simmons of California. Ida Taylor of Sobol is Kyleigh's great-great-grandma.

Happy birthday, Joseph

Joseph Hilton turned 19 on July 23. He enjoys riding his four-wheeler and spending time with his girlfriend, Melissa, and his family. Happy birthday!



Sisters celebrate birthdays

Happy birthday to sisters Velma Whisenhunt, April 4; Karen Burt, May 5; Phyllis Bohanan, May 22; Ava Hilton, June 14; and Brenda Haycraft, July 20. They are the daughters of Wilson and Deloris Taylor of Sobol.



Happy birthday

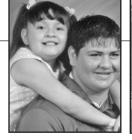
Belated happy birthday wishes are sent to Kirsten Talowa and Jasmine Grace Samuels of Pembroke, Florida. Jasmine turned three on June 13 and Kirsten turned five on June 18. They are the daughters of Van and Andrea Samuels. Their grandparents are Paul and



Rebecca Samuels of Hugo, Oklahoma, and Jerry Henson and Darla Thompson, both of Hulbert.

Happy birthday

Molly Durrence of Hugo, Oklahoma, would like to wish her "favorite" cousins a happy belated birthday. Russell Wood



celebrated his 16th birthday on May 1 and Colby Raper celebrated his 13th birthday on May 22. Happy birthday, guys!

Happy 21st birthday

Happy birthday to Miss Choctaw Nation Princess Stephanie Horn. Stephanie will celebrate her 21st birthday on August 7. She works at the Choctaw Nation complex in Durant. Stephanie currently attends SOSU and is majoring in finance. She also attends the First Assembly of God Church. We love you – Mom, Dad, Joe, Heather, Sharon, Kristin, Becky and Vic!



Look who's five

Jera JuliAnne Davis celebrated her fifth birthday on June 27. She is the daughter of Keith and Sharon Davis of Texarkana. Her grandparents are Earl and Ann Davis and Donald and Bobbie Scott, all of Idabel. She is the great-granddaughter of Evelyn Mills of Atlanta, Texas.



Happy birthday!

Best wishes are being sent to Richard A. Gomez, July 7; Kenneth P.D. Anderson, July 8; Emma Wolf, August 4; Claudine Wheeler, August 31; and a special birthday wish to our last beloved brother, Finis E. Impson, July 29, from Sophia.

Happy birthday Ms. Jasmine

Ms. Jasmine McCarthy celebrated her eighth birthday on June 23. The day began with the family attending her brother's graduation. She was then taken out to lunch and her final treat was a slumber party. Her hobbies include singing and dancing. She was baptized on June 26 and plans to join the usher



band and the choir. A good student, her teacher praises her for being a good helper in the classroom. She is spoiled by her Uncle Mike, whom she adores, and she plans to go fishing with her great-grandmother, Caroline Thompson, in Paris, Texas.

Happy birthday

Creed Elizabeth Peirce, pictured in her Choctaw traditional dress, turned five years old on June 22. Happy birthday! Her parents are Deana Willingham-Peirce and Ron Peirce of Oklahoma City, Okla-



Shari Snyder celebrates birthday

Happy birthday to Shari Snyder of Carlsbad, California, who was born August 3, 1930, in Fresno, California. She moved to Chicago at the age of six to live with adoptive parents. Over 60 years later, her husband, Keith Snyder, using the Internet, found her brothers and sister in Fresno. Finally, after so many years, Shari was reunited with her siblings, Robert Hodgekis, Avis Engelman, Wilburn Lessley and Joel Long.

The family was reunited and began the long process of catching up, discovering that they had been adopted out while their mother was hospitalized and unable to prevent the removal of her children.

Shari has celebrated the new relationship with her brothers and sister. Her brother, Joel, has even moved to the San Diego area to be closer to his big sister. The two have been able to celebrate every holiday since that reunion only a few years ago.

Happy anniversary

Hunter and Matthew would like to wish Uncle and Aunty Bon Solomon and LaVon Tonihka a happy anniversary on June 2.



Happy birthday

Hunter and Matthew would like to wish Michelle Gipson and Shineesta Tonihka belated happy birthdays. Their birthday was on June 21.

Birthday wishes



was on June 21.

Matthew Jones and Zoe Tisho would like to wish Zachary, Hunter, and Zane a happy birthday. Zachary turned three on June 18, Hunter turned five on July 27, and Zane turned two on July 28. Zach, Zane and Zoe are the children of Robbie and Tracy Tisho of Oakhill.



They are the grandchildren of Minnie and the late Gilbert Jones of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Matthew and Hunter are the sons of Carrie Gipson Jones and the grandsons of Sharon and the late Harold Gipson, all of Wright City, Oklahoma.

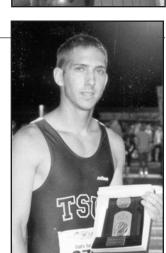
Young bowler breaks Lawton city record

Ethan Martinson of Lawton, Oklahoma, started bowling 19 months ago and on June 13, set a new city record. Ethan is now in Lawton's record books for the first youth and the youngest bowler to ever shoot an honor score of 299. Way to go, Ethan!



Burns is All-American

Congratulations to Blake Burns who made All-American on the Tarleton State University's track team at the National NCAA Track and Field Championship Competition, May 26-28 in Abilene, Texas. Blake is the son of Danny and Becky Burns of Arlington, Texas; the grandson of Emmett and Joyce Cooper of Fort Worth, Texas; great-grandson of the late Gladys Aribell Gardner; and great-great-grandson of Robert Gardner. Blake will be attending Texas Wesleyan University this fall for his Juris Dr. Degree in Law.



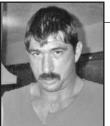
Kennedy's four!

Happy fourth birthday, Kennedy, from your family and friends.



Happy birthday

Dawn would like to wish her brother-in-law, Roy Land, and great-nephew, Ty Davis, happy birthdays. Roy turned 42 on July 6 and Ty turned ten on July 24.





Couple to be honored on 68th anniversary

Congratulations to T.H. and Melba Wade Mullins who will celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary on August 21. They are originally from the Debs Corner area near Stonewall, Oklahoma. Mr. and Mrs. Mullins now reside near Raymond, California. Their children are hosting a party for them at the home of Bob and Sherri Mullins on the day of their anniversary. Family and friends are invited.

Gipsons celebrate June birthdays

Benjamin Gipson and wife, Judy, celebrate birthdays in June. Ben's was June 14 and Judy's was June 6. The couple celebrated on June 11 with their family and friends at their home in Skiatook, Oklahoma. Ben is the son of the late Robert and



Lucinda Gipson of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Judy is the daughter of the late Pauline Hough of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. Together, the couple have nine children and 19 grandchildren.

70th anniversary celebration

Clora "Dude" and Cecil Brooksher were married on September 10, 1935, at Lindsay, Oklahoma. Dude is the daughter of the late Edna Westbrook



McCants and the late Gus McCants and the granddaughter of the late Mattie McDaniel Westbrook and the late Andrew "Jack" Westbrook. An all-day celebration of their marriage will be held in conjunction with a family reunion on September 10, 2005, at their home in California, which will be hosted by their three sons, Bondie, Cleo and Danny.

The address for the celebration is 9825 La Docena Lane, Pico Rivera, CA 90660. For more information, call 562-949-5665. They look forward to seeing or hearing from everyone.

Day joins Grandfield Ambulance staff

Choctaw Jackie Day has passed her EMT test and is now on the staff of Grandfield Ambulance. She also is the Assistant Librarian in Grandfield and has a teenage daughter, Chazaray. Jackie has many relatives in the Eagletown, Oklahoma, area – uncles, Bill and Will Nelson; aunts, Mary Lee and Lula Pete, and many cousins. She is the daughter of Rachel Amos Day of Grandfield.

Jordan turns seven

Auntie Elaine would like to wish her nephew, Jordan Isaac, a happy seventh birthday on June 4, which he celebrated at the Winter Smith Park in Ada with a cookout and a swimming pool party. Jordan is in the second grade at Hayes School. He enjoys being with his aunt and uncle and riding his bike. He is



the son of Ricky and Rolena Bohanon of Ada. He is the grandson of the late Josh and Minnie Wallace of Pauls Valley and the late Isaac and Lula Bohanon of Paris, Texas. All of his family would like to wish him a big happy birthday and that God may bless him through the years.

Mila's first birthday

Auntie Elaine would like to wish her greatniece Mila Cherise, a big happy first birthday on July 26. Mila is our bundle of joy and she is loved by her family. Mila is the daughter of Wendy Frazier of Paris, Texas, and Kenny Frazier of Sumner, Texas. Mila is the grand-daughter of Willard Bohanon of Ada and Mary Sue Sikes of Paris. She is the greatgranddaughter of the late Isaac and Lula Bohanon of Paris and the late Norma Ballard of



Paris. All of her family would like to wish her a happy birthday and that God may bless her through the years.

Congratulations, **Kelly Garland**

Kelly Garland graduated from high school this spring and is pictured with her sister, Nickie Garland, and grandmother, Laquitta Garland. Kelly is also the granddaughter of Emery Hunkey Garland of Stigler, Oklahoma.



Ashlei graduates magna cum laude

Jenifer and Kelsey Empron congratulate their sister, Ashlei, as she graduates magna cum laude from college in Lansing, Michigan. Ashlei is enrolled in Kalamazoo for the



fall. She wants to thank the Choctaw Nation for the scholarship they have given her. This has allowed her to continue her education.

Sisters receive their degrees

Crystal Gaines and Tami Greenwood, both of Ada, Oklahoma, received their degrees on May 14. Tami, right, received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from East Central Uni-



versity, Ada, on the morning of May 14. Crystal received a Master of Science in Management from Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, that afternoon. Both are recipients of the Choctaw Nation Higher Education Scholarship Program, to which they send their appreciation for their support. Parents are the Rev. Mel and Pat Gaines of Dallas, Texas. Grandparents include Moses and the late Helen Williams of Eagletown, Oklahoma, and the late Lewis and Zona Gaines of Norman, Oklahoma. Congratulations from the family on their achievements.

OSU graduate

Lourinda R. Givens, a native of Washington, Oklahoma, graduated from Oklahoma State University on May 5 in a Native American Recognition Ceremony and May 6 at the Graduate School Ceremonies. She and Jill Missal are the first two females to graduate from the Master of Science Fire and Emergency Management Administration program at OSU. Lourinda graduated with a 3.7 gpa and was honored by being placed on the Chancellor's List, a National Graduate School Honor Society. Lourinda now holds six college degrees along with her



Certified Safety and Health Official credentials in both General Industries and Construction. Lourinda is a member of the First Baptist Church in Washington, Mustang Chamber of Commerce Business, American Industrial Hygiene Association, Oklahoma Emergency Management Association, Society of Environmental Scientists, Citizen Emergency Response Team Member, CERT Train the Trainer, American Paint Horse Association, McDowell Club of Allied Arts, and International Association of Emergency Managers.

She is employed as an AVON Independent Sales Representative, Certified Beauty Adviser, Leadership Representative, and Fundraiser Representative, plus works as a training and safety consultant. For the past several months she has been assisting the Oklahoma Stockyards Main Street Program as a Promotion's Committee Member planning with the Oklahoma Centennial Commission the first presentation of Oklahoma History, which will lead to all 77 Oklahoma counties over the next two years.

Solomon to attend Johns Hopkins

Megan Solomon graduated maxima cum laude from Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, California, with a 4.5 gpa, and will be attending Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, in the fall. Megan was one of 20 students to receive a prestigious award from Johns Hopkins for their academic accomplishments. She will do her undergraduate study at Hopkins where she will major in biology. Megan is



the daughter of Karen Solomon of South Clarita, California, and the late Norris A. Solomon. Her grandparents are Lois Schneiderman of North Hollywood, California, and the late Marvin Solomon and Lillie Stoliby Kwee of Pasadena, California, and the late Lester Willis of Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Morenci grad to attend NMSU

Maya Joy Sumpter graduated from Morenci (Arizona) Jr./Sr. High School in May. Maya is a member of National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, National Music Honor Society, and was proud to serve as the Pride Band drum major her senior year. Maya will be attending New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, and plans to major in music education. Her



parents are Scott and Diana Sumpter of Morenci; her older sisters are Dixie of Baltimore, Maryland, and Feliz of Phoenix, Arizona. Grandparents are the late Dixon Sumpter and his widow, Julie, of Mesa, Arizona, Juan and Marge Gonzalez of Chandler, Arizona, and Roy and Nora McKenney of Phoenix.

Sudik graduates OCCC

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Julie Michele Sudik who graduated in May from Oklahoma City Community College with a degree in Respiratory Care Therapy.



Holmes graduates as 2005 valedictorian

A standard of excellence, dedication, and hard work are qualities Tuskahoma resident and Choctaw tribal member Baxter Holmes, Clayton High School's 2005 valedictorian, is known for in his community. Family and friends congratulate him on his commitment, leadership, and many achievements as



a student and graduate of Tuskahoma School and 2005 graduate of Clayton High School. Maintaining a 4.0 gpa all four years of high school, Baxter excelled in the most challenging courses offered. Among his many awards and accomplishments are serving as 2005 Student Council President, Superintendent's Honor Roll, JOM Native American Student top gpa, Alpha-Pac All Conference Academic Team Leader and Regional Top Three Academic Team Captain. Also a devoted athlete and advocate for Healthy Teen Lifestyles, Baxter enjoys weightlifting, Choctaw stickball, the outdoor lifestyle, playing on a men's area basketball team and assisting others in physical fitness awareness. Baxter has chosen Sports Journalism for his college and professional career focus. He is enrolled at the University under the OU Scholars program and has been accepted to the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication. He was selected as one of five freshman journalism students to become a McMahon Scholar and has also been chosen to attend Oklahoma Institute Journalists Association, Native American OU Student Program, and has been selected as a Henderson Scholar with the University's prestigious diversity program where an advanced learning environment is provided for exceptional students.

Baxter's parents are Jack Holmes and Nancy Southerland-Holmes of Tuskahoma. His grandparents are the late Jack R. Holmes and Rosemary Quinn Holmes of Kansas City, Missouri, the late Ransom M. Southerland of Rush Springs, Oklahoma, and Pauline McClure Southerland Lindsay, also of Rush Springs. Baxter's many uncles, aunts, cousins, extended family, and hometown community join in wishing him happiness and success as he enters the University of Oklahoma experience.

Plevancic is honor graduate

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Julie G. Plevancic who graduated in May with honors from Golden Gate University in San Francisco, California. She earned an Executive Master of Public Administration.



Haber earns associate's degree

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Tawnee Sue Haber on earning an associate's degree from Treasure Valley Community College, Ontario, Oregon. She graduated in June.



Holleman earns B.A.

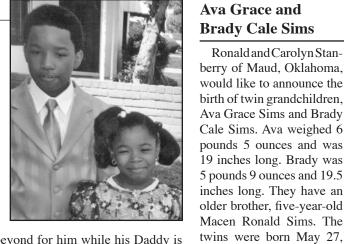
The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Helen Angie Holleman on earning a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

"I would like to thank everyone in the Higher Education Department who made it possible for me to attend college. I gradu-

ated May 14, 2005. In the future, I would like to obtain a master's degree and PhD in order to teach at a university. I believe an education is the best gift a person can receive and you have given me this gift. I plan to use my knowledge to give back to the Choctaw Nation by teaching others about Native Americans, on a college level. I am truly honored to be part of a tribe that cares so much about the education of its members. I also want to thank my family for their support. Especially my Papa, Thomas C. Holleman Jr.

Congratulations

On June 23, Milton Jr., the son of Milton Sr. and Cynthia Flournoy, graduated to Jr. High School. An honor student, he received awards in reading, math, citizenship and perfect attendance. He is an active member in church as an usher and takes his duties very seriously. His wish for his hard work is to go to Texas and go fishing with his great-grandmother, Caroline Thompson, of Paris, Texas. He gives his Uncle



Mike praise for going over and beyond for him while his Daddy is fighting in Iraq. Milton's goal is to do better in Jr. High.

Congratulations on graduation

Cassie Brown, the daughter of Charlie and Debra Brown of Stigler, Oklahoma, has graduated and plans to attend the vo-tech in Stigler. She wants to eventually become a teacher. Congratulations, Cassie!



REUNIONS

McDANIELS/WESTBROOK

The McDaniels/Westbrook Reunion is set for September 10 at the home of Clora "Dude" and Cecil Brooksher in Pico Rivera, California, with cohosts Bondie and Wanda Brooksher. Over 100 family members from Georgia, Oklahoma, Texas, Oregon, Arkansas, Missouri, Arizona, and California are planning to attend. For more information, please call Dude at 562-949-5759 or Bondie at 562-949-5665.

ROBERTS

The 51st Annual Roberts Reunion will be held September 24 at Coalgate, Oklahoma, from 11 a.m. till? Please bring a covered dish and a bingo prize. For more information contact Osborne or Christine Roberts at 580-927-3342.

JOHNICO

The Johnico Family Reunion will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. October 22 at the Richard Harder Senior Citizen Building, 712 Railroad St. in Talihina. The reunion will have a Halloween theme come with a mask, costume or just as yourself. Please bring a covered dish item. Coffee is furnished. For more information, please contact Myrtle King, 1023 S.W. 38th St., Apt. C, Oklahoma City, OK 73102; or 405-634-6786.



Donvan Allen Bookout

Donvan Allen Bookout was born December 29, 2004, weighing 5 pounds 3 ounces and measuring 18 inches long. He is the son of Brandi Bookout of Oklahoma City. He is the grandson of Scott Bookout of Oklahoma City and the great-grandson of Mary Bookout of Oklahoma City.



Kinley Belle Branscum

Kinley Belle Branscum was born April 12, 2005, at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina. Kinley's parents are Aaron and Christie Branscum of Fanshawe, Oklahoma. She has many grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins who are very happy



she's here. Imogene Owens Welch is Kinley's great-great-granny and Pearl Bullard Branscum is her great-great-grandma. Kinley is named after her great-great-great-grandmother, original enrollee Nancy Bell White Owens Hayes, and her great-great-aunt, Effie Bell Goad. The family would like to thank the doctors, midwife and nursing staff at Talihina for the wonderful care you provided.

Aidan Noah Durrence

Julia and Wayne Durrence of Hugo, Oklahoma, announce the birth of their son, Aidan Noah Durrence, born April 15, 2005. Aidan was born at 10:33 a.m. at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma, Durant. He weighed 7 pounds



14.5 ounces and measured 21 inches in length. Aidan has a big sister, Molly, who is five. He is the grandson of Gladys and the late "Chick" Wood of Hugo and Linda Standridge of Antlers and Wayne Durrence Sr. of Portsmouth, Virginia.

Emily Danielle Meshaya

Desiree and John Meshaya are pleased to announce the birth of their baby girl. Emily Danielle Meshaya was born at 11:05 p.m. March 16, 2005, at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center, Talihina,



Oklahoma. She weighed 7 pounds 15 ounces and was 21 inches long. Grandparents are Jon and Linda Bryant of Talihina and Jim and Patty Meshaya of Tuskahoma, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Larry Bryant and the late Helen Bryant of Talihina, the late Anna Lee Carter of Talihina, the late Martin and Ruth Meshaya of Rufe, Oklahoma, and the late Donald and Susan Mix of Poconos Mt., Pennsylvania. Proud uncle is Greg Bryant of Talihina and proud aunt is Jennifer Meshaya of Tuskahoma.

Lupita Elsa-Denay Ruiz

Lupita Elsa-Denay Ruiz was born at 5:38 p.m. March 23, 2005. She weighed 1 pound 8.7 ounces and measured 11.5 inches. Proud parents are Martha Cotanny and Salvador Ruiz of Oklahoma City. Proudgrandparent is Jeanette Kemp of Oklahoma City. Her great-grandparents were Mullen and Lulla Kemp. She has many



aunts, uncles, cousins, sisters, and brothers of Oklahoma City and Chihuahua, Mexico. Lupita Elsa-Denay also wants to wish happy birthday to her grandmother, Jeanette Kemp, and uncle, Solomon Cotanny.

Ava Grace and **Brady Cale Sims**

Ronald and Carolyn Stanberry of Maud, Oklahoma, would like to announce the birth of twin grandchildren, Ava Grace Sims and Brady Cale Sims. Ava weighed 6 pounds 5 ounces and was 19 inches long. Brady was 5 pounds 9 ounces and 19.5 inches long. They have an older brother, five-year-old

Macen Ronald Sims. The

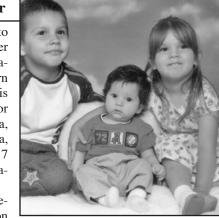


Mom Lisa Sims is holding newborn twins Ava and Brady.

2005, in Houston, Texas. Parents are Ron and Lisa Sims of Houston. The other grandparents are Jim and Shirley Sims of Tyler, Texas. Great-grandparents are Joe and Louis Sims of Tyler, Thelma Stanberry of Maud and Irene Tresham of Carson City, Nevada. Their great-great-grandmother was Lucy Hembree Stanberry of Maud, an original enrollee.

Jathan Takoda Taylor

Veronica Allen wants to announce the birth of her baby brother, Jathan Takoda Taylor, who was born February 22, 2005. He is the son of Trivia Taylor Allen of Hugo, Oklahoma, and Robert Eyer of Cocoa, Florida. Jathan weighed 7 pounds 7 ounces and measured 19.5 inches.

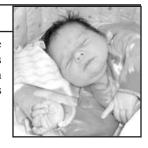


Happy birthday to Veronica who turned three on

June 7. Veronica is the daughter of Trivia Taylor Allen of Hugo and Michael Allen of Concord, North Carolina. Her grandparents include Loretta Heuberger of Paris, Texas, and Edgar Taylor Jr. of Moyers, Oklahoma. Her great-grandparents include Edgar and Hazel Taylor of Sobol Oklahoma, and the late Eli and Minerva Samuels. Also, happy belated birthday to brother Dominic Allen who turned four on January 26; Grandma Loretta who turned 44 on February 25; and Uncle Terrell who turned 22 on February 7.

Taylor Mea Zurmuhlen

Taylor Mea Zurmuhlen was born June 9, 2005, weighing 7 pounds 13 ounces and was 20 inches long. She was born in Crested Butte, Colorado, to proud parents Jeff and Narcissie Zurmuhlen.





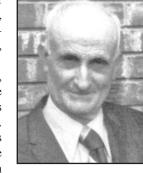
OBITUARIES



William "Woody" Hughes

William "Woody" Hughes, 88, of Durant, Oklahoma, passed away June 12, 2005, in Bonham, Texas. He was born October 5, 1916, in Coal County, Oklahoma, to P.D. and Lilley McKinney Hughes.

He married Mary Cubley on May 4, 1945, in Durant. He was a member of the Baptist faith, loved to raise cattle and was a salesman for Colbert Dairy in Durant. He was a sergeant in the Army Air Corps during World War II and a member of the B-29 Airplane squad. He was Salesman



of the Year for the City of Durant and a member of the American Legion and DAV in Durant. He loved his family and raising his Hereford cattle. He was a Christian gentleman with a smile and a cheerful greeting for everyone.

His parents and three brothers preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife of Durant; son, Kenneth Woodrow Hughes and wife, Lina, of Durant; daughter, Sherry Deanne Gandy of Moore, Oklahoma; grandchildren, Benjamin Bennett of Plano, Texas, William Bennett of Durant, Bie Raquiza of the Philippines, Lucky Raquiza and Maria Raquiza, both of Durant; and great-grandchildren, K.C. Raquiza of the Philippines and Tory Coucghran of Durant.

Lena Mae Johnson

Lena Mae Johnson, 76, of Holdenville, Oklahoma, passed away June 14, 2005, at Valley View Hospital in Ada, Oklahoma. She was born December 11, 1928, in Lennox, Oklahoma, to Jolum Noah and Joanna Williams Noah.

She was raised in the Kiamichi Mountains close to Whitesboro. She moved to Bennington and attended Wheelock Academy. Lena graduated from Sequoyah High School. She married Jimmy Johnson Sr. in Wewoka and the couple spent many years there. She was a resident of Holdenville for the last nine years. Lena enjoyed sewing and spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Survivors include five children, Brenda Johnson of Sasakwa, Peggy Rodriguez, Jimmy Johnson Jr. and Loretta Johnson, all of Wewoka, and Floyd Johnson of Holdenville; a sister, Christine Noah Collins of Oklahoma City; 19 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Michael Loren Carnes

Michael Loren Carnes, 39, of Cartwright, Oklahoma, passed away June 7, 2005, at his residence. He was born August 9, 1965, in Durant, Oklahoma, the son of Mildred Carnes Webb. He was a maintenance worker.

Michael and JoeAnn Gibson were married on June 2, 2005, in Cartwright. A maintenance worker, he loved his family dearly and will be greatly missed.

Survivors include his wife of the home; sons, Michael Anthony Loren Carnes and

Timothy Allen Carnes, both of Cartwright; daughters, Tajahara Harvey of Carrollton, Texas; brothers, Christopher Wayne Webb of Cartwright and Billy Wayne Webb of Grapevine, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his mother; his grandmother, Mary Tikubbie, and his grandfather, Allen Carnes.

Dear Choctaw Nation,

the wonderful help given to my dear nephew, Michael Loren Carnes, and his family during his last days with us and for all the help given to Michael's wife, JoeAnn, his two sons, Michael and Timothy, and daughter, T.J. When no one else could help, the Choctaw Nation came through. Also, thank you to James Dunegan's office for the help provided and to my sister, Tina Fields, who provided her home. Although Michael is gone we will never forget him.

Once again, a big yakoke to Chief Pyle and his wonderful staff of caring people who are there and ready to help the Choctaws.

- Shirley Duran

Deborah Nunn

Deborah Corine Nunn, 66, of Stigler, Oklahoma, passed away May 25, 2005, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She was born March 24, 1939, in Rocky Point to John and Josphine Baker Leflore.

Preceding her in death were her parents; one son, Joe Dale Nunn; two daughters, Elizabeth Nunn and LaDonna Nunn; two sisters, Alice Mayhall and Helen Terrell; and two brothers, John Leflore Jr. and Edmond Leflore.

Survivors include her husband, Jody Nunn; six daughters, Vickie Timmons of Keota, Oklahoma, Judy Lloyd of McAlester, Oklahoma, Debbra Gill of Keota, Mary Anderson of Durant, Oklahoma, Joyce Timmons of Keota and Wynona Nunn of Stigler, Oklahoma; two sisters, Norma Anderson of Stigler and Joella Leflore of Oklahoma; several grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Leo Skinner

Leo Skinner passed away June 1, 2005. He was born November 23, 1921, in Hartshorne, Oklahoma.

In 1942, he entered the Army for World War II, serving in the Pacific - Guadalcanal and other islands ending in the Philippines. He was recalled for the Korean War and stayed in for 30 years, retiring from Ft. Huachuca on July 1, 1967, as a Chief Warrant Officer. He had lived in Tucson, Arizona, since 1967. He worked for the Tucson Post Office from 1968 to 1984.

and five great-grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Norma Skinner; one brother; five children and stepchildren; five grandchildren

Ted Perry

Ted Perry, 71, of Stigler, Oklahoma, passed away May 16, 2005, at his home. He was born April 23, 1934, in Stigler to Houston Perry and Ola Mae Perry. He grew up at Havana where he received his formal education. Mr. Perry made his home in Dallas, Texas, for several years before moving to Chicago where he began a career with Am-Track. His career spanned some 32 years, and he was a conductor at the time of his retirement. He made his home in Stigler following retirement in 1996.

His parents preceded him in death.

Survivors include four brothers, Jerry Perry, Burt Perry and wife, Vivian, Gerald Perry and wife, Debra, and Ron Perry and wife, Sherry; and one sister, Linda York, all of Stigler; two aunts, Ona Perry and Ilena Krausch, both of Stigler; numerous nieces, nephews, greatnieces and great-nephews.

Donald Gene Wilson

Donald Gene Wilson passed away July 4, 2004, at the VA hospital in Oklahoma City. He was born February 25, 1948, to Donald Gene and Rena Stone Wilson.

He married Norma Jean Robison in 1967 in Boswell, Oklahoma, and moved to Oklahoma City from Bennington in 1968. Wilson was a postmaster who loved to work on cars and watch sports. He also served in the U.S. Army.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; brother, Willie Wilson, and an aunt, Helen Wilson.

Survivors include his sons, Donald Gene Wilson III and Kevin Wilson; a daughter-in-law; and two grandchildren, all of Oklahoma City; brothers, Ollie Wilson and Woodrow Wilson, both of Calera, Oklahoma, and Jack Wilson of Texas; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was dearly loved and will be greatly missed.

J.D. Benton Smith

J.D. Benton Smith, 74, of Odessa, Texas, passed away January 22, 2005, in an Odessa hospital. He was born July 15, 1931, to Ray and Kate Smith of Boswell, Oklahoma.

He served his country in the Army during the Korean Conflict. He worked most of his life in oil fields at home and over-

His parents, four sisters and four brothers preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Jerry Smith, of the home; one son and one daughter, Claude Ray and Dawn, both of Odessa; two brothers, Arvel Smith of Texarkana, Texas, and Robert Smith of Haworth, Oklahoma; and one sister, Leota McKinney of Andrew, Texas.

Evelyn A. Jones Taylor

Evelyn A. Jones Taylor, 65, of Moyers, Oklahoma, passed away May 19, 2005. She was born June 1, 1939, in Divide, Oklahoma, to the late Jackson Jones and Sally Wilkins Jones. Evelyn lived in Talihina, Oklahoma, until 1989 when she moved to the Moyers area.

Evelyn was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother who, in her spare time, enjoyed going to singing conventions, watching kids playing ball, traveling with Choctaw Nation senior citizens groups, and spending time with her family and friends. She was also a member of the Greenhill Baptist Church in Talihina.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Waylon

Survivors include her husband, Buddy Taylor, of the home; Peggy Nichols and husband, Ronald, of Moyers; sisters, Louella Waitman of Durant, Oklahoma, and Elizabeth Siwer of San Diego, California; brothers, Eugene Jones and wife, Margie, of Talihina and Travis Baker of Durant; grandchildren, Teela Nichols, Tamara Nichols and R.J. Nichols, all of Antlers, Oklahoma; great-grandchildren, Lailah Walton of Antlers, Carmen Broomfield of Antlers, and Dante Nichols of Moyers; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.

Juanita A. McKinney

Juanita A. McKinney, 86, of Stigler, Oklahoma, passed away May Thank you to various staff members of the Choctaw Nation for all 3, 2005, in Sallisaw, Oklahoma. She was born February 19, 1919, in Lequire, Oklahoma, to James J. and Gladys Bates McKinney

> She grew up in Stigler where she graduated with the Class of 1937. Juanita attended Southeastern State University and in 1942 began a career with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

> She moved to Lawrence, Kansas, to work for Haskell Institute as registrar and in 1959 returned to work for the BIA until her retirement in 1974 after 32 years of service. In 1978, she made her home in Stigler, where she loved to live. She was a member of the Stigler First Free Will Baptist Church and enjoyed doing God's work. She was a very loving and giving person with many friends. She loved her family and will be remembered as a very special sister, aunt and friend.

> She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Harmon W. and Billy James McKinney; and one sister, Jo Marie Harrison.

> Survivors include one brother, Jackie Ray McKinney of Chicago, Illinois; one nephew, Dennis Harrison and wife, Susan, of Sallisaw; two nieces, Jody Hall and husband, Rick, of Muldrow, Oklahoma, and Jill Caughman and husband, Lyndell, of Sallisaw; and several greatnieces and great-nephews.

Melvin "Buddy" Neal

Melvin "Buddy" Neal, 82, of Stigler, Oklahoma, passed away May 14, 2005. He was born November 14, 1922, in Brooken, Oklahoma, to Ira and Roxie Neal.

He entered the U.S. Army on January 26, 1943, in Tulsa and served during World War II. He received a Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Go 14 15th General Hospital 45 Eame Theater Ribbon, four Bronze Service Stars, and the WWII Victory Ribbon.

Mr. Neal married Margaret Jean Robertson on October 10, 1953. He will be remembered for his dedication to the VFW on Thursday nights to play Bingo. He loved to fish and loved when his great-grandchildren came running in the house saying, "Papaw, I want candy!"

Preceding him in death were his parents; his wife; one brother, Raymond Neal; one nephew, Raymond Neal Jr.; one niece, Lorreta; and his second wife, Mary Simmons Neal.

Survivors include one son, Rick Neal and wife, Diana, of Stigler; two granddaughters, Krystal and husband, Jerry Bryant, of Mangum, Oklahoma, and Jodi and husband, Brandon Gulley, of McAlester, Oklahoma; five great-grandchildren, Dylan, Ryan, and Nate Bryant (he called them his little burr heads) and Keira and Kansas (Pris and Little Man); two sisters, Almus "Sug" and husband, J.C. McKinney, of Brooken and June and husband, Lewis Tinsley, of Oklahoma City; six nephews and three nieces; and a host of friends.

Elizabeth "Chick" Grace Holman

Elizabeth "Chick" Grace Holman, 89, of Idabel, Oklahoma, passed away June 22, 2005, at Champaign County Nursing Home, Urbana, Illinois. She was born November 18, 1915, at Idabel to Sidney J. and Mary Taylor Herndon. She married Orville E. Holman in December 1933 at Idabel.

Elizabeth was a homemaker and a member of the First Baptist Church, Idabel. She was Miss Idabel in the early 1930s and was Idabel's first and only parking meter maid. She was employed at Ray's Steak House and Tootie Wilmoth's Western Auto for many years.

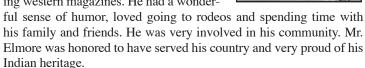
She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; one brother; three half-brothers; and one half-sister.

L. Stewart of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Grady W. Elmore

Grady W. Elmore, 77, formerly Boswell, Oklahoma, passed away recently in Dallas, Texas. He was born June 16, 1928, in Crowder Springs, Oklahoma, south of Boswell, the son of Van Buren Elmore and Beulah Crowder Elmore. He grew up in Boswell, then in 1969 moved to Paris, Texas.

He married Joan Dancer on October 10, 1951, in DeQueen, Arkansas. Grady loved going to the coffee shop and reading western magazines. He had a wonder-



He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife of the home; three daughters, Angie Selby and husband, Raymond, of Powderly, Texas, Brigitte Viehe and husband, Mike, of Paris, Texas, and Connie Miller and husband, Anthony, of College Station, Texas; brothers, Pete Elmore of McKinney, Texas, and Paul Elmore of Boswell; sister, Mickie Braudrick of Hugo, Oklahoma; six grandchildren, Bryan, Terra, Tasha, Brandon, Brittany, and Blair; and three great-grandchildren, Alex, Kenyatta and Riley.

Mary Lois Cawthon Robinson

Mary Lois Cawthon Robinson passed away December 21, 2004, at Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler, Texas. She was born September 20, 1942, in Jacksonville, Texas, the daughter of William Sr. and Daisy Mae Guess Cawthon.

She was reared in Jacksonville and Hugo, Oklahoma. She attended and graduated from Jacksonville Public Schools and after graduation, completed barber college, receiving her license to practice as a barber. The bulk of her working career, 36 years, was spent working at Max Daiches Jewelers in Kilgore, Texas, until her retirement. In early adulthood, she married Jesse Willard Robinson Jr. and three daughters were born to this union. After her divorce, for 24 years, she was a companion to Lee Davis, whom she adored and loved until her final

Her parents; a sister, Betty Ray; a brother, William Cawthon Jr., and a brother-in-law, Claude Robinson, all preceded her in death.

Survivors include three daughters and sons-in-law, Kimberlyn and Joseph Wilkins of Missouri City, Texas, Tina Rena Ray and Gayland Roberson of The Colony, Texas, and Tracy Elaine Robinson-Roy of Kilgore, Texas; loving companion, Lee Davis of Tyler; four sisters and brothers-in-law, Shirley and Scottie McDonald of The Colony, Janice and Johnny Harvest of Stafford, Texas, Paige Cawthon of Sugarland, Texas, and Regina Cawthon of Houston, Texas; one brother, Donald Ray Cawthon of Jacksonville; eight grandchildren, Tasheka McCane, Jessica Jackson, Whitney Roy, Brandon and Marissa Roberson, Joshua, Jacob, and Jordan Wilkins; and three great-grandchildren, Adrian and Brandon McCane and Trazeion Sanders; four aunts, Mary Ray of Kansas City, Kansas, Elnora Crisp of Lancaster, California, Catherine Cawthon of Englewood, California, and Thelma Williams of Atlanta, Georgia; stepmother, Doris Cawthon of Jacksonville; devoted cousins, Mary Ann Harris and Freeman Cawthon, both of Dallas, Texas; a cherished mother-in-law, Callie Robinson of Kilgore; a son-in-law, Freddie Roy of Longview, Texas; three sisters-in-law, Brenda Nobles of Dallas, Texas, Marilyn Stroud and Carolyn Herd, both of Kilgore; one brother-in-law, George Robinson of Kilgore, and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends

Julius Taylor

Julius Taylor, 94, passed away May 24, 2005. He was born May 16, 1911.

Mr. Taylor loved the Lord and at times was seen reading his Choctaw Bible and hymns. The Lord gave him the gift of tickling the ivory keys for various churches in both Oklahoma and Texas. Although he never took lessons or read sheet music, he learned how to play the piano by ear.



He moved his family to Dallas, Texas, in July 1959 and retired in the late 1970s. He had attended United Indian Methodist Church in Dallas. He was faithful in church until his health prevented him from

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Jane Taylor, and sons, Ernest Taylor, Raymond Taylor, and Edgar Taylor.

Survivors include his children, Williston Taylor of Antlers, Oklahoma, Melvina Washington of Hayward, California, Juanita Caudill of San Diego, California, Nadine Smith of Ada, Oklahoma, Virginia Tafoya of Sante Fe, New Mexico, and Elizabeth Osage of Dallas; and several nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

We will greatly miss Julius and he will always be remembered and treasured in our memories.

Dear Choctaw Nation,

The Taylor/Osage family would like to say thank you very much for the assistance with the burial of Mr. Julius Taylor. He was full-blood Choctaw Indian and lived to be 94 years and 8 days old. Julius was an inspiration to the Dallas, Texas, community and everyone knew him there. We are thankful and proud that our tribe was there to help when help was needed. He now lays at rest in Antlers, Oklahoma, with those who preceded him in death.

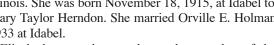
Julius Wade "J.W." Hampton

Julius Wade "J.W." Hampton, 62, of Antlers, Oklahoma, passed away June 14, 2005. He was born May 10, 1943, in Antlers to Lonnie Hampton and Susan "Loman" Hughes. J.W. lived many years in Commerce, Texas, and had moved back to Antlers for the past year and a half.

After serving in the Army, J.W. was self-employed as a telephone/ cable contractor. J.W. was an accomplished musician and loved to sing and play the guitar. He loved visiting with his friends and family. J.W. loved his family and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant brother, Charlie.

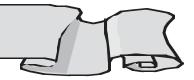
Survivors include his wife, Judy Hampton, of the home; daughter, Lisa Hampton Beasley and husband, Darryl, of Athens, Texas; two stepdaughters, Denise Stotts and husband, Jeff, and Vicky Nichols and husband, Phil, all of Commerce, Texas; a brother, Robert "Bob" Loman and wife, Peggy, of Houston, Texas; a sister, Carla Smalley and husband, Russell, of Athens; grandchildren, Kathy and Michelle Beasley, Kayle and Hannah Stotts, and Chris, Micah and Zachary Nichols; one great-grandchild, Kimberly Ann Nichols; the Loman cousins, Clara, James, Paula, Terry, Ruby, Howard, Lloyd and Iwana; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.



Survivors include one son, Orville E. Holman Jr. of Champaign; one daughter, Vada L. Boyce of Mesa, Arizona; and one sister, Mary



OBITUARIES



Herbert Andrew Allen

Herbert Andrew Allen, 96, of McAlester, Oklahoma, passed away June 8, 2005, at McAlester Regional Health Center. He was born October 7, 1908, in McAlester to Andrew Bart and Leona Maggie Pitch-

He attended school in Crowder and later attended in McAlester. He married Charlotte Lee England on November 25, 1934, in Eufaula, Oklahoma. Herbert owned and operated Allen's Auto Service in McAlester for a number of years before working as a service equipment pipeline foreman for R.H. Fulton out of Lubbock, Texas, and later retired from William Brothers out of Tulsa, Oklahoma. After his retirement he was an avid fisherman and he enjoyed working in his yard where he loved growing a garden. Herbert was a member of Grand Avenue United Methodist Church and a lifelong resident of Pittsburg County.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; a daughter, Herbie Kay Gates; two sisters, Thelma Randel and Eunice "Sue" Williams; and a brother, V.J. Allen.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Annalee and George Rowland of Hobbs, New Mexico; five grandchildren and spouses, Glenda and Scott Bearden and Mark Rowland, all of Hobbs, Boyd and Donna Rowland of Lovington, New Mexico, Charla and Derek Woodgate of Austin, Texas, and Sherry and Tim Maret of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania; ten great-grandchildren, Brandon McLemore, Brock McLemore, Cory Guy Rowland, Michael Maret, Kimber Hicks, Brooke McLemore, Jordyn Rowland, Keysha Rowland, Georgie Rowland and Holly Wood; a great-great-grandson, Keaton Hicks; five nephews, Tom Williams, Eugene Bonino, Jimmy Bonino, Allen Lee Dunn and Eddie Dunn; three nieces, Jessie Randel, Janice Barker and Patty Finch; numerous cousins, including Velma Toole and Sue Walker; and several wonderful friends and neighbors, including special friend Garry Cartlidge of McAlester.

Johnnie "Gene" Nale

Johnnie "Gene" Nale, 80, of McAlester, Oklahoma, passed away July 8, 2005, at his residence. He was born on February 28, 1925, in Indianola, Oklahoma, to Daniel Jackson and Pearl Alice Pitts Nale. He grew up and attended schools in the Crowder area.

Gene entered the U.S. Navy at the age of 16, on November 27, 1942, and served with the Seabees in the Pacific during World War II and was attached with the U.S. Marines. During his Navy service he received the Asiatic Pacific Medal with four battle stars, Victory Ribbons, and was given the Good Conduct Medal on two separate occasions. He was discharged in January 1946.

He married Betty Crabtree on May 17, 1947, in Van Buren, Arkansas. In 1947, he joined the U.S. Army and was trained at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina. He was then stationed at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, Salzburg, Austria, Red Cannon Range in Carrizozo, New Mexico, China, and Ft. Bliss in El Paso, Texas. While in the Army he received the Good Conduct Medal three times, the Asiatic Pacific Medal and an honor medal with two stars and the Army Expeditional Medal. In January of 1964, he retired from the Army as a First Sergeant E8 after serving 21 years.

After returning to McAlester in 1964, Gene worked for the City of McAlester for a short time and then worked as a deputy sheriff of Pittsburg County under Sheriff Jim Kindred. After this term was over, Gene went to work at the Navy Ammunitions Depot and retired in 1989. During interim times when he was laid off from the base, he worked for the National Park Service in Sulphur, Oklahoma.

Gene was a deacon and member of the Frink Baptist Church. He played softball for many years as a pitcher and coached many teams including the U.S. Marine softball team and many teams his daughter played on. While in the Navy, Gene boxed and was a Golden Glove Champion. He was very active in the Choctaw community and was the cook for the senior citizens at the Choctaw Community Center for about two years. He was also active in the archeology club in McAlester and was an avid collector of arrowheads and Indian artifacts. In 2002, after being unable to graduate from high school with his class because of joining the service during World War II, he finally received his high school diploma of which he was very proud.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Harold Nale, Frank Nale and Ben Nale; and a sister, Helen Haynes.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Nale of the home; two daughters and sons-in-law, Michelle and Wayland Westbrook and Kimberly and Audi Shields, all of McAlester; seven grandsons, Dirk Lee of Longview, Texas, Lon Lee and wife, Tru, of St. Paul, Minnesota, Chan Lee and wife, Trina, of Krebs, Oklahoma, Toby Westbrook, Justin Wimsett and wife, Sheila, and John Wimsett, all of McAlester, and Kevin Pierce of Longview, Texas; two granddaughters, Amber Shields and Ande Shields, both of McAlester; three great-grandchildren, Ayden Edwards, China Lee and Lillian Lee; and two sisters, Joyce Wilcox of Crowder, Oklahoma, and Catherine Kypher of Smithville, Texas.

Elizabeth "Betty Jo" Prince

Elizabeth "Betty Jo" Prince, 65, passed away May 25, 2005, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She was born November 29, 1939, in Durant, the daughter of William Haskell and Helen Iva Clayton Prince. She was raised predominantly in Stigler, Oklahoma, and lived in Eufaula, Oklahoma, at the time of her death.

She received a bachelor's degree in speech/psychology and a master's degree in counseling/junior college education from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah in the early 1970s. She worked in counseling and teaching roles for Sapulpa schools, American Christian College in Tulsa, and Rose State College in Midwest City. She also had been involved with the United Way and the Boy Scouts of

An enduring interest in her Choctaw heritage led her to research genealogy dating to 1500, making her a deep source of history for relatives. She also enjoyed drama, speech, debate and art, while once practicing skydiving and trick horseback riding.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Barbara Elizabeth and Derrell W. Cox; son, Charles Allen Guy; and grandchildren, Rebekah R. Cox, Christopher D. Cox, Jeremiah W. Cox, Bethany K. Cox, Channah E. Cox, Jonathan G. Cox, Joshua P. Cox, Caitlyn I "Cayla" Cox and D. Clayton Cox.

She was preceded in death by her parents; children, William James Bean, Jacquiline Jo Bean and William Brian Bean.

Gloria Jean Frazier

Gloria Jean Frazier, 64, of Spiro, Oklahoma, passed away May 26, 2005, in Spiro. She was born November 9, 1940, in Cowlington, Oklahoma, to Andrew and Odessa Williams Collins. She was a member of the Poteau Church of Christ.

Survivors include two daughters, Susan Blair and husband, Rick, of Keota, Oklahoma, and Linda Lashley and husband, Kevin, of Keota, Oklahoma; her aunt, Esteen Burris of Spiro; one cousin, Danny Brand of Hot Springs, Arkansas; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Sue John Askenette

Sue John Askenette, 83, of Neopit, Wisconsin, passed away June 8, 2005, at her home surrounded by her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was born January 27, 1922, in Stanley, Oklahoma, the daughter of the late George and Anna Anderson John.

She graduated from Haskell Indian School in Lawrence, Kansas. On May 14, 1941, Sue was united in marriage to Alexander Askenette Sr. in Ottawa, Kansas. Alex preceded her in death on December

17, 2003. Sue worked with the Head Start Program in Keshena and Neopit for 17 years and also did volunteer work. She was a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church and the Great Lakes Grandparent's Program. Sue enjoyed going to the lake, watching her grandchildren, gardening, dancing, and reading.

She was also preceded in death by a son, Alex Jr.; a great-grandchild, Anthony; her parents; three sisters, and two brothers.

Survivors include her daughters, Barbara L. Askenette and Linda Caldwell and husband, Eugene, all of Neopit, and Patricia Chapman and husband, Jerry, of Keshena; her sons, Orin L. Askenette of De-Pere, Donald E. Askenette and wife, Darnell, of Milwaukee, Wendell Askenette and wife, Susan, of Keshena, and David Askenette of Neopit; 14 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Alice Brenner and husband, Eugene, of California.

Roy Leon Allen

Roy Leon Allen, 75, passed away June 22, 2005, in Ft. Smith, Arkansas. He was born October 21, 1929, in Harrold, Texas, the second son of Siemon and Maseline Allen, an original enrollee.

He grew up in Atoka, Oklahoma, where he met and married his beautiful wife, Miss Vina Jacob, the daughter of original enrollees Fulsom and Martha Jacob, on April 9, 1949. This happy union produced three sons and one daughter.

He moved his family to California in 1959, coming back frequently to Oklahoma to visit. He lived in California for over 40 years, during which he worked in landscaping both on and off golf courses, before moving back permanently to Atoka in 2001.

Roy enjoyed life, was always laughing and joking. He played many musical instruments, including guitar, violin, mandolin, and steel guitar. Many times, he played with and for friends and family, much to his and his audience's pleasure. He even practiced with the brothers playing the music at assemblies in earlier years.

He dedicated his life to doing Jehovah God's Will and was able to serve as a full-time Evangelizer for two years before having to stop for health reasons. He was very faithful, serving as an Elder as one of Jehovah's Witnesses in both California and Oklahoma. He eagerly shared his belief with family, friends and everyone he could talk to about the Bible. He loved reading the Bible daily, especially his favorite scripture, John 5:28-29 about the hope of the resurrection.

His parents; two brothers, Cecil and Ray Stanley; and one half-sister, Ohio, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Vina Allen of Atoka; three sons, Ray Leon Allen and his wife, Marie, of San Jose, California, Steve Roy Allen and his wife, Anita, of Oklahoma City, and Jacob Robert Allen of Atoka; one daughter, Sharon Lynn Longwell and husband, Tim, of Atoka; two sisters, Christine Campbell of Atoka and Lois Jack and husband, Al, of Maysville, Oklahoma; 10 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and two more due very soon, as well as other relatives and many friends.

Kristin Leigh Leflore

Kristin Leigh Leflore passed away May 20, 2005. She was born April 30, 1987. Although the years were short, Kristin touched so many lives.

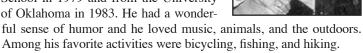
Kristin's parents are Tommy and Kathy Leflore of McAlester, Oklahoma. Grandparents are the Rev. Wesley Anderson and Katherine Anderson and Herman Leflore and Mary Leflore.

She attended school in McAlester and was pursuing a career in nursing. She had a very tender place in her heart for children. She planned to specialize in pediatrics and OB. Kristin always had a beautiful smile and loving heart for everyone. To know her was to love her. She is loved and missed by so many.

Steven K. Love

Steven K. Love, 43, passed away March 10, 2005, in Norman, Oklahoma. He was born June 10, 1961, in Wichita, Kansas, to Harry S. Love Jr. and Jane Gernand Love. He was the grandson of Harry S. Love Sr. and Katie Kirby Love, both original enrollees.

Steven graduated from Ada High School in 1979 and from the University of Oklahoma in 1983. He had a wonder-



He was preceded in death by his father in 2004. Survivors include his mother, Jane Love of Ada; sister, Lisa Blan-

kenship and husband, Dan, of Loveland, Colorado; nephew, Scott Blankenship of Palo Alto, California; and longtime girlfriend, Barrie Roberts of Norman.

Malinda "Lily" Brumit

Malinda "Lily" Brumit, 91, of Blanco, Oklahoma, passed away October 6, 2004, at her home outside of McAlester. She was born October 25, 1912, in Celestine, the daughter of Sante and Isabenda Wood Ferrante. She grew up in the Celestine and Idabel areas and graduated second in her class from Coalgate High School.

She married Luther "Jack" Brumit on June 8, 1935, and was a homemaker all of her life. She was a member of the Blanco Baptist Church and the Ohoyohoma Indian Club.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Luther "Jack" Brumit, on November 16, 2003; three sisters, Rose Hoffman, Lena Nichell, and Louise James; four brothers, Charlie Ferrante, Otha Ferrante, John Ferrante, and infant Pete Ferrante, and a great-granddaughter, Lily Bach.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Darlina and Charles Scroggins of the home; three sons and daughters-in-law, Jack and Bernadette Brumit of Quincy, California, James and Judy Brumit of Oklahoma City and Charles and Johnna Brumit of Billings, Montana; grandchildren, Lisa Brumit Cervantes, Mindy Brumit Bach, Shaun Brumit, Michael Brumit, Matthew Brumit, Traci Teman Chiro, Dana Scroggins, Daniel Brumit, Chuck Scroggins, James Brumit Jr., Keith Teman, Debbie Scroggins Miller, Chris Brumit, Robert Jack Brumit, Michael Brumit and Mitchell Teman; 26 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Reba Loretta Loyd

Reba Loretta Loyd, 70, of Summerfield, Oklahoma, passed away January 25, 2005. She was born May 23, 1934, the daughter of John and Ora Cox. She was the granddaughter of Buck and Angeline White. Reba was one-fourth Choctaw Indian and proud of her tribe.

Mrs. Loyd was a Christian and an active member of the Summerfield Church of Christ. She and husband Curtis C. Loyd were married in 1951. She enjoyed cooking, quilting, gardening and taking care of her

Survivors include her husband; daughter and son-in-law, Peggy and Jerry Wiser; sons and daughter-in-law, Ray Loyd, Stanley Loyd, Scotty Loyd, and Tracy and Daphne Loyd; sisters, Louise Earls and Freda Barrick; brothers, Orbia Cox, Ivan Cox, Harold Cox, Sherman Cox, Jim Cox and Delton Cox; 10 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and loved ones and a host of beloved friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two of her brothers, Dale and J.C. Jr.

Jessie Lang

Jessie V. Lang, 78, of the Lona Valley Community in Oklahoma passed away May 22, 2005, in Lona Valley. She was born March 18, 1927, in Lona Valley to Jasper and Grace Fitzer Johnson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, William Lang; three brothers, Leroy Johnson, Tom Johnson and Doyle Johnson; and two sisters, Aline Satterfield and Darlene Bidwell.

Survivors include a daughter, Karen Henson, and husband, David, of Eufaula, Oklahoma; one son, Michael Lang of Lona Valley; two sisters, Betty Spears and husband, Sonny, of Quinton, Oklahoma, and Irene Hughart of Oklahoma City; three grandchildren, Melanie Clark of Eufaula, Derrick Williams of Lona Valley and Megan Henson of Eufaula; three great-grandchildren, Reed Clark and Elizabeth Clark, both of Eufaula and Christian Williams of Lona Valley.

Angela Rae Lewis

Angela Rae Lewis, 25, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, passed away May 21, 2005, at Broken Bow. She was born June 21, 1979, at Talihina, Oklahoma.

She was affiliated with Bible Baptist Church in Wright City, Oklahoma. Angela enjoyed spending time with her children and family and friends. She was employed by the Choctaw Casino in Broken

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Randal Lewis and Esther Lewis



Bohanon; one aunt, Rhonda Peters; two uncles and two cousins. Survivors include her husband, J.R. Battiest, of the home; her children, Kysar Quentin, Kyle Blake and Lindsey Rose, all of the home; her mother and stepfather, Doris and Kenneth Jones of Oklahoma City; her mother-in-law, Rose Shemwell of Idabel; one sister-in-law, Kurtrina James of Broken Bow; two brothers, Arlin Tisho and Ike Tisho, both of Broken Bow; two nieces, Maleah and Alexia, and one nephew, Braiden, all of Broken Bow; several aunts, uncles and cous-

Dear Choctaw Nation,

ins, and a host of friends.

The family of Angela Rae Lewis would like to thank all of the employees of the Choctaw Nation, family, friends, and relatives for their prayers and support at the time of our loss. The phone calls, food, flowers and words of comfort were greatly appreciated and were also a testimony of the short while she was with us. She had touched a lot of lives with her sweet, caring personality. Angela Rae is truly missed, but the memory of her will live on forever in all of us and in the lives of her three children, Quentin, Kyle and Lindsey. May your prayers be with these little ones as they live each day without the presence of their beloved mother.

Special thanks to Chief Gregory E, Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, to all Choctaw Casinos, Tribal Police, McGee Chapel, Brumley Funeral Home, Bro. Ellis Taylor, and Bro. Kenneth Noah. To Regina Flanagin, Katie Noah and Kurtrina James - your never-ending support and time were truly a blessing.

Thank you all so much and may God bless you.

E.C. "Nick" Bledsoe

E.C. "Nick" Bledsoe, 89, passed away June 27, 2005, at Davis, Oklahoma. He was born October 5, 1915, in Bokchito, Oklahoma, to Eldery and Mary Neeley Bledsoe.

Nick, the fourth of five brothers, had lived in Davis since 1955. He married Gladys Henry in 1937 at Asher, Oklahoma. She passed away in 1995 after 58 years of marriage. In 1997, he married Wanda Carter. She preceded him in death in 1998. Also preceding him in death were his parents and four brothers, Earl, Wade, Ernest and Roy.

Nick worked in the oil fields for many years and later worked as a driller for Sooner Rock in Davis, Oklahoma. He was a member of First Christian Church and was a veteran of World War II.

Survivors include three daughters, Mary LaNoy of Guthrie, Oklahoma, Nika Bledsoe of Davis and Opal Bejcek and husband, Grant, of South Lake, Texas; five grandchildren, Clif LaNoy and wife, Patti, of Davis, Alisa Kornmeyer and husband, Joe, and Michael LaNoy and wife, April, all of Guthrie, Oklahoma, Chelsea Sumners and husband, Gary, of Colorado City, Texas, and Brock Bejeck of South Lake; and eight great-grandchildren, Nick, Jennifer, Joey, Kasey, Kaitlyn, Kristin, Kyle and Savannah.

Edwin Billy

Edwin Billy, 64, of Sobol, Oklahoma, passed away on June 1, 2005, at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was born March 21, 1943, at Corinne, Oklahoma, to Wesley Billy and Nellie Charley Billy. Edwin married Nadine Samuel on August 30, 1961, in Rufe, Oklahoma. He lived in the Sobol area most of his life. He was a member of the Goodwater United Methodist Church as well as its clubs and



He retired from Weyerhaeuser Company at Wright City in March of 2003 after 43 years of service. Edwin loved working in his church, hunting, fishing, and enjoyed playing baseball and softball in his younger years and loved spending time with his family and friends, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchild.

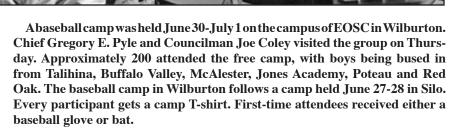
He was preceded in death by his wife of 43 years, Nadine; two sons, Kevin Billy and wife, Lorraine, of Rattan, Don Billy of Antlers; daughter, Debra and husband, Nelson Wesley, of Sobol; two brothers, Junior Billy of Sobol and Soloman Billy of Rattan; three sisters, Deloris Taylor, Hazel Taylor, and Versa Crow, all of Sobol; five grandchildren, Tony Wesley and wife, Sharon, Derek Wesley, Crystal Beller and husband, Brandon, Sheldon Wesley, and Teona Billy; one greatgranddaughter, Kalin Beller; numerous nieces, nephews, step-grandchildren and friends. He will be greatly missed by his family.



Summer sports camps

The summer has a been a busy one for hundreds of young people living in the Choctaw Nation. The tribe put on golf, baseball, softball and basketball camps for its aspiring athletes, giving the 8- to 18-year-olds extra instruction in the sports as well as stressing the importance of exercise. The students were bused in from all areas of the Choctaw Nation to attend the individual camps.







Benny Farrar assists Hayden Hill of Krebs with the air

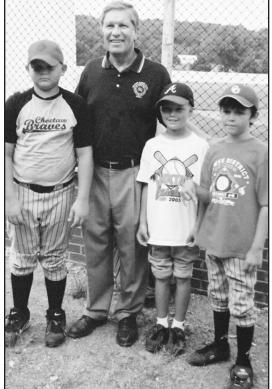
Youth enjoy shooting and archery activities at Crowder

Kids traveled from a wide area to participate in the first ever Shooting Sports and Archery Activities held June 14 at Crowder. Sponsored by the Choctaw Nation CARES program and Sapokni-HCE, the event welcomed youth from Crowder, Stigler, Blocker, McAlester, Coalgate, Krebs, Talihina, Howe, Hartshorne, Scipio

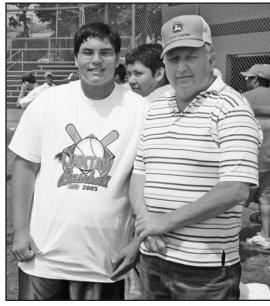


Taking careful aim is Dalton Williams of Atoka.

and Atoka. Children age nine and up honed their skills in archery and air rifle. Skeet shooting and safety classes were offered to those ten years old and older. Instructors included Benny Farrar, OU Wildlife Department Conservation; 4-H agents Greg Owens and Mike Carter; and Crowder FFA Teacher Darrell Hightower. CARES staff assisting with the event were Jeremy Bull, Dylan Pitchford, Kristy Russell, Eileen Stout, and Sandra Twaddle.



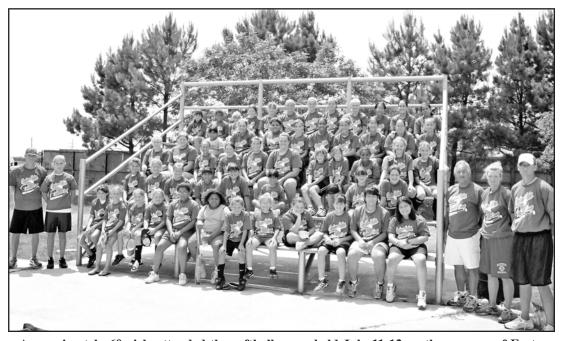
Chief Gregory E. Pyle enjoys visiting with the participants at the Choctaw Baseball Camp held recently in Wilburton. Pictured are Tyler Hendley, Chief Pyle, Derek Penz and Tanner Gwin.



Tony Wallace of Hugo is one of the participants attending the baseball camp at Silo. He is pictured with District 9 Councilman Ted Dosh.



Basketball camps were held at 12 sites within the Choctaw Nation for girls and boys 8 to 18 years old. Pictured here are two groups from the camp at Coalgate, held June 27-28. Camps were also held at Keota, Poteau, McAlester, Talihina, Jones Academy, Idabel, Antlers, Soper, Atoka, Broken Bow and Durant. Each participant received a T-shirt and a basketball.



Approximately 60 girls attended the softball camp held July 11-12 on the campus of Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton. Camps were also held in Durant and Wright City.



Archers travel to Tullihoma

By Ricky Wade

By Ricky Wade

The Choctaw Nation Longbow Archers ventured to our neighboring tribe for the Chickasaw Nation Reunion at Tullihoma, near Ada. A total of 34 shooters made the trip – 18 youth and 16 adults. It was another great moment for our youth as they one by one exited from our bus and tribal van. Our visit was on a warm, sunny day and as we toured the grounds, we learned some about the blowgun and darts, about bread-making, hatchet-throwing, and flute-making.

In the shooting competition, Nathan Pelletier took the secondplace trophy in the adult division. Our youth, ages 6 to 14, took their turn next. Daniel Wisener won the first place trophy; Aaron Wisener won second, and Madison Massey won third.

But the best was yet to come – in the toddler division, consisting of 3- to 5-year-olds, Justis Mayfield won first and his sister, Leah Mayfield, took second.

Many thanks to Chief Pyle for giving us this opportunity to take our heritage one more step forward with both young and old. We would also like to thank Councilmen Ted Dosh and James Frazier for use of the tribal vehicles; Charlotte Wisener and Debbie Wade for spending time painting and helping to put the Choctaw colors on the arrows. Everyone did an excellent job putting the Choctaws in a new outreach of knowledge – no air conditioning, no video games, no TVs, just simple, traditional fun.



Summer Youth

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, and Council Speaker Mike Amos are pictured with a group of Summer Youth participants from McCurtain, Choctaw, Bryan, Atoka and Coal counties as they gather for a trip to Six Flags over Texas. Approximately 1,400 young men and women from 14 to 21 years of age were employed as part of the summer training program this year.