



BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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November 2005 Issue

Council holds regular meeting

In regular session October 8, the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council approved three council bills.

- Closeout of Jones Academy budgets for fiscal year 2005;
- Grant budget of OEH for Environmental Protection Agency General Assistance Program, \$447,500 for fiscal years 2005-2009, and
- Modification of the tribal operations budget for fiscal year 2006.

In other business, Lois Burton, Kay Green and Delton Cox were each reappointed to serve on the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Health Board.

Inter-Tribal Council meets

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes met October 7 for its quarterly meeting. Four resolutions were on the agenda:

- Approval was granted to support inviting Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns to visit Oklahoma to discuss the 2007 Farm Bill and other significant agricultural issues important to Oklahoma tribes;
- Support of provisions concerning Title V of the Older Americans Act – Senior Community Service Employment Program;
- Approval of holding the 27th annual Native Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference in Tulsa, and
- Support of repealing the rider to the 2005 Transportation Equity Act, a poorly written insertion that threatens the fair and equitable treatment of tribes as sovereigns in the protection of the health of their citizens, environment and natural resources.



Governor rides for DARE

Chief Pyle, Governor Henry reach out to youth with 'Say NO to drugs' message

More photos of the event can be seen on Page 8

Thunderous applause and cheers from 6,000 students greeted Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry and Chief Gregory E. Pyle as they entered the DARE rodeo arena at Choctaw Coliseum to promote the message of resisting drugs. "It is not cool to use drugs or alcohol. Each one of you here today can be anything you want to be but you have to stay away from drugs and alcohol," said Governor Henry as he stood in the back of a buckboard wagon to address the huge group of third-, fourth- and fifth-graders.

"People who get hooked on a life of bad choices end up in trouble. Many end up in prison. Even worse, many die," Governor Henry said.

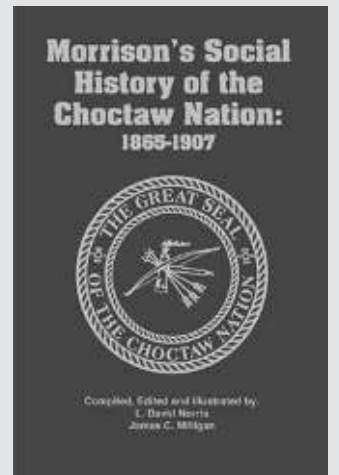
He told the crowd of young people, "You have a bright future. The decisions you make between now and the time you graduate high school make all the difference in the world. To be cool you MUST say 'NO' to drugs and alcohol!"

The students were bused in from 58 schools across southeastern Oklahoma to enjoy a day of rodeo events and education. DARE is an acronym for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. Uniformed law enforcement officers from several counties greeted children as they departed their bus to take their seat in the coliseum bleachers.

"It is a rare opportunity to speak to more than 6,000 people on this important message of saying no to drugs," said Chief Pyle. "I am thankful that Governor Henry has joined with the Choctaw Nation for this event. His leadership in this effort is greatly appreciated."

The Choctaw Nation – from Civil War to U.S. Statehood

The U.S. Civil War took a toll on the Choctaw Nation, as it did the entire South. Once again, the resilient Choctaw people overcame hardship. A newly revised book documents their struggles and triumphs.



Love and admiration for the Choctaw people inspired Dr. James Davidson Morrison (1904-1977), former Dean of Instruction for Southeastern Oklahoma State University, to specialize in Choctaw history on the doctoral level.

Dr. Morrison's work has helped spark additional interest and research into the history of the Choctaws. However, 35 years after he completed the manuscript, it is still the only comprehensive study covering the years following the Civil War. "Morrison's Social History of the Choctaw Nation: 1865-1907," compiled by L. David Norris and James C. Milligan, comments on the social history and conditions of the Choctaw people from the end of the Civil War until the time that Oklahoma officially became a U.S. state.

Because of Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, and the 12 Tribal Councilmembers' vision to preserve our culture and history, this historical account of the Choctaw has been recently revised.

The Choctaw Nation is proud of this most recent addition, which has been financed and copyrighted by the Choctaw Nation.

The price of "Morrison's Social History of the Choctaw Nation: 1865-1907" is \$30 for hardback and \$15 for paperback. The book will be ready for sale by Thanksgiving.

To purchase this exciting new book depicting an important period in Choctaw history, call The Choctaw Book Store at 1-888-932-9199. Please have your credit card ready when calling.

More information may be found at the Choctaw Nation websites www.choctawbooks.com and www.choctawnation.com.

Mail orders to Carolyn Cross, Choctaw Book Store, P.O. Box 668, Durant, OK 74702. Personal checks are accepted.

Graduation ceremony held for GED graduates

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma held its eighth annual graduation for adult education students September 30 in the auditorium of Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton. A record number of GED students – 102 – received their diploma this year following inspirational messages by Chief Gregory E. Pyle, former Oklahoma State House member James H. Dunegan, and Choctaw Nation Executive Director of Education Joy Culbreath.

Scoring in the top 10 of the 2005 graduating class were Nicholas Baker, top of the class, see related photo on Page 3; Nolan Berry, Daryl Burton, AnnaMarie Carlson, Josh McKee, Marlana O'Dell, Kyle Prock, Korrina Smith, Jordana Underwood and Sharon Young.

Graduates include Amanda Abrego, Kandy Abreo, Savannah Alexander, Felicia Arnold, Wilma Atkinson, Mark Baker, Duane Baptiste, Albert Beason, Kristen Bell, Clay Billy, Courtney Bledsoe, Eli Bohanan, Reanna Brown, Sherri Burland, Amanda Byars, Brandy Cain, Courtney Caldwell, Brandy Chapman, Kristen Chapman, Alicia Chaudion, John Chitto, Charlotte Cleveland, William Cockerhan, Jennifer Cowett, Amber Davidson, Jonathan Lathe Edwards,

Jessica Eldridge, Lacey Eldridge, Kimberly Ellis, Jonathan Travis Ferguson, Amanda Fletcher, Andrea Ford, Helen Frazier, Nicholas Freeman, Christina Gillispie, Christopher Going, Lisa Grantland, Melanie Grass, Daniel Hack, William Hager, Loreta Harrison, Cassidy Hart, Sherman Healey, Jennifer Henslee, Linsey Hill, Jamie Holder, April Honeycutt, Brett Ishcomer, Douglas Jefferson, Jeremy Johnico, Shonda Johnson, Joseph Jones and Niki Justice.

Also, Tommy Lewis, Jessica McCoy, Shauna McDougal, Dena Michelle McKinney, Regina McKinney, Tiffany McKinney, Shana Mitchell, Eva Murphy, Clinton Myers, Stephen Nelson, Chasity Nowlin, Jonathon Tyler Oberlechner, Mitchell Onco, Stephanie Ott, Mavis Perez, Russell Pickard, Joshua Poore, Theresa Rayburn, Mark Reich, Christopher Rowan, Vanah Shomoh, Candice Smith, Dwain Smith, Teresa Smith, Timothy Sockey, John St. Clair, Rhonda Stinson, Cody Stone, William Quinn Thompson, Arlin Tisho, Daniel Tollett, Katrina Walchi, Fred Warden, Samantha Watson, Eric Williston, Max Williston, Chasity Wilson, Major Wilson and Charles Young.



SOSU President Glen D. Johnson presents Distinguished Alumni award to Bob Rabon.

Rabon honored as SOSU Distinguished Alumni

Choctaw Nation General Counsel Bob Rabon has been inducted as a 2005 Distinguished Alumni of Southeastern Oklahoma State University. The award was presented at a Homecoming Luncheon.

Rabon, of Hugo, earned a B.S. from SOSU in 1963, then graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1968.

Rabon has practiced law in Hugo since his graduation from Law School in 1968. He has served as general counsel for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for more than 35 years. After graduating from Rattan (Okla.) High School in 1957, he married Linda Roan. The couple celebrated their 46th anniversary on May 30, 2005.

The Rabons have two sons — Robert Lee practices law with his father in the firm of Rabon, Wolf and Rabon in Hugo, while Jeff is a member of the Oklahoma State Senate from State District 5.

Bob Rabon also served 10 years on the board of the Southeastern Foundation. He is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. He was on the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Bar Association from 1987 to 1989 and later served as President of the Oklahoma Bar Association in 1993.

Rabon is recognized nationally in the field of Federal Indian Law. He has been a faculty member of the Oklahoma Supreme Court's Annual Sovereignty Symposium, which addresses federal, state and tribal Indian issues.

A Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, he is admitted to practice law in all state and federal courts in Oklahoma, the United States Court of Federal Claims, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the United

See RABON on Page 10



Letters



A heartfelt thank you to the Choctaw Nation

Dear Editor,

Floyd Bostible, 90, passed away July 6, 2005. His home of many years was Swink, Oklahoma. He was a World War II veteran and also a proud member of the Choctaw tribe. He was buried at White Pine, Montana, beside his wife who preceded him in death in 1987. The Bostible family wishes to thank the Choctaw Nation for the assistance given with funeral expenses and all the other programs the tribe offers for those in need. The family is truly grateful.

Nursing home cares for evacuees

Dear Chief Pyle,

My staff and I would like to take this time to thank you and the members of the Choctaw Nation for your generosity during our recent housing of 26 residents evacuated from a nursing home in south Texas because of Hurricane Rita. The staff of the hospital in Talihina not only donated but also delivered medical supplies to our facility in Idabel which were needed to provide for their care. Everyone went above and beyond in answering our call for help. God bless you and the great Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Dewayne Pebworth, Administrator
Oak Grove Manor, Idabel, Oklahoma

Katrina changed lives in a matter of hours

Dear Chief Pyle and the staff at Choctaw Nation,

We have always been proud to know that our family was a member of the Choctaw Nation. Ralph's Indian heritage was always a source of great pride when he would pass along the stories of his grandmother, Agnes Pusley Coxsey Wilcox, and his great-grandmother, Sedelia Pitchlynn Pusley.

Ralph is a direct descendant of Peter P. Pitchlynn who was elected Principal Chief of the Choctaws in 1864 and served until 1866. I would imagine Chief Pitchlynn smiling down upon his beloved people as he sees the compassionate leadership of the current Chief, Gregory E. Pyle, in helping his people in such a time of tragedy.

Our simple thank you for all you have done for us seems to be inadequate at this time. While we will never be able to live in Biloxi, Mississippi, again, we are now relocated and well in Houston, Texas, with our daughter, Terri Jackson.

To each kind person we spoke to on the phone and to the sweet little lady who showed up at the benefit for us at Salita's with clothing and other items, we appreciate your loving concern and efforts on our behalf. Ralph was especially thrilled to get a replacement of his cherished Choctaw Veteran hat and jacket.

Hurricane Katrina changed our lives in a matter of hours, but we are so blessed to be alive and loved by dear family and friends, near and far. Thank you Chief Pyle. Thank you Choctaw Nation staff. God bless each and every one of you.

Ralph and Allison Coxsey
Houston, Texas

Tribe helping students reach full potential

Dear Chief Pyle and the Choctaw Nation,

My name is Sara-Jane Smallwood and I'm from Clayton in Pushmataha County. I am currently a sophomore scholarship recipient double-majoring in Animal Science and Agricultural Communications at Oklahoma State University.

I am writing to thank you for the time and money you invest in your students. Through your program I have been able to complete the funding of my education.

Because of your help I have been able to accomplish many of my goals. I serve as an executive officer of the Student Government Association, Chaplain of the Phi Mu Sorority, a Student Academic Mentor for the College of Agriculture, Treasurer of the Native American Student Association, and I've been named to the dean's honor roll.

My most important and meaningful accomplishment, however, is being named one of the Top Ten Freshmen Women of OSU. This very prestigious award places me in the top 0.03% of my class and I feel honored to represent OSU, southeastern Oklahoma, and the Choctaw Nation in this capacity.

Thank you for helping rural students from southeastern Oklahoma to reach their full potential. I appreciate all you've done to foster success in rural scholars and I hope to give some of it back some day as a lobbyist for tribal policy and agricultural commerce. Again, thank you for all your support.

Grateful for everything

Dear Choctaw Nation,

We would like to say thank you to the Choctaw Nation for all of the help and support we have received.

A.J. and Doris Kirk and family

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.

Missionaries reaching out

Dear fellow Choctaws,

My name is Wesley E. Bobb, the second son of the Rev. Bertram E. Bobb of the "Chaplain's Corner." I am writing this at the request of Joe Freeman Taylor, a resident of McCurtain County and Lay Leader at the Choctaw Academy United Indian Methodist Church located in Rufe, Oklahoma. Joe wants the readership of the BISHINIK to be informed about the missionary efforts of the First Broadstreet United Methodist Church of Nashville, Tennessee, in conjunction with an annual missions trip made to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. The Tennessee Church constructed a church building, from the ground up, at the Choctaw Academy grounds. Also, the group from Tennessee built new cabins and refurbished existing structures at the Bertram Bobb Bible Camp.

Groups of Oklahoma Choctaws and friends in the area have joined ranks with the Tennessee group in a firewood project and they travel to North Carolina to minister to members of the Cherokee Nation, some of whom are elderly, disabled, and live in remote, backwoods regions and need firewood to generate heat for themselves during the cold winter months. The activities mentioned above are occurring yearly, with an upcoming trip to North Carolina scheduled for this month. Remember, as you pray, the activities for the cause of Christ in southeast Oklahoma.

Joe Freeman Taylor and family
Wesley E. Bobb and family

Councilman's assistance appreciated

Dear Chief Pyle,

We would like to let you know how much we appreciate the assistance received from Councilman Perry Thompson in planning the funeral services for our father. Our Dad was very proud of his Choctaw heritage. Councilman Thompson assisted us in obtaining a Choctaw police escort and in obtaining a group of Choctaw singers. The singers did a wonderful job. We are very grateful to the Nation for providing the police escort.

The family of George Ferguson

Student travels to Australia

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank you for all the Nation's support in helping me achieve my goal of being able to participate in going to Australia to play basketball for the Oklahoma Storm. I had to raise a lot of money and put in a lot of hard work to be able to go on this trip and thanks to your contribution I was able to travel outside of this country and see all kinds of different cultures while getting to play basketball for the Oklahoma team. Thank you so much.

Maegan Dugger



Continuing education

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for the financial aid that was given to me so I could continue my education.

I'd also like to thank my great-grandmother, Lois Brown; grandparents, Johnny and Faye Brown, and my parents, Marvin and Karen Main, for their love and support. Without my family and the Choctaw Nation my dream of becoming a teacher and coach wouldn't be possible.

Samuel Main
Altus, Oklahoma

Student competes in World Quiz 2005

Dear Councilman Dosh and the Choctaw Nation,

I would like to say thank you for your donations and support in my recent trip to Indianapolis to compete in World Quiz 2005. I had the greatest opportunity ever. I quizzed with 2,200 other children my age from all around the world. I walked across the stage and accepted my first place medal, trophy, and ribbon along with the other 52 kids with a perfect score. Wow, what a great feeling!

I am very proud of my Choctaw heritage. My immediate family is from Bryan County. I appreciated the support given to me by Choctaw Nation. I could not have experienced this without you.

Forrest Walker

Choctaw bus driver in right place at right time

Dear Chief Pyle,

On September 18, I was returning on a Red Carpet bus from a cruise to Jamaica, Grand Caymans, and Cozumel. We docked at Galveston, Texas, and was en route to McAlester, Oklahoma, when our bus broke down at Sherman, Texas.

Gene Hampton, driver of the Choctaw bus, was returning empty from Temple, Texas. He had taken some bingo players down there, and coming back through, he stopped to help us. Our bus had blown a hose on the radiator and was not capable of returning to McAlester without a mechanic. Mr. Hampton asked me if we were Choctaws, and I told him yes, there were at least 20 out of the 22. He called his supervisor, Ms. Tammy Guin, and got approval to return us to McAlester. In turn, the driver of the Red Carpet lines called his supervisor and got permission to pay the Nation for our return visit.

I'm writing to convey to you how appreciative we ALL are of your driver, Gene Hampton, and the Choctaw Nation in our time of need. Mr. Hampton was quite a professional and very courteous. Again, thanks so very much for your care and concern. God does put people in certain places for a certain reason, doesn't he?

Nancy Rodgers

Family takes tour, visits relatives

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Recently, while returning from Dry Gulch Camp, we had made plans to visit Choctaw Nation to see family and meet Chief Pyle. Ruth Polk, my sister-in-law, took the time to give us a tour and meet more relatives and have a few laughs. Austin and Lacey Polk, grandchildren of Dick Polk, were delighted to have their picture made with Chief Pyle which now hangs in their house in a beautiful frame in a place of honor.

We drove out to Sulphur Springs Church in Bennington to see where Papaw Dick went to church and to learn more history of their family. They are determined to learn Choctaw hymn #55 and my favorite, #21. It puts tears in our eyes and joy in our hearts. We are planning to return when we have more time. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for being kind to us.

Gail Polk Griller
Children's Church Director
Faith Temple, Lubbock, Texas

Grateful for tribe's help

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I recently graduated from East Central University with my bachelor's degree in Human Services Counseling and it would not have been possible without the Choctaw Nation. I cannot put into words how grateful I am for all of the help. I am so proud to be a member of the Choctaw Nation!

Bonnie Manley
Eufaula, Oklahoma

To all of our veterans ...

Dear Editor,

As the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month nears, a special thank you to all of our veterans who ever served, those who fought and those who made the supreme sacrifice. To all of the families of veterans who were husbands, fathers, brothers, sons and daughters; those who prayed for safe returns of their loved ones; families of those who lost loved ones in wars, in battles for freedom and others' freedom – these families sacrificed also.

The price of freedom is very high. Those who made the ultimate sacrifice paid for our freedom and for those across the world. Somewhere today there is a father holding a football that he used to throw to his son, a mother and a wife caressing a picture of a son or daughter, husband, and children wondering why. Freedom!

All of our veterans across the country and the warriors of all of our Indian Nations commemorate this day in their own way. The Choctaw Nation also shows their gratitude for their warriors.

Choctaw warriors always stand up and help our great nation with our great efforts. The Choctaw Nation is the only tribe with code talkers in both World War I and World War II. The Choctaw Nation and the world say thank you for our code talkers. Warriors have served from the beginning of our time through the Civil War, WWI and II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, and other conflicts. We have always served faithfully, with courage and pride. We thank Chief Greg Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, and our Tribal Council for the Veterans Day ceremony that will take place November 11, 11 a.m. at the war memorial, Tuskahoma. God bless the Choctaw Nation! And God bless America! Some gave all and all gave some!

Geary L. Watson
Talihina, Oklahoma

To all veterans of war

Dear Editor,

I would like to show my gratitude to all veterans of the past, present and future.

The times have changed over the years, the way people feel about war(s) and the people who have fought in them. I see it every day, not only on television, but in my own life; my father's life.

I watch the movies that come on television pertaining to war; whether it is a documentary or movies out on the big screen. When I watch them I not only feel it because of the famous people who portray the characters, but because I see it in my own family. Not the war itself, but the aftereffects of everything on a person who goes through a war. Even if many years have passed, the recurrences of that certain war take its toll on the person that you love, whether it was 30 years ago or a year ago.

Everyone else may not see it, but the ones who are close to those loved ones, will and do see it. You can either let it upset you or you can always think positive about it and be thankful for being there for that person.

Just because a man/woman survived the war, doesn't necessarily mean that they are the lucky ones. The thought is that what they've seen is done and over with, but in all reality, it's always there, the memories, the thoughts, the feelings. Just because they survived doesn't mean that they really survived. People deal with this in different ways – by drinking, simply not caring, aggression, bitterness – but in time, it is talked about in their own ways of dealing with their own emotions.

When that time comes of talking about it, all you do is listen. We can never understand what has been seen or what had to be done. We only know by how the movies have portrayed it. For all those people who lost their lives in the war(s) that have come and gone, I am sorry for the families who have lost loved ones, past and present and future, but I am thankful and grateful to those who have lost their lives. They should never be forgotten.

The veterans who did survive, our loved ones, we have to see and watch how it affects them, not only mentally, but physically. They will also never forget the ones who fought by their side. The only thing we can do is to be there for them, to listen, and as they grow more ill, year by year, to just appreciate their time. But you can never really appreciate that time until it's given to you.

I'm thankful for having my father here and thankful for him serving in the Vietnam War, even though we continue to see the aftereffects on his own life 30 years later. I'm still appreciative of him and everything that he's done.

I just want to say thank you to all the other men and women who have served and appreciative of everything that you gave and to the loved ones who have lost their loved one(s). I appreciate the time that they gave and they will not be forgotten, not only in my eyes, but also in the eyes of my own children.

Again, thank you for your time, your love, and your lives.

Jerri Davis

Essay is fine piece of writing

Dear Chief Pyle,

I have intended writing with regard to Mr. Terry Golway's "The Irish in America" but have procrastinated shamefully. Mr. Cahill's letter struck a chord ("Tribe's compassion renews belief in people," Patrick Cahill, June 2005 BISHINIK). I agree with all Mr. Cahill wrote about the generosity of the gift from the Choctaw people. To even think of it must have been inspired by God's Holy Spirit. In addition let me say that his essay was as fine a piece of writing as I have ever encountered. It was magnificently done. Thanks for printing it.

Ward McCurtain
Beaumont, Texas

Researching Hattensty/Anderson genealogy

Dear Editor,

I have been working on these two families for 10 years. I found them in Mississippi and followed them to the Choctaw Nation, I.T., in 1889 and on up to date. I have over 800 pages of official papers on these families, but there is one important paper that I have not been able to find. I was told that when they first got to the Choctaw Nation they had to sign up and be approved by the Choctaw Council before they were allowed to pick a spot and settle. "These" are the papers I am still looking for. I know they came into Gains County, Gordon Township. Please help anyone!!!! Thank you.

Carol Payne
P.O. Box 633
Davis, OK 73030
hattensty@webtv.net
580-369-2597

Searching for information on family

Dear Editor,

I am in search of information regarding any family members or family friends with information. My father's name is Billy Bob Cordes, a full-blood Choctaw. He was adopted by a family called the Langfords, possibly from Durant. But they worked for the railroad department and traveled a lot. My father had a sister named Vickie Cordes, or Vickie Langford. I would love to meet my family or family friends with information. Please call or write to me – any information would be helpful.

Rick Cordes
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Chief

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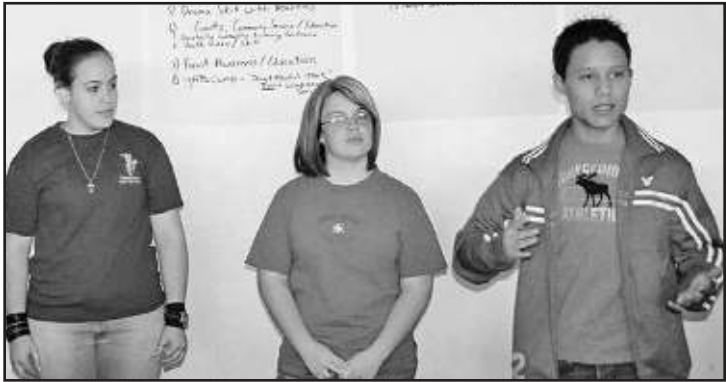
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Healthy Lifestyles task force shows enthusiasm



Loyce Wright of the Choctaw Nation McAlester Clinic won the Inspiration of Health Award. She was presented the award by Healthy Lifestyles Director Joyce Wells and Chief Gregory E. Pyle.



The executive members of the Youth Advisory Board are Ammie Gilbert, Vice President; Gail Cantrell, Secretary; and Cody Peters, President.

Youth group works throughout the year, reaching out to help other young people

Thanks to the enthusiasm and energy of the Healthy Lifestyles Task Force, their recent conference was very motivating. Created to help bring about a healthier Choctaw Nation, the Task Force was initially dedicated to battling diabetes. An aggressive educational campaign, in conjunction with tremendous health services through the Diabetes Wellness Center, Choctaw hospital and clinics, CHRs, Community Health Nurses, health providers and other tribal programs, has resulted in greater awareness of the disease, which naturally leads to better care.

This year's focus of the group will lean toward education and prevention of alcohol and drug abuse. It was the consensus of the Task Force that this is the greatest current threat to the tribal members, especially the adolescents. Many ideas were presented at the conference, and the result was a vow to fight

substance abuse on a community level.

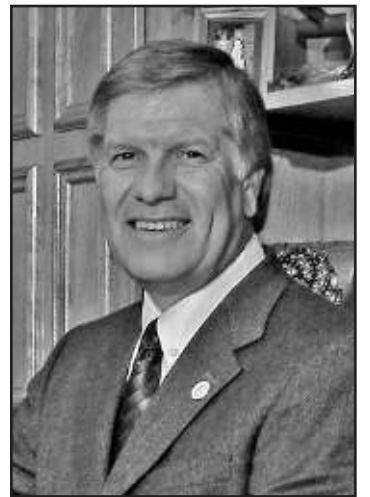
My administration is committed to improving the overall health of all tribal people and our communities. Hearing the proposed "plan of attack" on substance abuse encourages me that the battle against drugs and alcohol can be won.

The Task Force has a youth group of high school students who work throughout the year to help other young people. After a day of brainstorming, the youth came up with a very similar plan to that of the Task Force members. Determined to keep their friends and peers out of the grasp of unhealthy habits like drinking and taking drugs, the youth group presented an outline of suggested tactics.

In addition to education about

the downside of drugs and alcohol, the youth suggested targeting the sources where other students were obtaining the substances, building stronger home lives and forming support groups. They also voiced concerns about teen pregnancy, self-esteem and family violence. A common theme in all of their topics was the importance of communication with parents and guardians. One student said, "We want parents who listen to kids, but keep the authority."

The involvement of this youth group was very impressive, and my hat is off to the Task Force for including them. I have a great deal of respect for their ideas and their advice. With young leaders such as these, the tribe is in good hands for the future.



From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle



First racino in Oklahoma is Choctaw Nation's

An important aspect of State Question 712 which was passed in Oklahoma last November is the legalization of racinos at three Oklahoma tracks. The Choctaw Nation is proud to be the first to open, with 250 machines at Blue Ribbon Downs in Sallisaw.

A team of gaming and legal experts worked with the Oklahoma Horseracing Commission for many months to make opening day a reality. Facilities were readied, reporting systems accepted, staff were certified and regulations were made in order to open October 17. Games were tested and approved by the Gaming Laboratories Inc. of New Jersey, the only company approved to certify games for use in Oklahoma racinos.

The first days of being open were tremendously exciting. Customers in the area had anxiously awaited the opportunity to play the games, and live races over the weekend certainly add-



From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

ed to the fun.

When the tribe purchased the racetrack in 2003, we knew that extensive renovations were necessary to make the business the first class operation we had in mind. We have refurbished

and/or replaced the majority of buildings on the site and made improvements to the track and entrance areas.

Oklahoma was in danger of losing the horse racing industry prior to the vote a year ago. The Choctaw Nation racino, plus two more in the state of Oklahoma, will put some funds toward that important industry. Under State Question 712, part of the proceeds from the racino go to the state, part to the tribe, and part to horsemen, breeders and race purses.

Gaming is important to the tribe because it provides jobs in many communities, and it provides money for services to tribal members everywhere, such as education scholarships, emergency assistance, language classes, veterans programs and elderly activities.

The Chief, Council and I want the best life possible for the Choctaw people and will do all in our power to obtain that goal.



Chaplain's Corner

Thanksgiving Day was declared a national holiday to remind us to give thanks to God for His bountiful blessings. The first verse of Psalm 106 also reminds us to express our thanksgiving and praise. "Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His loving kindness is everlasting." (NAS)

We are thankful for this special day when we can remember our God, our Savior, our family, and our friends.

We thank God that He is Sovereign and it is exciting to realize that He has a plan for all of us. His plans for us are plans of "Future and Hope!"

"For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11 NAS)

We are looking for revival in our churches, that is, we should be if we're not. For this revival to come about, it must begin with us as individuals. It must begin with you.

Well how can this be done? How can I have a revival, you may ask.

We can find the answer to all of our problems in the Word of God, even to all the problems the world faces. This is quite a statement to make but I believe it to be true, because the Bible is the Word of a Sovereign, Almighty God.

For the answer to this question, "How can we have a revival?" We look at two books in the Old Testament. The Book of II Kings and the Book of II Chronicles.

In these Old Testament books we learn there are two kingdoms, a Northern Kingdom and a Southern Kingdom. A total of 19 kings reigned over the Northern Kingdom of Israel and of the 19 kings none of them could be considered a righteous king. There were 20 kings in the Southern Kingdom of Judah, ten of whom could be called righteous kings. Five of the ten were exceptional kings: Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash, Hezekiah and Josiah. When these men were reigning as kings there were spiritual revivals. Revival spread throughout the nation. These revivals had one similarity - a thing which is basic to all revivals - it was a return to the Word of God.

Today, we want to study the life of one of these five kings, Hezekiah. In II Kings 18:5 (NAS) we see what is written about this man of God, Hezekiah: "He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel; so that after him there was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor among those who were before him."

As we look at this personal tribute paid to this man, we learn two outstanding spiritual characteristics. First, we see that he was a man of faith - "he trusted in the LORD." A man of faith is one who by the work of the Holy Spirit lives so near to the heart of God that he naturally asks for



Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

those things which are pleasing to God. God will surely answer this kind of prayer. It is this kind of faith out of which revival is born. Hezekiah "trusted in the LORD; the God of Israel."

The second great thing which describes Hezekiah was that he was a man of prayer. In II Chronicles 32:20 (NAS) we read, "But King Hezekiah and Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, prayed about this and cried out to heaven."

Having seen something of Hezekiah's life of faith and prayer we are not surprised to find that a great revival took place in his day.

One of the greatest dangers of the human heart is to have something, a material, something that we can see, to admire, to think so much of and to forget God. We can spend so much time and money on these things that it becomes an idol. Idolatry is something, or even someone that you think more of than you do of God.

What did Hezekiah do? We read in II Kings 18:4 (NAS), "He removed the high places and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the Asherah. He also broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the sons of Israel burned incense to it; and it was called Nehushtan."

The first thing Hezekiah did was to put off or put away idolatry among the people, he cut down the groves which were the

scenes of awful immorality. Hezekiah did something that was very startling to the people. We find the children of Israel were worshipping this brazen serpent which was once a symbol of their deliverance, but now become an idol. Hezekiah destroyed it saying that "it was just Nehushtan," meaning that it was just brass, and there was nothing profitable in it.

Hezekiah destroyed the things that were standing between their souls and God, the things that were just "Nehushtan." After putting away these idols, the first thing he did was to go and open the doors of the temple. At this time in Israel's history, the temple was absolutely boarded up.

Do you think that there needs to be a turning back to the house of God on the part of God's people?

Hezekiah instructs the leaders two things, "... Consecrate yourselves now, and consecrate the house of the LORD, the God of your fathers ..." (Read II Chronicles 18:4-5). These are two of the steps toward revival. Then the third thing Hezekiah did was to take a public stand for God. We read in II Chronicles 29:20 NAS: "Then King Hezekiah arose early and assembled the princes of the city and went up to the house of the LORD." He got all of the rulers and told them that they were going up to the house of the Lord, this was setting an example, and this is what they did. I believe this is what is needed among Christians today. Set an example. Hezekiah demonstrated in life and actions that he had turned to God. The world is watching Christians. A living sermon will have a greater testimony than an oral one.

John writes in his first epistle, I John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." You can believe this promise and confess your sins today. Will you do that?

Pray for our nation and for our leaders - both governmental and spiritual. Pray for the Hurricane Katrina and Rita victims. Pray for our service men and women as they serve our country.



At the top of his class...

Chief Pyle congratulates top GED graduate Nicholas Baker during the September 30 graduation ceremony at Eastern Oklahoma State College.

Christmas Parties

Atoka Children, City Com. Ctr., Coalgate Hwy.	December 8 at 6:30 p.m.
Antlers Children.....	December 8 at 6 p.m.
Antlers Sr. Citizens	December 14 at 12 noon
Bethel Children	December 13 at 6 p.m.
Bethel Sr. Citizens.....	December 15 at 12 noon
Broken Bow Children	December 12 at 6 p.m.
Broken Bow Sr. Citizens.....	December 14 at 12 noon
Buffalo Valley Children	December 6 at 6 p.m.
Coalgate Children, Coalgate Lunch Room	December 2 at 6 p.m.
Coalgate Sr. Citizens.....	December 14 at 12 noon
Crowder Children.....	December 3 at 1 p.m.
Crowder Sr. Citizens	December 7 at 11:30 a.m.
Durant Children	December 2 at 6 p.m.
Eagletown Children, Eagletown School	December 12 at 7:30 p.m.
Eagletown Sr. Citizens	December 14 at 11:30 a.m.
Hugo Children, Housing Authority.....	December 9 at 6 p.m.
Hugo Sr. Citizens	December 15 at 11:30 a.m.
Idabel Children.....	December 12 at 6 p.m.
Idabel Sr. Citizens	December 14 at 12 noon
McAlester Children.....	December 3 at 1 p.m.
McAlester Sr. Citizens	December 7 at 11:30 a.m.
Poteau Children.....	December 10 at from 4 to 6 p.m.
Quinton Children	December 2 at 6 p.m.
Smithville Children & Sr. Citizens	December 6 at 6 p.m.
Spiro Children.....	December 12 from 4 to 6 p.m.
Spiro Sr. Citizens	December 13 at 11:30 a.m.
Stigler Children.....	December 9 from 4 to 6 p.m.
Stigler Sr. Citizens	December 14 at 11:30 a.m.
Summerfield Children.....	December 11 from 2 to 4 p.m.
Talihina Children	December 16 at 7 p.m.
Tuskahoma Children	December 5 at 6 p.m.
Wilburton Children	December 8 at 6 p.m.
Wright City Children	December 9 at 6 p.m.
Wright City Sr. Citizens.....	December 15 at 12 noon

Take these small steps now to prevent diabetes

• **Find out if you are at risk.**

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who are overweight are at high risk for type 2 diabetes. Talk to your health care provider about YOUR risk.

• **Lose a small amount of weight.**

Being overweight puts you at higher risk for type 2 diabetes. The weight you think is normal for you may not be a healthy weight. Check the chart on the other side to see if your weight puts you at risk for diabetes. Losing as little as 10 pounds can help reduce your risk. You can do it by being more active and eating healthy.

• **Be more active.**

Choose an activity you enjoy. Take a walk, swim, ride a bike, dance, or play ball with your children. Be physically active 30 minutes a day, five days a week.

• **Eat healthy.**

Make healthy food choices and eat smaller servings. Cut down on fatty and fried foods. Choose more fruits and vegetables, dried beans, and whole grains.

• **Record your progress.**

Every day write down all the things you eat and drink and the number of minutes you are active. Keeping a diary is one of the best ways to lose weight and keep it off.

• **Keep at it.**

Make one new change each week. If you get off track, start again and keep going.

All information was collected from the website, www.ndep.nih.gov. For more information regarding this topic go to www.ndep.nih.gov. If you need further assistance, contact Raina Sparks, Community and Clinical Dietitian, 1-918-465-8030.

— — — — — **Featured Recipe** — — — — —

CHOCOLATE DELIGHT

Items you will need:

- 9-inch pie pan/or you can use cupcake pan
- 1 pkg. low-fat cinnamon graham crackers or you can use pre-made low-fat graham cracker crust
- 1/2 stick light margarine
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 box instant sugar free-fat free chocolate pudding mix (use skim milk)
- 1 box instant sugar free-fat free vanilla pudding mix (use skim milk)
- 2 cups fat free Cool Whip
- 2 Tbsp. walnuts/almonds (optional)

1st – If using low-fat cinnamon graham crackers, will need to place graham crackers in a baggy and use a rolling pin to crumble graham crackers. Once crackers are crumbled, will then need to melt light margarine and place crackers and light margarine in 9-inch pie pan, add 1 tsp. cinnamon and spread ingredients in 9-inch pie pan. This will be your pie crust. Will need to bake crust for approximately 10 to 15 minutes at 350F.

1st – If using pre-made low-fat graham cracker crust, just set crust aside and begin next steps. You will need to add the 1 tsp. cinnamon to the instant chocolate pudding mix not to the crust.

Once crust has cooled you can begin adding layers.

Layer 1 – Use the instant sugar free-fat free chocolate pudding mix (only takes 5 minutes). Make sure you sue skim milk. Just follow the 5-minute instant pudding directions on back of container/box. Spread ingredient on pie crust (may not take all).

Layer 2 – Use the instant sugar free-fat free vanilla pudding mix (only takes 5 minutes). Make sure you use skim milk. Just follow the 5-minute instant pudding directions on back of container/box. Spread ingredient on chocolate pudding mix (may not take all).

Layer 3 – Spread fat free Cool Whip on vanilla pudding mix.

Optional – Can sprinkle walnuts or almonds on top of Cool Whip.

Chill and serve – if needed, can serve immediately.

Nutrition information: 1/8 per serving – Total calories 190; fat 3.25g; carbohydrates 20.74g; sugar 8g; cholesterol 0mg; sodium 445mg; protein 1g.

We're all born winners

Healthy Lifestyles

One of the great tragedies of human life is that so many of us have no idea who we really are, or what we are capable of being, or that having healthier bodies is much more within our reach than we had imagined.

We are literally brainwashed as children and young adults to believe disempowering things about ourselves and about life in general that simply aren't true. These mega doses of misinformation we're exposed to can result in low self-esteem, a bad self-image, and discouragement to be, do, or have what we want in life. As a consequence, we live lives that are far below our potential, and much less satisfying and rewarding than we deserve.

The truth of this is easy to see by observing young children, or perhaps by recalling our own lives before this destructive brainwashing had taken its toll. Children are full of optimism, excitement, playfulness, and a willingness to dream big. But as life moves forward, the cultural notions begin to slowly but steadily chip away at their childlike wonder. They eventually become cynical, negative, depressed, or even suicidal.

Think about it for a moment. Look around and see how many people you can spot who are clearly suffering from low self-esteem and chronic low expectations—which are always expecting the worst in life, and usually

end up getting it.

How many of us were told that, "you'll never amount to anything," or "you're not smart enough/pretty enough/strong enough to have what you want". Or maybe you were told that you were to short, too tall, too skinny, or too fat to succeed. Such statements generally came, not from the culture at large, but from people we knew well, and often from our own parents.

While the impact of these messages may have been minimal at the time of delivery, they were seldom heard only once. Instead, they were typically repeated many times over many years. Since we saw our parents, teachers, and other older peers as the primary sources of wisdom in our lives, we had little choice but to give at least a certain amount of credence to whatever they told us.

There is a popular notion in this culture that being overweight and out of shape is something that "just happens" as we get older or that we're overweight because our parents were. This simply isn't so. Genetic obesity accounts for the tiniest fraction of overweight adults. We can see the truth of this by thinking about the fat cats and dogs we

know. When you look at a fat cat sprawled out on the sofa, do you think, "Poor kitty, it's the victim of genetic obesity." Of course not, you know exactly why the cat is fat, it just eats too much.

One of the first and foremost things to do to change your life is to change your attitude. Attitude is fundamental to the success or failure that we experience in our life. Simply analyze your life and ask yourself these questions. Are you as successful as you want to be? Do you have the family life you want? Are you as healthy as a person your age should be? If you answered "no" to any of these questions above, then you may want to take a look at your attitude because so much depends on it.

Your Past Does NOT Have To Determine Your Future.

As adults, each of us needs to understand how we may have been impacted by the culture we grew up in and, more importantly, by the worlds of the influential people closest to us. If we are finding it consistently difficult to lose weight or get in shape, it's a safe bet that we've bought into some very disempowering notions along the way that have now become beliefs.

What we do need to avoid

is keeping our heads buried in the sand. If you have a history of struggling with fitness and weight loss, you need to know until your pessimistic beliefs are identified and replaced with optimistic ones, no amount of messing around with diets, exercise machines, drugs, diet pills, or anything else physical is going to bring you the safe and lasting results you desire and deserve.

In all likelihood, you have decades more life ahead of you. I'm sure you're aware of that. What you may not be aware of is that you have a tremendous amount of power to determine how your future life will be lived.

One of the great motivators of college athletics (Lou Holtz) once said, "Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it." Remember these three legs of the stool and realize that without all three, the stool cannot stand firm. Apply these three qualities to all areas of your life and you'll realize that being healthier, more successful, and happier is within your grasp. It's just up to us as individuals to take the initiative to make the most out of what God has given us and make sure to encourage others that we care about, to be everything we dreamed of being as children, because we are all born winners.

Healthy Living = Longer Life.



Retreat held to train mentors for Project Falummichechi

Choctaw Nation Youth Advisory Board and Choctaw Nation Healthy Lifestyles recently partnered with Claire Richard to train mentors for the domestic violence program, Project Falummichechi. The training retreat was held in September at Pettijohn Springs in Madill. There were over 60 students and teachers that attended the retreat which included the following schools, Hugo, Boswell, Soper, Atoka, Broken Bow, Moyers, Rattan, Clayton, Caddo, and Bennington.

Falummichechi, is a Choctaw language word meaning "to reclaim" and it is the goal of this project to reclaim young children from thinking that it is okay to hit or to be hit. Claire Richard

who is a high school student in Oklahoma City and a Choctaw tribal member designed the curriculum. The curriculum consists of eight lessons taught by teen mentors and is designed to teach second grade students about such things as understanding one's own feelings, empathizing with others, respecting differences, standing up for oneself, and positive responses to conflict.

The teen mentors go into the second grade classroom once a month. Each month the mentors, or Apele (friend) group, will prepare the skit in the curriculum and review the associated activity for presentation to the class. The activity will be a craft or a game; each designed to reinforce the message given in the skit.

Make your reservations for Labor Day RV sites

Reservations due January 1

– **Payments**
All 2006 reservations will be made by mail.

Reservations must be post-dated January 1, 2006, or later. Reservation must be paid in full in the form of a money order or cashier's check.

NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED. All personal checks will be returned without reservations being made. The fee for the weekend's camping from Thursday through Monday will be \$50.

– **Vehicles with RVs**

The payment of \$50 allows one (1) RV/travel trailer and one (1) vehicle into the RV area. A \$10 fee will be charged for each additional vehicle pass requested. Due to limited space, no reservations will be made for picnic tables, tents, or boats in the RV area. No tents will be allowed to hook up to an RV outlet. Any campers caught doing this will be removed by the Tribal Police. The \$50 camping fee is for one RV only.

– **Early Arrivals**

An additional fee will be charged for those entering early. A charge of \$10 per day will be charged for electrical hook-up per day per RV/camper.

– **Refunds**

No refunds will be given after August 16, 2006. All pads not filled by 6 p.m. on Saturday will be offered to those on a waiting list. A fee will be charged to

these RV campers, yet no refund will be made to the original pad holder, as the second party should have had the opportunity to come in on Friday if they had known the pad was to remain empty.

– **Phone Reservations**

NO PHONE RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED – NO EXCEPTIONS. One reservation per application. We will do our best to respect requests for preferred RV pads, however cannot guarantee you will get the one requested. Reservations will be dated and time stamped as received.

– **General Parking**

No RVs will be allowed to park in general parking.

– **Animals**

DOGS will not be allowed in the festival area with the exception of dogs owned by physically challenged individuals. Respect your neighbor and clean up after your animal.

– **Sanitation**

A sign-up sheet will be provided at the RV booth for those wishing to have on-site dumping of gray and black water tanks. Payment will be made directly to the sanitation personnel. There will be a \$10 fine for anyone caught dumping gray or black water in the RV area. A local dumping station is provided for individual dumping by sanitation personnel.

– **Tow away of vehicles**

Any vehicle blocking access roads/areas between RV rows will be towed at owner's expense.

2006 RV Space Reservation

No reservations will be accepted prior to January 1

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

RV self-contained camper description and length: _____

Number of slide-outs _____

– Only one (1) reservation per application –

Please return to:

**Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
ATTN: Margaret Teal
P.O. Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74702**

Please return the above form with your reservation. Please include a copy of your CDIB. Be sure to include the length of your RV or camper and the number of slide-outs. We need a daytime telephone number, should we need to contact you. Thank you.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

December 1

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

December 2

Idabel 9-11 a.m.
Broken Bow 12 noon-2 p.m.

December 5

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

December 6

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

December 7

Warehouses open
(Closed on December 16, 23, 26)

December 28

Last day for the month at Warehouses

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" St.
BETHEL: Choctaw Community Building.
BROKEN BOW: Choctaw Family Investment Center.
DURANT: Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 100 Waldron Dr.
IDABEL: Choctaw Village Shopping Center.
McALESTER: Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 1212 S. Main.
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.

November is Native American Heritage Month



By Jeremy Bull
CARES Project Media Specialist

Heritage. According to Webster's Dictionary, heritage is defined as a legacy or tradition that is passed from one generation to the next. Heritage that is honored and instilled into our children's life ultimately shapes our society. When we pay tribute to our heritage and draw strength from our past, we ultimately preserve those things which are precious for future generations.

Our heritage as the Choctaw Nation is one of our most valuable

resources that can encourage us and future generations to persevere and prevail throughout the many seasons of life's experiences. From the pain and sadness of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek and the hardships of the Trail of Tears, to the success of the present-day Choctaw Nation, our heritage is filled with tragedy and triumphs, all of which have shaped who we are as the Choctaw Nation today. Not only has our heritage shaped us as a tribe, but the history and heritage of the Choctaws has helped to shape the United States and who we are as a country.

How different would the face of America's history be without the Choctaw Nation Code-Talkers who were so important to the triumphs of World War I? How many times have we seen Choctaws serving our country in the Armed Services, serving the communities with law enforcement support, fighting forest fires hundreds of

miles away, or offering humanitarian support in times of tragedy and natural disaster (most recently observed sending over \$400,000 to the victims of the hurricanes along the Gulf Coast). It's easy to see the history of our country and the heritage of the Choctaw people are often linked together.

As we progress into the 21st century, it is important for us to embrace our heritage and culture and always be willing to pass this part of our past to our future through our children and the generations to come. As part of our outreach activities to the communities, the CARES Project always works to incorporate cultural activities into our curriculum, in hopes of instilling pride in the heritage of our people. For more information about the CARES Project, feel free to call (918)567-4128. Hvpim Villa Chipunta Yvt Pj Nitak Tjkbba Minti "Our Children Are Our Future."

Get Movin'

The Choctaw Nation Healthy Lifestyles Program was recently awarded an Indian Health Service Grant, "Get Movin'." This grant is a one-year grant, which will enhance and expand the existing programs for fifth grade students offered by Healthy Lifestyles and Diabetes Wellness Center programs. These programs provide culturally relevant diabetes prevention education and promote increased physical activity. "Get Movin'" will be implemented in Atoka, Boswell, Clayton, Coalgate and Hugo schools.

The Oklahoma YRBS indicates that 75% of youth participate in insufficient moderate physical activity and 86% of youth are not meeting the goal of eating five or more servings of fruits/vegetables each day. Statistics indicate that 44.6% of Native American children ages 6 to 19 and residing in the Choctaw Nation service area are overweight or obese. The program will focus on these youth by providing them with skills needed to make good food choices and developing an exercise routine. All will be accomplished in a fun atmosphere.

The "Get Movin'" program promotes physical activity by having each child walk the "Trail of Tears." The virtual walk (500 miles) commemorates the forced removal of the Choctaw people from Mississippi from 1831-1834. Of 20,000 Choctaws forcibly removed, only 7,000 survived the forced walk from Mississippi to Indian Territory in Oklahoma. "Get Movin'" will also endorse a mass media campaign to raise awareness of diabetes and obesity among Native Americans. The program will also reach tribal members through articles that will appear in the tribal newspaper. The articles will include simple steps based on Department of Health and Human Services, "Small Steps Program," and will concentrate on increasing physical activity and making good food choices.

WIC Keeping your child's healthy smile!

Your child's smile is probably one of the joys of your day! It's not too early to teach your child how to keep teeth clean and healthy.

Healthy teeth:

- Help your child chew and enjoy food.
- Help build self-esteem.
- Bring healthy smiles!

Make food and drink choices for healthy teeth

- Food that stays on your teeth longer can increase decay. Eat sticky food, such as dried fruit, hard candy and white bread, less often.
- Eating some food frequently increases decay. Limit sweets, starchy foods, juice and sweetened drinks.
- Allowing your child to stay on a baby bottle longer than 14 months, or allowing them to carry a sippy cup or bottle in their mouth while walking around or sleeping can cause tooth decay. The front teeth are especially susceptible to decay because milk, juice or soft

drinks tend to pool behind the front teeth.

- Milk, cheese, and meat in your meals and snacks help protect your teeth from decay. For snacks:


- Eat cheese with fruit or vegetables.
- Drink milk with crackers, cookies or cereal.

Brush, Brush!

- **SHOW** your child how to brush teeth. Sit low so your child can see what you do.
- Put a pea-sized dab of toothpaste on your own toothbrush, and hold the brush on an angle next to your teeth.
- Gently brush your teeth on:
 - The outer surfaces, which you can see
 - The inner surfaces where you can't see
 - The tops where you chew
- Gently brush the top of your tongue and inside your cheeks, too.

Now give your child a turn to brush! Help them follow the same procedure you did.

"Nibbles for Health, USDA"



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

Longbow archers travel to the Seminole Nation

By Ricky Wade

In August, the Choctaw Nation recurve and longbow archers – a total of 80 with some family guests – traveled to the Seminole Nation to compete against the Chickasaw, Cherokee and Seminole nations. The group traveled by a 55-passenger bus, a 15-passenger bus, and several personal vehicles.

As they begin to arrive at the Seminole grounds, people stopped and watched the "invasion" as they unloaded from the transports.

The archers were very calm and ready for the shoot as things were discussed before competition began. The adults, both male and female, stood ready for action, taking first and third in men's and first, second and third in the women's.

After a little counseling to the youth, they responded, confirming their abilities by a large landslide, winning first, second, third, fourth and fifth in all three divisions – Sr., Jr. and Toddler.

This is something the Choctaw Nation has been missing from the links of our past and now it's proof as we become stronger and stronger from learning more about our culture.

Thank you to all the archers for your hard work. We started with only a handful of shooters and now have over 80. This is a great honor.



Five generations

Kinley Belle Branscum is a fifth generation Choctaw. Pictured are Kinley being held by her Great-Great-Granny Imogene Owens Welch, Great-Granny Claudette Welch Hamner, Na-Na Shelley O'Neal Kelley, and her mommy, Christie Goad Branscum. Kinley is the fourth fifth-generation for Imogene who is the daughter of original enrollee Nancy Bell White Owens.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Day Care Programs announces its participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). All participants in attendance are served meals, at no extra charge to the parents and without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. In accordance with federal law and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. This statement applies to the center(s) listed: Choctaw Nation Day Care Center, Durant; Choctaw Nation Child Development Center, Talihina; Choctaw Nation Child Development Center, Bennington; Choctaw Nation Child Development Center, Coalgate; Choctaw Nation Development Center, Stigler; Choctaw Nation Child Development Center, Idabel.

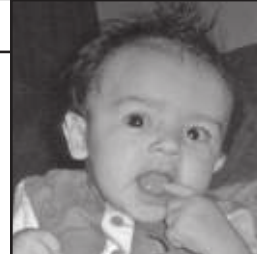


Ladies line up for competition.

Nursery News

Jayson Mattheau Zasimowich

Michael Zasimowich Jr. and Jenyfer Dove of The Colony, Texas, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Jayson Mattheau Zasimowich, born at 7:45 a.m. April 25, 2005, at Presbyterian Hospital of Plano. He weighed 6 pounds 10 ounces and was 18.75 inches long. Proud grandparents are Shirley Frazier Zasimowich and the late Mike Zasimowich of Plano, Texas, Danny Dove of The Colony and Tim and Betty Dove of Plano. Great-grandparents are the late Solomon and Irene Frazier of Talihina, Don and the late Audrey Zasimowich of Dallas, the late Anne and Jelly Brown of DeLeon, Texas, and Mildred and the late Frank Dove of Sioux City, Iowa.



Cameron Cael Sensibaugh

Kyle and Terri Sensibaugh of Canadian are announcing the birth of a son, Cameron Cael Sensibaugh, was born May 21, 2005, at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina. He weighed 7 pounds 7 ounces and measured 19.75 inches long. Grandparents are David and Angela Kenworthy of McAlester, Debbie and Jim Reynolds of Haileyville, and James and Marietta Sensibaugh of Haileyville. Great-grandparents are Pat and Claude Lively of Elm Point, Dorothy Dupire of Haileyville, Mary and Everett Kenworthy of Pennsylvania, Skip and Katie Sensibaugh of Hartshorne and Richard and Linda Beams of Blanco. Great-great-grandmothers include Ruby Dean of Hartshorne and Peggy VanHoozer of McAlester.



Jenessa Faith Dugger

Jerry and Michele Dugger of Hartshorne are announcing the birth of a daughter, Jenessa Faith was born at 8:51 a.m. August 2, 2005, at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center, Talihina. She weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. Jenessa joins siblings, Cheyoma Lyn, 8, and Samuel Ray, 7. Grandparents are Daniel and Sharon Martin of McAlester, Jim and Becky Myers of Canyon, Texas, and Frank and Jane Dugger of Hartshorne. Great-grandparents are Charleen and the late Wesley Samuels of McAlester, Junette and the late Joseph Davis Myers of Dumas, Texas, the late Harold and Myrtle Dugger of Hartshorne, and the late Richard and Reba Pogue of Dow.



Chasely Grace Roberts

We would like to announce the birth of our beautiful baby girl, Chasely Grace Roberts. She was born at 5:27 a.m. August 12, 2005, at McCurtain Memorial Hospital, weighing 7 pounds 13 ounces. Parents are Lindsey Roberts and Lawrence McKinney. Grandparents are Wanda and David Noah and Loretta Hunt, all of Idabel, and Lisa and Marvin Roberts of Broken Bow.



Trinity Skye Thorne

Trinity Skye Thorne was born September 12, 2005, at Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City. Her proud parents are John Thorne and Marie Bateman. She was also welcomed by her sisters, Aire and Melody, and grandparents, Gene and LaHoma Murphy Crauthers. Trinity's great-grandparents are the late William T. and Ella Murphy of Idabel.



Victoria Kelsie Lanae Jefferson

Victoria Kelsie Lanae Jefferson was born at 9:54 a.m. on September 26, 2005, weighing 7 pounds 2 ounces and measuring 19 inches. Proud parents are Victor Jefferson and Larmalla Ramirez. Proud grandparents are Vicky Bailey and Cassandra Willis, Gregory Johnson and Ignacio Ramirez and step-grandfather, Tyrone Haney, all of Idabel. Great-grandparents are Truman and Bertha Jefferson, Herod Willis and Henry and Betty Johnson, also of Idabel.



Ethan Lane Youngblood

Parents Jerry and Stephanie, brother Keelan, 6, and Kayla, 3, have a new addition to their family. Ethan Lane Youngblood was born September 6, 2005, at Talihina, weighing 9 pounds 9 ounces and measuring 20 inches long. Grandparents are Rex and Cheryl Blaylock of Smithville, Don and Margie Youngblood of Wickes, Arkansas. Great-grandparents are Virginia Grant and the late Abner Grant of Smithville, the late Roy and Thelma Blaylock of Smithville, the late Junior McBride of Poteau, the late Clara Massey of Chelsea, the late John and Elouise Youngblood of Hattan, Arkansas, and the late Willard and Ruby Jewell of Mena, Arkansas.



People You Know



Wishing you a happy 78th birthday

Geneva "Judy" Vails of Durant will celebrate her 78th birthday on November 30. She is pictured here with her two children, Larry Pace of Porterville, California, and Shelia Kirven of Durant. Larry and Shelia, along with granddaughters April, Cassidy and Ashley, daughter-in-law Carolyn and son-in-law Steve, would like to wish her a very happy birthday!



Happy 55th anniversary

On hand to help George and Vivian Tyler celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on September 27 were two of Vivian's brothers and their spouses, James and Dora and C.O. and Shirley. Also a sister and her husband, Wynette and Sid.

George met his little Choctaw bride while they were attending school in Bokchito. They fell in love and married in Durant on September 27, 1950. The Tylers moved to Fort Worth, Texas, and lived there for 31 years. They then moved to Gunter, Texas, for ten years before coming back to Durant which they now call "back home."



Celebrating Lucas' first birthday at the beach

Many of his aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents from Oklahoma traveled to South Carolina to vacation for a week at Litchfield Beach where Lucas Allen celebrated his first birthday September 27. Pictured are Great Aunt Delores Holloway of Stigler, Great-Aunt Launa Medlock of Stigler, Great-Aunt Sandra Leonard of Pittsburg, Kansas, Great Uncle Jim Steen of Stigler, Lucas Allen of Columbia, South Carolina, and Grandmother Aglae Lawson of Jay.

Kelis turned 14

Happy 14th birthday to Kelis Betsey on October 30. He is the son of Carri Cole of Atoka. Kelis is the grandson of Adam Betsey of Atoka and Annie Betsey of Durant.



Happy birthday wishes

Preston and Dawn Miller would like to wish their nephew, Seth Peasha, and granddaughters, Destiny James and Alexis Duns, very happy birthdays. Seth turned 21 on September 13. Destiny turned 5 on September 22 and Alexis turned one on September 30.



Choctaws celebrate birthdays in Gallup, New Mexico

Kay Glenn McIntyre, originally from Hugo, daughter of Henry and Wanetta Glenn and granddaughter of Judge W.T. Glenn and Ida B. Miller, celebrated her birthday July 9. Her granddaughters, Ambree McIntyre Ramirez, celebrated her 15th birthday August 26, and her sister, Anica McIntyre Ramirez, celebrated her 13th birthday on August 27. Grandma Kay and her teenage granddaughters are proud Choctaws!

Happy birthday Walter Berg

Walter Berg of Tulsa will be 51 years old on November 16. Walter works as a parking attendant for Central Parking System, Tulsa.

Celebrating 99th birthday

Mildred Nail Miller will celebrate her 99th birthday on November 29.

Mildred's grandfather, Joel Henry Nail, was one of the original pioneer Choctaws who settled this area. He built a bridge over Blue River for the overland (Butterfield) mail route which became Nail's Crossing.

Mildred was married to Stephen D. Miller who died in 1971. For over 30 years, Mildred was a dedicated teacher at Robert E. Lee Elementary School.

Mildred has one daughter, Marilyn Miller Roskelley of Salt Lake City, Utah; two grandchildren, Amy Roskelley Andrews of Salt Lake City and Mark Stephen Roskelley of Sausalito, California; and great-grandchildren, James, Carolina and Ava Andrews.

Happy birthday, Mildred!



Happy birthday

Mary Lois Clifford was born November 19, 1914, at Lula, Oklahoma, to Henderson and Bessie Goer. Mary graduated at Chillicothe Indian School in 1932. Henderson was a Choctaw original enrollee. Happy birthday!



Happy first birthday

Happy birthday to Tucker Jade Morris who turned one year old on September 2. Tucker is the son of Chris and Stephanie Morris of Lindsay. He is the grandson of Steve and Ginger Jones of Lindsay and Rick and Diana Morris of Foster. His Aunt Crystal, Aunt Donna, Aunt Angela and Aunt Vanessa and cousins, Alexia, Ryan and Skylar, all wish you a happy birthday!



Happy birthday Brendon

Happy birthday from Papa and Nana, Bobby and Barbara Clyma, to Brendon Bazille, who turned seven on September 16. His parents are Blake and LaDawn Bazille of Mounds and his sister is Brooklyn. Ryan Miller, Bavette Leeper and E.J. Leeper also want to wish you a happy birthday.



Happy birthday Robbi Bohanan

Amber would like to wish her brother, Robert "Robbi" Bohanan, a very happy birthday. Sorry I couldn't be down to celebrate with you. Thanks for everything.

Look who's seven!

Happy birthday to Cheyanne Rickey who turned seven on August 22 from her great grandma, Ann Tallant; grandma, Joyce and Dave Tallant Anderson; dad and mom, Tim and Tressa Rickey; sister, Ocean Rickey; aunt, Trinity Hall, and cousin, Chris Hall; uncle, Kenny, and aunt, Heather Rickey. You're getting cuter by the day!



Happy 14th birthday

Ocean Rickey celebrated her 14th birthday on October 11. Happy birthday from great-grandma, Ann Tallant; grandma, Joyce and Dave Tallant Anderson; dad and mom, Tim and Tressa Rickey; sister, Cheyanne Rickey; aunt Trinity Hall; cousin, Chris Hall; uncle and aunt, Kenny and Heather Rickey. You're growing up so fast!



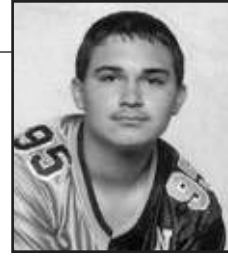
Happy 18th birthday

Keila Cormier of McAlester is wishing for a very special day for a special girl - her niece, Samantha Roscoe Schoggins, who celebrated her 18th birthday. Happy birthday!



Rique turns 15

Happy birthday to Rique Martinez of Ryan, Oklahoma. Rique turned 15 on September 17. He is the son of Misty McKee and Enrique Martinez. He is the grandson of the late David McKee and Nelda McKee of Soper.



Special wishes

Hunter and Matthew would like to wish their cousins, Elijah and Kirkland, a happy belated birthday and their aunts and uncles a happy anniversary. Elijah turned four on August 22. His parents are Robert and Michelle Gipson of Wright City who celebrated their fifth anniversary on October 21. Kirkland turned nine on September 21. His parents are Melinda and James Williams of DeQueen, Arkansas. They celebrated their sixth anniversary on September 7. We would also like to say happy belated birthday to Melinda Williams on August 29 and Melissa Gipson on August 10.



Happy birthday!

A very special birthday wish to Aunt Dude Broosher for October 27 from the McCants family, Billy, Frances, Nancy and Lil Eric.



Happy birthday wishes

We would like to wish our daughter, Brittany Smith; our granddaughter, Alyssa James, and our nephew, John Peasha, very happy birthdays. Brittany turned 14 on October 18; Alyssa turned seven on October 25, and John turned 23 on October 4.

Happy 95th birthday

Happy birthday to Sophina Hicks of Frederick, Oklahoma, who will be celebrating her 95th birthday on November 25. She was born in Eagletown to Timsey Wall and Quitman Ashilintubby. Her son, Houston Hicks, and daughters, Rena Cornelius, Mary Teague and Dora Williams, all wish her many more!



Happy 13th birthday!

Mackenzie Jane Dills turned 13 on October 23. She celebrated with family and friends. Mackenzie is the daughter of Janine Dills and Jerry Don Wann; granddaughter of Gary and Jane Dills and Jerry and Ann Wann, all of Durant. Her great-grandparents are Joe Kenneth and Mattie Maudine McClure and Bill and Corine Dills of Durant and Inez Wann of Kinta. Jeremie, Kelsie and Trever would also like to wish their sister, Mackenzie, a special birthday. Katie Bug and niece, Lucy, also say hello.



Look who's seven!

Keelan Trace Youngblood will be seven years old on November 4. His parents are Jerry and Stephanie Youngblood; sister Kayla and brother Ethan. His Grandma and Paw-Paw would like to wish him a very happy birthday!



Happy 10th birthday

Jeffrey Davis of Texarkana, Texas, celebrated his tenth birthday on September 14. His parents are Keith and Sharon Davis, Texarkana. Grandparents are Mr. and Mr. Earl Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scott, Idabel. Jeffrey's great-grandmother is Evelyn Mills of Atlanta, Texas.



Cody turns four

Happy birthday to our "Little Man." Cody will be a happy four years old on November 2, followed by his dog, Bozo. Happy birthday with love from Grandma, Mom, Dad and Kendell.



Happy birthday

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Christopher and Cherokee Lann. Christopher turned 12 years old on August 31. He is an honor roll student at Cavanaugh Elementary and plays football and soccer. Cherokee turned 10 years old on October 22. He plays soccer, is a red/black belt in Taekwondo. Cherokee is a fourth-grade honor student at Cavanaugh Elementary. Proud parents are Chris and Katrina Lann of Fort Smith. Grandparents are Katherine and the late Travalo Garlin of Fort Smith, Jim and Barbara Lann of Cushing, and Godfrey Duckworth of Fort Worth, Texas. They are the great-grandsons of Joanna and the late John Pope of Hartshorne, Stella Short of McAlester and Paul Duckworth of Texas.



Kenny turns 25

Happy birthday Kenny Rickey from your mom and stepdad, Joyce and Dave Tallant Anderson; grandma, Ann Tallant; sister, Trinity Hall; nephew, Chris Hall; brother and sister-in-law, Tim and Tressa Rickey; two nieces, Ocean Rickey and Cheyanne Rickey, and wife, Heather Rickey.



Boswell twins turn 30!

The Moore family would like to wish a happy belated birthday to Misty Dill and Kristy Taylor, who turned 30 on September 19. Misty and Kristy are the late Jerry Moore and Beverly Moore of Boswell. Their grandparents are the late Geneva Halcomb of Boswell and the late Slim Huntsman and Dollie Huntsman of Sherman, Texas. Misty and Kristy are descendant of Benjamin Hampton, an original enrollee and World War I Code Talker. Happy birthday, girls!



Happy 50th anniversary!

Congratulations go to Clyde and Maxine Stirewalt who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 29, 2005. They celebrated at their church, New Fairview Baptist, in Sarcoxie, Missouri, with family and friends. They have five children and 11 grandchildren.



Happy anniversary

Happy anniversary to Joyce and Dave Tallant Anderson from mom, Ann Tallant; daughter, Trinity Hall; grandson, Chris Hall; son and daughter-in-law, Tim and Tressa Rickey; granddaughters, Ocean and Cheyanne Rickey; son and daughter-in-law, Kenny and Heather Rickey.



Team Thunder rumbles into Bennington

Probably every student has wondered how what is being learned in school relates to the "real world." On October 7, the entire student body in Bennington got an answer to that question as Team Thunder rumbled onto campus with a message delivered in a traditional class environment and another that rattled the Choctaw Nation sky.



Team Thunder, based out of Grove, Oklahoma, are owners and operators of a working NHRA (National Hot Rod Association) top fuel dragster that has appeared in numerous educational venues with a positive motivational theme. Using this approach, Sam Parton and his co-worker spent the day at Bennington School sharing their love of the sport with their vast educational experience.

Using the sleek dragster as the centerpiece, Parton demonstrated the everyday application of lessons in life beyond school and used both a hands-on and classroom approach.

Parton stressed, "You aren't living in the real world now. Your world is basically dictated by parents and school, but; in the real world there are no teachers and school bells to dictate your life. That is why it is important you learn these lessons now."

Parton went on to stress, "The quality of education that you gain now is the majority of knowledge that you will carry with you for

the remainder of your lifetime."

During the time in the classroom, Parton encouraged students to consider the many facets of numerous occupations related to drag racing. Afterward, the groups visited the team's work trailer and the dragster itself.

The story of Team Thunder is as interesting as the message they preach. Sam Parton crossed paths with Harvey Dean, his teacher in middle school. A group of boys were talking about wanting to go to the Tulsa International Speedway to watch the drag race but had no way to go. Dean overheard them and volunteered to take them. That was the day Parton became forever hooked.

Dean later left the classroom to become a highly successful entrepreneur.

He founded Pitsco Inc., a multimillion-dollar educational supply company. The teacher and his former student joined forces as Pitsco acts as Team Thunder's chief sponsor.

To the delight of the entire student body, at the end of the day, the team revved the engine of the dragster, filling the surrounding area with its 160-decibel roar and the pungent aroma of spent nitro fuel.

Booking information and scheduling for Team Thunder are available at www.team-thunder.org or by phone at 918-786-6247.



Congratulations

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Darcy Elizabeth O'Keefe of San Diego, California, on graduating with a Masters of Public Administration in May from San Diego State University. Pictured above are Ron O'Keefe, Darcy, and Diane O'Keefe.

Copeland receives master's

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Glenda S. Copeland on receiving her master's in social work from Texas A&M University, Commerce.



Junior Miss addresses fifth-graders

Mrs. Coffman's fifth grade social studies class at Bennett Elementary was thrilled to have Jenny Townsend as a guest speaker on September 16. Jenny, the daughter of Jimmy and Marlene Townsend, is the 2005-06 Choctaw Nation Junior Princess. Ms. Townsend gave an informative talk about her heritage as well as responsibilities of her role as princess. The students had many questions that were answered about Native American traditions, past and present.



Continuing to serve

Neal grandsons are serving with pride. Sgt. Raymond A. Priess, in the Army for four years, was recently promoted to his present rank. He is serving with the 101st Airborne Division. He was transferred to Iraq in September. L. Cpl. Kristopher Neal is serving with L. Co., 3 Battalion, 5th Marines. Neal was transferred to Okinawa, Japan, in August. Raymond and Kristopher are the grandsons of Dess Neal of Millington, Tennessee.

Honor graduate

Ellen Payne graduated magna cum laude from Haltom High School, Class of 2005. She was a member of PALS (peer-assisted leadership), Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Honor Society, and was president of High on Life. Ellen is currently majoring in Mass Communications at Campbell University in Buies Creek, North Carolina. She received academic, as well as athletic scholarships to play soccer for the division I, Atlantic Sun Conference, fighting Camels of Campbell. Way to go, Ellen!



Ellen is the daughter of Ronnie and Jessica of Fort Worth, Texas; granddaughter of Larry and Hughline Reynolds of Fort Worth, and great-granddaughter of Hugh and Cleo Johnson of Healdton. Her family would like to wish her a happy 19th birthday from miles away. We are very proud of you. Go for your dreams!

Cheerleader, track star, pilot

High school senior Andrea Herrod, 17, completed her ground school training in August. She is an honor roll student, cheerleader, track star and in the spring will be a licensed pilot. Andrea is the daughter of Roger and Nancy Herrod. Roger is a graduate of Hartshorne High School and Jones Academy, Class of 1967.



Andrea and her twin brother, Andrew, attend Rancho High School in Las Vegas, Nevada. Rancho High School is a magnet school that emphasizes high school majors in aviation and medical careers. Andrea is in the aviation program.

She has been a cheerleader since the ninth grade and qualified for the regionals in track the last three years in the 800 and 1600 meters. Andrea and her cheerleaders have qualified to go to Texas over the Christmas holidays to compete nationally. In addition to her academics and after-school activities, Andrea emphasizes her Choctaw heritage as president of her school's Native American Club. On weekends, when not flying, she works as a lifeguard for the Luxor Hotel and Casino. She plans to attend Oklahoma State University and major in aviation or Native American studies.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Danielle "Dani" Willmott on graduating from the University of Washington in June. She is thankful to the Choctaw Nation for their financial assistance during her junior and senior years. Since graduation, Dani has moved to her ancestral home in Damon Valley, Oklahoma, (now Wilburton). Upon arrival in Oklahoma, she pursued a job as teaching assistant at Jones Academy in Hartshorne, where she now assists with the first and second grade students.



Dani spearheaded a movement while attending university to get a national holiday for the recognition of indigenous people. She is proud of her Choctaw heritage and has volunteered to help with the Jones Academy Indian Club and Ag program.

Dani is the great-granddaughter of original enrollee Beard Harvey. Good luck, Dani, I know you will do well in everything you attempt! - Mom.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
D E C E M B E R					1	2 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	3
	4	5 Antlers by appt only	6 Stigler by appt only McAlester 10 am-2 pm	7 Atoka 10 am-2 pm Coalgate 10:30-1:30	8	9 Poteau 11:30 am-1 pm	10
	11	12	13 Durant 10 am-12 noon	14 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	15	16 Broken Bow 10 am-2 pm	17
	18	19 Wright City by appt only	20 Crowder and McAlester by appt only	21 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm	22	23 Holiday	24
	25 <small>Christmas Day</small>	26 Holiday	27 Durant by appt only	28 Bethel by appt only	29	30	31
	2005						

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.

GEORGE JONES

See George Jones perform some of his many hits such as: She Thinks I Still Care, White Lightnin', He Stopped Lovin Her Today, Choices, and Much More.

Doors Open at 5 p.m.
Opening Act Starts at 7 p.m.

Visit our website
www.choctawcoliseum.com
Call 580-931-0160
or 580-931-8645
for more information.

Ticket Prices

\$25 - General Admission
\$30 - VIP/Reserved Seating
\$35 - Floor Seating



Opening Act - Michael Scott

Live at Choctaw Coliseum

December 1, 2005

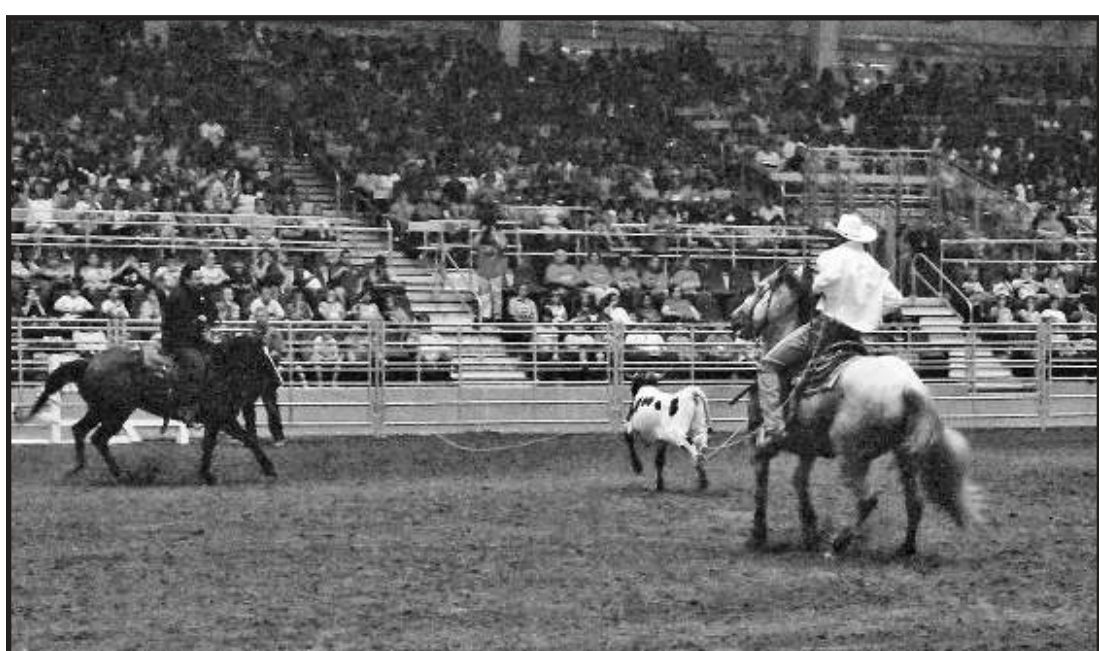
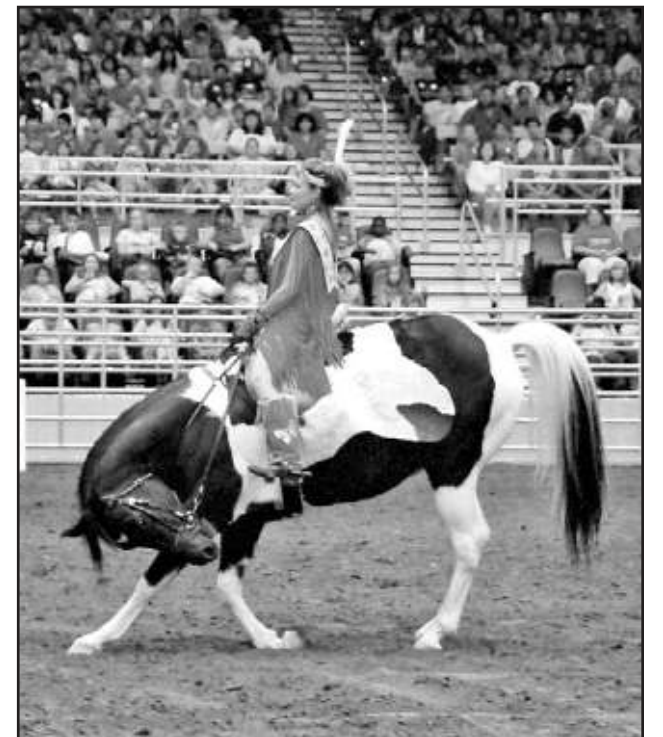
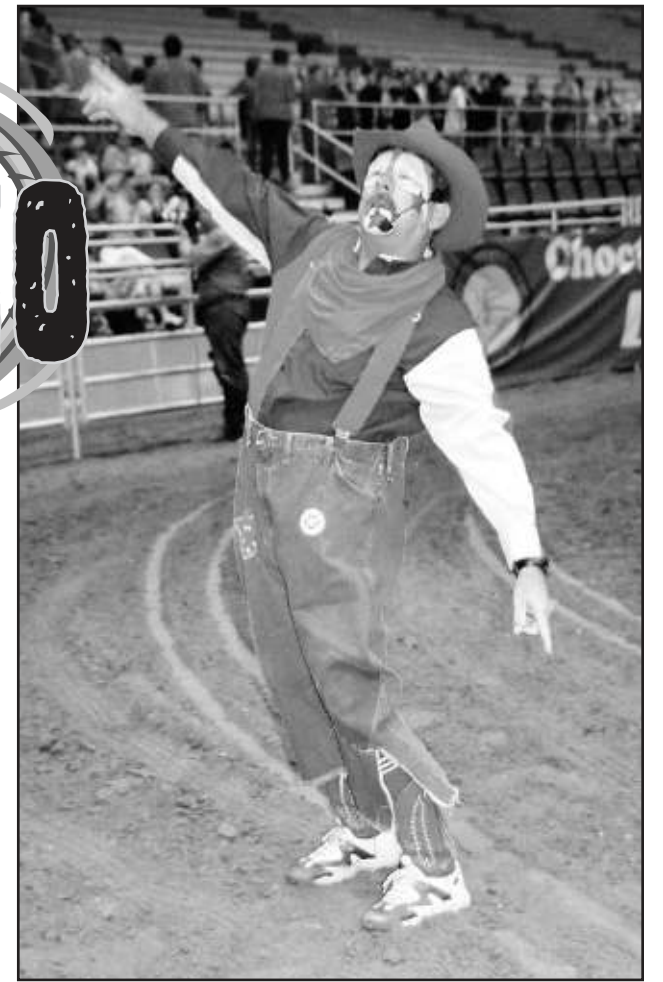
Doors at 5 p.m. Show at 7 p.m.

Sponsored by





DARE RODEO 2005



Tribal Membership Office is updating enrollee records

In order for the tribe to keep up-to-date records on our original enrollees, we are requesting that you look over the list of original enrollees from the Choctaw Final Dawes Commission Rolls, 1899-1906, below for your direct ancestor.

If the ancestor is living, please have a family member contact the Tribal Membership Office with a correct address for the enrollee. Should they be deceased, please send a copy of the death certificate to the Tribal Membership Office so that the department can complete its records.

Please keep in mind, our records are only as good as the information sent to this office, by you.

Some of the names of ladies could be a married name, so if at all possible, be sure to check all the information you have.

A copy of a death certificate will be fine as long as it can be read.

Your assistance in this matter will certainly be appreciated. Please send all copies of death certificates to the Attention of Brenda Hampton, Tribal Membership Office, P.O. Drawer 1210, Durant, OK 74702 and note that this is an original enrollee's death certificate.

Thank you for all your assistance. May the coming holidays be safe, healthy and happy for all.

Alexander, Sophia
Arnot, Dorothy V.
Beaver, Myrtle
Bedford, Anne Lou Madeline
Berry, Allie Lorennie
Billy, Bertha Lene
Billy, Salena
Blake, Lula
Brown, Della Victory
Brown, Gene Logan
Buckholts, Elbert Jennings
Buckholts, Ida
Burgevin, Elizabeth
Bush, Maybelle
Carroll, Mary E.
Casey, Lula Myrtle
Chandler, Iva Ethel
Channell, Gladys Mae
Chivers, Jennie A.
Chivers, Margaret
Clark, Mamie
Clark, Nealie Belle
Cochnauer, Bettie Ann
Colbert, Jimmy
Connors, Ruth Helen
Cooper, Mandy
Crawford, Ruby Gertrude
Crowder, Nettie Myrl
Davis, Ella
Davis, John Edward
Davis, Mabel I.
Davis, Ruby Watson
Dendy, Yula Byrl
Dillard, Irene Vassa
Duer, Ada Arlee
Edwards, Mary L.
Everidge, Robbie
Folsom, Allie M.
Fowler, Sarah
Freeman, Pearl M.
Freeney, Lillian C.
Fronterhouse, Mary Lucille
Garland, Willie

Gregory, Oather Bill
Hampton, Annie Frances
Harkins, Organ Carnelias
Harrison, Nellie
Henson, Roxy
Hill, Esther Julia
Holman, Thelman
Hunter, Ethel
Impson, Viola
Jackson, Grace
Jefferson, Missie
Johnico, Aline
Jones, Frances
King, Opal Louise
LeFlore, Houston
LeFlore, Osborne
Lewis, Brewster
Lewis, Daisy Ivanella
Lewis, Ida
Low, Hugh S.
Marris, Wood
Marshall, William Henry Jr.
McClain, Edward George
McCoy, Claud E.
McFarland, Samuel
McGilberry, Pearl E.
McIntosh, Lona
Meely, Dorothy
Middleton, May
Morris, Mattie Lorma Vermell
Mullens, Alvin Floyd
Nail, Lillie
Nail, Mildred Lucille
Naylor, Lee
Needham, Herbert Enoch
Nelson, Emma
Nelson, Patsy
Nichols, Louis Herman
Nichols, Sylvia Jewel
Pate, Vernon
Patterson, Mary A.
Payne, Irene M.
Pusley, Marjorie Elizabeth
Pusley, Minnie Mae
Pusley, Willie Lee
Quinton, Annie
Rabon, Otowa Thomas
Ratterree, John Henry
Ray, Caroline Lee
Roberts, Irene Exodus
Robinson, Jane Lucille
Roebuck, Georgia Mae
Rogers, Florence Mary
Rushing, Mary Elizabeth
Russell, Ether
Russell, John Jr.
Sanguin, Marie
Sanner, George Edward
Sexton, Lelia Lois
Simmons, Lela Blanche
Simpy, Mattie
Smith, Joe Wesley
Smith, Lottie Louisa
Smith, Marjorie
Smith, Orlean
Spring, Cicero
Starks, Lillie
Statham, Artie
Stephens, Nellie
Sumner, Robert O. Jr.
Taylor, Johnnie Rowena
Terry, Louis Victor
Thomas, Lotta
Thompson, Grace
Tigert, Bertha M.
Trammell, Ruby Lee
Wade, Aleta Elizabeth
Wallace, Newt
Ward, Cleo Irene
Watson, Lena
Whitner, James Henry
Wood, Fannie
Wright, Rosie Pearl
Wyatt, Maud Lee
Zion, Cleo



Ruben Kauley, a sixth-grader from Jones Academy, captured the title of Reserve Grand Champion Swine at the Arkansas-Oklahoma State Fair held in Fort Smith, Arkansas, September 23-25. Ruben placed first in Class V Crosses with his pig, "Famous Unknown." He later was named Breed Champion Cross. Finally, he was selected as Reserve Grand Champion from the 620 pigs entered from Oklahoma and Arkansas.



Courtney Pittman, a freshman from Jones Academy, showed the first place Class VIII Cross. Courtney's pig, "Clown," was selected as the eighth pig overall in premium sale.



Johnny Cervantes, a sophomore from Jones Academy, captured the title of Breed Champion Duroc. Johnny's pig, "Mindy," was selected as the 12th pig overall in premium sale.



Marty Watkins, a sixth-grader from Jones Academy, placed first in Class IV Hampshires. Marty's barrow, "Jumper," was the 20th pig selected in premium sale.

Jones Academy 4-H'ers capture top honors at Arkansas-Oklahoma State Fair

"There were over 600 pigs entered in the Arkansas-Oklahoma State Fair," said Jones Academy Administrator Brad Spears. "Only 20 pigs were selected for premium honors. Jones Academy students were well represented at this event, capturing seven premium sale slots. We are very proud of these students' achievements."

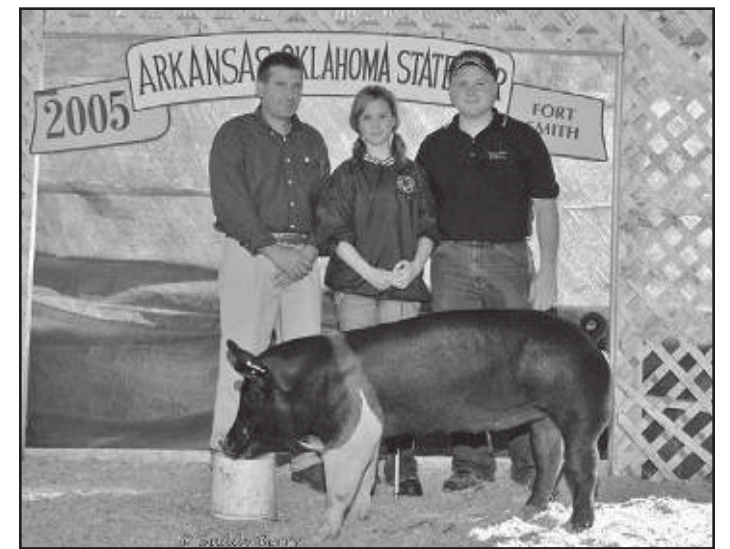
The Jones Academy 4-H'ers would like to give a special thank you to Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, and the Tribal Council for their continued support of the 4-H and FFA programs statewide.



Justin Daniel, a sixth-grader from Jones Academy, showed the first place class VI Cross. Justin's pig, "Big Boy," was selected as Reserve Champion Cross and was the third pig overall in premium sale.



Angel Andrade, a sophomore from Jones Academy, showed the first place and Breed Champion Chester White. Angel's pig, "Home Grown," was selected as the ninth pig overall in premium sale.



Micah Tiger, an eighth-grader from Jones Academy, qualified for the premium sale with his Hamp gilt, "Leslie," Leslie placed second in Class VII. She was the 18th pig selected overall in premium sale. Courtney Pittman is pictured with Micah's Hamp.

Did you know?

- Tuskahoma was the last capitol of the Choctaw Nation.
- Until October 28, 1891, the official spelling of Tuskahoma was Tushka Homma and until December 6, 1910, the official spelling was Tushkahomma.
- Tuskahoma is a Choctaw word meaning "red warrior." Tushka means warrior and Homma means red.
- Talihina is the Choctaw word for "railroad."
- Armstrong Academy was founded in 1844. The buildings were destroyed in 1919 by fire. Armstrong Academy was the Choctaw capitol for 20 years.
- Atoka was named for Captain Atoka, for whom the county was later named. Captain Atoka was a Choctaw ballplayer. Atoka is a Choctaw word, "hitoka" or "hetoka," meaning "ball ground."
- Bokchito is a Choctaw word meaning "big creek." "Bok" meaning creek or river and "chito" meaning big.
- Bokhoma is a Choctaw word meaning "red river." "Bok" meaning creek or river and "homa" meaning red.
- Bokhoma is present-day Idabel in McCurtain County. The name was changed to Idabel February 3, 1904.

Dominick announces conservation planning sign-up pilot

Darrel Dominick, state conservationist, announced that Oklahoma is one of nine states participating in the first conservation planning sign-up. The conservation planning sign-up is a pilot initiative that emphasizes the importance of conservation planning to help farmers and ranchers.

Conservation planning combines the best elements of cooperative conservation to provide new opportunities to improve environmental performance and maintain productivity. This pilot initiative will demonstrate how a conservation plan is a critical tool to help farmers and ranchers make wise management and land use decisions.

Oklahoma joins California, Colorado, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas and Wyoming as the pilot states.

The twelve counties in Okla-

homa that will participate in this pilot initiative include Beaver, Custer, Washita, Kiowa, Caddo, Grady, Osage, Washington, Tulsa, Choctaw, Pushmataha, and McCurtain.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is establishing a conservation planning sign-up to enable landowners to plan more realistically to implement practices in a more comprehensive approach. It also allows local NRCS offices to manage their workloads more efficiently and effectively to help landowners reduce erosion, improve soil health, improve water quantity and quality, restore and conserve wetlands, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, improve pasture and range health, improve woodlands, and address other natural resource issues.

Using a landowner self-assessment process, NRCS offices

in the twelve pilot counties will accept conservation planning applications during the specified sign-up period. Oklahoma's sign-up will begin October 17, 2005 and end November 18, 2005. Individuals who want technical assistance to develop a conservation plan may apply at their local NRCS or conservation district office. NRCS is the federal government's principal agency for providing conservation planning and technical assistance on private land.

Additional information on conservation planning and technical assistance can be found at <http://www.ok.nrcs.usda.gov>.

All programs and services of the Natural Resources Conservation Service are provided in a nondiscriminatory manner.

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of

race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

First Bigfoot 5k held in Honobia



Oldest participant in the Bigfoot 5k – Betty Blackburn.

On October 1, the Choctaw Nation REACH 2010 program held the First Annual Bigfoot 5k run/walk in Honobia, Oklahoma, in conjunction with the Honobia Bigfoot Festival. There was also a one-mile fun run/walk. The run/walk attracted 244 participants, some from as far away as Oklahoma City. Plaques were given for first, second, and third place in both male and female categories.

First place female was Karen Sumpter from Talihina, second place was Carrie Tutor from Oklahoma City, and third place was Geri Gill from Muskogee.

First place in the male category was Jordan Eagleroad from Talihina, second place was Lance Winlock from Talihina and third place was David Gill from Muskogee.

Plaques were also given to the oldest female 5k participant, which was Betty Blackburn from Clayton, and the oldest male participant, which was Bob Emmetts from Talihina. The REACH 2010 staff, Teresa Frederick and Doris Ward

would like to thank the Choctaw Nation Happy Heart program for co-sponsoring the event. They would also like to thank Mitchell James, Kent Phillips, Luke Lawrence and staff, LeAnn Bradberry and the Talihina FCCLA for volunteering their time to help make this event possible. Most of all they want to thank the participants.



Participants take off.



In the women's division, first place: Karen Sumpter, Talihina; second place: Carrie Tutor, Oklahoma City; and third place, Geri Gill, Muskogee.



In the men's division, first place: Jordan Eagleroad, Talihina; second place, Lance Winlock, Talihina; and third place, David Gill, Muskogee.

CHOCTAW NATION FORESTRY FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM

Annual Fire Training for the upcoming 2006 Fire Season

Requirements: 18 years old with a CDIB
Need to be able to pass the Physical Fitness Test (Pack Test).

Contact Choctaw Nation Forestry for Doctor's Physical Fitness Form.

PACK TEST DATES:
8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
November 5 and December 9
at the Talihina High School Track.
November 10 at the U.S. Forest Service.

If anyone is interested or have any questions, please contact us at 918-567-2321 or 302 Church St., BIA Building, Talihina, Oklahoma

Oklahoma Native American Prevention Conference has record attendance

The 2005 Oklahoma Native American Prevention Conference sponsored by the American Indian Prevention Resource Center, the American Indian Institute, The University of Oklahoma OUTREACH and Health Promotion Programs is proud to announce record high attendance for the September 20-21, 2005 gathering. The conference was sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and provided a forum regarding the prevention and intervention of alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse.

Oklahoma American Indian substance abuse prevention specialists representing tribes from across the state shared substance prevention resources and best practices, and had the opportunity to review program success stories. Conference participants also increased their skills and knowledge bases while adding professional networking elements to enhance their service to clients and tribal communities.

Keynote speakers were: Dr. Diana J. Willis, Kiowa, who spoke on "Mobilizing Communities"; Dr. John Duncan, Chief Agent – Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics presented "Meth Psychosis"; and Don Coyhis, Mohican, Founder and President

of White Bison, Inc. delivered his address on "Wellbriety."

Workshop examples included: "Meth Labs and Homes, One in the Same" Del Beaver and David McCarter, Environmental Specialists with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; "I Died... Who's Next?" Todd Baughman and Martina Howard with "Project Child" of the Choctaw Nation; "Native Youth: Finding a Balance in Life" Gordon Whitewolf, Caddo/Comanche, and a Therapist with the Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, OK. The conference also offered wellness activities, stickball games and a traditional sweat lodge.

Conference program exhibitors featured numerous prevention initiatives: The Chickasaw Nation Health System provided representatives from Behavioral Health and Healthy Lifestyles; OU Health Science Center College of Public Health; Cherokee Nation Prevention Programs; Southwest Prevention Center; OU Native American Studies; Native Health Initiative; and Oklahoma Turning Point Initiative.

For additional information on the 2006 conference, please contact the American Indian Institute at 405. 325. 4127 or by email at aii@ou.edu Please visit the program website at www.ou.edu/aii



Choctaw Nation Core Capacity Program staff members Jon Hotubbee, Janeen Gray and Joe Bray.



Presenting the Choctaw Nation "Project Child" workshop, "I Died," are Martina Hawkins and Todd Baughman.

Rabon continued from Page 1

States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court.

A proclamation by Governor Brad Henry declared June 30, 2004, "Bob Rabon Day" in appreciation for his many important contributions to his community, state, and profession.

Southeastern Oklahoma State University has played a major role in the lives of the Rabon family. Bob's parents, his brother, sister-in-law, and his wife are all graduates of SOSU.

Bob Ledbetter was also named a Distinguished Alumnus.

"Bob Rabon and Bob Ledbetter have both enjoyed tremendous success in their chosen fields," said SOSU President Dr. Glen D. Johnson. "In doing so, they have enhanced the reputation of Southeastern Oklahoma State University. The University and Alumni Association take a great deal of pride in honoring both of these deserving individuals."

Both honorees are Oklahoma natives who have had distinguished careers.

Bob Ledbetter is an Ardmore native who graduated from SOSU in 1962 with a B.S. in Education with a major in physical education and a minor in elementary education.

He spent one semester at Oklahoma State University before transferring to Southeastern, a move he calls "surely the best move I ever made." After playing baseball, football, and running track at Southeastern, Ledbetter entered the coaching profession. After 10 years as assistant football coach, he accepted his first head coaching assignment at Frisco, Texas. The move to Southlake Carroll High School followed three years later and the legend had its start.

Ledbetter posted a career 208–39–3 (84.2%) overall record in 20 years. During this time, his Dragons logged a cumulative record of 185–30–3 (84%) while fashioning seven consecutive undefeated regular seasons, including three years of 16–0, winning three state titles and producing a state and national record of 72–straight regular-season victories.

Ledbetter was named District Coach of the Year several times, Coach of the Year in Texas on three occasions, and the Southlake Chamber of Commerce honored him as Man of the Year three times. He retired as Southlake Carroll athletic director in 2002 (after hiring current coach Todd Dodge) and now operates an athletic coaching search firm.

Bob and his wife Sue met at Southeastern, married in 1961, and will celebrate their 44th anniversary in December. They have two children, Lori and Lane. Lori graduated from the University of North Texas and is now teaching second grade in the Alvord, Texas school district, where her husband serves as head football coach and athletic director. Lane quarterbacked his father's 1988 team to a 16–0 record and a state championship. He attended Baylor University, earned a doctorate in Education and is currently a principal in the Birdville, Texas, school district.



– An important message –

As you drive into Clayton, you will probably notice some new signs, such as the one pictured above. These signs are part of the community awareness campaign being implemented by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, in partnership with the Town of Clayton Police Department; who are working together with a grant from the US Department of Justice, COPS Office.

This sign is only a small part of the campaign being implemented in this area, and throughout the 10 ½ counties of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Smallwood-McKee family holds reunion

The McKees met in the Boswell cafeteria with 64 attending. There was a lot of food and catching up on what has been happening the last few months, and of course we had to get some new pictures to go in our albums. After eating, there was an auction with Virgil Blan as auctioneer, keeping everyone laughing.

Attending were: James, Marilyn, and Marila Pebsworth of Boswell; George and Kay McKee of Soper, Ron and Pam McKee, Virginia Hammons, and Virgil and Ruth Blan of Antlers; Lanning and Charlene Ishmael of Powderly, Texas; Mary Brunet, Nelda and P.J. McKee of Soper; Mike Riley of Durant; Lue McKee of Graham, Texas; Kenneth and Juanita Smith, Larry and Judy Chaney of Soper; Wilburn and June McKee of Farris, Judy Godfrey, and Jane Marshall of Ardmore; Carolyn Smith of Center Point; Charley and Elizabeth McKee of Soper; Jay and Judy McKee of Mesquite, Texas; Michael, Tish and Amber Smith of Atoka; Chris, Dawn, Mia, Tanner, Tyna, and Harley McKee of Soper; Charles and Kim Carroll of Sulphur Springs, Texas; Josh, Mark, Shawn and Shepard Pebsworth of Boswell; Jesse Pebsworth of Boswell; Mark Harrison of Boswell; Patrick and Becky McKee, David Wilson III of Soper; Bill and Faye Pillars of Soper; Cathy Moffatt and Natilee Young of Soper; Martin McKee of Dallas, Texas; and Jarred Harvey of Boswell.



Annual art show a great success

By Beverly Nelson

The Choctaw Capitol Museum staff and volunteers want to thank everyone who visited the museum during the Labor Day Festival. A lot of thought and planning and hard work go into the design of an exhibit and we hope you enjoyed everything you saw. The "Long Walk - Many Tears" exhibit was new this year as was the exhibit on "Living Treasures," honoring the male and female senior citizen of the year. A CD of songs sung by the Joyful Choctaw Singers for the "Long Walk - Many Tears" exhibit is for sale in the gift shop.

The Second Annual Indian Arts Show was a great success. Thank you for visiting and voting in the "People's Choice" Award. Lois Faye Ingram of Quinlan, Texas, was the happy recipient of the \$200 cash award. The tribe purchased several pieces from the show for its permanent collection. These will be on display permanently in the gallery along with last year's purchases. Everyone should enjoy the work of the featured Choctaw artists.

The museum will be accepting donations on a gift basket through Veteran's Day and all donations will be given to Choctaw Veterans Association. You do not have to be present to win this gift basket.

The Capitol Museum also received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to target 40 schools within 50 miles of the museum. This grant will allow us to work with teachers and learn more about museums and Choctaw heritage and history.

2005 Art Show Awards

BEST OF SHOW
Choctaw Chief's Basket, Mary Jo Cook, Arlington, Tx., pictured

HERITAGE AWARD
Pottery Category, Choctaw Bowl, Edmon Perkins Jr., Atwood, Ok.

PAINTINGS
1st Place: We Sow & Reap the Corn by the Moon, Jane Semple Umsted, Durant, Ok.
2nd Place: Mississippi Dawn, Jerry Pate, Tulsa, Ok.

3rd Place: An American Portrait, Karen Clarkson, Carrollton, Tx.
Honorable Mention: LaCross, Linda Lou Coursey, Detroit, Tx.

GRAPHICS

1st Place: Skilled, Paul King, Tulsa, Ok.
2nd Place: Dances Remembered, Melanie Yost, Omega, Ok.
3rd Place: Moonlight Vigil, Karen Clarkson, Carrollton, Tx.
Honorable Mention: Making Pvlvska for the First Time, Susie Burlison, Wagoner, Ok.
Honorable Mention: We Gather the Corn as One, Jane Semple Umsted, Durant, Ok.

SCULPTURE

1st Place: The Day Mother Earth Cried, Colline Neeley Brummett, Wewoka, Ok.
2nd Place: The Terrapin Race, Lyman Choate, Broken Bow, Ok.
3rd Place: Mallard Drake, Cecil Henderson, Pauls Valley, Ok.
Honorable Mention: Choctaw Spinner, Cynthia Leflore Cortez, Weatherford, Tx.

POTTERY

1st Place: Choctaw Bowl, Edmon Perkins Jr., Atwood, Ok.
2nd Place: The Corn Ceremony Begins, Jane Semple Umsted, Durant, Ok.
3rd Place: Whimsical Cup, Edmon Perkins Jr., Atwood, Ok.

BASKETRY

1st Place: Indian Feather Basket, Susan Charlesworth, Brownsburg, In.
2nd Place: American Indian Basket, Susan Charlesworth, Brownsburg, In.
3rd Place: Mary Jo Cook, Arlington, Tx.

CULTURAL

1st Place: Canteen Necklace with Birdman Design, Marsha Hedrick, Tonopah, Az.
2nd Place: Men's Stickball Bolo Tie, Jerry Loman, Smithville, Ok.
3rd Place: Uskula Hatak Sipokni (Old Man Pipe), John Johnson White, Wilburton, Ok.
Honorable Mention: Scorpion Choker, Lee Roy Lawrence, Hugo, Ok.



Oklahoma Arts Council provides funds for tribe's village project



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The demonstrations pictured above and below, held during this year's Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival, were made possible in part through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts,

Oklahoma Arts Council.

The arts council funds over 1,200 events annually with an estimated total attendance of over 3.5 million. Projects funded by the Oklahoma Arts Council generally account for over \$20 million in grants and matching funds distributed throughout Oklahoma's economy throughout the state's rural and urban communities.


Two days of demonstrations were scheduled during the four-day Labor Day weekend and included Choctaw cooking, making stickball rackets, and how to make a Choctaw dress, pictured above, as well as silversmithing (below), flint-making, primitive weapons basket-weaving, beadwork, blow guns, Choctaw language, social dancing, storytelling, children's games and arts and crafts.





POW-WOW

November 26, 2005



Don't Miss The First Annual
Choctaw Casino Resort Pow-Wow
November 26, 2005

FREE ADMISSION!

Doors and Vendors Open at 9:00 a.m.
Pow-Wow from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Over 40 vendors of beautiful Native American art, Native American crafts, sterling silver jewelry, turquoise jewelry, cedar boxes, woodwork, stained glass, handmade leather goods, pottery, and beadwork.

Head Staff

Arena Director - Mickey Weryackwe, Comanche

Master of Ceremonies - Tim Tall Chief/Osage

Head Man Dancer - Michael Roberts, Choctaw/Chickasaw

Head Lady Dancer - Tracy Pewo, Kiowa/Pawnee

Host Gourd Dancers - Comanche Little Ponies

Southern Drum - Otter Trail / Al Santos

Northern Drum - Redland Eddy Arkeketa

Color Guard - Choctaw Nation

Schedule

Gourd Dance 10:00 a.m.


Grand Entry..... 1:00 p.m.

Break 5:00 p.m.

Gourd Dance 6:00 p.m.

Grand Entry..... 7:00 p.m.

Pow-Wow Coordinator
Willard Polk
580-889-1123



OBITUARIES

Naomi Box

Naomi Box, 85, of Madill passed away on September 16, 2005, at the Brookside Manor Nursing Center in Madill. Naomi was born August 18, 1920, in Pontotoc, Oklahoma, to George and Margaret Moss Sampson. She grew up in Marshall and Carter counties. Then in 1946, Naomi moved to Madill and lived there until her passing away. She married William P. Box in 1948. Naomi worked at the Madill Pants Factory as a seamstress for many years. Naomi enjoyed quilting and reading books and loved to cook. She also loved being around her family and telling stories.

Naomi was preceded in death by her husband, parents, daughter, Mildred Box; brother, Son Isaac; and sister, Bessie.

Survivors include sons, Norris Box of Dickson, Floyd Box of Tishomingo and W.R. Box of Lone Grove; daughters, Bobbie Lee of Bell, California, and Lillian Stayton of Red Oak, Texas; nephew, James Isaac; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Carol Martin Greenwood

Carol Martin Greenwood passed away on September 19, 2005, in Mesquite, Texas. She was born April 8, 1955, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to Willard and Barbara Ann Martin. Carol was with the start-up group for DART Light Rail. She also served as a train operator, bus operator, trainer and supervisor with DART.

She was preceded in death by her father; stepfather, Walter Thompson, and son, Jason Greenwood.

Survivors include her husband, Justin Greenwood; children, Fonda F. Wall and husband, Carl, Mildred E. Wright and husband, Mike, and Dennis Greenwood and wife, Regina; grandchildren, Larry Wall, Josh Wright, Heather Wright, Tyler Greenwood, Trinity Greenwood, and Jessica Greenwood. Also surviving are her mother; sisters and brothers, Janet Chester, Chris and Garth Guyer, Phil and Debbie Martin, Steve and Chris Martin, Tom and Debbie Thompson, Nancy Shields, Jeff and Carol Thompson, and David and Pam Thompson.

Oleta Merry Boyce

Educator, mentor to hundreds of Native American young people, master gardener and one of Santa Fe's Living Treasures, Oleta Merry Boyce, 96, passed away September 12, 2005, at El Castillo Retirement Residences in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She was born December 19, 1908, in the southeastern Oklahoma town of Garvin and throughout her life remained exceedingly proud of her Choctaw heritage.

Oleta graduated from Murray Junior College with a teaching certificate then completed her BS degree in Home Economics at Oklahoma A&M, now Oklahoma State University. She spent 20 years employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Extension Service in Oklahoma and Arizona, working in Home Economics with Navajo and Pima women and children. In 1954 she went to work training thousands of Navajo girls in living and job skills at Intermountain Indian School at Brigham City, Utah, for eight years. In 1962, she came to the newly established Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe to head the Student Services Department, overseeing the dormitories, dining hall and after-hour activities of the Indian students from all over the country. In 1964, she married Dr. George Boyce, founder and leader of the school. She was very active in garden clubs including the Santa Fe Council of Garden Clubs, Floral Designers, Las Sembradoras Garden Club, National Flower Show Judge Emeritus and a past president of the State Council of Garden Clubs. Oleta was also an honorary member of the Santa Fe Rose Society and the Santa Fe Iris Society. She hosted the national meeting of the State Council of Garden Clubs during her term as president. She was active in the First Presbyterian Church, serving as a Deacon and organizing numerous volunteer and service projects. She was active in her Church Circle until her death. She provided leadership in the Professional Home Economics organization and helped begin the Council of International Relations, to host visitors to Santa Fe. In 1990 she moved into El Castillo and personally funded and maintained a flower garden for the enjoyment of the residents and staff. In 2001, she was honored as a Santa Fe Living Treasure and was recognized by many for her years of community service and support of Indian education in Santa Fe and the Southwest.

Survivors include two stepsons, George of Pena Blanca, New Mexico, and Robert of Carson City, Nevada; stepdaughter, Cynthia Winn of Mesa, Arizona; several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. George Boyce, who died in 1976; her parents, William Rob Roy Merry and Lizzie Webster Merry; brothers, John C. and Roy Merry, and sisters, Susan Elizabeth Felsman and Marie Merry.

Charlene James

Charlene James passed away September 5, 2005. She was born January 24, 1946.

Survivors include one son, J.D. James; one daughter, Ruthy Lee; two sisters, Sue James and Galenda James-Coatney; two grandchildren, Ona and Issiah Lee; four nephews, Daniel and Kim James, Doug James, Johnny and Sherry Hartin, and Jerry and Malinda James; one niece, Shelly and Mike Taylor; nine great-nephews and nieces and a host of friends.

Galenda James-Coatney of San Diego, California, and the James family would like to express their appreciation to the Choctaw Nation and to Councilman Joe Coley for their assistance with burial expenses. The family would like to thank all staff members of the Talihina Indian hospital. Our special thanks to Marie Waggner, excellent care by the home health care and the provider. The family greatly appreciated the members of the Green Hill Church for the meal preparation and everyone who sent flowers, cards and food. Thank you to all who came to visit and pay respects to our loved one, Charlene James. Thank you for the kindness and empathy at a time that was deeply appreciated. May God bless you.

Clifford Milton Roland

Clifford Milton Roland, 86, passed away August 18, 2005, at the veterans center. He was born September 8, 1921, in Lindsay to Fred and Della Mae Nail Roland. He had lived in this area 48 years, moving here from Lindsay, and worked for Raymond Helms service station for numerous years. He was a Methodist and veteran of World War II, serving with the 13th Army Airborne in the South Pacific.

He and Tommie Graham were married on November 24, 1951, in Oklahoma City.

His parents preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife of the home; a son, Clifford Graham Roland of Ardmore; a brother, Fred G. Roland of Norman; and a grandson, Graham Richmond Roland of Fullerton, California.

Bessie Elizabeth Wall

Bessie Elizabeth Wall passed away September 20, 2005, at Tulsa Regional Medical Center. She was born March 11, 1910, at Baily, Oklahoma.

Bessie went to school at Tuskahoma Girls Academy until it burned. She was transferred to Wheelock Academy for Indian Girls, where she finished the eighth grade before transferring to Chilocco Indian School where she finished high school. Following graduation, she lived and worked in Tulsa many years. She came back home to Talihina and was employed at the Public Health hospital and the T.B. State Hospital. Later, Bessie moved to Dallas and was employed at Baylor University Hospital as a Certified Nurses Aid for the next 20 years. Following retirement, Bessie returned to Talihina and eventually made her home at the Talihina Manor Nursing Home.

Remembered as a good cook, Bessie was also a poet, a prolific writer, and an artist who often drew and illustrated topics she enjoyed. Bessie had many interests, including entering her recipes in contests. Her cooking talent was recognized beyond her own kitchen, when she won a prestigious Dallas, Texas, chili competition.

Survivors include her sister, Dee Tidwell of Honobia, and sister and brother-in-law, Zora and George First of Tuskahoma, along with numerous nieces and nephews and many friends who knew and loved her over her long life. She is also survived by her extended family of the Talihina Manor Nursing Home.

Bessie was preceded in death by her parents, Thomas H. Wall and Allie Potts Wall, both original enrollees, as well as six sisters and four brothers.

Charlie Ray "Chock" Anderson

Charlie Ray "Chock" Anderson passed away on August 30, 2005. He was born August 9, 1931, to William Ray Anderson and Laura Bell Botts Anderson on Jack Fork Mountains, Oklahoma, near Hartshorne. He attended Jones Academy.

As a young man, he served in the Army in Company A, 43rd Armored Infantry Battalion as a Corporal and was wounded in the Korean War. He later worked and retired from Tinker Air Force Base. More than anything else, he loved raising horses.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Edgar Norval McDonald; one sister, Virginia Inez Husted; and two sons, William and Phillip Anderson.

Survivors include his wife, Cynthia of Wapanucka; a brother, Cecil Sutterfield of Antlers; three sisters, Elizabeth Stock of Oklahoma City, Wilma Jean Wood of Roff and Armour Evelyn Wood of Stratford; four sons, Richard Gene Anderson of Wewoka, Jacob L. "Bobby" Anderson and Cecil Ray "Buster" Anderson, both of Florida, and Steven A. Anderson, who is on active duty in the Air Force currently stationed in England, and wife, Kristine; daughter, Lela Jo of Arizona, and five grandchildren.

Col. Robert E. Gardner, Ret.

Robert "Bob" E. Gardner, 71, of Payson, Arizona, passed away at his home on September 8, 2005, surrounded by his loving family. Bob, the second of five children, was born in Bisbee, Arizona, to Elmer and Delores "Lola" Gardner.

A graduate of Glendale High School, Bob went on to earn an Associate in Science Degree from Central Arizona College and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Management from the University of Phoenix.

In 1954, Bob started two separate and distinct careers: one with Arizona Public Service Company (APS); the other with the Arizona Army National Guard. His success in both was based on his being an enthusiastic self-starter and always taking the initiative. At APS, Bob started as a groundsman rising to Casa Grande and Central Phoenix Customer Service Manager upon until his retirement in 1984. With the Arizona National Guard, Bob quickly rose through the ranks starting as a private with the Heavy Mortar Company, 158th Infantry and retired as a colonel in 1994. In 1984, Bob started a third career when he moved to Dallas, Texas, and became the Assistant Director of Business for Dallas Water Utilities from which he retired in January 1999.

He was preceded in death by his parents and an older sister, Anna Jean Cullinan.

Survivors include his loving wife, Matalyn; sons, Robert M. and Thomas F. Gardner, both of Phoenix; daughter, Cathy L. Samuelson of San Diego, California; stepsons, William and John Harp of Reno, Nevada; stepdaughters, Marcia Elliott of Wheaton, Illinois, and Michelle Sanders of Dallas; brother, William Gardner of Glendale; sisters, Betty Larsen of Brookings, South Dakota, and Carol Hardy of Kingwood, Texas; 15 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and countless nieces and nephews.

Bessie Sewell King

Bessie Sewell King, 85, passed away September 11, 2005, at the Sullivan Park Care Center in Spokane, Washington. She was born February 8, 1920, in Ringling, Oklahoma, the daughter of James Sampson Sewell and Maisie Bessie Tubbee Sewell, an original enrollee.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Robert in 1999; three brothers, Clifton, Jack and James R. Sewell; and one sister, Nora Sewell Campbell.

She was a perfect mom to son Billy Carl King and wife, Debbie, of Waterloo, Illinois, and daughter, Betty King of Spokane.

Survivors also include three sisters, Marie Moriarty of Castro Valley, California; Inez Seifert of Oklahoma City, and Wanda Billings of Eufaula; seven grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Ellis E. Ludlow Jr.

Ellis E. Ludlow Jr., 65, of Broken Bow passed away September 25, 2005, at Antlers. He was born May 14, 1941, in Ludlow, Oklahoma, the son of Ellis and Roda Harrington Ludlow.

He served in the U.S. Army and worked several jobs, retiring from a tree-trimming service contracted through the electric companies.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Ruth Pilkinton; five brothers, Benjamin Ludlow, Ray D. Ludlow, Willie Ludlow, Joshua Ludlow, and infant brother Jacob Ludlow.

Survivors include his wife, Laura Ludlow of Texas; two sons, Ricky Ludlow and Darren Ludlow; two brothers, Sham Ludlow of Farmore Branch, Texas, and James Ludlow of Wilburton; two sisters, Pearlina Carnes of Durant and Marilyn Tom of Denison, Texas; special friend, Karen Wilson of Broken Bow; several nieces and nephews and a host of friends.



Vernon Kidd

Vernon Kidd, 86, passed away October 3, 2005. He was born February 17, 1919, in Coalgate, Oklahoma, to Monroe Millard and Josephine Pocahontas Thurlow Kidd, an original enrollee. For the past 40 years or so, he operated Vernon's Air Conditioning Service. In addition, he retired in 1982 from the Jim Hamilton Correctional Center, where he was an air conditioning instructor. He served in both World War II and the Korean War and was a 32nd degree Mason.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Frances Beth; an older brother, Rufus McKenzie; his twin brother, Venson Kidd; a stepson, Danny Lacy; and a granddaughter, Hannah Grace Koehn.

Survivors include Frances Beth's children, Robin Hood Lacy and wife, Betty, of Stillwater; Mary Lacy Beets and husband, Charles, of Ada; and Danny's widow, Billie Sue, of McAlester; stepdaughter, Jeannette Owen of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and husband, Robert, of Oklahoma City; stepson, Anthony Wyatt and wife, Cary, of Ponca City; daughter, Julie Kidd Koehn and husband, Gregg, of Oklahoma City; son, Randall Vernon Kidd of Poteau; brother, Clinton Kidd of Buffalo Grove, Illinois; his wife of 33 years, Pat Ryburn Kidd of the home; 19 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Sid Carney

Sid Carney, 85, of Anadarko passed away August 9, 2005, in Concord, New Hampshire. He was born March 26, 1920, in Quinton to Wallace and Berthena Carney.

Mr. Carney attended Jones Academy at Hartshorne and Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas. He then went to Northeastern State to study business.

He met Ema Smith in 1942 at Brownwood, Texas, where he was stationed at Camp Bowie, where she was employed as a Harvey Girl. They married in 1943 at the First United Methodist Church in McAlester.

He served in the U.S. Army as a Field Artillery Captain in the European Theatre during World War II. After WWII, he attended Oklahoma State University where he received his MBA. In 1949, he taught accounting at Eastern State College in Wilburton, during 1949-1957.

He joined the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1957 and was stationed at Fort Defiance, Arizona. He later served the Jicarilla agency in New Mexico after which he was assigned to Washington, D.C., and upstate New York. In New York, he represented the Seneca Nation when the tribe filed an injunction against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers which was planning to build a dam and displace 140 families. The injunction went all the way to the Supreme Court, which refused to hear the case, so the tribe appealed directly to President John F. Kennedy. Kennedy sent letters to all directors of all agencies involved in the matter and asked for their cooperation with the tribe. Carney worked closely with President Kennedy to reach an agreement between the government and the tribes. During the audience between the tribe and the President, Kennedy told Carney there was no way he could stop the taking of the Seneca land. Carney recalled in a 1986 interview the President was very attentive, very concerned about the problems of the Indian people and actively sought a solution, which involved working closely with Carney. The tribe was eventually awarded \$16 million in 1963 for the construction of new homes.

In 1980, Carney was awarded a superior service award from the Department of the Interior for his work on the project. After that project, he worked with Robert Kennedy in connection with the condition of Indian boarding schools. RFK held hearings in Oklahoma in 1968.

Carney became area director for the Anadarko office in 1967 and retired in 1974. He was inducted into the Eastern Oklahoma State College Hall of Fame in 1991 and was named Alumni of the Year at Haskell in 1976. He had also served the school as president of the board of regents. He was listed in "Who's Who Among American Indians" and "Indians Today," as well as "The International Who's Who of Community Service," published in Cambridge, England. He was named to the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1985.

He was a very loving and caring family man. He enjoyed spending time with his wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends. As well as residing in Anadarko, he and his wife spent time in Concord and Scottsdale, Arizona. Mr. and Mrs. Carney were avid golfers and spent a lot of time on the golf course. They were members of the Beaver Meadow Golf Course in Concord, Dietrich Golf Course in Anadarko, and the Cypress Golf Course in Scottsdale. Mr. Carney was also a Haskell Alumni and an OSU Alumni. He was a member of the VFW, American Legion and First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife of the home; three sons, Lance Carney and his wife, Kathy, of Grand Prairie, Texas, Flint Carney of Scottsdale, and Mark Carney and his wife, Jan, of Concord; his daughter, Tana Carney of El Reno; 12 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; his sister, Helen Rekestraw of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; and his brother, Rudy Carney of Oxnard, California.

Finnis Raymond Stanley

Finnis Raymond Stanley, 60, passed away September 19, 2005, at his home in Arkansas City, Arkansas, after a battle with cancer. He was born November 22, 1944, in Drumright to Jessie Finnis and Dorothy Marie Johnson Stanley, the eldest of six children. He was reared and educated in Drumright, graduating in 1963.

He married Judy Fay Kuykendall on May 25, 1963, in Stroud and they moved to Arkansas City in 1966. Stanley worked at the General Electric Jet Engine Facility from 1966 to 1974 and then from 1984 until his retirement in 2002.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Tracy Lynn; his father; and a brother, Jim.

Survivors include his wife of 42 years, Judy, of the home; son, David and wife, Jodie, of Riverside, California; daughter, Shannon and husband, David Norton, of Arkansas City; mother of Drumright; brother, Rocky Stanley of Drumright; sisters, Susie Stanley of McAlester, Jeannie Rigsby of Drumright and Brenda Vann of Olive; seven grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Marjie Coleen Airington Harper

Marjie Coleen Airington Harper, 61, passed away September 13, 2005, at her residence in Durant. She was born August 9, 1944, Hollis, Oklahoma, the daughter of Clarence Robert "Johnny" and Mattie Agnes Lee Airington. She had worked as a cook and was a member of the Baptist faith. She loved to go and visit her family and enjoyed gardening, canning, fishing, camping, and cooking.

She was preceded in death by her parents; an infant daughter, Cynthia Ann Douglas; granddaughter, Shania Douglas; and her second husband, Larry Dean Adams.

Survivors include a son and his wife, Robert and Stacey Douglas of Durant; daughter and husband, Susan and Ed McCarty of Atoka; grandson, Britt Douglas of Durant; granddaughters, Makayla Douglas and Ashlyn Douglas, both of Durant; brothers and sisters-in-law, James and Patsy Airington of Durant and Bobby and Rita Airington and Johnny and Wilma Airington, all of Woodward; and sister and brother-in-law, Carolyn and Charles Bates of Durant.

OBITUARIES

George Alonzo Ferguson

George Alonzo Ferguson, 91, passed away September 13, 2005, in Soper. He was born November 26, 1913, in Soper to Albert Alonzo Ferguson and Armelia Gardner Ferguson. He was a descendant of Jeremiah Gardner, who walked the Trail of Tears.

George married Mary Holt, his wife of 75 years, on April 17, 1930. He was a painter and a rancher. He had lived in Soper all of his life, except for approximately ten years that he lived and worked in Wichita Falls, Texas. He moved back to Soper in 1962. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Kenneth Ferguson; one grandson, Matias Espinosa; one great-grandson, Taylor Lester; one granddaughter-in-law, Donna Dominick; two brothers, Roy and Scott Ferguson; three sisters, Ethyl Ferguson Jones, Cleo "Babe" Ferguson Fennell and Maxine Ferguson Lindsay.

Survivors include his wife of the home; three daughters, Georgiana Ferguson of Hugo, Barbara Ferguson Dominick and Judy Ferguson Lester and husband Delbert of Soper; seven grandchildren, Jim Dominick, Dayna Dominick, Martin Lester, Shannon Lester, and Carey Lester, all of Soper, Debbie Ferguson Espinosa of Plano, Texas, and Ken Ferguson Jr. of Dallas, Texas; 11 great-grandchildren, Amy Dominick Padgett and husband, Clay, of Germany, Stephanie Espinosa of Dallas, Leslie Dominick of Shawnee, Ted Richards II of Paris, Texas, George Richards of Soper, Brittani Lester, Dakota Lester and Tanner Lester, all of Antlers, Merissa Lester, Jamee Lester and Treyton Lester, all of Soper; and one daughter-in-law, Vera Ferguson of Dallas.

Clarence C. Space

Clarence C. Space, 73, of Wanette passed away October 18, 2005, at his residence. He was born July 11, 1932, in Lucien, Oklahoma. He was the oldest child of four born to Frank and Estella Thornbrue Space.

Clarence grew up in the Moore area. At age 20 he entered the U.S. Army and served his country during the Korean Conflict. After his honorable discharge in 1954 he returned to the Oklahoma City area where he worked for the Armour Food Processing Plant. He later worked for the state and then over the years he worked for several different counties in Oklahoma. He also worked at J.H. Holland and was a Wanette school bus driver. In 1973 the family moved to Wanette where they still live today.

His true love in life was to farm and ranch. He raised cattle and loved working with and training horses. He was a member of the New Horizons Fellowship Church in Wanette and will be remembered as a wonderful husband, loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Randall "Randy" Carl Space; one grandson, Michael Bell; and two brothers, Earnest Space and Harold Space.

Survivors include his wife, Evaline Space; children, Crystal Boland and husband Keith of Wanette, Kathy Bell and husband Keith of Apache, Claudia Smith and husband Lynn of Elgin and Janice Wilson and husband Steve of Wellston; one sister, Mary C. Tasier; nine grandchildren, Amanda and Russ Roach, Megan Bell, Hannah Space, Chelsea Space, Sage Space, Kylie Space, Ben Boland, Sayre Wilson and Sandy Boland; and one great-grandson, Hayden Roach.

Brian Keith Joplin

Aviation Machinist Mate Second Class Brian Keith Joplin, 32, a former Hugo resident, passed away October 4, 2005, when he fell from a helicopter enroute to Kuwait. He was born November 6, 1972, in Talihina.

He attended Hugo High School and Grant High School. He enlisted in the Navy in 1992 for Aviation Machinist Mate School, graduating in January 1993. He then reported to HM-15 in Alameda, California, for his first assignment. During that tour he met and married Belinda. He was motivated to fly leaving HM-15 in 1996 for Aircrew Candidate School and assigned to VR-59 in Dallas, Texas. After graduating NACCS in July 1996, he went through training in Norfolk on MH-53Es in 1998 then was assigned to HM-15 Corpus Christi, Texas, in May 1999 where he'd been ever since. Brian may be remembered as the helicopter mechanic that worked on the B-25 aircraft that was left at the Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi after the April South Texas Shootout at the Naval Air Station. The aircraft needed engine repairs before it could fly again. Brian had a personal interest in the bomber because his grandfather, Eugene Bo Wilson, had flown on it during World War II.

He was admired and respected because he always put others before himself. He took time to teach his fellow mechs how to be better, he taught his fellow crewmen to be sharper and safer, and most of all, he taught his fellow sailors how to care for one another. That is the lasting legacy of AD2 (AW/NAC) Brian Joplin. He is a hero to his squadron, his Navy, and his country.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Sue Burris; a sister, Kelly Collins; and his grandfather, Eugene Bo Wilson.

Survivors include his wife, Belinda, and daughters, Alicia and Tori Joplin, of Corpus Christi; his father, Larry Joplin of Amarillo, Texas; sisters, Cheri Joplin of Amarillo and Gail Joplin of Hugo; and brothers, Larry Gene Joplin of Amarillo and Michael Marzek of Hugo.



Claud Raymond Wilson

Claud Raymond Wilson, 72, passed away October 8, 2005. He was born October 31, 1932, in Unger, Oklahoma, to Claud and Deta Wade Wilson.

He went to school in Boswell where he excelled in basketball and baseball. He traveled all over the USA, doing a variety of jobs including fruit harvester, truck driver, pipe liner and sawmill worker. Claud, also known as "Legs," was a loving husband, father and grandfather.

His parents and his wife, Rosa Lee Wilson, preceded him in death.

Survivors include three sons, Scott, Keith, and Johnny Wilson, all of California; two daughters, Debbie Collins of Hugo and Janet Lee Scaff of Fort Towson; one sister, Jo Jackson of Leonard, Texas; one brother, Robert Wilson of Lindsey; three grandchildren, Christopher Collins of Hugo, Beau Scaff and Charles Scaff, both of Fort Towson.



Oma Pauline Hokett

Oma Pauline Hokett, 92, of Wheatland, California, passed away September 14, 2005, at a health care center in Yuba City, California. She was born in Lula, Oklahoma, to Henderson and Bessie Goer.

Oma graduated from Chilocco in 1931. She was a school bus driver and cook for Plumas-Brophy School District.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Hokett; a son, Arwayne Hokett; two grandchildren, and her parents.

Survivors include two sons, Terrell Henderson Hokett, Donivan Lee Hokett and Nema Retha Mundt; and a sister, Mary Lois Clifford of Ada.

Robbie Jay Adams

Robbie Jay Adams, 41, of Ruidoso, New Mexico, passed away October 27, 2004, in Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso. He was born March 6, 1963, in Ruidoso to Carlross W. and LaRickie Carroll Adams.

He worked for Furr's Supermarkets, then in landscaping for many years with his father. When he was a boy, he was a Cub Scout and then a Boy Scout, and also was in Little League. As a teenager, he worked for the Forestry Service every summer and he always loved being in the mountains. He would go hiking every chance he could get. He also loved skiing and one winter was a ski instructor for a local ski area. He received his high school diploma in 1981 in Roswell, New Mexico.

Robbie was a very kindhearted person. He was always there to help anyone who needed help and never asked anything in return. He also had a big soft spot for any stray animal.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, James Earl Adams and Ophelia Lehw Adams of Choctaw heritage and Ogden and Ethel Carroll.

Survivors include his parents; a sister, Bobbi Bartlett; a son, Robert Christopher Adams; a daughter, Crystal LaAnn Adams; a new grandson, Anthony Jay Adams; nieces, Ellari Davis, Konni Bartlett and Calli Carroll; great-nieces, Raven and Robyn Davis; and great-nephew, Conner Davis.



Williston L. Taylor

Williston L. Taylor, 70, of Antlers passed away on October 4, 2005, in Antlers. He was born April 15, 1935, in Rufe to Julius and Mary Frazier Taylor. He had lived in Antlers for the past 48 years.

Williston was a member of the Faith Baptist Church in Antlers. He was retired from the Oklahoma State Highway Department after working there for 25 years. Williston enjoyed hunting and fishing. He loved taking care of his grandkids and meeting with friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Edgar Taylor, Raymond Taylor, and Ernest Taylor.

Survivors include his loving wife of 48 years, Janet Taylor of the home; son, Robert J. Taylor Sr. and wife Robin of Antlers; daughter, Regina Tedder of Antlers; grandchildren, Robert, Tim, Taylor, Jayden, and Jacob; sisters, Melvina Washington of Hayward, California, Juanita Caudill of San Diego, California, Nadine Smith of Ada, Virginia Tafoya of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Liz Osage of Dallas, Texas; many other nieces and nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.



Local churches remove debris in Mississippi



Volunteers Rosa Baker, Matt Jefferson, Billy Ray Jones and Billie Nowabbi of Broken Bow, Nancy Jefferson of Talihina, Bruce Harjo and Peter Harjo of Antlers, and Darla Kindelsterger of Tulsa.

As Mississippi began to pull itself out of the damage left by Hurricane Katrina, an Early Response Team of eight volunteers left September 14-18. The volunteers helped to remove furniture, power wash floors filled with mud, pulled carpets and sinks, cut and removed four feet of sheetrock including insulation, baseboards, and carpet tacks. Then the remaining studs were washed with 50% bleach. The team completed two projects in the Paschogoula area just north of Biloxi, Mississippi.

Before leaving, a pastor from Antlers told of finding her sister after a three-day search in Biloxi. Their home in Biloxi was destroyed by Katrina. She was unable to come with the first team. However, the sister and husband were able to return to Antlers with the second team that included her son and brother.

Choctaw and Seminole volunteers came from six Southeast Region United Methodist Churches. We are thankful for individuals, Tohwali UMC for the use of the church van, Mike Amos and Kenny Bryant who supported the Early Response Team with donations and prayers. We appreciate the warm hospitality of meals and housing provided by the Vanclave United Methodist Church. Since returning, three women have been certified as Early Response Team Leaders. The same volunteers will do the roofing on the St. Paul parsonage in Talihina.

Native American Bible Study held weekly at Oak Grove

A Native American Bible Study is being held every Friday night, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., at the Oak Grove Baptist Church, Hugo. The church is located north on Hwy. 93, one-half mile from Hwy. 70. Bible study will be held in the fellowship/lounge area.

Everyone is welcome.

Teacher is Ron Jarman; organizer, Bobby Porter; and host, Pauline Wesley.

Frink Baptist Church

invites you to
celebrate with us on our

50th Anniversary

We will have finger foods,
snacks and fellowship on

Saturday, November 19
at 5:30 p.m.

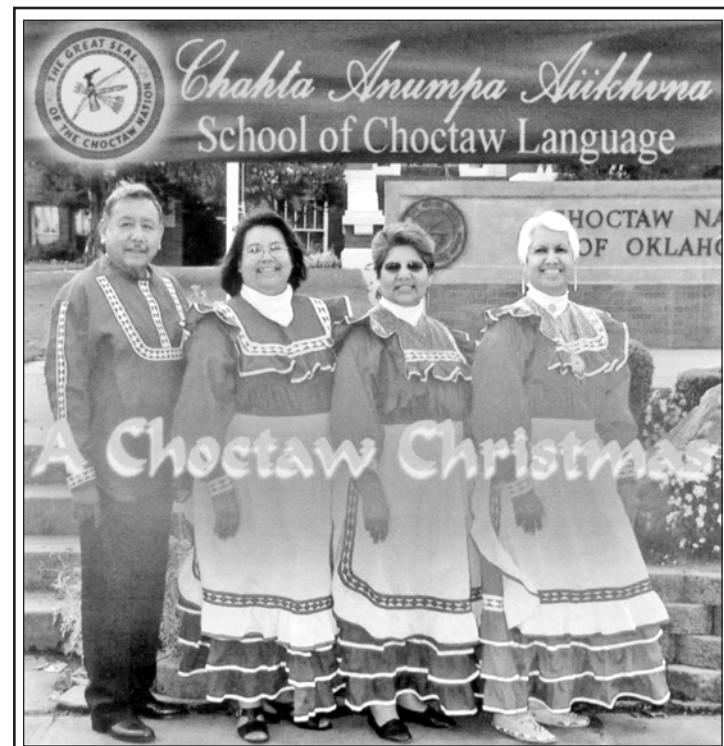
for those who wish to come and be with us.

We will have a potluck lunch after church on
Sunday, November 20

Bring all your family
and celebrate with us!

Frink Baptist Church
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McAlester, Oklahoma

November 20, 1955-2005



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DENVER



Jamaica Andrew Honore, 3 1/2, and his mom, Amanda Lopez, posed with Chief Gregory E. Pyle in Denver. They are descended from the Freeny family.



Jessica Griffin and her six-week-old baby, Braeden Griffin.



Standing are Julie Smith, Jeanette "Midge" Rauch, Chief Pyle and Jack Harris; kneeling, Dustin Smith and Levi Smith.



Richard Poole, Area Director for U.S. Senator Wayne Allard of Colorado, represented the Senator at the Denver meeting.



Al and Joyce Moran of Centennial, Colorado. Al graduated high school in Coleman, Oklahoma.



Don Ferrell with Chief Pyle in Denver.

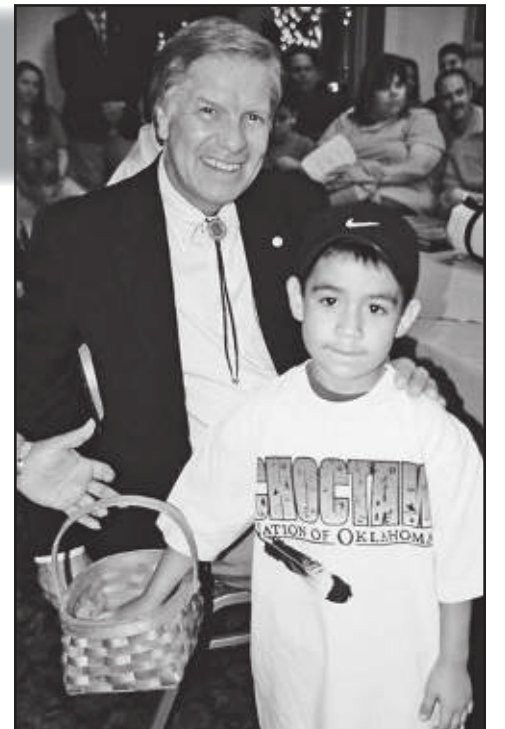


J.L. Phares, Ethel Phares, Chief Pyle, Gail McGarry and Butch McGarry at the meeting in Amarillo.

AMARILLO



Sue Satterfield and Chief Pyle.



Cory Norman draws for door prizes in Amarillo.



An overflow crowd at Amarillo ensures that the next tribal meeting will be held in a larger area!



Gerald Jackson, Tina Rainwater and Alma Rainwater meet Chief Pyle in Amarillo. It was the first meeting ever hosted by the Choctaw Nation in Amarillo.

Annual Oklahoma Tribal Historic Preservation Conference held in Durant

The Choctaw Nation, Caddo Nation and Absentee Shawnee Tribe hosted the annual Oklahoma Tribal Historic Preservation Conference September 27-29 at the Choctaw Inn in Durant. The three-day workshop focused on Tribal Historic Preservation Programs and the respective responsibilities of 101(d) (2) tribes.

Fifty-two tribes from all across the nation participate in the national program approved in 1996 by the National Park Service. Each tribe assigns a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer to oversee the program, working on a local and national level.

"Tribal Historic Preservation

Officers provide leadership in the preservation and protection of cultural resources including sacred sites and beliefs, archaeological sites, cultural historic objects, traditional knowledge and tribal history," said Charles E. Vaughn, Chairman of Hualapai Tribal Council.

Conference speakers included Dr. James Bird, Chief of the Tribal Historic Preservation Program for the National Park Service, Washington, D.C.; Jim Pepper Henry, National Museum of the American Indian; Dr. Joe Watkins, Consulting Archeologist, Choctaw Nation Historic Preservation Office, who was also key-

note speaker at the September 28 banquet; and Dr. Robert Brooks, State Archeologist.

Presenters attending also included Larry Haikey and Tom Parry who spoke on the scope of responsibilities between the BIA and tribes. NAGPRA issues were addressed with Robert Cast and Bobby Gonzales giving tips on keeping a safe cemetery. Cole, Joyce Bear, Eddy Post oak and Bobby Gonzales also spoke on several cemetery preservation projects.

Memorandums of understanding were the subjects of a presentation by Meeks Etchenson, Robert Cast, Bobby Gonzales, and John

Worthington.

"The conference proved to be very informative and educational for all people dealing in historic preservation," said Terry Cole, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Choctaw Nation.

"Sacred sites protection is a momentous responsibility requiring tremendous dedication on the part of those who serve this purpose," said Keller George, President, United South and Eastern Tribes Inc., "The duty of cultural preservation must be approached with knowledge, diligence and especially, reverence. This is what our Tribal Historic Preservation Officers impart."



Karen Kanotobbe, Absentee Shawnee, officer; Terry Cole, Choctaw, officer; Bambi Craus, President of National Association for Tribal Historic Preservation, and Robert Cast, Caddo, officer.