BISHINIK P.O. Drawer 1210 Durant OK 74702 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED





OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

Serving 172,649 Choctaws Worldwide

www.choctawnation.com

October 2005 Issue



Mike Amos, Speaker



Charlotte Jackson, Secretary



Joe Coley, Chaplain

Council chooses officers

Tribe raises \$443,911 for relief

Communities contribute generously in aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

The Choctaws have come through in a big way in their effort to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina. Chief Gregory E. Pyle has presented a check for \$443,911.33 to representatives of the American Red Cross.

"This donation comes from a combination of tribal and community generosity," said the Chief.

"The Choctaw Nation devoted one of our biggest days of gaming in history, Labor Day, to the fundraiser," said Chief Pyle. All of the profits from that entire day of play on gaming machines in all seven tribal casinos were donated. In addition, a full week of profit from fuel sales at 13 travel centers, several special bingo games and donations gathered at tribal facilities and during the big Choctaw Festival were added to the pot.

"This amount is more than double the dollars we were able to raise for the tsunami relief last winter," said Chief Pyle. "I am very impressed with the kindness from individuals who have put money in the donation jars and mailed in checks to give to the Red Cross for this effort."

Choctaw Casinos are located in Durant, Pocola, Idabel, Broken Bow, Grant, McAlester and Stringtown. There are two travel plazas in Durant, and others in Atoka, Broken Bow, Garvin, Heavener, Hugo, Idabel, McAlester, Pocola, Poteau, Stringtown and Wilburton.

"Even the young students in the Choctaw Nation have been involved in raising money to help people suffering because of the hurricane," said Chief



Chief Gregory E. Pyle presents a check to American Red Cross representatives Rachel Nutter-Klepper, lead volunteer for Bryan County, and Billie Cathey, Southeastern Oklahoma Red Cross Chapter Executive Director.

Pyle. "The Choctaw Nation Head Start Centers are involved in Penny Wars for the Red Cross, and many of the public schools have also stepped up to the challenge of making a donation.

"Mississippi is our ancestral homeland, and we have a great number of tribal members who live in that state and in Louisiana," said Chief Pyle. "Many people from those states are now in Oklahoma, after being displaced by the storm damage. Ten percent of the amount the tribe has presented to the Red Cross will stay in southeastern Oklahoma for the relief organization to use helping those victims in our imme-

diate area."

Representatives from the American Red Cross accepting the check were Billie Cathey, the Southeastern Oklahoma Red Cross Chapter Executive Director, and Rachel Nutter-Klepper, the lead volunteer for Bryan County Red Cross.

"This is the largest single amount we have ever received," said Executive Director Cathey. She said that the Red Cross was assisting about 400 evacuees in southeastern Oklahoma. "This money will go a long way toward food, clothing and housing for people in need."

Special message from Chief Pyle

Thank you for everyone's involvement in raising almost a half million dollars to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The second Category 5 hurricane this season, Rita, is predicted to hit the coastline just hours after this message goes to press, and my prayers go out to the people who have been and may be affected by these two huge storms. My daughter, son-in-law and grandson are on their way to Oklahoma from their home in Houston to take refuge with us in Durant.

I was proud that not only did the tribe offer monetary assistance after Katrina, but employees also offered services. We had medical staff volunteer to help evacuees, and information from Tom Lowery, Director of Forestry, offers some details on how provisions were transported to the people who needed them.

Tom said that communications were virtually non-existent upon arrival at NAS Meridian (Naval Air Station), where he was assigned to a federal Operational Staging Area (OSA), in cooperation with FEMA, to support recovery efforts. Tom is a member of the Southern Area Interagency Incident Command Blue Team, represented by federal and state land management agencies in the 13 southern states. The Blue See MESSAGE on Page 3

The Choctaw Tribal Council met in Regular Session September 10 at Tushka Homma. Elections were held for officers to serve the 2005-06 term. Mike Amos will return as Speaker, Charlotte Jackson as Secretary and Joe Coley was elected Council Chaplain. Speaker Amos retained Patty Hawkins as Recording Secretary, Sylvester Moore as Sergeant-at-Arms and Bob Rabon as Parliamentarian.

In new business, several grant applications were approved, including those to the National Science Foundation for Documenting Endangered Languages, to DHHS for Children and Families for the REACH program, to Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration for Community-Based Job Training and to the National Endowment for Humanities for Interpreting America's Historic Places. Also approved were three oil and gas leases, modifications to the WIC budget and to the Indian Adult Education Program budget, and supplemental funding for six Head Start buses.

Choctaw veterans to be honored

The Choctaw Nation will honor its veterans with a ceremony on Veterans Day, November 11, at Tushka Homma. The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m., but staff will be on hand at 10 a.m. on the Capitol Grounds near

the War Memorial. All Choctaw veterans will receive a token of gratitude.

A free meal will follow the ceremony.

State of the Nation



"It has only been about thirty years since we were allowed to govern ourselves," said Chief Pyle when giving the State of the Nation Address at the Labor Day Festival. "We have grown," seemed an understatement when tribal progress was outlined.

"We strive to take Choctaw dollars and plan for years ahead to improve life for tribal members," said Chief Pyle. Health care improvements were highlighted. "We replaced a hospital that was 80 years old, we have a new clinic in Idabel and Stigler, and the number of professionals to offer service at our facilities has increased dramatically over the past few years," said the Chief.

"Two new clinics are being planned. We propose ideas such as 'joint ventures' to funding agencies in Washington, D.C. This means the Choctaw Nation offers to build the facility and asks Indian Health Service to staff and supply the clinic."

The subject of education obviously touched the heart of Chief Pyle as he related a story he witnessed at a past graduation ceremony for Adult Education. He told of a great-grandmother who passed the GED test and dressed in cap and gown to receive her diploma. "She didn't tell her family at first, because she wasn't confident she would succeed. When her family found out, they traveled from several states to applaud as she crossed the stage," said Chief Pyle. "Inspired by this 70-something woman, others who had not completed high school decided that they,

■ More photos on Pages 8-9

too, could enroll in a GED program." The Higher Education Program was praised by Chief Pyle. "Until a few years ago, only a small percentage of the Choctaw people were able to afford to go to college. The tribe has invested a great deal to send people to school. This year, 100% approval from the Council resulted in the largest education bill ever – \$6 million to scholarships."

Meeting the needs of military personnel serving overseas was also brought up in the State of the Nation Address. Chief Pyle reminded everyone that care packages were sent by the tribe to men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. He read a letter from

See NATION on Page 8



Royalty crowned

Beginning their reign as Choctaw Nation Princesses for 2005-06 are Little Miss MacKenzie Maxwell from District 7; Senior Miss Erica McMillan from District 9, and Junior Miss Jenny Townsend from District 1. The young ladies were crowned during the Princess Pageant on September 3, an annual event of the Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma.



Councilmen repeat oath

Chief Justice James Wolfe swears in six Councilmen for four-year terms. Repeating the oath of office are Ted Dosh, District 9; James Frazier, District 12; Anthony Dillard, District 10; Joe Coley, District 6; Delton Cox, District 4; and Jack Austin, District 7. The ceremony was held Monday, September 5, at Tushka Homma.



Notice to Chilocco Class of 1966

The year 2006 will be our 40th anniversary since graduation from Chilocco Indian School. Many of our classmates joined the armed forces before or soon after graduation. Some of the Class of 1966 alumni would like to commemorate those who served in the armed forces at the annual Chilocco reunion in June 2006. If you know of a classmate that is or was a veteran, please furnish their name, branch of service, and a copy of a picture. The picture can be a recent one, a military picture or whatever you desire. Please mail this information to Pauletta Elephant Johnson, P.O. Box 531, Bixby, OK 74008; telephone 918-366-6158; e-mail address: johnson6158@olp.net.

Visit to headquarters a pleasant experience Dear Editor,

My husband and I recently visited the headquarters of the Choctaw Nation for the first time. This was a very special occasion for me as my great-grandmother, Elizabeth Arrington Barnett, and my grandfather, Jesse Barnett, were original enrollees of the Choctaw Nation.

When we entered the headquarters building, we were greeted warmly by a security guard named Virgil. He was most helpful in explaining the physical building as well as providing us with a map and other information about the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. We appreciated his friendliness very much as it certainly helped make our visit more interesting and informative. Virgil is a very good spokesperson and greeter for the Choctaw Nation.

Thank you.

Judy Dutterer Winnetka, Illinois

Hospital staff does outstanding job

Dear Choctaw Nation,

In April, our only daughter delivered her first child, our beautiful grandson, Jace. As with any first-time pregnancy and being a new mother, she had quite a few questions throughout her nine months. We would like to thank the Talihina Hospital and the OB/GYN staff for their kindness and understanding with her. All the nurses, but in particular, Amber and Nicole, always took the time and answered any questions she had, no matter how silly they sounded.

Irene France was so gracious to us and gave our daughter the confidence she needed to get through this delivery. She was wonderful.

And finally, many thanks to Dr. Cole who we believe is AWE-SOME! She has a passion for her job and that comes through in her care for her patients. She takes the time to sit and discuss questions and concerns and handles our baby like he is her own. And speaking as a grandma, that is really important.

We wanted to let everyone know what an outstanding job they have ALL done and hope they are appreciated by others as well.

Randy and Marilyn Smith Pocola, Oklahoma

Seeking information

Dear Editor,

If anyone has any information on a Viola, Virda or Jr. Blueyes, please call or write Leroy Walker, 386-649-9156; 212 Hootowl Rd., Satsuma, FL 32189.

Looking for ancestors and relatives **Dear Editor**,

I am looking for information on Ella Gear who married Marion McCarthy in 1903. She was the daughter of Blemey Gear and Paska Banner Gear. - Bill Gibson, 170 Naylor Rd., Vilonia, AR 72173.



Excited about college Dear Editor,

I have lived in Northern California all of my life and am now on my way to the Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia. I was awarded a multicultural scholarship because of my Native American heritage. I will be majoring in illustration. My dream is to illustrate children's books. This will be my first year in college

and I am very excited. Thank you, Choctaw Nation, for providing me with this wonderful opportunity.

Merisha Lemmer

We have excellent health care

Dear Chief Pyle and the Choctaw Nation,

I want to say thank you for the health services that are available to us as Choctaws. My grandfather recently was admitted to a facility for rehabilitation after a surgery and we were extremely unhappy with the quality of care he received there.

He decided to go home against medical advice, but was still in need of professional help - and here is where I am proud to be Choctaw and to know that we have excellent care!!!

We called Talihina and made an appointment to see a doctor for the very next day! At the appointment my grandfather needed further assistance and they got him to see Dr. "O." He was fabulous! Not only was he concerned for grandfather's medical need, he also took into consideration that Papa was cold and brought him a warm blanket!

I also recently had a baby and we went to Talihina for prenatal and pediatric care. These people were excellent as well. My doctor for the pregnancy was Dr. Cayer and the baby's doctor is Dr. Cole. They are both excellent doctors and we recommend everyone see them when they are expecting.

I wanted to take the time to let others know how we are in great hands! Thank you.

Consuelo

Student striving to excel

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity you have given me as a scholarship recipient. The scholarship I received from the Choctaw Nation Higher Education program allows me to pursue my dreams. I'm now a freshman attending the University of West Florida and my courses of study are Computer Engineering, Computer Science, and Computer Graphic and Design. I just wanted to write and express my sincere gratitude to have been selected for this honor and would like to thank you for your commitment to higher



The Smithville Choctaw

Charleen Samuels of McAlester is helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina by donating the proceeds of the book, "Life and Times of the Choctaw Original Enrollees," to the Southeast Oklahoma Chapter of the American Red Cross' disaster relief fund.

The book, created by Samuels and her husband, the late Wesley Samuels, a former councilman, was published in 1999.

"The stories are funny, sad, educational and sometimes surprising," Samuels said. "They are true stories, each of an original enrollee of the Oklahoma Choctaws.

"There are many families listed which helps those interested in genealogy."

During the Irish potato famine over 150 years ago, the Choctaws reached out to help.

"These stories may help in another way," she said.

Samuels is selling the books for \$25 each. They can be purchased at the First National Bank & Trust C., Third Street and Choctaw Avenue, McAlester, Oklahoma.

Medical supplies aid in post-recovery work **Dear Chief Pyle,**

Just wanted to extend our appreciation for the generous contribution of medical supplies for our post-recovery worksites in Van Cleave, Mississippi. The area we are assigned is a population that is primarily on a fixed income with limited vehicle access to resources.

Our workers are removing molding sheetrock, trim, and insulation from individual homes in the North Biloxi area.

We are still in desperate need for sheetrock hangers and finishers, carpenters, and painters. If anyone is interested in post-recovery work with individual homes, the Van Cleave Methodist Church is coordinating teams and worksites, also providing housing and meals for all teams. The contact number is 228-826-5968.

Thank you once again.

Nancy Jefferson

Looking for cross-stitch pattern of seal **Dear Editor**,

I am looking for the Choctaw Seal in a counted cross-stitch pattern. If anyone has one they would like to share I would be very thankful and pleased. I have one, but it's not just right. Thank you.

Debbie Potts Cabler 817 Bradford St. Memphis, TX 79245



Air conditioner brings much-needed relief **Dear Editor**,

On the 26th of July my A/C unit went out, and me, a 68-year-old cancer patient and lungectomic. It got to be 110 in my house. I called several people, including Gail Thompson, Renie and JoAnne, to get the ball rolling, but most employees were readying our hallowed Capitol Grounds for Labor Day. All that weekend just doesn't happen - it takes a lot of employees, I know. My CHR, Becky, came out and manned the phone for me, and we reached Russell Sossamon. Finally, a man – no, an angel named Gerald – came out about 4:30 p.m. Ants had eaten my A/C unit's wires!

Today, my throat and chest hurt from the hard breathing, but my A/C is working. Praise the Lord!

I am grateful to be a part of the family of God which is the Choctaw Nation. My praise and love, yakoke, go to all the people named and to all those I don't know who helped me. Becky stayed with me all day taking care of me. She is a blessing to the Nation and her superiors. It's great being loved and cared for by such a family.

Shirley Miller Durant, Oklahoma

Scholarship recipient pursues nursing degree **Dear Choctaw Nation**,

Thank you for the scholarship. Your money will be put to good use. I am working hard to pursue my Bachelor of Nursing degree to become a great nurse. I am able to continue due to the generosity of the Choctaw Nation.

> Whitney McShan Wichita Falls, Texas

Gregory E. Pyle Mike Bailey Chief The Official Assistant Chief **Monthly Publication** of the **Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma**

Judy Allen, Editor Lisa Reed, Assistant Editor Vonna Shults, Webmaster Brenda Wilson, Technical Assistant **Melissa Stevens, Circulation Manager** Janine Dills, Administrative Assistant

P.O. Drawer 1210 **Durant, OK 74702** (580) 924-8280 • (800) 522-6170 Fax (580) 924-4148 www.choctawnation.com e-mail: bishinik@choctawnation.com

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

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

The BISHINIK is a nonprofit publication of the Choctaw Nation. Circulation is monthly.

BISHINIK® 2005

education. I will continue to strive to excel both as a student and as a representative of the Choctaw Nation.

Meachelle Kroenke

Lamar graduate continues education **Dear Chief Pyle,**

I want to thank you for your scholarship program. It has allowed me to earn a general degree, with an emphasis on photography, from Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas. Graduation was Saturday, August 13. I am now working on a portfolio to apply for graduate school. Thanks again because without your program it would have been very difficult.

Zachary Dulrusson

Choctaw Nation GED CLASSES

BRYAN COUNTY

Beginning date: October 10, 2005 Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Choctaw Nation Tribal Complex 16th and Locust St. (south bldg., downstairs), Durant

> **PITTSBURG COUNTY** Beginning date: October 10, 2005 Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. **EOSC** Campus 1802 E. College Ave., McAlester

SOUTH LEFLORE COUNTY

Beginning date: October 11, 2005 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Kiamichi Technology Center, Talihina

McCURTAIN COUNTY

Beginning date: October 11, 2005 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. E.T. Dunlap, 2805 NE Lincoln Rd., Idabel

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



CHRISTMAS SONGS IN THE CHOCTAW LANGUAGE

Singers: Richard Adams, Hannah Bryan, Virginia Espinoza, Lillie Roberts

Price for each CD: \$10 plus ^{\$} 4 shipping & handling
handling

Name	 	
Address	 	

City/State/Zip ____

Phone

Quantity

VISA or MasterCard Credit Card Orders Call: 888-932-9199

Total \$

Choctaw	Nation	Book	Store
	P.O. Drawer 1	210	
	Durant, OK 74	1702	

From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle ...

Award reflects success of CMDC leadership

It was an honor to attend a ceremony where Steve Benefield, the Executive Director of the Choctaw Nation Manufacturing division was awarded a plaque naming him the Minority Small Business Person of the Year. The award was presented by Dottie Overal of the SBA as a reflection



Dottie Overal of the Small Business Administration presents CMDC Executive Director Steve Benefield with the Minority Small Business Person of the Year award. and result of Steve's dedication and work ethic.

Steve Benefield took the lead position in Choctaw Manufacturing Development Corporation several years ago. He has acquired contracts for the Choctaw Nation and grown the company to a new level of success. Of course, Steve attests to the importance of each and every staff member at CMDC when complimented on his work. The management team and workers have been crucial in the accomplishments of CMDC.

Under Steve's leadership, CMDC attained ISO9001 quality certification, a critical step in the business. He then began the work of adding customers and increasing revenue. While creating jobs is of vital importance, a business must be profitable to stay open and keep those jobs.

As a supplier of military hardware for our national defense, the work done at CMDC is important. The business now has seventeen major customers, including: Raytheon, Lockheed/Martin, Boeing, U.S. Army Redstone Arsenal, U.S. Army Rock Island Arsenal, U.S Army TACOM, U.S. Army Picatinny Arsenal, U.S. Army Communications and Electronics Command, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force Air Logistics Center, Warner/Robins, Elgin Air Force Base, Altus Air Force Base, U.S. Naval Surface Warfare Center, U.S Navy NAVICP, Sikorski Aircraft, Battelle, and Portsmouth Aviation (United Kingdom).

There are 210 employees, and the size of the



original facility in Hugo has more than doubled to cover 110,000 square feet of manufacturing space and expanded into a 16 1/2 acre industrial park in McAlester.

CMDC has expanded capabilities from a build to print manufacturer to a design and manufacture firm. This capability to design has allowed the tribal business to compete for much larger contracts such as the Improved Army Space Heater (IASH) contract that was awarded in 2002. This is a ten-year contract for the design, development and manufacture of the Army's next generation multifuel space heater.

CMDC was recently awarded the U.S. Marine Corps contract for the design and manufacture of the Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacement Trailer. The future looks bright for our manufacturing division.

Message continued from Page 1_

Team primarily responds to wildfire incidents, but was asked to give support in receiving and distributing commodity supplies for the recent disaster.

Supplies that were shipped out from NAS were mostly water, ice, cots, blankets, tarps, generators and Meals Ready to Eat (MREs). A total of 2,570 truckloads of commodities were shipped from the site. At one point, Tom said that satellite telephones were the only mode of communication for the team, and the phones hard-wired into vehicles proved to be more effective than hand-held versions. Communication for trucks and supplies on all fronts was essential for the organization on the check-in, parking and check-out of all supplies. Two medical units, capable of caring for 500 patients each, were also located at NAS Meridian. These units, staffed by 300 doctors, nurses and technicians, were managed by the Public Health Service.

More than a week after New Orleans was devastated, a physically handicapped man was saved after a series of calls were routed through the Blue Team. An evacuated family staying in Hot Springs received a call from a trapped man who could not get anyone to rescue him. The household in Hot Springs attended church with the wife of a Blue Team member. Asking the wife to contact her husband and instigate a rescue started a stream of events. The Blue Team and sister Red Team leaders were notified of the New Orleans address. When the Blue Team Air Operations Search and Rescue arrived at the address, the building was vacant. They later found that the Red Team had successfully removed the man after he had been trapped 8-10 days.

The sheer magnitude of volunteers who put their life on hold while serving those in need because of Hurricane Katrina is very impressive. Each and every person who volunteered time, money and prayer is greatly appreciated.

Chaplain's Corner By the Rev. Bertram Bobb,

Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey ...

Choctaw Wellness Center now open

Physical fitness is a challenge that many of us struggle with on a daily basis. Exercise is an important part of my routine, whether I am at home or traveling. The Choctaw Wellness Center in Durant is an excellent facility that offers tremendous fitness equipment and amenities.

Newly opened, it is another example of the important focus on health that the current tribal administration has shown. Visitors entering the Wellness Center will see that it is named in memory of Randy Bailey and Gina Stanley, tribal employees who passed away at a young age due to health problems. Better health has been a priority of the Choctaw Nation for several years, exemplified by a new hospital, two new clinics, and expanded health services and educational programs at all age levels.

In addition to facilities that offer tools to better health, a Task Force has also been created to promote general health and well-being of Choctaws and the communities where we live. The Task Force has managed to initiate educational classes in schools and centers, as well as begin a youth program that increases awareness among elementary and high school students.



A successful Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival has come and gone. Many memories were made as we visited with friends and made new ones. Working alongside a committed CN staff was a real blessing.

Today we look at chapter 8 of Paul's first letter to the Corinthian Christians. This chapter has to do with the problem of the weaker brother. Not a brother being physically weak but a weaker brother spiritually.

In the physical life, some grow strong physically, there are some who remain weak. There is nothing wrong with our being strong or weak in body. Being strong or weak physically isn't such a handicap in our daily life in working. We do know that if we are sickly, we do have a handicap.

There are no differences between the physical life and the spiritual life as far as growth or growing up is concerned, though our birth into spiritual life is different from our physical birth. You are born again into the spiritual life in the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. As you take this step of faith in your physical life you are born again into a new life – a spiritual life. You are born again into God's family as a babe in Christ. This is the only way to be born again. (John 14:6). You don't have to work for salvation. You don't even have to keep the laws of God to be born again, you couldn't anyway if you wanted to, Jesus Christ who is God's Son kept all the laws of God, He didn't break one law, He couldn't, He was God. At the same time He paid the penalty for breaking the law - which is death. He died for the sins of the whole world that whosoever trusts Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16). There is nothing you can do for salvation but humbly come bowing at the foot of the cross. You can do this today. Now just as a person grows up in the physical life after he is born, so must a Christian grow up in the spiritual life after he is born again. This is God's desire for each Christian. Peter wrote to the scattered Jewish believers these words as recorded in I Peter 2:2: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." If we are not feeding on God's Word, spiritual food, we are not growing spiritually, we can't grow. We remain babes in Christ and are weak. I believe today, there are many Christians who have been Christians for 15-20-30 or even 40 years who are still babes in Christ. This is a sad case, when God would want us to grow up and produce the fruit of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23). A weaker brother is a Christian who, spiritually speaking, has not grown up. He is easily offended. Have you ever run across one of these brethren? You do one thing and this brother gets upset and gets highly critical, then you change your way and he stops, but some other Christian may get upset and begin to get critical. This goes on and on. So as we face this problem of constantly irritating believers, we are to keep in mind what we should do in a case like this as Christians. What should be our attitude toward a weaker brother, one who gets offended easily? We learn these principles in First Corinthians chapter 8. In the first seven verses of chapter 8 we are introduced to doubtful things, this is where most of our problems occur, over doubtful or questionable things. In this passage we have the test case. Portions of the meat that had been offered to idols are now in the public market for sale. If the buying and eating of this meat will offend the weaker brother, Paul says, "don't eat it." When a Christian, who is growing and has knowledge that an idol is nothing, knows this offends another brother who does not have this understanding, he should not do it.



I am very proud that the Choctaw Nation can offer the state-of-the-art Wellness Center. Choctaws are welcome to use the facility, free of charge. As Chief Pyle often reminds us, Healthy Living = Longer Life.

Original enrollee turns 100

Comanche resident has great memories

Maggie Oma Sanner Taylor turned 100 years young on September 7th of this year. She resides in Comanche and has two sons living close by and "grandchildren scattered from Nebraska to Texas."

Her only daughter passed away a few years ago after a battle with cancer.

Maggie was married 71 years and 9 months to Joe Taylor. She has great memories of wagon rides to Duncan for groceries and life on the farm with cattle and cotton. "I have been in the cotton patch all of my life – and picking it too!" said Mrs. Taylor.

When asked what technology in her hundred years has made life better, her instant reply was, "Television." She added that the food she enjoyed most was fried chicken.

"I like raw sausage, too," said Mrs. Taylor.

She said the doctor told her that the raw meat was bad for her, but she informed him she has been eating it 99 years and that ended the discussion.

Known by her friends as Oma, she is independent and lives on her own in a lovely brick home that she keeps spic and span.

Friends from the Chickasaw



Chief Pyle brings gifts from the Choctaw Nation to Maggie Taylor.

Nation CHR office keep an eye on her and assist her family in seeing to her needs.

Favorite pastime? The response was easy. "Going to church." She has attended Church of Christ since she was 14. Mrs. Taylor said the church building was originally a little school on settlers land 7 or 8 miles from her home.

"The town around me has changed a lot," said Mrs. Taylor. "The street wasn't even concrete. We would park behind the stores and walk in to do our shopping."

Mrs. Taylor thoughtfully added, "I don't know if life is any better now or not." Someone may ask, "What happens when a Christian is offended?" The Bible says, they stumble, they get out of fellowship by getting into a

critical attitude.

Though we have liberty, and though we can do the things that will not harm us, we must bear in mind, how it will affect the weaker brother. Will it cause him to stumble? If it will offend him then here is where we apply the principle of the Law of Love. Because we love the brethren and don't want to cause them to stumble, we will refrain from doing these things.

Paul wrote in I Corinthians chapter 8:9-13, "But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak. For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend."

Let's remember, though we have liberty, it does not mean we can do everything. The Bible has listed many things which are always sin. (Read Galatians 5:19-21; Colossians 3:5-10). There is no doubt that these are sinful. These are wrong, not because of how I feel about them, not because how you feel about them, but because the Word of God specifically declares them to be sin, they are evil.

We have this lesson brought up again in I Corinthians 10:23, "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient (profitable): all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not (does not build up)." Then Paul says this in verses 31-33, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. Give none offense, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved."

Now we have been talking of doubtful things in our study. Though we have liberty, we must apply the Lawof Love in order that we do not offend the weaker brother and cause him to stumble. What a responsibility we have as Christians to our fellow believers.

The Bible teaches that the soul that sinneth it shall die (Ezekiel 18:4), the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ. (Romans 6:23). Only trust the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Will you trust Jesus Christ as your personal Savior today?

Pray for America. Pray for Native Americans. Pray for our men and women in military service. Pray for the Hurricane Katrina victims.

Healthy Lifestyles **Test your IQ** for colds and flu



True or False

- T or F 1. Antibiotics help you get over colds and flu faster?
- T or F 2. It's good to take a cough suppressant whenever you have a cough?
- T or F 3. People suffering from long-term stress catch more colds?
- 4. Bronchitis is usually caused by a bacterial infection, so antibiotics can help? T or F
- T or F 5. Increasing your intake of Vitamin C can help a cold?
- T or F 6. You should stop eating dairy products when you have a cough or cold?
- T or F 7. The more people you associate with, the more likely you are to catch a cold?
- T or F 8. If your nasal discharge turns thick and green you need an antibiotic?
- T or F 9. If you catch a cold early in the season, you won't get another?
- 10. Zinc and Echinacea supplements can cut a cold short? T or F

Answers

1. False – Antibiotics work only against bacterial infections. They're useless for colds and flu, which are viral infections. However they may be needed for any secondary bacterial infections that may develop as complications of your cold or flu, like an ear or sinus infection.

2. False – If your cough is productive – junk is coming up from your lungs - coughing helps you get better faster. Drinking liquids helps to thin mucus so you can cough it up. Hard candy can help soothe your throat. A dry, nonproductive cough suppressant containing destromethorphan at night.

3. True – Chronic stress does increase the risk of catching colds.

4. False – Bronchitis is usually caused by a virus; antibiotics can't help. Most cases clear up in about two weeks with rest and lots of fluids. Bronchodialators (asthma inhalers) may be effective in lingering cases.

5. True – Vitamin C intakes can possibly shorten the length of a cold and even make it less severe. However, it's most effective when taken in the early stages of the virus. Try oranges or orange juice, tomato soup, strawberries, and/or supplements.

6. False – Most scientists are not convinced by existing research that dairy products cause excess mucus.

7. False – Actually, people with large circles of friends and family catch fewer colds. Apparently a diverse social life reduces stress and strengthens the immune system.

8. False – Your immune system is responding to fight the virus with extra immune cells, which is exactly as it should be.

9. False – Sorry, but there are hundreds of different cold viruses. You won't catch the same one again, but you may catch another.

10. The jury is still out. Some studies have

Tips for decreasing your chances of catching a cold or flu

• Wash your hands before you touch your face or eat, after using the bathroom, and after shared items like telephones or computers.

• Get enough sleep so your body isn't run down to start with.

• Avoid physical contact with sick people if possible.

• Eat a healthy, vitamin-rich diet, including five servings of fruits and vegetables daily.

• Humidify dry air during cold and flu season - dry nasal passages are less resistant to viruses.

• Use tissues instead of cloth handkerchiefs.

• Nurture your relationships with friends, family, and your community.

• Don't share towels, eating utensils, or toothbrushes.

• Consider getting a flu shot.

shown both echinacea and zinc have helped in shortening the length of a cold, but in science nothing is fact until it can be repeated under rigorous conditions - and that hasn't happened yet. If you take zinc, don't use it for more than a week or take more than 150mg a day. It may actually depress your immune system. Echinacea isn't regulated by the FDA, so you're operating on faith that the contents are truly represented on the package. Don't use Echinacea if you have an auto-immune disorder. As with all medications and supplements talk to your doctor before use.

> Information a publication of Wellness Councils of America

The Key to Success

Whole family needs to be active and make healthy food choices

i can (46 oz.) pineapple juice

1 bottle (32 oz.) lemon lime soda

1 pkg. (12 oz.) frozen raspberries

1 pkg. (16 oz.) frozen peaches

2 oranges, peeled and sliced

- - • Featured Recipe

1 can (6 oz.) frozen limeade concentrate, thawed

Combine all ingredients in a punch bowl. Stir and serve.

Per 8 oz. serving: Calories 94; Total Fat <1g; Cholesterol 0mg;

Featured recipe provided by "Fun with Fruits & Vegetables"

sodium 4mg; Carbohydrates 23g; Fiber 1.7g; Protein 1g.

2 firm, medium bananas, peeled and sliced

TROPICAL FRUIT PUNCH

What about breakfast?

One bowl of whole grain cereal, low-fat milk, and a piece of fruit are a great way to start the day. You can do better at school when you eat breakfast!

When you don't have much time before school, try a couple of slices of whole grain toast with a tablespoon of peanut butter, or a hard-boiled egg, or a piece of low-fat cheese.

A small breakfast bar and a glass of low-fat milk is another fast meal that can go a long way.

What about school lunches?

If you get your lunch at school, choose fried foods less

often. Choose low-fat milk instead of chocolate milk and a piece of fresh fruit instead of a cookie. Many schools have salad

bars; just take it easy with the salad dressing or choose lowcalorie dressing.

Small deli or sub sandwiches made with lean turkey or beef are healthy choices, too. Use mustard or a little "lite" mayonnaise.

of Oklahoma

October 28-30

Saturday night:

Dinner/Dance

Sunday morning:

Gospel Singing

PO Box 364,

ing, you could pack a lunch of healthy foods to take to school. Or you could make your lunch the night before.

Kids Cookbook.

The trick is not eating too much. Use a small plate or a bowl for your snack instead of eating out of the bag or box. It's best not to snack while watching TV or at the computer. You may eat too much.

- Snack ideas:
- Piece of fresh fruit
- Half a turkey or ham sand-

• A small bowl of cereal with

low-fat milk

• One small tortilla with one or two slices of shredded lowfat cheese or turkey

• 3 to 6 cups of low-fat or "lite" microwave popcorn, one handful of pretzels, or a few rice cakes.

• REMEMBER TO DRINK A COUPLE OF GLASSES OF WATER, TOO.

All information was collected from the website www. ndep.nih.gov. For more information regarding this topic go to www.ndep.nih.gov. For further assistance contact Raina Sparks, Dietitian, DWC, Talihina, 918-465-8030.



wich, easy on the mayo

If you have time in the morn-

I.

Т

What about afterschool snacks?

Pass this on to all alumni and friends!!!

Keeping native youth drug-free

Drug and Alcohol Abuse among native youth is a constant, everincreasing problem that reaches across geographic and socioeconomic lines within the 10 1/2 counties of Choctaw Nation. Native youth are experiencing increasing pressure to use alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs at earlier ages than what their parents did. In fact, in a recent survey, adolescents ages 12-17 named drugs – along with social and academic pressures - as the most important problem they face. In that survey, the 2003 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), states that:

• Among surveyed youths, ages 12-17, more than 1 in 9 reported current use of illegal drugs in the 30 days before the study.

• Marijuana is the major illegal drug used by this group; 75% of the adolescents who admitted to drug use, listed marijuana as their drug of choice.

• Youth, ages 12-17, who smoke cigarettes are over 8 times more likely to use illegal drugs and over 17 times more likely to abuse alcohol than nonsmoking youth.

• Youth, ages 12-17, who use marijuana weekly are 9 times more likely than nonusers to experiment with more illicit drugs or abuse alcohol, 6 times more likely to run away from home, 5 times more likely to steal, 4 times more likely to engage in violence, and 3 times more likely to have thoughts about committing suicide.

• The study cites recent research linking adolescent marijuana and/or alcohol abuse to depression, schizophrenia, and other related mental illnesses.

The good news is that research has proven that parental influence is a primary reason that youth don't use tobacco, drugs, or alcohol. Most teens that do not use tobacco, drugs, or alcohol credit their parents as a major factor in that decision.

Some things parents and mentors can do to decrease drug and alcohol abuse among their adolescents are:

- Establish and maintain good communication with your child
- Get involved in your child's life

· Make clear rules and enforce them with consistency and appropriate consequences

- Be a positive role model
- Teach your child to choose friends wisely
- Monitor your child's activities

October 24-28 is Red Ribbon Week to raise awareness about drug/alcohol abuse. During this week, the CARES Project will be conducting prevention presentations at several public schools throughout the Choctaw Nation. The Choctaw Nation CARES Project encourages families to talk about the dangers of tobacco, drug, and alcohol use with their children and grandchildren. Prevention of Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco use is vitally important to the future of our culture. If you have any questions or need more information regarding Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco prevention, please feel free to contact the CARES Project Office at 918-567-4128. Hvpim Vlla Chipunta Yvt Pi Nitak Tikba Minti, "Our Children are Our Future."





Choctaw Nation WIC WOMEN, INFANT AND CHILDREN

Serving the Choctaw Nation at 14 sites

I	SITE	PHONE	HOURS	DAYS	
I	Antlers	580-298-3161	8:30-4:00	Every Tuesday	
L	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	

Keeping your child's healthy smile!

Clean teeth are less likely to get cavities. Cavities can happen when starchy and sugary foods stay on and between teeth. Plaque with bacteria sticks there, too. The longer the bacteria stay there, the greater the chance for decay.

Begin tooth care early

• Before teeth appear: clean gums with a damp cloth

• When teeth appear: Brush with a soft child's toothbrush.

• When two teeth appear by eath other: Gently floss

• When your child is two or three: Start teaching your child to brush with toothpaste. Stay with him or her.

• Every three months to a year: Have your child's teeth checked by your child's dentist. Decide together on a schedule for check-ups. Ask about a fluoride supplement or about dental sealants, too.

Make good dental care a family habit!

· Brush at least two times a day. Brush after sugary or starchy snacks, too.

- Use toothpaste with fluoride.
- · Floss every day.

• Get regular dental check-ups. Keep the name and phone of your child's dentist handy.

Help your child learn good tooth-brushing habits.

• Care for your own teeth properly. Your child will probably do what you do.

• Encourage your child to hum the "Alphabet Song." When the song is done, teeth might be clean!

· Get a safe stepping stool. Your child needs to reach the sink, the toothbrush, and the toothpaste.

We will continue with "Keeping your child's healthy smile" in November.

- Nibbles for Health, USDA -

Choctaw **Inter-Tribal Beading Classes**

Classes are held at Antlers Community Center from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Monday and at Atoka Community Center from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Thursday. Classes are FREE and instructors are professional artists who will take the time to ensure all students learn beading techniques. Please join us! Mrs. Laws also teaches traditional Choctaw dress and men's shirts as well as moccasins and jewelry. Call: 580-927-9957

Arts & Crafts Show & Sale 9 a.m.-5 p.m. October 21-22 Choctaw **Community Center** N. "M" St., Hugo next to the Indian Clinic \$10 for booth per day. Outside booths available for the same price. To make reservations call Reatha at 580-326-2558. Deadline is October 14. Concession available.

District 12 Annual Cakewalk and Chili Supper 6 p.m. at the **Coalgate Choctaw Community Center** All proceeds go to the Coalgate District 12 Children's Christmas Party. Bring a cake and join us.

The children of Grace and Albert Carpenter cordially invite family and friends to a

Thanksgiving Dinner 11 a.m. - November 24 Choctaw **Community Center** 1636 S. George Nigh Expy. McAlester, Okla. Please bringyour favorite covered dish. The turkeys and hams with all the trimmings will be provided. For any questions, please contact Billy Sue Allen at 918-256-3305.

Tom LeFlore is making pashofa.

Choctaw Nation REACH 2010 DIABETES 5k

Saturday, October 29, 2005 Talihina, Oklahoma Complete this form and mail to: **CNHCC REACH 2010** One Choctaw Way Talihina, OK 74571 1-800-349-7026, ext. 6044 or 6958 No Registration Fee! Course certified by Glen's Road Race



Choctaw Nation REACH 2010 Diabetes 5k run/walk will be held during the Talihina Chamber of Commerce Fall Foliage Festival. Other activities include Arts & Crafts, Antique Tractor Show & Pull, Car Show, Children's Corner, downtown sidewalk sales and live entertainment. Runners and walkers may register by mail by using the form below:

Name			Race day age	D	ate of	birth _		Sex
Address			City			S	state	
Run	_Walk	_ Shirt Size:	: Adult – Sm	Med	Lg	XL	XXL	XXXL

Awards given to over all male and female runners and age groups 3 deep up to 75 and over.

Registration: 9 a.m.-10 a.m. Runners/Walkers: start at 10 a.m.

Waiver of Liability: I know that this event is to be held in a residential area and may be hazardous. I assume the risk and responsibility for my safety. I hereby waive all claims that I or my estate may have against any persons or entities of loss was caused be the negligence of those parties. I attest that I am physically fit and prepared for this event. I grant full permission for organizers to use photographs of me or my child in the Bishinik or other newsletter articles for physical promotion materials.

_____Date: ____

Warnings

• If you have any condition

that would impair or limit your

ability to engage in physical ac-

tivity, please consult a physician

before attempting this activity.

This information is not intended

as a substitute for professional

• If you have problems doing

interval training, try running to a

marker for yourself, then walk-

ing the rest of the way. Every

run after that, try and break your

marker. This will increase your

running while bringing down

For more information

call Wellness Education

REACH 2010

at 1-800-349-7046,

ext. 6044 or 6958

medical advice or treatment.

Increase Distance

your walking distance.

Parent or Guardian if under 18 years

How to train to run your first 5k

miles) is the most popular running distance in the United States, and it's a good introduction to distance running.

Battle

Diabetes and WIN!

The Race

Signed: _

1. Invest in a good pair of running shoes and comfortable running clothes.

2. Begin by walking. You'll want to convert 20 to 30 minutes of walking into 20 to 30 minutes of running.

3. Take 10 weeks. For each walk during the first week, intersperse three 1-minute segments of jogging or running to your program.

4. Add 3 minutes of running to the three segments during each week. One-minute segments become 2-minute segments the second week, become 3-minute segments the third week and so

The 5k (5 kilometers or 3.1 on. By the end of 10 weeks, you ning group if possible. should be completing a 30-minute jog.

5. Aim for at least three training sessions per week. Rest on days in between sessions. Don't do them consecutively.

6. Aim to finish the race; don't aim for a specific time. Run as you would in your training sessions.

7. Run relaxed. Don't get pulled out into a sprint by the crowd.

Tips

• Start at the doctor's office. Get a checkup and make sure you're fit to run.

• Warm up and cool down, including stretching, for every workout. · Consider using a heart rate

monitor. • Train with a partner or a run-

To the youth of the nation ...

Prevent those sports injuries

By Chelsea Wells

It's great to be involved in different sports, but if not careful many teens can get hurt. Here are some statistics about sports injuries:

Sport & Product Code	Estimated # of Cases	Age Percents Age 0-4	Age Percents Age 5-14	Age Percents Age 15-24
Baseball	180,582	4.5	50.4	23.3
Basketball	631,186	0.6	31.5	46.4
Cheerleading	18,858	0.0	44.8	54.8
Football	355,247	0.3	45.0	43.1
Skateboards	54,532	2.7	50.7	39.5
Soccer	169,734	0.5	45.7	37.6
Softball	132,625	0.3	19.2	30.1
Track & Field	15,560	0.0	40.9	54.6

Team sports are a great way for kids to improve physical fitness, coordination and self-discipline. Unfortunately, sports can also result in injuries. The reason for all these injuries? Orthopedic surgeons say it's mostly overuse syndrome, in which kids are playing the same sport constantly, instead of changing sports each season. They suggest cross-training in moderation throughout the year to prevent one area from becoming overworked and stressed.

To help reduce some of the risk of your child being injured by sports, you may wish to do the following:

• Make sure your child is healthy before the season starts

• Tell the coach of any existing medical conditions your child may have

- Begin some form of physical exercise before season starts
- Warm up before beginning any activity
- Plenty of rest breaks
- Replenish fluids
- Cool down and stretch after playing

• Children need to listen to their body and let parent or coach know of any pain or discomfort that develops



Executive Director Gary Batton, Susan Holland and Chief Gregory E. Pyle.

Holland earns degree in Health Information

Susan A. Holland of Poteau was recently congratulated by Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Executive Director of Choctaw Health Services Gary Batton for receiving her Associate Applied Science Degree in Health Information. She is the first recipient to graduate on the Chief Gregory E. Pyle Scholarship.

Two years ago, Susan was chosen to receive one of the four prestigious awards from Chief Pyle to advance her knowledge and skill in a much-needed health care area in the Choctaw Nation. She returned to college with determination, courage, and a standard of excellence to obtain her degree from Tulsa Community College and to become certified as a Reimbursement and Coding Specialist. She completed her college work with a 4.0 gpa.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

November 1

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

November 2

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

November 3

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

November 4

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

November 7

Warehouse opens

November 23

Last day for the month at Warehouse

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

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

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

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

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.

Poteau River watershed selected for conservation security program

The Poteau River Watershed was one of the three Oklahoma watersheds selected by the Secretary of Agriculture for the 2006 Conservation Security Program (CSP). The sign-up period will take place early in fiscal year 2006.

The Poteau River watershed covers a portion of LeFlore, Latimer, and Haskell Counties in Oklahoma and Scott, Sebastian and Polk Counties in Arkansas.

"CSP is different from most USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) programs," said Kenneth Risenhoover, District Conservationist for the LeFlore County Conservation District. "CSP is not designed to fix problems, but will reward farmers and ranchers for their ongoing and past stewardship activities on their land. The conservation efforts of producers benefits everyone through healthier soil, cleaner water, and improved wildlife habitat. CSP demonstrates a cooperative public-private landowner partnership can be successful."

A sign-up announcement will be published that will detail specific program requirements in the Poteau River Watershed. In addition, local community meetings will be held to answer questions. Please call the Poteau, Wilburton, or Stigler NRCS Field Office or the LeFlore, Latimer, or Haskell County Conservation District Office if you have questions or need more information. All programs and services of the Natural Resources Conservation Service are provided in a

nondiscriminatory manner. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Susan has served the Choctaw Nation Health Service at the Rubin White Health Clinic in Poteau for eight years. She started her career as an administrative assistant and later was placed as the assistant facility director. In 2001, she became the Medical Records Supervisor and it was in this position she saw the need to increase her expertise in serving the patients and Choctaw Nation more efficiently as a certified Health Information Technician. Working in the position of an R.H.I.T., she will help ensure the quality of medical records, and assemble and analyze patient data for the purpose of improving patient care and controlling costs.

Susan greatly appreciates the financial help that Chief Pyle and the Choctaw Nation have given her to further her education. She plans to use this knowledge and skill to give back to the Choctaw people who are seeking quality health care.



Andrew Michael Hudson

Karmella Larssen and Eddy Hudson of Ponca City would like to announce the birth of their son, Andrew Michael Hudson. He was born August 11, 2005, in Wichita, Kansas, weighing 5 pounds 4 ounces and



measuring 18 inches long. Grandparents are Carl and Edith Larssen of Newkirk, Rae Mae Hudson of Ponca City, and the late Michael D. Hudson. Great-grandmother is the late Edna Sampson of Eagletown.

Kayleigh Ann Pistokache

Proud parents Amanda Vanessa Pistokache and Jesse Eugene Pistokache Jr. would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Kayleigh Ann Pistokache. She was born at 11 p.m. September 7, 2005, weighing 7 pounds 6 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

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 and Debbie and Jim Reynolds of Haileyville. Great-grandparents are Pat and Claude Lively of Elm Point, Dorothy Dupire of Haileyville and Mary and Everett Kenworthy of Pennsylvania. Great-great-grandmothers include Ruby Dean of Hartshorne and Peggy VanHoozer of McAlester.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

October 2005, BISHINIK, Page 6





Crowder Hillibillies

Dressed up for Hillbilly Day at the Crowder Choctaw Center are, front row, Ron Gragg, Troy Smith, Pat Smith, and Betty Phelps; and back row, Concetta Gragg, President; Sue Coonfield, Vice President; and Betty Wood, Secretary/Treasurer. Everyone had a grand ol'time. We would like to extend a welcome to Native Americans and their spouses in the Crowder area to join us for lunch on Wednesdays at 11 a.m.

Look who turned six

Birthday wishes go out to Robert Jr. who turned six on September 15. Robert's parents are Edwanna and Robert Briley Sr. of Wright City and his grandmother is Lavada Baker of Wright City.

We would also like to say happy birthday to Mike Baker of Wright City on September 8 and Bo Baker of Moore on September 14.

Happy birthday

We would like to wish Thomas and Tom Gaines a belated happy birthday. Thomas turned 19 on August 1 and his dad, Tom, turned a year older on August 6. Thomas played in the National All-Star Bowl in Arlington, Texas, on June 25 and in the Native American All-Star Bowl on July 2 at Haskell College in Lawrence, Kansas.

We would also like to wish a happy birthday to TJ Gaines who turned 18 on September 22. He is pictured here with his sister, Tisha. TJ is a senior at Stratford High School and Tisha is a senior





Rebecca turns 12

Rebecca Wall turned 12 years old on September 12. Happy birthday, Rebecca, from Mama, Daddy and Mattie.

Look who's five

Happy birthday, Joshua Caleb Warren. He had his fifth birthday on September 7. He is the son of Gwen and Jim Warren of Soper. Grandparents are Orville and Delsie Warren, Soper, and Ray and Roxie St. Clair, Durant. Josh enjoys being a cowboy and playing with his Hot Wheels. He loves his sister, Britney, and brothers, Richie, Ricky and Neil.

Aubri is three

Aubri Lynn Brauning turned three years old on July 21. She celebrated with a birthday party on July 24th. at Mekusukeg Mission in Seminole. Aubri is the daughter of Justin Brauning and Amber Coon, Seminole. Grandparents are Jim and Kay Leader Brauning, Bowlegs, and Jimmy and Susan Harjo, Seminole. Her great-grandparents are Helen Clifford Leader and the late Charley

"Sonny" Leader, Bowlegs, and Wayne and Nelmon Brauning, Seminole. Her great-great-grandma is Mary Lois Goer Clifford, Ada.

Happy third birthday

Adreana Shae Williams would like to wish her baby sister, Ashayla Jayde Williams, a very happy third birthday on October 28. Ashayla will be celebrating her birthday with a "Dora the Explorer" party. The girls' parents are Duke and Rehauna Williams, Broken Bow. Grandparents are Regina Flanagin, John and Sandra Williams, all of Broken

Bow. Great grandparents are Jean Williams of Broken Bow, Elsie Wesley of Sobol, Lenis Wesley of Hugo and the late Randal Lewis and Esther Lewis Bohanon. Also wishing Shae-Shae a very happy birthday are her Uncles Lee, Chris, and Jack, and her Aunt Amy and cousin, Brian Williams.

Happy birthday

you two

Hunter Riley Hicks celebrated his first birthday on August 9, while hissister, Gabrielle Nova, turned three on May 27. Here's to another delightful fun-filled year! May God see you healthy and safe. - Mom and Dad

Happy 19th birthday

Billy and Lettie Moore would like to wish their granddaughter, Sonya Hamilton, a happy 19th birthday on October 5.



Celebrating 80th

Walter Amos of McAlester will be celebrating his 80th birthday on October 10. His family would like to wish him a very happy 80th birthday! He and his wife, Sarah, have eight children, Kathy, Becky and Leanna of McAlester, Paul of Oklahoma City, Larry of McKinney, Texas, David of Arlington, Texas, Tim of Durant, and Mark of Whitesboro, Texas.

Walter is very active in the Choctaw Nation senior citizen program in McAlester and



also was selected as the male Choctaw Nation Outstanding Elder for District 11 for 2005. He also is an avid fan of the McAlester High School Buffaloes football and baseball teams. He is an active member of the Salvation Army church and serves on the church council. He is a member of the League of Mercy, where he helps with nursing home visitation. He also volunteers during the Christmas season with the ringing of the bells and distribution of food and gifts for those in need. Walter still mows the church property and does maintenance and cleaning at the church. He helps with setting up and taking down air conditioners for the elderly and disabled. He helps in the delivery of Meals on Wheels for the McAlester Community Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. He also volunteers for the Crowder Choctaw Nation senior program. He retired from the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. and the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant. He is an Army veteran of World War II and is a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Legion. He is also a Mason.

Happy second birthday

Happy second birthday to Ethan Ray Hunter of Tulare, California, on September 6. Ethan is the son of Gabriel and Raquel; grandson of Delbert; great-grandson of Tandy (original enrollee); and great-great-grandson of Tecumseh.

Kristianna turns eleven

Kristianna Holder will celebrate her eleventh birthday with a party at a local amusement park. She is the granddaughter of Clark and Peggy Holder of Dallas, Texas. She is in the fifth grade at Light House Christian Academy. Happy birthday, Kristianna, on October 10. Also, happy birthday to Peggy Holder who turned 68 on September 20.

B.J. turns 23

Brandon "B.J." Labor of Stigler will be 23 years old on October 3. Happy birthday! Have a great day! - April, Tater, Mom, Dad, Tyler Labor.

Happy birthday, April

April Labor celebrated her birthday on September 13. She lives in Stigler with her husband, B.J., and son, Brandon aka "Tater," and is expecting her second child in November. Happy birthday! - B.J., Tater, Tammie, Hardy and Tyler.

Happy birthday











at Ada High School. Younger brother Dal-

ton is a freshman at Ada Junior High. Their parents are proud of all four – Thomas, Tisha, TJ and Dalton – who are awesome athletes. Parents are Tom and Barbara Gaines of Ada and Shelly Haskins and Steve Lunsford of Stratford.

Wedding bells

Congratulations Katherine Jorgensen and Wesley Gray. The couple was married August 14, 2005, at Pen Ryn Mansion, Pennsyl-Bensalem, vania. Tish Colombi, Mayor of Haddonfield, New Jersey, officiated.



The bride is the daughter of Craig and Anne Jorgensen of Haddonfield. She is a 2003 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and is currently working on a Ph.D. in history from Johns Hopkins University. The groom, son of William and Jill Gray of Cottonwood, California, is a 1998 graduate of West Valley High School. He earned a B.S. in economics at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; M.B.A. in finance from the University of Chicago, and is working on a Ph.D. in finance at the University of Chicago. Wesley is also currently a lieutenant in ground intelligence with the U.S. Marine Corps.

They will reside in Baltimore, Maryland, and Okinawa, Japan.

Happy 16th birthday

Happy sweet 16, Chris Hall. He celebrated his birthday on September 18. I am so proud of you and thank you for being my best friend - Mom.

Celebrating October birthdays

Darrell Jefferson is sending happy birthday wishes to his mother, Ruthie Jefferson; his brother, Jason Jefferson, and his sister, Andrea Jefferson.

Happy birthday, Deborah

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Moore of Camden, Arkansas, would like to wish their daughter, Deborah Ilene Moore, a happy 37th birthday on October 15.

Family and friends say happy birthday

Happy 18th birthday to Brent L. Greenwood on September 8. His dad, Tony, turned 41 on September 8, also. Brent's Uncle Charles had a birthday on September 10. And to Debbie Jefferson Louis, happy birthday on September 25 from Jamie.

OSU student earns degree in psychology

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Paul Ryan Goodner on graduating Oklahoma State University with a B.A. in psychology.

Cameron turns two

Cameron Gage Young turned two years old on September 13. His parents, Clint and Lisa Young; brother and sister, Cannon and Baylee Jenkins; and grandparents, William and Rhonda Young, Theresa Maderer, Rick and Denise Chappell, of Broken Bow and Eagletown, all wish him a very happy second birthday.

Happy birthday

Grandfather and Grandmother would like to say happy birthday, Josh, on August 8. We are very proud of you. Josh Wright is the son of Mike and Mildred Wright of Antlers, who as parents, can be proud of the fine teaching we see in this grandson.

Awards ceremony

Heather Wright accompanied her grandfather, Justin Greenwood, to the Dart's Efficiency Awards in Dallas. They enjoyed the meal and entertainment. Grandfather enjoyed and welcomed this show of support.

Happy birthday, Christopher

A very happy 20th birthday on September 5 to Christopher Cummins from his Dad.

A trio of birthday wishes

Happy birthday wishes from their mom are sent to Dakota Clarke, August 30; Christopher Clark, September 20; and Donny Clarke, September 22.



Birthday wishes

A daughter is a joy to a mother's heart. Happy birthday, Tracy Ann, from Mom and your sons, Cody and Kendell. Also, happy birthday, Dad! You don't get older, you just keep getting better!

We want to wish our dear friend, Betty Williams, a very happy birthday on October 9. You just go, girl! - Cody, Louise and Bob.



Happy birthday to Donnie Wallace from stepdad and Mom; also, Teddy and Brooklyn.



Happy birthday to Matthew Lawrence Wall from Mama, Daddy and Rebecca. Mattie turns one year old on October 28.



Congratulations

Kelly Lea Zimmerman, creator and writer of the "Return of the Native" project, is a holistic health practitioner who holds a bachelor's degree in human development and has just recently completed her master's degree in spiritual psychology.



"Return of the Native" is a body of work

relating to the welfare of the American Indian and other indigenous groups residing in the United States. She has just completed the first of these projects, "Healthwise," an Integrative Health Care Proposal that is intended to cultivate the awareness of traditional healing practices.

Carr graduates from OU

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Amy Nicole Carr. She graduated in December 2004 from the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor's degree in education.

Kindrick completes legal studies

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Jessica Marie Kindrick, a May 2005 graduate of East Central University where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies.

Congratulations

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Christopher Todd Jackson on receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ft. Lewis College.











Experienced administrator leads Eastern's McAlester campus



By Hank Mooney EOSC Office of Public

Information An administrator with 13 years experience in mid-sized and large public school districts as well as a technology center has joined the Eastern Oklahoma State College staff as Dean of Eastern's McAlester

Stephen E. Smith

Stephen E. Smith replaces Mark Lauerman at the McAlester campus who recently retired from Oklahoma higher education following more than 28 years service to Eastern.

campus.

Smith comes to Eastern from Meridian Technology Center where he served as the director of full-time programs. His duties there included teacher supervision, staff evaluations, personnel, program development, program budgeting, student supervision, recruitment, marketing and campus promotion.

While at Meridian he completed the requirements of the Doctor of Education from the College of Education at Oklahoma State University last spring semester. He previously had earned a Specialist in Educational Administration degree from OSU.

He completed his bachelor's (1991) and master's (1995) degrees in education at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

Smith says with the recent completion of the Clark Bass Building and addition of more classroom area on the McAlester campus Eastern can now offer more programs and expand class offerings.

"We plan to continue working to update and create the 2+2 agreements (associate degree followed by bachelor's program) to make the transition seamless for Eastern students choosing to attend the four-year bachelor degree programs offered by East Central University and Southeastern Oklahoma State University on the McAlester campus.

"We are also interested in promoting the master's degree programs the two universities offer on the McAlester campus," Smith said.

According to Smith a number of allied health programs will begin to surface on the campus to fill needs of the area.



Cranes roost near Cloudcroft, New Mexico

The Crane family came in flocks for the much-awaited reunion held every two years at Waterfall Lodge, near Cloudcroft, New Mexico. This family has met in this vicinity since its inception in 1983. This year's date was July 8-10.

On Thursday afternoon, July 8, the migration of Cranes was underway. Small flocks were starting to arrive from all directions, with some still coming in on Friday. On Thursday the group enjoyed hamburgers and hotdogs, Friday the flock feasted on spaghetti and Saturday noon all enjoyed a catered meal prepared locally.

At 3 p.m. on Saturday afternoon we held our annual auction. This event has become the highlight of the reunion. This year's winner was almost a tie, a handmade Mama and Papa Crane quilt, made by Rebecca Rice of Centrahoma and a silver letter opener that belonged to Nannette Crane Wickham of Kilgore, Texas, our oldest direct descendant of the Crane brothers.

There were lots of getting reaquainted, reminiscing, picture-taking and sharing memories. For the younger set there were darts, basketball, hiking, fishing, bike riding and the swinging washer game. Each night we sat around a campfire, roasted marshmallows and was entertained by our own guitarists. Wonderful music guys!!!!

Two couples celebrated 50th wedding anniversaries in 2005, Blan Green and Gil Klecan of San Diego, California, on August 13, 1955, and Barbara Crane and Arnold Shearman of Maramec, Oklahoma, on July 2, 1955.

We had seven states represented by 63 attendees.

Oklahoma: Berniece Shope Crane, David and Linda Roach Crane of Centrahoma; Ken and Debbie Baxter Crane of Seminole, Jean Crane Bridges, Wayne and Vickie Bridges Prestage, Mark Prestage, Rebecca Prestage Davis with Michael and Makayla of Sand Springs, Victor and Jo Crane Rice with Dakota and Amanda Brashier with Amanda's friend Christian, Rick Rice of Ada and Arnold and Barbara Crane Shearman and Emma Boddy Crane of Maramec.

Texas: Jim and Casey Crane of Arlington, and Ken Wickham of Austin [son of Nannette Crane Wickham.

Missouri: Cody Sales of Diamond

California: Sheryl Hink of Fountain Valley, Philip Crane with friend Donna Luney of Spring Valley, Rodney Hink of Westminister, Bobby and Dorinda Rice Faaborg of Poway, Yens and Kelly Phillips Knufken, Nancy Menard Hassing, Blan Green Klecan, Amy Klecan with Heidi and Alan of San Diego.

Arizona: Margaret Crane Lovelis, Stephanie Lovelis, Mike and Jamie Martin Lovelis with Jim and Linsday and Linsday's friend Byron, Brad and Paula Crane Zeek, Caley and Starla Estes Zeek with children Jade, Sydney and Jailane all of Coolidge, Tom Klecan of Carefree and Bobby Gene and Nancy Hughes Crane with grandson Armando of Tucson.

Oregon: Courtney Zeek of Sandy and Gary Hink with friend Debbie Sobol of Medford.

Wyoming: Chris and Suzi Crane Zielinski w/ children Andy & Zoe of Cheyenne.

On Sunday morning everyone parted exchanging hugs and already making plans for 2007.

Sixth Native American Symposium

Native Women in the Arts, Education, and Leadership November 10-11, 2005 Southeastern Oklahoma State University Durant – Featured Speakers –

Buffy Sainte-Marie and Winona LaDuke

Southeastern Oklahoma State University invites the community, the Indian Nations, students, scholars, educators, and all who are interested in studying and sharing the experience of the largest cultural minority in Oklahoma to attend the Sixth Native American Symposium: Native Women in the Arts, Education, and Leadership. This event features presentations about Native American literature, history, sociology, politics, education, science, art, and film. Scholars, artists, and members of Indian Nations from around the United States and Canada will come together to discuss topics related to the Native American experience. For more information, contact Dr. Daniel Althoff, 580-745-2584 or dalthoff@sosu.edu.



Young Marine creates artistic mask

Students were to create a mask with a mold made from plastering their own hands, arms, and face. Taryn Young Collinsworth used the mask to depict herself as a Young Marine, since that is the organization with which she most identifies. She is pictured above with art teacher Todd Muskopff. Taryn is the daughter of the late John Collinsworth, an Army veteran, and Molly Hynes Collinsworth, prior Air Force and the granddaughter of an original enrollee. Following in the footsteps of her parents, she joined the Miami Valley Young Marines, then known as the Dayton Young Marines, at the age of 8. Now 14, she holds the highest ranking position possible in her unit – Sergeant Major.



Taryn lives in Fairborn, Ohio, and is a freshman at Carroll High School, a Catholic school in Dayton. Taryn is not only actively involved in Young Marines, but also very active in her parish, ministering to children who want to join church, helping with Sunday school and Vacation Bible



School, serving at the altar, distributing the Eucharist, and lectoring at Sunday services, and helping with clerical duties. She is an Irish step dancer, and a member of a swim team. In addition, she plays acoustic and electric guitar. After finishing high school, Taryn would like to attend college and eventually become an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Thanksgiving Dinners
Thanksgiving Dinners
AntlersNovember 15 at 6 p.m., Community Center
AtokaNovember 9 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
BethelNovember 21 at 5 p.m., Community Center
Broken BowNovember 14 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
Coalgate Sr. CitizensNovember 16 at 12 noon, Community Center
Coalgate CommunityNovember 18 at 6 p.m., Community Center
Crowder Sr. CitizensNovember 9 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
Crowder CommunityNovember 20 at 12:30 p.m., Community Center
Durant November 17 at 6 p.m., Bingo Hall
HugoNovember 17 at 6 p.m., Community Center
IdabelNovember 14 at 12 noon, Community Center
McAlester Sr. CitizensNovember 16 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
McAlester CommunityNovember 20 at 1 p.m., Community Center
PoteauNovember 16 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
SmithvilleNovember 23 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
SpiroNovember 15 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
StiglerNovember 22 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
TalihinaNovember 22 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
TuskahomaNovember 8 at 6 p.m., Cafeteria on Capitol Grounds
WilburtonNovember 16 at 11:30 a.m., Community Center
Wright CityNovember 17 at 6 p.m., Community Center

OVER \$20,000 IN PRIZE MONEY!

Come experience the rich culture of the Choctaw Nation at Choctaw Casino Resorts First Annual Pow-Wow beginning at 10 a.m. It will be held in our beautiful new Choctaw Coliseum located next to the Choctaw Casino in Durant, Oklahoma. The Coliseum is climate-controlled, hosts 4 concession areas and has stadium bleachers and seating. Native American arts and crafts booths will fill our concourse. The public is invited to attend and share in our heritage. Pow-Wow admission is Free.

Schedule

> Pow-Wow Coordinator: Willard Polk

Head Staff

Arena Director: Mickey Weryackwe, Comanche Master of Ceremonies: Tim Tallchief 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 Areketa

> Color Guard: Choctaw Nation



Hwy 69/75, Durant, OK 580-931-8645 www.choctawcoliseum.com



Choctaw Youth Dancers.



With their aunts on either side, Dedra Noah of Broken Bow and Dorsey Myers of Wright City are married by minister Olin Williams during a Choctaw ceremony September 4.

Wedding singers.





Miss Choctaw Nation Erica McMillan performs the Lord's Prayer in sign language.



Stickball exhibition.



Alisha Picone of Jones





Academy won first place in the Hand Stitch Children's Division.

QUILT SHOW RESULTS

Machine Stitch

1st: Dorothy Spears2nd: James Elliott

Hand Stitch

- 1st: Dorothy Steelman2nd: Jewell Shockley and Pam Hall
- 3rd: Darlene Smith

Hand Stitch Children's Division

1st: Alisha Picone



Betty Ketcheshawno makes banaha in the village.

Nation continued from Page 1_____

a young man stationed in Iraq who was extremely thankful for the items he unboxed and shared with his friends. "Please pray for us," was the only request in the moving letter.

Veterans and their families will benefit from a new program the Chief announced in his speech. A Veterans Advocacy Program is on line to begin in October. "We have found that it can be very cumbersome to get assistance from the federal government," said the Chief. "Criteria is different for ages, war services, etc., so we are putting together a program to show people the ropes to access assistance from veterans programs," said Chief Pyle.

The huge water jugs on the edge of the stage were pointed out. "These containers holding dollars donated by all of you are only one way to contribute to Hurricane Katrina Assistance."

Chief Pyle said, "The Choctaw Nation, along with the Council, school children, and people everywhere, will help. Two major fundraisers will be a full day of profits from Choctaw Casinos and a full week of profits from fuel sales at 13 travel plazas.

"It is the history of the Choctaw People to open our hearts and open our arms. God wants us to share – it is the right thing to do."



Overall winners of the 5k, pictured with Chief Pyle, are Tom Brennan, Poteau, and Ana Hollans, Mena, Arkansas.



Traveling the farthest to attend the festival was Wynoka Jack of Anchorage, Alaska.

Grand entry begins.



Adeline Hudson grinds corn with a kiti.



The oldest lady attending Monday was Johnie Ruth Cooper, 86, of Keota.

2005 LABOR DAY FESTIVAL WINNERS

Men's Fast Pitch 1st: Next of Kin; 2nd: Syko; 3rd: Lighthorsemen; 4th: Red Hawks Women's Fast Pitch 1st: Blackjack Casino; 2nd: Country Gal; 3rd: Chatas Volleyball 1st: Dog Soldiers; 2nd: Native Heat Tough, Tough Choctaw 1st: Andrew Cossey; 2nd: Carson Williams; Fighting Heart: Jerry Anderson Choctaw Combine 1st: David Ralston; 2nd: Andrew Cossey; 3rd: Waddel Hearn



David Ralston wins the Choctaw Combine.



Chief Gregory E. Pyle congratulates Cecil Spring, 90, of Mena, Arkansas, the oldest man at Monday's festivities.



Men's horseshoe singles winners are Allen Isham, second place, and Wilson Oosahwe Jr., first place and men's ringer champ.



Taking first in men's doubles in horseshoes are Wilson Oosawe and Dave Killer.



Second place in men's horseshoe doubles are Bunky Impson and Glen Isham.



Women's singles winners are Wanda Morris, first, and Phyllis Bohanon, second.



Youth champions in the domino tournament are first, Alex Battiest, and second, Jessica Boyd.





Women's horseshoe doubles champions are Ava Hilton and Phyllis Bohanon, first.



Second place in women's horseshoe doubles are Ruby Long and Claudia Hodge.





Third in women's singles is Claudia Hodge.





First place group in the 10-13 division of the 3-on-3 Hoop Tournament are Caddo Bruins – Chelsea Reece, Mack Fincher, Kelsey Packwood and Evan Stevens.



Lots of youngsters participated in the youngest division of the free throw contest.



Councilman Perry Thompson passes out prizes to the winners of the terrapin race in the 4-7 age group: Joseph Thompson, Hugo, third; Jandra Levi, El Reno, first, and Mason Emert, Bennington, second.



Alexis Thompson of Hugo won first place in the 8-12 best-dressed division.



Ava Hilton is women's ringer champion.



Quartermaine Briggs of Nashoba had the best-dressed terrapin in the 0-3 age group.



Devin Emert, Bennington, brought the best-dressed terrapin the 4-7 group.



0-3 Terrapin Race: Quartermaine Briggs, Nashoba, first place; Katy Cook, El Reno, second, and Erica Grides, Durant, third.

Youth checker winners are first, Nathan Lewis, and second, J.J. Lewis.



Domino champs are Rickey Moon, first place, and Stephanie Jones, second place.



The oldest group of terrapin race winners, pictured with Councilman Perry Thompson, are Sarah Thompson, Hugo, first; Alexis Thompson, Hugo, third, and Tyler Gardner, Union City, second.

E La

OBITUARIES

Billy E. Ott Tom Edd Ott

Born in Hartshorne, these two brothers, Billy E. Ott and Tom Edd Ott, passed away one year apart. Tom, 81, passed on September 10, 2004, in Redding, California, and Billy, 78, on August 11, 2005, in Big Spring, Texas.

They were proud to be part of the Choctaw Nation and loved reading the Bishinik. They both served their country in the U.S. Army during World War II and they both knew Jesus Christ as their Living Savior.

Billy and Tom were sons of Mitchell Ott and Mollie Wilson Ott of Hartshorne, who preceded them in death many years ago. They were also preceded in death by two sisters, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Ott Wills and Opal Ott Thomason; a half-sister, Hazel Ott Gooch; and a brother, Mitchell Ott Jr. who also served his country during World War II as a paratrooper. Billy's wife, Betty, also preceded him in death in 2004.

Survivors include a brother, Alfred Ott, of Higgins, Oklahoma, and a sister, Alma Ruth Ott Stubblefield of Shasta Lake, California, along with many nieces and nephews in Oklahoma and California. Tom is survived by his wife, Kathryn; three children and four grandchildren, all living in Northern California. Billy is survived by stepson Kenneth Geer and his wife, Lela, and their two children of Big Spring, Texas.

Family and friends will miss them. We were all proud of them and will cherish the memories we have of them. And we rejoice that they knew the Lord.

Harold Glenn Carey

The Rev. Harold Glenn Carey Sr., also known as "Okie" and "Rusty," passed away March 28, 2005, surrounded by his loving wife, children and grandchildren. He was born August 9, 1935, at Kiowa Tribe Hospital, Lawton, Oklahoma, to Nancy Elva O'Bannon-Carey and Elmer Glenn Carey. Phoebe Austin, his great-aunt, raised him and his cousin, Jack Austin, after the passing of his mother.

Carey's schooling started at Valliant Elementary before being sent to the Chilocco Indian School. He received his bachelor's

degree in physical education at Eastern A&M in Wilburton. He joined the U.S. Army in 1956 and was honorably discharged in 1958. He met Janice Arlene Lay in Wright City and they were married at the Wright City First Baptist Church on July 10, 1959.

Getting a job at Weyerhaeuser, he moved his wife and daughter, Lynnette, to Klamath Falls, Oregon, in 1960. The family expanded to six with two sons and another daughter, Harold Glenn, Jon Lesley, and Stephanie Denise. Mr. Carey worked at Weyerhaeuser until late spring 1969 when he took a leave of absence to work at the only mill in Alaska, located in Wrangell. Moving back to Klamath, he returned to work for Weyerhaeuser in the fall of 1969 where he worked until May 29, 1992. Mr. Carey was the sawyer who sawed the last log in the mill. After that he attended Rogue Community College where he studied landscape maintenance. Around the same time, Lakeview Lumber, in Lakeview, Oregon, hired him. Two years later he sawed that mill's last log as it also had to be closed.

Mr. Carey was then employed by Boise Cascade to be a part of a new project called NAFTA. He went to Papanoa, Mexico, where he trained the nationals in the sawing portion of the lumber trade. Coming back to Klamath, he opened Carey's Lawn Care and Maintenance. Not one to like spare time, he went to work part-time for the Nickel. In the middle of all this, he and his wife served as ministers of the Gospel. They pastored three churches as well as traveling between

Leo Bice

Leo Bice of San Simon, Arizona, passed away July 25, 2005. He was born June 11, 1922, in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Mr. Bice was a veteran of World War II during which he was a member of 158 Infantry Regiment, Bushmasters, and was awarded a bronze star. He had lived in San Simon for the past 17 years.

Survivors include his son, Rick Bice; four grandchildren and 12 great-grand-children.

Mildred Beames Cleveland

Mildred Beames Cleveland passed away August 24, 2005, at Purcell Municipal Hospital. She was born September 22, 1917, in Bokchito to Josiah and Minnie Beames.

She married C.J. Cleveland and they later moved to Oklahoma City, where they raised five children, Mildred, Buzzy, Shirley, Jerry and Bobby. Mildred enjoyed attending all of her children's baseball games and was well-known for her enthusiastic response when she disagreed with an umpire's call. She loved to cook and crochet. In 1975, Mildred and C.J. retired and sold their business, Mildred's Dance Wear, and moved back to Bokchito to the land on which she grew up. They built a house in almost the exact same location as her original homeplace. She was very proud of her Choctaw heritage and dearly loved the Choctaw Chief. She had many friends among the Bryan County Choctaw Seniors and enjoyed attending Choctaw Nation activities.

In recent years, Mildred enjoyed watching baseball games on TV. She knew every Yankee player by name and searched every channel looking for a Yankee game on TV. Pizza or Mexican food never failed to bring a smile to her face. For the last two years, Mildred resided at Purcell Assisted Living Center, where she enjoyed the staff and the wonderful care they gave her. Mildred would brag about all the attention she received from the staff. She won runner-up in the Mrs. Assisted Living for Cleveland County.

She is survived by 17 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Letha L. Reed

Letha L. Reed, 98, of McAlester, passed away August 17, 2005, at a local nursing home. She was born July 4, 1907, in Stuart, the daughter of Turner and Lou Allen Daniels.

She attended schools in Stuart, graduating from Stuart High School. After graduation, Letha entered the Albert Pike School of Nursing and graduated in 1930. She married George Reed on December 1, 1930, in Eufaula. Mrs. Reed served the public of Oklahoma with great distinction as both a general registered nurse and as a public health nurse from 1930 to 1973. As a public health nurse, she visited rural communities of Pittsburg County and brought the message of mother and child health awareness to them. She also established the concept of a family planning clinic in Pittsburg County.

She had been a member of All Saints Episcopal Church since 1951 and was a member of the Stuart Chapter of the Eastern Star.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband in 1984, two brothers and four sisters.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Phoebe Reed and Dee E. Motley and Betty Reed and W.A. Watkins, all of McAlester; a granddaughter, Laura Manning of Rockville, Maryland; three grandsons and spouses, John and Dana Watkins and George and Mandi Watkins, all of McAlester and Paul Watkins of Indianola; a stepgrandson, Mark Motley and wife, Crystal; 10 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Joey Lynn Watkins

Joey Lynn Watkins passed away August 23, 2005. He was born July 8, 1960, in Auburn, California, to Betty Louise Sexton Watkins and Irving Lee Watkins.

Joey grew up in the northwest Oklahoma City area, was a graduate of Chilocco Indian School where he participated in sports of all kinds. He worked for DeLong mailing service which is now Oklahoma Direct as a tier/mail clerk for many years and was currently working for OKC Parks and Recreations.

Joey attended church at Harvestime Tabernacle where he would play the bass guitar. You could sometimes hear him singing in the background. He loved the Southern Gospel Singers, "The Happy Goodman Family." There are so many good thoughts or a special smile that he left to each and everyone of us. We will always get to keep our own loving memory of him.

Survivors include his only son, "Li'l Joey" of Oklahoma City; daughter, Angela May of Red Lake, Minnesota; four sisters, Pamela Watkins King, Barbara Freeman, Teresa Arnold and Cathy Byrd; six brothers, Mike Watkins and wife, Lynn, Irving Lee Watkins and wife, Joyce, Marty Watkins, Joe Eddie Watkins and Lee Jr. Watkins; many nieces, nephews and extended family members.

Nelson Bond Sr.

Nelson Bond Sr., 72, of Mannsville, passed away August 2, 2005, in Oklahoma City. He was born July 6, 1933, to Harrison and Hettie Belle Rose Bond in Carter County.

He married Dixie Stinson on March 31, 1957, in Gainesville, Texas. He had lived in Mannsville since 1974, coming from Ardmore. He loved his family and was willing to help anyone. He loved hunting, noodling, and being a cowboy. He worked for Daube Cattle Co. as a cowboy for 44 years.



He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Edgar Bond, and a sister, Minnie Mae Ford.

Survivors include his wife of the home; sons, Nelson Bond Jr. of Roff and Harrison H. Bond of Mannsville; daughters, Sheila Roberts of Mannsville, Debbie Cox of Turley, Vickie Parrott of Ardmore, and Tonya Smith of Garr Corner; brother, Steve Bond of Ardmore; sisters, Helen Samples of Norman and Jackie Gamble and Ovella Hughes, all of Ardmore; 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Patrick Lewis Braddock

Patrick Lewis Braddock passed away July 3, 2005. He was born February 26, 1969.

Survivors include a daughter, Cheyanne Braddock; his parents, Patrick and Carol Braddock; four brothers, Hubert Braddock, David Braddock, Heath Braddock and Coty Braddock, and two sisters, Stella (Joy) Braddock and Lou Jessica Braddock.

Tillie Ward Cundiff

Tillie Ward Cundiff passed away February 15, 2005. She was born July 7, 1915, in Skullyville to Robert Jones Ward and Maude Ferguson.

"Nana" took great pride in her Choctaw heritage. She was the granddaughter of Eliza and Jeremiah Ward.





Oregon and California as evangelists. Mr. Carey was proud of his heritage. His grandmother was on the Trail of Tears.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his great-aunt; and a son, Jon Lesley Carey.

Survivors include his wife of 43 years; daughter, J. Lynnette Carey; son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren, Glenn and Karen Carey, Erik and Kayla; and daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren, Stephanie and Gary Rose, Danielle, Lesley and Ronnie; Joshua and Nicole; Little Lady Tipper, his dog; and all of Klamath Falls.

Mr. Carey never left a friend or a place of business without telling a joke. He loved having people laugh.

Julius Wade "J.W." Hampton

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

After serving in the Army, J.W. was selfemployed as a telephone/cable contractor. He was an accomplished musician and loved to sing and play the guitar. He loved visiting



with friends and family. J.W. loved his family and grandchildren.

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

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

Katie Elaine Hunnicutt

Katie Elaine Hunnicutt, 74, of Durant passed away July 30, 2005, at Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma. She was born September 25, 1930, in Caddo to Cal Jackson and Mary Ella Owens.

Mrs. Hunnicutt was a bookkeeper and managed Arrowhead Lodge for the Choctaw Nation.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Mozelle Price, and a brother, J.T. Jackson.

Survivors include son, Robert C. Hunnicutt and wife, Kathleen, of Phoenix, Arizona; grandchildren, Jennifer Phillingaes of Florida, Justin Hunnicutt of Illinois, and Jesslyn Hunnicutt, C.J. Hunnicutt and Jackson Hunnicutt, all of Phoenix; sisters, Emogene Smith and Lucille Brimage, both of Durant; brother, Otis Jackson and wife, Pat, of Purcell; two great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Eric Howard Andrews

U.S. Navy LCDR Eric Howard Andrews, 45, of Bonita, California, formerly of Wichita, Kansas, passed away August 4, 2005.

Survivors include a brother, Phillip Andrews of Wichita; sisters, Mmichelle Roach, Karen Ray, Connie Andrews-Jones and Edith Arline, all of Wichita; a host of nieces, nephews, firneds and shipmates.

Vickie McGill

Vickie McGill passed away September 7, 2005, at her home in Kiowa. She was born November 11, 1951, in Talihina to Howard and Beatrice Sexton Cacy. She was a correctional officer at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary, McAlester.

She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Crystal Dawn McGill; brother, Howard T. Cacy; and her grandparents.

Survivors include two daughters and their spouses, Deanna and Troy Smith and Crystal and Billy Marshall, all of McAlester; seven grandchildren, Shaniqua Kilburn, Icely McGill, Kailey McGill, Tori Smith, Dylan Smith, Zach Marshall and Zane Marshall; two sisters and their spouses, Gladys and Clifford Garner, Berniece and Bill Trammell; three brothers and spouses, Donny Cacy of Los Angeles, California, William and Becky Cacy and Cheryl Sexton, all of McAlester, and Phyllis Sexton of Louisiana, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Helen Louise Lynch

Helen Louise Lynch passed away March 14, 2004. She was born January 26, 1941, in Ada, Oklahoma, one of 11 children born to Jimmy Brown Sr. and Lula Mae Seale-Brown.

Helen lost her mother at age 7 and with her family being separated through this tragedy, Helen learned to lean on Jesus Christ and was determined to be a strong maternal figure devoted to keeping her family unified. Helen was dedicated to family in her life and was a hard worker. Despite her family challenges, she was able to graduate from Booker T. Washington school of Sapulpa, Oklahoma. It was after her mother married Louise that Helen met George Lynch and was married June 15, 1957. They moved to Paso Robles, California, shortly after. This union was blessed with four children who remember her as being a woman of strong moral character, caring and meeting their needs even if it meant she may go lacking. The Lynch family moved to Santa Ana in 1964.

Helen excelled and found joy as the matriarch in her household. She loved cooking, homemaking, supporting her children and grandchildren in sports and talent events. She enjoyed gardening and in days of better health she loved fishing. Helen was a skilled electrician and supported her family through Boeing Aerospace Division. She worshipped at the Healing Word International Church of Anaheim, California.

She was preceded in death by Lula Mae Seals Brown, Jimmy Brown Sr., Louise Brown, Billy Ray Brown, Murray Brown, Oscar Brown, Alice Brown and Margie Smith.

Survivors include sons, Keane Kenny Lynch of Santa Ana and George Tiny (Rebecca) Lynch of Anaheim; daughter, Stephanie Lynch of Santa Ana; 11 grandchildren, Kenneth Owen Lynch, Marie Louise (Jeremy) Barton, George David Lynch, Steven Paul Lynch, Karissa Renee Lynch, Searra Chantal Lynch, Lamont Jermaine Lynch, Kecia Marie Lynch, Danielle Lynch, Robert Bobo and LaKecia Lynch; eight great-grandchildren, Tierra Barton, Alex Barton, Isiah Lynch, Michael Lynch, Kiara Lynch, Gavin Marquez, Juliane Bobo and Tianna Bobo; sisters, Mary Ann Lynch of California, Opal McGairty of Kansas, Mazella Brown of Oklahoma, and Margarete Bradford of Oklahoma; brothers, Jimmy Brown Jr. of California and Viris Brown of Nebraska; extended family members, George Lynch, Bernice Fletcher and Joe (Ruthie) Lynch, all of California, Susan Lynch, Sherry Taylor, Rose Lynch and a host of nieces and nephews. Tillie worked as a Choctaw historian and for "Hello Choctaw" in the 1970s. A true rose of the Choctaw garden, she is deeply missed, but memories of her live on forever in the lives she touched.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Eliza Lucretia Ward.

Survivors include two brothers, Theodore Roosevelt Ward and Willard Leroy Ward, both of Palestine, Texas; son, James R. Cundiff; two daughters, Betty Sue Kotts and Mary Ann Frazier; nine grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

William Clifford Cleveland Jr.

William Clifford "Sonny" Cleveland Jr., 75, of Hacienda Heights, California, passed away May 19, 2005. He was born October 10, 1929, in Oklahoma City, the son of William Clifford Cleveland Sr. and Jewell Cleveland, both native Oklahomans.

Sonny was raised in Oklahoma, but his family moved to El Monte, California, where he finished high school and fell in love with his beautiful Betty. They married in 1951 and within days after their



marriage he was inducted into the army and sent to Korea. He was wounded in the war, receiving a Purple Heart. For 37 years he supported his family by working in the Platemaking Department at the Los Angeles Times.

Sonny loved his family and anyone his family brought home he made sure they felt like part of the family. He loved life and enjoyed many interests as varied as bird-watching, fishing and cooking to traveling throughout the country with his family. His family deeply loved him. He brightened the lives of many people with his beautiful smile and spirit. He loved the Lord and displayed that love as he went through the illness that eventually took his life. He was very proud of his Choctaw heritage and developed that appreciation in his children and grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by all who loved him.

His wife preceded him in death.

Survivors include his children, William Clifford "Bud" Cleveland III and wife, Carrie, Debra Head and husband, Jack, Mary Gomes and husband, Elias; grandchildren, Sarah Head, William "Sonny" Clifford Cleveland IV, Dustin Head, Meghan Cleveland and Krystle Gomes; sisters, Loreta Mae Eoff and Peggy Eoff, and brother, Winfred Cleveland.

Vicky D. Thomas Hayes

Vicky D. Thomas Hayes passed away September 4, 2004. She was born November 5, 1953.

She is survived by her parents, Aubry and Lavenia Thomas; one son, Brad Hayes of Ft. Bliss in El Paso, Texas, and one brother, Doug Thomas.

