



# BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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August 2002 Issue

## Tribe teams with Congressmen in throwing out a Lifeline

The Choctaw Nation is teaming with Congressmen Wes Watkins and Brad Carson on helping Southwestern Bell notify residents of Oklahoma about a reduced rate telephone service that is available for qualifying participants.

A great number of residents of Southeastern Oklahoma are on fixed incomes, and often at poverty levels. The Choctaw Nation has initiated many programs that can relieve the financial strain on these families, such as LIHEAP, Food Distribution, education scholarships, etc. By combining efforts with Southwestern Bell Telephone, the tribe feels that households can benefit greatly by obtaining a phone or lowering their existing monthly bill.

Households that have not been able to afford a phone may possibly be eligible for this assistance, known as Lifeline. There is a Lifeline Basic and an Enhanced Lifeline program.

"Telephones are a family's access to the world, and can literally be a lifeline in an emergency," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "Phone ser-

vices in rural areas provide a link to family, friends, and others who are important to their lives."

"All Oklahoma telephone companies participate in the Lifeline program," said Assistant Chief Mike Bailey. "To qualify for the Lifeline service, households must receive benefits from one or more of the following assistance programs:

- \* Medicaid
- \* Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- \* Food Stamps
- \* Transitional Employment Assistance Program
- \* Federal Public Housing/Section 8
- \* Head Start
- \* National School Free Lunch Program
- \* Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- \* Aid to Families with Dependent Children
- \* Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, and

\* Oklahoma Sales Tax Relief Act."

Qualifying households can get phone service for as little as \$1 a month under the Enhanced Lifeline program. The Lifeline Basic reduces the monthly bill by \$7.85.

Speaker of the Council, Kenny Bryant, said the members of the Tribal Council are pleased to have an opportunity to share this information with Choctaws.

"We want to do everything possible to make life better for our tribal members and the residents of our communities," said Bryant.

Information from Southwestern Bell states that even those households that have outstanding bills can apply for Lifeline. Under their plan "Reconnect", payments for an old bill up to \$500 can be spread out over 12 months and phone service can be restored after the first payment.

To apply for the Lifeline service, call Southwestern Bell at 1-800-464-7928 or 1-800-246-4999.

## Talent Search Program receives grant

The Choctaw Nation's Educational Talent Search Program (CNETS) has been given a boost with a \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to be dispersed over the next five years.

CNETS assists eligible individuals who have been identified as having the potential to succeed in higher education. The program provides academic, career, personal and financial aid counseling to eligible participants. It pro-

vides encouragement to students, urging them to graduate from high school and assisting them in continuing on to the postsecondary school of their choice.

The program will also assist eligible persons who may have left high school before receiving their diploma and those who may need assistance in re-entering some type of post high school educational program.

Free services that may be provided by the program include:

- Academic, financial and career guidance and counseling, including seeking financial aid and advice on entry or re-entry to educational programs
- Career exploration and aptitude assessment
- Tutorial services
- Information on postsecondary education
- Exposure to college campuses
- Information on student financial assistance
- Assistance in completing college admissions and financial aid applications
- Assistance in preparing for college entrance exams
- Special activities for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders
- Special workshops for the families of selected participants

Talent Search applicants must be between the ages of 11 and 27 and have completed the fifth grade to be eligible to participate. Participants must have the potential to succeed at the postsecondary level, have the desire to pursue education beyond high school and meet eligibility criteria as required by the U.S. Department of Education. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the program office.

Talent Search applications will be available after September 1 and can be obtained by calling the program office at 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2711. Applications should then be returned by mail, by FAX or to your school counselor's office.

## Four-day festival begins August 30

The Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival features activities for the entire family. The four-day weekend of festivities begins August 30th and runs through September 2nd.

The annual event is held at the historic Choctaw Capitol Grounds in Tuskahoma. The site has a newly renovated cafeteria, amphitheater, original Council Building (built in 1884) which is now a museum, gift shop and tribal court, four large ball fields, extensive campgrounds with RV hookups, a stickball field and basketball court.

Plenty of food vendors are located on the grounds to offer a tremendous variety of food and cold drinks. The Arts and Crafts Pavilion features great opportunities to purchase unique and beautiful items.

Activities throughout the weekend include a pow wow, fast pitch tournaments, volleyball, Choctaw social dancing, stickball, horse shoe pitch, domino and checkers tournament and a huge carnival with many rides and games. The Princess Pageant held Saturday morning will choose young ladies to represent the tribe for the upcoming year.

The concerts during the weekend are all free of charge. Friday night will feature the legendary George Jones, along with Brian Gowan and Charlie Robison. The headliner for Saturday night is Clay Walker, and he will be preceded by John Conlee. Sunday's gospel singing will include The Crabb Family.

A free lunch is served Monday, immediately after Chief Gregory E. Pyle gives the State of the Nation Address.

## Head Start employees recognized at annual pre-service training



Pre-Service 2002 Art Awards are presented to Cory Hyde, second place, and Brenda Ivie, third place.



Choctaw Nation Head Start Centers receiving awards during the annual Pre-Service Training in July are Wilburton, Cultural winner; McAlister, Parent Involvement winner, and Bennington, Education winner.

The Oklahoma/Kansas Indian Head Start Director's Association annual pre-service training was held in Tulsa on July 24-26. Two employees of Choctaw Nation Head Start were recognized for their art contributions. Corrina Hyde, Facility Manager of the Durant Head Start Center, garnered second place honors and received her art work in professional framing along with a \$75 monetary award. Brenda Ivie, Head Start Family Services Coordinator, whose art contribution was recognized in third place, also received professional framing of her work in addition to a \$50 award.

Three Head Start Center staff teams were recognized as well. The staff team of Wilburton Head Start, DeAnn Rowe, Center Supervisor/Lead Teacher; Jeannie Moon, Teacher Aide, and Alene Roberts, Cook, were honored for their accomplishments in Cultural Instruction.

McAlister Head Start's staff, Nancy James, Facility Manager; Lori Turman and Sue Owens, Teachers, and Rachel Amos and Judy Bryant, Teacher Aides, was recognized for involving parents in activities inside the center.

Bennington Head Start Center's staff team was also recognized during the pre-service training. Tera Trammell, Center Supervisor/Teacher, and Priscilla Rochelle, Teacher Aide, received honors for dedication in using the best of early childhood practices in the area of education.

The parents of children who are enrolled in Choctaw Nation's Head Start Program can rest assured that their children are receiving the best of services while attending all our Head Start facilities. The Head Start Administration works diligently to see that the needs of each child are met, according to his/her own needs.

To apply for Choctaw Nation Head Start, contact your local center or call 1-800-522-6170 and ask for Zene Dill.

### Breaking Ground



Councilmembers Delton Cox and Charlotte Jackson were joined by the rest of the Council, Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey at the official groundbreaking at the site of the Community Center being built by the tribe in Spiro.



The Poteau Travel Plaza is being constructed with a \$750,000 CDBG grant from HUD and \$750,000 of tribal funds. It is expected that 25 new jobs will be created with the opening of the plaza.



A beautiful site has been chosen for the Choctaw Community Center in Smithville. Speaker Kenny Bryant, Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey and the Tribal Council ceremoniously broke ground so that construction can begin.

## Tribal Council okays D.A.R.E. contribution

The Choctaw Tribal Council voted at the August 10th meeting to contribute \$7,500 toward funding a D.A.R.E. Rodeo to be held October 1 at the Hugo arena. Thirty-three schools within the Choctaw Nation will participate, sending about 4,000 fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders to the event. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education.

The tribal EDH program was funded \$100,000 to meet the growing number of requests and needs of the aging tribal population. When the EDH program began in 1989, participants on the program numbered 757. The program currently serves more than 5,000 Choctaws.

Another service program, the Tribal Community Services Pro-

gram was authorized an additional \$150,000 by Council members.

The Choctaw Language Program received a financial boost from the Council, with an allocation of \$664,243 to continue to provide language classes in the public schools and on the Internet.

The Indian Adult Education Program has been funded by the Choctaw Nation for several years. This program, which assists all eligible adult participants in their preparation of higher education or improved employment opportunities, was funded \$223,441 for the upcoming year. The program hosts an annual ceremony for graduates.

The Council approved a bud-

get for Choctaw Nation Educational Talent Search, a new tribal program. The main goal of the program is to increase the number of eligible youth (ages 11 - 27) to complete high school and enroll in an institute of higher learning.

Councilmembers voted to support the Head Start program with supplemental funding of \$374,352.

Approval was given for budgets and/or application for 2003 funding of several programs, including:

- \* Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- \* Choctaw Nation Family Preservation Support Services
- \* Indian Child Welfare, and
- \* Upward Bound.

# Letters

## Choctaw Nation co-sponsors preservation conference

Dear Chief Pyle,

Thank you so much for the role the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and the Choctaw Gaming Center played in hosting the Statewide Preservation Conference. The conference was a tremendous undertaking, and we could not have made it without your assistance.

I worked with Beverly Akin until she passed along her duties due to health problems. She actually presented the idea of working the Trail of Tears Walk into the conference. When she backed away, we didn't miss a beat. Sue Folsom, Jack Pate, Jerri Downs, Janie Dillard, Tammye Gwin and Kim Holloway stepped right up and everything turned out wonderful. Many of the people attending the conference stayed in the Choctaw Inn. I received nothing but positive comments regarding their stay. You should be very proud of this.

The Gaming Center provided buses for our tours as well as the Trail of Tears Walk on Saturday. We had several drive to the Walk. I know that everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They were impressed with the work you are doing to restore the facilities. The beautiful day for the Walk sure didn't hurt anything. It was also nice to hear our conference mentioned from the stage.

I received many compliments on the tour of your headquarters. It is a beautiful building, and the Hall of Chiefs is extremely interesting. The fact that the winner of the fry bread contest prepared our lunch impressed the attendees.

I am most appreciative of the reception the Gaming Center provided. I can assure you that there has never been a reception quite like this, and everyone will remember it and the fun they had. This gave them a great reason to return to Durant and your gaming center.

Again, we would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for serving as a co-sponsor of this event. You did a wonderful job and helped put forth a positive light for our community. It was truly a success, and you and our other sponsors are responsible for this.

Donna Dow  
Durant Main Street Program Manager

## Training for ministry

Dear Editor,

I would like to express my gratitude to the entire Choctaw Nation for the generous financial assistance in my years in undergraduate college. It was so helpful to me and my family. I can't tell you what it means to me that you have agreed to continue assistance for graduate school.

Thank you for making my training for ministry a little easier.

Adam Wallis  
Port Orange, Florida

## Researching family heritage

Dear Editor,

I am trying to establish my family's heritage so that my children will know all of their ancestors and have a complete history. My name is Freda Cornish Snowden. My father's name is Joe Fred Cornish and his father was named Lem Cornish and his grandfather's name was Hiram Cornish. All of my life my father told me that my grandfather Lem left the reservation in Oklahoma with his parents and siblings and they walked from Oklahoma to Texas. My grandfather Lem lived in Limestone County, Texas.

I was told that Lem's father, Hiram, was a white man who worked on the reservation and that Lem's mother was a Native American Indian. Her name was Julia Cornish. I have no knowledge of her Indian name. I was told that she was Choctaw and that when Julia and Hiram, along with their children, left the reservation in the mid 1800s, the children were listed as mulatos. Lem married an African American/Indian woman by the name of Caldonia Yeldel and had three children - two boys, Joe Bailey Cornish and Joe Fred Cornish, my father. Their daughter died at an early age from scarlet fever.

I would love to know if this information concerning my great-grandfather and grandmother is true. My parents and grandparents are deceased and there are no living relatives to obtain information from. I have been searching for several years trying to find out if this information is true. I would love to unite with my ancestors and give my children their heritage.

Freda Cornish-Snowden  
704 Roanne Lane  
Pensacola, FL 32505

## Tribe donates to church's building fund

Dear Chief Pyle,

The congregation of the Tuskahoma United Methodist Church would like to thank you and the Tribal Council for your generous donation to our church building fund. We will use these funds in the construction of our new church and fellowship hall.

When it is finished, this new facility will be utilized for our religious activities, and for other meetings by the church family. Our plans are to make the fellowship hall available to the general community for worthwhile meetings and other activities on request to our church board.

Thanks again for this great support from the Choctaw Nation.

P.J. Workman, Treasurer  
Tuskahoma United Methodist Church

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## Native Praise Choir featured at Southern Baptist Convention

Dear Chief Pyle,

Our sincere appreciation and gratitude to you and Kenny Bryant in making our trip possible for the Native Praise Choir, (Native American women choir) to be the featured choir at the annual Southern Baptist Women Convention in St. Louis, Missouri in June.

We thank you for providing the two buses, drivers, and fuel that provided the trip for 22 women. The women came from 17 different tribes and over 40 churches in Oklahoma. The choir sang several hymns in Choctaw, Creek and Cherokee languages and had the opportunity to model the traditional dresses of the different tribes.

I have also included a picture of the two bus drivers and myself. May God continue to bless you in your leadership of the Choctaw Tribe.

Willene Pierce, Director  
Link Ministry



## Tribe awarded education grant

Dear Chief Pyle,

It is my personal pleasure to congratulate you on receiving a grant from the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of \$190,000.

The funds are awarded under the Talent Search Grant Program. All administrative, regulatory and statutory requirements must be met.

I am aware of the time and effort put forth by your organization to secure this award, and I am pleased that you have been chosen as a recipient.

James H. Inhofe  
United States Senator

## Higher Education department commended

Dear Chief Pyle,

I am writing to you to express my greatest appreciation to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for the support you have given my son, Tom, as he enters his first year of college. Tom has just been awarded scholarship funds for his first semester. This money will be very helpful to him and help tremendously offset the financial burden on our family.

In addition, I would like to commend your Department of Higher Education. I have met with nothing but the most helpful and courteous employees when I have called for assistance. Just this afternoon I was assisted by Ms. Mandy Howard who was delightful. She, as well as others I have visited with, are a credit to the Choctaw tribal government and reflect commitment and dedication to tribal members.

Again, thank you for the opportunities that you continue to provide members of the Choctaw Nation.

Debbie Winburn  
Gore, Oklahoma

## Family receives much-needed support

Dear Betty Jackson,

It's people like you who make the world a better place to live. We've received equipment from the tribe and couldn't be more happy to see Jade sitting up. Thank you for your support during out time of need. I couldn't say thank you enough. God bless you.

Lola and Jade Wesley  
Broken Bow, Oklahoma



## Can rely on tribe

Dear Carma Elliott,

Thank you and the tribe for all the equipment. I cried when Jade sat up in his chair. My heart is so overwhelmed that we can rely on our tribe for support. It's people like you and the tribe who make this place a better place to live. Thank you so much. May God bless.

Lola and Jade Wesley  
Broken Bow, Oklahoma

## Junior High student attends band camp

Dear Chief Pyle,

Thank you very much for the financial support I received. With the Nation's help I was allowed to attend band camp at the University of Arkansas this July. Junior High band members from all over Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas competed at this camp.

I made the Advanced Band. We studied and rehearsed music six hours a day and at the end of the week, we performed our music at the Walton Arts Center for our families and friends.

Because of your support, I am now a better bass clarinet player.

Lauren R. Wilson

## Endeavoring to reach other Choctaws

Dear Editor,

You have a great website. We have recently found information that our family is part Choctaw, and would like to find somebody in the Nation to start a general correspondence with.

Thomas O. "Neal" Brown  
178 Esther Ct.  
Myrtle Creek, OR 97457  
Phone: 541-863-7711  
e-mail: muley@pioneer-net.com

## Seeking information about family

Dear Editor,

Could you please help me locate any family members of Kate Mobley who married James Percifield who is Native American. Also, could you help me find Kate Mobley's grave site. She was buried in one of Ada, Oklahoma's cemetery.

Please contact Alice Green, P.O. Box 141, Fittstown, OK 74842 or call 580-777-2779.

## Experience will be cherished

Halito,

I am Reannon Frazier, Miss Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma 2001-2002. This past year has truly been a wonderful experience. The welcome and thoughtfulness of the Choctaw people have been uplifting. The kindness and generosity of my elders will always be cherished and I value the smiles and encouraging looks that they grant to me when I sing Choctaw hymns. I appreciate all of the friendships that I have made with the youth and the excitement of the young children. Thank you to all the churches and church families that made me feel so welcome. Thank you, Chief, tribal leaders and staff of the Choctaw Nation for your support and assistance. My family, whenever you have seen me, truly you have seen my devoted family. I wish to thank my parents, brothers, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, each one of you have supported me and you are such a blessing in my life. Most of all, I thank God and I have much gratitude in my heart for all of the blessings that He has bestowed upon me. Hash Moma kut, Yakoke! Chim ima li lih!



## Choctaw firefighters are appreciated

Dear Chief Pyle,

I just received the call to go to the White River fire in Oregon. It is somewhere around Prineville. Our only resources remaining are the engine with three crew members and they will probably be out shortly. Thanks again for the opportunity to assist on the Western fires. It looks like this may be a record year for acres burned and structures lost. Our support is noted by the federal agencies (at least at the level I have contact with) and very much appreciated. We will do our best to make you proud. Thanks again.

Tom Lowry, Director  
Choctaw Forestry and Firefighters

## Reward for lost ball glove

Dear Editor,

We would like to recover a ball glove lost or left on Saturday, July 27 at Konawa Ball Park, around 4 or 5 p.m. after OKC Arrows game. The glove has V. Brown on it.

If anyone has any information, please call 405-601-9723, collect if you live out of town. There is a reward. Thank you.

V. and Orlando Brown

## Men's Fast Pitch Tournament a success

Dear Editor,

We would like to personally thank the Choctaw people who gave so willingly and generously to the 50th anniversary of the annual Men's Fast Pitch Tournament held July 12-14 in Oklahoma City. The Indian Ink Committee hosted the Old Timers activities which included a booklet for the last 50 years and an Old Timers game. The game was the highlight of the entire tournament with players ages 55-74 participating.

We asked and you gave. The Old Timers activities couldn't have been as successful as they were without the contributors of all who donated or bought ads. As Choctaws, we would like to recognize the Choctaws who gave: Chief Gregory Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Tribal Council, OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, Travel Plaza and Bingo in Durant and Leslie Jacobs of Dallas, Texas.

Yakoke!

Choctaws on the Indian Ink Committee  
Charlie and Darrell Hudson, Kenny Morrell, Faye Reining

## Sisters attend TSA National Conference

Dear Chief Pyle,

We would like to thank you for the financial assistance that allowed my sisters and I to attend the Technology Student Association (TSA) National Conference in Denver, Colorado in June. It gave us the opportunity to compete with students from all over the United States and Germany. This conference not only allowed us to compete, but also to meet and make friends with other technology students from all over the USA. We thank you and the Choctaw Nation for your continued support.

Lauren, Laurissa and Caren Wilson

## Information on Byington relatives

Dear Editor,

This letter is to the person looking for relatives of the late Benjamin Byington. My grandmother was married to him and they had three sons. If this is the same Benjamin Byington, you may contact me.

Betty Tom  
HC 60 Box 1820  
Haworth, OK 74740  
(580) 245-1363

## Contribution aids in purchase of van

Dear Chief Pyle,

Thank you so much for your generous contribution toward the purchase of a new van for transportation of our kids to the Shriners Hospitals for medical care.

As you know in the Choctaw Nation jurisdiction, we provide medical care for over 200 children at our hospitals ... orthopedic at Shreveport, burns and cleft palate at Galveston and back and spinal trauma at Chicago and St. Louis.

Again, many, many thanks for your contribution.

Bob Starkey, Potentate  
Lyle Bibb, P.P., Recorder

## CHOCTAWMANAGEMENTSERVICESENTERPRISE

## POSITION AVAILABLE

### QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTORS

Choctaw Management Services Enterprise, a rapidly growing company providing administrative support services to the Immigration and Naturalization Service nationwide, is seeking **Quality Control Inspectors** for the INS offices in Dallas, Atlanta, San Diego and Phoenix. Local candidates preferred as no moving expenses are available.

Duties include verifying work compliance standards, screening problem documents for corrective action, and investigating complaints and violations. Must have the ability to identify problems and suggest solutions. Qualified candidates MUST have 2 years experience in quality control activities, one of which is specialized experience. College degree preferred.

Mail resume to CMSE, c/o Chris Bell, 2161 NW Military Hwy., Ste 308, San Antonio, TX 78213, or fax to: 210-525-1398. You may also e-mail your resume in Word format or as a rich text file to embell@cmse.net. Refer to Job Announcement #116. Open until filled.

*From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle*

# Choctaw Code Talkers long overdue on federal recognition

It is vital that pride in the Choctaw history and heritage be encouraged at every opportunity. Honor to our ancestors is given through oral and written stories, and one frequently told account is that of the original military Code Talkers. Many Choctaws have joined efforts with me in an attempt to gain United States governmental recognition of the Choctaw Code Talkers, the first men to ever use their native language as a "code" to defeat the enemy in WWI.

Messages given in the Choctaw language were the only transmissions that the German Army never "cracked". The Code Talkers were instrumental in helping the American Expeditionary Forces be victorious. Because of the tremendous success of the Choctaw Code Talkers, Native American forces were used in a similar manner during the second World War. The story of the Navajo Code Talkers

has become a legend, and rightly so.

The Choctaws of WWI are equally deserving of that legendary status, along with appropriate recognition from the United States leadership. Years of formally requesting military or Congressional appreciation were met with roadblock after roadblock. A recent attempt for federal medals for the 18 Choctaws who have been named as WWI Code Talkers was initiated in a slightly different manner.

Assisted by staff members, the Assistant Chief and I prepared legislation for Congress, requesting that a special medal be minted and bestowed upon families of the Choctaw Code Talkers. Congressman Wes Watkins introduced this legislation to the House of Representatives in December, and it passed the House earlier this year. The Code Talkers Recognition Act has been introduced by Senator Jim Inhofe in the

Senate, and additional tribes have attached to the bill for recognition of their Code Talkers of World War II. The Sioux and Comanche Nations have named their veterans who served in this effort to receive a medal as well as the Choctaws. This formal recognition is long overdue for our Choctaw Code Talkers. I encourage everyone to contact their U.S. Senators and request passage of this legislation so that medals can be designed, minted and distributed.

The Choctaws who were trained for field telephone communications in WWI were Tobias Frazier, Joseph Oklahombi, Ben Carterby, James Edwards, Mitchell Bobb, Pete Maytubby, Calvin Wilson, Walter Veach, Robert Taylor, Jeff Nelson, Solomon Louis, Albert Billy, Ben Hampton, Victor Brown, Joe Davenport, George Davenport, Noel Johnson and Otis Leader.



*From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey*

## Choctaw Management and Leadership Training intern program

The Choctaw Nation is beginning an intern program that will focus on the importance of leadership. The program, Choctaw Management and Leadership Training, will identify those individuals who exemplify leadership skills and have an interest in leadership opportunities.

The training will be directed by Charles J. Clark and assisted by Jodie Dunn. Mr. Clark is an ex-superintendent of schools with 41 years of experience. Ms. Dunn has a Master's Degree in Counseling and has worked for several years for the Choctaw Nation. The management and leadership training will include experiences and training in politics on the state, national and tribal level. Training will also focus on important issues facing the tribe and controversial issues

that have to be addressed, as well as areas concerning tribal operations, managing the tribe, prioritizing tribal programs, tribal dollars and all aspects of the tribal government.

The training will zero in on three different groups of Choctaws.

\* The first group will be directors, assistant directors and potential leaders.

\* The second group will be young Choctaws already working for the tribe. This group will be comprised of the several hundred young Choctaws who are continuing their college education.

\* The third group of Choctaws will be the 2,000+ students who are accepting scholarships and grants from the Choc-

taw Nation. Each student's profile and degree plan will be placed in a database for use by the Choctaw Nation. The database will be used to select students for an intern workforce in the Choctaw Nation. This will help the tribe guide the students toward good jobs with excellent salaries when they finish college. It is important that the Choctaw tribal programs be administered wisely for generations to come, and Chief Pyle, the Council and I want to present leadership training and opportunities to young Choctaws.

Vince Lombardi once said, "Leaders aren't born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal."

## CHOCTAWS GATHER AT SPIRO



Vester and Ruth Queen are among the many Choctaw families attending a dinner held in the Spiro School Cafeteria on Tuesday, July 23.



Justin Warren, right, President of the Spiro Chamber of Commerce, presented a plaque of appreciation to the Choctaw Nation, accepted by District 4 Councilperson Delton Cox, Chief Gregory Pyle and District 5 Councilperson Charlotte Jackson.



Lois Burton, former Councilperson of District 4, and Juanita Cox enjoyed the event.



## Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

Welcome to the 2002 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival. Remember the Sunday morning Children and Adult Sunday School classes and preaching services at 9 and 10 o'clock. Choctaw hymn singers will sing just before the All-Night Gospel Singing begins on Sunday evening.

The Bible teaches that God has considered man a working partner. God chose Abraham to be the father of a Great Nation – the Nation of Israel (Genesis 12:2). God chose Moses to bring to the people The Ten Commandments, which are the basis of all civil and moral law. The Ten Commandments were written by God and given to the Israelites by Moses.

Jesus, the Son of God, declared the importance of His partnership with God when He said in Luke 2:49, "... I must be about my Father's business."

Paul, the greatest missionary of the first century, urged men and women of all ages to remember their chief mission in life, when he said in Romans 12:11, Be "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord."

If we are to be working partners with God, there are a few things which we should know, lest there be some misunderstanding.

We should remember that God is the sole owner of the business. The Psalmist wrote in Psalms 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein." In Psalms 50:10 he wrote, "For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills." Haggai the Prophet wrote in Haggai 2:8, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts."

He not only owns the material wealth of the world, He is the legal owner of your life and mine.

The Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 14:8, "For whether we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord; whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."

There is a difference between possession and ownership. Although you may be under the

power of Satan, and although at the moment God may not possess your life, legally you belong to God! He created you and redeemed you but He does not possess you. Until you trust Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior you will remain in the possession of Satan.

The moment we make this choice, accepting Jesus as Savior, we embark upon the most thrilling business venture in the world. Business with God is a business in which God supplies the capital and you supply the labor. He furnishes the wisdom, the power, and the means; you furnish your humble services.

Look at the field of fertile soil. (Matthew 9:37). What sort of harvest would there be without the work of man? The answer is nothing but weeds. But God plus man equals a bountiful harvest.

Spiritually, His work cannot be accomplished without man either. He has no hands but our hands, no feet but our feet, and no voice but our voice.

First, we are stewards of our time. God has given each one of us a short time – compared to eternity. These moments of opportunity are given to us for our benefit and for God's glory. If we use them wisely, they are woven into God's plan for eternity for each of us. "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:15-16).

"Only one life, 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last" is the thought of every man who desires to be a good steward of his time. If we invest our time wisely, it will pay dividends throughout eternity.

Second, we are stewards of our talents. God, in His mercy and goodness, has endowed every man with certain gifts, talents and capabilities. These are not to be used selfishly for our own profit, but for the glory of God and for the proclaiming of the Gospel and for the teaching of the Word of God.

It is good business for an employee in a firm to work for the profit and interest and glory of the owner. When the owner prof-

its, all members of the firm profit. So, as stewards of our talents, we should invest them for the glory, praise and honor of God. If God is glorified, we as His partners, will be blessed. Our voices, our service, and our abilities are to be employed, primarily for the glory of God. "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth; that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ: to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

Third, we are to be stewards of our money. Money is a gift of God, and it is to be used for His glory. If it is squandered selfishly, or used greedily, it brings misery and distress upon him who possesses it.

In I Timothy 6:10 we read: "For the love of money is the root of all evil; which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." When it is invested and shared for the glory of God, it can grow and be a blessing.

You cannot get around it; the Scripture promises material and spiritual benefits to the man who gives to God. You cannot out give God. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, .... (Luke 6:38). When we refuse to give we rob ourselves of blessings promised to the obedient.

One of the greatest sins today is the fact that we are robbing God of that which rightfully belongs to Him. "And all the tithe of the land ... is the Lord's." (Leviticus 27:39).

Fourth, we are stewards of the Gospel. The power to proclaim the greatest news in heaven or earth was not given to the angels, it was given to redeemed men. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel." Mark 16:15).

Today's message has been for Christians. Will you become a full working partner with God?

Pray for our Native American people. Pray for America and for our leaders. May God bless you.

## DISTRICT 7 HOLDS APPRECIATION DINNER



Councilman Jack Austin welcomes everyone to the Community Center in Antlers for a delicious dinner held in appreciation of Chief Gregory Pyle and the Choctaws of District 7.



# BATTLE DIABETES AND WIN!

## Choctaw youth take part in diabetes awareness activity



Sarah Folsom, Pakanli Polk, Erica Vanderveen, Jessica Polk, Daniel Teal, Crystal Williams, Stacy Tims, Stephanie Horn and Nashoba Choate participate in a photo session for posters aimed at promoting diabetes awareness.

In June, a group employed by the Youth Work Learn and Summer Youth programs took part in an activity for promotion of diabetes awareness. The kids were photographed in the Durant area on a walking track, a park playground, a basketball court and at Xtreme Fitness Gym to demonstrate the fun and benefits of exercise.

A selection of the photos featuring the youth will be reproduced for professionally printed and framed posters. The posters will be displayed in the Choctaw Nation hospital, clinics, area schools, and various other locations. The posters' message will serve to inform Native Americans of the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle to prevent and control diabetes.

The posters are part of a concerted effort by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Diabetes Multi-Resource Task Force established last year by Chief Greg Pyle for the purpose of achieving the goal to reduce diabetes in the Choctaw people. This crusade is intended as a long-term project concentrating exclusively on the effort to conquer this quickly growing, severe health threat.

The posters are only one part

of a dedicated campaign to educate Native Americans of the methods to effectively "Battle Diabetes and Win," a slogan officially adopted by the task force. Other task force activities include a fund-raising cookbook which was associated with a diabetic recipe contest, a poster art contest among students from kindergarten through 12th grade, installation of playgrounds and walk paths, fitness programs for senior citizens and children, early identification instruction, healthy nutrition training, and various other fund-raising activities.

Diabetes has now reached epidemic proportions among Native Americans, with serious complications of the disease increasing in frequency. In fact, diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death by disease in America, with a new case diagnosed every 40 seconds.

Escalating rates of kidney failure, amputations, and blindness are of primary concern. Many people are unaware that diabetes can be *naturally* prevented and controlled by a healthy lifestyle, including a proper diet and regular exercise.

Staff members June Praytor and Shawna Folsom participated



Nashoba Choate demonstrates how much fun exercise can be on the playground.

in the photo session along with Nashoba Choate, Sarah Folsom, Stephanie Horn, Jessica Polk, Pakanli Polk, Daniel Teal, Stacy Tims, Erica Vanderveen and Crystal Williams.



A good game of basketball has great health benefits.

~  
*See ongoing series of Poster Contest Entries on Page 5*  
~



Crystal Williams works out in the gym.



Erica Vanderveen and Jessica Polk lead the way as the kids enjoy a brisk walk around the track.



Snake handlers had several poisonous snakes to show, including a copperhead, water moccasin and several rattlesnakes. They held the head of a rattlesnake carefully and allowed the youth to feel of the snake, but advised NOT to try and touch a snake if you were not absolutely sure it was non-venomous.



Severt Dahl is helped from the window of the simulation trailer as he "escapes" from the "fire."

## 116 youth attend wellness camps

A total of 116 Choctaw youth attended the 2002 Choctaw Nation Youth Wellness Camps held June 12 and 19 at Tushka Homma, Oklahoma. Focusing on diabetes prevention with some other health topics added for spice and variety, the one-day camps gave the kids an opportunity to learn and have fun the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center way. The CNHCC REACH 2010 program coordinated the camps.

Approximately 65 Choctaw Nation departments or programs and other area agencies provided workers and presenters for the camps. Those areas or agencies assisting were as follows.

The Choctaw Nation CHR staff provided indispensable assistance for transportation and also distribution and sending in of registration forms. The CHRs helped out as group leaders and took on several other tasks to facilitate the camps' smooth operation. Diabetes Wellness Center staff provided a wide variety of assistance including planning and implementation, diabetes education, serving snacks and lunch, registration, clean up, bottled water, and much, much more.

The REACH 2010 program provided among other things, the snacks, camp T-shirts, camper "goodie bags," payment of fees and/or donations to the presenters, printing of the registration forms and brochures, and procurement of lunch and giveaways.

Subway Corporation, Poteau franchise, owned by Nicole Kalin, donated the six-foot-long healthy submarine sandwiches for lunch at both of the camps.

Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, by way of Scott Minton, Sales Representative, donated pens, pads and penlights for campers and really nice stainless steel coffee mugs for all of the workers and presenters. Huge thanks to these two people and their companies for being so generous.

Choctaw Nation's Vocational Rehabilitation Program Director, Randy Hammons, graciously provided a large number of his staff to help as group leaders for the campers.

Gary Batton, Executive Director of Health Services for Choctaw Nation, welcomed the attendees and reminded them of the importance of learning about diabetes. Artis Potts, CNHCC, led each day with the morning prayer and Tracey Ludlow, LPN, CNHCC, and her daughter, Shyla, gave the Lord's Prayer in Choctaw sign language before lunch each day.

To start the day's events off with a little excitement, Albert Chambers of McAlester presented snake safety up close and personal with his collection of well-behaved reptiles, including one very large Western Diamondback rattlesnake. This impressive creature was over six feet long. Campers and workers alike were mesmerized by the handler's expertise with the snakes and, of course, by the snakes themselves.

The Diabetes Wellness Center staff presented diabetes education. Jon Hotubbee taught about his insulin pump. The youth could especially connect with special guest, 13-year-old Renee from Heavener who talked about her own insulin pump.

The National Forest Service,



Clint Davis of the USFS volunteered his time to teach the youth about environmental issues.

Talihina, promoted physical activity to decrease risk of diabetes by taking the children on a nature walk. Plus, Forestry personnel, Rod McCullough and Clint Davis, gave very interesting talks about protecting the environment.

The Talihina Indian Club and the Latimer County Fire Fighters Association provided two presentations where the campers enjoyed active participation. The Talihina Indian Club gave all of the boys and girls an opportunity to dance Choctaw dances. By participating in the dances, the youth not only experienced and honored their native culture, they also were being physically active which decreases risk of diabetes and heart disease.

The firemen brought the fire and storm safety vehicle that gave a most realistic experience of

being in a burning house and how to safely escape and report the fire.

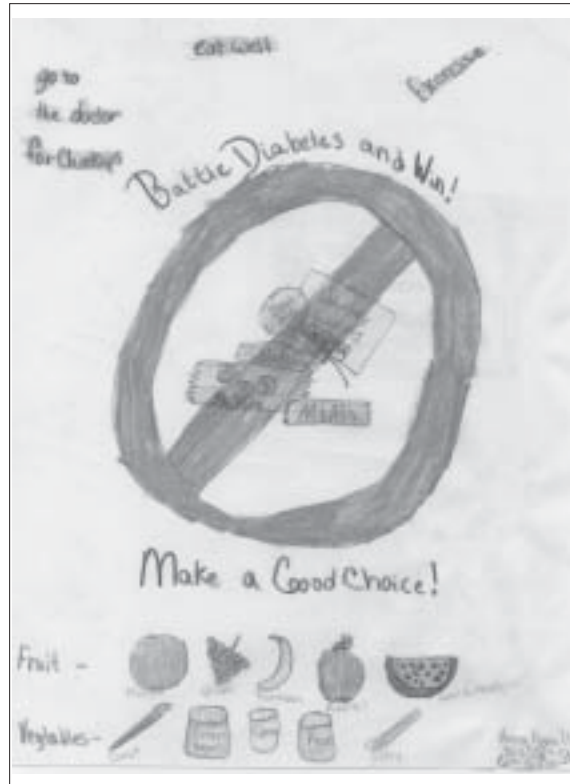
Campers attended several other educational sessions, including healthy nutrition, drug abuse prevention presented by the Choctaw Nation Recovery Center, Talihina, and sexual abuse prevention presented by the LeFlore County Guidance Center, Poteau.

The REACH 2010 program wishes to thank each and every one of you who worked very hard to pull off these two tremendously successful camps. Special thanks to Sandra Dukes, RN, Jordan Ward, Suzi Luman, Jan Crist, Kent Phillips, Cheryl Sherrill, Daniel McFarland and Lance Winlock for donating extra time and energy in helping to ensure the overwhelming success of the camps.

# Students' creativity helps educate others

A recent poster contest to spread diabetes awareness was held among Kindergarten through 12th grade students in the Choctaw Nation. Second-place winners in the event are, below, clockwise from top

left, Kelsey Smithhart, 9th grade, Hugo; Malinda Thompson, 11th grade, Hugo; Michael Bugos, 3rd grade, Red Oak, and Anna Hamilton, 6th grade, Hugo.



Participating in the 2002 Choctaw Nation Diabetes Poster Contest from Hugo are, back row, Maria Santillan, Leandra Thomson, Chelsea Wells, 3rd place, 4th-6th category, and McCall Caraway, 1st place, K-3rd category; front row, Curtis Hamilton and Preston Wells.



Hugo students entering the contest also include Katlyn Shawhart, 3rd place, 7th-9th; Morgan Ray, 1st place, 4th-6th; Anna Hamilton, 2nd place, 4th-6th, and Jesse Carney.



Students from Hartshorne included 2nd-graders Justin Daniel, Ruben Kauley, William Veal, Shane Ott, and not pictured, Melinda Wapskineh.



LeFlore students Michael Bugos, 3rd grade, 2nd place in K-3rd grade category, and Jason Bugos, 1st grade.



Salena Cully, 8th grade, Wright City, 1st place in 7th-9th grade category.



Madison Cress, 3rd place in K-3rd grade category, and Katherine Webb, both of Boswell.



Malinda Thompson, 11th grade, Hugo, 2nd place in the 10th-12th grade category.



Nicholas Freas, 4th grade, Coalgate.



From Quinton: first row, Tarrin Hubbard, Chris Adcock, Austin Wheat, Michael Sisco, Kelsey Breedlove, Kasarah Oxford, Kristen Breedlove, Stormy Nunnelee and Quinton Needham; second row, Shane Smith, Daniel Spearman, Alyssa Noble, Cody Ary, Dannah Palaroan, Shelby Strain, Nick Spearman and Valerie Quinton; back row, Eric Spearman, Larry Pryor and Cara Workman, and not pictured, Rhylee Sanford and Leilani Bond.



Kiowa students: front row, Ariel Miller, Maryah Nichols, Randi Powell and Brandon Morrison; back row, Shane Powell, Gage Guest, Jared Chamberlain and Shane Shields, and not pictured, Rance Gilliam.



Madison Hawkins, Kindergarten, Antlers.



Courtland Jackson, Hugo, 1st grade.



Rattan students, Dustin Davidson, 2nd grade, and LaTisa Davidson, 3rd grade.



Hugo High School art class, front, Kelsey Shawhart, Lindsey Weathers, Meggan Jenkot, Lori Walton, and Keri Gray, and back, T.Q. Walton, Quincy Brannan, Jamelah Murray and art instructor, Lyndol Fry. Meggan placed 1st, Malinda 2nd and Kerri Gray 3rd in the Diabetes Poster Contest's 10th-12th grade category.

# People You Know

## Happy birthday Henry Moore

Happy birthday to Henry Moore who turned 79 years old on August 20. He celebrated with his wife, Faye; daughters Mary Wesley, Sharon Jewell, Annie Garman, Maria Smith and Carylton Pugh; sons, Danny Garman and Harold Garman; daughters-in-law, Terrie Garman and Dee Garman; sons-in-law, Isaiah Wesley, Jack Jewell, David Smith and Otis Pugh; sisters, Ella Byington and Rose Moore, and 19 grandchildren.



## Twins celebrate 90th birthday



Violette Brogdon Wiley of Claremore and Virginia Brogdon Diggs of Enid celebrated their 90th birthday on June 9, 2002 with a family dinner in Pryor, Oklahoma. Twenty-four family members were present. Violette and Virginia are the twin daughters of James Madison and Pearl (Paxson) Brogdon. Pearl Paxson was an original enrollee as were her brothers, Calvin Paxson and Walter Paxson, and her sister, Angelina Paxson.

### Wishing our little angel a happy birthday



Britney Michelle Underwood turned two years old on June 30. She is the daughter of Jason and Micah Underwood and the sister of Jordan from Tishomingo, Oklahoma. She is the granddaughter of Dexter and Valerie Underwood of Mill Creek, Oklahoma and Mike and Patty Green

and the late Linda Green of Reagan, Oklahoma. Britney's great-grandparents are Armond and Hattie Williamson of Sulphur, Oklahoma and Lillian and the late Andrew "Bud" Underwood of Mill Creek.



### Happy birthday

We would like to wish a belated Happy Birthday to our daughter, Macalah Kati Ancho Turner, who turned one on April 24 and to our



son, Michael Koi Turner, who turned four on June 28. Proud parents are Mike and Tawalla Turner. Grandparents are Tom and Mary Wilkinson of Hochatown, Oklahoma, Berie and Rena Gibson of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Ron and Anita Turner of Marlow, Oklahoma.



### Happy first, Terish!

Special birthday wishes are going out to a special little girl, Terish Sarah Helen Anna, who turned one year old on July 24. She is the daughter of Jason and Amy Anna and the little sister to Joshua and Blake, all of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Terish enjoys competing in beauty pageants, where she takes top honors with the "prettiest hair." She also enjoys getting her brothers into trouble and playing "hard to get" from mommy and daddy.

Terish would like to wish her grandma Lisa, uncle Isaac Battiest, Jr. and her mommy a very happy birthday. Happy birthday, Nanna! We love you!

### Jera is two!

Jera JuliAnne Davis of Texarkana, Texas celebrated her second birthday on June 27.

She is the daughter of Keith and Sharon Davis of Texarkana. Her grandparents are Earl and Ann Davis and Donald and Bobbie Scott of Idabel, Oklahoma. Her great-grandmother is Evelyn Mills of Atlanta, Texas.



### Happy first birthday!

We would like to wish Christopher Edward Becenti a big and cheerful, "Happy birthday!" He was born July 15, 2001 in Farmington, New Mexico. His proud family includes Rutherford and Wetona Lisa (Taylor) Becenti, and big sister, Christine Mary Becenti.

Christopher's grandparents are Mary Taylor of Shiprock, New Mexico, the late

Edgar J. Taylor, Betty Becenti-John of Shiprock and the late Edison A. Becenti.

Christopher is a very special child of God and is loved very much by his uncles, Tony, Eugene, Edison and Milford, and aunt, Angela, and their families. He is especially loved by his grandmothers. His late grandfather, Edgar, loved Christopher so much. Christopher always brought a smile to his face.

Happy birthday, son. We love you!

### Birthday wishes

Bruce Cass would like to wish his daughter, Moira Quiroz-Cass, a very happy eighth birthday on August 9. She's a blessing I thank God for every day I wake up.



### MaKayla turns one!

MaKayla Maytubby celebrated her first birthday on August 2. She is the daughter of James Maytubby and Kathy Halcomb and the granddaughter of Willis Maytubby and the late Cindy Maytubby of Wright City and Edwin and Kathaleen Umphress of Valliant. Her big brothers and sisters,

Chris, Andrew, Tina and Ann, would like to wish her a very happy first birthday and they love you lots!

### Jim Lewis turns 80

Jim Calvin Lewis of Sheridan, Arkansas will celebrate his 80th birthday on August 2. Jim is the son of John Calvin Lewis, an original enrollee, and the great-grandson of Simon E. Lewis. Simon Lewis is mentioned on page 272 of Angie Debo's book, "The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic." Family legend has it that one of Jim's great-grandmothers was born under a wagon while en route to Oklahoma on the Trail of Tears.

Jim was born and raised in McAlester and left Oklahoma during World War II to serve in the Marine Corps. After World War II he married Mary Frances Lambdin and they raised two boys in Carlsbad, New Mexico where he worked for International Minerals Corp., a mining and milling operation near there, until his retirement in 1984.

Jim's two sons and three grandchildren want to thank him for instilling in them the values and integrity of the Choctaw people. From all your family and friends, "Jim, have a very happy and special 80th birthday!"



### Happy 60th Grandma Dora!

A special happy birthday has been sent just for Dora Barrett who turned 60 years young on July 13. She was born July 13, 1942 in Smithville, Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Rhoda Sullivan of Smithville and the late Mark Lewis, also of Smithville.

Dora is a full-blood Choctaw. She and her husband, F.L. Barrett, made their home in Amity, Arkansas. They have five children, Jimmy Barrett of Boswell, Oklahoma, Cathy Henthorn of Conroe, Texas, Sandra Keener and Robert Barrett, both of Amity, and Delores Cogburn of Caddo Gap, Arkansas. Dora and F.L. have 13 grandchildren. We love you, mom!

## Congratulations on a great season!

Larry Baker had a 10-5 season ranking, third out of seven teams in the National Division. Larry had two grand slams, numerous RBIs and home runs. Keep up the good work!

Larry is the son of Sydney Baker of Moore, Oklahoma and Madison "Bo" Baker of Wright City, Oklahoma. He is the grandson of Lavada Baker of Wright City and Patty Fry of Moore, Oklahoma. We love you and would like to wish you a great season in football.



### Divino inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

Julia Divino was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Society International Scholastic Order of the two-year college in Glendale, Arizona in February and in July, she made the Dean's list. She is presently majoring in mortuary science at Glendale Community College. In 2005, she plans to have her degree and open her own business. She not only wants to serve the public but wants to specialize in Native American burials. Julia and her parents wish to thank the Choctaw Nation for their financial help which is making it possible for her to get her degree. She is the granddaughter of Charley and Ruby Ferrante, who is an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation. Her parents are Mike and Narcissus (Diane) Gragg.



### Happy seventh!

Jalen Chenault celebrated his seventh birthday on July 17. He is the son of Tina Chenault and Kevin Dean and the grandson of Ruth Moncada, all of Oklahoma City, and the grandson of Floyd Chenault of Clarksville, Arkansas. All of your family in Oklahoma City and Clarksville would like to wish you a happy birthday!

## Lubbock Girl Scout earns Gold Award

Joelle Lowe of Lubbock, Texas was awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award on June 10 at the Texas State Capitol in Austin. She is a member of Girl Scout Troop #407.

Joelle is a graduate of Lubbock High School and will be attending Texas Tech University in the fall. She is the daughter of Jeré and Carrie Lowe. To earn the Gold Award, she worked with the Lubbock Independent School District elementary schools on a supply drive for the South Plains Wildlife Center,



### Happy birthday to Rebecca and George Wall!

Little Rebecca will turn nine on September 12. Her daddy, George Wall, celebrated his 42nd birthday on August 4.

Happy birthday, Rebecca and George!



## Cousins celebrate sixth birthday

Cousins Jordan Henderson and James Henderson celebrated their sixth birthday this year, Jordan on June 20 and James on July 17.

Happy birthday! from Dad, Mom, Gramps and Gaga.

### Happy birthday Breanna and Gregory!



Happy birthday wishes are sent to Breanna Allison who was nine on August 26 and Gregory Allison who will be ten on September 11. Love, Mom, Dad and Stephanie.



## Grandson proud to be Choctaw

Raby A. Cariker of San Antonio, Texas would like everyone to know how much his Grandma Beulah Marie Cariker means to him. She taught him when he was young to be proud to be Choctaw. She is a special woman to a lot of people.

Even though Raby moved to San Antonio, he thinks about her often and visits her in Dumas at least once a year.

Although she is 90, Raby is ready to know her for another 90 years.



### Look who just turned five

Happy birthday to Justin Dale Rose who turned five years old on July 1.

He is the son of Denette and Jeff Jackson of Smithville, Oklahoma and grandson of Darlene Rose of Smithville and JoAnn and Neil Jackson of Oak Hill, Oklahoma. He is the great-grandson of Lorene Harris of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and Mary Shinn of Houghton, Louisiana.

### Airington elected to UNITY committee

Misty Airington, 21, of Ratliffe City, Oklahoma was recently elected to the position of member-at-large of the National UNITY Council's Executive Committee during the recent National UNITY Conference held in Palm Springs, California. UNITY, which stands for United National Indian Tribal Youth, is headquartered in Oklahoma City and sponsors the conference which attracted almost 1,500 Native American youth and advisors. Misty attends East Central University in Ada majoring in Business Administration. A member of the Choctaw Nation, she is also the president of the Chickasaw Nation Executive Youth Council and a member of the Pickens District Youth Council.

## Persson to major in law enforcement

Lennart Persson, Jr. of San Leandro, California graduated high school this past June 2002.

He graduated one year early and worked very hard to accomplish this goal. He will be attending Chabot Community College in Hayward, California this fall majoring in law enforcement and computer science.

He is the son of Eraina (Samis) and Lennart Persson, Sr. and the oldest grandson of Doretha (Samis) Gonzales. He is the great-grandson of Adeline Samis and the late Edmond Samis. Congratulations! We are very proud of you.



## Congratulations Daniel Beaver, Jr.!

Daniel Beaver graduated in June from Mesquite High School in Mesquite, Texas with honors.

Daniel played baseball for four years and football three years for the Skeeters. He will play baseball and continue his education at Panola Jr. College in East Texas.

He is the son of Brenda Tonubbee Beaver and Danny Beaver, grandson of Barbara Shelton of Wills Point and Francis Murphy of Kerrville, and the great-grandson of the late Albert and Mary Lee Johnson of Durant, Oklahoma.

### First in racquetball

Dusty Mansfield, 16, won first place in Singles B Division and second place in Doubles B Division in the Honolulu Club 2002 Summer Heat Wave Racquetball Tournament. The tournament was held in Honolulu, Hawaii on June 26-30. Dusty is the youngest competitor in his division.

Dusty was also awarded a medal and a certificate of achievement in Navy Junior ROTC, on May 16, 2002, for outstanding physical fitness in the Sea Dog Postal Physical Fitness Challenge.

Dusty is the grandson of Mikel and Rose Burnett of Talihina, Oklahoma and the son of Deona Ryan. Dusty's great-grandparents are Jim and Bobbie Bell of Antlers, Oklahoma.

Dusty's family is very proud of him.



## Happy birthday Michelle Chenault!

We would like to wish Michelle Chenault a happy birthday on August 27. She is the daughter of Ruth Moncada of Oklahoma City and Floyd Chenault of Clarksville, Arkansas. All of your family would like to wish you many more!

### Lindsay turns 14

Lindsay Dawn Forrester was born June 23, 1988 in Ada, Oklahoma to Ronnie and Linda Forrester. She celebrated her 14th birthday this year. Lindsay is the granddaughter of Donald and Marcine Brooks of Lula and the late Louis and Lorene Forrester. She is the great-granddaughter of Mary Clifford of Ada.

Lindsay is a student at Ada Junior High School where she is an honor student and member of the National Honor Society. She is also active in dance and is a member of Cara's Kids, a competitive dance team. She is a graduate of John Casablancas Modeling and Career Center of Oklahoma City.

Lindsay is an active teenager who is a blessing to her parents and grandparents. She works hard to achieve her goals.

### Hawkins promoted

Tom Hawkins has been promoted to Web Development Manager, Marketing Services Department, with responsibility for the Leggett corporate and company web sites.

Hawkins joined Leggett in 2002 as Corporate Webmaster. Previously, Hawkins worked for Pitney Bowes.

Leggett and Platt is a Fortune 500 company based in Carthage, Missouri.





## Way to go!

On Sunday, June 30, the Durant-Traveling Team, Atta Baby, age 10 and under, won the Class B state title in Stillwater, Oklahoma. They beat out 15 other teams from across the state. Their coaches are Lee Watkins and Angela Scott. They were to compete for the national title in Springfield, Missouri on July 31 through August 4. Pictured are, front, Kallie Engle, Torie Engle, Kenna Self, Katie Pickens, Ashton Thompson and Carlee Speaks; second row, Rachel Folsom, Kaiya Morris, Nicole Watkins, Reagan Brown, Taylor Rudd and Abigail Hattensty; and back row, Coach Watkins and Coach Scott.

## Young mother takes on intensive nurses training



While most 18-year-olds have just graduated high school, Mandee Wheeler has been training to be a licensed vocational nurse for a year. She attended classes from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays. The rest of the week she went to school at 6:30 a.m. for clinicals — hands-on training in various medical facilities.

The intensive nursing program is offered through South Plains College with classes held on the

Wayland campus and clinicals in Plainview.

Time is important to Mandee. When she comes home from classes, she cares for her two daughters, Madison, 2, and Malanee, 11 months. Her husband, Will Wheeler, an employee at Wal-Mart, works the night shift and takes care of the girls during the day.

Mandee graduated from high school a year early and set her sights on working in the medical field. She completed her training and was pinned on August 15.

Now it's husband Will's turn. He plans to enroll in Oklahoma Baptist University. Faith, dedication and team work have kept this young family on the path to success.

## Sister sends happy anniversary wishes

Mattie B. Jones of Kiowa, Oklahoma would like to congratulate her sister and brother-in-law, Doris and Bently Grayham, and her brother and sister-in-law, Victor "Buster" and Geraldine "Jerry" Jefferson, on their wedding anniversaries.

Both families live in Oklahoma City.



**Doris and Bently Grayham**

Doris and Bently have been married 55 years this August. They have three children and several grandchildren.

Buster and Jerry have been married 56 years this August. Through this union they have eight children and many grandchildren.

Mattie and family wish them happiness and good health for many years to come.

## Happy 17th, Joe!

Happy 17th birthday and congratulations on a job well done. We are very proud of your academic accomplishments. Joseph Hernandez has excelled as a junior at E.E. Smith High School in North Carolina. This year he walked away with the National Science Merit Award, Vocational Honor Student, graduated from the Leadership Fayetteville Youth Academy, pins of excellence in Allied Health Science, English III honors, Algebra II honors and pre-calculus, the Dr. Linda Kerr Norfleet Award trophy, special recognition in Academy of Scholars, A Honor Roll, Air Force Association Award and acceptance in the North Carolina Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics Program at Appalachian State University. He is the son of Gabriel and Pauletta Ward Hernandez of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, brother of Rebecca, Elizabeth, Vanessa and Joshua, grandson of Mary Lou Thierry of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and great-nephew of Cealis Carterby of Ardmore, Oklahoma.



## Work among Who's Who

Betty Work of Farris, Oklahoma, a fifth and sixth grade teacher at Rattan, has been nominated to Who's Who Among America's Teachers. This is her fifth time to get this honor.

Teachers can only be nominated by students who have achieved Who's Who Among High School Students. The teacher must have made a difference in the life of the student. Only 5% of teachers get this nomination and only 2% have received it more than once.

"This is the highest honor that a teacher can achieve because a former student chose me," she said.

Mrs. Work is one-half Choctaw. Her daughter is Darlene Work of Farris. She has a brother, Jack Work of Farris and a sister, Maricie Smith of Farris. Both parents, Buck and Lousina of Farris, are deceased but made a great impact on her life.



## Look who's one!

Devin Emert turned one year old on July 3. He is the son of Kevin and Angie Emert of Bennington, Oklahoma and has a brother, Mason.

Devin's grandparents are Edmond and Crickett Jones of Bennington and Gilbert and Alice Emert of Atoka, Oklahoma.

Happy birthday, Devin!

## Arizona Choctaws visit Oklahoma

Bob and Ethel Hanko, along with Larry and Leann Keener, of Phoenix, Arizona gathered with their Oklahoma family at Boggy Depot Park in June. A great time was had by all. Ethel is the sister of Lula Pearl (Taylor) Webb of Wapanucka, Oklahoma and Winnie Reeve and Ava Shoemaker, both of Phoenix. Their father was original enrollee Hugo Wilson of the Wilson Community.



## Siblings excel

Edward Tucker would like to say Happy Sweet 16 to his sister, Nancy Tucker, and congratulations on her



selection to Who's Who of American High School Students. Nancy, who turned 16 on August 6, is a junior at Putnam City West High School. She is active in the Native American Club having served as the vice president this past year. She was also inducted into the National Honor Society.

Nancy, as well, would like to congratulate her brother, Edward, on his hard work this year, making the honor roll and getting selected twice for student of the month at his school.

Edward, 10, and Nancy are the children of Nasha Tucker, Oklahoma City, and the grandchildren of Paula Eyachabbe, also of Oklahoma City. Great-grandparents include the late Jowick and Fannie Tonihka, Broken Bow, and the late Rufus and Mary Eyachabbe, Antlers.

Happy birthday, Nancy! Love, Mom, Edward, Granny and all of the aunts, uncles and cousins!



## Glass, Sangster wed

Shannon Sangster of Carrollton, Texas and Ronald Glass of Ashdown, Arkansas were married August 3, 2002 at the First Baptist Church in Carrollton.

The bride is a tribal member and the daughter of Kenneth Ray Sangster of Denton, Texas and Vicky Sangster of



Carrollton. She is a senior at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Glass of Ashdown. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and is employed as a CPA in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The couple will make their home in Tulsa after a wedding trip to Cancun.

## Juarez, Splawn wed in June ceremony

Consuelo Juarez and Troy David Splawn were united in marriage on Saturday, June 8, 2002 at the New Life Assembly of God Church in Antlers, Oklahoma. Officiating at the ceremony was the Rev. Abraham Jackson of Bennington, Oklahoma.

Following the service at New Life Assembly of God, the wedding party moved to the Darwin Baptist Church for a traditional Choctaw wedding and reception. Conducting the Choctaw wedding ceremony was Bert Holt. He shared the oral history with approximately 200 people of how the Choctaw people were married before the missionaries arrived. He explained how the courtship process was six months to a year long and there was involvement from not only the families but the whole community. At any point during the courtship anyone could disagree with the arrangement and stop the process. Several games were played for fun and laughter. In addition to the fun the games provided, they had purpose and taught some important lessons.

The bride was placed on a blanket by her mother. If the people of the community agreed to the couple being married, they would place a gift on the blanket. At the end of the day, if the husband still wanted to marry, he would pick up the blanket and take the bride to their home. After this step, they were married.

The couple honeymooned in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. They now reside in Antlers.



## Happy first birthday!

Sumerlin Della Munroe turned one year old on August 3. She is the daughter of James and Amy Munroe of Calera, Oklahoma.

Happy birthday!



## Celebrating the big nine!

Look who turned nine years old on August 22.

Happy birthday, John D. Craun!



## Happy fourth birthday!

Trever Wann celebrated his fourth birthday on August 18. His parents are Janine Dills and Jerry Don Wann.

Jeremie, Kelsie and Mackenzie would like to say happy birthday to their brother, Trever.



Grandparents are Gary and Janie Dills and Jerry and Ann Wann. Great-grandparents are Joe and Deane McClure and Bill and Corine Dills, all of Durant, and Inez Wann of Kinta.

## Wedding bells

Denette Shona Rose and Jeffery Neal Jackson were married on February 23, 2002 at Smithville, Oklahoma. They make their home at Smithville. Congratulations!



### Watson Joseph Deacon

Kate and Aaron Deacon of Chicago, Illinois wish to announce the birth of their first child, Watson Joseph Deacon, born on November 3, 2001. Watson arrived at 6:23 p.m. at Loyola Hospital in Maywood, Illinois. He weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and measured 54 centimeters long.

Joyously welcoming him into the world are proud grandparents Maureen and Jimmie Watson of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Debra and Michael Deacon of Omaha, Nebraska; great-grandmother Jean Burton of Minneapolis, Minnesota; aunts and uncles, Jennie and Erron Robinson, Marnie and Dennis Kenney, Michelle and Allen Snowden, Sarah Deacon, Katie Deacon, Jesse Deacon, Elizabeth Deacon and Mara Deacon.

Watson is the great-grandson of the late Annie and Jimmie Watson of Krebs, Oklahoma, the late Estelle and John Baar of Kansas City, Missouri, the late Harvey Burton of Minneapolis and the late Mary and George Deacon of Port Huron, Michigan.



### Shaina Rae Spears

Clyde Ray and Angela Spears of Wilburton, Oklahoma are announcing the birth of a daughter. Shaina Rae was born April 13, 2002 at McAlester Regional Hospital. She weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and was 18.5 inches long. She joins a sister, Caitlin, 7.

Grandparents are Delbert and Carla Derryberry of Wilburton, Bruce and Janey Buffington of Calvin, Oklahoma and Clyde and Alice Ann Spears of Hartshorne.



### Kaylee Michelle Foster

Kaylee Michelle Foster was born at 10:49 a.m. on February 26, 2002 at Methodist Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Kaylee is welcomed by her parents, Cresta and Eric Foster of Spring Branch, Texas. She is their first child.

Also welcoming Kaylee are her proud grandparents, Priscilla and John Stewart of Spring Branch and Bill and Connie Foster of San Antonio. Kaylee is the great-granddaughter of Ramona (Jelks) Coslovsky of Wasilla, Alaska, a Choctaw Nation enrollee from whom she received her Choctaw ancestry.



### Rachel Lynn Furlich

Mike and Lynn Furlich are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter, Rachel Lynn Furlich. She was born on May 29, 2002, weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 19.75 inches long.

She is a 12th generation granddaughter of Chief Apuckshunnubbee through the Brashear-Oakes-Everidge lineage. Rachel's grandparents are John and Dot Sims of Mesquite, Texas and Mike and Nancy Furlich of Mansfield, Texas.



## Owa-Chito's Jr. Miss Choctaw



Anmarie Hashtomi Steele of Idabel, Oklahoma recently won Junior Miss Choctaw Princess at the Owa-Chito Festival in Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Anmarie also won 1st Runner-Up in the District 1 Little Miss Princess Pageant.

She is the daughter of Roger and Shanna Steele of Idabel, the granddaughter of Mike and Lydia McClure of Idabel and Amos Steele and the late Sweely Steele of Hochatown, Oklahoma, and the great-granddaughter of Frances Williams of Idabel.

Congratulations!

## Mother, daughter get perfect attendance pins

Pamela West and her daughter, Krystle Countz, have received their perfect attendance pins for Sunday School.

Pam has 38 years and Krystle has 14 years. They received the pins on Mother's Day at the Arpelar Nazarene Church in Arpelar, Oklahoma. Their grandfather and Sunday School Superintendent of the church, Mack Jones, gave them their pins.

Pam is the daughter of Buck and Frances Jones of Arpelar. She is married to Eric West. Her grandparents are Lorene McClendon and the late Edgar McClendon and Mack Jones and the late Vera Jones of Arpelar.

Countz is the daughter of Jim Countz of Shady Grove. Grandparents are Sue Countz, Taylor Countz, Ora Lee Thomas, the late Ben Thomas and James and Billie Countz of Indianola, Oklahoma.

Pam, Eric and Krystle attend the McAlester 1st Freewill Baptist Church.



## Taylor turns 14

Everyone at Westside Family Chapel would like to wish Taylor Poole a happy birthday.

Happy 14th birthday from Mam Maw, Aunti Donna, Uncle Larry and everyone at Westside.

You're a cool kid!







George and Justin Ruggles get a poster signed by Chief Gregory Pyle so that it can be given to George's brother, James, who is a patient at a burn center.



Tracy and Stan Osborn spoke proudly of their children who have started their own clothing line for Xtreme Sportswear, Ozzwear.

## PORTLAND



Sarah and Casandra Zeigler are all smiles at the Portland meeting held Saturday, July 20.



Alan and Linda Burns are congratulated by Chief Pyle on their 26th anniversary.



Ruth McMillian, visiting with Chief Pyle at Seattle, is the daughter of original World War I Code-Talker Tobias Frazier.

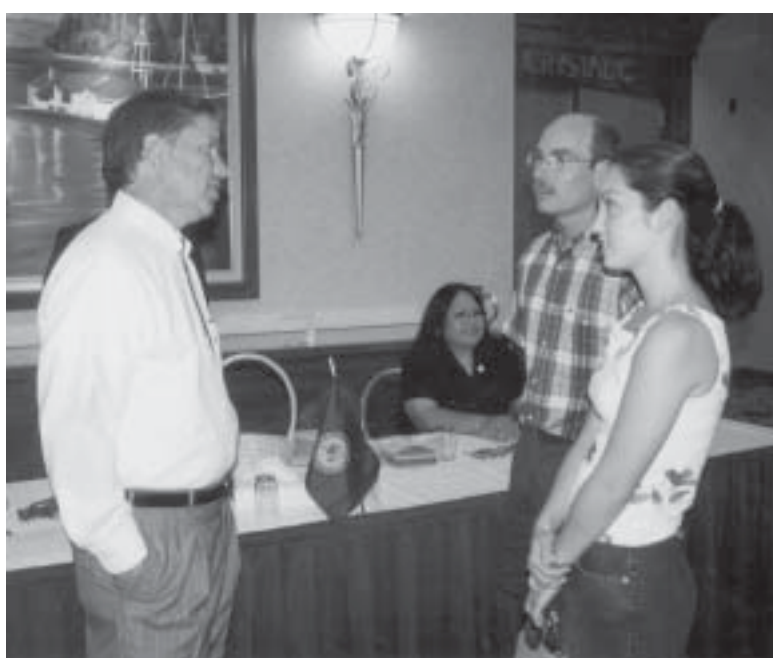


Ryan Cariker, 13 1/2, pictured here with Chief Greg Pyle, competed at Sea Fair on the day of the Seattle meeting, Sunday, July 21. He came by to get his photo ID.

## SEATTLE



Great-grandpa Virgil Armstrong was thrilled to see two-day-old Kinsey. She is Virgil's seventh great-granddaughter, according to her parents, Rick and Krista.



Don and Sarah Ward visit with Chief Pyle.



The Anderson family gathered for a photo with Chief Pyle.



## CNHS awarded accreditation

Choctaw Nation Health Services has achieved accreditation from Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations after an on-site survey. The Laboratory Services at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina and the field clinic’s labs at Poteau, Hugo, Broken Bow and McAlester were found to be in compliance with Joint Commission’s national standards for clinical and pathology laboratories.

“We continually strive to improve the quality of our services, and meeting the Joint Commission’s rigorous national standards is an important recognition of our efforts,” says Bruce Pipkin, laboratory director. The Joint Commission evaluated the laboratory’s performance in complying with nearly 300 standards related to quality control, safety, infection control, leadership, management of human resources, management of information, ongoing performance improvement activities and other issues.

Mr. Pipkin says efforts to improve don’t stop



Staff are dedicated to keeping CNHS laboratories at top standards.

when the Joint Commission survey is over. “Meeting the standards and achieving excellence is a continuous process,” he says. “No matter how well we did today, we continue to strive to do better tomorrow.”

## Let the Choctaw voice be heard across the land

The Choctaw Tribal Membership Department would like to urge everyone to vote in all city, county, state and federal elections.

As citizens of the United States, it is a privilege and duty to go to the polls and make our choice among the candidates

### TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT

running for office.

The upcoming elections will be deciding factors in our future for the next four years.

As Choctaws, we should be

proud to vote. Our ancestors fought for this country, protected it during World War I, and they did it before they were even considered citizens with the right to vote.

We can have our say. We can make our voices heard across the country. But only if we vote.

## Membership Department booth open during Festival

Choctaws who need to apply for a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) or a Tribal Membership Card will be able to during the Choctaw Labor Day Festival, August 30 through September 2 at the

Tribal Capitol Grounds at Tuskahoma.

A booth will be set up where applications and photo IDs can be made. It is located on the roadway to the cafeteria in front of the carnival and will be open each

day during the Festival.

Hours are:

**Friday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.**

**Saturday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.**

**Sunday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.**

**Monday: 9 a.m.-?**

## Fight lead poisoning with good nutrition

Childhood lead poisoning is an entirely preventable disease, yet it remains a major environmental health problem in the United States. Nearly 900,000 U.S. children ages one to five years old have blood levels over the Center for Disease Controls recommended level of concern, which is ten micrograms per deciliter.

Lead is toxic to the human body. Lead is poisonous metal that interferes with some of the body’s basic functions. Lead remains in the bloodstream for up

### WIC WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

to a few months and then it is slowly absorbed into the bones, where it can collect for a lifetime. Lead can be harmful to anyone, but younger children face special hazards because their nervous systems are still developing. Lead levels in children tend to peak at around two years of age, most likely due to high exposures from mouthing of toys

(which can collect dust and paint chips) and other hand-to-mouth activities during this period.

Lead poisoning occurs most frequently in children living in poorly maintained older homes with chipping, peeling, or flaking lead paint. Housing built before 1950 is the most likely to contain lead paint, but any home before 1978 (the year the paint was banned for residential use) could pose a risk.

A healthy diet is vital to a child’s proper growth and devel-

## Watson School receives support

Chief Gregory E. Pyle recently presented the Watson School with funds to be used by the school for the educational needs of the children.

The Nation has proven over time to be a great support to the school.

Last year, the tribe donated funds for playground equipment at the school, and in 2000 funds were donated as well as supplying two tribal buses and drivers to take the students on a Johnson O’Malley trip.

The Watson School and community would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for its continued support and friendship to the Watson School.



Choctaw Chief Greg Pyle presents Watson School Superintendent Cindy Hernandez a check for the school. School Board President Argel Looney, left, and members Edna Rowan and Ralph Singleton are on hand along with Tribal Council Speaker Kenny Bryant, right, of District 3, and District 2 Councilman Billy Paul Baker.

## Mobile Wellness Center provides non-emergency care and exams

A full-sized recreational vehicle has been specially outfitted and staffed by medical personnel to provide non-emergency care including physical exams and health screenings throughout the 10.5 county Choctaw coverage area.

The health services are for CDIB cardholders only.

Little Dixie business counselors will also staff

the center and provide business support and training for those needing help developing a business plan, obtaining small business financing, advertising/marketing/ creating a website and other needs. Little Dixie provides their services free to all interested.

For more information, please call 1-800-349-7026, ext. 7126 or 6675.

### WELLNESS CENTER SCHEDULE

September 2002

| Date  | 9:30-12 noon                           | 1-3 p.m.                           |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| September 3   | Bennington - Hwy 70E                   | Boswell - Hwy 70, west end of town |
| Physical exams; diabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention     |  |                                    |
| September 5   | Broken Bow - Choctaw Community Ctr     | Eagletown - Main Street            |
| Diabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention                     |  |                                    |
| September 10  | Buffalo Valley - Hwy 2 & 63 Jct, Store | Red Oak - Hwy 270 Store            |
| Physical exams; diabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention     |  |                                    |
| September 13  | Crowder - Choctaw Community Ctr        | Krebs - Hwy 270                    |
| Diabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention                     |  |                                    |
| September 17  | Heavener - Hwy 59                      | Wister - Hwy 270                   |
| Vision screenings; diabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention  |  |                                    |
| September 20  | Bokoshe - Main Street                  | McCurtain - Main Street            |
| Diabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention                     |  |                                    |
| September 24  | Tupelo - Main Street                   | Coalgate - Choctaw Community Ctr   |
| Diabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention                     |  |                                    |
| September 26  | Caddo - Main Street                    | Caney - Main Street                |
| Hearing screenings; diabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention |  |                                    |

### FOODS THAT HELP PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM LEAD POISONING

#### Regularly eat healthy foods

Children with empty stomachs absorb more lead than children with full stomachs.

Provide your child with four to six small meals during the day. The following nutrients can help protect your child from lead poisoning:



#### Iron-rich foods

Normal levels of iron work to protect the body from the harmful effects of lead. Good sources of dietary iron include:

Lean and red meats, fish and chicken  
Iron-fortified cereals  
Dried fruits (raisins, prunes)

#### Vitamin C-rich foods

Vitamin C and iron-rich foods work together to reduce lead absorption. Good sources of vitamin C include:

Oranges, orange juice  
Grapefruits, grapefruit juice  
Tomatoes, tomato juice  
Green peppers

#### Calcium-rich foods

Calcium reduces lead absorption and also helps make teeth and bones strong. Good sources of dietary calcium include:

Milk  
Yogurt  
Cheese  
Green, leafy vegetables  
(spinach, kale, collard greens)

## Child and Adult Care Food Program

The Choctaw Nation Head Start announces its participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. All participants in attendance are served meals, at no extra charge to the parents and without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. In accordance with federal law and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. You may also write to the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs Section, Room 310, 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599.



## Ardmore language class graduates

The Phase IV Choctaw Language class in Ardmore, Oklahoma graduated May 14. Pictured are Lillian Vaughn, teacher; Josephine Ned, Eddie Palmer, Roy Cooper, Dixie Cooper, Melissa Conway, Georgia Antuna, Fay Taylor, Bertha Taylor, and Language Director Richard Adams.

## Choctaw Nation WIC



### Serving the Choctaw Nation at 14 sites

| SITE       | PHONE               | HOURS     | DAYS                                 |
|------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Antlers    | 580-298-3161        | 8:30-4:00 | Tuesdays                             |
| Atoka      | 580-889-5825        | 8:00-4:30 | 1st, 3rd & 4th Wed, every Thursday   |
| Bethel     | 580-241-5458        | 8:30-4:00 | 1st & 3rd Tuesday                    |
| Boswell    | 580-566-2243        | 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 | Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday    |
| Poteau     | 918-647-4585        | 8:00-4:30 | Daily                                |
| Stigler    | 918-967-4211        | 8:30-4:00 | 1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesday             |
| Talihina   | 918-567-7000 x 6792 | 8:00-4:30 | Tuesday and Wednesday                |
| Wilburton  | 918-465-5641        | 8:30-4:00 | Mondays                              |

Call today for an appointment

**Benefit Gospel Singing  
for Nathan Scott**  
6:30 p.m., Sunday,  
September 8  
**Pigeon Roost  
Presbyterian Church**  
West Boswell, Oklahoma  
*Bring lawn chairs*  
MCs: Truman Jefferson  
and Jim Brunner

**Choctaw  
Language Classes  
Phase I**  
**WILBURTON**  
5 to 7 p.m.,  
Tuesday, September 3  
**Choctaw  
Community Center**  
515 Centerpoint Rd.  
918-465-2389  
**Instructor:**  
McKinley Taylor, Jr.  
918-465-2242  
~~~  
**MUSKOGEE**  
7 p.m., September 5  
**at the Muscogee Indian  
Community Center**  
111 S. Virginia  
**Instructor: Abe Frazier**  
918-431-1138  
918-685-8384  
**Phase II**  
**RED OAK**  
6-8 p.m., September 3  
**Red Oak Community Center**  
for more information  
call Sue Jefferson  
918-465-4250



Stephanie and Clifford Hibbitts bring children Mary Jean, C.J., Lyle and Clay, and grandmother Sherry Jean Wilkins to meet Chief Gregory Pyle. The family is from San Jose, California.



Korbin Drake, Severend Drake and Kendall Ridgebear came to the meeting with their grandparents, Judy and Max Scott, and uncle, Billy Dyer. They are the great-grandchildren of Willie and Amanda Dyer of Eagletown.



Al and Mary Jane Nelson Fadely and Carolyn and Doki Jack, all of Senora, California.

## SAN FRANCISCO



Gloria Tunkett and Belle Martinez of South San Francisco and Isabel Lopez of Watsonville attend the Saturday meeting in San Francisco. Gloria and Belle are sisters. Their parents lived in Bethel, Oklahoma.



Kenny Taylor, 9, and Robert Taylor, 5, of Tracy, California.



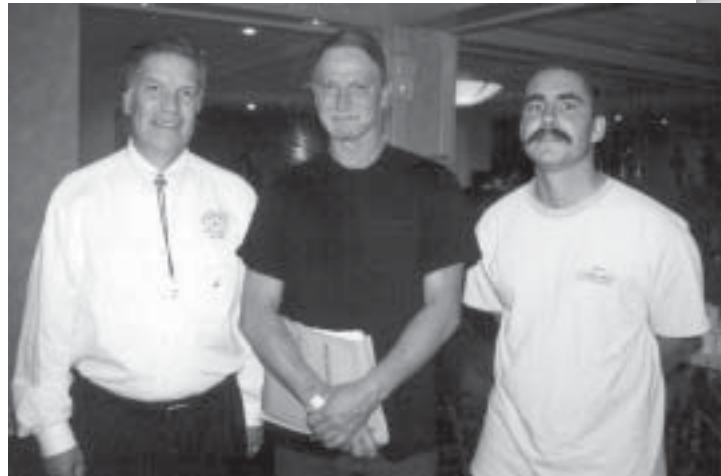
The John family: Gayle, David, Mary, Madyson, Drayton and James. Madyson, a junior at Freedom High School in Oakley, received first place and the Grand Championship award at the State of California talent competition in San Jose in May. She will be representing the United States in competition against 30 other countries in the Performing Arts World Championships to be held in Hollywood in October. Good luck, Madyson!



Lisa Gardner, Kathy Gardner, Chief Pyle, Samara Jones and Amy Lopez.



James Fulton visits with Chief Pyle.



Chief Pyle with George Lankford and Ken Mello.

## LOS ANGELES



Richard Florenda and children, Adrieana and Andrew, had front row seats.

### Choctaw Language Classes

begin 10 a.m. August 24  
N.A.S. Charter School 301(a)Wallace St.,  
Vallejo, California  
Instructor: Roland Wade - 707-558-0640



Doug and Michelle Brown of Redlands arrive early at the Los Angeles meeting.



Clifton Aduddell of Venice and Daniel Nez of Beverly Hills enjoyed meeting Chief Pyle.



Johnnie and Christina Masterson, Jonathan and Danielle of Corona, California.



Internet Choctaw Language Instructor Lily Roberts, center, meets students Lori Morrison of Torrence and Talatu Oyefeso of Compton.



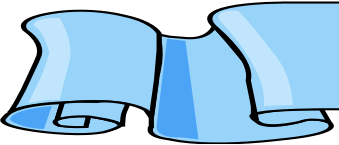
Esther Abrahamo visits with Chief Pyle. Esther's grandson, James Hunter, accompanied her to the meeting.



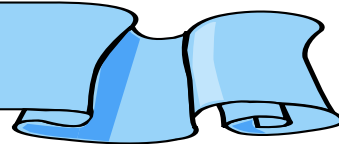
Debra Pollock, Shirley Pollock, Rudeen Johnson and Russ Merryman of Long Beach visit with Chief Pyle in Los Angeles.



CDIB/Membership Director Brenda Hampton helps Brandi, Jeanni, Johnny and Leandra Pope with application forms.



# OBITUARIES



## Floyd Daniel

Floyd Daniel, 87, of Valley Center, California passed away Friday, June 21, 2002 at a local nursing home. Born January 25, 1915 in Massey, Oklahoma, he was the son of Jacob Franklin Daniel and Beatrice Amelia Massey, an original enrollee, and the grandson of William Wilson Massey and Martha Isabelle LeFlore. The community of Massey was named for his grandfather.

Mr. Daniel married Maxine Lorene Frere on April 15, 1939 in North McAlester. They were married 60 years until her death on February 3, 1999. In the early years they lived in Pittsburg County, mostly in Massey and Crowder. They moved to Santa Ana, California in 1953.

Floyd retired from St. Regis Paper Co. in Fullerton, California in 1972. He retired to Valley Center, California where he had a garden, animals and grandchildren to entertain.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, and seven brothers, William Daniel, Walter Daniel, Edmond Daniel, Greenberry Daniel, Pleased Daniel, John Daniel and Willard Daniel.

Survivors include children, Phyllis Babcock of Vista, California, Bob Daniel of Fountain Valley, California, Sharon Lewis of Kings Park, New York, and Don Daniel of Austin, Texas, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Floyd was proud of his Choctaw heritage and was a wealth of information about the good old days growing up in Massey and Crowder. He loved Oklahoma and the Choctaw people.

He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.



## Aaron W. Walters

Aaron W. Walters, 77, of Sparks, Nevada passed away on Wednesday, June 12, 2002. He was born on February 26, 1925 in Durant, Oklahoma to Elmer W. Walters and Alzona Labor Walters.

Aaron was a World War II veteran. He was buried at the military cemetery, Riverside National, in Riverside California next to his former wife, Sybil Nadine Walters.

Survivors include his wife, Sherry; sons and daughters-in-law, Bob and Cindy of Hesperia, California and Gary and Donna of Sparks; daughter and son-in-law, Madelyn and Tom Broughton of Montana, 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

## Marie B. Lambert

Marie B. Lambert, 74, passed away on Wednesday, March 13, 2002 in Spokane, Washington, her home for 52 years. She was the daughter of Leo and Amy Breco of Ada, Oklahoma. Her father was a doctor and she was delivered by her grandfather, also a doctor, in his small hospital. Eighteen years later, Marie's first daughter was also born at the same hospital, delivered into the hand of her great-grandfather.

A tragic fire took the life of her father when Marie was a young child. Her mother, Amy, was a nurse, a teacher, played the piano and was very talented artistically. Marie talked fondly of her childhood in Ada playing with her cousins.

She moved to Spokane in 1954 where she met Jim Lambert. They married on January 16, 1955. Marie had a fondness for unusual pets, having a pet skunk and parrot as well as different dogs over her lifetime. She was always supportive of the girls' school and outside activities. She was very active in the Pythian Sisters Lodge where she became the Grand Chief of Washington.

Marie and Jim began gold mining in Idaho in part to enjoy the great outdoors. As her health problems increased she found joy in crafts, embroidery and joke telling.

Survivors include her husband; daughters, Sherry Montgomery-Hobbs and Katherin Lambert, and grandchildren, Kimberly and James Montgomery.

## Loyd Glendon Folsom

Loyd Glendon Folsom, 69, longtime Quinton, Oklahoma resident, passed away Saturday, July 20, 2002 in a Stigler nursing home. A native of Russelville, he was born March 20, 1933 to Davis Lewis Folsom and Dora Levada Bates Folsom.

He grew up in the Russelville area where he received his formal education. He was married to Rosa Pryor on October 22, 1952 in Eufaula, Oklahoma. They made their home together in Quinton where he worked in construction for several years before beginning a career in maintenance with Quinton and McAlester schools. He later owned and operated the Texaco Filling Station in Quinton for several years before his health forced his retirement.

Mr. Folsom will be remembered as a man who adored his family. He was a member of the Ogden Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Survivors include his wife; three daughters, Linda Quinton of Quinton, Brenda Hamlin of Enterprise, and Lesa Ellis of Kiowa; one son, Rodney Folsom of Quinton; three sisters, Lola Justice of Amarillo, Texas, Velma Ary of Quinton and Tressie Justice of Borger, Texas; seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and a brother and sister-in-law, Jackie and David Eisenhower.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Buen, J.D., Edward and Benjamin Folsom, and an infant sister.

## Oscar Williams

Oscar Williams, 87, of Lequire, Oklahoma passed away Monday, May 20, 2002 in McAlester, Oklahoma. He was born August 21, 1914 in Stigler, Oklahoma to Travis and Katy Williams.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Cloma Ottie Williams; one son, Bobby Williams; his parents, and one brother, Travis Williams.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Ruth Ann and Neil Shultz of Cordova, Alaska; a son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Diana Williams of Euless, Texas; five grandchildren, Chris and Scott Williams, Katie Shultz and Denee and Kevin Williams; five great-grandchildren, Jordan and Preston Williams and Lindsey, Britteny and Whitney Williams.

## Gladys Howard

Gladys Marie Howard, 87, of Stigler, Oklahoma passed away Friday, May 1, 2002 in Stigler. She was born April 12, 1915 in Garland to Davis and Etta Wasson Garland.

Mrs. Howard attended the Assembly of God Church in Stigler.

She was preceded in death by two husbands, Sidney W. Cass and H.R. Howard, three brothers, two sisters and one grandson.

Survivors include five daughters, Jane Smith of Springfield, Missouri, Sophina Dunn of Cedar Creek, Missouri, Vonetta Busse of Stigler, Connie Gowin of Sapulpa and Juanita Bowen of Wichita, Kansas; three sons, Sidney Wallace Cass of the home, Dennis Howard of Wichita and D. Wayne Howard of Garden Plains, Kansas; a sister, Geneva Venable of Stigler; one cousin, Velma Scantlen Durant of Stigler; 12 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

## Mable Collins

Mable Collins, 98, of Blackwell, Oklahoma passed away Wednesday, June 26, 2002 at Blackwell. She was born February 3, 1904 in Spiro, Indian Territory to Greenwood Forbus and Leona Ann Merryman LeFlore.

She grew up in Spiro and attended Spiro public schools. After completing the eleventh grade, she attended Tishomingo Indian School where she learned the trade of a seamstress. She moved to various other communities in Oklahoma, later settling in Muskogee. She remained in Muskogee until 1980 when she moved to Blackwell.

She married Miles R. Collins on October 9, 1923 at McAlester. He preceded her in death on October 3, 1971. A daughter, Peggy Ann Barber, also preceded her in death.

Mrs. Collins was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church in Muskogee. She also held membership in the Oklahoma Eastern Star Chapter 51 in Blackwell.

Survivors include a daughter, Miles Ellen Kellogg of Muskogee, seven grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and six great-great-grandchildren.

## Robert Judson Bell, Jr.

Robert Judson Bell, Jr., 75, passed away on Friday, June 21, 2002. He was born July 24, 1926 in McAlester, Oklahoma to Judge and Mrs. Robert Judson Bell, Sr.

He graduated from Oklahoma Military Academy before joining the Marine Corps and was wounded in action on Iwo Jima for which he received the Purple Heart. Bob served in the Occupation Forces in China before returning home to be honorably discharged. He attended Oklahoma A & M, receiving a degree in animal husbandry, after which he became a lifelong cattle rancher.

He was also a well-known bronze sculptor and Master Artist, specializing in Indian, wildlife, and rodeo themes. He was proud to be a Choctaw, and both his mother and grandmother were original enrollees. Some of his sculptures are on permanent display at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum in Muskogee.

Survivors include his sister, Marjorie Breidenbach of Tulsa, Oklahoma; three daughters, Karen Hatelid of O'Fallon, Illinois, Marilyn Bell of Kodiak, Alaska and Janet Koziol of Okmulgee; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

## Doyle R. Douglas

Doyle Ray Douglas, 52, of Ore City, Texas passed away Sunday, November 25, 2001 in Harrison County, Texas. He was born December 14, 1949 in Abilene, Texas.

Mr. Douglas grew up in Hobbs and graduated from Hobbs High School. He worked as a computer programmer and later as a brick mason.

His father, Johnnie Douglas, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his mother and stepfather, Marie and Eddie Lynch of Eunice; a brother, David Douglas of Gladewater, Texas; three stepbrothers, Bart Lynch of Ore City, Steve Lynch of Wyoming and Tommy Batson of Arlington, Texas; a step-sister, Reba Ayres of Fort Worth, and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.



## Rhoda Williams Pugh

Rhoda Pugh, 76, passed away in her Woodland, California home on Tuesday, July 2, 2002. She was born November 4, 1925 in Bentley, Oklahoma to the late Augustus and Susie Burris Impson Williams.

A member of the Choctaw Nation, she cherished her history and passed on her beliefs to her children and grandchildren.

Rhoda loved spending time with her family and her vegetable and flower gardens. She also liked fishing, crocheting and watching television. Her favorite shows were "Touched by an Angel," "The Price is Right" and "Matlock." Rhoda's cooking was famous throughout her friends and family. Her biscuits and gravy, fried chicken, black-eyed peas and spaghetti were her best, according to the family.

Mrs. Pugh's most cherished pet and only pet in her household was a leopard gecko given to her from her daughter on Mother's Day. "Lizzie the Lizard" was her only companion until her family was off work and able to visit her.

Her husband, Caswell O. Pugh, and sister, Carrie Williams, preceded her in death.

Survivors include sons, Freeman Pugh, Richard Pugh and partner, Carol Minarik, all of Fort Worth, Texas; daughters, Patsy Cadwell of Woodland, California, Brenda Fohner and husband, Greg, of Haskell, Oklahoma; daughter-in-law, Dianne Butler of Eugene, Oregon; sister, Lillian of Oklahoma City; grandchildren, Angie Walker and husband, Rick, of Eugene, Kim Reyes and husband, Tony, of Woodland, Shari Dixon and husband, Shawn, of Santa Rosa, California, Stephanie Sanders and partner, Matt Franti, of Woodland, and Kaia Fletcher of Haskell; great-grandchildren, Anthony and Alex Reyes of Woodland, Cori and Emma Walker of Eugene and Logan Dixon of Santa Rosa.

## Dazzy Lee Vance

Dazzy Lee Vance, 72, passed away Wednesday, March 6, 2002 at his home in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was born April 20, 1929 in Keota, Oklahoma, the son of Clifford and Geneva Choate Vance.

He lived with his aunt and uncle, Cornelia Folsom Cooper and Kirby S. Cooper, during his youth. He attended and graduated from the Keota school system.

Dazzy worked for Oklahoma Natural Gas from July 1949 until his retirement September 1984.

Dazzy's mother, Geneva, was a full-blood Choctaw and he was very proud of his Choctaw heritage.

Survivors include his wife, Reba; one daughter, Rebecca Chapman and her husband, Dale; one grandson, Shelby Vance Chapman, and a host of friends throughout the state. His passing has left a void in many lives and he is missed by all who knew him.

## Steven Craig Jansing

Steven Craig Jansing, 40, of Norman, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, June 2, in Norman. He was born July 19, 1961 in Norman to Robert H. and Sue Keeling Jansing. He graduated from Norman High School in 1979 and attended the University of Oklahoma and the Moore Norman Technology Center. A lifelong Norman resident, he worked as an E.A. accountant for the last 20 years with Stone & Koskie, CPAs. He married Sharon Scallan on January 9, 1999 in Norman. He was a member of City Church in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Jansing was preceded in death by his father and grandparents, Fred and Hazel Keeling and Herman and Frances Jansing.

Survivors include his wife; mother, Sue Jansing of Norman; stepson, Aaron Smith of the home; stepdaughter, Erica Smith of the home; sister, Suzanne Annesley and husband, Don, of Sulphur; brother, Robert F. Jansing of Norman; mother- and father-in-law, Charles and Darlene Scallan of Norman, and many other family members.

## Julia Myrtle Mouser

Julia Myrtle Mouser, 81, of Colbert, Oklahoma, formerly of the Henryetta-Dewar area, passed away on Sunday, July 14, 2002 in Denison, Texas. She was born May 7, 1921 in Whitesboro, Oklahoma to Mary Potts Bacon and Ellis Bacon.

A homemaker, she loved her family and loved to cook, go fishing and work in her garden.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Mouser; stepson, Billy Ray Mouser; brother, Wilson Bacon, and sister, Lula Mae Bacon.

Survivors include a son, Bob Mouser and wife, Nellie, of Colbert; daughter, Mary Collins and husband, Kenneth, of Boynton, Oklahoma; ten grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.



## Lee Jimmy Carshall, Jr.

Lee Jimmy Carshall, Jr., 47, of Red Oak, Oklahoma passed away Thursday, July 4, 2002 in Red Oak. He was born July 26, 1954 in Talihina, Oklahoma to Lee Jimmy and Ruth Mackey Carshall. Lee worked as a mechanic and was a member of the Thessalonian Baptist Church of Salonia, Oklahoma.

His father and a brother, Kenneth Carshall, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his mother; brothers, Victor Carshall of Poteau, Oklahoma, Stanley Carshall of Garland, Texas, and Mark Carshall of Red Oak; sisters, Linda Loyd and Barbara Box, both of LeFlore, Oklahoma and Margaret Legg of Oklahoma City; stepsisters, Shirley Reynolds of Ozark, Arkansas and Patricia Carshall of Florida; ten nieces, six nephews, two great-nieces, a great-nephew and other family and friends.

## Roven E. Bobby Wallace

Roven E. Bobby Wallace, 61, passed away Saturday, June 15, 2002 at Ada, Oklahoma. He was born September 4, 1940 at Achille, Oklahoma to Edmond and Ludie Mae Lewis Wallace.

He lived in the Sulphur area most of his life and worked for Shi-Maid Sheet Metal for 36 years. He was a song leader and custodian at the Midway Baptist Church.

He married Suzanna McDonald Wallace in 1962.

Roven was preceded in death by a daughter, Sharion Cruz; a son, Bryant Wallace, and a grandson, Richard Jones.

Survivors include his wife; four daughters, LouElla Jones, Mary Taylor and Francis Arles, all of Sulphur, and Karion Wallace of Ada; two sons, Edmond Eugene Wallace of Irving, Texas and James M. Wallace of Mill Creek, Oklahoma; sister, Nadine McDonald of Sulphur; two brothers, Donald Lynn of Davis, Oklahoma and Richard Lewis of Achille; 26 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

## Merle Winship

Merle Winship, 86, passed away Tuesday, June 25, 2002 at Broken Bow, Oklahoma. She was born May 28, 1916 in Beachton, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Winship was a homemaker, enjoyed gardening and reading her Bible and had lived in the Broken Bow area all of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Elizabeth Bohanon Lewis; husband, Sam Winship; son, Sam Winship, Jr., and a daughter, Beverly Phillips.

Survivors include two daughters, Darlene Rose and Deborah Winship, both of Smithville, Oklahoma; grandchildren, Patsy Chavez of Gillham, Arkansas, Phyllis Ludlow, Denette Jackson, Douglas Rose, Charla Belknap, all of Smithville, Laura Wood, David Wood, Samantha Wood, all of Coalgate; 12 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Grandma will be missed.

## Anna Josephine Lee "Jo" Moseley

Anna Josephine Lee "Jo" Moseley, 87, passed away Tuesday, April 30, 2002 in Fort Worth, Texas. She was born June 29, 1914 in Albany, Oklahoma and was raised on Smith-Lee Farm. She was very proud of her Choctaw heritage.

She attended Russell High School and graduated from Southeastern State Teachers College. She worked in a munitions plant in California while her husband was stationed in the South Pacific during World War II, before they returned to Durant. Together they owned Gene and Jo Moseley's Grocery in Durant, "where friends meet for better eats," for almost 20 years.

Mrs. Moseley was a member of First Baptist Church of Durant and WMU. She taught Sunday School and played piano, led singing and fed Baptist Student Union students at Southeastern. In 1982, she moved to Fort Worth to be with and help her family. She was a member of University Baptist Church where she was head of the Diner's Club.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 37 years, Gene Moseley, and grandsons, Douglas Wright Ferguson and Kurt Juett.

Survivors include daughters, Janna Kay Ferguson and husband, Dr. Gary, of Fort Worth and Gena Joe Juett of Broken Arrow; son, John Preuit Moseley and wife, Sharon, of Arlington, Texas; grandchildren, Matthew Lee Ferguson, Kristofer Martin Juett, Jennifer Lee Juett, Mindy Lee Moseley Mason and John Todd Moseley; three great-grandchildren and a sister, Mamie Catherine Price of Dallas, Texas.

## William David Roberts

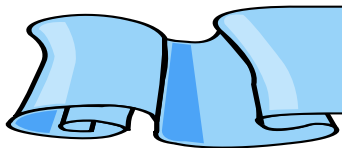
William David Roberts, 80, passed away on Wednesday, May 15, 2002 in the Madera Community Hospital, Madera, California. He was born March 6, 1922 in Bennington, Oklahoma to Lesa Phillip-Roberts and Jesse Roberts.

Both parents preceded him in death, Jesse in 1935 and Lesa in 1994 at the age of 105. Three sisters, Pearl Collum, Nellie Neal and Juanita Baughers, also preceded him in death.

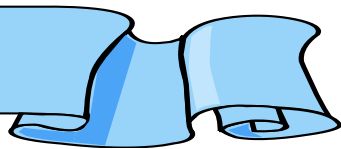
William attended Manning Elementary School in Bennington and lived there until 1944. He moved to Richmond, California where he worked as a longshoreman until moving to Chowchilla, California in 1946. He enjoyed playing and entertaining his family with the guitar and violin. His hobbies included designing and crafting handmade model airplanes and telling stories of his childhood growing up in Bennington. He remained a fluent speaker of the Choctaw language and taught many of the younger children in his family to speak the Choctaw language.

Survivors include a sister, Gladys Ross, and brother, Carl Billy, both of Chowchilla; ten nieces and nephews and more than 60 great-nieces and nephews.

The family requests that cards and letters from friends and family be sent to Carl Billy, 716 Riviera Lane, Santa Maria, California 93455. The family would appreciate hearing from family and friends who knew William, especially those from Bennington.



# OBITUARIES



## Ruby Adams

Ruby Adams, 88, passed away Friday, July 26, 2002 in Ardmore, Oklahoma. She was born July 11, 1914 in Coleman, Oklahoma, the daughter of Isaac and Cordelia (Goforth) Springs.

Ruby married Jack Haskell Adams in February 1946 and they made their home in Oklahoma City for 40 years until his death July 23, 1993.

She later made her home in Tishomingo in 2001. Ruby was a homemaker, a caretaker and of the Methodist faith.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; a granddaughter, Laurie Kirkpatrick; two brothers and four sisters.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Harold and Karen Kirkpatrick of Gordonville, Texas; five grandchildren and spouses, Hal and Janice Kirkpatrick of Tom Ball, Texas, Clendon and Carla Kirkpatrick of Artesia, New Mexico, Lisa and Teo Graves of Glen Heights, Texas, Luther Kirkpatrick and Lee Kirkpatrick, both of Gordonville, Texas; eight great-grandchildren, Stephanie and Eric Kirkpatrick, Teyhia, Zachariah and Trinity Graves, and Lance, Aaron and Lindsay Thomas; numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

## Sam Lawrence Harris

Sam Lawrence Harris of Poteau, Oklahoma passed away Tuesday, July 23, 2002 in the Oaks Health Care Center at Poteau. He was born January 26, 1915 in Poteau to Thomas and Zora Harris. Sam's father was an original enrollee of the Choctaw tribe.

Sam taught school for 41 years, coaching all sports and teaching shop.

He belonged to the First United Methodist Church, where he had been a member for 74 years. He sang in the choir until his illness forced him to stop. After his retirement from teaching he and his wife cooked for the Choctaw senior citizens in Poteau for 13 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister and three children.

Survivors include Sam's wife of almost 59 years, Christine; sons, Sam, Jr. and Nina of Redondo Beach, California and Hank and Barbara of Poteau; one granddaughter, Sondra, and two grandsons, Matt and Seva; a number of nieces, nephews and cousins and a host of friends.



## Rhoda Mae Notah

Rhoda Mae Notah, 75, passed away Monday, August 5, 2002 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She was born February 22, 1927 at Finley, Oklahoma to Archabald Taylor and Lena Noah Nelson Taylor.

Rhoda attended Antlers Public Schools and Chilocco Indian School. She married Francis C. Notah in 1949 at Ponca City.

Mrs. Notah was a housewife and of the Methodist faith.

Her parents and her husband preceded her in death.

Survivors include children, Paul W. Notah and wife, Mary Alice, Larry G. Notah and Gerald B. Notah, all of Window Rock, Arizona, and Louis C. Notah of Phoenix, Arizona; sisters, Lucille Underwood of Antlers, Oklahoma and Katherine Sexton and husband, Daniel, of Caney, Oklahoma; brothers, Wayland Nelson of Oklahoma City and Joe Taylor and wife, Helen, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma; seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and many dear and loved friends.

## Andréas Luke Ludlow Jackson

Andréas Luke Ludlow Jackson passed away Sunday, June 9, 2002 in Ludlow, Oklahoma. He was born February 21, 2002 in Ada, Oklahoma to John and LaJuana Ludlow Jackson.

Andréas is survived by his parents, John and LaJuana Ludlow Jackson of Tupelo, Oklahoma; sister, Shyla Alexandria Rae Jackson, and brother, Brenden Lee Jackson, both of the home; grandparents, Doris Samuels of Muskogee, Oklahoma and Floyd Ludlow of Tupelo; great-grandparents, Mildred Burris of Centrahoma, Oklahoma and Virgil and Dovie Jackson of Atoka, Oklahoma; an aunt, Trina Gibson of Stringtown, Oklahoma, and two uncles, Dennis Ludlow of Tupelo and Jeremy Burris of McKenzie, Tennessee, along with a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Juanita Jackson; grandfather, Virgil (Roy) Jackson, and great-grandparents, Lewis and Minnie Ludlow, the Rev. Lee Burris and Carrie Gibson.

The family would like to thank everyone who sent cards, food or flowers during our time of sorrow.



## Edgar Julius Taylor

Edgar Julius Taylor, 69, of Shiprock, New Mexico passed away Thursday, May 2, 2002. He was born January 18, 1933 in Rufe, Oklahoma. He was the son of Julius Taylor of Dallas, Texas and the late Mary Jane Frazier Taylor.

Edgar grew up around Rufe and attended school in Goodland for several years. As a teenager he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and served his country for 12 years. While in the service he met and married his wife, Mary. Mary was a contestant on the television show "Queen for a Day" and won a wedding gown and a honeymoon trip to Las Vegas, Nevada. After they wed, they lived their lives in California and Hawaii.

After he left the military, Edgar and Mary returned to the Navajo Nation where he joined the Navajo Nation's Police Department. He was employed as a police officer for 13 years. He was then employed by BHP, a mining firm, as a security guard. Edgar retired from BHP due to health concerns after working there for another 13 years. He was a member of the Shiprock United Methodist Church.

Edgar was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. He was a very special child of God. He was a caring person who did his best to help others in need. He loved his wife, children, parents, brothers and sisters very much. He enjoyed traveling with family and spending his time with his children and grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Survivors include his wife; father; two sons, Edgar Tony Taylor of Shiprock and Eugene Taylor and wife, Wanda, of Kirtland, New Mexico; two daughters, Wetona Becenti and husband, Rutherford, of Kirtland and Angela Begay and husband, Nelson, of Shiprock; brother, Williston Taylor and his wife, Jeanette of Antlers, Oklahoma; five sisters, Melvina Washington and husband, Oliver, of Hayward, California, Nadine Smith and husband, Jerry, of Ada, Oklahoma, Juanita Caudill and her husband, John of San Diego, California, Virginia Tafoya and husband, Joe, of San Ildefonso, New Mexico, and Elizabeth Osage and husband, Carl, of Dallas; six grandchildren, Rayette, Raquel and Shelby Taylor, Christine and Christopher Becenti and Nicole Begay.

Edgar was preceded in death by his mother; two brothers, Ernest V. Taylor and Raymond Taylor, and daughter, Hotona Ann Taylor.

We the family of Edgar Julius Taylor would like to express our sincere appreciation to all who were able to attend his service. Yakoke.



## Alvin Cooper

Alvin "Dolly" Cooper, 87, a longtime Kinta, Oklahoma resident, passed away Thursday, May 23, 2002 in the Veterans Colony in Tahina, Oklahoma. He was born June 1, 1914 in Kinta to Sam Cooper and Lillie Jones Cooper.

Mr. Cooper received his formal education at Edmond Chapel School and Jones Academy in Hartshorne. He was married to Mavis Norvell in Quinton on September 2, 1938, and they made their home in Kinta. He joined the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1940.

He began a career at the Naval Ammunition Depot in McAlester, Oklahoma in 1942 and continued there until his retirement in 1957. He began a second career as a freelance carpenter until his full retirement in the early 1980s. He was a member of the Fish Creek Free Will Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were his parents; a brother, Allen Cooper, and two sisters, Bonnie Cooper and a twin infant sister.

Survivors include his wife; one daughter, Connie Kasiner and husband, Ken, of Kinta and one granddaughter, Jennifer Apple and husband, Michael, of Muskogee, Oklahoma.

## Perry's Fish Fry



**Councilman Perry Thompson hosted a fish fry at the Hugo Community Center to show his appreciation for Chief Greg Pyle and all the area Choctaws.**



**District 8 Little Miss Rebeckah Boykin and Jr. Miss Malinda Thompson performed the Lord's Prayer in sign language before the meal was served.**



**Close to 300 guests enjoyed fish and all the trimmings at the Hugo dinner.**

## Fannie "Granny" Perteet Spears

Fannie "Granny" Perteet Spears, 92, of Bugtussle, Oklahoma, north of McAlester, passed away Thursday, July 25, 2002 at her home.

She was born February 20, 1910 in Bugtussle, the daughter of John Franklin and Lizzie (Sam) Perteet.

She lived in Bugtussle all of her life and married Travis W. Spears on February 14, 1933 in McAlester. He preceded her in death on November 19, 1977. She was an avid quilter and loved to play board games. She was a member of the North Town Church of Christ in McAlester.

Also preceding her in death were her parents, four brothers and one sister.

Survivors include four daughters and three sons-in-law, Ruthann and Stan Beck of Carthage, Missouri, and Lottie and Bill Turney, Margie and Richard Southard and Beatrice Lawson, all of McAlester; one son and daughter-in-law, Tommy and Betty Spears of McAlester; eight grandchildren, Donald and Teresa Lawson, Frankie and Steve Brewer, Kim and Chris Troussel, Tommie and Billy Hamilton, David Smith, Tracy Spears and Todd Smith; six great-grandchildren, Sherry and Shane Cooper, Wesley Lawson, Rowdy Southard, Dillon Brewer, John Troussel and Rainey Southard; two sisters, Allie Brannon of Bugtussle and Leona Earl of Mesa, Arizona, and several nieces and nephews.

One of Granny's last wishes was to be able to attend her family reunion, Pope-Gibson, June 15, and she did.

## Raymond Neal

Raymond M. Neal, 82, a lifelong Brooken, Oklahoma area resident, passed away Saturday, July 6, 2002. He was born June 27, 1920 in Brooken to Ira Neal and Roxie Westbrook Neal.

He grew up and received his education in Brooken and began a career in construction that spanned his entire working life until his retirement. He was married to Freda Bryant.

Preceding him in death were his parents; his wife; one daughter, Rita Archey, and three sons, Ray Neal and two infant sons.

Survivors include a son, Bruce Neal of Chouteau; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two sisters, Almus "Sug" McKinney of Brooken and June Tinsley of Oklahoma City, and one brother, Melvin "Buddy" Neal of Stigler.

## Durant senior citizens take trip to South Dakota

We had planned long and worked hard conducting several fund-raising events to finance this trip. It would be a long, tiresome bus ride but we didn't mind. We were excited about seeing a part of our Nation we had heard much about but had not seen.

The first point of interest was the Crazy Horse Memorial. The mountain carving in progress will look like a scale model located in the Visitor Complex. It will be three-dimensional in the round. The memorial honors the North American Indian and is much more than a mountain carving.

We toured Custer State Park which is very scenic and were surprised and delighted to see so much of the wildlife. There were numerous buffalo, prairie dog, deer, mountain goat and antelope.

We enjoyed an 1880 train ride. It followed the original route of the CB&Q Railroad laid down in the late 1880s to service the mines and mills which developed between Hill City and Keystone. The 20-mile round trip winds through



Black Hills National Forest.

Things don't always go as smooth as silk or as planned on every trip. So true to "Murphy's Law," we had a little scare. John had a fall when coming to a step-down. We took him to the Custer Community Hospital where he was treated.

We continued on with our touring of Mt. Rushmore National Memorial for an impressive program presented at dusk at the new amphitheater located below the great faces.

We had an invitation to have

lunch with the Oglala-Lakota Indians on the Pine Ridge Reservation. This would be on our way home. Before reaching the Senior Citizen Center, we stopped at the Wounded Knee Memorial and Museum.

Several stayed at the Center to visit with us and serve a lunch of beef stew, Indian fry bread and wild plum cobbler. After lunch we took photos and they presented us with gifts of beautiful bead work.

Those along for the fun and history lessons were Hubert Motes, John Doxsee, Ester Waller, Vir-

ginia Childers, Carol Harris (our nurse), Yvonne Harmon, Herbert Harmon, Susan Croley, J.R. Croley, Truman Heron, Mary Jo Heron, Reba Dickson, Judith Perry, Anna Dewett and Jimmie Friloux.

We appreciate their considerate and thoughtful manner. Also, we thank the Choctaw Nation, Director Oneida Winship, and Councilman Ted Dosh for all they did to help make our trip possible. It was fun as well as educational. We stretched our minds which was the primary reason for the trip.

### 3rd Annual Arkansas Trail of Tears / Corridor West

## P o w W o w

**September 14, 2002  
Herman Dierks Park  
DeQueen, Arkansas**

**– Contest Dancing –  
Over \$8,000 in prize money  
– Arts & Crafts – Indian Food –**


Master of Ceremonies: Orville Kirk, McLoud, OK (Kickapoo)  
Head Singer: John Kimble, Oklahoma City (Ponca)  
Head Man Dancer: Gordon Roy, Oklahoma City (Ponca)  
Head Woman Dancer: Sharon Roberts, Ada, OK (Chickasaw)  
Head Gourd Dancer: Warren Queton, Norman, OK (Kiowa/Seminole)  
Arena Director: Randy Frazier, Oklahoma City (Choctaw/Potawatomi)  
Color Guard: Choctaw Nation

#### Schedule


|            |                                                 |                                          |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 11:00-2:00 | Gourd Dance                                     |                                          |
| 2:00-5:00  | Grand Entry – Tiny Tots, Pee Wee and Jr. Dances |                                          |
| 5:00-6:00  | Supper Break                                    |                                          |
| 6:00-7:00  | Gourd Dance                                     | <i>All Veterans Welcome</i>              |
| 7:00-????  | Inter-Tribal Dance                              | <i>All Princesses Welcome</i>            |
|            |                                                 | <i>All Singers &amp; Dancers Welcome</i> |

For information contact: Art & Betty Ketcheshawno at 580-326-4979  
Motel-Hotel information: DeQueen Chamber of Commerce 1-877-574-0887


No alcohol or drugs allowed in or surrounding areas.  
Not responsible for accidents, injuries or thefts.



**DISTRICT #1**  
Charley Jones



**DISTRICT #2**  
Billy Paul Baker



**DISTRICT #3**  
Kenny Bryant



**DISTRICT #4**  
Delton Cox



**DISTRICT #5**  
Charlotte Jackson




**DISTRICT #6**  
Randle Durant

Choctaw Tribal Councilmembers  
would like to invite everyone to come on out  
and enjoy four fun-filled days at our annual  
Labor Day Festival,  
August 30-September 2  
at Tushka Homma, Oklahoma.  
“We look forward to visiting with you!”



**DISTRICT #7**  
Jack Austin




**DISTRICT #8**  
Perry Thompson



**DISTRICT #9**  
Ted Dosh



**DISTRICT #10**  
E.J. Johnson



**DISTRICT #11**  
Bob Pate



**DISTRICT #12**  
James Frazier

## Young Choctaws to compete for Princess titles during August 31 pageant

Everyone is invited to attend the 2002 Choctaw Nation Princess Pageant, Saturday, August 31 at 10:00 a.m. at the amphitheater. Several young ladies from all over the Choctaw Nation will be competing for the titles of Senior, Junior and Little Miss Choctaw Nation. Each contestant has won their district pageant and will represent their district at Tushka Homma.

All contestants are judged on interview/personality, traditional Choctaw dress, traditional Choctaw accessories and beauty/poise. The Senior and Junior Miss contestants are also judged on the categories of traditional talent and goals as princess.

The judges for this year's pageant are Alice Thomas, Margaret Teal, Amancha Scott, Nanette Wylie and June Praytor.

Not pictured are Kelly King, Little Miss, District #11; Leslie Johnson, Junior Miss, District #4; Crystal Allen, Senior Miss, District #10 and Ciji Elliott, Senior Miss, District #1.



**Ivanna Battiest**  
District 2



**Tashina Taylor**  
District 3



**Pakanli Polk**  
District 9



**Tiffany Shomo**  
District 2



**Elena Ludlow**  
District 3



**Sissy Caldwell**  
District 7



**Malinda Thompson**  
District 8



**Sarah Folsom**  
District 9




**Kayla Mitchell**  
District 10




**Kristina Williams**  
District 11




**Kyla Cagle**  
District 12



**Marcy McClure**  
District 1




**Lindsey Noah**  
District 2



**Lauren Potts**  
District 3



**Emily Morgan**  
District 4



**Jennifer McGuire**  
District 5



**Latisa Davidson**  
District 7



**Rebeckah Boykin**  
District 8



**Malinda Steve**  
District 9



**Paige Tenequer**  
District 10



**Leandra Morgan**  
District 12



**2002  
LABOR DAY  
FESTIVAL  
CONCERTS**

*Tushka Homma, Oklahoma*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 30**  
4:30 p.m. Brittany Hoover  
6:00 p.m. Brian Gowan  
8:00 p.m. Charlie Robison  
10:00 p.m. George Jones

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 31**  
4:30 p.m. Parish Family  
6:00 p.m. John Conlee  
8:00 p.m. Brian Gowan  
10:00 p.m. Clay Walker

Concerts are free of charge – No alcohol or drugs allowed on Choctaw sacred grounds.