



BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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January 2004 Issue

Membership staff to be in Oklahoma City

Choctaw Nation Tribal Membership staff will be at the OK Choctaw center, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd. in Oklahoma City, on January 10. They will begin processing applications for a photo ID at 10 a.m.

For further information, please call 1-800-522-6170 and ask for the Membership Office.

Tribe hosting bone marrow, blood drives

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is continuing to host bone marrow and blood drives throughout Southeastern Oklahoma. Scheduled in January are:

WILBURTON
January 14
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
at the Community Center

POTEAU
January 20
2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
at the Community Center

WRIGHT CITY
January 20
10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
at Weyerhaeuser



Representatives of the U.S. Army Communications and Electronics Command, PM Force Provider and Defense Contract Management Agency join the CMDC team to celebrate the successful completion of First Article testing of the IASH. High volume shipments of the IASH began in December 2003.

CMDC begins high volume production of space heaters

Following 26 months of design, development and First Article testing of the Improved Army Space Heater (IASH), Choctaw Manufacturing Development Corporation began high volume production and shipping in December. CMDC is the sole supplier of the IASH to the U.S. Army.

The IASH is a mobile, multifueled, duct-type, electric powered heater with a nominal capacity of 140,000 Btu/hr. It delivers clean heated or ventilation air through flexible,

detachable ducts to mobile shelters and other enclosures used for personnel and equipment. It can survive exposure to harsh environments, including vibration, salt fog, fungus, and extreme humidity.

The IASH provides heat to critical equipment and personnel in adverse conditions. It is designed to support various weapon systems and is deployed worldwide for both combat and peacetime operations.

Job Readiness Seminar scheduled

Choctaw Nation Projects with Industry Program is offering a Job Readiness Seminar from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 24, at the Choctaw Nation Field Office in McAlester, Oklahoma.

The Choctaw Nation Projects with Industry Program would like to take this opportunity to invite Native Americans to participate in the one-day training on preparing to go to the workforce field. The training includes but is not limited to identifying job/career choices, identifying strengths, weaknesses as an employee, how to locate job sites, how to complete job applications, job interview techniques, completion of a resume, and job-keeping characteristics. A certificate of achievement will be given to all consumers who complete the class.

The PWI program can assist many businesses that are looking for capable, dependable and prescreened employees. If a business agrees to hire an individual through this program, the program will be able to reimburse for on-the-job training at 100% of the employee salary. The business is encouraged to retain the individual in permanent employment at the end of the training period. Businesses can also take advantage of federal tax credits of up to \$4,000 per employee for employing Native Americans with a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB).

Disabled Native Americans who have a CDIB and are looking for employment are urged to take advantage of this program. Applicants must reside in the 10 1/2 counties of the Choctaw Nation. For more information, contact Randy Hammons, Director, or Angela Dancer, Coordinator, at 580-326-7758 or 877-285-6893. *Related story on Page 4.*

Choctaw Summer Youth Program is accepting applications

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is now accepting applications for its Summer Youth Program. Deadline for applications is April 15.

The Summer Youth Program, under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), will hold its work program June 9 through July 11.

Applications must be mailed or hand-delivered to the tribal headquarters in Durant. Faxed applications will not be accepted. All applications received after the April 15 postmark will be put on a waiting list.

To be eligible for the five-week summer work program,

See Page 4 for a list of school contact dates

one must be 14-21 years of age, have their own Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) or their Tribal Membership Card, a signed Social Security Card and meet the federal financial re-

quirements. The student must be 14 years of age on the date the application is signed. Applications must be complete before students are eligible to begin work. All tribal affiliations within

the 10 1/2 counties of the Choctaw Nation service area are eligible to apply.

Applications are available at high schools, all Choctaw Nation field offices or Family Investment Centers, Tribal Council Members, Department of Human Service Offices, and the WIA of-

fice at the Choctaw Nation headquarters in Durant.

All WIA staff will be visiting high schools in the service area during the month of January. Students may contact their high school to verify the date and time of this visit and to receive more information.



Tribe assists with resurfacing

The Choctaw Nation has contributed \$240,000 for resurfacing of roads in Clayton and surrounding northern Pushmataha county roads. Pushmataha County Commissioner Eddy McIntosh and Tribal Councilman Jack Austin are pictured in front of an asphalt lay-down machine to be used in surfacing the roads.

Council approves annual swine/beef show at EOSC

The Choctaw Tribal Council has approved funding for the 13th Annual Choctaw Nation Swine/Beef Show, which will be held February 7 at Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton. The Council members voiced the importance of supporting 4-H and FFA activities for American Indian youth.

Council members also agreed to authorize the renovation of both Travel Plazas in Durant and the Travel Plaza in Grant. Another building to receive needed renovations is the Boys and Girls Club in Tahina. The club provides leadership skills, after-school tutoring, mentoring, substance awareness programs and physical fitness programs. The Choctaw Nation will split the cost of renovations with the Office of Juvenile Programs at the tune of \$25,000 each.

Other business approved included:

• Auction, sale or donation of surplus equipment owned by the tribe.

- The Victim Assistance Program Budget.
- A property lease for new facilities for OEH.
- Capitalization, Loan and Line of Credit to Backstretch, LLC.
- Acceptance of Forestry grant money.
- Closeout of Jones Academy budgets for fiscal year 2003.
- Grant proposal for Family Violence Program.

February's regular meeting of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council will be on the 14th at Tushka Homma.

“Chahta Anumpa Vmmona” provides list of most essential Choctaw words

It has been 150 years since the publication of Cyrus Byington's "English and Choctaw Definer," over 120 years since Allen Wright published his "Chahta Leksikon," 110 years since Ben Watkins' "Complete Choctaw Definer," and almost a century since John R. Swanton and Henry S. Halbert edited and published Cyrus Byington's "A Dictionary of the Choctaw Language."

No substantial work on the vocabulary of the Choctaw language has been published since that time. Under the leadership of Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, and with the vision of the Tribal Council to preserve our Choctaw heritage, and in particular, to build on what Byington, Wright, Watkins, Swanton and Halbert have passed down to us, the Choctaw Dictionary Committee has been working on a new comprehensive dictionary of the Choctaw language. This committee includes Rhoda Miller Anderson, Christine Thomas Ludlow, Henry Willis, Dixon Lewis, Ken Baptiste, Paula Wilson Carney, Richard Adams, Lillie Fobb Jessie, Abe Frazier, Eveline Battiest Steele, and Patricia Kaye Noah Choate. This work has been under the direction of Joy Culbreath, Executive Director of Education; Terry Ragan, Director of the Language Department, and Richard Adams, Assistant Director of the Language Department.

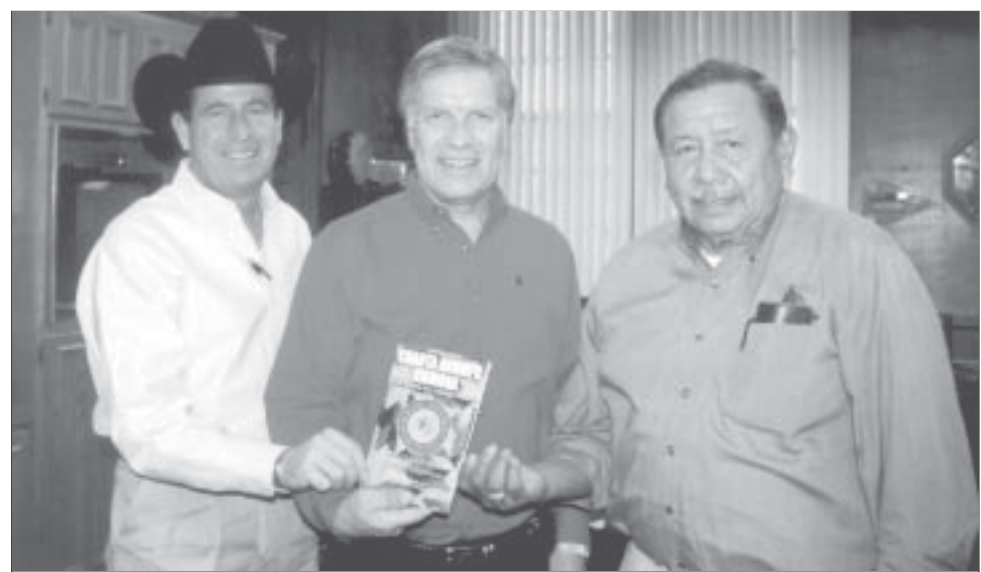
The dictionary will contain more complete information about the words in our language, all the information needed to use each word correctly, to preserve that information for future generations.

The first fruit of these labors is something more immediately useful to students of the Choctaw language. It is now available through the Choctaw Book Store.

The 69-page work, "Chahta Anumpa Vmmona - First Choctaw Words," is a topical vocabulary. A topical vocabulary is different from a dictionary. In a dictionary the focus is on individual words. These words are used to organize the dictionary alphabetically. Each word is defined in all its meanings. If you are interested in words for eating utensils, colors, or different kinds of motion, you have to look each word up individually.

In a topical vocabulary the focus is on topics, areas of experience. These topics are used to organize the vocabulary according to meaning. If you are interested in words for eating utensils, you will look in the topic EATING, and you will find the color terms in the topic, LIGHT & COLOR.

Topical vocabularies are great for browsing. When you search for a particular word, you necessarily come into contact with other words of related meaning. This helps you learn more words, and will some-



Terry Ragan, Director of the Language Department, Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Richard Adams, Assistant Director of the Language Department, show off the new topical vocabulary, "Chahta Anumpa Vmmona."

times help clarify the range of meaning of the particular word you are interested in.

"Chahta Anumpa Vmmona - First Choctaw Words" is not as extensive as the older dictionaries and definers. It has about 1,300 nouns, verbs and adjectives, and a few hundred additional expressions of time, place, and other categories. These words have been carefully selected. The Dictionary Committee's linguistic consultant, Dale Nicklas, Ph.D., assembled a list of essential concepts based on word frequency studies in several languages and additional information developed by him. The Dictionary Committee added and deleted concepts based on their intimate knowledge of the Choctaw language. The committee thinks the result is a list of the most common and essential Choctaw words - the ones you most need to know.

The entry for each concept has four parts: the English word, the part of speech, the Choctaw word or words as they are customarily spelled, and the pronunciation. Dialect variants are given for many words. The dual and plural forms of adjectives and verbs are shown when they exist. The pronunciation divides words into syllables and also shows vowel length and accent, the first extensive word list to do so. This information is essential for Choctaw language learners.

The price of "Chahta Anumpa Vmmona - First Choctaw Words" is \$10. To purchase this exciting new work, call the Choctaw Book Store at 1-888-932-9199. Have your credit card ready when calling or mail an order form (located on Page 4) to Carolyn Cross, Choctaw Book Store, P.O. Box 668, Durant, OK 74702. Personal checks are accepted. More information can be found at Choctaw Nation websites www.choctawbooks.com and www.choctawnation.com.

Seeking photos of Nelson Jacob

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I want to say thank you to Chief Pyle for his help to my family. This note is long past due and I am eternally grateful to Chief Pyle and the Choctaw Nation. I also want to thank the folks in charge of the archives. I have been in the Choctaw website many times and just recently found an entry of an interview of my great-grandfather, Nelson Jacob. The article was an interview written in 1926 and told a lot of family history. There were spiritual words that he seemed to have left behind for his family to read. I knew he was a Choctaw Methodist Minister but did not know his father, Austin Jacob, was also a Choctaw minister. If anyone in the Atoka area with relatives by the name of Wood or Woods has photos of Nelson Jacob, please send to me. I don't recall their first name but I know they (Wood or Woods) had no children but did have photos of Nelson and Agnes Jacob and their family. The photos would likely have been from church gatherings.

There are things I seem meant to do, as in making certain some of my family's gravesites are marked. Nelson Jacob's article mentioned his father without a marker and enough information to hopefully find that burial site. I know the Choctaw Nation has a program to preserve our ancestral gravesites which I am so grateful for. This helps to preserve our family gravesites left on former Indian land no longer belonging to the family.

Kay Damiano
1735 SE 29th Lane
Cape Coral, FL 33904
e-mail: Brzysunset@aol.com

Student pursues career in criminal justice

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Elijah Luke Underwood would like to thank the Choctaw Higher Education program for the scholarships that are making it possible for him to attend college and pursue a career in criminal justice.

Luke has been on the football team at Northeastern University in Tahlequah for three years. He will graduate in spring of 2004. He is the son of Mark Underwood of Wilburton and the grandson of Vernon and Carolyn Underwood of Wilburton.



Curious about history of father's family

Dear Editor,

My husband, Billy J. Tidwell, is a tribal member. I would appreciate any help you can give me on the history of my father's family. His name is Simon George Stowe, born on February 8, 1907, in Bennington, Oklahoma. His father was Thomas Jefferson Stowe who married Nancy Ann Davis on October 24, 1897.

Thomas Jefferson's father was William H. Stowe; his mother was Martha R. Tatum. William and Martha were married May 14, 1867. I was told I am Cherokee Indian but have not been able to find a roll number to work with. I would appreciate any help in locating any of my ancestors with a roll number.

Gloria L. Stowe Tidwell
RR 1 Box 142
Brownfield, TX 79316

Tribe's support of education is blessing

Dear Chief Pyle and the Choctaw Nation,

I wanted to tell you how very grateful I am for the Choctaw Nation Scholarship that you have given me the last two years. It has been such a blessing to me and to my family while I have attended Seminole State College. These past two years I have accomplished some goals that I had set, not only in the classroom but starting on the Seminole State tennis team. I was recently named an Academic All-American. I am now in the process of looking to the future and looking into other colleges where I can complete my education.

Thanks again for your continued support!

Steve Bajema
Purcell, Oklahoma

Tribal employee helpful, hardworking

Dear Editor,

My family attended the Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma and enjoyed it very much.

The 5k walk/run was so much fun. We run it every year. This year several of my grandchildren ran it. The youngest was Sadie Snead, age four.

There was an employee that we were very impressed with. He was helping those of us who were in campers. When we pulled into our campsite he was working helping people. He was busy the entire four days we were there. The rain didn't stop him. The day we pulled our camper out, he was still busy helping people. He is a very kind and caring person. His name is Tony Compton.

John and Liz Seymour
Broken Bow, Oklahoma

Gregory E. Pyle
Chief

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

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BISHINIK® 2004



Gerald Miller, Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Mary Jane (McInerney) Miller.

Trip to Durant is memorable

Dear Editor,

My husband's relatives came in from Memphis, Tennessee, on November 7. They toured the Choctaw Nation headquarters. Chief Gregory E. Pyle as well as the cordial natures of his Administrative Assistant, Security Representative Mr. Virgil Ott, and the ladies at the Reception Desk, the Bishinik and Membership offices all made their trip extra special.

A few months ago, Mary Jane (McInerney) Miller, now in her early 80s, and her son, Gerald Miller, made the trek back to Oklahoma. During their time here, their schedule was packed with so many places to go! On Thursday, she and Gerald visited Ft. Towson cemetery. They were looking for gravesite markers for George W. Harkins and his wife, Selina (Gardner) Harkins, Catherine's parents, but could not find either one.

Arriving at Choctaw Nation Headquarters on Friday morning, we were greeted by the security guard, Mr. Ott, who guided us to the main building to view photos at the Hall of Chiefs, and to locate the Membership and the Bishinik offices. Mary Jane mentioned her descendancy to Mr. Ott and he shared that he descended from the Battiest family. He picked up a Choctaw Hymnal/Prayer book on display and impressed us by speaking Choctaw, explaining how these hymns are sung during special events. The ladies at both Membership and Bishinik offices were also very helpful. Mary Jane and Gerald appreciated their effort, especially in the middle of office moves.

When we came back that afternoon we saw Chief Pyle heading down the hall to a meeting. He stopped from his busy schedule to say hello. Mary Jane and Gerald were appreciative that Chief Pyle gave them his time as well as his person. He made our experience so personal, giving them his undivided attention. As busy as his schedule is, he made time for them. Those few minutes will remain priceless to Mary Jane and become a wonderful memory for our family.

My husband, Les, and I thank Chief Pyle and our representatives in the Security, Reception, Bishinik and Membership offices for making Mary Jane and Gerald's trip a memorable one.

Iris Lowe O'Riley
Durant, Oklahoma

Member enjoys reading BISHINIK

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I am writing to express thanks for all the many great things and love you all have shared with me over time. I would like to give thanks to the Tribe and the entire staff for the BISHINIK they send me monthly. I love reading all the news and observe the Choctaw Nation as it prospers. I truly enjoy and benefit from the "Chaplain's Corner" by the Rev. Bertram Bobb. Please give him thanks.

I am blessed to be of Choctaw blood. Keep up the great tradition and may God bless each and every one of you.

Steve Walker
Booker, Texas

BRD will be the place to race

Dear Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey and the Choctaw Nation,

My husband and I are very excited about your purchasing Blue Ribbon Downs. We have been in the racing business many years, both quarter and thoroughbred, and feel like Blue Ribbon Downs will be the place to race at in 2004 under your Backstretch, LLC, company.

Carol Gibson Reed
Pauls Valley, Oklahoma

Scholarship funds helping achieve goals

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to express my appreciation for the scholarship I received through the Choctaw Nation. This money will help me achieve my academic goals as an undergraduate student at Texas Tech University. The scholarship money provided by the Choctaws has helped and will continue to help many Native American students receive college degrees.

Jeffrey Wilson
Lubbock, Texas

Researching family history

Dear Editor,

I am researching my family's history. I found an article in the BISHINIK in which the family has the same last name as my maiden name - Eeds. My grandfather's name was Samuel Clark Eeds; grandmother, Anna Bennett (Mitchell) Eeds. I am very interested in hearing from anyone with either of these last names.

Anna (Eeds) Pierce
520 W. Barioni Blvd.
Imperial, CA 92251
annap520@aol.com

Scholarship serves as "pick-me-up"

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank you again for your contribution to my academic success. Your scholarship will allow me the chance for my dreams. Furthermore, the potential you see in me has helped strengthen the potential I see in myself. Without your generous gratuity, I would not have the ambition or will to continue my education. Your scholarship has served as a "pick-me-up" for my strive to succeed. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Brian Harwood
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Student appreciates support

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Thank you for the support of my education. I really appreciate the scholarship I received from you. The money from the scholarship has really helped me. I do a lot of traveling back and forth every day. Thank you for your support for the 2003-04 school term.

Lacey Bates
Cement, Oklahoma

Proud to be Choctaw

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I received your care package with much appreciation for you remembering me here in Iraq. People who care enough to send you a package from home when you are far away and at war are truly a special people. I am proud to be Choctaw and to represent my people in helping others here in Iraq to fight for the same freedom we enjoy at home in the USA.

Major Eddie R. Smith

Internship is rewarding experience

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Kelly Smith, daughter of Chuck and Terry Smith, Tomball, Texas, and granddaughter of Charles and Mary Smith, Kansas City, Missouri, would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for its support in her recommendation to the Washington Semester American Indian Program-Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) this past summer. Kelly attended classes at American University, Washington, D.C., while interning with the Department of the Treasury. It proved to be a very rewarding experience.



Little things matter

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Thank you all for sending care packages to someone you've never met. These kind of actions made the days go by a little quicker than before. Remember and pray for all my soldiers and friends, close friends, who died in the helicopter crash. My soldiers were very appreciative of your kindness. Having five soldiers under me, I shared with everyone. Remember, little things can make someone's day bright when it seems all else has failed. Thank you again.

Sgt. Jacob Nutter

Church gets central heat and air

Dear Editor,

The members of Yasho United Methodist Church of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, would like to thank our District 2 Councilperson, Mike Amos, and the Choctaw Nation for the central air and heating unit they installed in our church.

Student receives much-needed funds

Dear Chief Pyle, the Choctaw Nation, and the Higher Education Department,

I would like to tell you how much I appreciate all the help I've received from the department of Higher Education in receiving a scholarship. The much-needed funds are going to help me attain my dream of becoming a registered nurse, hopefully by the fall of 2004.

Jeri Smith Deo
Corpus Christi, Texas

Seeking information

Dear Editor,

I am trying to find out any information about my great-grandmother, whom I believe was Choctaw. All I know is her name, Elvira Caroline King, born 1860 at Prairie, Hot Springs County, Arkansas. Her father was B.L. King, mother was Susan Elizabeth Anderson.

Rachel House
404 Lowden
Malvern, AR 72104

Thoughtful programs honor veterans

Dear Chief Pyle,

I appreciate very much the invitation I received from you and Assistant Chief Bailey to attend the ceremony honoring all Choctaw veterans. I know I would have enjoyed the ceremony but the infirmities of my 89 years made it impossible to attend.

I was a senior at Georgetown University School of Foreign and Diplomatic Service in 1941 when the Washington, D.C., draft board called my name. I answered and served the Army as a volunteer from 1941 through 1946.

I was a Warrant Officer in the Commanding General's Section of the First Armored Division under Major Generals Bruce Magruder, Orlando Ward, Ernest Harmon, and several subsequent generals whose names escape my memory. We served in Northern Ireland, England, North Africa and Italy. Our darkest moments came during our three and one-half months spent on Anzio Beachhead.

I am not in touch with any of my comrades but I still shed a tear in memory of them when I salute the flag. I am very proud to have lived in a generation when young men loved and revered our country and the world loved us.

Thank you again for your thoughtful programs honoring Choctaw servicemen.

McCurtain Scott
Stigler, Oklahoma

Check out the
New Website
from

**Choctaw Nation
Home Finance**

It's so easy and convenient for you to apply
online to purchase or refinance a home at
www.choctawhomefinance.web-loans.com

We lend money in all 50 states and if you qualify you
could apply for up to \$333,700 with 1 to 3% down with a
conventional fixed rate for 30 years - and if eligible,
Choctaw Nation Home Finance will finance 2% of your
down payment and all of your closing as a second mortgage.

For any additional information needed, call Nancy
Kirby, Homebuyer Counselor, at 1-800-235-3087, ext.
301, for help with the application and/or we will address
additional questions for you.

Also, if you live near one of the following areas and
want to learn more about homeownership or refinancing,
please call the office to register to attend a home-
buyer class.

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
January 22	Hugo	5:30 p.m.
January 29	Oklahoma City	5:30 p.m.
February 5	Broken Bow	5:30 p.m.

From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Choctaw Nation continues tradition of helping

The Choctaw Nation has a history of reaching out and helping others, and it is a special pleasure to be able to continue that tradition. While it may not be possible to improve Christmas for every Choctaw child in the world, the Council does manage to provide a little holiday magic for hundreds of those who live within their district boundaries.

Funds are provided through Choctaw Nation gaming revenues for the Tribal Council members to purchase gifts for children, which are presented at community centers by Santa himself. Most of these parties include food, songs, and of course, the brown paper sacks filled with fruit, candy and nuts. For many of us, these lunch-bag sized sacks are reminiscent of every Christmas of our youth, when schools and churches always ended holiday programs by passing out the treats. Those Christmas oranges and apples were always tastier than others we got throughout the year.

This year, children and families were also helped by the tribe in another way to ensure a nice Christmas. The Assistant Chief and I were blessed with the opportunity to hand-deliver a portion of tribal gaming profits to communities with Choctaw Ca-

sino facilities so that needy families could receive assistance through the holiday season.

A great number of families had contacted programs and employees for emergency assistance due to tragedy, health, or other reasons, but we felt there were still families who were likely to do without necessities during the Christmas season. The best way to reach those children and adults was to go to community leaders who could help identify the people in need.

Comments such as "This is the answer to our prayers" and "This is a God-send" were heard at each of the sites that money was presented. The McAlester area is using the \$5,000 given to them to help the Boys and Girls Club, the Girl Scouts, the McAlester Child Development and Day Care Center, the Youth Emergency Shelter and the Mercy Health Clinic.

Atoka County's \$5,000 is being administered through the First Baptist Church in Atoka. They hosted a free Christmas lunch on Christmas Eve at their fellowship building. Before the donation, just a few days before the lunch, they had only collected one turkey. Expecting to feed up to 500 people, the

money was just what they needed to complete their plans.

The Pocola Police Department was thrilled to receive \$5,000, which helped complete their Christmas project for underprivileged kids and needy families. Officers Hancock and Helms, who accepted the check on behalf of the Pocola community, showed tribal representatives the grocery items and toys that had been donated and said that the Choctaw gift would enable them to supply the remainder of the children on their Christmas needs list.

Sallisaw, the home of Blue Ribbon Downs, had representatives of their Boys and Girls Club accept the \$5,000 check. Blue Ribbon Downs is the most recent property purchase of the Choctaw Nation.

The Hugo area, working through the Lions, Rotary Club, Youth Services, DHS and other civic groups, used their \$5,000 to purchase Christmas gifts and food for children and families in need of assistance for the holidays. They were especially thankful, as they were lacking funds to purchase gifts for about 150 of the children on their roster.

McCurain County split \$10,000 between the



Broken Bow Ministers Fellowship, the McCurtain County Christmas Council and the Idabel Ministerial Association, all wonderful organizations that have a desire to help others.

The Choctaw Nation wants to be good neighbors with communities in the tribal boundaries, and we were thrilled to share some of the revenue from our tribal businesses.



From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey Looking forward to stock show

I would like to encourage every eligible Choctaw student in the ten and one-half counties to be a part of the 13th Annual Choctaw Nation Swine/Beef Show that is scheduled for Saturday, February 7, at Eastern Oklahoma State College (EOSC) in Wilburton. The show is open to all FFA and 4-H members who are of Indian descent and either live or go to school within the Choctaw Nation boundaries. Applications are due no later than January 27 to ensure entry in this show.

The Choctaw Nation has a history of supporting youth at premium sales of stock. This year, the tribe will continue to support Choctaw students at their premium sales, but only if they participate in the 13th Annual Show on February 7.

Students receive many benefits from participating in 4-H and FFA, and the experience earned at the swine/beef show is extremely valuable. The Choctaw Nation show is the only stock show that guarantees that each student at least wins back their \$10 entry fee.

The event will be in the Goddard Show Barn at EOSC and will begin at 10 a.m. I look forward to seeing all Choctaw students, age 9 to 19, who have beef or swine.

★ STANDING TALL



CW2 VIRGIL MARTIN

Sacrifices continue in war on terror

CW2 Virgil Martin is a CH-47, Chinook helicopter pilot serving near Baghdad, Iraq. The following is a compilation of e-mails submitted with Virgil's permission by his uncle, Carlos Thomas.

I have just passed the 15-year mark in the Army. I am officially stationed at Gieblestadt Army Airfield, Germany. My wife, Dana, and I arrived there on 5 May and were told that I would be leaving ASAP for Iraq. On 12 May, Dana went back to the states to stay with her Mom and on the 18th, I left for Iraq. We did not get a place to live and all of our household items are still in storage. Dana and I have had very little time together over the past couple of years. Dana is a great person and has really been my strength through all these years. She has really been strong through all of this. We just had our 14th wedding anniversary on the 30th of June. Please keep her and all the spouses in your prayers.

Before coming here, I spent four months in Afghanistan while stationed at Ft. Bragg.

I have been staying busy, already logging 15 hours of night flying with goggles this month alone. Just to put that into perspective, we are only required to fly nine hours of goggles every six months. I have flown 97 since June.

The flying has not slowed down. Troops still need to get to other places, and vital supplies must still reach their destinations. We have started flying more goggle missions. I logged another ten hours of goggles on two separate missions this past week. I actually had the last two days off. That hasn't happened in months. It seems I fly for four to six days and then get a one-day break, just to start over again. People here have been especially nervous. The threat has definitely not diminished. We keep our heads on a swivel, and by all means try to avoid any inhabited areas if at all possible.

I was not involved with the Chinook that was shot down - that was my day off. Church service was especially hard for some who were close to the ones we lost. The Chinook community is so small - you always get to know everyone. My prayers go out to all the families of the soldiers killed and those injured with the downed helicopters, as well as all the soldiers still here in Iraq. Things are complicated to say the least. We are as careful as possible when we fly.

This week has been a lot colder than we were used to. We have two shower trailers with six showers in each trailer. The cold has affected them too as one of the trailers had to close for a broken water line. The other has water, but no hot water. Talk about an "ice" cold shower. But it beats nothing - I guess.

We had been looking forward to r&tr leave on 4 November. If you haven't figured it out yet, it was cancelled. They say maybe in December. We will see. Our unit is scheduled to leave sometime in February. We hope everything goes fine and the date doesn't move past February. As I always say, the threat is still very real. I know for some people back home the conflict over here may only be mentioned in a two-minute blurb on the news. But remember, until each service member is safely back home, sacrifices are still being made here and in other parts of the world.



Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

As we begin any New Year we think of the past year. We thank God for the wonderful things that have been brought in our lives. We also remember the heartaches, the criticisms directed against us, and our failures. But these are forgotten as God cleanses us from our failures (I John 1:9).

As we look forward to a New Year I want to encourage you from the Bible. If we did not have the promises of God we would be filled with fear as we face this new year. What a glorious privilege to be assured that God knows every step of the way and has made provisions.

We do wonder about the question: Why do Christians waiver and fail in the Christian life? This is a problem that happens so often among any Christian today. What is the answer? The answer is - Christians need to grow up - to grow to spiritual maturity, that is, to grow up to spiritual adults.

How do we grow in our spiritual life?

First, you need to be born again into a new life. This new birth is to be born into God's family. You are born the first time in your physical body to your earthly father and mother. You are born the second time by God the Holy Spirit into God's spiritual heavenly family when you receive Jesus Christ as your Savior.

When we read the record of Nicodemus who came to see Jesus by night, Jesus said to Nicodemus in John 3:3, "Verily, verily I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

When you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior you become a "babe in Christ" and you need to begin to grow.

As you read and study God's Word you will begin to see yourself as God sees you. The Bible is like a mirror, the first thing we look into every morning. How much more should we look into God's Word so we can know and do His will, to live a life that is pleasing to Him.

As you study, you will learn God hates sin, and will not put up with it. You will become sensitive to sin and you will not put up with it either.

In the Book of Joshua, God teaches us how He wants us to walk as a child of God here on this earth. A review of the background scriptures of this Book will help you to better understand these lessons in spiritual growth.

The Israelites were in bondage in Egypt. God sent Moses to deliver His people out of Egypt and to bring them into the promised land, the land of Canaan.

The land of Canaan is not a picture of heaven. The land of Canaan is a place of warfare. Canaan is not of complete peace and rest as heaven will be. The nations in Canaan become types of the principalities and power we read about in Paul's letter to the Ephesians: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:12). The land of Canaan is a type of the Christian's battle against sin -

the Christian's daily warfare against the flesh, the world, and the devil.

The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the wilderness before Joshua led them into the land of Canaan.

The reason for their wandering was because of their unbelief. This is a terrible thing to do when you want to please God. The Israelites in the wilderness were always murmuring. They didn't like the "manna" from heaven. This manna was their daily food, but they craved the fish, garlic, onions of Egypt. They just wouldn't be satisfied with what they really needed.

Today, there isn't any difference. Many Christians neglect the Lord Jesus Christ who is the "Bread of Life" and fail to feed on this spiritual food - God's Word.

What do we need? We need a Joshua, a Joshua who will take a stand for God and say as Joshua did, in Joshua 24:15, "... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Then, we need to study God's Word and obey Him. This is the only way we learn His will for our life. There is no substitute for studying the Bible. As you study, you will learn God hates sin, and will not put up with it. You will become sensitive to sin and you will not put up with it either.

In the Gospel of Matthew we have a record of where Jesus went up into the wilderness and fasted 40 days and 40 nights and



NANCY SOUTHERLAND-HOLMES

24-piece collection reflects "fabric of our heritage"

What is the fabric of our heritage? Figuratively speaking, that could be an entire seminar of education and opinions. Literally speaking, there is fabric that represents our heritage on sale at tribal gift shops, and it has been designed by a Choctaw tribal member who lives just a short walk from the Capitol grounds, Tushka Homma.

Nancy Southerland-Holmes has created a 24-piece collection with eight different designs in three color variations. She has christened the lovely fabric the "Tushka Homma Collection."

"Although my creative interests vary, they remain connected by a deep passion for things handmade," says Nancy.

She especially likes creating things that will be enjoyed over time, a perfect fit for the fabric, which is also available in quilt shops and through mail order.

"My culture, family, community, and nature prove inspiration at every

turn," said Nancy. This inspiration is obvious in each of the designs of the new material, which was designed for Andover Fabrics and has been recently introduced to the International Market.

For sewers, quilters, and decorators who want to purchase yardage, please check with your favorite quilt shop, fabric store, or online retailer to see if they have ordered the Tushka Homma Collection. Customers also have the option of buying through mail order by calling the Choctaw Nation Museum Gift Shop at 918-569-4465.

Patterns include Eagle Feathers, Arrowhead Collection, Crossed Arrows, Life Road, Medicine Wheel, Blanket Stripe, Buffalo & Tracks, and Eagle Feather Stripe.

To view the patterns and colors, a website is accessible that features pictures and history on each design. Just go to nancysoutherland-holmes.com and click on the fabric icon.

Chahta Anumpa Vmmona – First Choctaw Words A Learner's Word Book



Over 1,200 words make up this topical definer, which lists thousands of useful words. It is perfect for someone who is learning or just wanting to brush up on their vocabulary. It offers definitions, pronunciations, and in some cases different dialects. This book is organized according to topics, which makes it an excellent companion for the novice learner. These definers are now available at the Choctaw Nation Book Store, so be sure to get your copy today. The definers are \$10 each.

Please complete:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone number _____

To place an order please send check or money order to:

Choctaw Nation Book Store
P.O. Box 668
Durant, OK 74702

or call 1-888-932-9199 for credit card orders.

If paying by credit card, please complete the following:

Name credit card is issued in _____

Type of card _____

(VISA, MasterCard)

Expiration Date _____

Card number _____

Signature _____

Number of copies _____

Subtotal _____

Shipping is \$4 for the first book and \$2 for

each additional _____

TOTAL _____

WIA SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM SCHOOL CONTACT DATES

SCHOOL	DATE	TIME	SCHOOL	DATE	TIME
Achille	January 8	11:15 a.m.	Indianola	Contact school for date	
Antlers	January 28	1:30 p.m.	Keota	January 14	8:25 a.m.
Atoka	January 9	2:15 p.m.	Kiowa	January 20	10:00 a.m.
Battiest	January 6	1:30 p.m.	Kinta	January 12	11:00 a.m.
Bennington	January 21	1:00 p.m.	Leflore	January 15	10:50 a.m.
Bokoshe	January 13	10:45 a.m.	McAlester H.S.	Contact Larry Amos for date	
Boswell	January 29	10:30 a.m.	McAlester M.S.	Contact Larry Amos for date	
Broken Bow H.S.	January 7	10:30 a.m.	McCurain	January 12	1:20 p.m.
Broken Bow M.S.	January 7	1:00 p.m.	Moyers	January 28	12:15 p.m.
Buffalo Valley	January 28	8:55 a.m.	Olney	January 23	2:15 p.m.
Caddo	January 9	1:00 p.m.	Panama	January 13	9:00 a.m.
Calera	January 8	9:00 a.m.	Panola	January 15	1:30 p.m.
Canadian	Contact school for date		Pittsburg	January 20	11:00 a.m.
Caney	January 16	1:30 p.m.	Pocola	January 14	11:47 a.m.
Cameron	January 14	1:30 p.m.	Poteau	January 13	12:25 p.m.
Clayton	January 28	10:30 a.m.	Quinton	January 12	9:40 a.m.
Coalgate	January 15	1:30 p.m.	Rattan	January 14	1:00 p.m.
Colbert	January 8	10:15 a.m.	Red Oak	January 15	12:15 p.m.
Crowder	Contact school for date		Rock Creek	January 29	2:30 p.m.
Denison	January 15	11:30 a.m.	Savanna	January 20	9:00 a.m.
Durant	January 9	10:00 a.m.	Silo	January 9	9:00 a.m.
Eagletown	January 8	11:00 a.m.	Smithville	January 6	11:00 a.m.
Forest Grove	January 14	10:00 a.m.	Soper	January 29	9:00 a.m.
Ft. Towson	January 15	10:00 a.m.	Spiro	January 14	10:00 a.m.
Glover	January 8	1:00 p.m.	Stigler	January 13	12:50 p.m.
Goodland	January 30	Drop Off	Stringtown	January 9	1:00 p.m.
Grant	January 30	Drop Off	Talihina	January 14	12 noon
Haileyville	January 20	12:30 p.m.	Tom	January 12	12 noon
Hartshorne	January 20	11:20 a.m.	Tupelo	January 23	1:00 p.m.
Haworth	January 12	10:45 a.m.	Tushka	January 16	12:30 p.m.
Heavener	January 13	9:15 a.m.	Valliant	January 16	12:10 p.m.
Holly Creek	January 8	2:00 p.m.	Whitesboro	January 14	10:30 a.m.
Howe	January 13	10:30 a.m.	Wilburton H.S.	January 20	9:15 a.m.
Hugo Alternative	January 30	10:15 a.m.	Wilburton J.H.	January 20	10:15 a.m.
Hugo H.S.	January 30	1:15 p.m.	Wister	January 13	1:30 p.m.
Hugo M.S.	January 30	9:00 a.m.	Wright City	January 16	10:00 a.m.
Hugo Voc. Tech.	January 30	Drop Off			
Idabel H.S.	January 9	10:00 a.m.			
Idabel M.S.	January 9	1:00 p.m.			

Students may contact their high school to verify the date and time of the visit to receive more information.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

February

February 2: Poteau (A-L) 9-2; Coalgate 9-10:30; Atoka 12-2
 February 3: Stigler 9-2; Broken Bow 9-2
 February 5: Poteau (M-Z) 9-2
 February 9: Talihina 9-12
 February 11: Wright City 9-10:30; Hugo 12-2
 February 13: Bethel 9-10:30; Smithville 12-2
 February 17: Idabel 9-12

Food Distribution Sites

ANTLERS – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 306 S.W. "O" St.
 ATOKA – National Guard Armory.
 BETHEL – Choctaw Nation Community Building.
 BROKEN BOW – Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.
 COALGATE – Choctaw Community Center.
 DURANT – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 100 Waldron Dr.
 HUGO – Housing Authority.
 IDABEL – Choctaw Village Shopping Center.
 McALESTER – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 1212 S. Main.
 POTEAU – Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.
 SMITHVILLE – Big Lick Church.
 STIGLER – Choctaw Community Building.
 TALIHINA – Boys & Girls Club.
 WRIGHT CITY – Choctaw Head Start Building.

The Food Distribution Program workers will take a 30 minute lunch break from 11:30 to 12 noon. Please bring boxes to pick up your commodities.

If you cannot pick up commodities when you are scheduled, please notify the Food Distribution Office at 580-924-7773 or 800-522-6170 so that you can be rescheduled to go to Antlers, Durant or McAlester.

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

**14th Annual
World Champion Hoop Dance Contest**

Saturday and Sunday, February 7-8
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Heard Museum Amphitheater
2301 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

*Contest open to Native dancers only.
 CDIB or Tribal enrollment card required.
 For more information call 602-251-0284
 or e-mail wwston@heard.org.*

Jones Academy students enjoy field trip



Bvianna grinds a corncob while Alisha and Nowatha look on.

On October 28, the first and second grade class at Jones Academy took a field trip to the Wild Things Pumpkin Patch in Pocola, Oklahoma. The children enjoyed a hayride and a corn maze. Also, they learned about peanut plants, cotton plants and pumpkin vines. They were able to pick out a pumpkin and take it with them to decorate.



Neosha, Harold and Jeromy pet the horse after the hayride.

Projects with Industry program provides beneficial services for businesses and disabled Native Americans

The Projects with Industry Services would like to encourage businesses and disabled Native Americans to take advantage of services provided by the Choctaw Nation Projects with Industry program (PWI). Businesses looking for capable, dependable, and prescreened employees are already taking advantage of this program. If a business agrees to hire an individual through this program, the program will be able to reimburse for on-the-job training at 100% of the employee salary. The business is encouraged to retain the individual in permanent employment at the end of the training period. Businesses can also take advantage of a federal tax credit for employing Native Americans with a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood.

Disabled Native Americans who have a CDIB and are looking for employment are urged to

take advantage of this program. Individuals found eligible can benefit from several services offered such as on-the-job training, job placement, job searches, counseling and guidance, and job readiness classes. This program can assist native individuals with disabilities which may include:

- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Diabetes
- Amputees
- Arthritis
- High blood pressure
- Learning disabilities
- Back problems
- Speech problems
- Hearing problems
- Mental retardation
- Mental illness
- Orthopedic problems
- Seizure disorders
- Spinal cord injuries
- Head injuries
- Or any other physical or mental condition that limits

one's ability to work.

The Choctaw Nation Projects with Industry program recently gave plaques of recognition to businesses that supported Native American with Disabilities in the 2002-03 year. Businesses and names of recognition include Shannon McDaniel, Executive Director of Choctaw Nation Tribal Management; Brian McClain, Executive Director of Choctaw Nation Travel Plazas; Jeff Jackson, Personnel Director of Indian Nation Wholesale; Gail Landreth, Director of Little Dixie Head Start; Russell Sossamon, Executive Director of Choctaw

Nation Housing Authority; Vicki Miller, owner of River Bottom Cleaners; Home Needs, and Leslie Johnson, Personnel Director of Choctaw Nation Manufacturing Development Corporation.

Businesses and Native Americans interested in receiving more information, please contact Randy Hammons, PWI Director, or Angela Dancer, PWI Coordinator, at 580-326-7758 or toll-free 877-285-6893. The PWI program is funded under a grant from the Department of Special Education and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

American Indian Chamber of Commerce schedules meeting

An American Indian Chamber of Commerce meeting is scheduled for January 21 at the Choctaw Inn in Durant, Oklahoma. The lunch meeting begins at 11:30 a.m., and will adjourn at 1 p.m. All Indian business owners are welcome to attend. Please bring your business cards and brochures and plan to network.

MOBILE WELLNESS UNIT SCHEDULE

January-February 2004

Date	10 a.m.-12 noon	1-3 p.m.
January 15	Durant - at Church across from Complex	Durant - at Church across from Complex
	Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention	
January 23	Cloudy - Community Center	Antlers - Choctaw Food Warehouse
	Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention	
January 30	McAlester - Choctaw Travel Plaza	McAlester - Choctaw Travel Plaza
	Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention	
February 5	Spiro - Choctaw Community Center	Panama - across from Burger King
	Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention	
February 13	Red Oak - across from Post Office	Panola - at Church next to school
	Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention	
February 19	Wright City - across from Choctaw Center	Idabel - Choctaw Shopping Center
	Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention	
February 27	Hartshorne - across from Post Office	Hartshorne - across from Post Office
	Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention	

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND PROJECTS WITH INDUSTRY PROGRAM February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Talihina 10 am-2 pm	Durant 10 am-12 noon	Stigler by appt. only McAlester 10 am-2 pm		Idabel 10 am-2 pm	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Antlers by appt. only		Atoka 9-11 am Coalgate 12 noon-2 pm		Broken Bow 9:30 am-2 pm	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Durant by appt only	Crowder by appt only McAlester by appt only		Poteau 11 am-1:30 pm	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Bethel by appt only	Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm			Wright City by appt. only	
29	A Vocational Rehabilitation and Projects With Industry representative will be available at the locations listed. A representative is available Monday thru Friday 8-4:30 except for holidays at the Hugo office.					

Attention

Choctaw Artists

Are you interested in participating in a Juried and Judged Choctaw Indian Art Show? Let us hear from you!

Please fill out the following interest form in order to receive more information regarding the show which will be held in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma, during the Labor Day Festivities, September 3-6, 2004. Included will be the following categories: painting, graphics, textiles, sculpture, jewelry, ceramics, and basketry.

Please fill out the form and return it by March 1. An entry packet will be sent to you in April.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

E-mail address _____

CDIB is required.

Your artistic expertise is in what category?
(Painting, graphics, ceramics, etc.)

Return to: Beverly Nelson
Choctaw Nation Tribal Complex
16th and Locust
Durant, OK 74701
1-800-522-6170, ext. 2216

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Deadline: February 3, 2004

The Morris K. Udall Native American Congressional Internship Program provides people of Native American ancestry with practical experiences in the legislative process, congressional matters, and governmental proceedings. Applicants must:

- Be an enrolled member of a recognized tribe
- Be a college junior, senior, graduate student, law student, or graduating from a tribal college
- Have a minimum 3.0 gpa or "B" average
- Have an interest in tribal government and policy

Interns are provided with:

- Airfare to and from Washington, D.C.
- Dormitory lodging at a local university
- Daily allowance sufficient for meals, transportation, incidentals
- A \$1,200 educational stipend to be paid at the conclusion of the internship

For more information, please contact Program Manager Kristin Kelling at 520-670-5609 or 520-670-5529, or e-mail kelling@udall.gov.

Pearl Harbor Survivors Club

May 27-31, 2004 in Washington, D.C.

Total fair of \$394 double occupancy includes round-trip coach fare, four nights lodging, four continental breakfasts, tours and shuttles. Call Earl Lay, 918-622-8166, for reservations. All fares should be in 30 days prior to departure.

Choctaw Nation Health Services active in statewide quality improvement effort

Choctaw Nation Health Services is one of 32 Oklahoma clinics working to improve the quality of outpatient care by participating in the Diabetes and Preventive Services Collaborative sponsored by Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality (OFMQ).

"This facility's involvement in the collaborative shows its commitment to providing the highest quality of care to its patients," said Jim Williams, OFMQ president and CEO. "As the quality improvement organization for the state, OFMQ partners with physicians to improve health care in Oklahoma."


During the yearlong collaborative, teams of physicians, nurses, administrators and clinic staff attend several learning sessions and develop processes to improve care in three clinical areas: diabetes management, breast cancer prevention and adult immunizations. Between learning sessions, participants share best practices via e-mail as they work to implement improvement processes in their clinic. For more information about the OFMQ collaborative, call Katie Tomajan, OFMQ communications specialist at 405-840-2891 or e-mail ktomajan@akquo.sdps.org.

Choctaw Foster Parenting

What is Choctaw Foster Parenting?

Choctaw Foster Parenting is providing a home to an Indian child. This includes teaching a child about himself and his people. It is working with the Choctaw Child Welfare Program and the child's family to help the family grow and change so that they can be a strong nurturing home for their child when he/she returns home.

It is for these children and families that we need you to become a foster parent. We need your help to grow, teach, and love these children.



For more information on becoming a foster parent, please contact us.

Children & Family Services
PO Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74702
(800)522-6170

Native American Culture Day held in Ft. Towson

Ft. Towson students stepped out of classes and into an Indian village for the Native American Culture Day at their school on October 24. A combination of nearly 450 students, teachers, and parents attended the outdoor event under blue skies and beautiful fall weather.

Students were able to enjoy original Navajo fry bread made by Dora Wickson. They also enjoyed watching Linda Alexander as she showed them how to weave pine needle baskets.

Students gathered around Dennis Todd as he demonstrated how to make arrowheads. They were fascinated as Ruthie Beal turned gourds into shakers and bowls. Music is a big part of the Indian culture. Anthony Sawyer played some of the many flutes he brought and described how the Indians constructed a flute. Also, Dan Beal played a CD of his song, "Choctaws Marching On." Presley Byington was MC for a local group of dancers in full ceremonial dress including Eugene Taylor and Joe Noah with his daughter and son. Marcie McClure presented the Lord's Prayer in sign language.

The day passed too quickly, but was informative and enjoyed by all. All of this was made possible with the planning and direction of Ft. Towson's JOM coordinator, Carol Payne. She coordinates the school's JOM program activities. We would also like to extend a big thank you to Dan Beal for running the sound system throughout the activities.

David Anderson is nominated for Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs has approved the nomination of David Anderson as assistant secretary of Indian Affairs.

At the hearing, Anderson spoke about his personal triumph over alcohol abuse and the importance of individual responsibility in maintaining a strong sense of personal worth. He said tribes must manage gaming resources appropriately so that businesses lead to other types of economic development.

An enrolled member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Shippewa and the Choctaw Nation, Anderson is known for his philanthropic efforts throughout Indian Country and for the successful launching of Famous Dave's of America restaurant chain.

Choctaw Veterans Association plans quarterly meeting

The next quarterly meeting of the Choctaw Veterans Association will be held at 11 a.m., January 24 at the Choctaw Senior Citizens Community Center in Wilburton, Oklahoma. All members are encouraged to attend and get acquainted with newly elected officers.

Applications accepted for EQIP

USDA and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have announced the acceptance of applications for cost-share through the 2004 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) according to Tom Neumeyer, District Conservationist with MRCS. "Funding for this year's program is being targeted toward local resource issues and concerns that have been identified through the locally led process," says Neumeyer. "Haskell County has identified grazing lands and

surface water contamination from animal wastes as high priority local resource concerns again this year."

Some of the practices for cost share assistance are: livestock ponds, fences, pasture planting, riparian forest buffers, cake out storage structures, and composting facilities. Producers enter into maximum 10-year contracts that provide from 50 to 75 percent cost sharing for conservation practices.

Applications will be accepted throughout the year and reviews

will be conducted periodically (on or about January 1, April 1 and July 1) to consider and fund high priority immediately after the evaluation period. Producers are encouraged to submit an application if they have resource issues consistent with the local EQIP priority concerns.

Producers who want to learn more can contact the local National Resources Conservation Service or Haskell County Conservation District, 1005 W. Main, Stigler, or call 918-967-2488.

Eating sweets the healthy way

WIC

WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

It's a fact: Humans like sweet treats. There's nothing wrong with enjoying sweet foods – in moderation! The problem is that we tend to go overboard on sugar, especially empty-calorie, "liquid candy" beverages. Here's how to have your sweets – and stay healthy, too!

1. Go natural with fruit.

Fruit – fresh, frozen, canned, dried or juiced – is nature's sweetest treat. Satisfying your sweet tooth with fruit means you get some real nutrition benefits – like fiber, vitamins, minerals and disease-fighting phytonutrients – along with great taste.

2. Enjoy sweets with other foods.

Timing is everything. The best time to enjoy a sugary food or beverage is along with other foods at a meal. You'll tend to consume less if you are satisfied with other foods (especially protein foods) and the sugar you eat will have less effect on your blood sugar.

3. Resize your portion size.

Many sweets – including candy bars, cookies and soft drinks – have been super-sized. Choosing smaller portions, like a Halloween-size candy bar rather than a king-size bar, will be far better for your health. Smaller portions can also be equally satisfying.

4. Get exactly what you want.

One way to be satisfied with a smaller portion is

to get exactly what you are craving. Some people eat through piles of treats trying to stay away from the one thing they really wanted in the first place. Take a few minutes to focus on what you really want to eat.

5. Relax and enjoy.


People often feel guilty eating sweets, so they sneak around and wolf them down. However, eating quickly and guiltily means that you feel less satisfied. The goal is to eat less and enjoy it more. Pick a small portion of your favorite sweet, then savor every bite.

6. Use "sugar-free" wisely.

Being sugar-free does not guarantee that product is fat-free or calorie-free. Sugar-free also does not guarantee that something is packed with protein, vitamins, or minerals. Read before you eat – and check Nutrition Facts labels to get the most nutrients per bite.

Durant Language Class


Phase 1 of the Choctaw Language Class will start Monday, January 26, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Durant Choctaw Nation Sr. Citizens Community Center, 1705 W. Locust. For more information, call Richard Adams, 580-924-8280, ext. 2382, or Ann Kaniatobe, 580-924-5192 after 5 p.m.



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	Every Mon., Thurs. & 1st, 3rd, 4th Wed.
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	Mon., Tues., Thurs., 4th Wed.
Poteau	918-647-4585	8:00-4:30	Mon., Tues., Wed., 4th Thurs., Fri.
Stigler	918-967-4211	8:30-4:00	1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesday
Talihina	918-567-7000 x 6792	8:00-4:30	Tuesday and Friday
Wilburton	918-465-5641	8:30-4:00	1st, 2nd & 3rd Thursday



Eastern

oklahoma state college



Eastern Oklahoma State College
Truck Driver Training
918-426-5272

People You Know



Happy third birthday

Happy birthday to Kody McDaniel of Stonewall who will turn three years old on January 17. Kody's parents are Jackie and Kara McDaniel. Grandparents are Tom and Diana McNeill of Stonewall, Jimmy and Carol Wilkins of Ardmore, Oklahoma, and Dan and Sherry McDaniel of Lone Grove, Oklahoma.



Look who's five

Kyle would like to wish his sister, Kaitlyn Shiann Barrett, a happy fifth birthday on December 4. Her proud parents are Jimmy and Doretha Barrett of Boswell, Oklahoma.



Proud grandparents are Raymond and Edith Pistubbee of Boswell and Floylay "Bug" and Dora Barrett of Amity, Arkansas. Great-grandparents include Hershel and Rhoda Sullivan of Smithville, Oklahoma.

Look who's one

Kyle Lucas Barrett will turn one year old on January 17. His proud parents are Jimmy and Doretha Barrett of Boswell, Oklahoma.



Proud grandparents are Raymond and Edith Pistubbee of Boswell and Floylay "Bug" and Dora Barrett of Amity, Arkansas. Great-grandparents are Hershel and Rhoda Sullivan of Smithville, Oklahoma.

Kyle's big sister, Kaitlyn, would like to wish him a happy birthday!

Happy birthday!

Kya Mackay Pelayo would like to wish her Daddy, Tony Pelayo, a happy 19th birthday on December 20 and her little cousin, Josephine Rose Gilmore, a happy fourth birthday on December 30.



Happy 18th

Sara Jones Cochnouer of Antioch, California, will turn 18 years old on January 15. Sara's great-great-grandpa, Henry C. Cochnouer, is an original enrollee.



Happy birthday!

Look who turned nine

Birthday wishes go out to Khrystian Rice of Sherman, Texas. Khrystian turned nine years old on December 19. Happy birthday and lots of love from grandparents Pat and Virginia Espinoza of Calera, Oklahoma, Daddy, Traci, and Derek of Greenville, Texas.



Happy first birthday

Tyler and Brittany Ward would like to wish their little brother, Jayse Hunter Ward, a happy first birthday. Jayse celebrated his birthday on July 8. He is the son of Hoss and Sherry Ward of Whitesboro, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Sherman and Gloria Ward of Talihina, Oklahoma, and Troy and Wanda Beck of Stuart, Oklahoma. Great-grandmothers are Catherine Curley and Katherine Ward, both of Talihina.



Happy birthday to James Berg

Happy birthday wishes are sent to James Berg of Tulsa, Oklahoma, who will turn 51 years old on January 15. James works as a dish washer at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Tulsa.

Happy birthday

Happy birthday to our babies. Cassidy Ann Walker turned one year old on November 3 and Jason Robert Walker, Jr. turned five on November 23. They are the children of Jason and Brandi Walker, the siblings of Brianna Marie Walker, and the grandchildren of Michael and Billie Bethel, Mike and Kathy Hibdon and Kenneth and Cynthia Walker.



Congratulations!

Renee Gisele Johnston, formerly Executive Assistant at the Texas Youth Commission, has recently accepted a position as Executive Assistant at the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in Austin.

Happy birthday!

Jeffrey Roland Gibbons of Loveland, Colorado, turned 12 years old on January 8.



Jeffrey's brother, Kyle Joseph Gibbons, celebrated his eighth birthday on November 29.



The boys are the grandsons of Fred G. Roland.

Justin turns ten

Justin Jefferson celebrated his tenth birthday on December 4 at the Broken Bow Pizza Hut. Attending were his mom and dad, Pam and Jeff; his aunt "Addy;" cousins, Mike and Gabi Miller of Wright City, Oklahoma; his brother, Huey, and Grandma Mary Watson of Wright City.



A birthday wish

My personal nurse and daughter, Pam Miller, celebrated her birthday on December 13. Every day of her life is and has been a blessing. In celebration of her birth, I wish her years of love and happiness. Her life is a mixture of pain and heartbreak and out of it all it's produced a beautiful young woman. Happy birthday from the entire family, lovingly from mom, Mary Watson, and especially from Mike Miller of Wright City, Oklahoma.



Happy third birthday

Michael Bryan Miller, turned three years old on November 23. He's brought so much joy, love and laughter into our lives - it's hard to believe three years have passed so quickly. He's the friendliest little guy for miles around.



His world and family extend to Ada, Bethel, Shawnee, Wright City and California. We wish "Mike" years and years of happiness. - from Jessie, Kell, ShayShay, Bub and Dub Going of Ada, Tata of Shawnee, Pam and Justin, his family of Wright City, Ricky, the Lilles, "Bammo," mom, Tamara and beloved sis, Gabi.

Also, a happy 23rd birthday to Huey Jefferson of Bethel, Oklahoma.

Look who's three

Canyon Lane Taylor turned three years old on December 20. He is the son of Dwayne Taylor and Becky Peters of Hugo, Oklahoma. Wishing you a wonderful birthday, from Mommy, Daddy, and all your brothers and sisters. He's the joy of our lives!



Happy birthday, Gary!

Gary James Harrison turned eleven years old on November 16. His sister, Alisabeth, and little brother, Tyler, would like to say "Happy Birthday!" Gary is the son of Dixon and Marlana Harrison of Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is a fifth grade student at Owen Elementary School. He is active in soccer, Student Council, the Chess Club, and is in the lead to be the "Mad Minute King" of Math. He is the grandson of Gary W. and Linda Harrison and the late Carrie Jane Lynn of Tulsa. Gary is the great-grandson of the late James and Velma Harrison, the late Dixon and Melba Willis and also the late Everette and Juanita Amos. He is the great-great-grandson of Choctaw original enrollees Benjamin and Sibbie (Ben) Harrison, William and Ida (Jones) Noah, the Rev. Emerson and Martha Willis and George and Emma (Fobb) Benton.



Caleb turns two

Caleb Max Tlapak Simmons turned two years old on November 3. He is the son of Max and Valarie Simmons of Oklahoma City. He is the grandson of Thomas and Kathy Tlapak and Joe and Janis Simmons and the great-grandson of Merle Henry, all of Oklahoma City.



Caleb's ancestor, Elizabeth Jane-Griggs, walked the Trail of Tears to Oklahoma from Mississippi. Happy birthday, sweet Caleb, we love you.

Happy fourth birthday, Angel

Robert and Mandy Weaver would like to wish their grandson, Angel Attocknie, a happy birthday on December 16. We love you, Angel!



Hampton-James wed

Crystal Hampton and Roger James, Jr., were married in an outdoor ceremony on September 27, 2003, at the home of Crystal's grandmother, Mary Sue Owen of Boswell, Oklahoma.



The bride is the daughter of Pamela and Justin Beddo and Leatha and Ron Hampton, Sr., of Boswell.

The groom is the son of Sandra and Mike McLean of Amarillo, Texas, and Roger James, Sr., of Durant, Oklahoma. Many thanks to the Rev. Rick Austin of Boswell and the relatives and friends of the couple.

Crystal is a 2002 Boswell High School graduate. Both are employed in Durant, Oklahoma.

Birthday wishes

Belated birthday wishes are sent to the old Hill boys, Millard, Flave and Bob, from Barbara, Virgie and Rita.



"See why we forgot!"



Group completes Phase IV language class

The Chahta Class Phase IV in Red Oak, Oklahoma, graduated November 18. Class members are Juanita Noah, Bydia Coley, Paul Carney, Terry Noah, Carla Noah and Mary Morris. Teacher is Sue Jefferson. Mrs. Jefferson is beginning a Phase I class in January with classes meeting in the Red Oak Senior Citizen Community Center, Red Oak, Oklahoma.

Academic All-American

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association recently named Steve Bajema as a member of the 2003 ITA Academic All-American team for junior colleges. Steve is a sophomore starter on the Seminole State College tennis team. This was the first year that players at the junior college level are eligible for the honors and also the first year underclassmen are eligible for ITA Scholar-Athlete honors. Steve was one of eight chosen.



Steve is a graduate of Purcell High School. At Seminole State, he has been a two-year starter on the men's tennis team. He has also been chosen to the Honor Societies Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Kappa Delta, which he is currently serving as vice president. He is the son of Steve and Lisa Bajema of Wildwood, Missouri, and the grandson of Daryl and Judy Bajema, Oklahoma City, Rose McCurdy, Purcell, and Tom McCurdy, Norman, Oklahoma. Steve is also the great-grandson of Roberta Mantooth and Maxwell and Rosamond McCurdy, all of Purcell.

Happy 17th birthday

We want to wish Cheselene Baker a happy 17th birthday on December 24. Her parents are Avis and Donny Tugwell of Wright City, Oklahoma, and her grandparents are Lavada Baker and the late Madison Baker of Wright City. Happy birthday from your cousins, aunts and uncles, and may God bless you. We love you.



Dylan celebrates ninth

Dylan Reece Thompson celebrated his ninth birthday on November 10. His parents are Angela and Steven Thompson of Rogers, Arkansas. Grandparents are Lenoye and Jean Frey of Idabel, Oklahoma. Great-grandmother is Pauline Harris of Harris, Oklahoma, and great-grandfather is F.T. Frey of Idabel. Dylan has an older brother, Mitchel Thompson of Rogers.



Tyler turns nine

Ember, Elijah and Cole would like to wish their big brother a happy birthday. Tyler celebrated his ninth birthday on December 5. Tyler is the son of Robert and Michelle Gipson of Wright City, Oklahoma. He is the grandson of Todd and Kim Marable of Eagletown, Oklahoma, and Sharon Gipson of Wright City. All of Tyler's aunts, uncles and cousins would like to wish him a happy birthday.



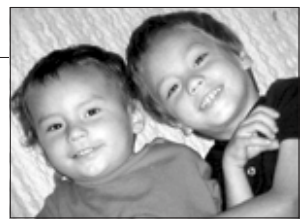
Look who turned one

Tyler, Ember and Elijah would like to wish their baby brother a happy birthday. Cole celebrated his very first birthday on December 13. Robert Cole is the son of Robert and Michelle Gipson of Wright City, Oklahoma. The grandson of Todd and Kim Marable of Eagletown, Oklahoma, and Sharon Gipson of Wright City. All of Cole's aunts, uncles and cousins would like to wish him a happy birthday.



Brothers have birthdays

Ian Milam celebrated his second birthday on November 24 and his brother, Eli Milam, turned four on October 7.



They are the sons of Ken and Tina Milam of Poteau, Oklahoma, and the grandsons of Latisha Milam of McAlester, Oklahoma.

Happy fourth birthday!

Happy fourth birthday to Josephine Gilmore from Mom, Ty, and Jimmy.



Kelsey turns 14

Kelsey McPherson turned 14 years old on December 4. Her parents are Stuart and Janet McPherson. Grandparents are Robert and Betty Karr of McAlester, Oklahoma, and Jane McPherson of Valliant, Oklahoma.



We love you and are so proud of you. Happy birthday!

December birthdays

Johanson L. Watson would like to send happy birthday wishes to his grandchildren, Emma Marie Linn on December 19 and Kyron Robert Schutt Linn on December 24, and to his sister, Lillie Ann Watson. Happy birthday!



Five generations

Wesley Don Luper, the fifth generation of the Brown family, was born August 21, 2003. From left is great-great-grandma Lois Brown holding Wesley, great-grandma Shirley Ramey, grandpa Greg Luper, and mom Jessica Luper.

New arrival born on grandpa's birthday



Seth Barker was born on his Grandpa Charles' 40th birthday, August 15, 2003. He is the first grandchild. His mom, also pictured above, is Tesia Barker. Born, at 1:30 a.m., Seth weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long.

Oklahoma All State in Speech and Drama

Jonna Wallace, a senior at Wright City High School, has won highest honors in Oklahoma for her performance in State One Act Play competition. Jonna was awarded with "All-State" honors by the OSSAA for her performance as a French maid in the absurd comedy, "Episode in the Life of an Author." Jonna will receive a coveted "All State" jacket and is only one of two Speech and Drama students from Wright City to ever receive the award. The competition was held at Mustang High School in Mustang, Oklahoma.



Jonna is the daughter of Tracy Wallace of Wright City and Sam McCurry of Ponotoc, Mississippi. She was coached by Speech and Drama coach Susan Storey.

SHS grad to study abroad

Sulphur High School graduate Monica Roundtree was recently accepted into the International Study Abroad Program through Oklahoma City University, where she is currently a full-time student. During the January 2004 semester, Monica will be studying humanities courses at Edge Hill University, Ormskirk, Lancashire, England, which is about 20 miles outside of Liverpool. Edge Hill is a "sister university" to OSU.



This will be Monica's second opportunity to study abroad. The summer of 2001 she studies history in Rome, Italy, in an accelerated one-month course through Oklahoma City Community College. As a member of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, Monica received her associate degree in humanities from OCCC in the spring of 2003.

Friends and family are invited to keep Monica company while abroad with e-mail: roundtreemonica@yahoo.com.

Sophomore attendant

Lyndsey McPherson was sophomore attendant at Washington High School, Washington, Oklahoma.

Lyndsey is the daughter of Stuart and Janet McPherson and the granddaughter of Robert and Betty Karr and Jane McPherson.

We love you and are so proud of you!



Betty Karr is Woman of the Year

Betty Karr has been chosen as Woman of the Year by the Women of Action Committee. The committee was formed eight years ago to honor deserving women in Pittsburg County. Betty was nominated by the Ohoyohoma Club. A full-blood Choctaw, she is proud of her Native American heritage and has worked to promote that culture in the county. She joins Marcharelle Jordan, Meta Milligan and Charleen Samuels as this year's honorees.

Annual reunion held at Jones Academy

The Jones Academy All-Boys Reunion was held with four first-timers attending this year, Tom King, Ramsey Horton, Howard Sumner and Randy Jacob. All the Alumni boys are very much appreciated. Everyone enjoyed the reunion, with several guests visiting to see the school where their father attended - the families of Bob Horton and Roy Smith. Ferman Sabala didn't attend Jones but enjoyed seeing some of the Jones boys that he used to play around with.

The reunion's horseshoe pitching champs were Melvin Bryant and Henry Wesley; second place were Jimmy Fraizer and Presley Battiest.

Domino champs were Bertram Bobb and Leslie James; second place Fred Bobb and Jack Belcher; third place, Andy Choate and Ramsey Horton.

Officers for 2004 were voted to remain the same as last year.

The next reunion is scheduled for October 16, 2004, so mark your calendars!



Jaylen Doll Walker

Jaylen Doll Walker was born October 29, 2003, at Ardmore, Oklahoma, weighing 5 pounds, 13 ounces and measuring 19.5 inches long. Parents Kandise Reynolds and Jack Walker, grandparents Kip and Terri Reynolds and Cliff and Tami Thompson, aunt Kristin Reynolds and great-grandparents Doyle and Ann Reynolds are all of Ardmore. Stan and Joyce Bryan of California are also Jaylen's great-grandparents. Jaylen Doll was named for her great-great-grandmother, Fairy Doll Tucker Breland.



Katherine Bernice Beshears

Katherine Bernice Beshears was born at 4:16 p.m. November 3, 2003, at Talihina, Oklahoma. She weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 21 inches long.

Proud parents are Glenn and Samantha Beshears. Grandparents are Bernice and Don Stoner of Enterprise, Oklahoma, Floyd and Grace Beshears of Newport, Oregon, Lin Ogg of Wilburton, Oklahoma, and the late Great-Grannie Needham.



Brayden Huston Knight

Jared Nathan Knight is proud to announce the arrival of his little brother, Brayden Huston Knight. Brayden was born September 21, 2003, to Billy and Jennifer (Lawrence) Knight of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. He weighed 7 pounds, 0.6 ounce and measured 19 inches long. Brayden is named after a very special man, his great-grandfather, Walter Huston Wilkerson.



Grandparents include Donna Lawrence of Pauls Valley, Red and Susie Lawrence of Braggs, Oklahoma, and Kathie Knight of Elmore City, Oklahoma. He is the great-grandson of Walter and the late Helen Wilkerson of Pauls Valley and the late Theodore and Edith Lawrence of Duncan, Oklahoma.

Saige May Williams

Shawn and Martha Williams would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Saige May Williams, born November 2, 2003, at the University of North Carolina Hospital in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Saige weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19.75 inches long. Grandparents are Bill and Judy May of Chapel Hill, Jerry D. Williams of Antlers, Oklahoma, and Karon Clark of Atoka, Oklahoma.



Grant Rayn McDonald

Proud new parents Robert and Crystal McDonald are pleased to introduce their son, Grant Rayn McDonald. Grant was born on September 26, 2003, in Bakersfield, California, weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 20 inches long. His great-grandmother is Anna Belle (Quinton) McDonald. He is also a direct descendent of Elizabeth Quinton, the settler and founder of Quinton, Oklahoma, who lived to be 115 years old.



Ethan Wesley Crane

Ethan Wesley Crane arrived on September 29, 2003, weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces and measuring 21.5 inches long. Adam and Kerri (Benedict) Crane of Goldsboro, North Carolina, are the proud parents.



Proud grandparents are Dwaine and Rachael Benedict of Garland, Texas, and Lyle and Ginger Crane of Afton, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Laureda (Green) Benedict and the late M.C. Benedict of Mead, Oklahoma, Imogene Miller of Afton, Oklahoma, and Peggy Allison Massey of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Ethan's mom is Choctaw. His Dad is Cherokee and in the Air Force. He served six months in Iraq.

Delaney Allison Dickey

John and Jennifer Dickey are proud to announce the birth of their newest daughter, Delaney Allison Dickey. Delaney arrived in this world at 2:09 p.m. July 20, 2003, at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview, Texas. She weighed 5 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 18 inches in length. Delaney is welcomed by her sisters, Brittanie, Lexi and Meigan, and brother, Bud.

Proud grandparents are Joe and Kathy Woolbert of Longview and Walter and Susan Dickey of Tyler, Texas. Great-grandparents are Norma and the late Alex Woolbert of Tucson, Arizona, and Jack and Kay Digges of Phoenix, Arizona. Also welcoming Delaney are Uncle Mark Woolbert of Houston, Texas, and Aunt Renee, Uncle Mike and Brendan Ivy of Tyler, Texas.

Solomon Dyami Stark

Solomon Dyami Stark was born at 5:35 p.m. on November 7, 2003. He weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces, and measured 20.5 inches long. Solomon is the son of Bernadette Stark.



Welcome to the world, son!

Danya Hope Impson

John and Lisa Impson are the proud parents of Danya Hope, born August 29, 2003, at Valley View Hospital in Ada, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Gwen Impson of McAlester, Oklahoma, Harry Impson of Oklahoma City, and Quannah and Sherry Nail of Tucson, Arizona. Great-grandparents are the late Thomas and Marie Willie, Emma Fisher and the late Robert Fisher, Ruth and the late Joe Frazier and Benjamin and the late Fern Nail.



Aiden James Ray Noah

Avory Darrel Wayne Noah is proud to announce the arrival of his little brother, Aiden James Ray Noah, born November 7, 2003, in Cushing, Oklahoma. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 inches long. Parents are Jacky Lee and Tiffany Noah.

Grandparents are Irene Bailey of Paris, Texas, Doug Bundeson of Ukiah, California, James and Brenda (Read) McBride of Antlers, Oklahoma, and the late Jacky Darrel Noah.

Great-grandparents are the late Betty Bailey, Jerry Bailey of Robbins, California, Shirley Bundeson of Sacramento, California, the late Ralph Bundeson, Vernon and Claudine Read of Antlers, Martha Rhodes of Farris, Oklahoma, and the late John Noah. Monrow and Janet Abercrombie of Antlers are his great-great-grandparents.



Julia Elaine Turner

Jennifer and Scott Turner of Bethany, Oklahoma, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Julia Elaine. Julia was born at 6:42 a.m. on October 14, 2003, at Mercy Health Center in Oklahoma City. She weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 19 inches long.

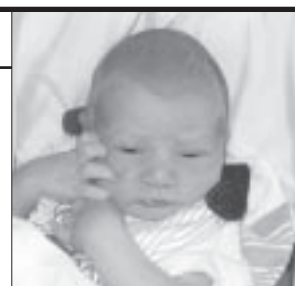
Julia's grandparents are Gene and Marsha Miller of Newcastle, Oklahoma, and Ken and Ruth Smith of Oklahoma City. Her great-grandmother is Inez Sewell Seifert of Newcastle. She is the great-great-granddaughter of the late Maisie Bessie Tubbee Sewell, an original enrollee.



Cameron Christopher Hayes

Cameron Christopher Hayes was born October 28, 2003, at Women's Hospital of Texas in Houston. He weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 21.5 inches. Proud parents are Shannon Busha and Matthew Hayes of Lake Jackson, Texas.

Grandparents are Mike and Debbie Hayes and Larry and Tina Busha, all of Lake Jackson. Great-grandparents are Twyla and the late Dorwin Busha of Bay City, Texas. Great-great-grandmothers are Ruth Busha of Council Hill, Oklahoma, and full-blood Choctaw Julia Cunningham of Braggs, Oklahoma.



Jett Austin Bates

Jason and Amber Bates would like to announce the birth of their son, Jett Austin Bates, on October 28. Jett weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

Proud grandparents are "Choctaw" Richard R. Bronaugh and Beckie Bronaugh of Springtown, Texas. Jett's Uncle Brandon and Kim Bronaugh live in Weatherford, Texas.



Derek Michael Rice

David and Traci Rice would like to announce the birth of their son, Derek Michael Rice. Derek was born November 25, weighing 9 pounds 12 ounces and measuring 22 inches long. Mother and baby are healthy and doing well.

Big sister is Khrystian Rice of Sherman, Texas; grandparents are Pat and Virginia Espinoza of Calera, Oklahoma, and Don Swatek of Scotsdale, Arizona.



Kendon Cain Harley

Thunder Lee Reese McKinney would like to announce the birth of his baby brother, Kendon Cain Harley. Kendon was born on August 2, 2003, at McCurtain Memorial Hospital in Idabel, Oklahoma. He weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Proud parents are Diana McKinney and Erik Harley of Idabel. Grandparents are David and Marsha McKinney and Mike "Bear" and Una Harley, all of Idabel.

Thunder and Kendon would also like to announce the birth of their baby cousin, Ayanna Carpenter. Ayanna was born September 2, 2003, at McCurtain Memorial Hospital. Proud parents are Regina McKinney and Michael Carpenter. She has a big brother, Keith Carpenter.



Robert Wyatt Foster

Robert and Alesa are proud to announce the arrival of their new son, Robert Wyatt Foster. He was born November 11, 2003, at Grady Memorial Hospital in Chickasha, Oklahoma, weighing 6 pounds, 5 ounces, and was 18 inches long. Grandparents are Stan Walters and Jennifer Walters, both of Chickasha, and Bob and Shannon Foster of Rush Springs. Great-grandparents are Curtis and Peggy Scruggs of Rush Springs.

Wyatt was welcomed home by his big brother, Cody.



BISHINIK deadline

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

Celebrating the Holidays



District 1
HAP
WARD



District 2
MIKE
AMOS



District 3
KENNY
BRYANT



District 4
DELTON
COX



District 5
CHARLOTTE
JACKSON



District 6
RANDLE
DURANT



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

The Choctaw Nation Tribal Council would like to wish everyone a safe and happy New Year!

Crowder



Martin and Frances Killingsworth of Eufaula are among the group at Crowder's Thanksgiving dinner.



Chief Gregory E. Pyle enjoys chatting with Doralene Smith of McAlester and Christine Higgins of Crowder.



Loretta Belvin and Floyd Smith.



Chief Pyle and Wynoka Byington of McAlester.



Broken Bow



Laura Carney, Christine Ludlow and Isabel Gibson are ready to enjoy the Thanksgiving meal at Broken Bow.



Lillian LeFlore, standing, Wilda Story and Sinaklin Forbic.



Councilman Mike Amos is pictured with Linda Jefferson, Virginia Jefferson, Mary Bohanon, Melissa Bohanon and Jasney Wade.



District 2 Little Miss Wendy Taylor, Councilman Mike Amos and Choctaw Nation Jr. Miss Dayla Amos.



Mary Carterby, Kay Jackson and Bertha Going.

Antlers



It was a full house for Thanksgiving at the community center in Antlers.



Jim Johnson and Elenza Johnson.

Spiro



Spiro festivities were enjoyed by many including, in top photo, Edith McCinn, Mildred Davis, Marie Horman and Larry Wade, and pictured at left, Flora Thornburg.



Tushka Homma



Anna Maxwell, left, and Faye and Joe Martindale, below, attend the holiday celebration at Tushka Homma.



Celebrating the Holidays

Hugo



Sue Wallace, Christine Simes and Josephine Gallant join Councilman Perry Thompson and other Hugo area residents at the Hugo center.



Sarah Belvin of Boswell and Chief Pyle attend the Thanksgiving dinner at Hugo.



Haleigh Gallant, Courtland Jackson and Rocky Taylor.



Tina Simes, Monica Simes and Sonny Simes.



Jimmy Bacon, Alen Stevens and Peggy Bacon.

Wright City



Standing room only at Wright City's center.

McAlester



Melvin "Punkin" Alberson and Chief Gregory E. Pyle were among the many who celebrated Thanksgiving at McAlester.



Councilman Bob Pate visits with Don Lynn at McAlester.



Choctaw Nation employees serve lots of delicious food.



Mary Lidle, Pokey Everett and Terry Pate enjoy the fellowship.



Eugene Sweet performs magic tricks for kids Shana Hunt and Nikki Hunt.

Wilburton



Mary Coley and daughter Diane Coley are pictured in front of the mural at Choctaw Nation's Community City in Wilburton.



Several Wilburton area residents enjoy the day.



Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Underwood and Jimmy Work.



Bernice Long and Evelyn Prock, above, and original enrollee Irene Mills, right, are among the Choctaw Nation members who joined in the fun at Wilburton.



Councilman Jack Austin congratulates Kristin Franklin on being selected All-State in girls fastpitch. Kristin, the daughter of Sandra and Timmy Franklin of Valliant, attends Valliant high school. Her grandparents include Connie Stabaugh of Valliant and the late Joel and Marian Aaron of Wright City.



Jr. Wesley and Kaylan Wallace.

Herman Kirt LeFlore

Herman Kirt LeFlore, 66, passed away October 31, 2003, in Fresno, California. He was born January 4, 1937, in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma.

Kirt attended schools in Tuskahoma, Tulsa and Bacone College in Oklahoma. He served in the U.S. Army and went through training at Ft. Hood, Texas.

Preceding him in death were an infant son, Matt Harris of Medford, Oregon; parents, Matt Harris and Destie (Boren) LeFlore of LeFlore, Oklahoma, and grandmother, Angie Morgan Boren Barnes of Wister, Oklahoma.

Survivors include his daughters, Jackie Blodgett and husband, Steve, and Angie LeFlore; grandchildren, Wendy, Joanie and Holly, and great-grandchild, Vanessa, all of Fresno, California; sisters, Willie Mack LeFlore Floyd and husband, Paul, of Fresno, California, Susie LeFlore Morgan of Houston, Texas, Virginia LeFlore Armstrong and husband, Paul, of Oklahoma City, and Nita LeFlore Baughan and husband, Lewis, of Panama City, Florida; brother, Charles Spencer of Gold Hill, Oregon, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the V.A. Hospital, Hines Hospice and a special thank you to his nurse, Francis Quintero, Mary Bell, and his Chaplain, Lisa Vernon, for their very compassionate care during his extended illness from C.O.P.D.

Joseph George Singler II

Joseph George Singler II passed away November 15, 2003. He was born July 6, 1964, the son of Mary Ruth Merryman and Joseph George Singler. His maternal grandparents were Kate and William Jennings Bryant Merryman. Gipson Van Merryman was his great-grandfather.

Joey was very good natured and cared much about helping with hemophilia, a condition which he was born with. He made many positive contributions, creating and operating a pharmaceutical business specially geared to helping people with this disease, often traveling and speaking to raise awareness and hope.

Survivors include his wife, Jeanette; one son and two daughters. Although he is absent from the body, he is present with his Lord. We shall nonetheless miss him greatly as he was dearly loved by all.

Billie Louise Thomas

Billie Louise Thomas, 75, of Bokoshe, Oklahoma, passed away November 19, 2003, at Tulsa Regional Medical Center. Billie was born on July 16, 1928, in Poteau, Oklahoma, to William and Leeada (Callaway) Hitcher.

She married Lloyd Thomas in April 1947. Together they raised five children in Bountiful, Utah. Billie and Lloyd moved back home to Bokoshe in 1991.

Survivors include her husband, Lloyd; four daughters and sons-in-law, Sheila and Allen Olsen of Layton, Utah, Dawna and Mike Tate of West Valley, Utah, Paula and Lee Johanson of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Kris and John Silva of Bokoshe; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Shannon Thomas of Riverton, Utah; a sister, Tysia Faye Hitcher of Poteau; 15 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, two expected great-grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and loved ones, and a host of beloved friends.

Addie Moreno

Addie Moreno, 95, passed away November 19, 2003, at the Ar buckle Memorial Hospital, Sulphur, Oklahoma. She was born July 10, 1908, in Sulphur to Hugh and Seal (Sweeny) McDonald.

Addie attended Tuskahoma Indian School in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma, and Chilocco Indian School, Chilocco, Oklahoma. She loved her family and enjoyed playing Bingo, sewing and cooking. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Moreno; her parents; one brother, John; six sisters, Olie, Mollie, Lavada, Agness, Elisabeth, and Amanda, and one grandson, Johnny Tiger.

Survivors include three daughters, Frances Anderson and husband, Vernon; Mercy Haag and husband, Rolin, and Cecilia Castro; four sons, Lawrence Moreno and wife, Velma, Earl Vernon Moreno and wife, Angie, Curtis Ray Moreno, Eugene Moreno and wife, Tina; 24 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Billie June Duke

Billie June Duke, 75, of Indio passed away December 3, 2003, at Rancho Mirage. She was born May 8, 1928, in Hoyt, Oklahoma, to Hershel Eugene and Wilmuth Holder Totty. Her mother and grandmother were both original Choctaw enrollees.

She married Bobby G. Duke on August 22, 1949, in Van Buren, Arkansas.

Mrs. Duke retired from the First National Bank in Coachella after 36 years.

She was preceded in death by a son, Gordon Wayne Duke, in 1994. Survivors include her husband, Bobby G. Duke of Indio; son, S. Carlisle of Indio; two brothers, Eddie Totty of Blythe and Don Totty of Bixby, Oklahoma, and two grandchildren.

Adeline Samis

Adeline Samis, 78, of Soper, Oklahoma, passed away September 13, 2003, at the Choctaw Memorial Hospital in Hugo, Oklahoma. She was born October 23, 1924, in Pickets, Oklahoma, the daughter of William and Sissie (Hardy) Baker.

She lived most of her life in the Soper area. She was a Christian woman with a big heart and a willingness to help anyone who needed her. Being strong-willed and loving to her family and friends, she devoted her life to being a mother, homemaker, friend, and just loving all those around her. Her hobbies included fishing, quilting, baking, listening to gospel and Choctaw hymns.

Mrs. Samis survived many deaths of her loved ones - her parents; her husband, Edmond Samis; four sons, Alex Baker, Ed Wayne Samis, Dewayne Samis and Leroy Samis; one daughter, Linda Samis, and two grandchildren. Her faith in the Lord always brought her through her pain and she continued to stay strong.

She wasn't just a grandmother to her grandchildren - she was a very special person, known to many as "grandma." She'll be truly missed as a mother and a grandmother, but even more as an extraordinary woman as she takes her place with the Lord.

Survivors include two sons, Eddie Samis of Arkansas and Bill Paul Samis of Oklahoma City; three daughters, Dorothy Durant of Boswell, Oklahoma, Dorothy Gonzales of Sanleandro, California, and Juanita Bailey of Durant, Oklahoma; 12 grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.



Robert Clark Crowder

Robert Clark Crowder, 41, of Redding, California, passed away on September 8, 2003. He was born on January 8, 1962.

Robert was very proud of his Choctaw heritage. He and his family were learning the Choctaw language. His family made so many Choctaw crafts that anyone who walked into Robert's house knew a Choctaw Indian lived there.

Robert had a great love for his horses and his boat. He always made it a family deal. He was a good man who welcomed anyone into his home, night or day. He took in some of his nieces and nephews, and with kids all around him, put them through school and put them on the right track.

Survivors include his wife, Denise Crowder of Redding; one son, Robert Clark Crowder II; two daughters, Jennifer Crowder and Amanda Crowder; his mother, Johnnie Lou Ellen Flowers Crowder of Sacramento, California; three sisters, Janice Lee and Margie Ingerson, both of Sacramento, and Brenda Kay Bahr of Stockton, California; two brothers, William Crowder, Jr. of Mariposa, California, and Terry Crowder of Stockton, and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and many friends.

Josh Lee Bohanon

Josh Lee Bohanon, 66, of Oklahoma City passed away November 12, 2003, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He was born January 21, 1937, in Wewoka, Oklahoma, to Andrew Bohanon and Lois Mae Walker Bohanon.

John graduated from Wewoka High School in 1955 where he was an All State football player and served six years with the U.S. Army from 1960 through 1966. He married Judy Sullivan in 1974 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He went on to graduate from UCO in 1982 with a B.A. After working briefly as a licensed mortician, he then was employed at the Oklahoma Department of Human Services for 25 years before retiring in 1999. A true family man, he was a devoted husband and father and enjoyed spending time, laughing and joking with family and friends and cheering for his Oklahoma Sooners!

His father, Andrew Bohanon; brother, Webster Bohanon, and father-in-law, Jim Sullivan, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife of 29 years, Judy; twin sons, James Webster of Tulsa and Josh Lee II and his fiance, Amanda Ridenour, of Norman, Oklahoma; his mother, Lois Mae Bohanon of the home; sister, Andrewette "Sue" Wood of Edmond, Oklahoma; mother-in-law, Thelma Sullivan, of the home; an uncle, Bill Walker of Tuskahoma, Oklahoma; aunt, Viola Sullivan of Oklahoma City, nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends and loved ones who will miss him dearly.

David C. Chubbee

David C. Chubbee, 71, passed away June 5, 2002, in Oklahoma City. He was born on January 24, 1931, at Keota, Oklahoma, to Sampson Chubbee and Louise M. (McClure) Chubbee who were original enrollees.

David received elementary education at Keota Public School and graduated from Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kansas, in 1950. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, served 20 years in S-A-C and retired in 1972. He married Sallie Sue Windle Brown in Durant, Oklahoma, in 1979. They resided at Midwest City, Oklahoma, and Antlers, Oklahoma, at the time of his death. He was of the Baptist faith.

Preceding him in death were his parents and oldest brother, Rayson J. Billy.

Survivors include his wife, Sallie Chubbee; three stepchildren, John Wayne Brown, Susan Brown and Katrenia Brown, and most precious granddaughter, Ashley Lauren Brown, all of Midwest City; three sisters, Lila L. Wiggins of Muskogee, Oklahoma, Lucinda Morgan of Lubbock, Texas, and Mary Clay of Antlers, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Joe Ella (Hicks) Saenz

Joe Ella (Hicks) Saenz, 54, of Frederick, Oklahoma, passed away November 19, 2003, at Comanche County Memorial Hospital in Lawton, Oklahoma. She was born on January 6, 1949, in Watson, Oklahoma, to Jefferson G. and Lorancie (LeFlore) Hicks.

Joe Ella lived in Watson, Oklahoma, until moving to Frederick at the age of five. She attended Frederick schools. She married Benny Layja and the couple had two children. She later married Jerry Henry, Sr. She and Jerry had four children.

Joe Ella worked as a seamstress for over 30 years. Some of the places where she worked include Frybrant, Central Leather Goods and Show String Embroidery. Sewing was not only her occupation, but her passion. She also enjoyed traveling. She was a member of the Apostolic Faith Church most of her life, which her father helped build.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a brother, Joe Ray Hicks, Sr., and a sister, Pearlene Osborn.

Survivors include three daughters, Mary Klippstein and husband, Perry, of Houston, Texas, Ann Leyja of Frederick, Oklahoma, and Cindy Burleson and husband, Joe, of Frederick; three sons, Jerry Henry, Jr., and wife, Lesley, of Newport News, Virginia, Joe Allen Henry of Frederick and Houston, Texas, and Randell Wayne Henry of Seminole, Oklahoma, a special friend and companion; Mercy Flores of Frederick; brother, Eddie Joel Hicks of Frederick; two sisters, Vera Hudson and husband, Cordell, and Ann Fobb, all of Frederick; 11 grandchildren, and numerous nephews and nieces.

Joseph Frederick "Fred" Boatright

Fred Boatright, 91, passed away at his home in Fontana, California, on November 7, 2003. Fred was born April 20, 1912, in Cowlington, Oklahoma, to Joseph and Lou Emma Boatright.

Fred's career, where was known as "Joe," was wrapped around operating and maintaining heavy equipment, from the Panama Canal, to Kaiser Shipyards in Portland, Oregon, to the Army Corps of Engineers in Europe in WW2, and finally to Kaiser Steel in Fontana, California, in 1946. He retired from Kaiser Steel in 1975.

Fred was an active member of the Fontana Community Church, Boy Scout Troup I, Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, and the Al Malaikah Temple Shriners. He will be missed. His wife, Bernadine, and a son, Douglas, preceded Fred in death.

Survivors include a brother, Lester of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; a son, Ronald of Eureka, Montana; a daughter, Nancy of Corona, California; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws and numerous friends.

Cecil Jefferson

Cecil Jefferson, 67, of Smithville, Oklahoma passed away November 26



MaeBell Needham

MaeBell Needham, 97, of Quinton, Oklahoma, passed away November 16, 2003, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She was born February 25, 1906, in Brooken, Indian Territory, to Henry Bush and Elizabeth (Bacon) Bush, who was a full-blood Choctaw.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Ransom Needham; two daughters, Maureen Coffman and Janette Needham, and two sons, Tommy Joe Needham and Jerry Ray Needham.

Survivors include four daughters, Dorothy Louise Dodson and Vera Margaret Bearden, both of Eugene, Oregon, Edith Bernice Stoner of Enterprise, Oklahoma, and Margie Annis Culver of Inola, Oklahoma; four sons, John Henry Needham of Quinton, Leroy Needham of Eugene, Charles Boyd Needham of Enterprise, and Louis Doyle Needham of Perry, Oklahoma; a half-sister, Mary Ruth Maines of Springfield, Oregon; a half-brother, Jerry Bush of Bower, Oklahoma; 41 grandchildren, 92 great-grandchildren and 47 great-great-grandchildren.

Noah Wendel Thomas

Noah Wendel Thomas, 55, of Ardmore, Oklahoma, passed away December 10, 2003, at his residence. He was born March 18, 1948, in Talihina, Oklahoma, to Noah and Blanche Huffman Thomas.

Wendel was reared in Marshall County and attended Madill School. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War from 1967 to 1969. He loved the game of baseball and coached many little league baseball teams.

His mother, Blanche Huffman Thomas, preceded him in death. Survivors include his children, Charles R. Thomas, Clendon Stewart Thomas and Enid Clairece Huskins, all of Georgia, and Calem Mayo of Madill, Oklahoma; six grandchildren; his father, Noah Thomas of Ardmore; brothers, Charles Thomas of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, and Robert Thomas of Ardmore; sisters, Christine Woodruff of Mannsville, Oklahoma, and Betty Blancett and Pearl Downey, both of Ardmore, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Lawrence Lee Frazier

Lawrence Lee Frazier, 56, passed away Friday, December 5, 2003. He was born August 30, 1947, at Talihina, Oklahoma, to Solomon and the late Irene Leflore Frazier.

In his early childhood years, he lived at Honobia and Wright City area of Oklahoma. In the latter part of his childhood, his family relocated to Dallas, Texas, where he graduated from Dal-Tech High School in Dallas in 1965. He was in active duty with the U.S. Marines Corps from 1967-1971, where he served in Vietnam.

He married Nora Dean Thompson (previously of the Bogue Chitto Community) in 1977. After she passed away in 1980, he and his young daughter moved to Philadelphia, Mississippi, in 1982. He worked for Choctaw Housing Authority since March of 1984 as a maintenance worker then was promoted to Housing Inspector in later years and was employed by them at the time of his passing.

He married his friend and companion of seven years, Rita Faye Denson Wilson, on March 14, 2002, and made their home in the Pearl River Community of Choctaw, Mississippi.

Lawrence was a quiet man by nature but he enjoyed making jokes and having good laughs with people he was comfortable with, especially at work. He was one not to show his emotions to people but it was evident he liked and respected all of his co-workers. At home, he was wonderful with his grandchildren. He gave them love, encouragement and discipline when needed. They loved "Pa-Paw" very deeply and will miss him.

His mother, Irene Leflore Frazier, preceded him in death. Survivors include his wife, Rita; daughters, Nana Frazier and Alicia Ben of Choctaw; sons, Michael Zasmowich, Jr. of Plano, Texas, and Jay Wesley of Yuma, Arizona; father, Solomon Frazier of Bonham, Texas; sister, Shirley Zasmowich of Dallas; brothers, Luke and Doyce Frazier of Dallas, Wilkie Frazier, Sr. of Ada, Oklahoma and Bill Frazier of Texas; grandchildren, Alejandra, Tobiah, Treyton and Anastasia Ben and Lillie Steve of Choctaw, Leilani and Jocelyn "Momo" Wesley and Kaitlan Gibson of Yuma, and numerous nieces and nephews in Mississippi, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas, and many more relatives and friends.

Lloyd Hudson

Lloyd Hudson, 78, of Idabel, Oklahoma, passed away November 29, 2003, at McCurtain Memorial Hospital in Idabel. He was born August 27, 1925, in Smithville, Oklahoma, the son of Rufus and Sallie (McCoy) Hudson.

He was a member of the Nanih Chito Presbyterian Church in Smithville, Oklahoma, and enjoyed fishing, hunting, gospel singings and singing bass for the quartets. He was a lifetime resident of this community.

Lloyd chose to serve his country with the U.S. Army. His military tour of duty was from December 16, 1943, to December 23, 1946. He was a combat infantryman truck driver. Tech 5 Hudson's was with the U.S. Army Co. L 407th Infantry in the Rhineland, Central Europe. His decorations and citations include World War II Victory Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, EAME Theater Ribbon, two Bronze service stars and Army of Occupation Ribbon (Germany).

His parents; four brothers, Roosevelt, Andrew, Emory and Dixon, and two sisters, Mina and Stella Hudson, preceded him in death.

Survivors include one son, Lloyd Gene Hudson of Mississippi; three daughters, Annette Turner of Grannis, Arkansas, Sallie Maya of Batesville, Arkansas, and Nina Ahmed of Kansas City, Kansas; 19 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two nieces, Corinne Hudson and Wanda Leet of Smithville, and many more nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Freeman Russell Smith

Freeman Russell Smith, 83, passed away September 12, 2003. The son of Elmo and Stella Smith, he was a construction worker and traveled to different states before settling in Texas. He finished high school at Canadian, Oklahoma, and spent some time in the U.S. Navy. He loved horses and going on trail rides.

He was proud to be an Indian and he and his nieces would get together and try to find out all they could about their Indian relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Pauline Stumph; two brothers, Lee and H.D. Smith, and a nephew, Philip Stumph. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Beatrice (Owens) Smith; daughter, Judith Smith, and sons, Jerry and Mark Smith; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

