



BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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July 2002 Issue

Ribbon-cuttings symbolize tribe's economic growth



Choctaws open Modular Housing Plant in Stigler

The Choctaw Nation has celebrated the opening of the Modular Housing Manufacturing Plant in Stigler, Oklahoma. The 24,000-square-foot facility was funded by a \$550,000 HUD Rural Housing and Economic Development Grant, as well as tribal dollars. The primary benefit will be to provide affordable housing for Choctaws.

Secondary benefits include jobs, training for unskilled or semi-skilled Choctaws in the housing construction trade, and a positive economic impact for the Haskell County area.

The homes will range in size from a one-bedroom 750-square-foot house to a three-bedroom 1,250-foot house. A financing package

See **STIGLER** on Page 4



Choctaw Nation Fabricators housed in new facility

Teamwork was the key word at a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the move of Choctaw Nation Fabricators to a new facility north of Atoka.

"We can't express enough thanks to the City of Atoka," said District 10 Councilman E.J. Johnson. "If everyone hadn't worked together as a team, we wouldn't have this building."

The 20,000-square-foot building supplies ample manufacturing and office space. It sits on approximately one acre in the Atoka Industrial Park with a paved and fenced inventory yard.

See **ATOKA** on Page 4

CHAP extends to all 50 states

Chief Gregory E. Pyle is proud to announce that the Choctaw Homebuyers Advantage Program (CHAP) is now available in all 50 states.

This is a program that is available to Choctaw Tribal members living anywhere in the U.S. The advantage to the program is the tremendous assistance with the

down-payment of a home loan.

Through the CHAP program, eligible applicants will only need to have an up-front down-payment of 3%, and often as little as 1% down-payment. Loans can be made on construction of a home, purchase of an existing home, refinancing of current home or renovation of a home.

The program originally was available in Oklahoma only, then extended to eight states.

"It is a great benefit to Choctaw citizens to be able to obtain this low down-payment loan for their housing needs," said Chief Pyle. "It is wonderful to be able to offer services to tribal members that can enhance their lives."

Tribes' top students awarded



The importance of education was the focus of the quarterly meeting of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes as each tribe awarded scholarships to its top Johnson O'Malley students. The awards are based on academic achievement, activities and service to their communities.

The annual Louie LeFlore Inter-Tribal Scholarship was presented to Stacy Maynard of the Cherokee Nation.

Tiffany Miller and Leo Perry III were honored as the Choctaw Nation's top JOM students.

Tiffany, a graduate of Poteau High School, was a member of the National, Oklahoma and Oklahoma Indian Student Honor

See **STUDENTS** on Page 2

The Choctaw Nation's top JOM students for the 2001-02 school year are Tiffany Miller of Poteau and Leo Perry III of Stigler. The students were presented plaques by Choctaw Nation Inter-Tribal Council Members Loyce Bell, Randle Durant, Chief Gregory Pyle, Bertram Bobb and Bob Pate.

\$4 million allocated for scholarships

Over 2,000 students will be the recipients of Higher Education Scholarships next year, thanks to an allocation of \$4 million approved by the Choctaw Tribal Council during the July 13th session.

Among budgets for several crucial tribal programs approved was the Native American Caregiver Support Program budget. This program assists in providing support services for family caregivers and for grandparents or older individuals who are relative caregivers.

Other program budgets approved were:

- * Residential Program at Jones Academy
- * Administration on Aging
- * Title VI supplement
- * KEDDO matching dollars for Nutrition Program
- * NAGPRA, and
- * Kiamichi Area Nutrition Program.

See **COUNCIL** on Page 2

Mobile Wellness Center provides non-emergency care

A full-sized recreational vehicle has been specially outfitted and will be staffed by medical personnel to provide non-emergency care such as physical exams and health screenings. This service is provided to CDIB cardholders only.

Little Dixie business counselors will also staff the center and will provide business support and training for those seeking help developing a business plan, obtaining small business financing, advertising/marketing, creating a website, and other needs. Little Dixie business counselors will provide FREE assistance to CDIB and non-CDIB card-holders.

Please call 1-800-349-7026, ext. 7126 or 6675 for further information.

See
Schedule
on
Page 5



Youth Wellness Camps focus on developing healthy lifestyle

The Choctaw Nation and REACH 2010 sponsored two Youth Wellness Camps in June at the Choctaw Nation Tribal Grounds in Tuskahoma. The camps provided diabetes prevention education and motivated youth to develop a healthy lifestyle that will improve their health now and in the future.

The Latimer County Fire Department brought in a simulation trailer that they obtained in March of this year. The simulations included fire and tornado emergencies.

The youth were instructed on appropriate reactions to these situations, and informed on many other ways to protect themselves and others from injury at home.

Presentations on diabetes, nutrition, insulin pumps, obesity, sexual abuse prevention, fire safety and drug abuse prevention were also on the program.

The children participated in a nature walk, cultural dance and exercise fitness events. Subway provided lunch for the participants and sponsors.



Letters



Tribe responds to family's needs

Dear Tribal family,

I want to take just a moment to express to my Choctaw people my sincere thanks and appreciation for the help I have received from you to return to college. Without your help I would not be able to do this. Just over a year ago my wife was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and I was diagnosed with progressive arthritis due to old injuries. As my wife had always had the college education and I have always been in the construction industry the situation began to look bad for our future. We are both in our forties with a teenage son still in the home, with hopes of college as well. I needed to be retrained in something that would allow me to continue working into my older years and at home if need be to care for my wife should her condition become worse.

I had a love for computers so we decided that would be the best direction to apply our efforts. I want you to know that I have represented our tribe with pride. I was on the President's honor roll the first quarter and have been on the Vice President's honor roll every quarter since. I was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa honor society this last quarter and will be eligible to wear special cords and colors at graduation. I am proud to be Choctaw and to call you mine and to say I am yours. Again thanks to my Chief, Assistant Chief and the Choctaw people who have seen the need of my family and responded.

Marlon Jamison

Reader wants information

Dear Editor,

I am looking for a recipe called Mexican Fry Bread and a poem about how the rose got its thorns. The poem is about a pleasant wife and a bitter husband. When they passed on, a rose vine grew from her grave and a thorn vine grew from his and the vines intertwined.

I am also looking for the burial place of Salina Leman, wife of John Leman, and mother to Hudson and Sara Leman and grandmother to Leola Josephine Leman Long, my maternal grandmother. I am also looking for the burial place of Sara Leman, daughter of Salina and John Leman and for the burial place of Albert Kennedy, infant son of Ted and Maud Kennedy, who died at the age of one from choking on sugar cane. He was a full brother to Leola Josephine Leman Long and Alice Leman Weatherspoon and full brother to Louise Kennedy Brewer. The burial places are probably in the Idabel area in McCurtain County.

**Trish Dunn
RR 1 Box 617
Idabel, OK 74745**

Native American talent search

Dear Editor,

On the heels of a recent study that said Native Americans are virtually invisible on TV, CBS is making a bold move toward diversity: The Eye will sponsor a Native American acting showcase on October 9 in Los Angeles, with CBS execs and casting directors present to check out the talent. Aspiring thespians can submit headshots and resumes from August 12 to September 6 to: David Besbris, CBS Showcase Submission, c/o AFTRA, 5757 Wilshire Blvd., 9th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90036.

A special thank you

Dear Editor,

Our family would like to say a special thanks to the Chief and to so many of the employees at Choctaw Nation who helped after our house burned on June 17. All the kindness meant so much to us!

Sharon Brown and family

Fellowship was great at California gathering

Dear Chief Pyle, brothers and sisters,

I was able to attend the seventh annual California Choctaw Gathering on May 4 in Bakersfield. It was an honor and a privilege to march behind the Color Guard into the main circle to post the flag. I truly enjoyed seeing and listening to Chief Pyle, Bill Harrison and all of the Councilmembers as well as the dancers.

The fellowship was great, the food was outstanding and the weather was perfect.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you again next year in Choctaw Valley for the eighth annual Choctaw Gathering. Thank you!

**Gene Smith
Choctaw tribal member, Choctaw veteran and proud of it!
Lone Pine, California**

Researching ancestry

Dear Editor,

I am looking for any information on my grandfather and grandmother and their parents. My grandfather's name is Ed Bias. My grandmother's name is Mary Clearun Crenshaw Bias. She is Choctaw.

Also on my Grandfather and Grandmother Carson side, my grandfather was William Ross Carson and my grandmother was Carrie Maines Carson. She was Cherokee.

**Carrie Carson
243 Olive St.
Crescent City, California 95531**

Gregory E. Pyle <i>Chief</i>	The Official Monthly Publication of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	Mike Bailey <i>Assistant Chief</i>
Judy Allen, Editor Lisa Reed, Assistant Editor Vonna Shults, Special Assistant Brenda Wilson, Technical Assistant Kim Eberl, Webmaster Melissa Stevens, Circulation Manager		
P.O. Drawer 1210 Durant, OK 74702 (580) 924-8280 • (800) 522-6170 Fax (580) 924-4148 www.choctawnation.com e-mail: bishinik@choctawnation.com		
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SIPI offers many opportunities to Native American students

Dear Editor,

I am continually in the process of attempting to reach American Indian tribes and communities about the athletic opportunities in the sport of running that we offer here at Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute.

I honestly feel the accomplishments our student-athletes here at SIPI have achieved could be a source of inspiration and awareness to your readers. The opportunity also exists for those who may want to continue in the sport of running after high school to be aware of our excellent program.

SIPI can also provide a quality education at "no cost" to qualified American Indian tribal members regardless if they are involved in sports activities or not. This would include room and board, books and tuition.

The running program at SIPI was established in the fall of 1990. Since that time SIPI has won eight National Team Titles, eight National Runner-Up Team Titles, ten individual National Champion awards, and 43 All-American honors. The SIPI student-athletes have also been successful in the classroom. Fourteen runners from our program have been awarded Academic All-American honors while five teams have been bestowed this honor as well.

SIPI, which is located in beautiful Albuquerque, New Mexico, is an NCA accredited two-year institution that offers AAS degrees in both technical and vocational training, as well as AA degrees in Liberal Arts. It is the mission of SIPI, a National Indian Community College, "to provide quality technical and higher education opportunities that meet the dynamic needs of federally recognized tribes."

For more information about SIPI's athletic program please contact Coach Michael Daney at 505-346-2336. For general information about SIPI please call 1-800-586-7474.

Coach Mike Daney



Assistant Chief Mike Bailey accepts a framed photo and card of appreciation from Gary Shaw for his son, Eric Shaw, a member of Antlers FFA.

Student appreciates donation

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Thank you for your donation at our Junior Livestock Show and Sale, March 9, on my champion Brangus heifer that we raised here at Show Brangus. The following week, CSB Miss Pepperline 009 was second in her class and reserve champion senior division Brangus heifer at Oklahoma City.

**Eric Shaw
Antlers FFA**

Blood Institute holds appreciation dinner at Choctaw Inn in Durant

Dear Chief Pyle,

The Southern Oklahoma Blood Institute held its Annual Drive Coordinator's Appreciation Dinner at your Choctaw Inn Banquet Room in Durant on Monday, May 6. This was the first time I had the opportunity to use your facility and just wanted you to know how pleased I was with the service, the room and the staff. My bosses from Ardmore and Oklahoma City were also very complimentary of your employees and the Choctaw Inn.

Laura Noland and Reynella Powell were great to work with when planning the banquet and the meal was excellent, as well as those who served it! There were over 75 individuals who host blood drives from McCurtain, Bryan and Choctaw counties in attendance and I received nothing but compliments on your facility and staff. Both Freda Nixon and Anita Parker-Cox attended and represented your tribe well.

Thank you for all the Choctaw Nation does for the Oklahoma Blood Institute and the state's blood supply!

**Lou Ann Scott
Blood Program Consultant**

"Buy USA – Buy Native American"

Dear Editor,

Serving as this year's president of the Indian Arts & Crafts Association has given me the opportunity to serve a very diversified group of people who have a great devotion to and interest in authentic Indian art. As all involved in the Indian art community recognize, the issue of protecting and promoting authenticity is of increasing importance and a prime goal of the IACA.

This is even more important as we see an exciting resurgence in the interest in Indian arts and crafts. From California to New York and Florida, IACA members, who comprise some of the major dealers of Indian arts and crafts in the country, are enthusiastic about the new trend in contemporary fashion to use turquoise jewelry as a main accessory. The 2002 Swimsuit issue of Sports Illustrated, for instance, features its models wearing Indian jewelry. This renewed interest in turquoise can only be beneficial for the Indian arts and crafts industry as a whole.

In addition, given the events of the past year and the new patriotism that has engulfed our nation, many artisans are employing patriotic themes in their work. I myself am bringing a lot of blue, red and white into my latest creations. I use lapis (blue) from New York, coral (red) from Utah and pearl (white) from Mississippi – all domestic stones.

While traditional Indian arts and crafts themes have been carried down through generations of families and various tribes, contemporary Indian arts and crafts changes by the minute. That's why wholesalers, retailers and collectors should attend as many shows as possible to stock up their inventories with the latest items and learn the newest trends. We encourage the use of the motto, "Buy USA – Buy Native American."

When making a purchase of any kind – not just Indian art – have the sales put in writing what you are buying, the material used and who the artist or craft person is (name and tribal affiliation). Most reputable dealers will have this information. If they do not want to put it in writing, beware!

George Willis



Student pursuing career in veterinary medicine

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would sincerely like to thank the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Chief Gregory E. Pyle for helping me over the last four years of my college education. I graduated May 11 with a Bachelor of Science, a degree in biological science at

Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

I will be pursuing the next few years in veterinary medicine at Missouri University in Columbia, Missouri.

Thanks for all the support of my family – my brother, Jason Franklin and wife, Jill; my parents, Marilyn O'Dell and Herbert Franklin, both of Tulsa; my grandparents, Melvina Bratton of Collinsville, Robert Bratton of Claremore and Joan Franklin of Tulsa, and my great-grandmother, Estelle McAfee of Tulsa, an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation.

**Eric Steven Franklin
Stillwater, Oklahoma**

Home is renovated for elderly couple

Dear Chief Pyle,

We want to thank you for the renovation of our home. Also to all of the workers and the ones who handled our case. It is nice the way the bath was made elderly friendly.

We appreciate the quick and friendly service, once they got started.

More power to you and the Choctaw people for the good work you are doing. God bless.

**Paul and Helen Norris
Clayton, Oklahoma**

Tribe helps with trip

Dear Editor,

Kiamichi Opportunities of Hugo and Antlers would like to thank Chief Greg Pyle and Councilman Perry Thompson for providing transportation for our clients' vacation to San Antonio, Texas.

Twenty-three clients were able to go to Sea World and the Alamo, among many other things, because of the generosity of the Choctaw Nation and the hard work of Choctaw Nation staff.

Special thanks to Janie Dillard for her efforts in making all the arrangements.

Council continued from Page 1

The Council approved a Tribal Match of \$25,000 for four vehicles. The Department of Justice will pay an additional \$75,000 toward the purchase of the vehicles.

Authorization was given for \$134,760 from the Gaming Fund as additional funds for the Choctaw Nation Supplemental Youth Program.

Councilmembers made a formal request that the BIA place property in Atoka County in Trust Status in order for the tribe to receive full benefits of legal status for economic development activities.

Approval was given to hold an auction July 27th at 10:00 a.m. to disburse surplus equipment at the old hospital in Talihiina.

Establishment of a governing board and by-laws for the Choctaw Nation Recovery Center and Chi Hullo Li were approved.

Students continued from Page 1

Societies, the Superintendent's Honor Roll and Who's Who Among American High School Students. A member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Tiffany served as Captain of the varsity basketball team and was a regional qualifier in track. She was also a member of advanced chorus, marching band, concert band, color guard and BREATHE, a stop-smoking campaign. Tiffany has been of great service to her community with activities such as singing with the community choir, teaching Sunday school and volunteering at a local nursing home.

Leo graduated from Stigler High School. He was a member of the Stanford University Quest Scholars Program, a National Merit Scholar Finalist, and a National Presidential Scholars Nominee. He performed with the All State Band and the Honors Band and served as Captain of the Academic Team. Leo also was a member of the Speech Team, was Section Leader in Band, Team Leader of the Mock Trial Team and a member of the Technology Student Association.

His community involvement includes working at his local church congregation, tutoring students, voter registration assistance and organizing, implementing and participating in a student-led community service club.

Both are striving for excellent goals in life. Tiffany plans to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University before attending the University of Oklahoma School of Pharmacy. She would like to work at the Rubin White Health Clinic in Poteau helping Native American people. Leo plans to pursue a career as a professor at a university where he can teach young people and do research in the field of science.

Also chosen were Cherokee students Sasha Blackbox and Shilo Roberts, Chickasaw students Kimberly Johnson and Cody Crites and Creek students Jonathon Hadley and Elsa Frazier.

The Inter-Tribal Council addressed three resolutions during the meeting:

- to establish a committee within the Inter-Tribal Council to address issues regarding the Trail of Tears National Historical Trail
- to show support for the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority, and
- to support the creation of a website for the Inter-Tribal Council.

The website, expected to be accessible by September, is planned to be located at www.FiveCivilizedTribes.org.

Choctaw Nation GED CLASSES

Haskell County

Beginning July 31, 2002

Mondays & Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**Choctaw Nation Community Center
in Stigler, Oklahoma**

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

From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Summer Youth Program has record 1,078 employed

The Choctaw Nation set a record this summer with the number of youth who were employed. There were 1,078 youth, ages 14 to 21, who were employed for summer jobs and paid from the tribal Summer Youth Program. 318 of these were federally funded positions, but the majority were funded with tribal dollars. A total of 760 young people were able to have a summer job because of money allocated by the tribe. In fact, \$1,034,000 of tribal dollars were spent on employment in the Summer Youth Program.

The Choctaw Nation Summer Youth Program has been recognized at the national level for the proven leadership and exemplary results. The tribe was awarded the Outstanding Performance Award for 2001, presented last year at the National Conference for Indian and Native American



Job Training Partnership Act. According to reports from Summer Youth Program staff, this year's program is even more successful.

The Tribal Council realizes that many of the students employed through the program use their salaries to purchase school clothing and supplies. These summer jobs may be the only reliable income that many students

have.

There were 541 different work sites this year. Broken down by counties, you can see what a tremendous effect the program had in towns across the Choctaw Nation. Atoka/Coal - 104 participants at 60 work sites; Bryan - 152 participants at 68 work sites; Choctaw/West McCurtain - 143 participants at 48 work sites; Haskell/North LeFlore - 89 participants at 59 work sites; Latimer/Central LeFlore - 92 participants at 75 work sites; South LeFlore - 107 participants at 51 work sites; McCurtain - 166 participants at 75 work sites; Pittsburg - 128 participants at 55 work sites; Pushmataha - 97 participants at 50 work sites.

The Council and I are thankful that the tribe is able to fund programs that have such a positive impact on the lives of Choctaw youth.



Summer Youth participants gather for a trip to Six Flags Over Texas sponsored by the Choctaw Nation. This year, the youth were separated into three groups, taken on different days. Pictured with Councilman Perry Thompson and Chief Gregory E. Pyle are the Summer Youth employed in Choctaw, Pushmataha and McCurtain counties. Summer Youth Director Patty Mink and staff go along on each trip to ensure a safe and happy time for all the kids.

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

Annual Labor Day Festival to be enjoyed

The Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival is just around the corner. The Council, Chief and I all look forward to spending the weekend on our Tribal Capitol Grounds and visiting with all of the Choctaws who come to enjoy the festivities.

The weekend is an excellent opportunity to learn about the history of the Choctaws. The very name "Tushka Homma" means RED WARRIOR. The Capitol Building, constructed in 1884, will be open all weekend so that visitors can tour the courtroom and museum that are housed inside. A gift shop is also in the building.

I encourage everyone who comes to the grounds to go by the beautiful veterans memorial that stands just inside the main entrance of the grounds. The larger granite monument bears the names of Choctaws who were killed in action during WWI, WWII, Korean War and the Vietnam War. The other monument is inscribed with the names of the 18 men who

served in the first world war as Choctaw Code Talkers – the first tribal people to ever use their native language as a "code" to fool the enemy.

Activities such as ceremonial dancing and stickball exhibitions during the festival are other ways you and your family can experience a part of our great past. Concerts during the weekend feature some of the most famous stars of country music. The legendary George Jones, along with Brian Gowan and Charlie Robison, will be at the amphitheater on Friday night, and Clay Walker is the headliner for Saturday night. The All-Night Gospel Singing on Sunday has a lineup of wonderful musicians and vocalists beginning at 2:30 in the afternoon, and featuring The Crabb Family during the evening hours.

Attractions such as the carnival, food vendors, arts and crafts pavilion and the swimming pool will be open at designated hours



throughout the four-day weekend. Fast Pitch ball games begin on Friday evening, volleyball and basketball will be Saturday, and the Horse-Shoe Pitch and 5 Km run will also be on Saturday.

Many families consider this weekend an annual "reunion" with their Choctaw family. The weekend is full of family oriented fun, and focuses on a safe, drug free environment. I hope to see you there.

Book ready for publishers

The fourth in the Choctaw Nation's wonderful collector's series of five children's books is now at the publishers. It is a must-have for your collection. The book will be back from the press and ready for delivery the first week of August.

"The Stomachache Tree" was written by Mary M. Frye, translated by Henry J. Willis and illustrated by Norma Howard. Editor-in-chief is Joy Culbreath.

The book can be purchased for \$20 plus shipping from the Choctaw Crafts & Books Store, P.O. Box 668, Durant, OK 74702, 580-931-9144 or toll-free 888-932-9199. Place your order now and be one of the first to receive "The Stomachache Tree."

All required documents must be on file before issuing a CDIB

If you have applied for a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) for your children or grandchildren, or if you have lost your card and we do not have all the information that is required, you will receive a letter requesting all required documents that are not in your file.

Please do not wait until you need a CDIB for other family members. Apply for them as soon as they are born. It seems that if you are in a hurry, then there will be several documents that we must request from you and this certainly slows down processing time on both sides.

Please check to be sure that every Choctaw in your family has a CDIB (federal government card) and a Tribal Membership Card (issued by the tribe).

If you have any questions, or if we can be of assistance, please contact us at 580-924-8280 or toll-free at 1-800-522-6170, extensions 2205, 2214, 2223, 2231, 2261, 2289, 2298, 2323, 2330, 2242 or 2291.



Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

We celebrated freedom, Independence Day, on July 4th. We can celebrate praising God for another freedom He has given to us. We study of this freedom today. All of us are slaves to sin and spiritually dead – unless we have been born again. We can be set free from the penalty and power of sin by prayerfully asking Jesus Christ to become our Liberator.

Now, what is sin? Our study is the "Beginning of Sin" found in Genesis 3:1: "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, yea, hath God said, ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

The first two chapters of Genesis declare truth which only Satan and his followers doubt. When we come to the first verse in Genesis 3, we meet with a question, and I don't believe we ought to be surprised, when we realize who it is that is speaking. It is none other than the serpent. Satan incarnated in the most beautiful beast of the field which God had made. It is Satan who casts the first doubt upon the Word of God. Notice how clever he does this to gain the ear of Eve. Satan is the great deceiver. He came in the body of a beautiful animal, walking with pride and dignity and with the power of speech.

Notice how Satan twists God's Word to gain Eve's mind and then he gives a wrong idea of God. He says, "Yea, hath God said, ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Satan claims that God is unfair in not allowing Adam and Eve to eat of all the trees, because God had forbidden them to eat of one tree.

Notice carefully the answer that Eve gave. In this answer we have the beginning and character of all sin. Most people think of sin as only an act rather than an attitude. It is generally believed that Eve sinned first when she ate of the tree which God had forbidden them to eat. This is not true.

Eve's first sin was committed before that when she believed Satan instead of God. When she believed that God was unfair in not allowing her to eat of all the trees. Even the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. That was the root of her sin, and the act of taking of the fruit was only the natural result of her questioning the word of God. She is not just an act but an attitude toward God. The act is that which only man sees. God sees both the appearance, but God looketh on the heart.

We think of murder as sin, but the Bible says, "He that hateth his brother is a murderer." We think of immoral acts as sin, but Jesus said it is more – "He that looketh upon a woman to lust after her hath already committed adultery in his heart." Stealing is an outward sin but it is covetousness or greed in the heart which causes it. Sin then is not only in the hand that takes the forbidden fruit but also in the heart which does not believe God's Word.

Eve first sinned when she doubted God's Word and listened to Satan. Notice what Eve said

to the serpent in Genesis #2-3: "And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die."

Right there Eve fell, and the eating of the fruit was only the result of this first sin. The first sin of Eve was doubting God's character, and the next thing was lying. Eve was a liar. Before she was a liar she was an unbeliever. How did Eve lie? What Eve quoted God as saying was not the truth. God has said in Genesis 2:16-17: "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

Compare that with Eve's statement, "Ye shall not eat of it, lest ye die." God said, "Thou shalt surely die." There is a great difference in these two statements.

As we look closely at the statement of Eve we find that she made three mistakes. This leads to great danger. First, she added something to God's Word, "neither shall ye touch it." God had said that ye shall not eat of it. He said nothing about touching. That was Eve's own interpretation.

Second, she changed something in the Word of God. She changed the certain death to just a possibility of death by saying, "Lest ye die," instead of "Thou shalt surely die." And finally, she left out the most important part of God's Word, "surely." God had said, "Thou shalt surely die." From there on the rest was easy, Satan had convinced her that she wouldn't really die. The record goes on to say that she looked at the tree, desired it, and ate of it, and fell and found that in spite of her own interpretation of what

God meant, it still was true and she died – spiritually. Her fellowship with God was finished until God acted.

In this record, Eve acted the part of a modern unbeliever. Here is where unbelief begins and it always follows the same course. The Bible alone must remain our sole authority for faith or we shall find ourselves where Eve began. Sooner or later it is found, with this type of interpretation, the Bible plus this or that, that there are some Scriptures which cannot even be twisted enough to back up the interpretations, and then there is only one thing left to do, get rid of those parts of the Bible, which does not fit in with those ideas. Before long most of the Bible is left out. This is the beginning of modern day liberalism, which began in the Garden of Eden by Eve.

Notice the enemy, Satan, quickly detects Eve's weakness and gives the reply in Genesis 3:4-5: "And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

The methods of Satan worked so well on Eve he has never changed it. If ever there was a time and need for preaching on this view of sin, it is today when man boasts of their goodness and self-righteousness, and because they live outwardly good and moral lives, deceive themselves into thinking they are not sinners, and do not need a Savior. But once we look at sin as God sees it, as both inward and outward, we can agree we need the cleansing blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. We experience spiritual freedom as we accept His gift of forgiveness and then offer ourselves slaves to God (Romans 6:22).

Pray for America, President George W. Bush and his staff. Pray for the Native Americans and their leaders.



Brandon Spears, Choctaw Nation Agriculture, and Roy Hedge, Jones Academy 4-H student.

Jones Academy student captures honors at World's Largest Jr. Livestock Show

Jones Academy student Roy Hedge won honors at the World's Largest 4-H and FFA Jr. Livestock Show held March 11-16 in Oklahoma City. Roy exhibited the second-place medium-weight Chester White barrow. His barrow was selected as first alternate Chester White for premium sale auction. This honor represents that Roy exhibited the third best Chester White barrow in the State of Oklahoma. He also won the super showmanship award in his class.

The Chester White barrow was bred and raised at Jones Academy.



The 2000 State Champion FFA Livestock judging team from El Reno, Oklahoma, their FFA advisor, Bobby Listen, and Brandon Spears, Choctaw Nation Agriculture.

Jones Academy hosts Livestock Judging Team Work-Out Day

Jones Academy hosted a livestock judging team work-out day. The work-out was held at the Jones Academy swine barn on April 12. Top high school teams throughout the state used the work-out to polish their skills prior to the state contest held at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

ACT Workshop

Sponsored by: The Choctaw Nation

Given by: Chad Cargill

8 a.m. to 12 noon

Thursday, September 5, 2002

in the

Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center

Broken Bow, Oklahoma

For any Choctaw students in grades 11 and 12 wanting to raise their ACT score.

Do you need a few extra points on your ACT to win certain scholarships? Or maybe you are a few points away from qualifying to get into college. Then this workshop is for you! This workshop is a practical hands-on instruction session developed by Chad Cargill. Chad recently graduated from Oklahoma State with a degree in industrial engineering. While in high school, Chad took the ACT 18 times and raised his score from a 19 to a 32. This workshop is packed full of relevant, practical information on how to increase your ACT score as he did.

Free to Choctaw students who have a CDIB card.

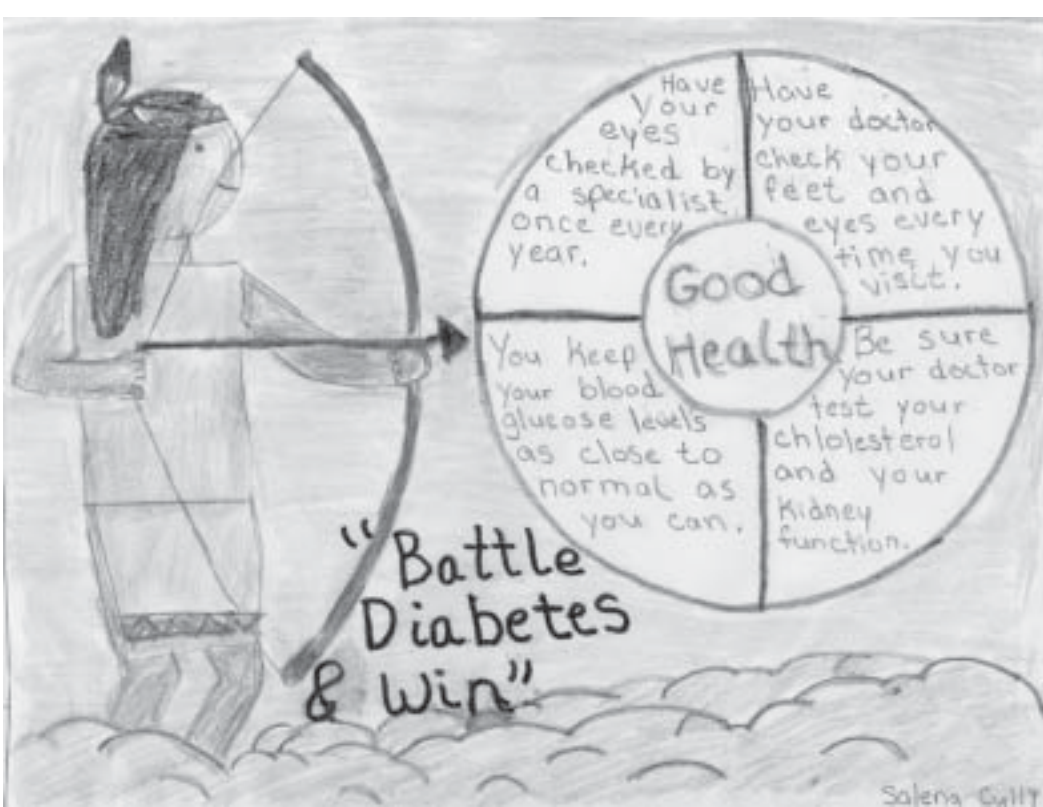
Students must register by August 30, 2002 with their high school counselor or by calling the Choctaw Nation Higher Education Program at 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2294.



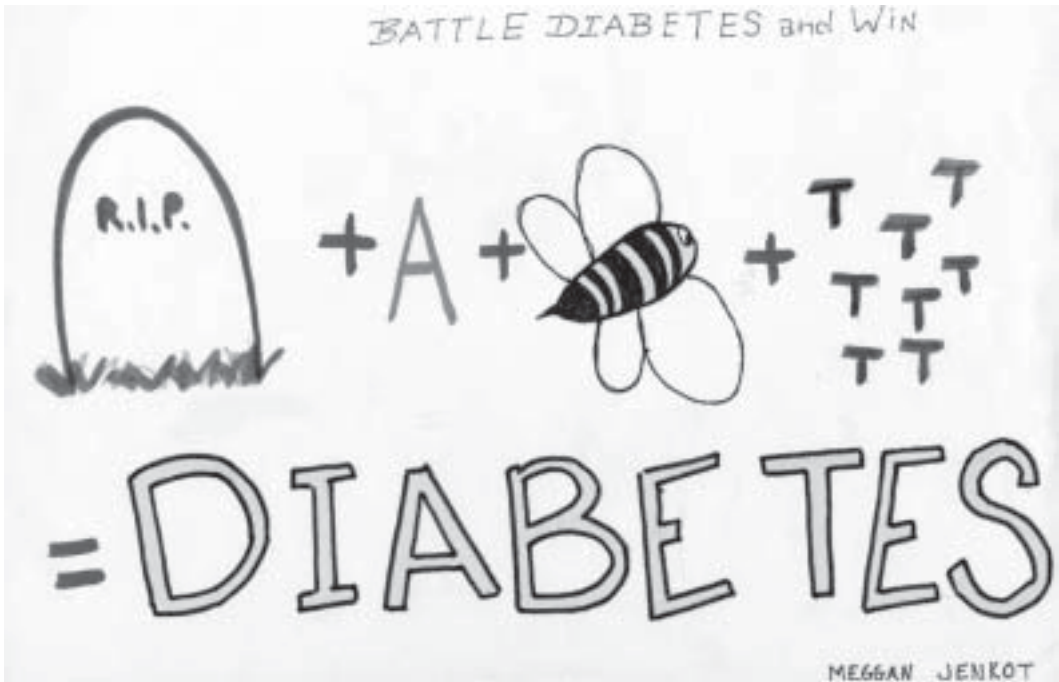
FIRST PLACE (Kindergarten through 3rd Grade): McCall Caraway, 3rd grade, Hugo, Oklahoma

Youth join fight against diabetes

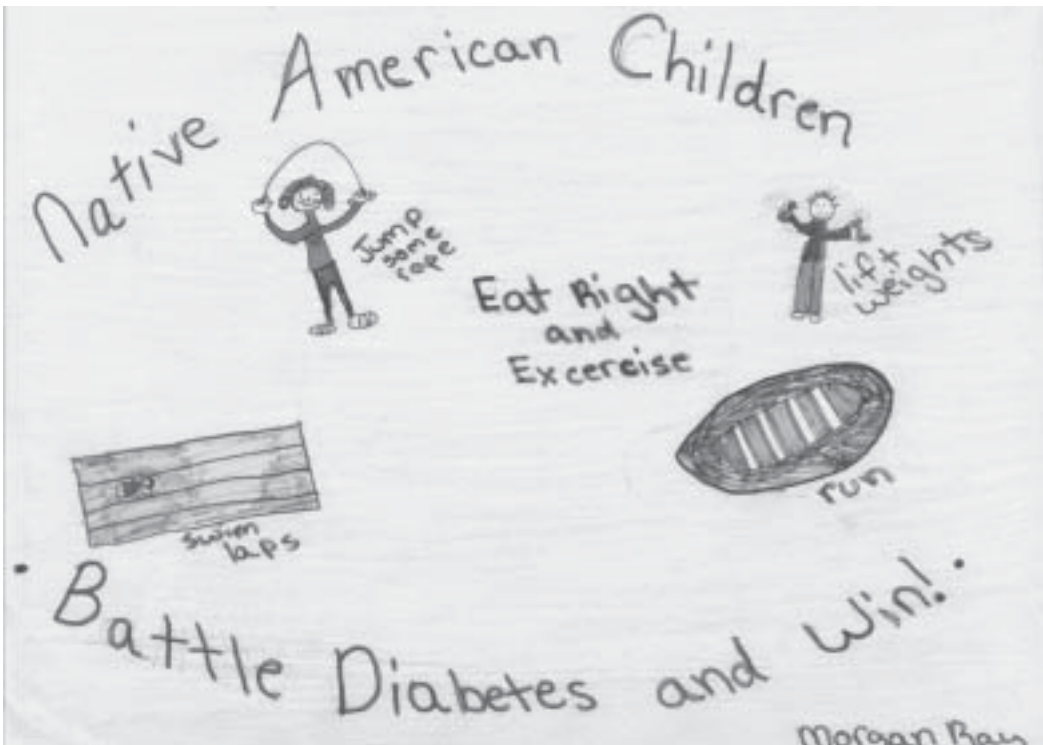
Students in the Choctaw Nation drew up to the battle lines in a recent poster contest held to further knowledge of diabetes. Over 100 drawings were submitted in four categories. The top winners pictured here will be used to make posters that will be distributed and displayed throughout the Choctaw Nation. A series of the drawings entered in the contest will be featured in future issues of the BISHINIK.



FIRST PLACE (7th through 9th grade): Salena Cully, 8th grade, Wright City, Oklahoma



FIRST PLACE (10th through 12th grade): Meggan Jenkot, 12th grade, Hugo, Oklahoma



FIRST PLACE (4th through 6th grade): Morgan Ray, 6th grade, Hugo, Oklahoma

Stigler continued from Page 1



Councilmembers Charlotte Jackson and James Frazier each have a modular home construction facility in their districts, Stigler and Coalgate.

is available through the Choctaw Housing Authority that can include site cost, home purchase, land development, delivery and setup costs for those who qualify.

“The Choctaw Nation is proud to create these employment opportunities,” said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. “This is just one more example of the commitment and caring of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council.”

The Stigler Modular Home Plant is one of several Choctaw projects completed in recent years.

In 1999, a beautiful Head Start/Day Care Center was opened southeast of Stigler to enhance the educational opportunities for not only Choctaw youth, but for other children in the area as well.

Senior citizens have a special program just for them. A weekly



Modular homes can be one-, two- or three-bedroom houses. The home being toured at the grand opening of the Stigler plant was a three-bedroom, two-bath.

meal is provided to Choctaw Senior Citizens at the Community Center in Stigler which was expanded a couple of years ago.

Field trips and holiday celebrations are a special part of this Senior Citizen program.

Councilmember Charlotte Jackson said plans for the future of Stigler include a wellness clinic.

Choctaw Nation WIC



Serving the Choctaw Nation at 14 sites

SITE	PHONE	HOURS	DAYS
Antlers	580-298-3161	8:30-4:00	Tuesdays
Atoka	580-889-5825	8:00-4:30	1st, 3rd & 4th Wed, every Thursday
Bethel	580-241-5458	8:30-4:00	1st & 3rd Tuesday
Boswell	580-566-2243	8:30-4:00	1st & 2nd Friday
Broken Bow	580-584-2746	8:30-4:00	2nd & 4th Tues., every Wed. & Thurs.
Coalgate	580-927-3641	8:30-4:00	2nd Wednesday
Durant	580-924-8280 x 2255	8:00-4:30	Daily
Hugo	580-326-5404	8:00-4:30	Mon., Wed., Thurs, & 3rd & 4th Fri.
Idabel	580-286-2510	8:00-4:30	Monday and Friday
McAlester	918-423-6335	8:00-4:30	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Poteau	918-647-4585	8:00-4:30	Daily
Stigler	918-967-4211	8:30-4:00	1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesday
Talihina	918-567-7000 x 6792	8:00-4:30	Tuesday and Wednesday
Wilburton	918-465-5641	8:30-4:00	Mondays

Call today for an appointment

Atoka continued from Page 1

The City of Atoka constructed the building to meet the growth and expansion needs of the tribal business which at present has 15 employees.

Chief Gregory E. Pyle commended the team effort of Atoka and Choctaw Nation officials and complimented the city’s industrial park which is situated off Hwy. 75N.

“What does industry want?” Chief Pyle asked. “You have it right here – a great facility on a major road with the support of the city.”

Choctaw Nation Fabricators manufactures auger drilling tools and accessories used in construction of roads, bridges and buildings. Most of the work is sub-contracted through Reedrill, a manufacturer of mining and construction drilling equipment. The plant in Atoka has the ability to manufacture augers up to 12 feet long.

“Any great venture is the result of every key feature,” said Allen Walker of Reedrill. “Our next level of commitment is to fill this facility.”

The Choctaw Nation is also building two new travel plazas in Atoka County. Both are situated on Hwy 75 – one in Atoka and one in Stringtown next to the Three Arrows restaurant.



Reedrill representative Allen Walker, center, presents a plaque to Chief Gregory Pyle honoring the growing partnership between the tribe and Reedrill. Joining in the presentation are Plant Manager Jack Frost, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey and Robert Frost, Reedrill.



Row upon of row of shiny new augers are ready for distribution.



Wheelock Spring Festival

Wheelock alumni honored during the annual Spring Festival May 26 are Louise Willis Ray, Juanita Johnson Jacob, Mary Louise Robinson, Dona Ward, Evelyn Taylor, Helen Wilson Burton, Tina Fields, Florence McClure Phalding, Isabel McClure Clampet, Pearlyne Ludlow Corns and Laura Carney. Not pictured: Christina Ludlow.



The annual Wheelock Spring Festival began with an outdoor church service conducted by the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Chaplain of the Choctaw Nation, with music from the Gospel Trip-A-Lets. Singing sisters Kayla, Kim and Kandace Hobbs are associated with Felker Church, north of Valliant, and White Sands Church, northwest of Valliant.



District 4 Little Miss and Jr. Miss

District 4 held its Princess Pageant on Saturday, June 1, in the Choctaw Family Investment Center at Poteau. Sixty people attended the event.

Emily Sue Zanne Morgan, daughter of Kimberly Merryman of Poteau and Charles Dale Morgan of Talihina, won first place in the Little Miss Division. She is an honor roll student and in the gifted and talented program at Poteau Public School. Emily is a trained peer mediator for the third grade students. In January, she was awarded the Student of the Month award and she was also chosen as the Kiwanis Student of the Year.

Leslie Renee Johnson, the daughter of Roy and Regina Johnson of Panama, won first place in the Junior Miss Division.

The pageant received donations from Central National Bank and Superior Bank of Poteau, Christie Peters of the Pocola Gaming Center, and Mike Cox from Mike's Country Corner at Summerfield, Oklahoma. Judges were Juanita Jefferson of Talihina, Billy Paul Baker of Bethel and Charlotte Jackson of Keota. Thanks to everyone who helped make this event a success.

TRIBAL FOSTER HOMES NEEDED

The Choctaw Nation Children & Family Services is in need of tribal foster homes for our children in need. Family must be of native descent and be able to pass a home study/safety home check, criminal background checks, and financially be able to maintain household.

The Choctaw Nation Children & Family Services is committed to keeping native children with their heritage and traditions.

If interested, contact Angela Dancer at 580-326-3363 or Billy Stephens at 800-522-6170.

NOTICE

Anyone with the knowledge of the heirs or the whereabouts of the heirs of Wilburn Palmer (at least 1/2 blood Choctaw), deceased, the whereabouts of Dolly Miller (at least 1/2 blood Choctaw), Kelly Vanvalkenberg (at least 1/2 blood Choctaw) and Barbara Ann Wallace (at least 1/2 blood Choctaw), as it pertains to certain mineral interests in Haskell County, Oklahoma, are hereby given notice to contact Shelley Roberts, c/o Millennium Land, Inc., 3240 W. Britton Road, Suite 201, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73120 or (405) 752-0665.

Attention ALL FORMER PRINCESSES

We are looking for information and pictures on all previous Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Princesses – Sr. Miss, Jr. Miss and Little Miss. It doesn't matter what year you reigned as princess. We would like to know your name at the time you were nominated, age, talent, hobbies, accomplishments in and outside of school before becoming princess, school attended and grade at time nominated, parents' name, district and town lived in at that time. Please send picture of princess at the time chosen.

If you would like your photo returned place your name and address on the back.

Send all information to: Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Attention: Brenda Wilson P.O. Box 1210 Durant, OK 74702 or if you need more information call Brenda at 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2138.

A special thanks to those who have sent their information in.

**42nd Annual
Singing
Saturday,
August 3
at
Spring Hill
Presbyterian Church
Honobia, Oklahoma
Starts at 7:30 p.m.
Supper served
at midnight**



Veterans attending the Wheelock festival are, front row, Charles Fields, Melvin Gaines, Florence McClure Spalding, Roberta Williams, Wayne Westbrook and Bertram Bobb; second row, Tom Williston, Sinaklin Forbit, Truman Jefferson, Richard Adams and Euel Kelly; third row, Randall Watson, Lance Tyler, Randall Swink and Buck Irwin, and back row, R.J. Frazier and John Epperson.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 Stigler 9-2 Coalgate 9-10:30 Atoka 12-2	2 Wilburton 9-12 Broken Bow 9-2	3
4	5 Bethel 9-10:30 Smithville 12-2	6	7 Talihina 9-12	8	9 Poteau (A-H) 9-2	10
11	12	13 Poteau (I-P) 9-2	14	15 Wright City 9-10:30 Hugo 12-2	16	17
18	19 Poteau (Q-Z) 9-2	20	21 Idabel 9-12	22	23	24
25	26 Closed Inventory	27 Closed Inventory	28 Closed Inventory	29	30	31

Food Distribution Sites

ANTLERS – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 200 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.

WILBURTON – Choctaw Community Building.

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 Dis-

tribution Office at 580-924-7773 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.



Durant's Senior Citizens Center honored Bryan County area veterans June 12. Pictured are J.R. Croley, Anna Dewett, John Doxide, Rex Mitchell, Troy Keithley, Truman Heron, Robert Mike Ralls, F.T. Dewett and Billy Gardner. Veterans honored but not able to attend the event are Clayborn Elix, Ted Dosh, Ottis Wesley, Jeremiah LeFlore, Paul Price and LeRoy F. Ray.

WELLNESS CENTER SCHEDULE

August - September 2002

Date	9:30-12 noon	1-3 p.m.
August 1	Haworth - Main Street	Idabel - Choctaw Community Ctr
August 6	Stringtown - Hwy. 69, Restaurant	Daisy - Hwy 43, Store
August 8	Bokchito - Hwy 70, Store	Caney - Main Street
August 13	Harshorne - Library	Kiowa - Main Street
August 16	Stuart - Hwy 31A & 270 Jct	Calvin - Hwy 270, Store
August 20	Stigler - Choctaw Community Ctr	Cowlington - Main Street
August 23	Indianola - Hwy 113, Store	Savanna - Main Street
August 27	Rattan - Hwy 3 & 93 Jct	Ft. Towson - Hwy 70, Store
August 29	Wright City - Choctaw Community Ctr	Valliant - Hwy 70, near railroad
September 3	Bennington - Hwy 70E	Boswell - Hwy 70, west end of town
September 5	Broken Bow - Choctaw Community Ctr	Eagletown - Main Street
September 10	Buffalo Valley - Hwy 2 & 63 Jct, Store	Red Oak - Hwy 270 Store
September 13	Crowder - Choctaw Community Ctr	Krebs - Hwy 270
September 17	Heavener - Hwy 59	Wister - Hwy 270
September 20	Bokoshe - Main Street	McCurtain - Main Street
September 24	Tupelo - Main Street	Coalgate - Choctaw Community Ctr
September 26	Caddo - Main Street	Caney - Main Street

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AUGUST				1	2 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	3
4	5	6 Durant 10-12 noon	7 McAlester 10 am-2 pm Stigler by appt. only	8	9	10
11	12 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	13 Broken Bow 9:30 am-2 pm	14 Coalgate 10 am-2 pm	15	16 Poteau 11 am-1:30 pm	17
18	19 Antlers 1-3:30 pm	20 Durant by appt only	21 McAlester by appt only	22	23 Wright City 9:30 am-2 pm	24
25	26 Bethel by appt only	27 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm	28 Atoka 10 am-2 pm	29	30	31

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

People You Know



Happy 90th birthday!!!

Paul Henry Norris celebrated his 90th birthday on June 27. His wife, her family and extended family and friends would like to wish him a very happy birthday.

Mindy turns 11

Belated happy birthday wishes are sent to Mindy Paddock from her Grandma Emily. Mindy turned eleven years old on April 3. She is the daughter of Kevin and Tina Paddock of Caddo, Oklahoma. This photo was taken while Mindy was attending the Bertram Bobb Youth Church Camp in Ringold, Oklahoma.

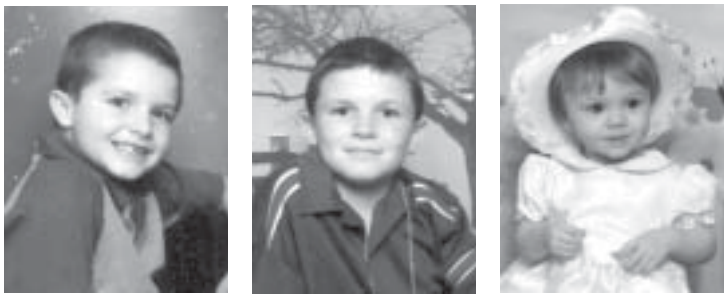


Honor student turns 16

Shardae Lynn Feest celebrated her sweet 16th birthday on June 16. She is an honor student at Wm. Horlick High School in Racine, Wisconsin. She has been inducted into the Who's Who Among High School Students this year, a member of the KEYS Club and the Kiwanis Chamber Choir, has had three poems published and likes to write fictional stories, has various awards in music and bowling, and she is proud of her Choctaw heritage. Shardae is the daughter of Al and Claudine Feest of Racine, the granddaughter of Wilma Laymon Boudreau of Durant, Oklahoma, great-granddaughter of Thelma Beames and Charlie Laymon, the great-great-granddaughter of original enrollee Josiah Beames and Minnie Elbe Sauls and the great-great-granddaughter of James Beames and Amy Folsom.

We are very proud of her and wish her a Happy Sweet 16th birthday – Love, Mom, Dad, Tyson, Brittany and Stacey.

Happy birthday to the Mitchell children



Linda Edwards and Freddie Mitchell of Mill Creek, Oklahoma would like to wish their grandchildren happy birthday. David Zachery is eleven, Corey Wayne is eight and Sierra Storm is two.

Their parents are Heath and Elisa Mitchell of Sherman, Texas and Amber Griffith of Dallas, Texas. Other grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. David Hash of Sherman and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mackey of Amarillo, Texas. Great-grandparents include Lorinda Mitchell of Durant, Oklahoma, Mrs. Barker of Texas, and Christene Brooks of Amarillo.



We love you, Nana!

Josephine Rose Gilmore and Kya Mae-Kay Pelayo would like to



wish their Nana a happy birthday. Rosa Gilmore turned 69 years old on July 9.



Little Bear turns one

Bristina Chey'ane Colbert turned one year old on May 26. She is the daughter of Linda and James Colbert of Arlington, Texas. Little Bear is the granddaughter of Melinda and William Simpson of Golden, Oklahoma and Hildia Colbert of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. She is the great-granddaughter of Mary Carterby and the late John Amos Carterby of Golden and Mary Lee of Eagletown, Oklahoma. Her aunt, LaDonna Simpson, and uncles, Charlie Colbert and Charles and Bud Simpson, wish her a happy first birthday!

Grandma is 37

Melinda Simpson turned 37 on May 20. She is the daughter of Mary Carterby and the late John Amos Carterby of Golden, Oklahoma. She has two daughters, Linda Simpson of Arlington, Texas and LaDonna Simpson of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, and two sons, Charles Simpson and Bud Simpson, both of Golden.

Melinda also has two grandchildren, Bristina Colbert of Arlington and Billy Simpson of Golden. Everyone sends happy birthday wishes!



Cowboy celebrates 17th

Charles Wayne Simpson celebrated his 17th birthday on July 11. His hobbies are riding in rodeos, fishing, hunting, and playing pool. His proud parents are Melinda and William Simpson of Golden, Oklahoma.

Charles is the grandson of Mary Carterby and the late John Amos Carterby of Golden and Mary Lee of Eagletown. His proud nephew and niece, Billy Simpson and Bristina "Little Bear" Colbert, wish him a happy birthday.

Beal family reunion fun for everyone

The Beal family reunion was held during Memorial Day weekend at Cumberland Cove Resort on Lake Texoma. It was a big success with approximately 200 people attending. Everyone had a wonderful time with lots of laughs. A birthday party was also held for Cecil Beal during the reunion. Happy birthday, brother!



Family says Happy 78th!

The Sexton family would like to wish their father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Rev. Daniel Sexton, a very happy 78th birthday on July 21. From your children and grandchildren in Joplin, Missouri, Texas and Oklahoma. We love you very much!

Happy 18th!!!

Happy 18th birthday to Carl G. Willmott III on July 19. Carl is the great-grandson of Beard Job Harvey, a full-blood Choctaw and lifelong resident of Damon Valley near Wilburton, Oklahoma. Carl is very proud of his heritage. His mom, Rhonda Willmott of Oklahoma City, and big sister, Dani, say "Happy birthday, bro!" You are one of the greatest joys of my life, I am so proud of you!



Happy eighth birthday, Anastazia

Anastazia Harris turned eight years old on June 23. She is the daughter of Dona Faye Harris and the granddaughter of the late Wanda Wallace. Happy birthday – from your brothers, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Thunder turns 21 (25 years ago!)

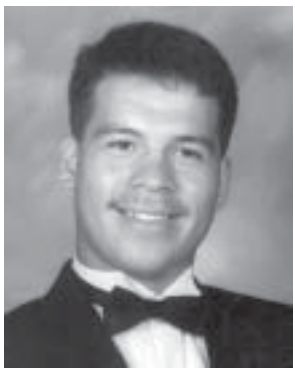
Joyce "Ano Hiloha" Adams turned 46 on July 12 and her family and friends wish to express how truly incredible she is. A wonderful mother to Justin and Heather, she is very proud of her Choctaw/Cherokee heritage. Currently, she is the Native American sponsor and acting spiritual leader at CSP-Los Angeles County. We all join together in saying, "Happy birthday and chi hullo hi na billia chih."

Mark Dean Tushka celebrates birthday

Mark Dean Tushka celebrated his 20th birthday on June 12.

Mark is the son of Peggy Jefferson and the grandson of Barrentine and Nancy Tushka, all of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Wishing him a happy birthday are his Mom and Leo, Patty and Eric.



Melody turns one

Melody Rayne Thorne turned one year old on July 21. Her parents, John Thorne and Marie Bateman; her sister, Aire, and grandparents, Gene and LaHoma Crauthers, wish her a very happy birthday.

Melody is of Choctaw-Cherokee descent. Her great-grandparents include the late William and Ella Murphy of Idabel, Oklahoma.

Happy 27th Tracy Loftin

All of us in Seneca, Missouri want to wish a very special happy 27th birthday to Tracy Loftin of Atoka, Oklahoma. Her birthday was June 6. You know who we are! We love you!

Look who's 10!

Happy birthday wishes to Kiana K. Rechberg/Harkins, my wonderful granddaughter. She turned ten years old on July 19.

Kiana is the daughter of Mark and Jacquie Rechberg of Port Orford, Oregon. Jacquie is the daughter of Choctaw Joel D. Harkins ("Pa-Pa") who is the son of George E. Harkins. Kiana's great-great-grandfather was original enrollee William Joel Harkins of Boise City, Oklahoma.

Kiana is very proud of her Choctaw heritage and her love of family and God. She wishes all Choctaws God's love and peace.



Cody says Happy Birthday, Pe-Pa!

Cody Wayne Elliott would like to wish his Pe-Pa Toy Marlow a happy 71st birthday on July 25. I love you, Pe-Pa!

Billy turns one

Billy Jack Simpson celebrated his first birthday on July 16. His parents are LaDonna and Daniel Battiest of Wright City, Oklahoma.

Billy's proud grandparents are Melinda and William Simpson of Golden, Oklahoma and Valerie and Luke Battiest of Wright City. He is the great-grandson of Mary Carterby and the late John Amos Carterby of Golden and Mary Lee of Eagletown, Oklahoma.

Billy's aunt, Linda Simpson, and two uncles, Charles and Bud Simpson, wish him a happy first birthday!



Natasha becomes teenager

Natasha Harris celebrated her 13th birthday on June 1.

Natasha is the daughter of Cythina and Chris Harris of Tahlequah. She is the granddaughter of the late Wanda Wallace.

Your aunts, uncle and cousins would like to wish you a happy birthday!



Cousins celebrate July birthdays

In one Choctaw family, three cousins celebrated July birthdays. Mya Cooper turned four and Ieean Honsinger turned eight, both on July 14.

Mya is the daughter of Chris and Rebecca Cooper of Gurdon, Arkansas. Ieean is the son of Melissa Dancer-Honsinger of Antlers, Oklahoma. Hali Purdue, who will celebrate her sixth birthday on July 30, is the daughter of Allen and Aubrey "Bree" Purdue of Paris, Texas.

All three are grandchildren of Jeff and Billie Sue (Phillips) Paskin and Audis "Sonny" Dancer, all of Powderly, Texas.



Happy second birthday

Christopher Payton Stinnett was born June 29, 2000 in Ada, Oklahoma to Christopher and Misty Stinnett. He celebrates his second birthday this year. He is the grandson of Arthur and Bessie Stinnett of Stilwell and Ron and Kay West of Tupelo. He is the great-grandson of Donald and Marcine Brooks of Lula and the great-great-grandson of Mary Clifford of Ada. He is adored by all of his grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Payton enjoys riding the four-wheeler with his dad and playing with his cars and tractors with his cousins. He is very attached to his mother whom he doesn't want far from his sight. What a precious little boy he is!

Dan Dan turns three

The family of Danielle Masterson would like to wish her a very happy third birthday on July 17.

Danielle is the daughter of Johnnie and Christina Masterson of Corona, California and little sister to Jonathan Masterson.

Danielle is the granddaughter of Shari Vowell of Junction City, Oregon, Pat Garcia of Van Buren, Arkansas, Louise Masterson of Corona and John and Barbra Moore of Kingman, Arizona. Danielle is the great-granddaughter of Frank and Martha Vowell of Vian, Oklahoma.

Happy birthday, Dan Dan! We love you!



Happy sixth, Jessica

We would like to wish a very happy sixth birthday on June 29 to our sister and daughter, Jessica. She graduated from kindergarten on May 15.

She is the daughter of Jamie Greenwood and Lupe Renteria. Her grandparents are M.T. Greenwood and the late Mildred Cole Greenwood and the late Raul and Paula Renteria.

Happy birthday, Jessica – love, Mom and Dad, Jerald, Annie, and the rest of your family.

Jordan turns four

We would like to wish Jordan Bohanon a happy fourth birthday on June 4.

Jordan plays T-ball for the RugRats and also enjoys playing volleyball. Jordan Isaac is the son of Ricky and Rolena Bohanon of Ada, Oklahoma and he has one brother, Randall.

He is the grandson of the late Isaac and Lula Bohanon of Paris, Texas, and the late Josh and Minnie Wallace of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

We would also like to wish Rolena and Albert a happy birthday on June 8 and 26. May God bless you and we love you all.



Happy birthday, Kesa

Kesa Horse had a birthday on June 27.

She is the daughter of the late Wanda Wallace.

Hope you had a wonderful birthday, from all of your aunts, uncles, cousins and sisters in Oklahoma City.

Granny sends birthday wishes

Granny Mattie B. Jones of Kiowa, Oklahoma wishes her great-grandson, Andrew Morgan, a happy birthday on July 20. He is eight years old.



Sue celebrates June birthday

"Baby" Sue Wallace of Ft. Cobb, Oklahoma celebrated her birthday on June 24. She is the daughter of J.D. Wallace and Vera Thomas of Oklahoma City. We all want to wish you a happy birthday – your aunts, uncle and cousins.



Machella turns one

Machella Jones celebrated her first birthday on June 22. She is the daughter of Charles Jones and Michelle Chenault of Clarksville, Arkansas, and the granddaughter of Ruth Moncada. Happy first birthday from all of your uncles, aunts and cousins from Oklahoma City.





Happy birthday, you're the best!

Vivian Dill celebrated her 87th birthday on June 29. Although Vivian lived for many years in Wilburton, Oklahoma and worked at Wilburton Hospital, she now resides in Roland, Oklahoma which divides driving distance for two of her four daughters to visit her. Vivian always enjoys a visit or mail from her friends and relatives.

Happy birthday, Mom, we love you and are so lucky to have you. Vivian can be contacted at Sequoyah Manor Nursing Home, Taylor Road RR 1, Roland, Oklahoma 74954 or by phone at 918-427-7401.

Nikki turns six

Nikki Amos turned six years old on July 23. She played her first year of T-ball where she played centerfield for the Diamondbacks in Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Her parents are Mike and Vicky Amos. She has a sister, Dayla, and a brother, Andrew. Her grandparents are Marylin Colbert and the late Nick Colbert and Bill and Louise Amos.

We love you very much, from the family. Nikki says happy birthday to her aunt, Nancy, and cousin, Derrick, in Edmond, Oklahoma.



Happy 18th birthday, Heath!



Family and friends would like to wish Heath Maxey a happy 18th birthday on June 30.

Heath's parents are Joe and JoAnn Maxey of Atoka, Oklahoma. He is the grandson of Joy Oswalt of Atoka and the great-grandson of Lula Pearl Webb of Wapanucka.

Little Dove celebrates 60th

Shirley Ann Christie turned 60 years old on July 23.

She is the granddaughter of the late Andrew Christie who lived most of his life in Wilburton.

All of Shirley Ann's siblings and their families, Christine and Sonny Angel of California, Ronald Christie of Oklahoma and Roger and Adrienne Christie of Texas, want to wish her a very happy birthday and tell her how very proud we are of her.

Happy birthday Little Dove. We all love you very much.



Congratulations, Brian and Heather!

Brian J. Grant and Heather A. Hogan were married June 2, 2002 in Newport Beach, California during a ceremony aboard the yacht, Icon. Brian is the son of Rachel Grant of Glendora, California and the grandson of Frank Williams of Peoria, Arizona. After a honeymoon in the Grand Cayman Islands, Brian and Heather will reside in Irvine, California.



Look who's a teen!

Cody Lynn Peters turned 13 on June 25.

He is the son of Cary Peters of Broken Bow and Becky Peters of Hugo.

Cody plays basketball and baseball. He attends Hugo Middle School.

Happy birthday, Cody!

Wesleys celebrate first anniversary

Happy first anniversary to Isaiah and Mary Wesley. They were married July 20, 2001 in Fort Smith, Arkansas.



Thompsons mark third anniversary

Happy anniversary to Richard and Shirley Thompson of Durant, Oklahoma. The couple celebrated their third wedding anniversary on July 23.



Marty Haggard performs gospel concert

Leon Choate presented a Choctaw Nation cap and mug to Marty Haggard of Louisiana. Marty, the son of country music singer Merle Haggard, performed a gospel concert at the Abuntant Life Center in Pickens, Oklahoma where Floyd and Kaye Choate are pastors.



Cathey Hooker and Jennifer MacDonald posed for a picture with Chief Greg Pyle at the Fort Smith meeting.



Brenna Winship is pictured with Don Ragains of Fort Smith.



Koi Keola Hampton and mom, Kandace Hampton.



Tribal programs such as education, health and housing had tables of information for those attending the Arkansas meeting.

Siblings celebrate summer birthdays

Happy birthday to Robert Daniel and Serena Joy Everett who are celebrating Robert's fifth birthday and Serena's first birthday this summer.

They are the children of Brian and Michelle Everett of Houston, Texas.

Grandparents are Dorris Everett of

Palacios, Texas and Bill and Diana Anderson of Houston. Great-grandparents are Bill and Katherine Anderson, originally from Talihina, now residing in Ponca City, Oklahoma. Robert is named for his great-great-great-grandfather, Robert Bell, formerly of Talihina, and Serena is named after her great-great-great-grandmothers, Serena Anderson of Talihina and Serena Maggard.



Lessel, Alexander united in marriage

Kristi Michelle Lessel and Joshua James Alexander were united in marriage on July 18, 2002 at the First Baptist Church in Red Oak, Oklahoma. The Rev. C.W. Stoneburner of Quinton, Oklahoma officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Glen Lessel and Carol Lessel, both of Wilburton, and the granddaughter of Doyle and Darla Hutson of Gowen, Barbara McDonell of Clayton and Don and Verloyn Lessel of Red Oak. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Davis of Wilburton. Josh is the grandson of Thurman (David) and Edith Phelps, Sr. of Wilburton.

The couple resides in McAlester.



Ft. Smith, Arkansas



Dezirae Thomas and dad, Brandon Thomas.



Ronnie Smith volunteered to draw door prize tickets out of the basket being held by Tanya Allen.



Emily Welsch is happy to be held by her grandmother, Virginia Hulsey.

Happy Sweet 16!

Amber Nichole Hagger turned 16 years old on June 17. She is the daughter of Walter "D.D." Dodds of Valliant, Oklahoma and Becky Peters of Hugo, Oklahoma.

Amber attends Hugo High School and loves sports and hanging out with her friends.

Happy Sweet 16!



Happy 37th, William

William Dwayne Taylor turned 37 years old on June 20.

He loves working and spending time with his family.

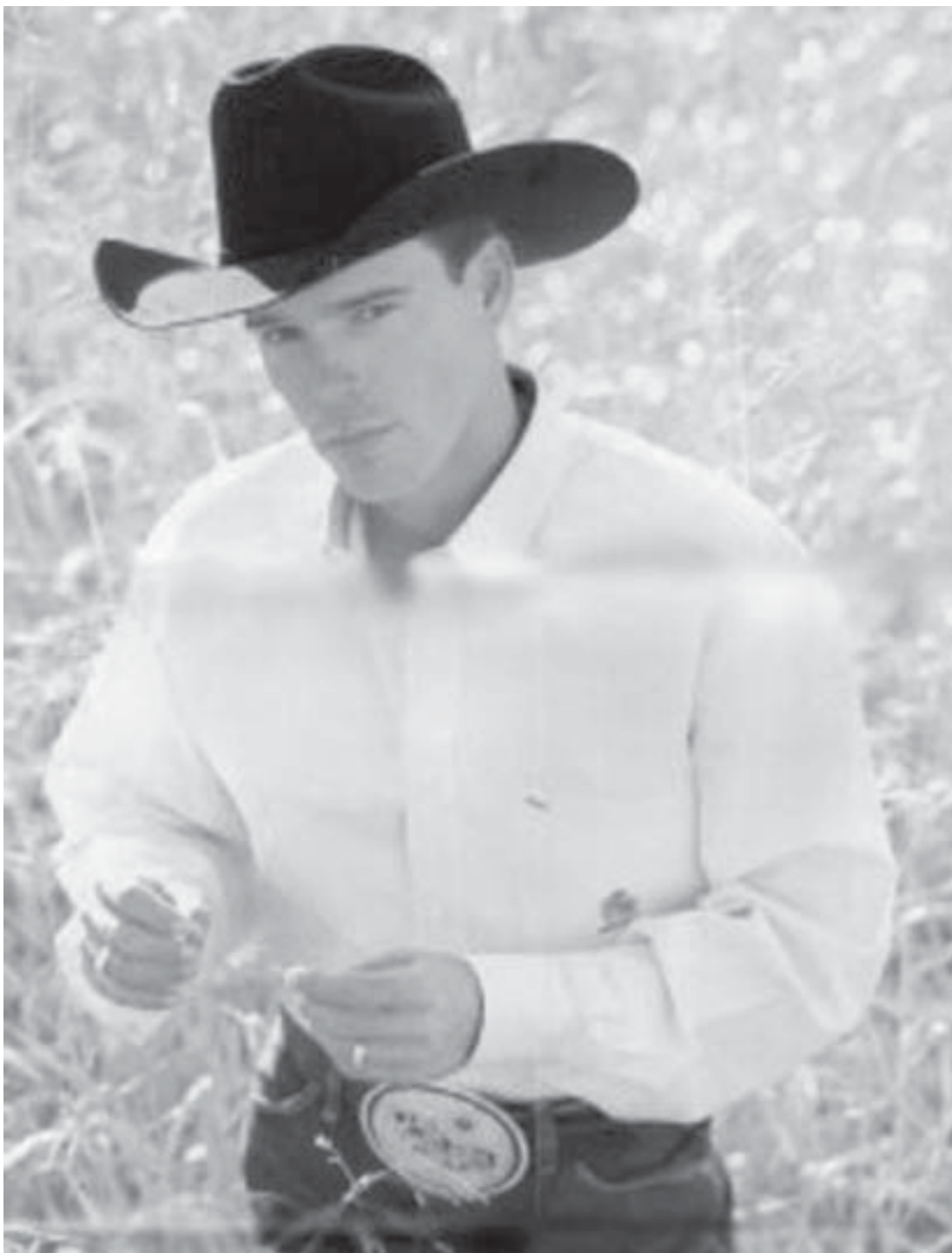
Have a great birthday – love, Becky.



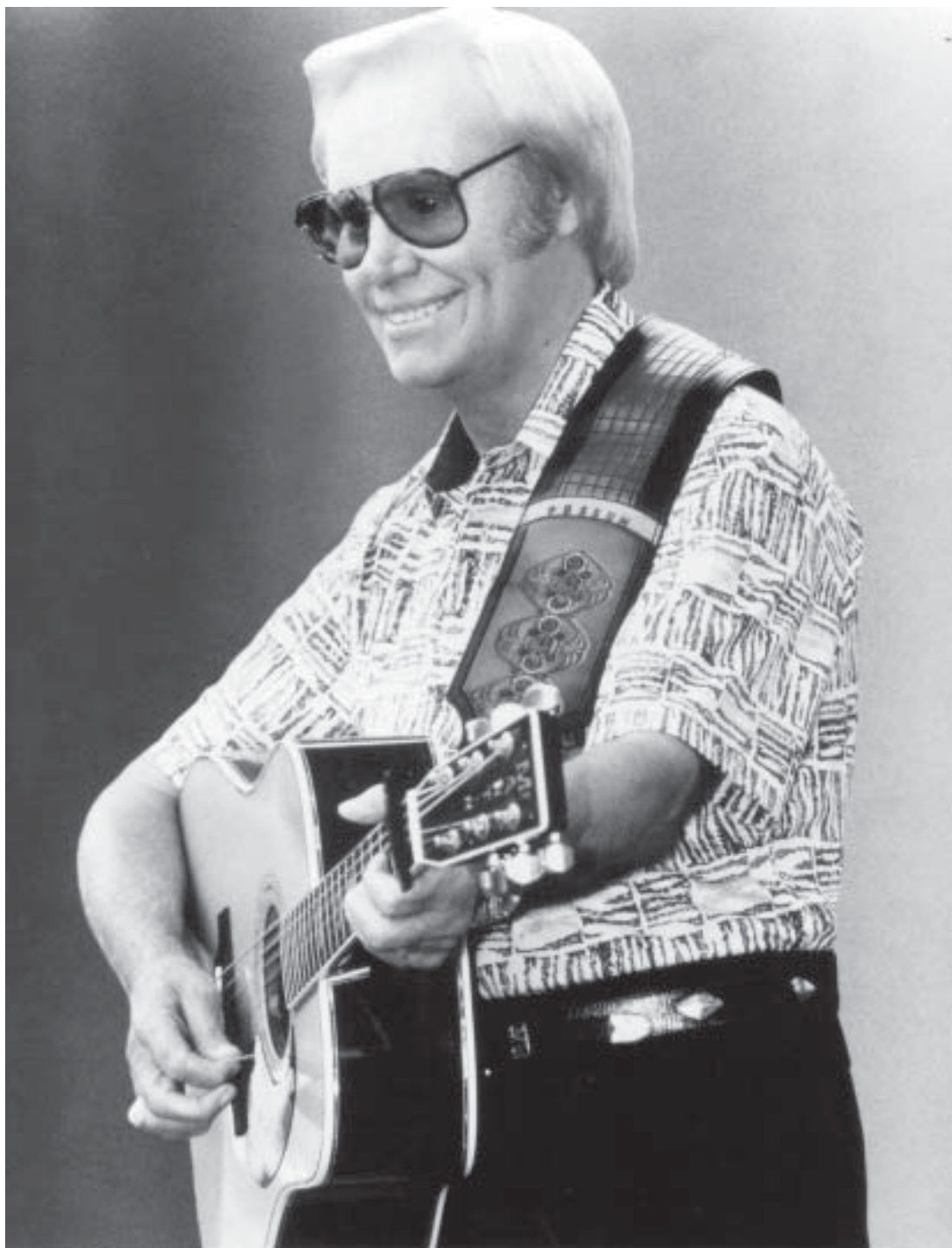
Happy birthday, Mom!

Carol Rasha Lemus will be 43 years old on July 26. She is the daughter of the late Wedes Rasha and Rose Bond Ward and stepfather, Travis Ward.

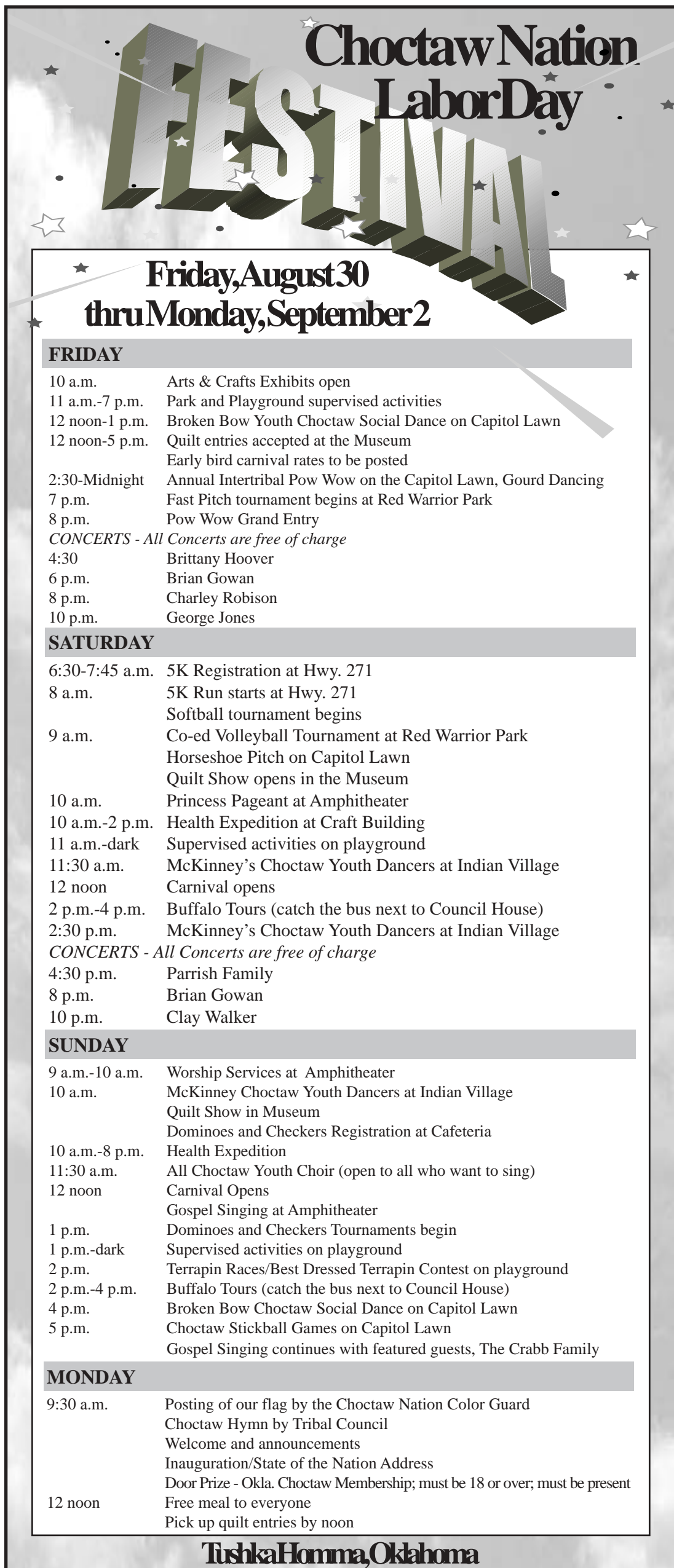
Mom, I love you so much. May we always be together, no matter what. May God bless you! Lots of love, hugs and kisses from your son, Marcos Leopoldo Rasha, Pedro V. Lemus and all of your friends from Choctaw Investment and McGee Chapel Church, all of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.



CLAY WALKER



GEORGE JONES



CHARLIE ROBISON

Fifth Annual
Labor Day Pow Wow

Friday, August 30, 2002
Tushka Homma, Oklahoma

MC: Sammy "Toneki" White - Anadarko, Oklahoma
Head Man: Zake Morris - Shawnee, Oklahoma
Head Lady: Keri Jhane Myers - Oklahoma City
Head Gourd: Frank Watson - Durant, Oklahoma
AD & Head Judge: Randy Frazier - Oklahoma City
Southern Drum: Otter Trail - Lake Dallas, Texas
Northern Drum: Eagle Point - Cedar Park, Texas
Color Guard: Choctaw Nation

SCHEDULE

1:30	Gourd Dance	<i>Bring your pow wow chairs</i>
4:30	Break	
5:30	Gourd Dance	
6:30	Hoop Dance	
	Jace "Peanut" & Oke-Tw'sha Roberts	
7:00	Grand Entry	
	*** Registration Closes	

Over \$15,000 in Prize Money

ADULT CONTEST

All categories separate

Women:

Cloth - Buckskin -
Fancy Shawl - Jingle Dress

Men:

Grass - Traditional - Straight



**“SPECIAL”
Men’s
Fancy Dance Contest**

YOUTH CONTEST

All categories separate
Sr. - 14-18 yrs old; Jr. - 8-13 yrs old
18 years must be in school

Sr./Jr. Girls

Cloth - Buckskin -

Shawl - Jingle

Sr./Jr. Boys
Grass - Traditional - Straight - Fancy

TINY TOTS CONTEST:

Under 7 yrs.

————— For more information: —————
Willard Polk at 580-924-8280, ext. 2349

Public is welcome - Free admission
All drums, princesses are invited
Call Willard for booth information - no booth fee
No alcohol or drugs will be tolerated

All contestants must be in Grand Entry and participate in Intertribal dances. Must be in regalia to receive prize money.



THE CRABB FAMILY



BRIAN GOWAN

CHOCTAW NATION FAST PITCH TOURNAMENT

to be held during the Labor Day Festival
August 30 & 31, September 1 & 2, 2002
at the Choctaw Capitol Grounds in Tushka Homma
\$150 entry fee – money orders only
– Deadline for entry is August 16, 2002 –
For more information, please call (580) 924-8280 or
toll-free 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2224
or fill out the application below and return to our office.

Name of team _____

Contact person with address and telephone number:

Please circle one: Men's team or Women's team
and return to:

Larry Wade
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Fast Pitch Tournament
P.O. Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74702



◆ REUNIONS ◆

McKee & Smallwood

The annual McKee and Smallwood Reunion will be held on Saturday, August 31 at the Nelson Community Center, six miles north and one-half mile east of Soper, Oklahoma.

The McKees have met every Labor Day weekend since 1953.

There will also be a get-together on Sunday, September 1 at the Boggy Depot southwest of Atoka in a picnic area. At Soper, the reunion will be held in an air conditioned building with a playground for the younguns. Come if you can.

Okla Humma Chahta Hilha

The Okla Humma Chahta Hilha first reunion will be held on Sunday, September 1, during the Labor Day Festival. We will meet at 5:30 in the tent area – watch for signs. There will be a potluck dinner so that we may have plenty of time to visit and we are asking everyone to bring a covered dish. We are really looking forward to seeing all of you. Please make plans to be there and feel free to bring pictures.

Please contact:

Sandra McKinney Frazier
Rt. 5 Box 440

Broken Bow, OK 74728

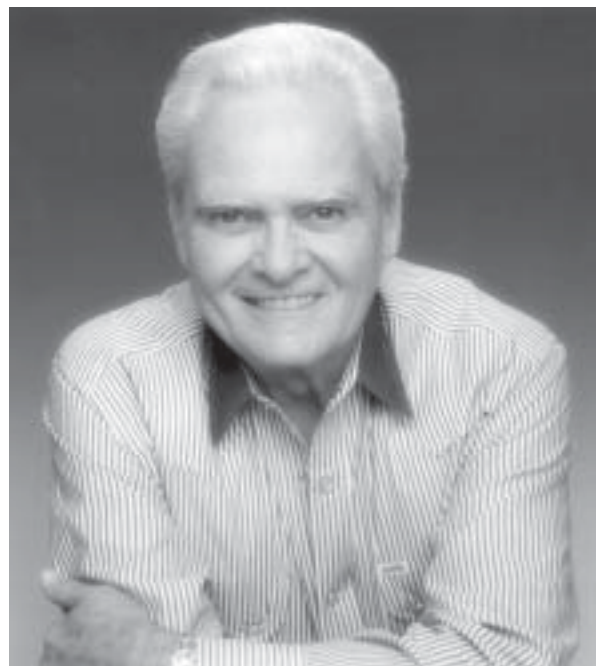
580-420-7162 - fivefeathers99@hotmail.com

or

Shirley Hardy
P.O. Box 618

Wright City, OK 74766

580-981-2795 - shrhrd@netscape.net



BILLY PARKER

3-on-3 Basketball Tournament



Saturday, August 31
Choctaw Nation
Labor Day Festival
Tushka Homma, Oklahoma

– CATEGORIES –
10-14 Co-ed Boys and Girls
15-18 Boys
15-18 Girls
18-35 MEN ONLY
36 & up MEN ONLY

FREE THROW CONTEST

Ages 14 & Under
Ages 15-18

3-POINT SHOOTOUT

Ages 19 & Up
Prize: \$100

\$35 ENTRY FEE

Enclose Cashier's Check or Money Order Only

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY: AUGUST 26, 2002

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail to: **3-on-3 Basketball**
P.O. Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74702

Quilt Show

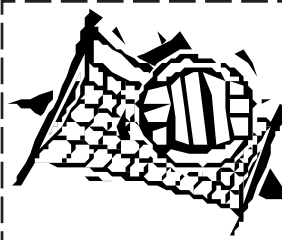
The Choctaw Nation Indian Child Welfare Program would like to encourage everyone to enter their beautiful quilts in the quilt show this year at the Tushka Homma Labor Day Festival.

The Quilt Show is one of the main attractions and everyone enjoys coming by to view them.

This year there will be a first, second and third place for both the handmade quilts and quilts made on machines.

We look forward to seeing you this year and hope the quilt show will be a big success.

The quilts need to be entered Friday, August 30, between 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Judging will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, August 31.



Choctaw Nation Labor Day CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday, August 31, 2002

First 12 teams accepted
Maximum 10 players per team
Entry fee: \$75.00 (non-refundable)

Team Name _____

Team Captain's Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____
(required for correspondence)

Work Phone _____

Form of payment: Cashier's Check or Money Orders Only
NO PERSONAL CHECKS ACCEPTED

Mail entry to:

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament
P.O. Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74702
Attn: Rebecca Clapp

Deadline for entries: August 16, 2002 at 4:30 p.m.

USA Volleyball Grass Rules Enforced

For more information, call 580-924-8280, ext. 2212 or 2258

Labor Day 5 KM Run

Race begins 8 a.m.

August 31, 2002 • Tushka Homma

Race day registration is from 6:30-7:45 a.m.
in front of Crossroad Cafe
on U.S. Hwy. 271, 5 miles north of Clayton.

Preregistration is \$10.00.

All entrants must be postmarked by August 26, 2002.

Race-day registration is \$12.00.

– AGE CATEGORIES AND AWARDS –

5-8 years; 9-12 years; 13-15, 16-19 and succeeding 5-year
age brackets up to 65 and older for women and 70 years and
older for men. Top three finishers in each age bracket for
men and women will receive medallions.

RACE DIRECTOR

Linda Tyler 580-924-8280, ext. 2319

Race Coordinator: Glen's Road Race

I know that running a road race is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter and run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I also know that although police protection will be provided, there will be a possibility of traffic on the course. I assume the risk of running traffic. I also assume any and all other risks associated with running this event including, but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including extreme cold and wind, and the conditions of the roads, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Furthermore, I agree to yield to all emergency vehicles. I also am fully aware that baby strollers and wheels of any kind (except competitive wheel chairs), animals (aside from canine participants in canine and human race) and head phones are strictly prohibited and I agree not to go back onto the course after finishing. Knowing these facts, and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or anyone else who might claim on my behalf, covenant not to sue, and waive and release and discharge any and all race sponsors, race officials, volunteers, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma employees and volunteers, tribal police including any and all of their agents, employees, assigns or arising out of, or in the course of, my participation in this event. This release and waiver extends to all claims of every kind of nature whatsoever, foreseen or unforeseen, known or unknown. The undersigned further grants full permission to sponsors and/or agents authorized to them to use any photography/videotapes, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this event for any purpose.

ENTRY FORM

Name _____

Please print

Signature _____

Waiver must be signed Date _____

Applications for minors accepted only with a parent's or guardian's signature.

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Age as of August 31, 2002 _____ Sex (M / F) _____

Check one T-shirt size only
(Adult) S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___

Detach and send entry form and fees to:

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Attn: Linda Tyler
5 KM Road Race/Walk
P.O. Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74702-1210



Students honored for outstanding volunteer service to communities

Martin Sheen, star of the Emmy Award-winning “West Wing” television series, congratulates Kyle Anderson, 16, of Muldrow and Alyssa Latty, 12, of Kiowa for being named the top two youth volunteers in Oklahoma in 2002 by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. Kyle and Alyssa received the honors during a ceremony May 5 at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., where they each received a \$1,000 award and a silver medallion.

Kyle, a sophomore at Muldrow High School, was honored for his reading mentorship program, READ: Reading Encourages All Dreams. Alyssa, a sixth-grader at Kiowa Middle School, was honored for her Kids Singing For Kids annual fundraiser.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards constitute the nation’s largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteer service. The program, sponsored by Prudential Financial and the National Association of Secondary School Principals, has honored more than 40,000 young Americans over the past seven years.

Kyle, a Choctaw tribal member, is the son of Bob and Niki Alderson of Muldrow and the grandson of O.C. and Sandra Adcock of Quinton and Larry and Billie Hall of Tulsa.



Army’s newest linguistic recruit

Jennifer McCurtain, 18, of Marietta, Oklahoma has chosen a new and exciting career. She will report for nine weeks of basic training in Fort Jackson, South Carolina in August, and then spend 53 weeks at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California for Advanced Individual Training in the U.S. Army’s linguistics program.

Jennifer, one of four graduating co-valedictorians at Marietta High School, had been accepted at Vanderbilt University but made a career change after talking with an area recruiter. She had received several scholarships, including a three-quarters tuition scholarship from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, where tuition begins at \$20,000 a year.

To enter the Army’s linguistics program, Jennifer would have to pass a language test, scoring 95 or above out of a possible 160 points. She wowed everyone with a score of 136.

Jennifer is the daughter of Glenn and Mary Grace McCurtain.



Patrick McClelland earns master’s degree

Patrick Howard McClelland received his master’s degree in adult education on May 11. He graduated from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas. He is the son of Ronald and Brenda McClelland of Fort Smith, Arkansas and the grandson of Evelyn Casey of Cameron, Oklahoma and the late Vanard Caseya, a Choctaw enrollee. Family members include brothers, Michael and Daniel.



Bud Simpson earns Student of the Year

Bud Simpson of Golden, Oklahoma graduated from eighth grade at Glover School on May 20. He has received citizenship awards for four years and was named Student of the Year. He also celebrated his 15th birthday on June 21.

Bud is the son of Melinda and William Simpson of Golden and the grandson of Mary Carterby and the late John Amos Carterby of Golden and Mary Lee of Eagletown, Oklahoma.

Bud’s family would like to congratulate him and wish him a happy birthday!



Michael Lewis enters Cameron University this fall

Michael W. Lewis graduated from Duncan High School on May 23. He will be attending Cameron University in the fall.

Congratulations Michael from your aunts and uncle, Glenda, Beverly, Sharla, Shirley and Jr.



2002 State Junior Olympic winner

Jessica Morris of Yuba City, California won the state level Junior Olympic three-position air rifle competition in April. This qualified her to compete in the National Junior Olympic Three Position Air Rifle Championships in June at the Tome Lowe Shooting Grounds-Olympic Complex

in Atlanta, Georgia. Jessica and three teammates will be competing as a team and as individuals in the Sporter Three-Position Air Rifle Competition.

Jessica just completed her freshman year with a 4.0+ grade point average at Sutter Union High School. This is her first year shooting with the Rifle Club. She is already shooting higher scores than the veteran shooters who have been competing three to four years.

We want you to know how very proud we are of you and wish you luck in your competition. May God richly bless you and we love you very much.

Choctaw senior makes major leagues

Corey Shafer, a senior at Choctaw High School, was picked by the Baltimore Orioles in the second round of the annual amateur draft with a signing bonus of \$875,000. Corey, a left-handed-hitting outfielder, slugged 11 homers and walked 43 times during his senior season.

Of Choctaw/Cherokee heritage, Corey is the son of Clint and Linda Sue (Burris) Shafer and the grandson of Sidney Burnett and Bonnie Burris of Blanchard, Oklahoma.

Daney awarded “Coach of the Year”

For the second year in a row, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute has taken a small contingent of four runners to the national track championships and finished as one of the top eight schools in the overall team standings. This is quite a feat because the other teams competing have an average of 12 or more athletes on their squads.

That accomplishment was noticed by the NJCAA Division III Track Coaches Association which awarded SIPI coach Michael Daney with “Coach of the Year” honors. Coach Daney has won numerous NCAA men and women’s regional and national coach of the year awards in the sports of cross-country and marathon running; however, this is his first track coach of the year award.

Coach Daney, a Choctaw, is also a former Oklahoma Baptist University and Northeastern State University cross country and track runner. He is a 1980 graduate of Northeastern.



Krystle receives awards

The U.S. Achievement Academy has announced that Krystle Countz of Stuart, Oklahoma has been named a National Award Winner in Honor Roll and Mathematics. She will appear in the academy’s official yearbook which is published nationally.

Krystle received several awards at Stuart High School this year, including the FFA Star Greenhand Award, a first place at the Pittsburg County Fair

and fourth at the State Fair in Tulsa for peanuts, named Defensive Player of the Year in fastpitch, All Conference for the Pittsburg 8 Conference in slowpitch, selected All Tournament in conference basketball, awarded Top Shooter for the Lady Hornets, first in state Class B 3-point field goal percentage, and numerous academic achievement awards.

She attends the First Freewill Baptist Church in McAlester and will be a sophomore at Stuart in August.

Her parents are Pam and Eric West of Stuart and Jimmy and Donna Countz of McAlester. Grandparents are Buck and Frances Jones of Arpelar, Oklahoma and Sue Countz and Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Countz of Indianola, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents include Lorene McClendon and the late Edgar McClendon and Mack Jones and the late Vera Jones, all of Arpelar, Ora Lee Thomas and the late Ben Thomas of McAlester and James and Billie Dean Countz of Indianola.



Student graduates on mother’s birthday

Jessica Marie Forrester is an 18-year-old senior from Durant High School. This graduation was extra special for her, because she was graduating on her mother’s birthday. “Happy birthday, Mom!”

Jessica is the daughter of Ellen Forrester of Durant and John Forrester of Deming, New Mexico. She is the

granddaughter of Troy and Joyce Keithley of Durant and the great-granddaughter of Ms. Pearl Phillips of Fresno, California.

She’s been a four-year member of the Drug-Free Youth Club, listed on the Principal’s Honor Roll for three years, lettered two years as a Varsity Cheerleader, won NCAAll-American Cheerleader Award two years and recently won DECA State Championship for Advertising/Marketing Promotions. She was a one-year member of the Business Professionals of America, Forensics Club, Track and Tennis Club, DECA Club and was manager for the Sparklers Dance Team.

After graduation, she plans to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University for her basics, then to Oklahoma State University to major in advertising and marketing with a minor in computer science and design, and eventually into television. She is currently employed at CustomerLinx/RCA as a telemarketer and at the Dallas International Apparel Market as a model for prom, pageant, swimwear and wedding dress designers out of the Chicago area and Texas. She plans on continuing her modeling career while going to school and also hopes to become one of the OSU cheerleader squad. Good luck, Jessica.



Leah Teague earns master’s in nutrition

Leah Teague of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania has been awarded the Master of Science in Nutrition from Finch University of Health Sciences in Chicago. Graduation was June 7 in conjunction with the Chicago Medical School.

For the past dozen years Leah has been a registered dietitian with Harrisburg Hospital, Pinnacle Health Systems, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She is a member of the American Dietetics Association (ADA), the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN), and the Pennsylvania Dietetics Association (PDA). She also holds an Associate of Arts from the University of Maryland and a Bachelor of Arts from Messiah College. Her husband, Charles, is a retired Air Force chaplain and senior pastor of Country and Town Baptist Church in Mechanicsburg.

Leah proudly traces her Choctaw heritage through her paternal grandmother and great-grandmother, Emma Lee Fowler and Ida Kay Stewart, both of DeQueen, Arkansas.



Bull is Principal of the Year

Adam Bull, principal and chief school administrator of Wingate High School in Fort Wingate, New Mexico, has been chosen Bureau of Indian Affairs’ High School Principal of the Year. Bull started out at Wingate High School in 1979 as a teacher and athletic director before becoming an assistant in 1981. He be-

came principal in 1991 and chief school administrator in 1996. Wingate is the largest boarding school in the BIA, with some 500 of its 700 students, all Native American, using the boarding facilities.

Adam was chosen for his leadership, professionalism, and efforts in promoting higher academic achievement and expectations. He has made tremendous effort in encouraging parental involvement.

The BIA selection committee selected Bull for receiving the highest cumulative ranking among the criteria and for his dedication, which drove him to work “above and beyond a simple job description.”

He will be honored during a recognition dinner this month in St. Louis, Missouri.



Larry Pittman, Jr. graduates Ohio College of Pediatric Medicine

Congratulations to Larry H. Pittman, Jr. on graduating from the Ohio College of Pediatric Medicine. Larry will begin his training in diabetic limb salvage and podiatric surgery in Sacaton, Arizona at the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Indian hospital where he will live on the reservation for the next 12 months. He then will complete his training with an additional year of surgical training in San Pedro, California.

Larry is a graduate of Norman High School where he earned athletic honors as a quarterback, strong safety and punter. After spending time playing football at the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State, Larry decided to embark on a career in medicine and transferred to the University of Central Oklahoma where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology. Larry completed the four-year curriculum leading to the Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree in Cleveland, Ohio and graduated on May 24. Three generations of Choctaws are pictured: Dr. Terry L. James (uncle), Dr. Larry H. Pittman, Jr., Linda D. Pittman (mother) and Burnett C. James (grandfather who attended Jones Academy in 1944).

Larry’s parents, Larry and Linda Pittman, reside in Edmond, Oklahoma. His grandfather, Burnett James, lives in McKinney, Texas and his uncle, Dr. Terry L. James, lives in Fairview, Texas. Larry is the great-grandson of original enrollee Irene Mills-Hopson, 98, who currently resides in Fresno, California.

The entire family wishes to thank the Choctaw Nation for all of its support.

Congratulations to Tiffani and Robin



Tiffani McCurtain graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

Tiffani’s younger sister, Robin Gonzalez, also graduated from



kindergarten. Their proud mom, Sharla, works for the Choctaw Nation Chi Hullo Li.

Robin celebrated her seventh birthday on June 23. Happy birthday Sugar Pie – love, your dad, mom and sister.

Freshman has amazing track season

Jamie Carver, a freshman at W.F. West High School in Chehalis, Washington, has had an amazing track season winning the majority of her events. She qualified for all the area invitationals. She also qualified for the Pasco, Washington Invitational which invites top athletes from Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

At the Freshman Invitational in Centralia, Washington, she broke the 100m meet record that has stood since 1977 and tied the 200m meet record. She also won her long jump event and the 400m at the Freshman Invitational. At her second meet of the season, she broke the school record in the 100m. She qualified in four events for the district meet – 100m, 200, long jump and the 4x100m relay. She qualified in three events for the state meet. She placed second in the 100m and her relay team took fifth.

Jamie is the daughter of Jim and Sylvia Carver and the granddaughter of original enrollee Grayson Noley, Sr.



Congratulations, Maui!

Maui Watkins graduated in May from Classen School of Advanced Studies and Performing Arts in Oklahoma City with a 4.45 grade point average. She was awarded the Folsom Scholarship this year and was named a President’s Scholar for Academic Excellence and an Oklahoma Academic Scholar.

She has held Princess titles for numerous organizations in the Oklahoma City area over the years and last sum-

mer was a Student Ambassador for Oklahoma to Western Europe with the People to People Student Ambassador Program. She visited and represented her people in England, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland.

Maui has been actively involved with school and community organizations such as Key Club, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, Habitat for Humanity’s Christmas in April, a volunteer for the Inaugural Bombing Memorial Marathon, Good Medicine Society, Native American Club and many more. She was a member of her school’s varsity tennis team and a manager for the high school girls volleyball team.



Congratulations, Daniel Webster

Daniel J. Webster is a 2002 graduate of North Lamar High School in Paris, Texas. He is the son of Danny and Karen Webster of Powderly, Texas.

He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Webster of Sawyer, Oklahoma and John Lechlitter of Valliant and the late Barbara Lechlitter.

Daniel’s hobbies include anything to do with sports or electronics. Congratulations, Dan. We are proud of you – love, your family.



André earns BBA degree

André L. Anderson graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Business on May 10 with a BBA degree, his major being MIS.

André is the son of Gary and Darlene Anderson. He is the grandson of the late Grady and Frances Anderson and the late Hardin and Agnes Simpson.

New history book available

“Footsteps of a Durant Choctaw,” a newly released book by Randle Durant, is now available for sale. The hardcover book, a genealogy and general Choctaw history, includes lots of photographs. To order, please send your check or money order for \$20.00 to Randle Durant, Route 2 Box 1000, Talihiina, OK 74571.



Memorial day tribute

Zaydah Smith pays tribute to her great-grandfather, Davis “Andy” Leroy Anderson. Anderson was a Choctaw/Chickasaw veteran. He served his country in World War II and Korea and received a Purple Heart. In memory of those who fought before and those who are fighting now, thank you.

American Indian Visitation Day

at the
University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma

Saturday, September 7, 2002

The Choctaw Nation Higher Education Program will be taking students who are interested in attending OU and meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Juniors and Seniors
- 3.0 GPA or higher
- CDIB showing Choctaw affiliation
- Must reside in the 10 1/2 county service area of the Choctaw Nation

If you are interested in attending, contact Sarah Davis at 580-920-6048 or Tony Marris at 580-775-0758.

CHOCTAWMANAGEMENTSERVICESENTERPRISE

POSITIONS AVAILABLE FULL-TIME LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER

To work as a treatment manager in the Family Advocacy Clinic at Travis Air Force Base, Fairfield, California. The qualified applicant will have a Master's Degree in Social Work, current highest level Independent Clinical Social Work license, and a minimum of 2 years full-time post-graduate experience working with families.

Interested applicants should e-mail their resume and cover letter referring to Job #101 to Trish Singleton at tsingleton@cmse.net.

FULL-TIME LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER

To work as a treatment manager in the Family Advocacy Clinic at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Great Falls, Montana. The qualified applicant will have a Master's Degree in Social Work, current highest level Independent Clinical Social Work license, and a minimum of 2 years full-time post-graduate experience working with families.

Interested applicants should e-mail their resume and cover letter referring to Job #102 to Trish Singleton at tsingleton@cmse.net.

Choctaw Management Services Enterprise offers an attractive, competitive salary and benefits package, a good working environment and opportunities for career relocation and growth. We also have periodic openings for physicians, physician assistants, social workers, nurses and other healthcare providers at U.S. military installations worldwide.

Well baby and child exams promote good health

By Melinda Greer, M.D.

A long-term primary focus of pediatrics is to **prevent** disease and promote health. In order to best fulfill these objectives, it is necessary for a child's health care provider to build a trusting relationship with the child and the family. This can be best accomplished through scheduled visits at set intervals when the child is not ill.

Well child exams also provide a framework where the health care provider, in partnership with the family and community, can promote the optimal health and well-being of children – infants through young adulthood – and

prevent illness and disability.

At Choctaw Nation Health Care Center, we recommend the following well child visits: one week, 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 months, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 18 years. In addition, children in the 6-18 year range may need annual sports or camp physicals.

At each of these visits, we will make sure your child is well nourished as well as track his/her growth. Developmental milestones will also be evaluated, and a thorough physical exam will be performed to attempt to detect any physical problems before they become serious.

In addition, necessary lab tests will be performed and immunizations will be given if indicated. Hearing and vision screening may also be scheduled as needed. Also, age appropriate health and safety issues will be discussed, and at every visit, your questions and concerns about your child's overall health and well-being will be addressed.

In order for us to provide the best care possible, please bring your child's medical and immunization records with you to the appointment, as well as any medications your child may be taking.

Summertime is a great time to

obtain annual exams and health updates for older children so that they are ready for school in the fall, so schedule an appointment soon.

At CNHCC, children from birth through 12 years of age are seen in the Pediatric Clinic (call 918-567-7000, ext. 6739), and 13 and above are seen in the Family Medicine Clinic (call 918-567-7000, ext. 6642).

Regular health exams keep your children healthy and can prevent illness and disabilities. So come to Talihiina and pay us a visit. We look forward to serving all your child's health care needs “in sickness and in health.”



Broken Bow honors dads in June

The Broken Bow Family Investment Center honored Fathers Day on May 12 with a catered dinner hosted by District 2 Councilman Billy Paul Baker and wife, Mary Lou Baker.

Servers were employees of the Family Investment Center and Johna Baker, the Summer Youth counselor, and Summer Youth workers. Prizes were given to the oldest father, James Touchstone, 87, and the youngest, Fred Bray, 57, both of Broken Bow. Also door prizes were given by Councilman Baker, donated by the Choctaw Inn in Durant.

District 2 Choctaw Princesses, Little Miss Ashley Noah, Jr. Miss Tiffany Shomo and Senior Miss Ivanna Battiest welcomed and honored the Senior Citizens Fathers Day.

We would like to express our appreciation to our Councilman of District 2, Billy Paul Baker, for his support.



Jackson Ivan Wilcox

John and Lori Wilcox of McAlester, Oklahoma are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Jackson Ivan. He was born at 2:53 a.m. January 2, 2002 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihiina. Jackson weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 inches long. He joins a brother, Kaleb, 11, and a sister, Brianna, 6.

Grandparents are Glenn and Sylvia Moody of McAlester and Russell and Joyce Wilcox of Crowder, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Pearl Moody of Blocker and the late Ivan Moody, the late Sterling and Martha Osborne, the late Jack and Pearl Nale and the late Cecil and Ethel Wilcox.



Brooklynn Larae and Brittany Shian Cooper

Bailey Rae-Lynn Cooper would like to announce the birth of her new twin baby sisters born March 4 at Muskogee Regional Hospital.

Brooklyn Larae was born at 11:44 p.m., weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces and measuring 21 inches long. Brittany Shian was born at 11:55 p.m., weighing 5 pounds, 12 ounces and measuring 19 inches long.

Proud parents are Dewayne and Stacy Cooper of Stigler, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Buddy and Debbie Brittain of Quinton, Oklahoma and Thomas and Wanda Cooper of Stigler, Oklahoma. Great-grandmother is Nellie Guess of McAlester and one special friend, Kathrine Rennick of Kinta, Oklahoma.



Piper Jewel Fasken

Piper Jewel Fasken was born at 9:25 p.m. on March 27, 2002 at the Plano, Texas Presbyterian Hospital. Piper weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

Proud parents are Melissa and Craig Fasken of Dallas, Texas. Grandparents are Cathy and Clifton Guthrie of San Antonio, Texas and Ray and Patty Fasken of Carthage, Missouri.

Piper's great-grandparents include Inez Guthrie of San Antonio, Bob and Dorothy Phipps of Dana Point, California and Helen Fasken of Carthage. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Clifton Guthrie from whom she gets her Choctaw ancestry.



Sabra Jett Dodd

David and Monique Dodd are happy to announce the arrival of their baby daughter, Sabra Jett Dodd, who was born at 9:11 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19, 2002 at Mercy Health Center in Oklahoma City. She weighed 9 pounds, 3 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

Sabra joins her brother, Harley Jace Dodd, who is eight years old.

Sabra's grandparents are Lawrence and Peggy Noel of Shawnee, Oklahoma and Johnny and Carla Dodd of Guthrie, Oklahoma. Aunts and uncles include Clark Thomas of Aurora, Colorado, Sheila and Adam Trojanowski and Suzann and Steve Hardison, all of Guthrie. She also has five cousins and many extended relatives and friends who welcomed her to the world.

Sabra is the great-granddaughter of an original Choctaw enrollee, the late Edmund C. Noel, and his wife, the late Victoria Noel.



Nursery News

Emily Kay Brattin

Spencer and Cameron would like to announce the birth of their sister, Emily Kay Brattin. Emily was born February 25, 2002 at Freeman Hospital in Joplin, Missouri, weighing 8 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Parents are Lori Betsey Brattin and Tommy Brattin of Seneca, Missouri. Grandparents are Darlene and Don Connell of Seneca and their great-grandpa is Adam Betsey of Atoka, Oklahoma.



Morgan Alexis Connell

Jennifer Smith and Dustin Connell are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Morgan Alexis Connell. Alex was born March 19, 2002 at Claremore Hospital. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. Alex's grandparents are Leisha and Scott Young of Baldwin City, Kansas and Darlene and Don Connell of Seneca, Missouri. Her great-grandparents are Cheril Smith of Grove, Oklahoma and Adam Betsey of Atoka, Oklahoma.



Keylan Dean Bond

Kelly and Jessica Bond of Bethel, Oklahoma are proud to announce the birth of their son, Keylan Dean Bond. Keylan was born March 20, 2002 at McCurtain Memorial Hospital in Idabel, Oklahoma. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20 inches long.

Keylan's grandparents are Larry and Marietha Bond of Bethel and Jimmy and Melissa Minear of Clyde, Texas. Great-grandparents include Ben and Virginia Franklin of Idabel, Violet Minear of Abilene, Texas and the late Osbine and Meacian Bond of Bethel.



Deandra Jean Price

Bradley Duvall, 5, would like to announce the birth of his baby sister. Deandra Jean Price was born April 14, 2002.

Deandra is the daughter of Chris and DaRhon (Payne) Price and the granddaughter of Floyd and Sharon Payne, all of Valliant, Oklahoma.



Austin Dakota Parish

Congratulations to Ricky and Tiffany Parish on the birth of Austin Dakota Parish. Austin was born April 24, 2002 in Paris, Texas weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces and measuring 21 inches in length.

Austin's grandparents are Daniel and Karen Webster and Rebecca Parish and Ronnie Douthit, all of Powderly, Texas. His great-grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. Dan Webster of Sawyer, Oklahoma, John Lechlitter and the late Barbara Lechlitter of Valliant, Oklahoma and Gloria Morgan and the late Raymond Morgan.



Garrett Slade Hobbs

Ambre and Tristan would like to announce the newest addition to their family. Garrett Slade Hobbs was born April 28, 2002 to Timmi Hobbs of Atoka, Oklahoma. He weighed 7 pounds, 14.5 ounces and measured 21.5 inches long.

Grandparents are Gary and Diane Taylor of Seneca, Missouri. Great-grandpa is Adam Betsey of Atoka, Oklahoma.

They would like to wish their Paw-Paw and Big Granny a happy birthday on July 18.



Gabrielle Nova Hicks

Gabrielle Nova Hicks was born at 3:21 a.m. Monday, May 27, 2002 at Barnes-Jewish Medical Center of St. Louis, Missouri. She weighed 7 pounds, 10.6 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.

Gabrielle's parents are Charles R. and Mindy S. Hicks of St. Louis. Her grandparents are Judy and Mike Stewart of Foreman, Arkansas, James and Carol McEwen of St. Charles, Missouri and the late Charles Simeon Hicks of Idabel, Oklahoma. Her great-grandparents are the late Prim Lewis of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, the late James John of Idabel, the late Hubert and Elberta Dowling of Ashdown, Arkansas, the late Harlan and Ruth McEwen of St. Louis and the late Henry and Gertrude Orf of St. Charles.

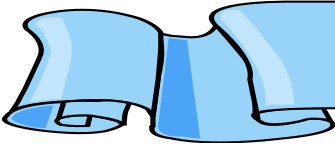


Kade Allen Nitta Scott

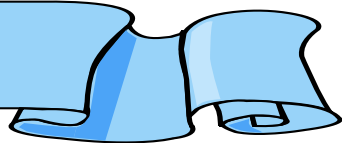
Shawna Scott is the proud sister of Kade Allen Nitta Scott.

Kade was born May 11, 2002 at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in Durant. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20.1 inches long. His parents are Kris and Elvie Scott of Calera, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Ronnie Scott of Caney, Oklahoma and Theresa Scott.





OBITUARIES



Ida Greenwood

Ida Greenwood, 96, passed away on Saturday, June 22, 2002 in Antlers, Oklahoma. She was born on January 21, 1906 in Antlers to the late David and Katie (Palmer) Graham.

Mrs. Greenwood was a homemaker and lifelong resident of the Antlers area. She attended Big Lick Methodist Church in Divide Community. She loved her church and enjoyed going to gospel singing. Her leisure time was spent gardening and quilting.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Myatt Tomby Greenwood; son, Allen Greenwood, and a brother, Justin David Graham.

Survivors include a son, M.T. Greenwood of Antlers; daughters, Hattie Lou Duncan and husband, C.J. of Finley, Oklahoma, Marie Ruth Baggs and Mary Ann Bobb and husband, Bertram, all of Antlers; 21 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren and 12 great-great-grandchildren.



Dora Ella Davies

Dora Ella Davies, 88, of Spiro, Oklahoma passed away Wednesday, June 12, 2002 in Spiro. She was born February 28, 1914 in Milton, Oklahoma to Frank and Allie (Fulsom) Statham.

She was a member of Spiro Baptist Church, a 50-year member of Eastern Star #144, and a caretaker and babysitter for many years.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Dale Davies; son-in-law, Bob Downing, and a brother, Bill Statham.

Survivors include a daughter, Dorothy Downing of Spiro; son, Frank and wife, Brenda, of Spiro; sister, Virginia Remer Rhoades of Stigler, Oklahoma; brother, George Albert Statham of Fort Smith, Arkansas; three grandchildren, Johnnie LaDale Francis, Terry Dale Davies and wife, Ruth Ann, and Leanna Kay Davies; eight great-grandchildren, Jeremy Francis, Nathaniel Francis II, Rodney Francis, Krystal Francis, Dalton Francis, DeEcha Francis, Brandon Dale Davies and Andrea Dawn Davies; and four great-great-grandchildren, Kameron Dale Davies, Miranda Francis, Caleb Francis and Fallon Francis.

Jentry Allan Southard

Jentry Allan Southard, 62, passed away Saturday, June 1, 2002 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was born on August 9, 1939 in New Mexico.

Mr. Southard was a longtime resident of San Gabriel, California. He was very proud of his Choctaw heritage. He enjoyed life to the fullest and loved people.

Survivors include his two loving daughters, Tammy Lynn Christopher-son and Tiffany Lane Southard; four grandchildren, Patrick, Brian, Ashley and MacArthur; a great-grandchild, Desiree; and a dear and beloved friend, Elaine Ingersol. Jentry will never be forgotten by his great number of close friends. We will never forget him, in our hearts he will stay.



Buford Ray Taylor

Buford Ray Taylor, 69, passed away Thursday, May 23 in Durant, Oklahoma. He was born September 2, 1932 to Buford Franklin and Beulah Verda (Nelson) Taylor in Grant.

Ray married Ruth Ann Allen on March 6, 1950 in Hugo, Oklahoma. He worked as a professional truck driver for 42 years and was a bus driver for the Choctaw Nation for eight years. He was inducted into the "Truck Drivers Hall of Fame" in Shady Grove, New Mexico.

Ray was a devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was very proud of his family and loved telling them stories.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Allen Ray Taylor and Gary Wayne Taylor, and one brother, Donald Gene Taylor.

Survivors include his wife; five sons, Paul Taylor of Sawyer, Oklahoma, James Glenn Taylor of Sherman, Texas, David Duwayne Taylor of Paris, Texas, Darrell Eugene Taylor of Durant, and Donald Bradley Taylor of Broken Bow, Oklahoma; six daughters, Janet M. Sheffield, Helen Kay Boling and Brenda Kaye Taylor, all of Durant, Martha Ann Smith and Linda Diane Burchfield, both of Hugo, and Patricia Jane Farris of Kenefic, Oklahoma; five sisters, Dorothy Marie Goforth and Opal Mae Brown, both of Paris, Linnie Belle Williams and Gerry Williams, both of Blossom, and Donna Marie Blackwell of Grant; 25 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Ralph E. Marris

Ralph E. Marris, 63, passed away Wednesday, June 12, 2002 at an Ardmore health-care facility. He was born June 6, 1939 at Overbrook to Arch and Sallie Farve Marris.

A lifetime resident of Ardmore, Oklahoma, he was a member of McAlister Baptist Church and served in the National Guard's 1345 Transportation Company.

Three brothers and a granddaughter preceded him in death.

Survivors include a son, Harold of Fort Carson, Colorado; a daughter, Sandra Marris of Madill, Oklahoma; three sisters, Allie Johnson of Ardmore and Lela Cooper and Lula Parker, both of Lone Grove, Oklahoma; and four grandchildren.



Georgia Mae Hicks

Georgia Mae Hicks, 66, of Hugo, Oklahoma and formerly of Albion, Oklahoma, passed away Tuesday, June 18, 2002 in Hugo. She was born June 4, 1936 in Talihina, Oklahoma to Elvin Dee and Edith Pearl (Hill) Anderson.

She married Billy Jack Hicks on May 30, 1954 at the County Line Church in LeFlore County. Mrs. Hicks was a retired Hugo school teacher, a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

Her sister, Meta Carol Anderson of Albion, preceded her in death. Survivors include her husband; son, Jack Dewayne Hicks and wife, Lorie, of Hugo; daughter, Pamela Jean Meredith of Hugo; five grandchildren, Kaci Meredith, Samantha Hicks, Erin Hicks, and Jaclyn Hicks, all of Hugo, and Justin Meredith of Fort Bragg, North Carolina; a sister, Dee Lavon Curry and husband, Robert, of Albion, three nieces and one nephew.

Ruby Joyce Rose

Ruby Joyce Rose, 71, of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma passed away Friday, June 7, 2002 at the Ada Retirement Care Center in Ada, Oklahoma. She was born July 8, 1930 in Wynnewood, Oklahoma to Warren "Mike" and Christine Lee (Cregger) Latimer.

She and William Glenn Rose were married on August 21, 1948 in Pauls Valley.

Joyce worked at the Four Sands Motel for many years as a desk clerk and was a member of Pentecostal Church of God. The Pauls Valley and Wynnewood area has been her home most of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband on August 30, 1978; two sons, David Allen Rose and Jimmy Rose; a brother, Larry Latimer, and a sister, Vera Norman.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Carol and A.C. Hinton of Pauls Valley and Glenda and Tom Williams of Cleveland, Oklahoma; two sisters, Linda Ashley and Elaine Brown and her husband, Benny, all of Pauls Valley; three grandchildren, Lynn Lyles, Michael Doughty and David Hinton; two great-grandchildren; two aunts, Sue Elliott of Del City, Oklahoma and Bebe Elliott of Stone-wall, Oklahoma, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Mattie Bell (Litchford) Loman

Mattie Bell (Litchford) Loman, 85, passed away Monday, May 6, 2002 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She was born November 8, 1916 in Willow Springs, Oklahoma, the daughter of James and Sillena Litchford.

She married Louis Loman on August 12, 1933 in Willow Springs.

Mrs. Loman was a longtime member of 49th and Tacoma Church of Christ in Tulsa.

Her parents, husband and two sisters preceded her in death.

Survivors include two sons, Isaac Loman of Moorcroft, Wyoming and Jim Loman Sr. of Sand Springs, Oklahoma; one daughter, Sillena Roeder of Tulsa; two sisters, Margie Ryan of Tuttle, Oklahoma and Mary Murray of Tulsa; a brother, James A. Litchford, Jr. of Wichita, Kansas; eleven grandchildren and several great- and great-great-grandchildren.



Eugene Dwight

Eugene Dwight, 47, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma passed away Friday, May 24, 2002 at McCurtain Memorial Hospital in Idabel. He was born June 29, 1954, the son of Norman Dwight and Marilyn Colbert.

He was a member of Myrtlewood Baptist Church. He loved his family, grandchildren, and friends and enjoyed the out-of-doors. He lived in McCurtain County all of his life.

He was preceded in death by his father, Norman D. Dwight; his stepfather, Nicholas Colbert; one brother, Jonathan Dwight, and three nephews, Jason, Kevin and Warren Dwight.

Survivors include his daughter and son-in-law, Tana and Eric Rowell of Broken Bow; one son, Kameron Dwight of Broken Bow; ex-wife, Corliss Dwight of Broken Bow; mother, Marilyn Colbert of Broken Bow; two sisters, Shirley James and Vicky Amos, both of Broken Bow; one brother, Ricky Dwight; two grandchildren, Emily and Keaton Rowell; several nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends.

Nicholas Dwayne "Nick" Benson

Nicholas Dwayne "Nick" Benson, 21, passed away on January 30, 2002. He was born July 3, 1980.

He was preceded in death naturally by his maternal grandmother, Mary Logan and paternal great-grandfather, Carl W. Logan. Nick lost his life in defense of his home and in that manner he was preceded by Andy Hope, for his country, and Josh Logan, for his city.

Nick was a lifelong resident of Northwest Louisiana. A precocious actor in grade school, he brought the ham to most family get-togethers. Nick was a successful athlete through high school. He was a painter employed with a well-respected contractor. With a kind word and smile for anyone he met, Nick was a solid son, brother and friend.

Survivors include his mother, Penny Logan and Darrell Timmerman; father, Larry D. Benson and Darlene Benson; brother, L.J. Benson and wife, Lisa, all of Shreveport, Louisiana; grandparents, J.C. and Vivian Benson and Don Logan, all of Benton; great-grandmother, Alline Logan of Poteau, Oklahoma; aunts, Lisa Flores, Shelley Logan and Logan Diane McConnell; uncles, Carl Benson, Jerry Benson, Donnie Logan and David Logan; numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Zuma Viola Bench

Zuma Viola Bench, 88, of Bakersfield, California passed away on Thursday, May 23 in Bakersfield. She was born October 15, 1913 in Tishomingo, Oklahoma to Ben and Alice Chaney.

She married George Bench on August 27, 1932 in Madill, Oklahoma. They lived in Madill until her husband's job took them to Venice, California where she stayed at home and raised her four daughters.

Her husband, George, passed away September 25, 1969. She then moved to Van Nuys, California, Wofford Heights, California and finally to Bakersfield.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one sister, Alice "Happy" Swenson, and two grandsons.

Survivors include a sister, Pearl of Santa Paula, California; brother, Odie of Oklahoma City; four daughters, Nadene Matthews of Las Vegas, Nevada, Louise Roehman of Chatsworth, California, Beverly Vavra and husband, Ron, of Bodfish, California, and Betty Still and husband, Bob, of South Lake, California; 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Robert "Bob" Pierce

Robert "Bob" Pierce, 61, passed away Thursday, May 30, 2002. He was born October 28, 1940 in Antlers, Oklahoma.

A proud member of the Choctaw Nation, he was devoted to his profession and passion, football. He was devoted to every player he coached and thought of each one as a son. Bob's desire was to instill in his players a sense of accomplishment and pride through athletic achievement. His hope was that they carry those traits throughout their lives. He was truly worthy of the title, "Coach." He formed lifelong friendships with many of his former players. He was proud to be part of several championship teams at Jenks, Sand Springs, Anadarko, Antlers and Ryan. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Coach's Association Hall of Fame in 1996.

Survivors include his wife, Carole; his children, Rhonda and Randy; grandchildren, Bailee and Amanda; his mother, Josephine Pierce; brother, Joe Packnett; sisters, Frances Hauser, Maudean Harden and Darlene Wataseh, and numerous relatives, friends, colleagues and former players and students.

Myrtle Marie Carterby Strait

Myrtle Marie Carterby Strait, 73, of Whittier, California passed away Saturday, April 13, 2002 at the Hospice House in Whittier. She was born October 25, 1928 in Bethel, Oklahoma to Edna and Jacob Carterby, the oldest of five children and was a full-blooded Choctaw.

Myrtle first attended a boarding school directed by Presbyterian Church of America until the tenth grade. She then attended Chilocco Agricultural Indian School and graduated May 22, 1950. One of the fondest memories from school was playing basketball.

Myrtle met her husband, Bill, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. After they married, they lived in Oklahoma until 1958 when they moved to Los Angeles, California. In 1966, they moved to La Mirada, California where they spent the rest of their married life together.

Not only did Myrtle work as a baker for 17 years, she raised seven children and one grandchild. She was active during her life as a den mother, member of the Whittier Mothers of Twins Club, member of the La Mirada Seniors Club, and she also volunteered at St. Paul in La Mirada, California. Myrtle enjoyed attending the Choctaw language classes in Anaheim where she would be able to hear the words of her first language, where she would meet some old Choctaw friends from Oklahoma and also, make some new Choctaw friends.

Myrtle had a wonderful sense of humor and loved to laugh. She loved to cook and her fried chicken, German chocolate cake and banana will be greatly missed. She enjoyed listening to country and big band music, and most of all, loved being with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father, one brother, three sisters, her husband, one daughter, one son and one grandson.

Survivors include her sister, Cealis Carterby of Ardmore, Oklahoma; two sons, Ron Strait of New Jersey and Gary Strait of Whittier; four daughters, Theresa Schulte of Garden Grove, California, Kathy Jaragowsky, Pam Reeder and Shelly Ody, all of Whittier; eight grandchildren, Bill Heddy, Nina Sandoval, Justin Heddy, Tess Gamble, Alison Ody, Lindsay Reeder, Samantha Ody, and Jennifer Ody; one great-grandson, Kevin Sandoval, Jr., and many nephews, nieces and other relatives and friends.



Dorothy Jean Mathews

Dorothy Jean Mathews, 63, of Sapulpa, Oklahoma passed away May 15, 2002. She was a full-blood Choctaw who liked gospel singing, attended church at Pickett Chapel and loved to play the piano.

She was born July 11, 1938 in Cravens, Oklahoma. She attended school at Goodland, Red Oak and Chilocco Indian School. She was employed by Tulsa World in June 1994 in the Accounting Department where she processed retail tear sheets. She left her job in April of 1999 after beginning kidney dialysis.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, Lula and Roosevelt Henry; brother, Arthur Henry; son, Eugene Brian Matthews; grandsons, Russell McCoy Jr. and Aron Morton.

Survivors include her daughters, Teresa Mathews and Sherry Johnson, both of Tulsa, Ramona Partridge and Sheila Mathews, both of Sapulpa; sister, JoAnn Bruner of Lawton; two brothers, Cordell Henry of Clinton and MacArthur Henry of McAlester; ten grandchildren, Justin McCoy, Michelle Graham, Kody Whitehead, Ky Mathews, Ashley Johnson, Melissa Graham, Jared Harjo, Jamie Harjo, Vincent Partridge Jr., and Matthew Partridge, and one great-grandchild, Chibey M. McCoy.

Edith Roberts Daney

Edith Roberts Daney, 94, passed away Friday, May 31, 2002 at Grace Living Center in Oklahoma City. She was born September 11, 1907 to George and Alta Roberts in Whitefield, Oklahoma.

Edith married Ben Daney on February 14, 1925 in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma. She raised her family with great love and care. Edith served alongside her husband in church ministries and was active in Woman's Missionary Union organization, supporting local and world missions through praying and giving. The Daney's ministered to many churches with Ben as pastor at Talihina, Sasakwa, Ada, Ardmore, Fittstown and McAlester. They were also instrumental in establishing Indian Missions in Hugo, Broken Bow, McAlester, Tulsa and Wyoming. The Rev. Daney was heavily involved in the development of the Indian Youth Camp at Kiamichi Baptist Assembly and a faithful servant of the Choctaw-Chickasaw Baptist Association.

Edith was preceded in death by her husband, her parents and two brothers, Denver and Oren Roberts, and son-in-law Joe Engavo.

Survivors include seven children, Louise and David Paddlety of Anadarko, Oklahoma, Herschell and Vicki Daney of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, Peggy and John Shoemaker of Moore, Oklahoma, Billie Engavo of Ft. Washakie, Wyoming, Jean and Dennis Florence of Oklahoma City, Dan and Lynda Daney of Blackfoot, Idaho and Melody and Steve Brown of Sand Springs, Oklahoma; 20 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Steven Wayne Anderson

Steven W. "Steve" Anderson, 46, of Ponca City, Oklahoma passed away June 11, 2002 at his residence. He was born November 18, 1955 in Ada, Oklahoma, the fourth child of Bill R. and Katherine Bell Anderson. He attended school in Pond Creek and received his bachelor's degree from Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva.

He enjoyed flowers and gardening, but especially loved spending time with his friends and family. He was a special person who will be missed by all who knew and loved him. He was a gifted floral designer whose work reflected his love of flowers and nature and was employed at Colonial Florist in Stillwater.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Bethel and Gertie Anderson of Talihina, Oklahoma and Hattie and Robert Bell, formerly of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Survivors include close friend Ron Davis; his parents, Bill and Katherine Anderson of Ponca City; brothers, Bill Anderson and his wife, Diana, of Houston, Texas and Brian Anderson and his wife, Tammie, of Edmond, Oklahoma; sisters, Teresa Day and her husband, Jim, of Sugar Land, Texas, and Shirley Honigsberg and her husband, Mike, of Enid; and his adored nieces and nephews. He also had one great-nephew and two great-nieces.

