



BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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July 2003 Issue

Enroll now at Jones

Academy

Jones Academy is accepting applications for the 2003-04 school year. Openings are available in grades 1 through 12. Grades 1 and 2 will be taught on campus at Jones Academy. Students must have a CDIB. For an application, call toll-free 888-767-2518; access www.choctwnation.com, follow the link to Programs and then to Education; write to Jones Academy, HCR 74 Box 102-5, Hartshorne, OK 74547, or e-mail bspears@bia.edu.

Homebuyer Education Workshop

Do you dream of owning your own home? The Choctaw Nation Home Finance Department offers a variety of programs to help you become a homeowner. Free workshops and homebuyer counseling services provide the information you will need to help you become a homeowner.

These services are available to any Native American, at all income levels. Issues covered include budgeting, insurance, realtors, lending process and credit issues.

Classes will be held in McAlester on July 17. To register for the class or get more information, please call Nancy Kirby at the Choctaw Housing Authority, 1-800-235-3087, ext. 301.

Membership card required for many educational benefits

School will begin again soon and many will start college in the fall. You must have your adult membership to be eligible for many of the educational funds. If you are turning 18 in the next few months, please complete a new Tribal Membership application and return it to the Tribal Membership Office with your minor card.

New babies, too, need to have their CDIB and Tribal Membership cards as soon as their state birth certificates have been obtained. The Choctaw Nation has several programs for young children and they must have their own CDIB and membership to qualify for the programs.

For more information or to obtain applications, please call the Tribal Membership office in Durant, Oklahoma at 580-924-8280 or 800-522-6170.

Book preserves Choctaw history and culture

"The Choctaw of Oklahoma" spans over centuries of struggles and challenges of a people who always come back more resilient and prosperous than before their misfortune.

After three years of writing and a lifetime of love of researching the Chocaw, Dr. James Milligan has completed his historical book, "The Choctaw of Oklahoma."

Because of Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, and the twelve Tribal Council members' vision to preserve our culture and history, this historical account of the Choctaw has become a reality.

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

Dr. Milligan is the author of seven books along with numerous articles, journals, and book reviews. He received his doctorate in 1975 from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. He is a retired history instructor who has taught at Texas Tech University, Arkansas State University, and Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant.

"The Choctaw of Oklahoma" is some 400 pages that represent an integral part of our U.S. history, a history of struggle and survival among a culture that has emerged into a thriving and resourceful people.

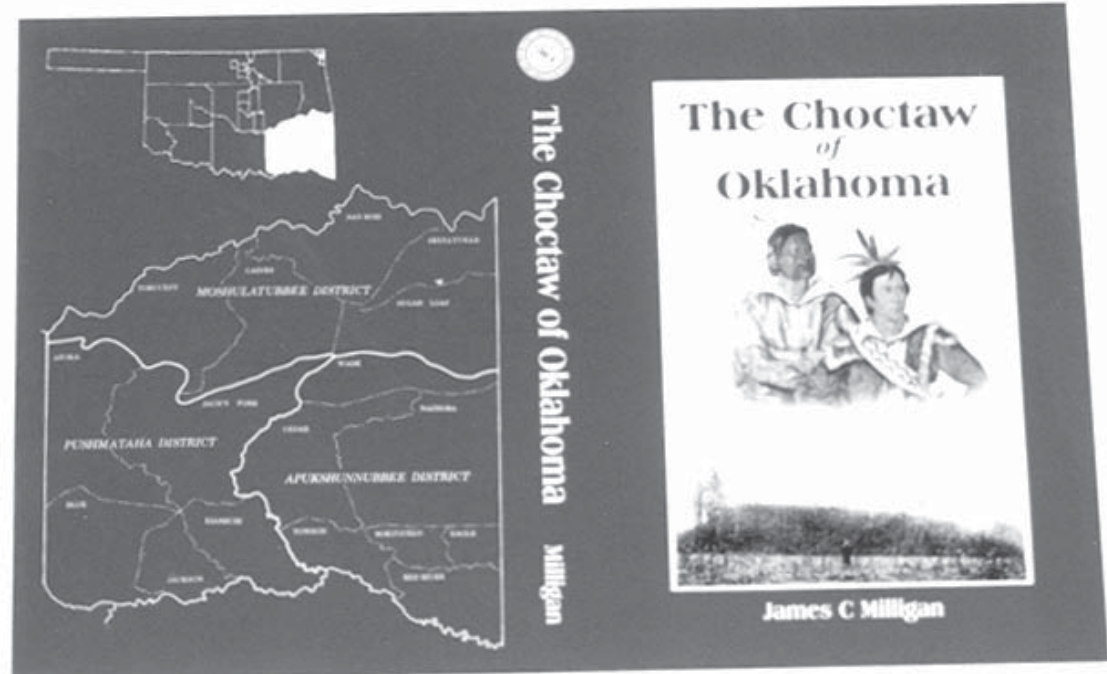
"The Choctaw of Oklahoma" is 17 chapters that present the cultural values, customs, and an inner will of the Choctaw to live in spite of disturbing truths of violence and injustice. This book spans over centuries of struggles and challenges of a people who always come back more resilient and prosperous than before their misfortune.

This book should rest on the shelves of Oklahoma history classrooms.

The price of "The Choctaw of Oklahoma" is \$30. To purchase this exciting new book depicting the recreation, customs, religion and historical account of "The Choctaw of Oklahoma," call The Choctaw Book Store at 1-888-932-9199. Please have your credit card ready when calling. All pre-ordered books will be shipped on August 1, 2003.

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

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



Final children's book at publishers

The fifth and final children's book in the wonderful collector's series of five books is now at the publishers. "Push and Indian Time" will be back from the press and ready for delivery the last week of July. Each book in the series is written by Mary M. Frye, illustrated by Norma Howard and translated by Henry J. Willis. Editor-in-Chief is Joy Culbreath.

The series of five children's books is a terrific collection to have for years, to pass down from generation to generation. Each book tells the story in En-

glish and in Choctaw, a brilliant combination for the Choctaw speaker and non-speakers alike. If you haven't started your collection of all five children's books, now would be a wonderful time to get all five books. "Push and Indian Time" can be purchased from the Choctaw Crafts & Books Store for \$20 plus shipping.

Place your order now and be ready when the books are delivered. Contact Choctaw Crafts & Books, P.O. Box 668, Durant, OK 74702; 580-931-9144 or toll-free 1-888-932-9199.



Choctaw seals unveiled at dormitory

Two large Choctaw Nation seals were unveiled at Eastern Oklahoma State College on June 18. The seals were placed on the Choctaw Nation American Indian Center, a dormitory housing Native American Students at EOSC.



Youth enjoy Wellness Camp

The Youth Wellness Camp was held on June 16 and 17 on the Capitol grounds at Tushka Homma. Over 140 youth from around the Choctaw Nation were given lessons on first aid, diabetes education and learned how to help prevent tick, snake and spider bites. They were also able to observe venomous snakes from a short distance so that in the future the children would be able to identify the dangerous types of snakes. On Thursday, they were able to look inside a Life Flight helicopter flown in from McAlester. They were able to ask questions about what happens when a person is taken by helicopter to a hospital. Special thanks is given to Subway of Poteau for donating all of the sandwiches for the second year in a row.

Council funds basketball camps in Choctaw Nation

The June Choctaw Council meeting featured legislation that is geared toward helping tribal youth. Funding for the Annual Choctaw Nation Basketball Camp was approved so that 320 young Choctaws can participate. Applications for the camp were sent to all schools prior to the end of the school year. Two camps will be held, one in the northern area and one in the southern area of Choctaw Nation.

Funding was appropriated for the Jones Academy Academic Program. The program will begin with the first and second grades this fall. The budget includes a modular building for classrooms, teacher salary, utilities and supplies.

Improvements for Phase II of the Tushka Homma museum received appropriations. The second phase of the project includes display and preservation efforts. General upgrades to the Capitol Grounds were also funded, including electrical improvements and completion of a new facility for Photo IDs.

The budget was approved for Projects with Industry (PWI), which is a program to create and expand job and career opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Other budgets which were approved by the Council included Jones Academy Administration on Aging, Caregiver Support Program and the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

The Durant Literacy Council received an allocation to continue the partnership between themselves and the tribe. The Literacy Council assists Choctaw adults who read below the seventh grade level to improve their reading skills to a point where they will feel comfortable in enrolling in the Adult Education Program.

The Council also agreed to assist the Durant High School Visions Program to help with their summer program.

Farming and grazing leases were approved in Idabel and Wilburton.

Farmers Market set up in Atoka

The new Choctaw Nation Travel Plaza in Atoka now has a Farmers Market next door. The Choctaw Nation constructed a large covered awning for local farmers to set up and sell fruits and vegetables.

There is no charge for farmers to utilize the facility, and a convenient walkway has been built from the travel plaza so that customers can walk across from the store. There is also a driveway to the farmers market making it more accessible for farmers to drive directly to the awning to unload.

"The location is the intersection of Hwy. 69/75 and Hwy. 7, which should be a great spot for the farmers to sell their goods," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "The Choctaw Nation was delighted to be able to offer this service to the Atoka area farmers and consumers."



Connie Watson of Caney helps her dad, Jim Prewett, with his stand.

Letters



Enjoyed Bakersfield gathering

Dear Editor,

Just a note of appreciation for the gathering in Bakersfield this past May. We came from Bellflower hoping the rain would pass, but it didn't. We still had a joyous time running to our cars and waiting out the storm, laughing and playing games, then going back to the gathering to eat a delicious meal and hear the Chief speak.

We love the outdoors and the beautiful river that flows through the park, and we look forward to next year's gathering, come wind, rain or snow (but hopefully sunshine). My family of eight really had a blessed time. Thanks to all the Choctaws who came from Oklahoma.

Carolyn Gilbert
Bellflower, California

Councilman Bryant helps with rodeo

Dear Editor,

The Smithville Ropers & Riders Club would like to say a big thank you to Councilman Kenny Bryant for help at the Smithville Rodeo.

Soldier honored to serve

Dear Chief Pyle,

I would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for its support for the troops deployed in the Middle East. Your packages meant so much to many of the soldiers here. As a soldier, I am honored to be able to serve my nation and my tribe. Thanks again.

Sgt. Yannash U. Scott

Thankful to all who helped

Dear Chief Pyle,

I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks to whom it is due.

First of all, I would like to acknowledge the good Lord for his mighty works through the Choctaw Nation.

Over a year ago, my son came down with a spinal cord disorder in which he is currently in a wheelchair. Through request, the Choctaw Nation Housing Authority came and renovated and converted our bathroom into a handicap accessible bathroom.

A couple of weeks ago, a tornado came through Broken Bow, and the wind downed a large tree on top of our house, causing some damage. Again, the Choctaw Nation Housing Authority came and cut up the trees and hauled them away. It was told to me that they would put a new roof on for us, for which I am eternally grateful.

Yakoke, Chief Gregory Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Councilman Mike Amos, Herbert Jessie, Shannon McDaniel, Charlene Grunstad, and all the staff of the Choctaw Nation. God bless you all.

Randall Watson
Broken Bow, Oklahoma

Councilman Dosh supports teams

Dear Mr. Dosh,

Thanks so much for your support in softball and baseball. Without your support the last few years, the children would not be wearing the sharp uniforms that you see them in today! We appreciate all that you have done and hope you can watch us play sometime. So far we are undefeated in League and hope to have a winning season. The girls truly love softball!

Sheila Folsom and Bear Necessity



Student continues striving toward goal

Dear Chief Pyle and the Choctaw Nation,

I would like to express my gratitude to the Choctaw Nation Higher Education Department for past scholarships that have been considerably donated throughout my four years of college. I graduated May 2003 from Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas, Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. in Communication Disorders.

My ultimate desire to become a Speech-Language Pathologist will be further pursued, as I am currently enrolled in the graduate program at Lamar University. I am extremely grateful to the Choctaw Nation for their financial aid as I continue to achieve my educational goal. Thank you for your assistance and support.

Stacie Chambers
Kountze, Texas

Seeking information

Dear Editor,

I am trying to make contact with anyone who can give me information concerning Michael Rodney Taylor. His age is approximately 62. His mother's name is Nadyne Taylor (maiden name unknown) and his father is James Taylor. I would appreciate any assistance. Anyone with information please contact me. Feel free to call collect. Thank you.

Ramona L. Tan
571-258-0690
e-mail: ritan@msn.com

Gregory E. Pyle
Chief

The Official
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Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Judy Allen, Editor
Lisa Reed, Assistant Editor
Vonna Shults, Webmaster
Brenda Wilson, Technical Assistant
Melissa Stevens, Circulation Manager
Faye Self, Community Liaison

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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District 4 Princesses

Northern LeFlore County Choctaws chose their royalty. Pictured above from left are Ivana Battiest, Miss Choctaw Nation for 2002-2003 who was on hand to crown the winners of the District 4 Princess Pageant; Jennifer Charshall, Senior Princess; Jessica Colwell, Junior Princess, and Amber Colwell, Little Miss. Other contestants pictured are Lucinda Roberts, Marriah Barnard, Taylor O'Neal and Jennifer Darneal.

Those competing for "Little Miss" were Amber Colwell, daughter of Darryl and Thelma Colwell of Panama; Marriah Barnard of Poteau, daughter of William Barnard and Stephanie Battice; Taylor O'Neal,

daughter of Keith and Deanne O'Neal of Summerfield, and Lucinda Roberts, daughter of Suzette Roberts of Poteau. The contestant for "Junior Miss" was Jessica Colwell, daughter of Darryl and Thelma Colwell of Panama. Contestants for "Senior Miss" were Jennifer Darneal, daughter of Bob and June Darneal of Spiro, and Jennifer Carshall, daughter of Victor and Denise Carshall of Poteau. District princesses receive flowers, trophies and cash prizes from their Councilman and a generous check from the Choctaw Nation. District 4 Senior Miss also received a scholarship to Carl Albert State College for the 2003-04 school year.



District 2 Princesses

Councilman Mike Amos has announced the winners of the District 2 Princess Pageant. Pictured are Junior Miss Sara Smith, left, daughter of LaDell Smith and Lisa Clement of Broken Bow, and Little Miss Wendy Taylor, daughter of Damon Taylor of Durant and Lisa Taylor of Broken Bow. Not pictured is Senior Miss Nicole Billy, the daughter of Curtis and Terri Billy of Broken Bow.

All of the Choctaw Nation District Princesses will be competing in the Miss Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Princess Pageant at 10:00 a.m. August 30 at the Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma.

Package is timely and welcome

Dear Chief Pyle,

I wanted to take a few minutes to express my gratitude for the care package our tribe has sent. I need not tell you that supplies here on the "front" are running low and that it will be a while until basic personal hygiene items are readily available to the soldiers. Your care package has been both timely and indeed welcomed by not only me, but my soldiers as well.

So, from the soldiers and NCO of CCO 2-7, *Thank you.* We hope we will get home soon and that I can thank you a little more properly then. It is with extreme pride that I serve my soldiers, family, you, the Choctaw Nation and the United States.

Sgt. Joseph McFarlan

Appreciates care package

Dear Chief Pyle,

Thank you for your care package and your support. I really appreciate it and am proud knowing that I am here defending our country like my father and his before him. I plan to make a trip to Oklahoma and visit my family there when I return to the United States. Hopefully I can thank you personally when I do.

Sp. Robert Bunch

Support is overwhelming

Dear Chief Pyle,

Thank you very much for your generous care package. The support of the American people has been overwhelming. Would you believe I've received a package three days in a row from someone I don't even know. This warms my heart and replenishes my courage. Once again, thank you on behalf of myself and my soldiers.

Cpt. Gene Porter

Tribe contributes to education

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for contributing to my college education. I am a recent graduate of Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor of Science in Finance. Your assistance enabled me to gain leadership experience, academic wisdom, and more importantly, personal growth. Words cannot express my gratitude, for without your support I would not be where I am today. Thank you for your benevolence and for allowing me to start the fulfillment of my dreams.

Kristin Bicknell
Edmond, Oklahoma

Researching ancestry

Dear Editor,

I'm looking for information on my fourth great-grandmother, Sophia Weston Chaffin, born in 1823 in Alabama, and her disabled son William South. She moved to Oklahoma about 1881 to receive assistance from the tribe as she was a widow. I believe she died in Oklahoma.

Diane Whitaker
deebeedub2@hotmail.com
5306 NE 102nd St.
Vancouver, WA 98686

Nurse appreciates Higher Ed

Dear Editor,

I would like to express my gratitude to the Choctaw Nation's Higher Education Department for their financial help the past few years. Thanks to their help I am now a graduate nurse working as a labor and delivery room nurse. Your support has helped me achieve this accomplishment. Thank you once again.

Sarah Walker, GN
Denver, Colorado



District 7 Princesses

District 7 Councilman Jack Austin announces the winners of the district's Princess Pageant held May 24. Little Miss is Latishia Davidson, daughter of Aubrey and Jennifer Davidson; Junior Miss is Sheraya "Sissy" Caldwell, daughter of A.L. and Loretha Caldwell; and Senior Miss is Matilda Taylor, daughter of Rita Billy.

Other contestants were Shineesta Tonihka, Abigail McDonald, Jessica Billy, Staci Parker, Kealey Standridge and Alyssa Martin.

Scholarship propels student higher

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I write today to thank you for all the assistance I have received during the last four years. Four years ago, I re-entered college at the University of Washington with the hope of one time receiving a bachelor's degree, nothing more. At the time, I did not have higher aspirations than making it through undergraduate school. I already dropped out of college once. I was also concerned whether I could obtain sufficient funds to propel me through undergraduate school. However, I obtained personal loans, grants, and a scholarship from the Nation. The grants and loans were personal, and although I felt personally motivated to graduate, I had already failed to graduate college once on personal motivation alone.

This time was different though, in part, because of my scholarship. This time I felt that I owed someone else something; I felt obligated to graduate, and my failure to do so would not only be a personal failure, but a tribal disappointment. I could not let my tribe down. They showed me respect by giving me a scholarship and I had to give back by at least graduating with a bachelor's degree. Fifteen months later, I did it; I had a bachelor's degree from the University of Washington.

Fortunately, graduating with a bachelor's degree was not enough; I needed more and went to law school. The tuition at a private law school was astronomical, and any assistance from any source was needed. Law school was difficult enough without having to worry about money. Again, the Choctaw Nation did what they could in alleviating my financial concerns; again, the tribe was there to help.

Recently, I earned my Juris Doctor from Seattle University, and began working as the prosecuting attorney and ICWA attorney for the Quinault Indian Nation in Taholah, Washington. I hope that I represent our tribe well. In sum, thank you members of the Choctaw for not only your financial support, but also your spirit. I believe that my feeling of obligation toward the tribe helped propel me to where I am today. In the future, I hope that I can give back to my Nation. I am also optimistic for other college-bound members of our Nation and I wish them luck in reaching their goals.

Ric W. Armstrong

Care package was great

Dear Chief Pyle,

The care package was great. Thank you so much for your support. It means so much to know people back home really care. Keep up the good work back home. See ya soon.

Sp. Samuel Clint Blackburn

Choctaw is smiling

Dear Editor,

My daughter, Amber, and I would like to thank Chief Pyle and Dr. Evington at the Talihina Clinic for helping Amber get new dentures. Amber was kicked by a horse four years ago and has been wearing a temporary flipper. Thanks to Chief Pyle, Dr. Evington and the Choctaw Nation, Amber now has a smile she can be proud of.

Kim Butler

Package shows support

Dear Chief Pyle,

Thank you so much for the care package. It really helps to know that away from our loved ones and home, we have the support and thoughts and prayers from people back home. Again, thank you so much. God bless you all.

James Sutton

From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Festival features Pow Wow, tournaments, free carnival

I hope to welcome you all to the Labor Day Festival, which begins August 29 and lasts through Monday, September 1. The activities on Friday are among my favorite events during the four-day weekend. The Pow Wow features some of the best dancers in the entire Nation. Experienced dancers ranging from World Champions to tiny youngsters are in the Grand Entry on Friday evening. Last year, we tried an alternative location for the competitions and exhibitions, but this year the Pow Wow will be held back on the grassy lawn between the Capitol Building Museum and the War Memorial.

The Indian Village is being rebuilt across the road from the Capitol Building, in an area south of the ball fields. Huts, or hogans, will be built along traditional guidelines in the upcoming phase of construction, and individuals will be on hand throughout the weekend to share the Choctaw culture. Our great heritage will be shown through crafts, storytelling and food. Visiting the village is a "must do" stop during the Festival.

Herd of buffalo are located not far from the village, and scheduled tours on Saturday and Sunday can take visitors and their cameras right up to the animals. The Choctaw Nation has close to 100 of the huge bison.

Last year, the Council and I found that many families were not able to purchase carnival tickets for their children to ride all of the colorful attractions. It was a unanimous decision to pay the carnival outright and allow the children on the rides, free of charge. This was such a huge success that we have decided to have the carnival rides

free for all four days again this year.

My family and I are always amazed at the tremendous variety that the Festival has to offer. There is a quilt show with both new and antique items on display, a volleyball tournament, horseshoe pitch, checkers tournament, domino tournament and a fast pitch tournament. Runners compete on a 5 kilometer course early on Saturday morning, which is followed by a pageant to choose the reigning Miss Choctaw Nation.

Activities on the playground entertain youngsters while parents and grandparents can watch from the shade. In addition to the swings, slides and fun activities set up just for the Labor Day Weekend, there will also be a terrapin race and "best dressed terrapin" contest.

Favorites of everyone are the Choctaw social dance exhibitions and stickball games. Spectators are always given an opportunity to participate, so be prepared to grab a set of sticks and get out on the field to experience the game our ancestors loved so much.

The second phase of the museum improvements will be open for viewing during the Labor Day weekend. The work that has been completed has enhanced the natural beauty of the building, adding modern comforts without changing the integrity of the Capitol. I look forward to walking through the beautiful displays telling the history of the Choctaw Nation.

The RV pads have all been rented for this year, but there are beautiful sites to camp at Sardis Lake, which is only a few miles away. Please try to join us this year at the festival – I would love to see you there.



From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

“Choctaw People” on local radio stations

You may have been hearing Brian Gowan's latest hit, "Choctaw People," on your local radio station recently. Not only is it a great song, highlighting the amazing talent of a young star, it has lyrics that accurately portray the story of our great heritage. I was humbled when Brian asked to base a song on a poem that I had penned about the Trail of Tears that the Choctaw people suffered across. Without the endurance of these hardy ancestors,

the Oklahoma tribe of Choctaw Indians would not exist.

The Council, Chief and I have great pride that such a tribute as this musical honor has been released worldwide to share the history of the Choctaw Nation. You will be able to hear the song at the Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma this year. The CD is also available for purchase through the Choctaw Nation by sending \$7 plus \$3.95 shipping to Choctaw Gift Shop, P.O. Box

668, Durant, OK 74702. It is also possible to order over the phone with a credit card by calling (580) 931-9144 or (888) 932-9199.

Brian Gowan is donating proceeds from the sale of the song, "Choctaw People," to Jones Academy. He has already delivered a check for \$2,500 to the school administrator to assist with expenses incurred with the care of the 180 students enrolled there.



BRIAN GOWAN



Honorary troopers

Choctaw Chief Gregory Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey were presented plaques designating them honorary members of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. Troopers making the presentation are Johnny Christian, Greg Williams, Ronnie Hampton, Steve Nabors, Scott King and Mike Christian.



OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College Alumni Reunion will be October 3-5, 2003 at Choctaw Inn, south of Durant, Oklahoma. Registration begins at 2 p.m. Friday, October 3, at the Choctaw Inn Conference Room.

Several activities have been planned for the weekend – a tour of Tribal Headquarters, Friday evening fellowship and reception, Saturday morning brunch and fellowship, Saturday evening banquet, recognition of distinguished OPC alumnus, history of OPC, singing and fellowship, door prizes and several other activities.

For more information about the reunion and scheduled activities, please contact Janis Imotichey at 580-443-5468.



Longtime Jones Academy employees retire

Loyce Bell and Betty Barnes, longtime employees with Jones Academy, were honored recently with a retirement party. Loyce worked at Jones Academy for the past 30 years and Betty was employed there for 28 years. Best wishes to both of them.

LEWIS FAMILY

A family reunion for descendants of Isom Lewis and Emmiline Pulcher Lewis will be held July 11, 12 and 13 at Lake Eufaula, Fountainhead State Park (formerly Deepfork State Park). Activities will include fishing, swimming, golf and horseback riding. A potluck dinner will be held at 12:30 Saturday (we have the shelter). For those who do not like to camp out, there are motels near by. Sunday breakfast omelets cooked by Dan Fleming. For more information, contact June Lewis Fleming Slape, 9402 W. 186th St. South, Mounds, OK 74047; 918-827-4443 or 918-637-7290.

PEBSWORTH/ PEBWORTH FAMILY

Dates for the Pebsworth/Pebworth Reunion have changed.

It is now scheduled for July 11-13, 2003 at Lake Texoma State Park, Kingston, Oklahoma – Friday and Saturday at Pavilion #3, departing on the 13th.

For cabin/lodge accommodations, call 800-528-0593.

For more information, contact us at rjp352@amaonline.com or pebsworth@nts-online.net.



Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

May you have a happy and safe July 4, 2003. Holidays hold different meaning for different people – but one thing is for sure, we all like to have a reason to celebrate.

As Christians, we have much to celebrate. We love to think on the wonderful things that have been brought about in our lives. We also remember the heartaches and our own failures. At such a time we should look ahead, not with the idea of continuing with the failures, but of learning from them, not with the idea of doing less, but, with the hope of accomplishing new goals for the Glory of God.

If we did not have the promises of God we would be filled with fear. What a glorious privilege to be assured that God knows every step of the way of our lives and has made provisions.

Today we look at the topic, "The wages of sin and the Gift of God." The Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans in Romans 6:23:

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

The subject of sin has not been, and never will be a welcome one, and the preacher who preaches it is very likely to be very unpopular with the majority of the people. People do not like to be reminded of this subject. This is the reason why we seldom hear the word. "SIN" has nearly been taken out of our conversation and preaching. Have you ever heard people say, "Use the less offensive words, use the words, "mistakes," "errors." So you hear more of other words, words such as violence and crime, instead of the word sin.

But sin is still sin, no matter what name we may apply to it. It is only a little word consisting of three letters, but what a terrible meaning, for within these three letters is expressed the cause of all the sorrow and the grief of the entire world in every age, and the reason for all the suffering and pain and heartache, disease, tears and sorrow and death, is found in Romans 6:23: "The wages of sin is death; ..."

All these things are but symptoms, symptoms of sin. Trying to treat and control the symptoms will not cure the disease. True, much of these diseases have virtually disappeared but death marches on, for there are no ex-



ceptions, and all of this is because the root is "SIN," and that must be taken care of before there can be an end of death, for "The wages of sin is death."

Years ago death was honestly faced as the monster which it really is, the fruit of sin. When a person died he was placed in a black coffin, the body was carried to the cemetery by a team of black horses in a black hearse, and lowered before peoples' eyes into an open grave while the church bell tolled its solemn message of death. When you had been to that kind of a funeral you realized what death really was. Men were not afraid then to look at death and face it in all its reality in those days.

There is a record written in the history of McCurtain County in southeastern Oklahoma, which has much to say of the Choctaw Indians. I was impressed how the early Choctaw preachers stood firm and true to the Word of God.

I share with you a page from the McCurtain County and Southeast Oklahoma history of the late John Garland, a most zealous Choctaw preacher of his time. All of the years of John Garland's life, up to the last six years prior to his death, according to his own words, Mr. Garland was steeped in sin and degredation, even having the blood of many of his tribesmen upon his hands. But John Garland was converted under the sledgehammer eloquence of preachers of the old school, preachers who held to the doctrine of a literal hell, and who had no compromise to make with sin, and he carried this doctrine into the pulpit when he began his ministry.

A few years after John Garland began preaching he was called upon to preach the funeral of one

of his old friends and associates and I quote the excerpt of Mr. John Garland's funeral sermon:

"My friends, we have met today to pay the last sad respects to our departed friend, who is here in his last home before us, and it grieves my heart to know that he is no longer one among us.

"I have learned from my Bible that there are no circumstances or conditions under which a man, especially a preacher, should lie, not even for his best friend, dead or alive. I have known this man since my boyhood; and was intimately associated with him in many of his misdeeds and was his full partner in sin for many years. I saw him a short time ago when he was in health and full of life, and talked earnestly with him about his spiritual condition. He laughed and turned me aside with some foolish and profane remark, and now I find his body here and his soul gone to meet its reward! But will it be a reward, or will it be a punishment? God in Heaven only knows! I do not know whether or not he ever repented and obtained forgiveness for his many sins. I only hope!

"He, like all of us, had ample time to repent and ample warning as to what would be his condition if he didn't repent. I don't know! But this I do know, if my Bible be true, if he did not repent of his sins before he died, he is just as certainly in hell right now, as I am standing before you. We can only hope."

John Garland, during the early statehood of Oklahoma, was a man who was a great example in his strict adherence to the sublime virtue – TRUTH.

Why is it that we don't want to face death as a reality any more? Because we don't want to be reminded of our sins, and its awful and terrible results, but, I repeat, sin is still sin, and death is still death.

We can rejoice though as we read of God's wonderful remedy for sin and the redemption from death which He has provided: "... the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

Today you can receive God's remedy for sin. Repent! Repent means to change your mind and receive His gift.

Pray for the leaders of our United States. Pray for the leaders of our Indian Nations. God Bless America.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION						
AUGUST 2003						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Coalgate 9-10:30 Stigler 9-2 Atoka 12-2	2
3	4 Wilburton 9-12 Broken Bow 9-2	5 Talihina 9-12	6	7	8 Bethel 9-10:30 Smithville 12-2	9
10	11 Poteau (A-H) 9-2	12	13 Wright City 9-10:30 Hugo 12-2	14	15 Poteau (I-P) 9-2	16
17	18	19 Idabel 9-12	20	21 Poteau (Q-Z) 9-2	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Food Distribution Sites

ANTLERS – Choctaw Com-
modity Warehouse, 306 S.W.
“O” St.
ATOKA – National Guard Ar-
mory.
BETHEL – Choctaw Nation
Community Building.
BROKEN BOW – Choctaw
Nation Family Investment Cen-
ter.
COALGATE – Choctaw Com-
munity Center.
DURANT – Choctaw Com-
modity 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 Com-
munity Building.
TALIHINA – Boys & Girls
Club.
WILBURTON – Choctaw
Community Building.
WRIGHT CITY – Choctaw
Head Start Building.
The Food Distribution Pro-

gram 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 com-
modities when you are sched-
uled, please notify the Food Dis-
tribution Office at 580-924-7773
or 800-522-6170 so that you can
be rescheduled to go to Antlers,
Durant or McAlester.
The Food Distribution Pro-
gram does not discriminate be-
cause of sex, race, color, age,
political beliefs, religion, handi-
capped or national origin.

Parenting Education Classes to be held in Durant

The Choctaw Nation is teaming with OSU
Extension Service to sponsor a series of
Parenting Education Classes. The classes are
scheduled 6:30-8 p.m. on Thursdays, July 10,
17, 24, 31, August 7 and 14 at the Bryan County
Community Building, 1901 S. Ninth in Durant.
The Choctaw Nation is providing a light sup-
per and door prizes for the participants and, at
the completion of the classes, will provide gifts
for the participant’s children.
There is a one-time charge of \$5. Please call
the OSU Extension Office at 580-924-5312 to
register.

Session 1 – Thursday, July 10
“A Look at Discipline”
Session 2 – Thursday, July 17
“Why Children Misbehave”
Session 3 – Thursday, July 24
“To Prevent Misbehavior”
Session 4 – Thursday, July 31
“Responses to Misbehavior”
Session 5 – Thursday, August 7
“Encouraging Self-Control”
Session 6 – August 14
“Discipline Without Punishment”

Projects with Industry Program
completes Job Readiness Training

On June 17, Choctaw Nation
Projects with Industry Program
conducted a Job Readiness
Training in Broken Bow, Okla-
homa. The following individuals
received Certificates of Achieve-
ment for completing the seminar:
Rebecca Wincher, Anita
McKinney, Ted Richards,
George Richards and Dayna Sue
Dominick.
Training included, but wasn’t
limited to, identifying job career
choices, how to locate a job, how
to complete a job application,
techniques for job interviewing,
resume, and job keeping charac-
teristics.



The Projects with Industry
Program can assist many busi-
nesses that are looking for ca-
pable, dependable, and pre-
screened employees. If a busi-
ness agrees to hire an individual
through this program, the pro-
gram will be able to reimburse
for on-the-job training at 100%
of the employee salary. The busi-
ness is encouraged to retain the
individual in permanent em-
ployment at the end of the
training period. Businesses can
also take advantage of federal
tax credits of up to \$4,000 per

employee for employing a Na-
tive American with a Certificate
of Degree of Indian Blood
(CDIB).
Disabled Native Americans
who have a CDIB and are look-
ing for employment are urged to
take advantage of this program.
Individuals found eligible can
benefit from several services of-
fered such as: on-the-job train-
ing, job placement, job searches,
counseling and guidance, and job
readiness classes. This program
can assist native individuals with
disabilities which may include,

but aren’t limited to, diabetes,
mellitus, alcohol abuse/depend-
ency, orthopedic, mental health,
high blood pressure and many
more which are too numerous to
mention.
Applicants must reside in the
10 1/2 counties of the Choctaw
Nation. For further information
on services available through the
Projects with Industry Program
you may contact Randy
Hammons, PWI Director, or An-
gela Dancer, PWI Coordinator/
Sr. Counselor, at 877-285-6893
or 580-326-7758.

August Calendar						
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND PROJECTS WITH INDUSTRY PROGRAM						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A Vocational Rehabilitation and Projects With Industry representative will be available at the locations listed. A representative is available Monday thru Friday 8-4:30 except for holidays at the Hugo office.					1 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	2
3	4 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	5 Durant 10 am-2 pm	6 Stigler by appt. only McAlester 10 am-2 pm	7	8 Broken Bow 9:30 am-2 pm	9
10	11 Antlers By appt. only	12	13 Atoka 9-11 am Coalgate 12 noon-2 pm	14	15 Poteau 11 am-1:30 pm	16
17	18	19 Durant by appt only	20 Crowder by appt only McAlester by appt only	21	22 Wright City By appt. only	23
24 31	25 Bethel by appt only	26 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm	27	28	29	30

Diabetes is the fourth-leading cause of death among Native Americans in Oklahoma

Are *You* Diabetic?

SYMPTONS

- Frequent, extreme **THIRST**
- Excessive **URINATION**
- Excessive **HUNGER**
- Feeling very **TIRED**
- **NUMBNESS** or **TINGLING** in hands or feet
- **SLOW HEALING** cuts or sores

PREVENTION

- Walk regularly, move around more, eat less - *even a small weight loss can reduce your risk* for diabetes.
- Learn to make healthy food choices and be more active; a *weight gain* of 11 to 18 pounds *can double your risk* of developing diabetes.

"BATTLE DIABETES"

* Eat right * Take your medicine

* Visit your doctor

AND WIN"

McCall Leigh Cantuary
Hugo, Oklahoma

Native American Children

• Eat right and Exercise

• Fight Diabetes and Win!

Morgan Ray
Hugo, Oklahoma

BATTLE Diabetes AND WIN

For more information contact
Choctaw Nation Wellness Center

Toll-free 1-800-349-7026, Ext. 6066 • Website www.choctawnation.com

PWI recognizes two
for completing seminar

Phillip J. Wilson of McAlester, Oklahoma and Oscar Eugene Alford of Stigler, Oklahoma were recently given Certificates of Achievement for completion of a Job Readiness Training Seminar. Training included, but wasn’t limited to, identifying job career choices, how to locate a job, how to complete a job application, techniques for job interviewing, resume, and job keeping characteristics.
The Projects with Industry Program can assist many businesses that are looking for capable, dependable, and prescreened employees. For more information on the services offered through PWI, please contact Randy Hammons, PWI Director, or Angela Dancer, PWI Coordinator/Sr. Counselor, at 877-285-6893 or 580-326-7758.

Group donates to newborns

On June 3, this group of ladies from the Women’s Circle of the First Presbyterian Church in Broken Bow, Oklahoma dropped by the OB Unit at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center with blankets and stocking hats for the newborn babies. The group, along with other church groups and organizations, spend many hours making various care packages, blankets and booties for our new babies. The nurses on the OB Unit would like to thank these groups for their generosity. We greatly appreciate the gifts as do our new mothers.

Poster unveiled at Choctaw Nation Health Care Center

The Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina was chosen as the site for the national unveiling of an immunization poster aimed at Native American and Alaska Native communities. Assistant Surgeon General Walt Orenstein, MD, Director of the National Immunization Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention unveiled the new poster entitled, “Protect the Circle of Life: Immunize Our Nations,” at CNHCC in April. The unveiling was one of the highlights of Dr. Orenstein’s visit to Oklahoma as a part of National Infant Immunization Week. The poster reflects the importance of vaccinations occurring throughout the lifespan.

The state of Oklahoma and the city of Los Angeles, California were the only two sites highlighted nationally during the NIIW activities, with the Choctaw Nation being the only tribe highlighted. The Oklahoma theme, “I’m Prized. I’m Immunized,” places emphasis on the love and protection parents can give to their children when they take the time to follow up on immunization records.

“As parents we want basic things for our children,” Dr. Orenstein said. “We want them



Bob Blum, Mike Crutcher, Dr. Walt Orenstein, Edd Rhoades and Gary Batton.

to grow up knowing that they are loved and we want to provide them with opportunities to reach their full life potential. As part of that, we want them to be healthy and happy. Vaccinations are one way that parents can protect their child’s health and in turn protect the health of the community.”

As part of the festivities surrounding the poster unveiling, the Choctaw Nation Health Services, Preventive Health Service, pre-

sented information on infant immunization.

“We are very pleased to be chosen as the site for the national poster unveiling,” said Gary Batton, Choctaw Nation Executive Health Director. “The poster will be used as part of nationwide efforts to improve immunization rates, as we are doing in the Choctaw Nation.”

“Our staff works with families and communities to improve im-

munization levels across the Choctaw Nation,” said Bob Blum, CNHSA Administrator. “This poster will be another tool promoting the importance of immunization across the lifespan.”

For more information about the benefits of childhood immunizations or to get your child immunized, check with your health care provider or county health department or call CNHCC at 1-800-349-7026, ext. 6675.



BETTY WORK

Work retires after 30 years of teaching

Betty Work, a resident of Farris, Oklahoma and a teacher at Rattan School, is retiring this year. This is her 33rd year to teach. Ms. Work has devoted most of her life to education. She taught elementary for 30 years and college for 3 years at OCU and SOSU.

She has started many programs such as GED, Indian culture, career programs and a developmental reading program. She was the first female to develop programs behind the walls of the state penitentiary at McAlester. She reacted to position papers on Indian dropout programs, helped develop teaching manuals for exceptional children, worked on proposal development committees, recruited for SOSU’s biomedical research program, developed curriculum in Washington, D.C. with NEA, and worked as a Title IX Teacher Representative.

During her career, Mrs. Work received several honors and nominations such as Teacher of the Year, Choctaw of the Year, Innovative Teacher, Presidential Award for Exceptional Science and Math Teaching, and Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers for five times.

She attributes her successful career to her parents, Buck and Lousina Work, and her daughter, Darlene, as well as to an administrator who gave her academic freedom to teach.

First Indian Baptist Church welcomes all area Choctaws

All Choctaw in the Houston area are invited to worship with the First Indian Baptist Church of Houston, Texas, a multi-tribe congregation seeking to minister to American Indians and their families and needs.

The church is located at 7941 Mendez, Houston, Texas 77029.

For more information and directions please contact Willie Thompson at 713-672-0775 or Bob Bullock at 713-678-4949.



Finnegan Sage Jennings

Donna Yadon of Elverta, California would like to announce the birth of her first grandchild. Finnegan Sage Jennings was born April 29, 2003 in Bend, Oregon to Christian Jennings and Kolleen Yake. He was 6 pounds, 14 ounces and 19 inches long. He makes the fifth generation on his father’s side of the family. His great-great-grandmother is Willie Ross of Poteau, Oklahoma, and great-grandmother is Jimmie Smythe of Poteau, Oklahoma.



John Paul Jones III

John Paul II and Jerry Ladon Jones of Jonesboro, Arkansas are the parents of a son, John Paul III. The 7 pound, 7 ounce arrived Thursday, January 16, 2003 at St. Bernards Medical Center. Grandparents are Margaret Ann Freeman of Jonesboro and John Paul and Danita Jones of Marianna. Great-grandparents are John and Opal Goggins of Jonesboro and Annie Laura McDonald of Marianna. Jake is the sixth great-grandson of Chief Jackson Frazier McCurtain and Marie Riley.



Jakob Ernest Dry

Jakob Ernest Dry was born April 17, 2003. He weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 10.5 inches long.

Jakob is the son of Joe and Shelly Dry of Clyde, Ohio. He is welcomed by his three brothers, Jerrad of Muskogee, Oklahoma and Austin and James of Clyde.

His grandparents are Lucretia Burkhead of Muskogee, the late Ernest Dry, and Bill and Carol McGough of Gibsonburg, Ohio.



Kylee Dawnelle Anderson

Kylee Dawnelle Anderson was born at 10:43 p.m. on March 27, 2003 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital in Ada, Oklahoma. Kylee weighed 9 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20.2 inches long.

Proud parents are Travis and Staci Anderson of Kenefic, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Travis and Eva Jo Head and Nancy Huddleston of Talihina, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Opal Head and Dennis and Billie Huddleston of Talihina. Also welcoming Kylee are her uncle and aunt, Curtis Head and Ashley Grammar, and aunt, Shawna Head, of Talihina.

Kylie would like to wish her Mama and Papa (Dennis and Billie) a happy 57th wedding anniversary!



Ambree Jo Head

Kylee Dawnelle Anderson would like to announce the arrival of her new cousin, Ambree Jo Head. Ambree was born at 1:54 a.m. on March 31, 2003 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina, Oklahoma. She weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 inches long. Proud parents are Curtis Head and Ashley Grammar of Talihina. Grandparents are Travis and Eva Jo Head and Bill and Joni Grammar of Talihina. Great-grandparents are Opal Head and Don and Joye Huddleston of Talihina. Also welcoming Ambree are her uncle and aunt, Travis and Staci Anderson of Kenefic, Oklahoma, and aunt, Shawna Head of Talihina. Kylee and Ambree would like to wish their aunt, Shawna, a happy 15th birthday on July 24.



Braven Dakota Eades

Braven Dakota Eades was born April 22, 2003, weighing 8 pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 21.5 inches long.

Proud parents are Billy and Donna Eades.



Leilani Hateya Taylor

Leilani Hateya Taylor was born at 9:05 p.m. on April 6, 2003 at McCurtain Memorial Hospital in Idabel, Oklahoma. She weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 20 inches. Proud parents are Le’Ashley Jefferson of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and Dewayne Taylor of Sobol, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Elias, Jr. and Phyllis Roberts of Broken Bow and Mary Taylor of Broken Bow. Great-grandparents are Elias, Sr. and Josephine Roberts of Wright City, Mary Jane Jefferson of Broken Bow and Edgar and Hazel Taylor of Sobol.



Zachary Bryan Thrasher

Zachary Bryan Thrasher was born May 2, 2003. He weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21 inches in length. His parents are Candace Lebow and Daniel Thrasher. Zachary’s grandmother is Sharon (Moody) Lebow. His great-grandparents include Betty Moody and the late Lloyd Moody.



Ava Kelsi Kientz

Ava Kelsi Kientz was born December 19, 2002, weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces and measuring 19 inches in length.

Proud parents are Timothy and Holly Kientz of Austin, Texas.



Walking works wonders

Want to lose fat, get fit and have more energy? Want to improve your blood pressure, blood sugar, blood cholesterol and reduce your risk of disease? Amazingly, you can get all these benefits (and many more) from just putting one foot in front of the other!

1. Walk regularly.

The key to fitness is consistency. Start by picking a walk (or several small walks) that fits into your schedule – a walk to work, a walk to school, a walk to lunch, or a walk around the block. Make your walk a top priority – and aim for walking at least five days a week.

2. Walk 10,000 steps a day.

Research shows that walking 10,000 steps a day is all it takes to reduce stress, improve health, and reduce the risk of disease. With an inexpensive pedometer, it’s fun (and easy) to see how

WIC

WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

quickly your steps add up from simple changes like taking the stairs.

3. Walk for transportation.

Using your legs instead of a car is one of the most efficient ways to fit fitness into your day. Try walking to the grocery store, the post office, or the restaurant. If walking all the way takes too long, park in a central location – then walk back and forth to your car.

4. Walk for fun.

Walking + friends or kids or dog = FUN. A daily walk can do double duty – as a daily dose of companionship with friends, a time to connect with family, or a way to keep your pets strong and healthy. It can also be a relaxing

solo time to think or listen to music.


5. Walk outside.

In almost any weather, walking outside is possible with the right clothes and shoes. Look for safe sidewalks, country roads, and parks. Athletic fields are also fun to walk around. The ground is usually smooth – and watching a practice or game makes the time fly by.

6. Walk inside.

Remember, every step counts – every step around the house, around the office or around the mall. You can walk around the house during TV commercials; walk around the office during break time; and walk around the mall before or after a shopping trip.

Used with permission of Eat Right Montana. Developed by Dayle Hayes, MS, RD.



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 Tues. & Thurs.
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

WELLNESS CENTER SCHEDULE		
August 2003		
Date	10 a.m.-12 noon	1-3 p.m.
August 1	Daisy Store	Antlers - McDonald’s Restaurant
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention		
August 5	Atwood - Post Office	Allen - Main Street
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention		
August 7	Kinta - Across from EZ Mart	Enterprise - Hwy 9 & Hwy 71 Int.
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention		
August 12	Fanshawe - Post Office	Panola - Across from High School
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention		
August 14	Broken Bow - Choctaw Travel Plaza	Broken Bow - Choctaw Travel Plaza
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention		
August 19	Arkoma - Main Street	Pocola - Fire Department
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention		
August 22	Valliant - Store at Hwy 70	Valliant - Store at Hwy 70
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention		
August 26	Spencerville - Main Street	Sawyer - Main Street
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer’s & dementia education & prevention		

People You Know

Sweet 16!

Belated wishes for a happy birthday are sent to Marcos Leopoldo Rasha. Marcos turned 16 on May 13. He is the son of Carol Rasha. Marcos loves to play sports and attend church.

May all your dreams come true. I am very proud of you and love you very much. May God be with you always. We all wish you well from Broken Bow, Honobia and Talihina, Oklahoma.



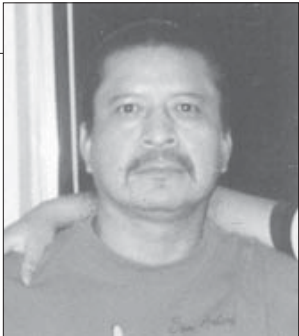
A June birthday

Dickie Lane Rasha of Fort Smith, Arkansas turned 35 years old on June 7. We all wish you lots of love and blessings. His father is the late Wedes Rasha of Ardmore. His mother is Rose Bond Ward and stepfather is Travis Ward. We love you baby brother. You're always in our hearts and prayers, from Sissy; brothers, Jim, Riley Dean and Harry Lee; nephew, Marcos Rasha; Uncle Ed and Aunt Lucy McKinney and Raymond and Thelma Johnson, of Honobia and Broken Bow, Oklahoma.



Happy birthday

Happy belated birthday to Willis Jim Rasha. He is the son of the late Wedes Rasha. His mother is Rose Bond Ward and stepfather is Travis Ward. We all wish you a good life in Washington, D.C. May God be with you and your kids. You are always in our heart. Please come home soon! We miss you and love you, from your sister, Carol, and brothers, Riley Dean, Harry, Dickie; nephew, Marcos, and Uncle Ed and Aunt Lucy McKinney, of Broken Bow, Honobia and Talihina, Oklahoma.



Happy 36th

Happy birthday to Pedro V. Lemus! He turned 36 years old on June 29. We all wish him lots of luck and happiness. May God be with you always. Thanks for being a good person and may you have many more birthdays! From all of your friends and family, Carolina, Marcos and Riley Dean.



Mark's a teenager

Happy 13th birthday to Mark Christopher Baker! We are all very proud of you and all of your accomplishments in school and sports. Mark was born on Mother's Day, May 13, 1990.

He is the son of Mark and Michelle Baker, stepson of Margaret Baker, brother of Danielle Blasko, nephew of Chris Baker, and grandson of Aaron and Linda Baker and Michael and Janice Blasko, all of Dearborn, Michigan. He is the great-grandson of Aaron Baker, Sr. and the late Juanita Baker of Battiest, Oklahoma. Mark is also the great-grandson of the late Daisy Watson of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.



Proud of our troops

Six-month-old Danny George Sullivan is proud of our American troops and we are proud of him.

Danny is the son of Christina and Danny Charles Sullivan, the grandson of Sharon Sullivan, Sammy Sullivan, Hazel Sauerbry, and the late George Sauerbry of Wilburton, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Ted Walton, the late Helyn Walton, the late Lillian Sullivan, former member of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council, and the late Sissie Copelan, all of Wilburton. Danny was born September 6, 2002 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina, Oklahoma.



Cody turns one

Happy birthday to Cody Adam Rodriguez. Cody turned one year old on March 19. His parents are Alice and Carlos Rodriguez of Waldron, Arkansas. Grandparents are George and Daisy Watson of Watson, Oklahoma. We all wish Cody a happy birthday!



Belated birthday wishes

Birthday wishes go out to Heather and Valerie Watson. Valerie turned 15 years old on March 21. Heather turned "Sweet 16" on March 23. We all love you both and wish you many, many more to come. They are the daughters of George and Daisy Watson of Watson, Oklahoma.



Hodge boys have birthdays

We would like to wish Cameron and Jordan a happy belated birthday. Jordan turned two on March 14. His older brother, Cameron, turned four on March 24. They are the sons of Sheala and Alvin A. Hodge of Waldron, Arkansas. Their grandparents are George and Daisy Watson of Watson, Oklahoma.



Happy birthday!

Deedia Francis would like to wish her father, Lloyd B. Morris, a happy birthday. He turned 84 years old on May 5. Mr. Morris was born in Hayworth, Oklahoma on May 5, 1919. He went to Chilocco Indian School and graduated in 1936. He joined the Army and served his country in Europe during World War II. He still goes to Lawton, Oklahoma for his annual Army reunion and he goes every year to the Choctaw Veterans Day. He is also retired from the U.S. Postal Service. I just want everyone to know how proud I am of him and how much I love him.



Happy birthday Erin!

Erin Marie Willis turned two years old on April 26. She celebrated her birthday with family and friends. She is the daughter of Paul and Lisa Willis of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her grandparents are Karl and Ella Willis of Tulsa and the late Richard Thunderbull, Jr. of Clinton, Oklahoma and Mary Louise Billy of El Reno, Oklahoma.



Happy sixth, Jasmine!

Jasmine Monet McCarthy celebrated her sixth birthday on June 23 with a party with relatives and friends. She loves to dance and sing. She is the daughter of Cynthia and John; sister to Milton; granddaughter of Pallie and great-granddaughter of Caroline. She has three special relatives – Aunt Ruth, Uncle Mike and Uncle Victor.



Kowan turns seven

Happy birthday to Kowan Shawn McClure, Jr. who turned seven years old on June 28. He is the only child of the late Kowan Shawn McClure, Sr. From Nana Billie Lou McClure-Malveaux, Poppo James Paul Malveaux, and Auntie Annie Schnall. Love you very much!



Tiffany turns 18

Happy birthday to Tiffany Lynn Taylor. She turned 18 on June 11. Tiffany's parents are Helen Lovett and Robert Hugh Taylor. Her grandparents are Mack and Pat Boyd of Krebs, Oklahoma, Betty Chambers of McAlester, Oklahoma and the late Bill Chambers.



Happy 14th birthday

Happy birthday to Cheyanne Nicole Lovett. She turned 14 years old on June 1.

Cheyenne's mother is Helen Lovett. Her grandparents are Mack and Pat Boyd of Krebs, Oklahoma.



Look who's ten!

Happy birthday to Candace Paige Hendrix. She turned ten years old on May 3. Her parents are David and Hope Hendrix of Hartshorne, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Mack and Pat Boyd of Krebs, Oklahoma and Vernis and Norma Hendrix of Holdenville, Oklahoma.



Weston turns eleven!

The family and friends of Weston Smalling would like to wish him a very happy eleventh birthday on June 25. Weston will be in the fifth grade at Talihina Elementary this fall. He is the son of Mikle and Tonja Smalling. Grandparents are Hubert and Norma Anderson of Talihina, Oklahoma and James Smalling and the late Betty Smalling of Whitesboro, Oklahoma.



Alex celebrates her first

Alexandra Kate Bourne celebrated her first birthday on March 29 with her family and friends. She had a "Lady Bug" theme party. Her actual birthday was March 28. Alex is the daughter of Geoff and Erica Bourne of Allen, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Larry and Carol Payne of Hugo, Oklahoma, Doug David of Idabel, Oklahoma and David and Mary Bourne of Edmond, Oklahoma. She is the great-granddaughter of Wyndle and Nadean David of Sawyer, Oklahoma, Duncan and Joyce Bourne of Melbourne, Australia, Marlene Campo of Boswell, Oklahoma and Elige Payne of Hugo.



Julianna and Kyle celebrate

Julianna Morgan Bray celebrated her third birthday on June 3. Kyle David Bray will celebrate his fifth birthday on July 25.

Their parents are Jeff and Kristen Bray of Winchester, Massachusetts. Grandparents are Fred and Doris Bray of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and their great-grandma is Opal Bray of Broken Bow.

Happy birthday!



Happy 82nd birthday to Ruthie Turner

Happy birthday wishes are sent to Ruth Turner of Atoka, Oklahoma from her son, Dean, and grandchildren, Tim and Tiffany.

Ruthie turned a young 82 on April 13.

Love from all of us. You are a blessing!



Look who's 65!

Happy birthday to Johnny Brown of Enid, Oklahoma who turned 65 on July 7.

We love you and best wishes from your mom, Lois; wife, Faye; kids, Karen, Butch, David and Dee Dee, and grandsons, Tyler, Samuel and Jacob. You're the best!



Jennifer turns ten

Jennifer Lynn Williams of Idabel, Oklahoma celebrated her tenth birthday on May 14. She is the daughter of Barry and Linda Williams of Idabel. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Arvle Williams of Summerfield, Oklahoma and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scott of Idabel.



Happy 16th, Jimmy

Happy 16th birthday on July 2 to Jimmy Eugene Hudson. He is the son of James Eugene and Diane Hudson of McAlester, Oklahoma. Jimmy is the grandson of Bill and Edna Sharp of McAlester and Gene Hudson of Talihina, Oklahoma. He will be in the 10th grade this fall at Crowder High School.



Gabriel celebrates 18th

Happy 18th birthday to Gabriel Going. His proud mother is Bertha Going and he has three brothers, Mario Going, John Going and Kevin Carterby. His grandmother is Mary Carterby. All are of Golden, Oklahoma.



Happy seventh!

We want to wish our sister, Jessica Nicole, a very happy birthday on June 29. Jessica is the daughter of Jamie Greenwood and Lupe Renteria. She attends school in Moyers, Oklahoma. Jessica's grandparents are M.T. Greenwood and the late Mildred Cole Greenwood. We love you Jessie!



Girls wish a happy birthday to Nana

Kya Mackay Pelayo and Josephine Rose Gilmore would like to wish their Nana, Rosa Gilmore, a happy birthday. She turns 70 years old on July 9.



Cousins

Cousins Jordan and James Henderson each turn seven years old this year. Jordan's birthday is June 20 and James' is July 17.

Happy birthday! Have a great day on your birthday! Love, Gramps and Gaga.



Siblings celebrate birthdays

We want to wish Gentry Ann a happy birthday on May 5. She turned 15. Her sister, Gabby Renee M. Renteria, turned eight on May 25. Happy birthday girls, we love you – Annie, Jerald and Jessica.



Happy birthday

We want to wish our favorite Uncle Bo a very happy 51st birthday on May 20.

We love you – Jerald, Annie and Jessica.



Happy birthday

We would like to wish a happy first birthday to Veronica Allen. She turned one on June 7.

We would also like to say happy belated second birthday to Dominic whose birthday was on January 26. With lots of love, Mom and Dad.



Ano Hiloha turns 47!

Joyce "Thunder" Adams is creeping towards the Big "5-0" slowly but surely. Thunder, who is of Choctaw heritage, is the Native American sponsor at Lancaster State Prison in California. A great mom and even better human being, it is with honor we say "Happy Birthday" and chi hullo li.

Happy anniversary

Happy anniversary to Wilson and Deloris Taylor of Sobol, Oklahoma on July 3.

May God bless the two of you, from your family.



Happy 17th

Happy 17th birthday to Joseph Hilton, the son of Charles and Ava Hilton of Tuskahoma, Oklahoma.

His grandparents are Wilson and Deloris Taylor of Sobol, Oklahoma, Frieda Hilton of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and “Granny” Ida Taylor of Sobol. May God bless you – love, Mom.



Happy first birthday Logan Masheli Polk!

Proud mom, Julie Polk, and family would like to wish a very happy birthday to Logan Masheli Polk. Logan turns one year old on July 24.



Teague graduates Lynchburg College

Aaron M. Teague of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania has graduated from Lynchburg College in Virginia. He was awarded a Bachelor of Science during commencement services May 16 on the campus in Lynchburg, Virginia. Aaron majored in business administration with a minor in psychology, maintaining a 3.05 grade point average. He served as captain of his varsity NCAA soccer team and was pledge marshal and founding father of the local chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity. He hopes to join the Peace Corps.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Stanley Raymond on his graduation from Lee, Nan, Tasha, Felisha, Santana, Dakota, Candis, Selena, Armondo and the rest of your family. We love you!



Manke completes first year in academy

Marlow, Oklahoma resident Timothy Manke has completed his first year of a four-year program at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Timothy is the son of Kevin and Jo Ann Manke and the great-grandson of original enrollee Louis (Bowman) Manke.



White belt in Kung-Fu

Kelly Rose Wallis tested for and earned her Kung-Fu white belt on Saturday, May 31. Also, on April 26, Kelly placed second in the 7-9 age group for her sparring competition and third in the 7-9 age group for the salute form competition. Shi-Fu (Coach) is Master A.A. Velazquez of the Black Tiger Sholin Academy in Banning, California.



Kelly's proud parents are Larry and Cassandra Wallis of Cabazon, California. Her grandparents are the late Jim Wallis and the late Lilly Mae Moore Wallis who was 4/4 Choctaw; Jackie Lee Long and Mary Ann Price, both of New Albany, Indiana. Her great-grandma is Hazel Qualkinbush of New Albany.

Kelly would like to say “hello” to her Aunt Patsy and Uncle Homer Jackson of Henryetta, Oklahoma and the rest of her family all over the United States.

Homecoming attendant

Adriana Wade Camargo Chavez was picked to be an attendant at the Heavener High School Basketball Homecoming. Adriana is six years old and a first-grader at Heavener Elementary School. She enjoys playing T-ball, basketball, cheerleading and going to her grandma's.



Proud parents are Tawanna Byington and Miguel Chavez of Poteau, Oklahoma.

Adriana would like to say hello to her cousins, aunts and uncles, and especially to her grandma, Wanda Byington, in McAlester, Oklahoma.

Jory on Dean's Honor Roll

Jory Kyle House of Soper, Oklahoma has qualified for the Spring Semester 2003 Dean's Honor Roll at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant. The Dean's Honor Roll consists of students who enrolled in and completed at least 12 semester hours, achieving a grade point average of 3.5 or above with no grade lower than a “B” during the semester.



BISHINIK deadline

The deadline for articles to be submitted for publication in the BISHINIK is the 10th of the month for the following month's edition.

Special guitar

Alec Davis of Oklahoma City is the proud new owner of a guitar autographed by the Texas Playboys. While attending a concert by the Texas Playboys in March at El Reno, Oklahoma, Alec's ticket was the lucky one in a drawing for the guitar.



Schulze selected as intern

Justin Schulze of Durant, Oklahoma has been selected for the Washington Semester American Program, the Washington Internships for Natives, at American University.

Justin is one of 56 students chosen throughout the country to participate in the program that offers opportunity to gain important work experience, learn firsthand the inner workings of a government agency, and meet other American Indian students. He will be serving a ten-week summer internship with the Department of Agriculture.

Justin is a senior at Southeastern Oklahoma State University majoring in broadcasting. Active in various student organizations, he has been a management staff member of the SOSU college radio station for three years, a member of the National Broadcasting Society, Lambda Pi Eta and Alpha Epsilon Rho. Justin was also a Presidential Leadership Class member his freshman year at SOSU.

He is the son of Stephen and Patti Schulze and the grandson of Selah and the late Gordon Schulze of Durant and Tommie and the late Coy Rosenthal of Antlers, Oklahoma.

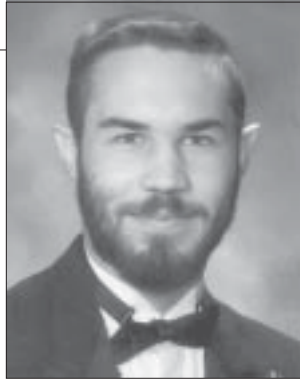


Soper valedictorian

Bill Moore is the valedictorian of Soper High School's graduating class of 2003. His grade point average is 3.931. Bill is the son of Shirley and Eddie Moore and the grandson of Melvin and the late Fay Roebuck and Doris and the late L.B. Moore.

His accomplishments include Superintendent's Honor Roll three years, Principal's Honor Roll one year, Who's Who Among American High School Students four years, National Honor Society member three years, National Honor Society reporter one year, Family Career and Community Leaders of America member three years, Community Service Award three years, STAR Events one year, yearbook staff one year, Gifted and Talented four years, freshman poetry portfolio contest winner, and voted Most Likely to Succeed.

Bill is currently in his second semester as a concurrent student at Southeastern Oklahoma State University and plans to continue his college career after graduation. He has been awarded an honors scholarship to SOSU.



Award-winning student

The U.S. Achievement Academy has announced that Tyler Keith Norrell, a Davis Middle School student, has been selected as recipient of the USAA National Leadership and Service Award, the National Academic Achievement Award and the USAA National Science Award. He was nominated for the science award by his teacher, Ms. Jeanie Worley.

At the recent Davis Middle School Awards Assembly, he received awards and certificates for Pre-Algebra, Earth Science, Technology Education, Academic Team Participation, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Certificate, scoring 95 percentile nationwide in Mathematics, Oklahoma Middle School Honor Society Certificate and Valedictorian medal. Each carrying a 4.0 grade point average, he and nine other class members shared the valedictorian honor.

Tyler is the son of Kelly Herrod and Lanny Keith Norrell, both of Davis. He is the grandson of Fred and Pat Norrell of Davis and the late Billy E. and Delores June Dresser of Sulphur, Oklahoma.



Outstanding student

Eighth-grader Ben Benson was on the honor roll at Atoka School and received a Language Arts Achievement Certificate, Science Achievement Certificate in Astronomy, and the Outstanding Student Award Technology Education. Congratulations from Mom, Dad and Aunt Sweetie Pie.



Spirit Fest cheerleader

Jacey Steed, the eleven-year-old daughter of Derek and Crystal Turner of Del City, Oklahoma, competed in the UCA Spirit Fest cheerleading competition May 17 at Whitewater Bay in Oklahoma City. Her team, the Spirit of Oklahoma, placed first in the junior division. They will move into national competition in San Antonio, Texas next year.

Jacey is the granddaughter of Denise Smith of Lawton, Oklahoma.



Atoka student honored

Atoka Elementary second-grader Sawyer Lopez was honored at the Rise and Shine program by marathon organizer Judy Loftis. Mrs. Loftis said she was proud of Lopez's outstanding efforts in making 200 laps around the football field. Sawyer was also listed on the Superintendent's Honor Roll during the entire second grade.

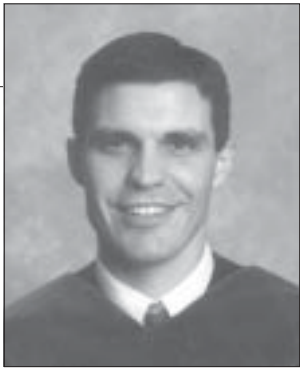


Dr. Ryan Brown honored in pediatric residency

Dr. Ryan David Brown of Oklahoma City has recently received two honors during his pediatric residency at Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City.

On May 2, he was given the Aesculapian Award during the OU Medical School's Aesculapian Awards Banquet. This award is given for excellence in teaching pediatrics and is selected by the OU medical students who receive their training at Children's Hospital. The second honor came at the Children's Hospital Annual Award Banquet on May 23. The Outstanding Resident Teaching Award is selected by fellow pediatric residents and is given in recognition of outstanding contribution to pediatric education.

Dr. Brown is a 1993 graduate of Hartshorne High School and a 2001 graduate of the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. He is the son of Carol Brown of Hartshorne and the late Bruce Brown.



Congratulations!

Congratulations Michael Davis Baker II. Michael graduated from Princeton High School on May 30 during a ceremony at the Plano Civic Center. His plans are to go to college and major in the medical field.

Michael is the son of Nancy G. John Denton and the brother of Amy Baker Vega, all of McKinney, Texas. He is the grandson of Teresa M. John and the late James John of Garvin, Oklahoma. We love you, Michael, and congratulate you. May God go with you.



Jessica turns three

Meagan, Kynadi and Kirkland would like to wish their baby sister a happy birthday. Jessica Elise Williams will celebrate her third birthday on July 31.

Jessica is the daughter of James and Melinda Williams of DeQueen, Arkansas and the granddaughter of Sharon Gipson of Wright City, Oklahoma and Earl and Lenda Williams of DeQueen. All of her aunts, uncles and cousins would also like to wish her a happy birthday.

They would also like to wish their Aunt Michelle Gipson a happy belated birthday.



Hunter turns three!

Matthew would like to wish his big brother a happy birthday. Hunter Elliott Gipson will celebrate his third birthday on July 27.

Hunter is the son of Carrie Gipson and the grandson of Sharon Gipson, both of Wright City, Oklahoma. All of his aunts, uncles and cousins would like to wish him a happy birthday.

Hunter and Matt would like to wish their Aunt Michelle Gipson a happy belated birthday. She turned 27 on June 21.



Shanelka turns eleven

Happy birthday to Shanelka Renise Barboan who will be eleven years old on July 24. She is a member of the Circle the State with Song Honor Choir for two years, JOM Student of the Year for three years, Kiwanis Terrific Student and DIS Quest and Chess Club. She loves to write short stories about her friends and her pets, a mouse named Smokey and a dog, Bear. Shanelka is the daughter of Renee Barboan of Durant, Oklahoma and the granddaughter of Shirley Barboan and the late Daniel Barboan of Durant. Her aunt, Stephanie Moore, and cousins Kevin and Kira Moore, are of Durant, and she has an uncle, Richard Barboan of Irving, Texas.



Look who's five!

Samuel Ray Dugger celebrated his birthday on June 29. He turned five years old. He just graduated pre-school and will be in kindergarten next year. He is spending most of the summer playing T-ball and learning to swim along with his sister, Cheyhoma, who graduated from kindergarten this year. His parents are Jerry and Michele Dugger who live in Hartshorne, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Sharon Martin of McAlester, Oklahoma and Frank and Jane Dugger of Hartshorne. Great-grandparents are Charleen Samuels of McAlester and the late Wesley Samuels, the late Harold and Myrtle Dugger of Hartshorne and the late Richard and Reba Pogue of Dow, Oklahoma.



Impson selected to All American Indian Bowl

Ryan Impson, son of Rick and Creda Impson of Idabel, Oklahoma, was selected to play in the 2003 All American Indian Bowl in Lawrence, Kansas in June. He was a member of the East squad. Ryan was one of three Oklahoma Choctaws to be selected to play.

Ryan's senior season includes being named All District Linebacker, All District Defense Player of the Year at linebacker, and honorable mention All State in both the Tulsa World and Daily Oklahoman. He is the grandson of the late Bob and Marcheta Impson and Shelby and the late Joy Gee, all of Antlers.



2003 Labor Day Festival Entertainment



DWIGHT YOAKAM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29
Glen "White Cloud" Bonham

~
Tammy Cochran

~
Joe Diffie,

~
Mark Chesnutt

~
and Tracy Lawrence

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Roy Clark

~
Brian Gowan

~
Neal McCoy

~
Dwight Yoakum

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

Hours of Gospel Singing
including

The Whites

~
Christlike



NEAL McCOY



THE ROCKIN' ROADHOUSE TOUR
JOE DIFFIE, MARK CHESNUTT AND TRACY LAWRENCE



THE WHITES



TAMMY COCHRAN



GLEN BONHAM



ROY CLARK



BRIAN GOWAN

CHOCTAW NATION FAST PITCH TOURNAMENT

to be held during the

Labor Day Festival

August 29, 30, 31 and September 1, 2003

at the Choctaw Capitol Grounds in Tushka Homma

\$150 entry fee – money orders only

– Deadline for entry is August 15, 2003 –

For more information, please call (580) 924-8280 or toll-free 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2224

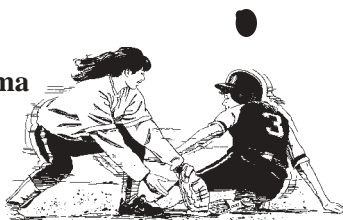
or fill out the application below and return to our office.

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



Holloway is member of Journalism Hall of Fame

Suzanne Holloway of Tulsa, Oklahoma was one of nine Oklahoma journalists inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame on March 28 in Edmond.

Holloway, a native of Antlers who graduated from the University of Oklahoma Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1936, became a reporter in Oklahoma City in the mid-1930s, working at The Daily Oklahoman from 1936 to 1940. After an absence of 30 years from the news field, during which she married petroleum engineer Bill Holloway and they had three daughters, Holloway picked up her journalism career in Tulsa after her children were grown and had finished their formal education. At normal retirement age, Holloway didn't retire. She joined the Tulsa World staff and worked there a quarter century.

When she began as a pioneering woman journalist on the news desk of the Daily Oklahoman, in the midst of the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl, social issues were in ferment. Suzanne's sister, Dorothy, had

broken some ground as women's editor at the Oklahoman in the 1920s. Holloway interviewed and wrote about such well-known persons as Will Durant, Charles Laughton and Jeanette MacDonald, also about the Community Camp (a city of tar paper shacks spawned by the Depression) and the school building explosion in New London, Texas.

When she resumed newspaper work, Americans had become more affluent, and Holloway became a food editor. For 24 years, from 1976 to 2000, she wrote a weekly column, "Chef's Choice," about Tulsa-area restaurants, never missing a deadline.

In 1997, she joined her sister, Dorothy Arnote West of Antlers, and niece, Ann Elms, in writing a family book "Reminiscences," about her parents, Andrew J. and Annie Arnote of Antlers. Suzanne was one of five children; two died in infancy. Her lawyer father, A.J. Arnote, the first district attorney of Pushmataha County, died in 1920 and Annie Arnote raised her and brother Jay through two depressions.

A large group of family members and associates were on hand as Holloway was honored at the 33rd annual induction ceremony at the University of Central Oklahoma. Holloway's daughters, Mary Richard of Oklahoma City and Susan Holloway and Judy Whittlesey, both of Washington, D.C. work in the fields of writing, political consulting and law. She has five grandchildren, Andrew Richard and Kristen Whittlesey of Nashville, Tennessee, Kate Richard of Cambridge, Massachusetts, Claire Richard of Oklahoma City and Kevin Whittlesey.

The honoree is proud of a Choctaw heritage that began 200 years ago when Sophia Folsom, a Choctaw woman, married John Pitchlynn, tribal interpreter for nearly 50 years. Her great-great-uncle was Peter Pitchlynn, a Choctaw chief. Her mother, born Annie Taaffe at what is now Tom near the Arkansas line, moved to the new railroad town of Antlers in 1889 with her six orphaned siblings and her grandmother, Betsy Harris. Holloway owns a farm southeast of Tom not far from the former Betsy Harrison ferry on Red River.

Horseshoe Tournament

Registration ends at 9:30
Saturday morning, August 30
\$5.00 Entry Fee gets you in the Singles, Doubles and Ringer Championship Tournaments. Must bring your own horse shoes. For more information please call 1-800-522-6170 - Jeremy Loper, ext. 2407 Freda Nixon - 2406



POSITION AVAILABLE

National Indian Council on Aging and the Senior Community Service Employment Program has a position available for a

NUTRITION SITE AID

at the Choctaw Nation Community Center in Coalgate, Oklahoma. This is a two year training program at 20 hours per week.

– Must be 55 years or older – Must meet income guidelines

– CDIB card-holder preferred, but not necessary

Call the Choctaw Nation Field Office in Coalgate

at 580-927-3641 for more information.

The Hern Family is hosting the

10th Annual Gospel Singing

7 p.m. July 26

at the Choctaw Nation Complex Auditorium

16th & Locust, Durant, Oklahoma

Guests to appear include:

Faith, Hope & Love - Calera, Oklahoma
Gospel Lights - Checotah, Oklahoma
Gastineau's - Ada, Oklahoma
Inheritance - Wilburton, Oklahoma
Master's Touch - Oklahoma City
Grad Joe - Ardmore, Oklahoma
Heavenly Places - Wewoka, Oklahoma

– Free Admission –

Sixth Annual Labor Day Pow Wow

Friday, August 29, 2003

Tushka Homma, Oklahoma

MC: Tim Tallchief - Jones, Oklahoma

Head Man: Don LaRoque - Poplar, Montana

Head Lady: Toni Tsatoka - Carnegie, Oklahoma

Head Gourd: Matt Jefferson - Broken Bow, Oklahoma

AD: Bill Takeshorse - Colbert, Oklahoma

Southern Drum: Bear Claw - Dallas, Texas

Northern Drum: Little Eagles - Ada, Oklahoma

Color Guard: Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

SCHEDULE

1:30 Gourd Dance

4:30 Break

6:00 Gourd Dance

7:00 Grand Entry

***** Registration**

Closes

Over \$15,000 in Prize Money



“SPECIAL” Men's Fancy Dance Contest

1st - \$1,000;
2nd - \$400; 3rd - \$300;
4th - \$200; 5th - \$100

All contest songs

4 push ups

All Inter-tribal songs

6 push ups

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

— For more information: —

Willard Polk at 580-924-8280, ext. 2349

Sue Folsom - Special Projects at 580-924-8280

Public is welcome - Free admission

Bring your powwow chairs

– All drums, princesses are invited –

Call Willard for booth information

Booth fee: \$20

No alcohol or drugs will be tolerated

ADULT CONTEST

All categories separate

Women:

Cloth - Buckskin -

Fancy Shawl - Jingle Dress

Men:

Grass - Traditional - Straight

1st-\$500; 2nd-\$400; 3rd-\$300; 4th-\$200

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 -

Fancy Shawl - Jingle Dress

Sr./Jr. Boys

Grass - Traditional - Straight - Fancy

Sr Girls/Boys:

1st-\$150; 2nd-\$125; 3rd-\$100

Jr. Girls/Boys:

1st-\$125; 2nd-\$100; 3rd- \$75

TINY TOTS CONTEST:

Under 7 yrs.

Choctaw Nation Labor Day CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday, August 30, 2003

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

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 15, 2003 at 4:30 p.m.

USA Volleyball Grass Rules Enforced

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

(required for correspondence)

3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

Saturday, August 30

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 22, 2003

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone

Mail to: **3-on-3 Basketball**

P.O. Drawer 1210

Durant, OK 74702

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 30, 2003 _____ 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



Pushmataha Hall sports festive decorations for the annual Wheelock Spring Festival featuring arts and crafts, cultural performances and great musical entertainment.



Pictured with Councilman Mike Amos are two of the guests who spent the afternoon on the grounds, Kay and Keith Baker.



John Battiest, Isaac Battiest and Fred Bobb relaxed in their lawn chairs and enjoyed the Spring weather and events at Wheelock.

Wheelock Festival



Many young people joined their families in an afternoon and evening spent on the campus of Wheelock Academy. Tiffany Jones, Nichole Jones, Kristie Baker and Josh Montanez are pictured here.

Environmental Office offers free home inspections for lead paint

In corporation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Choctaw Nation Environmental Office is currently accepting applicants for FREE lead-based paint home inspections. These inspections may include a surface-to-surface sampling of interior and exterior painted components, sampling of soil, and household dust. After the inspection is complete, the resident will receive a report showing the results of lead paint sampling and suggestions to reduce lead exposure if lead is present.

Lead is naturally occurring metal found throughout the environment and is extremely toxic to humans. It is particularly harmful to the developing brain

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), lead poisoning is the number one environmental health hazard facing American children.

and nervous systems of fetuses and young children, causing reductions in IQ and attention span, reading and learning disabilities, hyperactivity, and behavioral problems. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), lead poisoning is the number one environmental health hazard facing American children.

Selling lead-based paint for interior or exterior residential use was banned in 1978. Therefore, lead-based paint hazards are primarily a problem for homes built

before 1978. It is estimated that over 80% of all homes built before 1978 contain some lead-based paint. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) states that approximately 72% of Oklahoma's housing stock contains lead-based paint.

Lead-based paint becomes a hazard to residents when the paint is disturbed due to deterioration, friction or renovation. When lead-based paint is disturbed, lead contaminated dust is the result. The leaded dust can contaminate

items such as floors, window sills, toys, bottles, dishes and other items that children place in their mouths. In most instances, the lead-contaminated dust is visually undetectable. Soil is another source of lead contamination. Common sources of lead in residential soil include deteriorating exterior lead-based paint from houses and past use of leaded gasoline deposited onto the soil surface. Contaminated soil can be in outdoor play areas, tracked into homes, and on pets such as dogs and cats. Only sampling performed by a licensed Lead-Based Paint Inspector can determine the presence of lead.

To qualify for the FREE Lead-Based Paint Home Inspections offered by the Choctaw Nation

Environmental Health Office, applicants must:

- live in a home built before 1978
- live within the 10 1/2 counties of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- have children six years of age or younger or a pregnant woman residing in the home (this group is considered the greatest risk for lead poisoning from exposure of lead-based paint)
- have a CDIB or a copy of the child's birth certificate and parent's CDIB

This is a tremendous opportunity for tribal members who qualify for the home inspections. Lead-based paint inspections performed by private companies may charge up to \$800 per in-

spection. Due to a grant funded by the EPA, the Choctaw Nation Environmental Office is offering these inspections FREE of charge for qualified applicants. To obtain an application and schedule an appointment, please contact Melissa Robinson at the Choctaw Nation Environmental Health Office in Hugo at 580-326-9673.

If you live in a home built before 1978 and have young children, a blood test may be needed. A blood test is the best way to detect lead poisoning. Blood lead testing is recommended for children six months to six years of age. Contact your local Choctaw Nation Health Clinic or the Health Care Center in Tahleah at 1-800-349-7026 to schedule an appointment.

Dictionary Committee enlists variety of texts

Last month we listed some words which showed how different people pronounce some Choctaw words differently, or use them to mean different things. People also put their words together in different ways. This month, we have some texts that illustrate this.

You might ask, why is the Dictionary Committee dealing with texts? The answer is that, for many words, texts are our best chance to get all the words, and all the meanings of a word. Of course we have the dictionaries and definers, but there are many words which are not in them, and other words that have meanings that are not covered by these books.

To get all the words we need texts of all kinds. Of course there is the Bible, hymnal, and Psalms, and we can get most of the religious terms and a lot of other words from them. But even they do not have all the words we use in daily conversation. So, we will be trying to collect lots of different kinds of texts: remembrances, personal history, Choctaw culture and history, jokes, traditional stories, recipes, old letters, and instructions, like how to make a *kitti* and *kittush*, or how to do something like dress a deer. It goes without saying that we need texts from lots of different people, because we want to write a dictionary of the Choctaw language, not just a dictionary of what the committee knows.

We have been writing texts

ourselves, and we want to share three of them with you this month. The first text is a remembrance, an account of an event in the past, by Christine Ludlow. We give it first in Choctaw, then in English.

Hopaki yash, Yanvsh ai itvnaha pila ia ma, bokushi iti patvlhpo atukla ma ish hlopulli cha, hina shvnaia ona ikmg, okla noa hosh ittanooa kio ikmvt, issuba o binili aya ikmvt, shilup pisa beka tok mia. Yohmi thatuk o Shilup i Yakni hochifo tok.

Vmafo vt vbanumpa isht anumpuli hosh aya beka tok. Himmonah ma, kvna kvto akanka tuklo ho vmafo ima tok. Ninak ma in chukka ia hosh ayah ma, Shilup i Yakni ona fehnah ma, ngna kvto aksobalit kuchchah ma, ka kuchchvt pisah ma, akanka tuklo hosh talakchi shoffi bvna hosh tolupli ho, mak o haklo akinli tok.

Long ago, going to Buffalo Church, when you cross the second bridge, reach the second curve, the people walking or riding horseback used to see a Ghost, it is said. That is why it is called Ghost Land.

My grandfather was a minister. One time someone gave Grandpa two chickens. That night when he was going home, when he reached the Ghost Land, something made a big noise outside, and he got out of the car to look; those two chickens were jumping around trying to get loose, and that is what he heard.

The next short text is by Henry

Willis. Henry is retelling a short story from a comic strip.

Sinti vt bavlilit ayvt tvli chito vbanvblichit, vlla pisa tuk. Yohmih mvt, "Vlla ma kopoli la chih," ahnit anukfilli tuk. Mak fokalih ma, vlla ishki vt iti tpya halvlit aya tuk osh, nishkobo issot patvssalit kanchi tuk. Mihma sinti ash osh, "Onnak mak o kopoli la chike. Himmak fehna kano sv nishkobo yvt pahlatvt sv hottopa kanniah."

A snake came along and looked over a boulder and he saw this little child and thought to himself, "I'm gonna bite that little child." In the meantime the mother of the child walked up and clubbed the snake in the head and went on her way. And the snake said, "I'll bite her tomorrow. At this moment I have a splitting headache."

The last text is by Eveline Steele. This is a historical text telling how Eagletown got its name.

Chahta aiokla yvt yakni ilvppa tikba ai vlah mvt, bok Nvnih Hvchcha apotaka yo abinachit aiasha tok miyah. Yohmih ma, ossi yvt laua ho okla pisa tok mvt. Atuk o okla aiasha nahah mvt Qssi Tvmaha hochifo tok o: himmak a Qssi Tvmaha yosh hikja. Amoshi yvt Qssi Tvmaha bilika vtta hatuk osh, isht anopohonli im achukna beka tuk. Tvmaha ma Chahta im ai ittanaha sipokni achvffa kvk hikja mma. Afvmni tahlepa achvffa ont ivt kania hosh hikja mma. Afvmni tahlepa achvffa ont ivt

kania hosh hikja. McCurtain Kaunti ymma tvmaha micha bok laua anoti ai ittanaha yvt Chahta hochifo ishi, keyuh mvt Chahta mak osh ahochifo (Panki Bok, Battiest, Oka Achukma, Kvli Chito, Kvli Tuklo, Bokchito, Nvnih Chito, Nvnih Lumbo, yohmih).

The first time the Choctaw people arrived on this land, they camped along the Mt. Fork River. And they saw that there were a lot of eagles, it is said. When they had stayed there awhile, they named it Eagletown. Eagletown stands today. Because my uncle lives near Eagletown, he likes to talk about it. There in Eagletown stands an old Choctaw church about 100 plus years old. There in McCurtain County are many towns and rivers and churches with a Choctaw name or that Choctaws are named after (Grape River, Battiest, Good Water, Big Spring, Two Springs, Big River, Big Hill, Round Hill, etc.)

These texts were written by people who have spoken Choctaw all their lives, and yet you can probably find where you would have said something in a different way. This is dialect. Every dialect has been passed down by our ancestors, so we can't say that one is right and another is wrong. Each of these traditions is part of our inheritance. We want to include all of them in the dictionary.

Okla ittim anumpoli cha, anumpa fvlama et pi pilah! Yakoke!



Hope Garcia is Miss Tiny Tot

Two-year-old Hope Garcia of Dallas, Texas has been chosen Miss Tiny Tot 2003. This is her second year to attend the pageant. She has also attended the third and fourth annual Student Pow-wow in Dallas. Hope is Choctaw and proud to be an American Indian. She is looking forward to 2004. She would like to say thank you to Peggy Larney for making the dress.

Hope and her brother, Chris, will be featured in a brochure by the Dallas Intertribal. Thank you to Keith Crystal, Debra Christy, Charles Battiest and staff of Dallas Intertribal.

Amanda Gabbert is All-Stater



Amanda Gabbert, 18, has been chosen slow-pitch softball All-Stater. Amanda recently graduated from Caddo High School. She has also received Defensive Player of the Year from her school and Bryan County All-Conference Player honors for the 2003 Softball Season. She enjoyed playing in the All-State game at the OU Softball Complex in Norman, Oklahoma on June 14.

Amanda is the daughter of Billy and Brenda Gabbart of Caddo, Oklahoma and the granddaughter of Rowland and Jo-Ann Gabbart of Daisy, Oklahoma and Ed and Joyce Strickland of Caddo. She is the great-granddaughter of James H. "Buck" White of Caddo.

Amanda's family and friends would like to tell her congratulations on her achievement and wish her the best of luck in the future.

STANDING TALL



Spc. Mario R. Morales, Jr.

Spc. Mario R. Morales, Jr., a graduate of Jones Academy, is pictured in Germany with Assistant Chief Mike Bailey. Assistant Chief Bailey was touring Army bases for Ethnic Day. He and Mario are well-acquainted as Mr. Bailey was supervisor at Jones Academy during Mario's stay there. Mario started at Jones as a fifth-grader and stayed to graduate in 1994. He excelled in basketball and enjoyed showing hogs, many of them prizewinners. After high school, he attended Tiger Welding School. After finishing, he joined the Army and has been stationed many places, predominantly in Germany. Currently he is assigned to Iraq.

We know Mario receives the Bishinik and his grandmother, brother, niece and I want to take this opportunity to tell him how much we love and miss him and how proud we are of him, serving and protecting his country as are so many of America's finest. We ask everyone reading this to remember him and all our other men and women in the service in their prayers. We love you, Mario, and are waiting impatiently for your return – Mom, Pokeni, Tony and Antonia Maria.



Sgt. David Bray

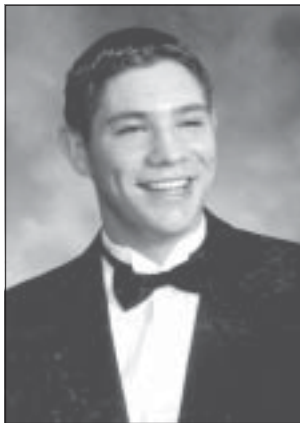
Sgt. David Bray, serving in Iraq with the 478th Engr Bn (B Co) reserves out of Ft. Thomas, Kentucky, turned 40 years old on June 15.

David and his wife, Sarah, also celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary on May 25. He resides in Lebanon, Ohio. His parents, Fred and Doris Bray, and grandmother, Opal Bray, are all of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Caldwell brothers



Gerard Caldwell



Michael Caldwell

Pvt. 1st Class Gerard A. Caldwell of Ft. Riley, Kansas, part of the Army's 1st Armored Division, was deployed to Iraq in March. After arriving in Iraq, Gerard named his tank, "Choctaw Warrior," and put a dream catcher inside. His company is now in Baghdad where they patrol the Tigress River. Gerard is the great-great-grandson of original enrollees Elizabeth Bohanan, Henry Lewis and Nora Mowdy.

Gerard's younger brother, William Michael Caldwell, is also serving in the Army. After graduating boot camp in South Carolina, he completed Advanced Individual Training in Ft. Lee, Virginia. He is stationed at Ft. Stewart, Georgia.

Gerard and Michael are very proud of their Choctaw heritage and very proud to be serving their country in the Army. The sons of William and Karen Caldwell of Smithville, Oklahoma, they graduated from Smithville High School in 1998 and 2000. Their mom, dad and two older brothers, Jeremy and Levi, are very proud and say, "come home, we love you."

PFC Jeremiah J. Palmer



Marine Corps PFC Jeremiah J. Palmer completed basic training on April 10. The course lasted a grueling 12 weeks at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally. Palmer and fellow recruits began their training at 5 a.m. by running three miles and performing calisthenics. In addition to the physical conditioning program, Palmer spent numerous hours in the classroom and field assignments which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat, and assorted weapons training. He and other recruits received the Marine Corps values, honor, courage and commitment and what the words mean in guiding personal and professional conduct. They ended a 54-hour training phase with an emotional ceremony during which they were addressed as "Marines" for the first time.

Jeremiah, the son of Ethel L. Palmer and Bobby J. Palmer of Tahina, Oklahoma, is Chickasaw-Choctaw. He is the grandson of the late Kuton and Leona Smith of Allen, Oklahoma and the great-grandson of the late Edward Palmer of Ardmore, Oklahoma and Mona Williams of Oklahoma City. Congratulations from all your family and friends. We are proud of you and we love you.

EQIP Limited Resource and Beginning Farmer Enhancements

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (FSRIA) and the current Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) final rule provide for specific enhancements for individuals considered to be a Beginning or Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher. According to Ann Colyer, Tribal Resource Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), individuals who meet the Beginning or Limited Resource Farmer definitions may be eligible to receive cost-share payments up to 90% for application of certain conservation practices under the EQIP program.

The EQIP final rule defines a "beginning farmer or rancher" as an individual or entity who (1) has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than ten consecutive years and (2) will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch. A "limited resource farmer or rancher" is defined as (1) a person with direct or indirect gross farm sales not

Tribe helps sponsor USDA informational meetings

The Choctaw Nation, CMSE and USDA (FSA) are sponsoring informational meetings throughout the 10 1/2 counties of the Choctaw Nation. The meetings are open to anyone who is interested. Various speakers are scheduled for the casual informative meetings.

Topics discussed include farm/ranch owner's real estate liabilities by trespassers and/or invited guests, hunting leases, and many more topics.

The meetings are held from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Hamburgers will be served. The first meeting was held in Bryan County. Also scheduled are: Broken Bow Field Office, July 21; Idabel Field Office, July 22; Antlers Field Office, August 21; Housing Authority, Hugo, August 22.



Bill Estes, Farm Loan Chief for the State of Oklahoma; Greg Mathis, Bryan County Farm Loan Manager; Chris Baker, Bryan County Program Technician; Jodie Dunn, CM/SE Educator/Trainer, and Bill Bailey, CM/SE Program Manager and USDA Liaison.



Ty Thomas with Championship Team Roping Saddle.

Choctaw tribal members qualify for College National Finals

Southeastern Oklahoma State University's Rodeo Team finished its regular season with a successful week in Hays, Kansas. The rodeo team faced hazardous arena conditions with 18 inches of mud and high winds but still managed to come out on top.

Ty Thomas of Idabel, Oklahoma won his first collegiate saddle by winning the year-end Team Roping title. Thomas competed for SOSU last year at the College National Finals and will again lead the men's team to Wyoming this year. Ty is a proud member of the Choctaw Nation.

Ty earned 202 points for the entire year while the next closest competitor to him earned 130. He had the saddle won even before competing in the last regional rodeo at Hays. Ty ropes with two partners from other universities, Jace Crabbs of NW and Jake Long of NEO. Ty had to choose only one partner for the College National Finals Rodeo and will be roping with NEO's Jake Long.

Junior Jade Thompson of Ratliff City, another Choctaw Nation member, and Jody Green of Marlow will represent the SOSU rodeo team at the College National Finals in the calf-roping event. Jade finished third in the average at the regional finals and Jody finished fifth. A junior, Jade qualified when he was a freshman to the CNFR while he rodeed for Murray State College in Tishomingo.

Watson is DOD opticianry expert

Chief Hospital Corpsman Brian Watson re-enlisted in the United States Navy for four more years on April 17, 2003. He has served in the Navy since June 1983. Brian is the recognized expert for DOD opticianry leading to his assignments as the Director of Production and the Director of Training for DOD's largest ophthalmic lens fabrication and training facility in Yorktown, Virginia. He supervises 140 Army, Navy and civilian opticians in the fabrication of over 400,000 pair of spectacles and training of 120 opticianry students annually. Brian's next assignment will be with the Fleet Marine Force at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina.

Brian graduated from Kellogg, Idaho, High School in 1979 and is the son of Shirley and the late N.B. Watson who was raised in Smithville, Oklahoma. He is the grandson of Ethel and the late Simon Watson, formerly of Smithville, now residing in Stayton, Oregon. Brian is married to Joyce Case and has two children, Jason and Heather. We're all so proud of Brian's accomplishments and wish him the best in his future assignments.



Recruiting at DQ-University

California's only Tribal College, an accredited 2-year post secondary institution dedicated to the progress of indigenous communities, offers

- GED
- 2-yr Associate of Arts & Science/Certificate Programs
- Student Dorms
- Small class sizes

Next Fall Session, call Genie Cowan, Dean of Affairs, DQ-U, (530) 758-0470, ext. 1032.

American Indian Affairs of Tennessee

Choctaw Indian Festival

August 2 & 3, 2003

Chucalissa Museum

Memphis, Tennessee

Cultural demonstrations include:

Pow Wow Drums & Dance Demonstration

Face Painting • Dancing • Blow Gun Shooting • Corn Grinding

• Story Telling • Bow & Arrow Shooting • Stickball Playing

Choctaw Indian Food:

Indian Taco • Hominy • Fry Bread

Hot Dogs • Hamburgers

General Admission: Adult - \$5.00; Children - \$3.00

For more information, call Chucalissa Indian Village, 901-785-3160 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

4th Annual Permian Basin

Inter-Tribal Pow-Wow

Trans-Pecos Renewal Center

Trans-Pecos American Indian Association

September 27-28, 2003

Noon Grand Entry

Odessa College Sports Center

201 W. University Blvd., Odessa, Texas

Master of Ceremony – Tim Harjo/Seminole-Chickasaw

Head Man Dancer – James "Jim" Lay/Cherokee

Head Boy Dancer – Joshua Smith

Head Lady Dancer – Anita Hitchcock/Comanche

Head Girl Dancer – Tehya Adams/Apache

Head Gourd Dancer – Hector Valencia

Arena Director – Steve Zavala

Host Northern Drum – Eagle Point, Austin, Texas

Host Southern Drum – TBA

Host Motel – Best Western Garden Oasis

All Drums Welcome!

Absolutely No Drugs or Alcohol! Security Enforced!

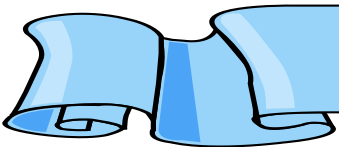
– Free Admission –

Canned Food Donations Taken:

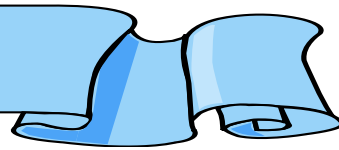
Adults: 2 cans; Children 12 & under: 1 can; Seniors: 1 can

All food donations to benefit the West Texas Food Bank

Sponsored in part by Odessa Council for the Arts & Humanities, Odessa Chamber of Commerce, Texas Commission on the Arts and the Odessa Convention & Visitors Bureau. Vendors can pre-register online at <http://tpcr.freesevers.com/rgstrfrm/html>. For more information, e-mail permianbasinpowwow@hotmail.com



OBITUARIES



Kenneth Dean Renehan

Kenneth Dean Renehan, 41, of San Antonio, Texas passed away May 1, 2003. He was born on August 24, 1961 in Burbank, California. His parents are Patricia Ann (Wright) Ammann of San Antonio and Walter Claude Renehan of Rowland Heights, California.

Kenneth was very proud of his Choctaw heritage and was learning the language. He was an accomplished musician on the accordion, clarinet and guitar. He wrote music and lyrics and enjoyed all types of music. He also wrote poetry and had been published by the National Poetry Society. He was nominated as poet of the year several times. He enjoyed woodworking, making tables, bookshelves, headboards, CD racks, plaques, etc. Kenneth loved helping people and making them laugh. He had a keen sense of humor and delighted in pulling jokes on his friends. He loved animals and loved to romp and play with them. He was a member and usher of Churchill Baptist Church in San Antonio. He was very patriotic and was a U.S. Army veteran. Kenneth's favorite saying was, "Never let the child inside you die!"

Survivors include his parents; sisters, Pamela Faye Hanson of Appleton, Wisconsin and Susan Rose Rickard of Las Vegas, Nevada; uncles, Barton William Wright, Jr. and wife, Joanne, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Melvin James Wright of Mesquite, Nevada and Roger Edwin Wright and wife, Joan, of Buena Park, California, and a host of cousins, nieces, a nephew and many, many friends.

Thelma Jean Wilcox

Thelma Jean Wilcox, 57, passed away Friday, April 11, 2003. She was born August 1, 1945 in Delano, California to Edgar Louis Martin and Ruth Lorene (Lathem) Martin.

Jean's family moved back to Matador, Texas when she was four years old, and then to Southard, Oklahoma after her mother and father divorced. She attended school at Southard, Watonga, Canton and graduated from Waynoka, Oklahoma, High School, in 1963.

She met Edward Doyle Wilcox while in high school and they were married on August 30, 1963 in Clayton, New Mexico. After they were married, they lived on the Case Ranch for many years. She worked as a secretary and bookkeeper most of her life, in addition to being a homemaker.

Jean loved teaching Vacation Bible School, working with children, animals and horses and she especially loved her family. She loved her cowboy and their cowboy way of life. She was very proud of her Indian heritage, had done a lot of research about the Choctaw Nation and was trying to learn the language. She also loved to sing and play music and was an exceptional artist. Jean was a member of the Orion Baptist Church and WMU women's organization and also belonged to the American Quarter Horse Association.

In 1992, she and Ed moved to their present home eleven miles west of Fairview where they raised quarter horses. They had been married 40 years.

She was preceded in death by her mother and a half-brother.

Survivors include her husband of the home; a son, Lee Wilcox of Mustang, Oklahoma; a daughter, Dixie Parker of Fairview, Oklahoma; a brother, David Martin of Watonga; a half-brother, Alan Cropp of Geary, Oklahoma; four grandchildren; her father, Ed Martin of Prosser, Washington, and a host of other relatives.

Charles D. Bonaparte

Charles D. Bonaparte, 84, of Red Oak, Oklahoma passed away on Sunday, January 19, 2003 at Latimer County Hospital in Wilburton, Oklahoma. He was the last of his generation.

Charles was born October 14, 1918 in Dow, Oklahoma to original enrollee Jacob Bonaparte and Dora (Paxton) Bonaparte.

He spent his childhood years in High Hill Community where he attended East Carban School.

Charles was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army.

He enjoyed the outdoors, especially gardening, raising hogs, traveling and visiting with friends. He loved people and enjoyed life.

Charles loved the Lord and to serve in the church. He was a dedicated member and lifetime Trustee of Cedar Baptist Church. He used to drive hundreds of miles for church meetings. He liked to be one of the first ones there.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 26 years, Valdona Wallen Bonaparte; adopted son, Gerald Bonaparte; his parents; stepfather, Jackson Smith; sisters, Cora Wall Thompson, Christine Smith, Aileen Smith and Dora Smith Cunningham, and brothers, Joseph, Joshua and Benjamin Bonaparte.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley Bonaparte of Red Oak; step-daughters and husbands, Christine and Raymond Mackey of Wister, Oklahoma, Erma and Harold Hegler of Daingerfield, Texas; many step-grandchildren, great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews; sister-in-law, Carolyn Bonaparte and daughters, Lavern Crain and Barbara Mustonen of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and many friends and church family.

Theda Bacinett

Theda Bara Bacinett, 72, passed away peacefully in her home with her family by her side on November 25, 2001. Born in Allen, Oklahoma on September 8, 1929, she was a Lake County resident for 27 years. Prior to that, she lived in San Diego, California.

She enjoyed cooking, sewing, gardening and her family.

She is survived by her husband, Kenneth E. Bacinett of Upper Lake, California; son, Jim Bacinett of San Diego; daughters, Donna Melville and husband, Ken, of Kelseyville, California, Debbie Rice of Loveland, Colorado and Dorey Pendleton and husband, Jerry, of Lakeport, California; her brother, Nuel Emmons and wife, Betty, of Nice, California; her best friend, Paula Connors of Lakeport; grandchildren, Stan Bacinett and wife, Erika, of San Diego, Mike Rice and wife, Corina, of Santa Rosa, California, Scot Bacinett and wife, Nathile, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; Jason Rice and wife, Fawn, of Box Elder, South Dakota, Chris Rice of Loveland, Brad Pendleton of Lakeport, Shawnte Bacinett of San Diego, Shannon Melville of Kelseyville, Chyral Bryant and husband, Mike, of Kelseyville, and Lynsey Bara Pendleton of Lakeport; eight great-grandchildren, three nieces and two nephews.



Ola Bea Parnell Steiger

Ola Bea Steiger, 85, also known as "Grannie Goose," passed away May 2, 2003, surrounded by her family in the comfort of her daughter's home in Cloverdale, California. She was born January 25, 1918 in Muse, Oklahoma, the daughter of Thomas Omer Parnell and Roxie Leona (Kennedy) Parnell.

Her brothers and sisters were Stella Jewel Moore, James Harrison Parnell, Myrtie Lee Stickle, Artie Theodore Parnell, Gracie Maybell Blake, Gladys Ethel Green, Nola Bea Blake (her twin), Opal Roxie Phillips, Omer J.C. Parnell and De Lois Toon.

Ola Bea moved to Cloverdale in 1988 to be closer to her loved ones. She enjoyed gardening, quilting, sewing and walking. She was known for her unconditional love, quilts, chocolate gravy, apple turnovers and cream pies. All who knew and loved her will miss her.

She was preceded in death by her son, Dale Green, and first husband, Olen Green.

Survivors include her husband of 52 years, Everett J. Steiger of White City, Oregon; her daughters, Earlene Belifore and Geneva Mills; son, Donald Green; eight grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren, all of California, and numerous nieces and nephews.

James Marvin Dailey

James Marvin Dailey, 64, of McAlester, Oklahoma, passed away Saturday, May 17, 2003 in McAlester. He was born July 29, 1938 in Blanco, Oklahoma to Jim and Ella (Jones) Dailey.

James worked for the Dr. Pepper bottling plant in Denison, Texas. He also volunteered for the McAlester VFW.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Loretta; two brothers, the Rev. Gilbert Frazier and the Rev. Edmond Frazier, and a sister, Laura Dailey.

Survivors include four children; two brothers, LeRoy Dailey of Savanna, Oklahoma and Edward Dailey of Kiowa, Oklahoma; two sisters, Margaret Carney of McAlester and Josephine Carney of Blanco, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Shirley Calvin

Shirley Calvin, 56, passed away April 16, 2003. She was born on January 13, 1947 in Red Oak, Oklahoma to Joe and Mozelle Jefferson.

She married Oscar Douglas Calvin in Red Oak. They were married for many years when he passed away in 1992.

Shirley worked in health care for the Choctaw Nation. She was a member of the South Rock Creek Baptist Church. She was a devoted wife, mother, aunt and friend.

Survivors include her mother, Mozelle Hancock Jefferson of Red Oak; a son, Ronnie Joe Calvin of Red Oak; two stepsons, Anthony Calvin of Gowen, Oklahoma and Robert Calvin of Red Oak; step-daughter, Rebecca Johnson of Wilburton, Oklahoma; two sisters, Ruth Morgan of Red Oak and Virginia Stallaby of Oklahoma City; half-sister, Missie Van Jones of Cartwright, Oklahoma; three grandchildren, Megan, Cortney and Thomas Calvin, all of Red Oak; a niece, several nephews, cousins and 11 step-grandchildren.

Frank James Self

Frank James Self, 80, passed away on March 25, 2003. He was born on May 11, 1922 in Hugo, Oklahoma to Albert Doss Self and Sarah Jane Spring Self. He was part Choctaw on his mother's side. Sarah Spring Self was an original enrollee in the Choctaw Nation. Frank's parents divorced when he was young and he grew up at the Goodland Presbyterian Orphanage for Native Americans. During this time, he was introduced to Christianity and survival during the hard Depression times. Frank attended Haskell Institute, an Indian boarding high school in Lawrence, Kansas. His character and faith in Jesus was shaped during these years.

When he was 15, he left school to join the Army. He became a member of the cavalry, riding motorcycles instead of horses. During World War II, he joined the Navy and served on a sub tender. After the war, he went to Oklahoma A&M on the GI bill. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees there. Frank's first job after graduating was teaching junior high school in Richmond, California. It was during Christmas break of his first year teaching that he returned to Oklahoma and met Dolores Weber. Their whirlwind courtship ended in their wedding 52 years ago.

Dolores and Frank soon moved to Lawrence, Kansas where Frank's teaching career was ended when he was called once more to join the military. This time he joined the Air Force. He spent the next 25 years traveling across the United States and even to Japan where his youngest child, Jon, was born. In 1968, Frank retired from the military and went back to his first love – education. He joined the Bureau of Indian Affairs as an administrator. He progressed from a counselor to principal to superintendent before he was medically retired in 1975. Frank and Dolores have lived in the San Diego, California area for 17 years. They have been active members of the First Baptist Church of Poway.

Frank's love of adventure and travel inspired him to take frequent road trips with his grandchildren. He wanted each of them to visit Washington, D.C. and New York with him. These adventures will remain a constant reminder of the love Frank had for his family. He was the spiritual leader of his family, instilling the love of Jesus and modeling Christian principles by his life.

He was preceded in death by his parents and four brothers, William Lee Self, Raymond Self, Roy Self and Albert Self.

Survivors include his wife, Dolores W. Self; daughters and sons-in-law, Karen and Randy Beakley of Trinity, Texas and Sarah and Richard Marcus of Tucson, Arizona; son and daughter-in-law, Jon Ross and Linda Self of Belize, Central America; sisters, Marie Walker of Hoyt, Oklahoma and Jean Dowling of Foreman, Arkansas; brothers, Barney Self and Bill Self of Foreman; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Harvey Dixon York

Harvey Dixon York, 85, passed away Thursday, May 29, 2003 at his home in Marlow, Oklahoma. He was born August 20, 1917 in Marlow, the son of Lee and Virgie (Palmer) York.

He married Freida "Jean" Drake on August 24, 1947 in Wichita Falls, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Bobby; a daughter, Marilyn, and brothers, Lee York and Steve York.

Survivors include his wife of the home; a son, Lynn York and wife, Shelia, of Geronimo, Oklahoma; daughters, Beverly Jones and husband, Jimmy, and Kathy Singleterry and husband, Foster, all of Marlow, and Marjorie Comer of Elgin, Oklahoma; brothers, Osborne York, Lee York, Jr., Henry York, George York and Milford York; sisters, Mildred Fenkell, Catherine Hughes and Nellie Marco; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



Donald Mitchell Atwood

Donald Mitchell Atwood, 72, passed away on Monday, May 12, 2003 in Tahmina, Oklahoma. He was born on Tuesday, October 14, 1930 in Heavener, Oklahoma to Clyde and Ida (Harris) Atwood.

Mr. Atwood retired from the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Postal Service in the Dallas area. He served in Korea and Vietnam, where he received the National Defense Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Korean Service Medal and Vietnam Service Medal, along with several other medals.

He was preceded in death by his parents and four siblings.

Survivors include his brothers, Jack Ray Atwood of Hodgen, Oklahoma and Clyde Atwood of Duluth, Minnesota; his caregiver and niece, Diana Stedman, and several other nieces, nephews and family members.

James Stonewall Jackson

James Stonewall Jackson, 81, a Coalgate, Oklahoma area resident for the past ten years and formerly of Atoka, Oklahoma, passed away Monday, June 9, 2003 at Valley View Regional Hospital in Ada, Oklahoma. He was born March 31, 1922 in Atoka, the son of Fulsom Chelsea Jackson and Mattie Bell (Mead) Jackson.

He attended Atoka schools and was a member of First Baptist Church in Atoka when he was younger. A veteran of World War II, Jackson was a medic and served in Sicily, Italy, France and Germany with the 180th Infantry 45th Division. He was a member of the disabled American Veterans Chapter 60 and VFW Post of Atoka.

Mr. Jackson worked in construction and in the oil fields as a roughneck. He married Eulalia Oliver on August 4, 1957 at Oxnard, California. She preceded him in death in September 1991.

Also preceding him in death were his parents; three brothers, Lloyd, Lamar and Hayden Jackson, and four sisters, Winnie, Mabel and Ada Jackson and Virginia Phillip.

Survivors include one sister, Jeanivie Carter of Coalgate; two nieces, Jennie Bell Vietta and husband, John R., of Durant, Oklahoma, and Sue Ann Humphrey and husband, Delbert, of Stuart, Oklahoma; two nephews, Lloyd O. Jackson, Jr. of California and Ernest M. Carter of Seminole, Oklahoma; one sister-in-law, Rosella "Skip" Jackson of California; numerous great-nieces, great-nephews, other relatives and many very dear and loved friends.

Virginia Mae Williams

Virginia Mae Williams, 64, of Atoka, Oklahoma passed away on Friday, July 26, 2002 at the Atoka Memorial Hospital. She was born February 2, 1938 in Bentley, Oklahoma to Mose Boyd and Harriett (Peters) Williams.

In 1957, she married Donald Lee Criner in Atoka.

She dedicated many hours to caring for others. Virginia devoted 24 years of her life helping to care for her three grandchildren. She was also a nurse's aide performing duties in numerous nursing homes, including Colonial Manor in Atoka. She was a lifelong member of the Cane Hill Methodist Church in Bentley. Virginia was exceptionally proud of her heritage and ancestry.

Virginia was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Sylvester John, and sister, Marie Parker.

Survivors include her daughter, Pam Sefcik of Atoka; grandchildren, Patricia (Sefcik) Sharp of Kansas City, Missouri and Robert Sefcik and Felix Sefcik, both of Atoka; great-grandchildren, Ashton Sharp, Savannah Sharp, Nicholas Sefcik, Tanner Sefcik and Dylon Sefcik; sisters, Geraldine White of Victorville, California and Mildred Williams of Atoka; aunt, Addie Lewis of Ardmore; nephews, Larry Parker and Michael Williams of Atoka, and numerous other relatives and many dear and loved friends.

She will be missed by many friends and family.

Hanson Lee Wade

Hanson Lee Wade, 75, passed away January 8, 2003 at Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in Durant. He was born June 1, 1927 at Bethel, Oklahoma to Robinson Wade and Malium Carterby (Leflore, Wade) Cobb. His father passed away when he was three years old. His mother remarried to Albert Cobb.

Hanson married Josephine Fobb on July 10, 1951 in Tipton, Oklahoma. He was of Presbyterian faith, a member and deacon at Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church in Pickens, Oklahoma.

They had lived in and traveled between Battiest and Frederick, Oklahoma. At one time they had lived in Ft. Worth, Texas. Then in June of 1964, relocated to Los Angeles, California through the BIA relocation program. In Los Angeles, he found employment with a manufacturing company for the first year. Later, in 1965, he gained employment with Los Angeles City Unified School District, where he worked until he retired in June of 1990 as Plant Manager III.

After returning from California in December 1990, he settled in Broken Bow, Oklahoma until the last year of his life when he resided in a nursing facility in Durant, Oklahoma.

Mr. Wade loved sports, playing baseball and basketball as a youth. He also spent some time as a bronc and bull rider in rodeos. He loved country/western music and enjoyed singing gospel songs. He was an avid guitar player in his younger days. At one time in his teens, he played with Bob Wills. He also sang with Ernest Tubb.

He was an exceptional and strong Christian worker. He enjoyed going to gospel singings at different churches, no matter the distance. As a Christian, he believed in helping others. No one was turned away when asking for help.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his stepdad; his wife; six sisters, Dena Hensley, Lorincie Hicks, Amanda Marshall, Artemisue Wade, Suzanne Burris and Nellie Faye Beers; two brothers, Carlo Wade and Samuel Wade; nephew, Joe Ray Hicks, and niece Pearlina Osburne.

Survivors include a sister, Josephine Reyes of Frederick, Oklahoma; two sons, Thomas Noah, Sr. of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and Jimmy L. Wade of Calera, Oklahoma; a daughter, Joyce L. Gilmore of Calera; seven grandchildren, Eli Noah, Chris Steele, Thomas Noah, Jr., Geneva Cervantes, Kristy Talas, Garrison Gregg and Josephine Rosa Gilmore; 13 great-grandchildren, Tommy and Austin Noah, Dylan and Alexandros Yazzie, Nokoda Noah, Delano Zahgotah, Angela Noah, Patricia and Kyra Cervantes, Tristan, Thayer and Talisa Talas and Jasmine Lupe, and numerous nieces and nephews.

