



# BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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July 2004 Issue

## Choctaw Indian Art Show, Sale new festival event

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma announces its first Juried and Judged Choctaw Indian Art Show and Sale. This new event will be held at the Historic Choctaw Capitol Museum during the Annual Labor Day festivities at Tushka Homma, Oklahoma.

"This will be the first year for the Juried and Judged Choctaw Indian Art Show and our goal is to establish a new tribal tradition for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma at the Labor Day event," said Art Show Committee Chair Beverly Nelson. "We are very excited about the debut of this show and are especially pleased to highlight the museum as the location for the show."

Interested artists who are members of the Choctaw Tribe of Oklahoma, have a CDIB card issued by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and are 17 years or older are eligible to enter the juried and judged show. Forms are available from Beverly Nelson, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, P.O. Drawer 1210, Durant, OK 74702.

Each artist may enter a total of three pieces of artwork. The categories are: Painting, Graphics, Sculpture, Pottery, Basketry, and Cultural Pieces (jewelry, stickball sticks, beadwork, etc.). All artwork must be recent work, having been completed after September 2003, and must be original. There is a \$10 non-refundable entry fee required from each artist. This will help meet the cost of producing the show.

Due to the fact that this is the first year for this particular show, the art show committee has extended the June 30 deadline for the forms to be received to July 30, 2004. The Art Show will be held on Saturday, September 4, and Sunday, September 5, 2004. Art work needs to be delivered to the Choctaw Capitol Museum between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Friday, August 20, or Saturday, August 21.

Please feel free to contact Beverly Nelson at the above-mentioned address; call the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2216, or e-mail at bnelson@choctawnation.com.

## Diabetes Wellness Center recipient of two grants

The Choctaw Nation Diabetes Wellness Center in Talihina, Oklahoma, has been awarded two grants, one from the American Association of Indian Physicians and the second, a General Mills Champions Grant.

The Diabetes Community Educators, Lee Ann Roberts, R.N., Annette Choate, R.N., Nancy Clark, R.N., and Bernice Williams, R.N., will use the American Association of Indian Physicians grant toward education on diabetes prevention for parents of Head Start children.

The Choctaw Nation program, "I Have the Power," was one of 50 nonprofit programs across the U.S. receiving grants totaling \$500,000 from the General Mills Foundation to support pioneering programs that help children develop lifelong nutrition and physical fitness habits.

The grant will be utilized by Diabetes Wellness Community Coordinator Lee Ann Roberts, R.N., Diabetes Community Dietitian Erin Adams and Physical Fitness Program Director Matt Adams in working with the students at Jones Academy, promoting good nutrition and increasing physical activity to help prevent Type 2 diabetes.

Utilizing its resources and expertise on nutrition issues, the American Dietetic Association Foundation plays a critical role in evaluating the grant proposals. In addition to the grants, the General Mills Foundation provides support for up to 50,000 young people who participate in the President's Challenge and earn the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award for their commitment to a physically active and fit lifestyle.

Information on the General Mills Champions program is available at [www.generalmills.com/foundation](http://www.generalmills.com/foundation).

# Assistant Chief presented Western Region Trustee Leadership Award

The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) has awarded the prestigious Western Region Trustee Leadership Award to Choctaw Assistant Chief Mike Bailey. Serving as a Regent to Eastern Oklahoma State College (EOSC) in Wilburton since 2001, Bailey is credited with the transformation of a small, rural two-year college into a contemporary community college.

A letter of nomination from a fellow regent included information that Bailey's dedication and support helped to create a dental hygiene program, obtain a state-of-the-art diesel bus to transport students, a rodeo program, a newly renovated dormitory, a truck-driving program, and a campus day care center.

Comments from the ACCT included, "Bailey's commitment as a regent has provided him with many honors and awards and has resulted in significant funding for EOSC. His abilities have benefitted the college far beyond anyone's expectations."



Assistant Chief Mike Bailey is congratulated on his award from ACCT by Chief Gregory E. Pyle and John Massey.



Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Tribal Councilpersons and family members look on as Kenny Bryant, Speaker of the Council, swears in new Councilmember Joe Coley.

## Joe Coley sworn in as Councilman

Jo Ed Coley of Wilburton took the oath of office June 18, becoming the new Councilman for District 6, a seat left vacant by the death of longtime Councilman Randle Durant.

The swearing-in ceremony in Durant followed six days after a run-off election between Coley and Fred Franklin James. Polls were open at Buffalo Valley, Red Oak, Wilburton and Quinton. Coley earned the seat with a total of 446 votes or 64.92% while James received 241 votes, 35.08%.

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Tribal Council, Choctaw Nation staff and members of Coley's family were on hand for the ceremony and a reception to congratulate and welcome the new Councilperson.



Council Speaker Kenny Bryant, Ida M. Wilson, Councilman Perry Thompson, Vicky Frazier, and Richard Adams, Choctaw Language Department.

## Two returning to California to teach Choctaw language

The 12 members of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council met in regular session June 12 at Tushka Homma. Kicking off new business was presentation of certificates to two ladies from California who will be returning home to teach the Choctaw language in Vallejo. Ida Wilson received a language teaching certificate and will be supported in teaching the class by Vicky Frazier who received a certificate of completion. This brings the total of certified teachers in the Choctaw Nation Language Program to 63.

Councilmembers unanimously passed legislation naming the Wilburton Choctaw Community Center for Randle Durant, the late Councilman of District 6. Also on the agenda were approval of three hay baling permits, four grant applications and the sale of surplus equipment at Jones Academy.

Modification of the Tribal Operations Budget was okayed as well as a drawdown of \$500,000 annually from the interest earned on Tribal Trust Accounts to supplement the Contract Health Service program of the Choctaw Nation.

Additional funds were allocated for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Environmental Health (OEH)

program, which has grown dramatically. Indian Health Service funding has not been able to keep pace with the growing demand for water and sewer infrastructure. In the past eight months, 210 homes have been assisted by OEH, compared to a total of 201 for the entire year before.

A Council Bill was passed approving submitting a proposal to the Administration for Children and Families for continued funding for the Choctaw Nation Indian Child Welfare Program.

Funding was approved in support of the Choctaw Nation Language Program and the Choctaw Interlocal Co-op which consists of alternative education, GED, Choctaw language, early childhood, special education and any other services deemed necessary to provide educational services.

The budgets for the June 12 runoff election and for the residential, therapeutic and administration of Jones Academy for FY 2003 were approved.

The tribe has also been made aware of year-end funds available from the BIA's Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office for the Water Resources Program.

## CDIB/Membership Department strives to keep records up to date

It is very hard to go back 20 years to locate a birth or death certificate for someone in a person's Indian lineage.

The CDIB/Membership Department urges all Choctaws and Mississippi Choctaws to obtain a child's CDIB and Tribal Membership as soon as they are born. It is very important that this is done while they are young. Once they really need their cards, it could take up to three or four months to get them.

All programs usually require that a person has both a CDIB and a Tribal Membership Card, including all minors.

For students enrolling in college, they will need to have a CDIB and Membership before the college will recognize tribal affiliation. If a person is applying for employment, they will also need these cards. Do not wait until they are needed for a program or service – get them now.

If your address has changed for 911 or if you have moved, married, etc, please notify the Tribal Membership Department. Please help us to help you by keeping all your records up to date.

Have a wonderful, safe summer.

## ENROLL NOW!

### Jones Academy accepting applications for 2004-05

Jones Academy is accepting applications for the 2004-05 calendar school year. The residential care center near Hartshorne, Oklahoma, has openings in grades one through 12. Grades one through four will be taught on campus. Students must have a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB).

The program provides each child the opportunity to grow and develop academically, socially, morally and physically. Students receive supervision and guidance 24 hours a day and counseling services are available.

For an application, call toll-free 888-767-2518 or access [www.choctawnation.com](http://www.choctawnation.com) (go to Programs then Education); write to: Jones Academy, HCR 74 Box 102-5, Hartshorne, OK 74547, or e-mail: [bspears@bia.edu](mailto:bspears@bia.edu).



## Letters

### Okla Chahta Clan Gathering enjoyable

Dear Bishinik,

I have just returned home from the Okla Chahta Clan Gathering in Bakersfield, California. What an enjoyable time I had. I had thought the gathering was mainly for the Choctaws of Central California. What a delight to know it was for all Choctaws who live anywhere in California. I cannot thank the people enough who put it together each year. The setting was beautiful on the grass under the old shade trees and across the road from the Kern River. The food was delicious from the dinner Saturday night to the vendors. I was so impressed with the instructors and the classes that were offered. I learned how my ancestors lived which is some of the information I am seeking. There were even some dressed in the traditional dress of our people.

The Broken Bow Dancers were delightful. These young people, and a couple were all of four or five years old, are teaching us the dances of our people. Mr. Billy gave us so much information while he explained each dance. Sunday morning we heard Spirituals sang in the Choctaw tongue.

Having been involved in putting together a function such as this I know how much time and work it takes. Thank you Theresa and everyone else involved. I am sorry I do not know everyone's name. Theresa and Bill were the two who helped us so much.

If you are a Choctaw and live in California, I urge you to attend the Gathering in 2005. You will learn so much. You may even meet some Choctaws from your area like I did.

And I must not forget the pleasure of seeing and hearing our Chief and the Councilmembers who came from Oklahoma to share this wonderful weekend with us.

**Sandy Van Der Linden**  
Hemet, California



### Tribe believes in country's youth

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Thank you for your contribution in the 2004 Atoka County FFA Livestock Show. I also want to thank you for believing in kids of this country. It's people like you who let us know people still care.

**J.W. Elrod**  
Stringtown FFA

### FFA student realizes "senior dream"

Dear Assistant Chief Mike Bailey,

My heifer, "My Senior Dream," and I would like to thank you for your dedication to our Hughes County ag youth. Dream and I had a very successful year. She has definitely been "My Senior Dream" – Res. Grand Champion Heifer, Wetumka Jackpot, 2nd Ada Heifer Show, Breed Champion - Wilburton, Res. Grand Champion Heifer - Hughes County and 3rd at OKC Youth Expo. Thank you again for all your support.

**Jennifer Mayfield**  
Moss FFA Vice President

### Searching for old friend

Dear Editor,

I would like to find an old friend from the Navajo Reservation in the 1970s – Joe Washington. Please call 574-266-9390 and leave message with Pat or e-mail okcaliceinwonderland@yahoo.com. Thank you.

**Diane Fleming**

### Working together to improve SE Oklahoma

Dear Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey and Councilman Austin,

Just a note to say a big Thank You for all you do for the betterment of Southeast Oklahoma. You guys have been a great partner with Oklahoma Department of Human Services.

**Curtis Rose, Field Rep.**  
OKDHS Area IV Office

### Single mother strives for better education

Dear Chief Gregory Pyle and the Great Choctaw Nation,

I am writing to thank you and the people of the Choctaw Nation for all the help that I have received this year. I am a single mother who is trying to get a better education. Without your help and the people who work for Choctaw Nation, I would not have been able to succeed. Bless you and all the people of Choctaw Nation.

**Kathy Fish**

<i>Gregory E. Pyle</i> Chief	<i>Mike Bailey</i> Assistant Chief
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If you are receiving more than one BISHINIK at your home or if your address needs changed, we would appreciate hearing from you.

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BISHINIK® 2004

## Ft. Towson group takes field trip to Norman on Choctaw Nation bus

Dear Assistant Chief Bailey,

I appreciate your generosity in allowing us to use the Choctaw Nation bus for our class field trip to Norman. The use of the bus made the trip comfortable and enjoyable to all. The driver, Mr. John Parham, did a great job of making the students feel comfortable on their trip. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

**Janice Byrd, 2nd-Grade Teacher**  
Ft. Towson Elementary

Dear Assistant Chief Bailey,

Thank you so very much for letting us use the Choctaw Nation bus for our school trip. I really liked the bus because it was cool and it had a TV, bathroom and cloth over the seats, and I loved the museum. It was very fun. We went to the Sam Noble Museum in Norman.

**Darbi Carter, 2nd grade**

### Law graduate grateful for tribe's assistance

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would just like to thank you once again for your generous financial support over the last seven years of my education. Because of your scholarship grants, I was able to attend Austin College as an undergraduate as well as pursue my dream of becoming a lawyer at the University of Oklahoma School of Law. As a recent law graduate, I am so grateful that you assisted me in reducing the amount of student loans that I will now have to repay. I will never forget your kindness.



**Natalie McNeal**  
Bennington, Oklahoma

### Student turns life around

Dear Chief Pyle,

I would like to thank you for the educational assistance provided by our Choctaw Nation.

By the eighth grade I had a drug problem. I was caught with a knife during school, and I should have been expelled, but the principal accepted community service as a substitute. I attended alternative school for much of high school but attended regular classes my senior year and graduated from Stigler High School. Because of a very loving family and much prayer, I decided to turn my life around.

I enrolled and attended at Eastern Oklahoma State College and lived in the very nice new dorms there, which were built by our tribe. The Choctaws funded my tuition. I began to enjoy learning and continued my education at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, where I first obtained a BA, summa cum laude and just completed my master's degree with honors (4.0). A few months ago, after much study, I took the LSAT for law school admission. I was able to score in the 99.7 percentile and am happy to report that I will begin Harvard Law School this fall. I have already made contact with and met with members of the Native American Student Association at Harvard Law and look forward to being actively involved with their organization.

I say all of the above, not wishing to boast but to assure you that the funding provided by my tribe has not been in vain. Because of the assistance I received, I was able to work only part-time and devote more time to study and learning. Thank you, Chief Pyle, Mr. Bailey and everyone involved in the higher education program.

Because of the support and subsequent loyalty and respect toward the Choctaw Nation and Indian people, I am giving much consideration to studying Indian Law at Harvard.

**Joshua D. Anders**  
Stigler, Oklahoma

### DeRosa takes great pride in being Choctaw

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I wanted to thank you very much for sending the care package. I received it today after a long day of patrolling the streets of Baghdad. Not only is the support of our families important to service members, but the support from the community as well. It has always brought me great pride to be part of the Choctaw Nation. I thank you for your support, time and efforts you have given me.

**J. Cole DeRosa**  
2 Lieutenant, IN, Platoon Leader

### Patient undergoes kidney transplant

Dear Editor,

Recently, Hickman Wallace underwent a kidney transplant operation at Baylor Hospital in Dallas. He was very blessed to have received the organ from his sister, Sandra Wallace, who passed all testing requirements to become his donor.

Some of the tests and procedures were performed locally at the Choctaw Nation Clinic in Hugo and Talihina Hospital. Our family would like to say "Thanks" to the friendly staff at both locations who worked with Sandra in performing those required tests and making sure the results got to the Transplant Institute in a timely manner.

We also would like to thank all of those who donated and purchased items at the benefit garage sale and thank the many people who prayed for our family during this time. Thank you.

**The Wallace Family**

### Celebrity Dinner a success

Dear Editor,

Choctaw Casino of McAlester would like to thank everyone who participated or helped in any way with the Celebrity Dinner. We would especially like to thank Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Executive Director of Gaming Janie Dillard, all the Councilmembers and a large number of employees from McAlester, Stringtown and Pocola for playing such an important part in making this dinner turn out to be such a success. Our thanks also go out to K-Mac Construction and Estep Electric for staying late and helping with the event.

### 91-year-old remains interested in news of tribe

Dear Assistant Chief Bailey,

I am 91 years old, born March 12, 1913, in Pittsburg County, Oklahoma, near McAlester. My great-grandma, Helen Straw, was a full-blood Choctaw from Tennessee. I have lived in Seagraves, Texas, 57 years. Your cousin, Harry Grimes, lets me read BISHINIK. I have bought the book, "The Choctaw of Oklahoma," and all of the Choctaw children's books written in Choctaw and English.

I am a retired school teacher having taught in Oklahoma and Texas. I am greatly interested in all the happenings and news about my ancestors.

May God bless you and Chief Gregory E. Pyle in your work for our people.

The Good Lord willing, I plan to attend some of our activities this summer of 2004 in Oklahoma.

**Grace Wathena Smith**  
Seagraves, Texas



### Seeking information on Brazil, I.T.

Dear Editor,

I'm searching for any information about a small cemetery named Brazil, about ten miles southwest of Skullyville, I.T. In 1879, it was called "Brazil Station" for it was on the Butterfield stage coach route. The map I have shows the route had stops every ten miles.

My interest is to find someone who may have old photos they could share with me about the town, or cemetery. My great-grandfather was buried there in 1879. I'm sure there isn't a monument, but there must be a photo in someone's attic or closet of Brazil, I.T.

Any information will be appreciated.

**Marie Keeling**  
3229 Willow Rock Road  
Norman, OK 73072

### Looking forward to meeting in Washington

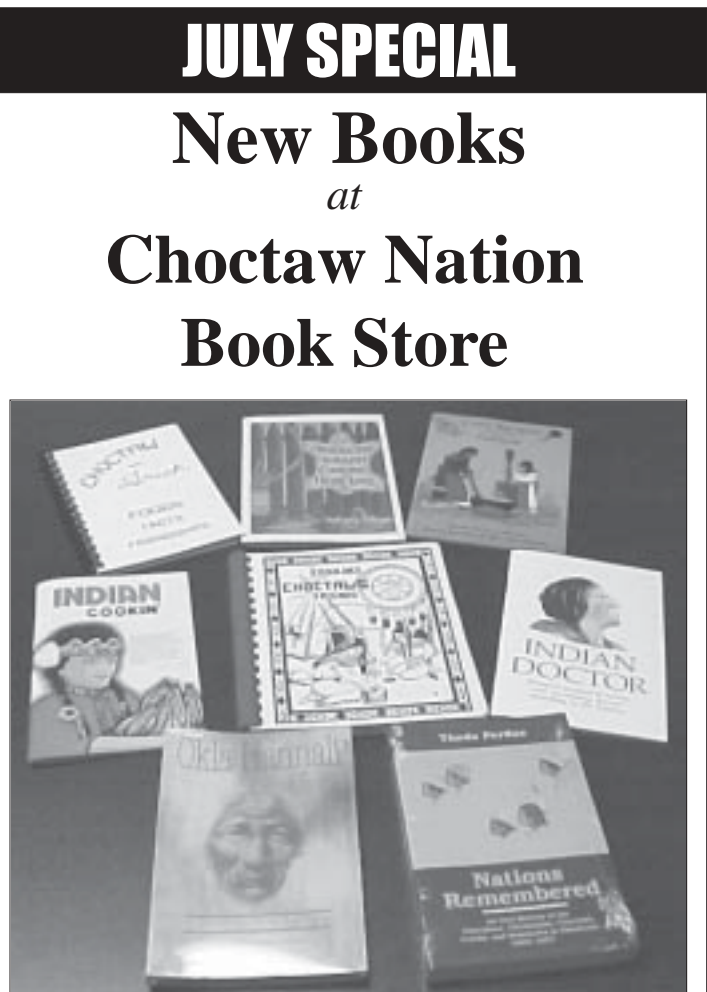
Dear Chief Pyle,

My wife and I cannot tell you how much we appreciate being kept informed of the different meetings and happenings involving the Choctaw Nation around and near to us.

We are especially looking forward to attending one of the meetings here in Washington and having the opportunity of meeting you as well as other dignitaries.

Again, thank you and especially to all of those who have the responsibility of getting all of the information out to each and every tribal member.

**Fred and Leslie Winningham**  
Omak, Washington



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*From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle*

# State designates 175 miles of highway in commemoration of Trail of Tears

A significant Concurrent Resolution in the Oklahoma Legislature has designated U.S. Highway 70 as the Choctaw-Chickasaw "Trail of Tears" Memorial Highway. This recognition of the tragedy of what our ancestors experienced during the forced removal from their homeland is greatly appreciated.

Resolution HCR 1064, authored by Rep. Jerry Ellis and sponsored in the Senate by Senator Jeff Rabon, states that "... after prolonged and horrific suffer-

ing through disease, hunger, want of clothing, and other privations, the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes arrived in their new land and demonstrated tremendous resiliency and resolve by establishing towns and institutions such as Eagletown, Lukfata, Wheelock Academy, Doaksville, Tishomingo, Wapanucka, Armstrong Academy, Goodland Mission, Boggy Depot, Spencer Academy and other places of commerce and learning."

The resolution also credits the

two tribes with significant contributions to the rich cultural and political history of Oklahoma. A declaration in the resolution says that the Oklahoma Department of Transportation will place markers along Highway 70 from the Arkansas state line to I-35 at Ardmore to commemorate the 175-mile memorial corridor.

These signs along the "Trail of Tears" Memorial Highway will provide a means to educate a tremendous number of people on the history and the hope for the

future of our tribe. Choctaw people have a tremendous heritage of resilience and perseverance in spite of terrible hardships. Economic development opportunities for the Choctaw Nation have paved a way for the tribe to become self-sufficient, relying less on federal and state assistance in order to assist Native Americans in need. We should all be very proud of our history and look forward to continuing the legacy of progress that our forefathers have given us.



*From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey*

## What America's symbol means to me

When most people see the American flag, they think it's just a piece of cloth that is raised every morning and don't care to know the purpose. When they hear the National Anthem, many people think it is just a song requiring they stand and remove cover.

What should be thought of is the glory and significance of this great flag – the meaning behind every inch of this flag. How the seven red stripes symbolize hardiness and valor, and the six white stripes symbolize purity and innocence. How together they represent the 13 original colonies. The blue field represents vigilance, perseverance and justice, while the 50 stars represent our 50 beautiful states.

Have you ever thought why the flag is folded 13 times or what the meaning is behind each fold?



To me, this great flag means more than colors, stars, stripes and folds. It means freedom, justice and honor. It represents the men and women who have fought and died so that we can be safe and free. It represents the wars that we have never lost.

When I see Old Glory waving

in the wind and hear the greatest song, our National Anthem, I get chills because I know that I am among the luckiest to have been born in the greatest country in the history of the world with our national motto, "In God we trust." What a blessing to be an American!

## Crowder Center honors 80-year-olds



The Choctaw Nation Center in Crowder, Oklahoma, honored its senior citizens in their 80s with plaques and a cake. Pictured are, standing, Councilman James Frazier and Walter Phelps, President of the Crowder Senior Citizen group, and seated, honorees Lucille Jameson, Golda Smith, Lloyd Morris, Addie Wallen, Joe Wallen, and Alvie Carney.



## Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

Today our Bible study text is about hell. A gruesome subject but a real one. Do you really know there is a hell? We can never understand hell until we first understand the Love, Mercy and Grace of God. Hell was not made for man. Hell was created for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). There are those who hate the thought of hell. But our hating hell does not change the reality of it. Hell is an important part of the teaching of Jesus Christ.

Just as there are signs on the highways to warn people of dangers, it is right to warn of coming judgment by telling you what Jesus taught and what the Bible teaches about hell.

I believe there is a hell, according to the teaching of God's Word. Jesus said in Matthew 13:41-42, "The Son of man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and then which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

These are Jesus' words about judgment and hell.

The Bible teaches that there are at least three kinds of hell.

First, there is hell in the heart. There are many who think that human nature is good, but the Bible teaches that it is basically evil. By nature we are selfish, sinful, do our own thing and are lost. The Psalmist David wrote in Psalm 51:5, "... I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." We were born in sin, we need to be redeemed. Human nature needs transforming. It needs the New Birth. That is what Jesus Christ came to do. Isaiah said in Isaiah 57:20, "... the wicked are like the troubled sea ..."

Have you watched the sea, how it keeps moving? We are that way without God. We don't know where we are going, or what we are doing. We are just going, trying to find rest and peace. Jesus said in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you ..." The world cannot give you peace of heart and forgiveness of sin, but Jesus Christ can. He can forgive your sins by His death on the cross and by the power of His resurrection. His peace can be yours.

Secondly, the Bible teaches that hell is around us. There is

hell in the home and all around you. The commandments of God against impurity and unchastity are trampled underfoot by our generation. Our literature and entertainment are playing up sexual perversion and "call evil good and good evil." (Isaiah 5:20). A Godless world revels in its lust. It rejects the Gospel of Salvation and accepts lust.

Thirdly, there is hell in the future, and it goes on and on. Hell was made for the devil and his angels; yet we listen to the devil and follow the devil and do what the devil says.

But it is the very fact of hell that makes the love of God so amazing. God loves us so much that He devised a plan to save us, so that we will never have to go to hell.

Hell need not be your final destination, nor do you need to live in it upon this earth, it can be taken from your heart. It can be removed from your home – all by the Grace of God.

There are many mysteries surrounding the nature of hell. Hell is separation from God. We are separated from God by sin, and that continues into eternity. Jesus used three words to describe hell. He used the word "death" in John 8:51, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, if a man keep my saying he shall never see death."

God is life, and when we are separated from the life of God, we are dead, spiritually dead. And then Jesus used the word "outer darkness" in Matthew 8:12. And the word "fire" in Mark 9:43-44.

If we have turned our back on God it would seem that hell is a terrible burning within our hearts for God. We are separated from all that is righteous, good and joyful.

Amos said in Amos 4:12, "... prepare to meet thy God ..." We seem to prepare for everything except to meet God. We prepare for careers, marriage, old age. But not for the moment of judgment. Do you have assurance of a relationship with Jesus Christ?

Though the writer of Hebrews 9:27 reminds us, "For as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment," we think that we will live on earth forever. Our lives will be over in a short time. We will be in eternity, but where? Will you be separated from God or will you be with



Jesus Christ in heaven?

The thief on the cross who was dying next to Jesus deserved to die according to the law, but he turned to Jesus and said, "... Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." (Luke 23:42).

(Achukmalit ish anukfillah shke!) Think real good on these things! Jesus took with him into paradise a thief, a murderer, a man who deserved hell. Jesus, God the Father's only begotten Son, died for people like that thief, and He died for people like you and me.

The hardest people to reach with the gospel message are not people like that thief. People like him know they are sinners. They know they need God. It is people like some of us who are hardest to reach. We go to church, we have just enough religion to keep us from accepting salvation in Jesus Christ. There are people who say that they don't have a spiritual need, that they are happy and have a good income, a good job, a good family and all the rest. "I don't need God," they say. "What do I need Christ for?" You are going to need Him. You are going to need Him very badly before too long. Come to Jesus while you have an opportunity.

Hell is an important part of the teaching of Jesus Christ. But thank God, there is a heaven also. That is where Jesus is. Would you like to be sure that you are on your way to heaven to be with Jesus? You can be sure. The Apostle John writes in his First Epistle, John 5:13, "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God." Will you trust Jesus as your Savior by faith?

God bless America. Pray for our service men and women. Pray for our Christian leaders.



## Lillie Lewis celebrates 91st birthday

Councilman Delton Cox presented Lillie Lewis with a birthday cake on May 12 at the Choctaw Family Investment Center in Poteau. Mrs. Lewis is 91 years old and rarely misses a Wednesday coming to the center. Happy birthday!

## Districts 9 and 7 choose Princesses for 2004-05



Winners of the District 9 Princess Pageant, held June 4 during the annual Magnolia Festival in Durant, are pictured with Councilman Ted Dosh. They are Little Miss Emalee John, Sr. Miss Stephanie Horn, and Jr. Miss Autumn Cooper.



Winners of the District 7 Princess Pageant held May 22 are pictured with Councilman Jack Austin. From left, Sr. Miss Matilda Taylor, Mr. Austin, Little Miss Kealey Standridge, and Jr. Miss Shinesha Tonihka.



# Learning good food habits a skill for more satisfying life

Just like reading and writing, brushing teeth, and hand washing, learning good food habits is a life skill that can help your child live a healthy, satisfying life. Here’s how you can nurture good habits.

### GIVE YOUR CHILD ENOUGH TABLE TIME

Does your child seem to dawdle at the table? That’s normal. Young children don’t have the muscle development or skills to eat as fast as you and I. They

still need practice with eating utensils. Eat at a pace that allows you to enjoy your food. It takes about 20 minutes for the stomach to feel full. Rushing mealtime only leads to frustration for you, your child, and others at the table.

### BE A GOOD ROLE MODEL.

### YOUR CHILD WATCHES WHAT YOU EAT!

If you eat and enjoy collard greens, bok choy, asparagus, or

## WIC

### WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

plantains, chances are your child will try them, too – if not now, probably later. It’s not just what you say; it’s also what you do. As kids grow up, a brother, sister, and others in their life are role models, too. Remember most children want to grow up doing what others do.

### SKIP THE URGE TO REWARD, PUNISH, OR APPEASE YOUR CHILD WITH FOOD

Have you ever been tempted to say, “If you don’t eat one more bite, I’ll be mad!”, “Clean your plate so you can play,” No dessert until you eat your vegetables,” or “Stop crying and I’ll give you a cookie?”

Remarks like these may lead kids to eating problems. They may create unneeded conflict

and struggles between you and your child at the table. • Eating for parental approval or love teaches unhealthy behaviors, attitudes, and beliefs about food and themselves.

• Rewarding a clean plate teaches them to ignore body signals and that may lead to overeating.

• Offering a food (dessert) as a reward for eating another (veggies) makes some food seem better.

• Getting a food treat to feel better teaches kids to relieve negative feelings by eating. This can lead to overeating later on.

Use a non-food approach to reward your child. Positive attention and kind words can be used for a job well done, or console with hugs and talk. Show love by spending “time” and having fun together. ***Drop the “clean your plate club.”***

Provided by:  
Nibbles for Health, USDA

## Eligibility requirements listed for Choctaw Nation CARES Services

CARES will serve youth (and their families) who have serious emotional disturbances, and are involved with or at risk of involvement with juvenile justice or other legal systems. The project, which serves youth from the ten and one-half counties of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is sponsored by a cooperative agreement from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration as well as matching funds from the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

CARES and its community partners provide family-focused, strengths-based services and support from the Wrap-around process that blends the necessary resources to meet the needs of the youth and their families.

CARES accepts referrals from families, schools, agencies, and organizations, as well as self-referrals from youth. Eligibility and priority for services are evaluated by CARES staff through interviews with the referral contact, the youth and the family. To be eligible the youth must meet the criteria described in the following sections. These criteria help assure that CARES services are appropriate for the youth and family.

For a youth to be eligible for CARES services, the answer to all questions listed below must be “YES”.

- 1) Is the youth Native American or from a federally recognized tribe?
- 2) Does the youth have a CDIB or eligible to obtain one?



- 3) Is the youth 0-18 years of age?
- 4) Does the youth’s family live in the ten and one-half counties of the Choctaw Nation Service Area?
- 5) Does the youth exhibit any of these behaviors (1) **Hyperactivity** – short attention span, impulsiveness; (2) **Aggression/self injurious behavior** – acting out fighting; (3)

**Withdrawal** – failure to initiate interaction with others, retreat from exchanges or social interaction; (4) **Immaturity** – inappropriate crying, excessive crying, temper tantrums, poor coping skills, or (5) **Learning difficulties** – academically performing below grade level.

6) Does the youth have functional impairment in the home, school or community?

Other considerations include:

- Is the child at risk for out-of-home placement due to the impact of the serious emotional and/or behavioral disturbance?
- Has the youth been involved with the law or juvenile justice system? Involvement includes contact, lecture/release, summons, status offense,

arrested, charged, detained, committed/prison, probation/parole, detention/jail, and juvenile justice services within one year.

– Is the youth potentially at risk of involvement with a law or juvenile justice system? To be at risk of involvement with a law or juvenile justice system, the youth must have risk characteristics such as, to name only a few, a family history of criminality; dropping out of school; is aggressive, threatening or violent; disregards authority, is a runaway or gang member; substance abuse, or has developmental disabilities.

The Choctaw Nation CARES project will not be able to accept children who have a singular diagnosis of substance abuse or do not have a parent,

guardian or foster parent who will commit to active support of the Wraparound process.

Children with the most emotional disturbances may exhibit distorted thinking, excessive anxiety, bizarre motor acts, and abnormal mood swings and are sometimes identified as children who have severe psychosis or schizophrenia.

Many children who do not have emotional disturbances may display some of the same behaviors at various times during their development. However, when children have a serious emotional disturbance, these behaviors continue over long periods of time.

For more information on the Choctaw Nation CARES program, please call 918-567-4128.

## Choctaw Nation WIC

Serving the Choctaw Nation at 14 sites

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

## Campaign strives for better “state of health”

As you are aware, U.S. adult obesity rates have risen drastically in the last decade, from 12 percent to 20 percent. Thirteen percent of children and adolescents are now overweight or obese, which represents more than a doubling in the last 30 years. The results of this ongoing problem are additional absence from work and school, lost productivity, and higher healthcare costs.

In Oklahoma, approximately 43 percent of the adults report no leisure time physical activity. Over 15 percent of our youth are considered obese and approximately 33 percent of all children under age 18 are at high risk for Type 2 diabetes. Almost 80 percent of Oklahoma’s total population is eating fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day.

The Oklahoma Turning Point Council began a social marketing campaign in October 2003,

## walk this weigh oklahoma!

known as “Walk This Weigh.” This campaign was designed to improve the health of residents in Oklahoma. The Choctaw Nation was selected as one of nine communities in the State of Oklahoma to serve as a 12-month pilot for “Walk This Weigh.”

The “Walk This Weigh” (WTW) campaign has provided an opportunity for Choctaw Nation to participate in WTW-sponsored activities focusing on nutrition and increasing physical activity levels. The tribe is currently implementing public awareness campaigns, employee wellness programs, fitness and nutrition education programs.

The ultimate goal of the Oklahoma Turning Point Council is to implement this campaign in every county in Oklahoma by 2007 – the Oklahoma centennial celebration year. By doing so, we will become a “state of health.”

# CHOCTAW NATION BOOK STORE

P.O. Drawer 1210, Durant, OK 74702

**“Whuppin’ and Spurrin’ Through Choctaw Country”**  
*Out of Print!*  
*Signed by the Author*  
**\$55**  
*Special this month only!*

This book records the history of the Choctaw and Chickasaw families, the Ellises, Freenys, Pitchlynnns and Maytubbys, the life experiences and events of the many people during the 1930s and 1940s, and the lifestyle while growing up around Caddo, Oklahoma. Limited edition – While supplies last.

**“Chahta Anumpa Vmmona First Choctaw Words A Learner’s Word Book”**  
**\$10**

A Choctaw Definer that contains 1,500 most commonly used Choctaw words. Each word is broken down by pronunciation, use and definition. A must have for everyone wanting to know a little or a lot of our Choctaw Language.

**“Walking the Choctaw Road”**  
**\$18**

This 142-page book by Tim Tingle is a remarkable collection of true stories of trial and tribulations of native people. This book spans many years of hardships and prosperous times, from the Trail of Tears to finding the Choctaw Way. Tingle even adds his own experiences as a child growing up in this rich culture.

Whuppin’ and Spurrin’ Through Choctaw Country ..... Qty \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$55 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Walking the Choctaw Road ..... Qty \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Chahta Anumpa Vmmona First Choctaw Words Definer ..... Qty \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 each = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Choctaw Nation Book Store**  
**P.O. Drawer 1210**  
**Durant, OK 74702-1210**

*If paying by credit card (VISA or MasterCard) call toll-free 888-932-9199*

## Healthy Lifestyles

**Reasons to drink water**

- Zero Everything (no fat, no calories)
- It helps to fill you up
- Cuts your risk of heart disease
- Water regulates body temperature, protects organs, aids in digestion, carries nutrients and moves waste
- Aids in sweating to cool your body
- 2% drop in body water can leave you fuzzy and affect short-term memory
- Drink eight 8-oz. glasses of water every day.

Having caffeinated drinks and herbal teas are fine, as long as it is in moderation. The majority of our daily liquid should be pure water. Water is better for you than caffeinated drinks. The consumption of sugar in one 12-oz. can of regular soda pop a day will add 16 pounds of weight to your body in one year.

***Water is second only to oxygen in keeping you alive – you ought to drink it!***

## Durant group graduates Phase I, Phase II of language class begins

Students in Phase I of Durant’s Choctaw Language Class graduated May 11. Pictured in front are Richard Adams, Choctaw Language Department; Julia Knight, Alice Homer, Dina Marris, and Teacher Ann Kaniatobe; in back, Noel Belvin, David Knight, Bryan Qualls and Wilkin Billy. Students not pictured are Aaron Homer, Tim Billy, Larry and Kathleen Seawright and Adeline Davis.

Phase II of the Choctaw Language Class will begin August 2. Classes will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Tuesday at the Choctaw Nation Senior Citizen Center in Durant. For more information call Richard Adams, Choctaw Language Department, 580-924-8280, or Ann Kaniatobe, 580-924-5192.





Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship, District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson and Micaela Carlile, Jr. Barrels Top Money Earner and Finals Average Winner.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Bruce Posey, Calf Roping Top Money Earner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Colby Stufflebean, Steer Wrestling Finals Average Winner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Toby Bean, Bull Riding Top Money Earner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



J.D. Bacon, Team Roping Header Top Money Earner; Councilman Perry Thompson; Bryan Bacon, Team Roping Header Top Money Earner, and Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship.

## Labor named Tree Farmer of the Year

Jim Labor of Red Oak, Oklahoma, has actively managed 160 acres of forestland since 1977 and was recently named Oklahoma Tree Farmer of the Year for 2003 by the American Tree Farm System.

Along with the recognition, he received a new Stihl chainsaw, hardhat with face shield and ear protection, gloves, and chainsaw chaps. He was presented with a plaque by Oklahoma Forestry Association Chairman Martin Fry and Oklahoma Forestry Services Representative Chris Parrington.

The condition of his roads, fences and forestland are exceptional, and he is actively involved in the day-to-day operation of his tree farm and ranch.



## Choctaw Nation Home Finance

It's so easy and convenient for you to apply online to purchase or refinance a home at  
**[www.choctawhomefinance.web-loans.com](http://www.choctawhomefinance.web-loans.com)**

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

For any additional information needed, call Choctaw Nation Housing Authority, Home Finance Department, at 1-800-235-3087 for help with the application and/or we will address additional questions for you.

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

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
July 22	Talihina	5:30 p.m.
July 29	Oklahoma City	5:30 p.m.



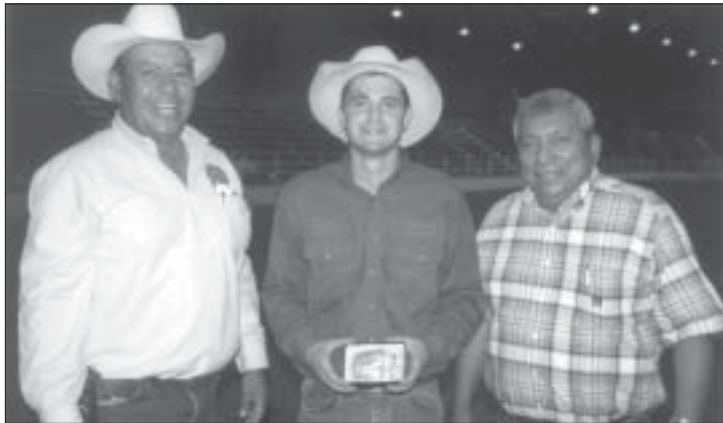
Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Lane Scott, Jr. Steer Riding Top Money Earner and Finals Average Winner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Shane Slack, Calf Roping Finals Average Winner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Kasi Prather, Break Away Top Money Earner and Finals Average Winner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Trenton Hodge, Bull Riding Finals Average Winner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Jeremy Shed, Bareback Top Money Earner and Finals Average Winner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Shane Sparks, Steer Wrestling Top Money Earner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship; Jennifer Weaver, Open Barrels Top Money Earner and Finals Avg. Winner, and District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Pictured with Councilman Perry Thompson and Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Association President Kenneth Winship are Team Roping Finals Average Winners, J.D. Bacon and Doyle Bacon.

## Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo Region 8 Results for June 11 & 12, 2004

**ALL AROUND COWGIRL: MARCI JACKSON; ALL AROUND COWBOY: HOWARD EDMUNDSON**

### Jr. Barrells – June 11

1st: Ashlee Sharp, Choctaw, of Hartshorne  
2nd: Montana Dill, Choctaw, of Boswell  
3rd: Micaela Carlile, Cherokee, of Tahlequah

**Jr. Barrells Top Money Earner and Finals Avg. Winner: Micaela Carlile**

### Jr. Steer Riding – June 11

1st: Lane Scott, Choctaw, of Ada

**Jr. Steer Riding Top Money Earner and Finals Avg. Winner: Lane Scott**

### Bareback – June 11

1st: Jeremy Shed, Creek, of Holdenville

**Bareback Top Money Earner and Finals Av. Winner: Jeremy Shed**

### Calf Roping – June 11

1st: Bruce Posey, Creek, of Boynton  
2nd: Shane Slack, Choctaw, of Idabel  
3rd: Shane Ross, Cherokee, of Tahlequah

**Calf Roping Top Money Earner: Bruce Posey; Calf Roping Finals Avg. Winner: Shane Slack**

### Steer Wrestling – June 11

1st: Shane Sparks, Choctaw, of Allen  
2nd: Howard Edmundson, Creek, of Dewar  
3rd: Colby Stufflebean, Choctaw, of McAlester

**Steer Wrestling Top Money Earner: Shane Sparks; Steer Wrestling Finals Avg. Winner: Colby Stufflebean**

### Break Away – June 11

1st: Kasi Prather, Cherokee, of Ochelata  
2nd: Erica Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell

**Break Away Top Money Earner and Finals Avg. Winner: Kasi Prather**

### Open Barrells – June 11

1st: Marci Jackson, Cherokee, of Durant  
2nd: Jennifer Weaver, Cherokee, of Vinita  
3rd: Debbie Calcote, Cherokee, of Tahlequah  
4th: Micaela Carlile, Cherokee, of Tahlequah

**Open Barrells Top Money Earner and Finals Avg. Winner: Jennifer Weaver**

### Bull Riding – June 11

1st: Trenton Hodge, Choctaw, of Bethel

**Bull Riding Top Money Earner: Toby Bean; Bull Riding Finals Avg. Winner: Trenton Hodge**

### Team Roping – June 11

1st/2nd: J.D. Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
Doyle Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
1st/2nd: J.D. Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
Bryan Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
3rd/4th: Mike Bacon, Choctaw, of Soper  
Kevin Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
3rd/4th: Howard Edmundson, Creek, of Dewar  
Scott Daily, Cherokee, of Arkansas City  
5th: Shawnee Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
John Trent, Choctaw, of Soper  
6th: Rod Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
Bryan Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell

**Team Roping Header Top Money Earner: J.D. Bacon; Heeler Top Money Earner: Bryan Bacon  
Team Roping Finals Avg. Winner: J.D. Bacon & Doyle Bacon**

### Jr. Barrells – June 12

1st: Micaela Carlile, Cherokee, of Tahlequah  
2nd: Montana Dill, Choctaw, of Boswell  
3rd: Ashlee Sharp, Choctaw, of Hartshorne

### Jr. Steer Riding – June 12

1st: Lane Scott, Choctaw, of Ada

**Jr. Steer Riding Top Money Earner and Finals Avg. Winner: Lane Scott**

### Bareback – June 12

1st: Jeremy Shed, Creek, of Holdenville

### Calf Roping – June 12

1st: Jack Carlile, Cherokee, of Tahlequah  
2nd: Shane Slack, Choctaw, of Idabel  
3rd: Jade Thompson, Choctaw, of Ratliff City

### Steer Wrestling – June 12

1st: Colby Stufflebean, Choctaw, of McAlester  
2nd: Corbin Warren, Cherokee, of Kansas  
3rd: Howard Edmundson, Creek, of Dewar

### Break Away – June 12

1st: Jessi Thompson, Cherokee, of Calera  
2nd: Kasi Prather, Choctaw, of Ochelata  
3rd: Charlotte Trotter, Choctaw, of Rattan

**Break Away Top Money Earner and Finals Avg. Winner: Kasi Prather**

### Open Barrells – June 12

1st: Jennifer Weaver, Cherokee, of Vinita  
2nd: Micaela Carlile, Cherokee, of Tahlequah  
3rd/4th: Marci Jackson, Cherokee, of Durant  
3rd/4th: Pam Williams, Choctaw, of Skiatook

### Bull Riding – June 12

1st: Toby Bean, Choctaw, of Bethel

**Bull Riding Top Money Earner: Toby Bean; Bull Riding Finals Avg. Winner: Trenton Hodge**

### Team Roping – June 12

1st: J.D. Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
Doyle Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
2nd: Howard Edmundson, Creek, of Dewar  
Scott Daily, Cherokee, of Arkansas City  
3rd: J.D. Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
Bryan Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
4th: Mike Bacon, Choctaw, of Soper  
Kevin Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
5th: Rod Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
Bryan Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
6th: Shawnee Bacon, Choctaw, of Boswell  
John Trent, Choctaw, of Soper



## People You Know

### Lawson celebrates first

Lawson Paul Wilkins celebrated his first birthday on May 7. He lives in Danville, Arkansas, with his mommy and daddy, Paul and Susan (Camp) Wilkins. He attends Child Development Center in Danville. His grandparents are Joel Camp of Oklahoma, Kathy Hanson of Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, and Faye and Roy Wilkins of Blue Ball, Arkansas.



### J.J. turning six years old

The family of J.J. Battiest would like to wish him a happy, happy birthday. J.J. will celebrate his sixth birthday on July 23. He just finished Pre-K in school and played T-ball for the past two years. His parents are Jonathan Battiest of Wright City, Oklahoma, and Jennifer Ludlow of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. He is the grandson of Serena Battiest of Wright City, Presley Battiest, also of Wright City, and Isabel Ludlow of Broken Bow.



### Joe celebrates 18th

Happy 18th birthday to Joe Hilton on July 23. Joe is a 2004 graduate of Talihina High School. He enjoys playing Playstation 2, fishing, hunting, and chasing girls. His parents are Charles and Ava Hilton of Tuskahoma, Oklahoma. Happy birthday from all your family.



### Happy birthday

Happy 38th birthday to Brenda Haycroft from your big sis, and happy birthday to Nikki Taylor on June 24 from your kids, Jonathan, NaNa and Deann.



## Nursery News

### MaKayla Leann Hood

Lee and Linda Knight of Hugo, Oklahoma, would like to announce their new granddaughter, MaKayla Leann Hood, who was born March 8, 2004, at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina. MaKayla weighed 5 pounds 12 ounces and was 19 inches long. Her parents are Christie and Thomas Hood of Hugo, Oklahoma. Other grandparents are Charles and Kathy Hood of Hugo. Her great-grandma is Inez Wilkins of Hugo. MaKayla was born one day before her Papa Lee's birthday on March 9.



### Tara La Ann Richards

Tara La Ann Richards was born December 10, 2003, at McCurtain Memorial Hospital, Idabel, Oklahoma. She weighed 8 pounds 10 ounces. Tara has two sisters, Shayla and Ayliah, and one brother Jaylen. They are the children of Christy Harley and Rodney Richards of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Billy and Phebe Harley of Broken Bow and Elaine Gibson of Antlers. Great-grandparents include Charles and Effielene Harley of Idabel.



### Ernesto Arturo Chavarria Jr.

Ernesto Arturo Chavarria Jr. was born at 8:42 p.m. April 29, 2004, weighing 8 pounds 1 ounce and measuring 22 inches long. Proud parents are Melanie (Wood) Chavarria and Ernesto "Art" Chavarria Sr. He is the grandson of John Wood and the great-grandson of Dorothy (Stockton) Wood, all of Salinas, California.



## Two sets of five generations



Showing off the family's fifth generation, Deelan Burns, in top photo is great-great-grandmother Lavada Hammond, father Jason Burns, great-grandmother Robbie Green, and grandmother Karren Burns. Below are Jason holding Deelan, great-grandfather Bob Green, great-great-grandmother Lorena Green, and grandmother Karren Burns.



### Happy 85th birthday, Dad

Happy birthday to Valton Fowler. His grandmother was original enrollee Ida Stewart. Love from all your family!!!



### Look who's turning one!

Trystan Lane Ingle will turn one year old on July 22. He is the son of Larry and Michelle Ingle of LeFlore, Oklahoma. His grandparents include Melanie Powell of Talihina, Oklahoma, and Larry Ingle Sr. of LeFlore. Happy birthday! We all love you – Mom and Dad.



### Kallie celebrates tenth

Kallie Hust celebrated her tenth birthday on June 24. Kallie, the daughter of Richard Hust and Tina Loftis of Talihina, is in the fifth grade at Talihina School. Her grandparents are Jack and Patti Atwood of Hodgen, Oklahoma.



### Triplets are teenagers

Melissa, Keely and Brittany turned 13 on June 27. They are the daughters of Kathy and Richard Butler of Talihina, Oklahoma. The triplets are the granddaughters of Irene Butler and Jerry Butler, both of Bentonville, Arkansas, and Jack and Patti Atwood of Hodgen, Oklahoma.



### Happy birthday

Harley Jaide would like to say happy birthday to her cousins, Makala Walker, who turned seven on April 27, and Kelsie Walker, who turned six on June 12. Also, happy birthday wishes from their mother, Shellie Leis of Atoka, Oklahoma; grandparents, Jeff and Garr Loftin and aunt and uncle, Willa and Randy, all of Atoka. We would all like to say happy birthday to our grandpa, Adam Betsey of Atoka.



### Autumn Cooper is District 9 Jr. Princess

Congratulations to Autumn Cooper who was chosen District 9 Jr. Princess during the Magnolia Festival June 4-6 in Durant, Oklahoma. Autumn is pictured with her grandmother, Ann Kaniatobe of Durant, and her cousins, Kody Wilson, Chance Short, Brand Short and Zach Short.



### Sweet 16

The family of Ladonna Ward would like to wish "Donnie" a Sweet 16 birthday on June 30, from her mom and stepdad, Rachel and Daniel Dixon of Kierks, Arkansas; brother, Kevin Ward of Broken Bow; Sarah Ward of Broken Bow; her dad, Travis Ward; stepmom, Rose, of Broken Bow; grandmother, Oleta Martinez of California, and great-aunt, Naomi, of Idabel. Donnie is the great-granddaughter of the late Marcus and Rachel Battiest of Wright City. We love you, Donnie.



### Happy 56th anniversary to Valton and Lois Fowler

Happy 56th anniversary to Valton and Lois Fowler on February 27, 2004. Your family and friends wish you well!!



### Family celebrates an anniversary and a 95th birthday

Wilson and Deloris Taylor will be celebrating their anniversary on July 3.

Also, Wilson's mother, Ida Taylor, pictured with them, will celebrate her 95th birthday on July 5.

Happy anniversary Mom and Dad and happy birthday Pogni with love from your family.



### Happy birthday

The family of Haelee and Gabriel Hudson want to wish them a happy birthday. Haelee will be four on July 24 and Gabriel will be two on July 30. They are the children of Audrey (Lewis) and Chad Hudson of Purcell; the grandchildren of Lisa (Williams) Dickie Lewis of Purcell and the great-grandchildren of Elsie (Peters) and the late Raymond Lewis of Durant.



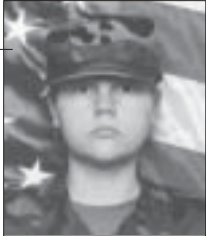
### Happy tenth, Sha Sha

Jaylen and Ayliah Tara would like to wish their big sister, Shayla Cheyanne, a happy tenth birthday on July 11. They are the children of Christy Harley and Rodney Richards of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Billy and Phebe Harley of Broken Bow and Elaine Gibson of Antlers, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Charles and Effielene Harley of Idabel. Also wishing her a happy birthday are all their uncles, aunts and cousins.



### Clark training at Ft. Lee

Pfc Crystal Michelle Clark, 21, has completed U.S. Army Basic Training at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina, and is currently training at the Army Quartermaster School at Ft. Lee, Virginia. She is a member of the Arkansas National Guard and will catch up to her deployed unit after graduation from Ft. Lee in June. She is a sophomore at the University of Arkansas, as well. Crystal is the daughter of Cynthia and Kyle Kiper of Fayetteville, Arkansas, and T.J. Hunter of Sasakwa, Oklahoma. Her great-great-grandmother was an original enrollee. Her grandfather, T.J. Hunter; great-grandfather, Clayton Hunter, and great-great-grandfather, Wallace Hunter, all served in the Army as well.



We are very proud of Crystal's service to America.

### Kuziel has five years in USN

Hospital Mate Third Class Joseph Kuziel has been discharged from the U.S. Navy after serving five years. He was stationed in North Carolina, served in Afghanistan and in Iraq with the Marines, Special Forces. Joseph received a certificate of commendation for being instrumental in the most successful POW rescue (April 2003) since World War II. Since his discharge, he has been attending college. Joseph is the grandson of the late Willie and Mary Going of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, and the son of Frank and Elsie (Going) Kuziel of Sile, New Mexico.



### Townsend promoted in Air Force Reserves

Beth Townsend was recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. The promotion ceremony was held at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, Nebraska. Beth's parents, Sam and Carol Townsend of Clay Center, Nebraska, assisted by pinning on her new rank.

Lt. Col. Townsend is a graduate of the University of Nebraska College of Law and served 13 years of active duty in the Air Force JAG. Her service included tours in Korea, England, Scotland, Italy and also the Air Force Academy. Townsend is now an active member of the Air Force Reserves.

Lt. Col. Townsend is now a partner in the Fiedler-Townsend law firm in Des Moines, Iowa, where she now lives.

Beth is the granddaughter of the late Clark Townsend, an original enrollee, from Valliant, Oklahoma, and is very proud of her Choctaw heritage.

### Happy birthday

Happy birthday to Julie Deanne Pace, in her 28th year of being "our favorite." Best wishes from your brothers, Christoper and Patrick; sis, Hollee; parents, aunts, uncles and kids. We would like to say happy birthday and we love you – Mom and Granny Margie.



### Look who's eight!

Aaron Abbott turned eight years old on May 3. He is the son of Valorie and Vincent Stanley. Proud grandparents are John and Barbara Nagy of Durant, Oklahoma. We all love you!



### Nathanial turns two

Nathanial Travis Lufkin turned two years old on June 26. His mother is Diandra Lufkin of Ada, Oklahoma. Nathanial is the grandson of Eula Lufkin and the late Curtis Lufkin and the great-grandson of the late Willie and Mary Going, Broken Bow, Oklahoma.



### Birthday wishes

Wishes for a happy birthday on June 19 are sent to James Kuziel from his parents and brothers, Joseph and Jerome. James is the son of Frank and Elsie (Going) Kuziel of Pena Blanca, New Mexico, and the grandson of the late Willie and Mary Going, Broken Bow.



He is a student at Albuquerque Community College, majoring in the field of Medical Laboratory Technician. Besides attending college, James spends time making and selling pottery. He enjoys painting and listening and learning the Choctaw language from the Charley Jones tape.

We would also like to extend birthday wishes to his Aunt Eula of Ada, Oklahoma, who shares the same birth date.

### Jennifer turns eleven

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



### Happy birthday, Candi!

Happy birthday wishes are extended to Miss Candace Lee Drew! Candi turned 28 years old on July 5. She is the only child of Michael Douglas Drew of St. Joe, Arkansas, and the granddaughter of the late Scottye M. Drew of Gilbert, Arkansas. Happy birthday, we love you so much – Daddy and Carol.



### Major graduates Head Start

Five-year-old Major Jackson Rogers is a proud graduate of the Class of 2004 at the Chickasaw Head Start in Ada, Oklahoma. Major is the son of Simon and Leslie Rogers of Ada and the grandson of Terry and Lee Rogers and George and Eoline Halliburton, all of McAlester. We are all so proud of him.



### Miss Majorette

Lindsay Francis of Bluejacket, Oklahoma, recently won the title of Miss Majorette of Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Noah and Jerri (Newville) Francis and the granddaughter of Pat (Crowder) Armstrong. Lindsay will be representing Oklahoma at the National Championship which will be held at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana.







### Congratulations

Tessa Leigh Manning of Kemp graduated May 8 from the University of Oklahoma College of Arts and Sciences. She was honored for achieving an over-



all grade point average of 4.0 for her entire university career. Tessa is tutoring students at Murray State College in math until she starts at Southwest Medical in Dallas, Texas. That institution only accepts 10% of out-of-state students. Tessa also maintained a 4.0 gpa at Boswell School, graduating as Valedictorian.

Tessa's brother, Ty Burgess of Kemp, graduated high school from Plano, Texas, and is now attending UT, Dallas. He will be starting his second semester with a 3.8 gpa and plans to pursue either a business or medical degree. Ty currently lives with a mentor, Dr. Mary Magary, M.D., and her family.

Tessa and Ty are the children of Jody Burgess of Kemp and Cindy Walker of Boswell. Grandparents are Doug Burgess and Bobbie Burgess of Kemp and Mr. And Mrs. Joe Ed Lee of Boswell.

## All-American Scholar

The U.S. Achievement Academy announced recently that Elizabeth Rose has been named an All-American Scholar. Elizabeth, who attends Stigler High School, was nominated for this national award by Beverly Robinson. She will appear in the All-American Scholar Yearbook, which is published nationally. She is the daughter of Sam Rose and Sandi Rose and the granddaughter of Kenneth and Susan Dixon and the late Nita Jo Dixon. She is also the granddaughter of the late Jack Rose and Eldean Rose Hughey of Stigler.



## National honor student

Kristin Durant, just completing her junior year at Lake Highlands High School in Dallas, Texas, was on the A Honor Roll and selected for membership in the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta.

Kristin has been on the varsity volleyball team since her freshman year. This year, the LHHS team advanced to the Region II State 5A Semifinals. She was awarded Defensive Player of the Year for the last three years for LHHS and was selected for the 9-5A All District Volleyball Team this past season. She was also Junior Class Favorite, a group leader in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a Peer Helper, and she volunteers at Kindred Hospital.

Kristin is the daughter of Randy and Amy Durant of Dallas and the granddaughter of Wes and Johnnie Durant of Tishomingo, Oklahoma.



## “Most likely to succeed”

Congratulations to Generosa Diane Jones, who graduated May 8 from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, with a Doctorate of Pharmacy. Gena attended Whitebead School for eight years and upon graduation was voted “most likely to succeed” by her class.

She has succeeded. Her academic goals began with the Dr. Rosa Minoka Hill Scholarship to attend college preparatory school at St. George's School in Newport, Rhode Island. Gena graduated in 1998 from St. George's School and went on to Drake University where she was awarded an Indian Health Service Scholarship to continue her education and receive her degree. She is currently employed as a Staff Pharmacist at Carl Albert Chickasaw Health Facility in Ada.

The proud parents of Gena and all her accomplishments are Rosalinda and Lewis Gene Jones of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. Her grandparents are R.C. Camata and Alberto Camata of Ada and the late Myrtle and Gaston Jones of Atoka, Oklahoma. She is the great-granddaughter of Lewis Luther McGahey, an original enrollee.



## Scott Pine qualifies for nationals

University of Redlands (CA) junior Scott Pine has qualified for the 2004 NCAA Division III Men's Outdoor Track and Field National Championships. Scott's 63.35-meter throw in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship, the second-longest in Division II competition this season, cinched his place in the national championship.

A junior from Fontana, California, Scott exceeded his own personal best by more than 22 feet and was 14.5 feet longer than his closest competitor.

## Achukma! Zack

Zack Bacon basked a two-run, two-out single for a three-run sixth for a Memorial Chargers victory. This 9-6 win over Union High qualified the Tulsa High School team a trip to the 6A state tournament. Zack is the son of Mike Bacon and the grandson of Mary Bacon of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Leonard Bacon of Locust Grove, Oklahoma. Numerous Bacon relatives wish to say “Achukma! Zack.”



## Madyson John graduates Freedom High

Madyson Elizabeth John of Oakley, California, graduated June 5 from Freedom High School in Oakley. She plans to further her education at Biola University in La Mirada, California, beginning August 20. She will enter as a psychology major.

Madyson is the granddaughter of James and Mary John and great-granddaughter of James John, Idabel, Oklahoma.

# Outstanding Senior at MSU

Connor Cantrell of Oklahoma City, the son of Leroy and Cindy Cantrell, received the B.A. in political science and Spanish from Murray (KY) State University. A summa cum laude graduate, he plans to enter law school and follow a career as an attorney. He is the recipient of the Murray State University Academic Excellence Award and MSU Recognition Award for Excellence. He was awarded as MSU's Outstanding Senior Man and Outstanding Senior in Political Science. He has been honored by the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and is the recipient of the Murray State University Regents Scholarship, SBC Foundation Scholarship and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Scholarship.

Connor is fluent in the Spanish language and studied during the 2003 spring semester in conjunction with the MSU Honors Program. He is a member of Hart Residential College, the Honors Program Student Council and Student Law Association. He has also been selected for membership in Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society and Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society. In addition, he has served as a volunteer with the Research and Scholarship Activities Office at MSU.

## Russell to attend Grayson

Jessica Russell of Pottsboro, Texas, graduated May 29. She will be attending Grayson County College in Sherman, Texas. She is the daughter of Andrea Russell of Pottsboro and Darryl Russell of Denison, Texas.

Her grandparents are Louisa Kruger and the late Allen Kruger.

## Jones celebrates graduation

Marvin and Julie Jones would like to congratulate their son, Jon Darren Jones, on his graduation May 15 from Virginia Polytechnic and State University (Virginia Tech) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Jon also gained leadership experience through four years of participation in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and Air Force ROTC. He attained the rank of Cadet Major and was Company Commander of Foxtrot Company. He was commissioned during graduation as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

Jon's sisters, Leah and Carole, his brother, Steven, and many aunts, uncles and cousins all wish him well.



### Arnold enters graduate school

Jimmy Arnold of DeQueen, Arkansas, recently graduated cum laude from Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, with a Bachelor of Arts degree. His major was in history and his minor was in political science. He has been accepted into graduate school at Henderson where he will work toward a Master of Liberal Arts degree. When he receives his master's he plans to teach history at the college level.

Arnold would like to say, “Thank you” to Chief Gregory Pyle and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for all that they have done to help him receive his college degree.



### Eskue receives scholarship

Tamara Eskue of Ravenna, Texas, is one of 27 John Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholars of 2004. Tamara once competed as a professional rodeo rider in the women's barrel-racing event. She hopes to become a doctor in rural Texas. Tamara has recorded a 3.87 gpa at Grayson County College in Denison, Texas, winning honors and membership in the Presidential Scholars Program. Her work as a nursing assistant and caring for her stepfather, who was severely injured in a car accident, has encouraged her to pursue a medical career.

# Rivers voted Teacher of the Year

The best of the best, Leona Rivers of Battiest, Oklahoma, has been voted Teacher of the Year in the Little Dixie Head Start program for 2003-04. Leona, who teaches a class of enthusiastic three- and four-year-olds, received top honors from her peers at the close of the school year for her nurturing and effective teaching methods.

Known for creating a rich learning environment in her classroom, Leona is an expert at encouraging self-confidence and the will to learn among her young students. Not an easy job when dealing with 20 “centers of the universe” who must learn to respect other people and play nice while learning the basic concepts of math and the ABCs. During the school year, she focuses on the importance of literacy to her students with an ongoing reading program that gets children into the habit of listening to the written word and becoming comfortable with books. She also encourages her students to use their imaginations to create artwork that is hung in the classroom with “arty gallery” pride.

Anyone involved with preschool-age children knows how difficult it can be to encourage cleanliness and good health habits, but Leona's success in teaching awareness of cleanliness and personal hygiene to her young charges also won her Head Start Center recognition for Best Supportive Health Practices.

Leona is a Little Dixie Head Start veteran who was assigned to her Battiest classroom in 1988, and she has been teaching preschoolers and sharing her wisdom with other teachers for the 16 years ever since.

## Sulphur honor graduate

Ralph Ray Billy of Talihina, Oklahoma, would like to congratulate his niece, Candace Nicole Ward, on finishing public school in eleven years. Candace, 17, is the daughter of Angelia (Billy) Ward. Candace's honors and awards include National Honor Society, National Honor Roll, Who's Who Among America's High School Students, Chickasaw Governor's Honor Club, Superintendent's and Principal's Honor Rolls, Oklahoma Honor Society and Sophomore Server. She also participated in FCCLA for two years where she held the office of historian, mini-chapter and chairperson; Key Club for three years where she held the office of secretary, Art Club for three years, Goodnight Gang for three years and the Academic Team.



## All-State athlete

Congratulations to Amber Sands for making the 2004 Oklahoma All-State Softball Team, Indian All-State Basketball Team, All-Star Team and All-State Honorable Mention. A 2004 graduate of Okemah High School, Amber was also on the honor roll and Who's Who Among High School Students. She was very busy in June playing in the All-State games, traveling to Norman and Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and Honolulu, Hawaii. She plans to attend Seminole State College for two years, then transfer to OU to major in law or sports medicine.

Her proud parents are Mike and Barbara Sands of Okemah. Grandparents are Elton and Josephine Baker of Idabel, Oklahoma, and Jonah and Bertha Sands of Castle, Oklahoma.

Good luck and best wishes from your friends and family!

## Choctaws represented in Missouri

During the Senath/Hornersville School Olympics, Rachel Tom, 8, won first in the 75-yard hurdles and second in the running board jump. Sarah Tom, 6, won second in the 75-yard dash and fifth in the 75-yard hurdles. Rachel and Sarah are the daughters of Wayland and Dena Tom of Senath, Missouri.



## Brady excels at lacrosse

Choctaw tribal member Molly Brady, a junior at the University of California - Berkeley (the Cal Bears), set two team records in her 2004 NCAA Division I lacrosse season: most goals in a single game (7) and most goals in a season (41). Brady was also named to the all-



conference team for the Mountain Pacific Lacrosse League (MPL). The Cal Bears won their MPL League title on May 8 in a 10-9 victory with the winning shot coming with six seconds to play. Brady scored one goal in the contest. She has been elected co-captain of the Bears for the 2005 season.

Molly is the daughter of John Brady of Madison, Connecticut, and the granddaughter of Dorothy (Lindsay) Brady, formerly of Lindsay, Oklahoma, who now lives in Ft. Myers, Florida. Molly is the latest in a long line of Dorothy Brady's granddaughters to play collegiate lacrosse. Others included Katie and Mary Tess O'Sullivan (Yale University), Maggie O'Sullivan (Bowdoin College), and Kirsten Jensen (also at the University of California - Berkeley). The cousins are great-great-granddaughters of Alzira (McCaughey) Murray, original enrollee.

Lacrosse, a truly American game, was predominately played by eastern and southeastern tribes. According to Thomas Vennum Jr., author of “American Indian Lacrosse: Little Brother of War,” the game (“stickball”) was often played as a surrogate for war. In fact, territorial disputes between tribes were sometimes settled with a game. The sport was extremely popular in Oklahoma among transplanted Choctaws during the 1800s.

### Anderson is 33rd degree Mason

The Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry has elected Hampton Wade Anderson Jr. of the McAlester Scottish Rite Masons to receive the 33rd degree of the Scottish Rite. He will wear the white prayer cap with the patriarchal cross on the front and bear the title of Inspector General Honorary. Anderson is the vice chairman of the Membership Division for the McAlester Valley Scottish Rite and serves as orator for the Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix and the Council of Kadosh, and is a former General Secretary. He is a Past Master of McAlester Lodge #96, AF&AM. He is a retired major of the U.S. Army, GS-13, U.S. Civil Service, with the Indian Health Service and Economic Developer for the State of Oklahoma. His parents, the late Hampton W. Sr. and Tessie (Arbuckle) Anderson, were original enrollees. His children are Lt. Commander Celissa Stephens of Jefferson, Maryland, Dr. Hampton W. Anderson III of Broken Bow, and Dr. David W. Anderson of Sarasota, Florida.



### Grad enters master's program

Kimberly Washington Kaniatobe, mother of Kody Wilson and the daughter of Ann Kaniatobe, Durant, and Jimmy Washington, Idabel, graduated from East Central University May 8 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. She majored in Human Services Counseling with a concentration in Rehabilitation. She has been accepted into the Master's Program which she will begin this fall. Kim is doing her internship at the Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation in Ada. She was on the Dean's list throughout her college years. She served as Secretary of Native American Student Association (NASA), member of the Human Resources Club, and Secretary of Johnson O'Malley Program for the Ada Schools.

Kimberly attended SOSU in Durant before transferring to ECU. While in Durant, she taught the Choctaw language to Choctaw children. Her family is very proud of this Choctaw.



### 2004 Salutatorian

Congratulations to Shauna Scherf who graduated from Mena High School as a 2004 Salutatorian. Shauna has been a member of the National Honor Society for two years. During her senior year, she was the editor of the Bear Facts school newspaper, reporter for the NHS, drum major of the Mena Marching Band and president of the FCS. Among her honors and awards are Academic Letter, All Region Band and Choir, third place in Trigonometry at ACTM Math Contest, Mena Chapter of National Honor Society, the 40 Year Club of Mena High School Good Citizen Award, the Chris Dunaway Memorial Scholarship and the band award, which is the John Philip Sousa Award.

She plans to attend Arkansas Tech University at Russellville where she was awarded an academic scholarship.

Shauna is the daughter of Arthur and Vicki Smith. She has a sister, Olivia, and a brother, Jordan, all of Mena, Arkansas. Her proud grandparents are Richard and Leona Samuel and great-grandmother is Emeline Bohanon of Smithville, Oklahoma.

Shauna celebrated her 18th birthday on May 16.



## Graffs graduate

Congratulations to Jennifer L. (Dunlap) Graff and her husband, Adam T. Graff. The couple graduated May 23 from the University of Kansas Medical School. Jennifer, the daughter of Wes and Judy Dunlap of Scottsdale, Arizona, is a graduate of Saguaro High School. Adam is the son of Tom and Jan Graff.



## Rebecca Sumner is Valedictorian

Rebecca Jean Sumner graduated 2004 Class Valedictorian from Shawnee High School May 25 in Shawnee, Oklahoma. She plans to attend OU this fall, beginning as a sophomore advance standing. Her accomplishments also include the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence 2004 Academic All-State Award, Presidential Scholars Program Candidate, National Honor Roll, Class Secretary, and Who's Who Among American High School Students.

Rebecca is the daughter of Dr. Larry Dean Sumner and Pamela Sego Sumner of Tahlequah and Shirley Bell Sumner of Shawnee. She is the granddaughter of the late Rex Lee Sumner and Delores Titchywy Sumner of Tahlequah; the second great-granddaughter of Martha Weaver Sumner and Edward D. Sumner, and the descendant, third great-granddaughter, of Emily Carn Weaver, an original enrollee. Her grandfather, the late Rex Lee Sumner, taught at Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah for many years and was also an OU alumnus.

## BISHINIK deadline

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





## JO DEE MESSINA

If there's anyone who believes in the transformative power of dreams, it's Jo Dee Messina. The double-platinum redhead with the raucous laugh, survivor's heart and full-tilt passion for life has seen her love of music carry her to summits and thrills that are worlds away from her Holliston, Massachusetts, birthplace and hometown.

A multiple Female Vocalist of the Year nominee, Jo Dee has won the Country Music Association's Horizon Award recognizing career growth, the Academy of Country Music's Top New Female Vocalist Award and the Boston Music Awards' Artist of the Year, on her way to becoming Billboard's Most Played Country Female of 1999.

With "Burn," Jo Dee's follow-up to her two-million-selling Academy of Country Music Album of the Year nominee "I'm Alright," she once again offers hope and encouragement, as well as an acknowledgment that life can be difficult but should be celebrated in all moments, not just the good ones.

"I want people to lean on these songs the way that I do," she says. "Music has always affected me, it gives me energy and helps me keep going. Since it's not just about keeping my head above water, I'm able to reach out to help others. And you know what? Of all the stuff that's happened to me over the past few years, *that's* what I live for ... being able to help everybody else. As long as I've got my songs to sing and a roof over my head and I'm able to do things for others, then I'm complete."



## LORRIE MORGAN

Lorrie Morgan's authenticity as a country artist is irrefutable. She was literally a child of the Grand Ole Opry, tagging along as her father, the late George Morgan, performed every weekend from the hallowed wooden stage. Lorrie made her debut appearance at 13, knock-kneed and shaking as her dad watched her charm the audience with the developing sultry alto which has become one of the most distinctive and moving voices in the country genre.

Because of her dedication to the Grand Ole Opry, Lorrie was invited to become a member in 1984, long before she released her platinum-selling debut album, "Leave the Light On" in 1989.

Lorrie quickly became one of country music's most popular and successful female artists, charting over a dozen top ten hits, including "Five Minutes," "What Part of No" and "I Didn't Know My Own Strength," which all landed #1. Recognized as a creative force in music videos, Lorrie charted eight #1 videos at CMT.

Praise from her peers and fans followed, and she earned nine industry awards, including four wins as Female Vocalist of the Year (1994, 1996, 1997, 1998). She made countless appearances on major network television shows, including "The Late Show with David Letterman," "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "Good Morning, America," among others.

But it has been life's events offstage that have kept her grounded. Morgan has said that, in some ways, her life is like a country song as she's experienced so many different roles, including daughter, single mother, widow, divorcee and, above all, survivor.

For Lorrie, everything finally fits. In life and in art, the glamorous and gifted country stunner has a new record label, a renewed alliance with a mega-hit producer, a great husband and home life, confidence and contentment.

"Everything fits," she says. "If there could be any theme, it would just be that everything fits."

# LABOR DAY 2004

## Entertainment

FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 3

**Jessica Andrews**  
**Lorrie Morgan**  
**Neal McCoy**

SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 4

**Cledus T. Judd**  
**Ronnie Milsap**  
**Sawyer Brown**  
**Jo Dee Messina**

SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 5

**All Day Gospel**  
**Singing featuring**  
**The Crabb Family**  
**and Mike Bowling**



## NEAL McCOY

A native of Jacksonville, Texas, Neal McCoy was born Hubert Neal McGaughy Jr. His father is a Texan of Irish descent and his mother is Filipino. Neal often refers to himself as a "Texapino." With his first record deal, Neal changed the spelling of his last name to McGoy, and then to McCoy. He got his start as an opening act for Charley Pride, soon earning his own slot on the show.

"Charley was so good onstage, making people feel relaxed," McCoy recalls, "and offstage, he was still the same guy, very approachable. I tried to learn that from him."

A two-time TNN/Music City News "Entertainer of the Year," Neal has sold over 5 million records. He was awarded one of CMT's Top 10 Videos of the Year for "The Shake" and TNN/Music City News Video of the Year for "Then You Can Tell Me Goodbye." His album, "Neal McCoy," went gold and he has had three reach platinum – "No Doubt About It," "You Gotta Love That," and "Greatest Hits" which remained in the Top 10 on Billboard's Country Album Charts for 19 consecutive weeks.

Neal and wife Melinda have been married for 22 years. They have two children – daughter Miki and son Swayde. Neal and Melinda founded the East Texas Angel Network (ETAN) in 1995. Their foundation provides financial assistance to families of children with serious illnesses. So far, the organization has raised over 2 million dollars for the children of East Texas.



## SAWYER BROWN

Sawyer Brown was one of the first country acts to use music videos to full advantage. From the start, the group's videos were built around concepts, rather than on straight performances. The videos showcased Mark Miller's bounding and boundless stage energy and demonstrated that the other members were having great fun playing together. A devout Christian, Mark says he does take care to ensure that the band's videos don't celebrate or endorse opposing values.

"Quite honestly, my kids don't want to see me hugging or kissing anyone but their mama, and I'm not going to do that. If there are girls in the video who might insinuate something, I'm not too keen on that either."

Sawyer Brown's videos are dramatic powerhouses – "The Walk" chronicles the relentless march of aging; "Caf? on the Corner" focuses on the agony of people dispossessed and out of work; "All These Years" examines without sentimentality a marriage crumbling into desperation and despair. More recently, with "The Other Side," the band used a Civil War scenario to illustrate that blood is thicker than politics. Four of Sawyer Brown's videos, including the rollicking "Some Girls Do" and "Six Days on the Road" – have earned CMT Video of the Year awards.

Miller insists that the group always opts for substance over flash. "We always try to cut the very best songs," he maintains. "We don't try to put an equation (of song types) on it." High quality can come in different guises, he points out: "Sometimes, if a song just feels so good that you don't have to think about it, then I don't pay much attention to the lyrics. But sometimes the melody and the feel are only background to what the lyrics say. If that's the case, I want those lyrics to really mean something and have an impact."



While looking back at the enormous impact he had on country in the '70s, '80s and early '90s, the ebullient singer insists on looking ahead as well. "I've been very fortunate to have had a lot of successful records," he says. "Now it's time to make some more."

## RONNIE MILSAP

All along, the sightless child took refuge in music and the radio. He was put through strict classical music training, a program that was heightened after the young boy early on showed the innate talent of a prodigy. At the same time, he obsessively listened to the radio, especially the late-night programs of country music, gospel and rhythm-and-blues.

Those duo pursuits – demanding classical study and an intense pop-music obsession – served Ronnie Milsap well. By age 20, he released his first single, "Total Disaster." By 1965, the young blind pianist and singer was recording for renowned Scepter Records in New York. His first single, "Never Had It So Good," was a top five hit on the Billboard soul chart. He went on to record R&B-styled songs in Houston and Memphis for a variety of labels. In April 1973, he began a long-lasting association with RCA Records. His 40 #1 hits stand as a testament to his success and staying power as a country artist. Only the late Conway Twitty scored more top country hits, and his included many duets with Loretta Lynn.





## CLEDUS T. JUDD

Cledus T. Judd, known to his legions of fans as the Prince of Parodies, saw his first major label disc on Monument Records, “Just Another Day in Parodies,” debut at #25 on Billboard’s Country Album chart. The album held the #1 spot on the Billboard Comedy Album chart for 18 consecutive weeks. Judd’s first four albums have scanned over one million copies.

His first album featured special guest appearances by John Anderson and Brad Paisley. Country stars who have made appearances in Judd’s previous videos include Vince Gill, Joe Diffie, Alan Jackson, Shania Twain, Buck Owens, Deana Carter, Trace Adkins, Charlie Daniels and Chad Brock.

“Every Light in the House Is Blown” won CMT’s Independent Video of the Year and was voted one of the Top 20 Fan Favorite Videos for 1998. “If Shania Were Mine” won CMT’s Independent Video of the Year in 1996. He was nominated for Favorite Male Newcomer, Funniest Country Performer, Favorite Video for “If Shania Were Mine” and Favorite Video Entertainer in Country Weekly’s Golden Pick Awards in 1997.



## THE CRABB FAMILY

It all began less than 10 years ago with a dream ... a dream in the prayer of a father that his family would make an impact for Christ and a desire to instill within them the values that he so strongly upheld ... a dream in the heart of a mother who quickly recognized the talents of her children and wanted to see them use those talents to the best of their abilities to make a difference ... a dream in the hearts of six children to share the gospel with a lost and hurting world.

The Crabb Family is the largest family group in Southern Gospel Music today. They bring to the stage four tremendous vocalists backed by an exceptional six-piece band. What began as a family traveling to local churches for revivals and singing events has now become a national ministry. The Crabb Family ministry now expands into churches, arenas, outdoor venues, and various facilities all across the country. They regularly appear on TBN’s “Praise the Lord,” as well as several of the “Gaither Homecoming” concerts, the “Grand Ole Opry,” “Fan Fair,” and “Seminar in the Rockies.”

The Crabb Family record with Daywind Music Group and have 13 #1 songs, all written by founder Gerald Crabb. They have been nominated for nearly 60 awards in less than five years, several of which they have won. They also have the highest charting success in the history of Southern Gospel Music. They had the #1 song for the year in both 1998 (“Please Forgive Me”) and 2000 (“Through the Fire”).

Promoters and listeners all across the country have fallen in love with the sincerity and humility of this talented family. They are crowd favorites everywhere they go.



## JESSICA ANDREWS

The drive to express herself in song has been a constant in Jessica Andrews’ life ever since she won a talent contest in her hometown of Huntington, Tennessee, at the age of 10, singing the Whitney Houston rendition of “I Will Always Love You.”

By the time she was 12, word of her talent was already spreading throughout Nashville and led to a deal with DreamWorks Records.

After touring tirelessly to promote her debut disc, “Heart Shaped World,” Jessica demonstrated greater versatility on her follow-up, “Who I Am.” The album debuted at #22, was certified gold a month after its release, and yielded the heartfelt title track, which hit #1 on Billboard’s Hot Country Singles & Tracks chart.

Jessica has won the Academy of Country Music’s Top New Female Vocalist award and shared stages with the likes of Tim McGraw, Faith Hill and Trisha Yearwood.

The 19-year-old Jessica has coincided her musical career with the universal challenges of young adulthood, insights reflected in her 2003 album, “Now.”

“Music is great therapy for the people making it and the people listening to it,” Jessica says. “It’s a healing force and that’s something the world needs now more than ever.”

# Labor Day 5 KM Run

**Race begins 8 a.m.  
September 4, 2004 • Tushka Homma**

Race day registration is from 6:30-7:45 a.m.  
in front of Crossroad Cafe  
on U.S. Hwy. 271, 5 miles north of Clayton.  
Preregistration is \$10.00.

All entrants must be postmarked by August 30, 2004.  
Race-day registration is \$12.00.

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

**RACE DIRECTOR**  
**Linda Tyler 580-924-8280, ext. 2319**  
**Race Coordinator: Glen’s Road Race**

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

*Please print* **ENTRY FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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 September 4, 2004 \_\_\_\_\_ 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**

# CHOCTAW NATION FAST PITCH TOURNAMENT

to be held during the

## Labor Day Festival

**September 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2004**

at the Choctaw Capitol Grounds in Tushka Homma

*\$150 entry fee – money orders only*

– Deadline for entry is August 13, 2004 –

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**



# 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

**Saturday, September 4**

*Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival*

**Tushka Homma, Oklahoma**

– CATEGORIES –

10-14 Co-ed Boys and Girls

15-18 Boys, Must still be in High School

15-18 Girls, Must still be in High School

18-35 MEN ONLY

36 & up MEN ONLY

**FREE THROW CONTEST**

3 POINT CONTEST

Sign up at Festival

**3-ON-3**

Must Pre-Register

NO LATE SIGN-UPS

**\$40 ENTRY FEE**

Enclose Cashier’s Check or Money Order Only

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRY: AUGUST 27, 2004**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Category \_\_\_\_\_

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



**Second Annual  
Chief Gregory E. Pyle  
Choctaw Labor Day**

# GOLF CLASSIC

**Sunday, September 5, 2004**

**Nashoba Valley Golf Course, Nashoba, Okla.**

9-hole course, par 36; Golf Course Phone (918) 755-4519

4-man Teams • 18 teams • 36 golfers for each start

*Lunch for all golfers at noon*

**LIMITED TO FIRST 72 REGISTERED GOLFERS**

Entry fee: \$50

Fee includes: Green fee, golf shirt, golf cart,

goodie bag (golf towel, tees & balls) and lunch

**PRIZES: First Place Team \$150 each and trophy**

**Second Place Team \$75 each and trophy**

**Third Place Team \$50 each and trophy**

Other prizes awarded to closest to pin, longest drive, etc.

Mail entry form to:

Second Annual Chief Pyle

Choctaw Labor Day Golf Classic

c/o Choctaw Casino, PO Box 1909, Durant, OK 74702

*Deadline to register is August 27, 2004*

For more information, call Kevin Gwin (580) 775-3982

Anthony Dillard (580) 513-4321 or Greg Robinson (580) 916-0510

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Night Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Handicap \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

Must have valid handicap card or phone of club for verification  
Enclose Money Order or Cashier’s Check



# Choctaw Nation Labor Day CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

**Saturday, September 4, 2004**

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 20, 2004, at 4:30 p.m.

USA Volleyball Grass Rules Enforced

For more information, call 580-924-8280, ext. 2212 or 2258  
(required for correspondence)



# Native American Junior Golf Camp 2004



The Native American Junior Golf camp was held May 31-June 4 at Chickasaw Pointe Golf Resort at Lake Texoma. Seventy-five youth attended the event, 50 in the beginners category and 25 advanced players. The five-day camp was sponsored by the Choctaw Nation and the Chickasaw Nation.



Jones Academy Administrator Brad Spears, Jessica Blankenship, Brandon Spears, Choctaw Nation Agriculture, Larry Box and Shawn Sparks.

## Jones Academy students win honors at world’s largest Jr. Livestock Show

Jones Academy students Jessica Blankenship and Derrick James won honors at the Oklahoma Youth Expo held March 17-22 in Oklahoma City. Jessica exhibited the first-place division II Chester White Gilt and went on to capture the title of breed champion Chester White. Jessica’s gilt, “Wags,” sold for \$2,400, in addition to a \$2,000 scholarship which will be redeemed at the college of her choice. Derrick exhibited the fourth-place division III Class 13 Cross. Derrick’s cross was selected for premium sale honors. His gilt, “Still Holding,” sold for \$750. There were approximately 1,650 gilts exhibited and only 100 were selected for the premium sale auction. Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey and Choctaw Nation Tribal Councilmembers’ continued support of 4-H and FFA youth are greatly appreciated.



Jones Academy Administrator Brad Spears, Derrick James and Brandon Spears, Choctaw Nation Agriculture.



## A great day for fishing

These happy Choctaw senior citizens from Wright City enjoy the morning catching their stringers full of fish at the Wheelock campus lake. Some are former students of the old academy near Millerton, Oklahoma.

# Healthy Lifestyles Poster Contest



Rock Creek Elementary: Alexandra Folsom, Jade Graham and Kimberly Folsom. Not pictured: Justin Jernigan, Elizabeth Jernigan and Darren Jernigan.

The Choctaw Nation recently initiated a poster contest to educate our Native American youth on the importance of proper nutrition and physical activity. This campaign targeted all school-age children within the ten and one-half counties of the Choctaw Nation. The posters were to address and encourage individuals on ways to have a “healthy lifestyle.” A total of 230 students participated and each received a Healthy Lifestyles T-shirt. Schools with winning posters received a parachute which is utilized in physical education classes. The first place posters will be displayed at various Choctaw Nation facilities.

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma will continue to inform individuals on the significance of “Healthy Living = Longer Life.”



Alyson Chapman, Coalgate schools.



Quinton Schools: Leilani Bond, Trystan Bond, Lauren Hopkins, Orbrey Hopkins, Courtney Taylor, Chad Bush, Shelby Brennan, Garrett McMinn, Kirby Needham, Sam Simco, Brandy Sockey, Brad Davis, Bailey Cooper and Rebecca Adcock.



Jennifer Bond, Quinton Schools.

**FIREWORKS SAFETY**

- ▶ Never throw or point fireworks at another person.
- ▶ Fireworks should be lit on a smooth, flat surface, away from the house, dry leaves, trees and flammable materials.
- ▶ Use punks to light fireworks. Do not use a lighter, matches or cigarettes.
- ▶ Always let an adult light the fireworks.
- ▶ Keep a bucket of water handy.
- ▶ Light fireworks one at a time.
- ▶ Eye protection should always be worn by the fireworks shooter.
- ▶ Never give sparklers to a child under five.
- ▶ Buy fireworks marked BSD 7114.

*Submitted by the Safety Development Department of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma*

**Beef Cooking School**

Presented by Andrea Mitchell, OSU Extension Educator, Family & Consumer Science, McCurtain County

**10 a.m.-12 noon**  
**Thursday, July 29**  
**Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center**  
**Broken Bow, Oklahoma**

Topics will include:

- Food Safety Skit
- Grilling IN and OUT with Beef
- Mixing Cultures with Beef
- Beef: Homemade with Help

*We are looking forward to the program but have limited space. The program will be limited to 50 participants. The program is free but we ask for reservations to be made by calling 580-286-7558 and sign up. Shelly Stevenson is the OSU Extension Secretary. Have her put your name on the Beef Cooking list.*



Madison Hawkins, Antlers Schools.



Keally Standridge, Antlers Schools.



John Jones, Hugo Elementary.



William Minyard, Bennington Schools. Not pictured: Eric Minyard.

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



## Activities at Okla Chahta Gathering enjoyed by all

This group met May 15 in Bakersfield, California, and spent the weekend camping and enjoying the activities at the Okla Chahta Gathering. Pictured are David and Tami Schultz of Chico, California, Bill and Wanda Williams of Santa Cruz, California, Michael Schultz of Chico, Mary Williams of Santa Cruz, Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Judy Whaley of Dayton, Nevada, Willie Ayers of Santa Cruz, and Patty Reid of Harbor City, California.





Senior Day hat contest winners! Women – 1st, Virginia Johnson of Poteau; 2nd, Ellen Mayhall of Stigler, and 3rd, Dorothy Spears of McAlester. Men – 1st, Jim Fry of Spiro; 2nd, Loyd Morris of Crowder, and 3rd, Ryman Battiest of Wright City.

## Sr. Citizen Day

May 26  
at Blue  
Ribbon Downs



Councilman  
Jack Austin  
with Maude  
Durant.



Councilman  
Jack Austin  
with Ruby  
Taylor



Winners of the fruit baskets from District 6 are McKinney Taylor Jr., JoAnn Coley and Mary Morris.



Chief Gregory E. Pyle admires Juanita Cox's hat entry.



Chief Pyle with Lora Tom, Delia Wesley and Ethelyn Moore.



Attending from Coalgate with Councilman James Frazier are Rosa Barron, Elizabeth Harkins, Maggie Anderson and Betty Burge.



From Poteau are Buzz Williams, Kathleen Simmons, Councilman Delton Cox, Geraldine James and Larease Bryan.



Door prize winners from District 1, pictured with Councilman Hap Ward, are Truman Jefferson, Creson Watson and Kenneth Williston.



Mary Williams, Isabel Gibson and Marilyn Colbert, winners from the Broken Bow center, and Councilperson Mike Amos.



Winning name tag designs: 1st, District 2, held by Mike Amos; 3rd, District 5, held by Charlotte Jackson, and 2nd, District 12, held by Louise Ott.



District 3 Councilperson Kenny Bryant presents fruit baskets to Sheila Graeber, Ruth James, Virgil Marston and Dorothy Melton.



Councilperson Hap Ward and Jonell Fields.



Larry Spring, Councilman James Frazier, Evelene Rodgers and Ruby McCoy attend from the center in Crowder.



Pictured with their Councilman, Jack Austin, are Presley Battiest Sr., Robert Thompson and Ryman Battiest.



Josephine Baker, Councilperson Hap Ward and Sue Silvia of District 1.



Pictured with Councilpersons Charlotte Jackson and Delton Cox are Spiro attendees Howard Bryant, George Phillips, Doris and Juanita Phillips. The Spiro Center is shared by Districts 4 and 5 and is nicknamed "4.5."



1st Place Singers: Antlers/Wright City.



2nd Place Singers: Spiro.



3rd Place Singers: Stigler



Chief Pyle greets a busload of Senior Citizens from District 10.



Councilperson Perry Thompson and fruit basket winners from Choctaw County, Bertha Micco, Dante Belvin and Pauline Wright.



Councilperson Bob Pate is pictured with District 11 winners Anna Polk, Bonnie Friday and Dorothy Spears.



Names drawn from the Bethel center were Annie Noah, Eugene Ludlow and Christine Ludlow. They are pictured with Councilperson Mike Amos.

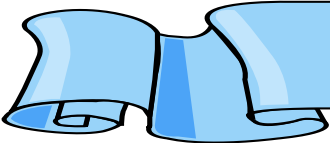


Councilperson Charlotte Jackson with Stigler attendees, Josie Sharpshir, Ruby Terrell and Mildred Davis, and Oneida Winship, Director of the Nutrition Program.

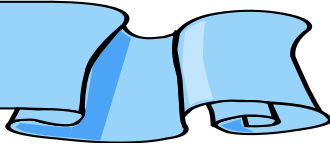


Frances Walker, Rebecca Cole and Pat Tucker, all of District 10, Atoka County.





# OBITUARIES



## James Elijah “Jim” Meggs

James Elijah “Jim” Meggs, 84, passed away May 1, 2004, after a long and satisfying life. He was born January 7, 1920, in Fort Towson, Oklahoma, to Elijah E. Meggs and Lois Marina Jane Robinson Meggs.

James grew up in Ft. Towson until graduating from Ft. Towson High School in 1936. He went on to attend Murray Jr. College in Tishomingo, Oklahoma. In 1939 he was accepted to Oklahoma A&M (now OSU). James played baseball for the Aggies and Coach Hank Iba, lettering in 1941. His studies were interrupted in 1942 when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy to defend the United States in World War II. After his tour of duty he returned to Oklahoma A&M to finish his Bachelor’s of Science as well as his Master’s of Science in Agriculture. James and Marjorie Patchin were married August 1, 1942, in Washington, D.C., and to this union Pat, Jane, James Jr. and Hank were born.

James enjoyed a successful career in the agriculture industry in Oklahoma. He designed the first liquid feed plant in Oklahoma and also designed a plant which makes solid supplements. He was a partner at TE Agri while he was in Amarillo, Texas, for nine years before moving to Edmond in June 1981. James was president of the Oklahoma Seedmen’s Association, Oklahoma Feed Manufacturers Association, and treasurer of the OFTA for six years. In 1995, Westway Trading Co. bought TE Agri Co. and James was a consultant in sales for Westway Feed Products until he retired in November 2002 at the age of 82.

He was a wonderful and caring man who loved his family very much. He was proud of his Choctaw heritage and loved to research his genealogy. He has been a president with the Edmond Historical Society. James was an avid OSU sports fan who loved to attend football games. He was a member of the “O” club and the alumni association of Oklahoma State University. James loved to fish with his great-grandchildren at the lake when they would come to visit.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Marjorie; his two sisters, Doris Mabry of Batesville, Alaska, and Edna Earle Meggs of Houston, Texas; daughters, Pat and her husband, Barry Nelson, of Macon, Georgia, and Jane New of Coronado, California; sons, James Meggs Jr. and his wife, Becky, of Tempe, Arizona, and Hank Meggs of Las Vegas, Nevada; grandsons, Lance Nelson and his wife, Jessica, Spencer Nelson and his wife, Rebecca, David New and Jeffrey New; granddaughters, Stephanie Buck and her husband, Ryan, and Heather Stafford and her husband, Patrick; six great-grandchildren, twins Foley and Tarquin Armknecht, Patrick Stafford, Logan Buck, Carter Nelson and Luke Nelson.

## John Bob Spain

John Bob Spain, 93, passed away May 18, 2004, at Willis Knighton Pierremont after a brief illness. He was born November 21, 1910, in Duncan, Oklahoma, the son of Granger P. Spain and Lula M. Shelton Spain.

Mr. Spain was a retired gas distributor, a member of First Baptist Church in Vivian, Louisiana, and was a resident of Vivian for 55 years.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Geraldine Lankford.

Survivors include his wife of 75 years, Beatrice Spain, of Vivian; sons, Robert Spain and wife, Billie Ann, of Longview, Texas, Ronald Spain and wife, Bobbie, and Donald Spain and wife, Sondra, all of Gray, Texas; daughter, Ollie Terhune and husband, Steve, of Blanchard, Louisiana; sisters, Maude Bounds of Vivian and Christine Nelson of Bossier City, Louisiana; eleven grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

The family would like to express their special appreciation to the doctors and nurses at Willis Knighton Pierremont and North Caddo Medical Center for the care John Bob received during his illness.

## Calistia “Christine” Kelly

Calistia “Christina” Kelly, 89, passed away April 6, 2003. She was born August 26, 1913, the daughter of John and Calistia Russell.

Mrs. Kelly loved growing flowers, crochet work and similar hobbies. She and her husband, Vernon B. Kelly, really liked gardening, also. Her husband was a 32nd Degree Mason and she was a member of the Eastern Star. They enjoyed a trip to Hawaii for their 74th wedding anniversary.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 74 years, Vernon B. Kelly, and her brothers, Perry, Matt and John Russell.

Survivors include a brother, Ernie Russell, 96, and his wife, Nona Russell, 94, of Davis, Oklahoma, and a host of nieces and nephews.

## Charlie J. Clarkson Jr.

Commander Charlie J. Clarkson Jr., USN (retired), 78, passed away June 10, 2004, at his home in Austin, Texas. He was born September 11, 1925, in Electra, Texas, to Maggie Louise Nale and Charlie John Clarkson Sr. Maggie Louise was the daughter of Luann Fulton Nale and Robert F. Nale who were both original enrollees of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Charlie began his Naval career in 1943 and after World War II he received his college education through the GI Bill. After college Charlie married Zelda Lucille Lynch on October 20, 1950, and rejoined the Navy as an officer. During his time with the Navy Charlie was a combat aviator serving as a pilot in the Korean War with CVA-36 on the USS Antietam and with CVA-37 on the USS Princeton. In April 1953, his plane was shot down in Won Son Bay, Korea, for which he received the Purple Heart. Charlie received a total of ten Aviator Awards as well as numerous medals and decorations.

In 1955 Charlie became a Jet Instrument Instructor in Kingsville, Texas. In later years he served the Navy as an Intelligence Officer for the Nuclear Weapons Training Group in San Diego, California. On December 31, 1971, Charlie retired from the Navy and began his second and third careers in the private sector. On December 20, 1974, Charlie married again to Atelia Prince and later adopted her two sons as his own. Charlie will be remembered by all who have met him. He was kind and generous, soft-spoken and polite. Those who knew Charlie also knew of his passion for golf. An avid golfer until the end he came close to “shooting his age” on a number of occasions. He lived his life by the rules of the game, often citing one of the primary rules of golf, “Play the course as you find it and the ball as it lies.”

Survivors include his former wife, Zelda; daughters, Karen Clarkson and Anne Clarkson; sons, Charles Clarkson and John Clarkson; current wife, Atelia; sons, Gavin Clarkson and Derek Clarkson; 13 grandchildren; one great-grandchild and numerous cousins.



## Norman L. “John” Folsom

Norman L. “John” Folsom, 81, of Stigler, Oklahoma, passed away June 9, 2004, in Stigler. He was born June 13, 1922, in Kanima, Oklahoma, to George Dewey and Linnie Dore (Gilstrap) Folsom.

John was retired from the U.S. Postal Service, having served as a rural letter carrier for more than 30 years.

John met Louise Cook in New Orleans, Louisiana, while serving in the Coast Guard during World War II. They were married on May 17, 1943, and recently celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. John was a deacon of the Calvary Baptist Church in Stigler and was instrumental in the founding of the Main Street Baptist Church in Stigler. He later moved to Tamaha where he was a founding member and deacon of the First Southern Baptist Church of Tamaha. John also founded and coached a very successful American Legion Baseball Team in Stigler from 1966 to the 1970s.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Lou Ella Lambert, and three brothers, Morris Folsom, Robert “Bob” Folsom and Franklin “Frank” Folsom.

Survivors include his wife, Louise Folsom; daughter, Anna Garcia of San Angelo, Texas; son, Jim Folsom and wife, Judy, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; sisters, Edith Royce of Pagosa Springs, Colorado, Maxine Stancampiano of Oklahoma City, Carolyn Ward and husband, Bob, of Edmond, Oklahoma, and Alice Cross of Stigler; brothers, Willis “Kee” Folsom of Oklahoma City, Walter Folsom of Stigler and George Folsom of Pocola, Oklahoma; two grandchildren, Christine Smith and husband, John, of Coweta, Oklahoma, and Melanie Miller and husband, Scott, of Weatherford, Oklahoma; two great-granddaughters, Sydney Smith and Hannah Miller, and one great-grandson, Folsom Smith.

## Ada Hammons

Ada Hammons, 87, of Ft. Towson, Oklahoma, passed away June 15, 2004, at Paris Regional Medical Center, Paris, Texas. She was born June 20, 1916, in Marlow, Oklahoma, the daughter of Thomas Jefferson Wade and Myrtle Elizabeth (Hopkins) Wade.

Ada was a homemaker for her family and had lived northwest of Ft. Towson since 1964. She was married to the Rev. Lonnie W. Hammons on March 1, 1941, in Shawnee, Oklahoma. He preceded her in death in 1972.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Paul Wade; one sister, Margie Wade; four grandchildren, Taylor Wallace, Vicki Creacy, Stephen Hammons and Chuck Creacy.

Survivors include her children, Jerry and Sandy Hammons of Shreveport, Louisiana, Glen Hammons of Sulphur Springs, Texas, Jack Hammons of Phoenix, Arizona, Johnnie and Johnny Rosson, Bennie and Debbie Hammons and Rodney and Nomia Hammons, all of Ft. Towson, Linda and Jim Wallace and Mary and Mike Mitchell, all of Hugo, Oklahoma, and Lonnie and Susie Hammons of Holly Creek; three brothers, James Wade and Tony Wade, both of Duncan, Oklahoma, and T.J. Wade of Hugo; two sisters, Vinney Wheatley of Duncan and Agnes Bohanon of Hugo; 31 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews.

## Quincy D. Maytubbi

Quincy D. Maytubbi, 42, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, passed away May 13, 2004. He was born August 9, 1961, in Dallas, Texas.

Quincy was a member of Clebit Baptist Church, Clebit, Oklahoma. He enjoyed leather working and arts and crafts. He loved to fish, play softball and spending time with family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Christie Bell Lewis, and his father, John Quincy Maytubbi.

Survivors include a special friend, Byda Maytubbi of Oklahoma City; two brothers, John Wayne Maytubbi of Idabel, Oklahoma, and Floyd Maytubbi of Tulsa, Oklahoma; three sisters, Isabelle Ludlow and Joyce Maytubbi, both of Broken Bow, and Gail Almaraz of Sulphur Springs, Texas; one uncle, Willis Maytubbi of Wright City; several nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

## Eugene J. “Chick” Folsom

Eugene J. “Chick” Folsom, 76, of Montgomery, Texas, passed away May 28, 2004, in Conroe, Texas. He was born June 26, 1927, near Chickasha, Oklahoma.

He graduated from Texas Tech University with a B.S. in Petroleum Geology, was employed as a geophysicist, a geologist and petrophysicist with Amoco from 1951 to 1971. He was employed by Westland Oil Dev. Corp. from 1971 to 1996 when he retired.

His greatest gift was his smile. He never met a stranger and his greatest passions in life were his wife, family and golf. His desire to live life to the fullest is what kept him here as long as he was. God gave him many trials and he just came back fighting and meeting the challenges. From a young Indian boy who moved constantly as a youngster, he continued with his education. He began working in the oilfield on rigs as a rough neck. He later became a log analyst for Westland Oil. He completed all the things he set out in life for.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Vickie Anne Folsom.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Betty Jean Folsom; his daughter, Linda Sue Cheshire and husband, Richard, of Montgomery; grandchildren, James Hulse, Diana Hulse, Melissa Machala and husband, Wayne, Tina Thames and Scott Thames; great-grandfather, Cody Machala; mother-in-law, Ruth Walls of Houston, Texas, and by special daughter, Charlotte Allman.

## Christine Compelube “Tine” Gann

Christine Compelube “Tine” Gann, 79, of Mountain Home, Idaho, passed away May 5, 2004, at home with her family. She was born December 5, 1924, in McAlester, Oklahoma, the daughter of Ethel (Pace) Compelube and Nicholas Compelube. An original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation, Christine was one of five children, Cecil, Jesse, Audrey and Dorothy.

Christine was a high school graduate and a member of the VFW 1965 Women’s Auxiliary. She resided next door to her sister, Dorothy Jenkins, throughout most of their adult lives. She met and married Paul C. Gann in January of 1943. Together they had two sons, Kenneth R. Gann and Paul Truman Gann. Paul Truman passed away at the tender age of two years of diphtheria and is buried in Pima, Arizona. Paul, Christine and Kenneth moved to Wasco, California, where they resided for more than 50 years. Due to health reasons, they then moved to Mountain Home in 2002 to live with their son, Kenneth, and his wife, Letha, and was cared for by her granddaughter, Tammy Presley.

Christine battled a severely debilitating stroke in 1969 and her husband, Paul, and sister, Dorothy, cared for her for many, many years. Christine never gave up and with determination and perseverance got back on her feet. She was and always will be an inspiration to us all. She was a treasure, with admirable strength and will. Christine collected beautiful dolls and loved a good practical joke. She will be greatly missed and loved by all whom she touched.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Cecil and Jesse Compelube; a sister, Audrey, and son, Paul Truman Gann.

Survivors include her husband, Paul C. Gann; son, Kenneth Gann and wife, Letha; sister, Dorothy Jenkins; granddaughters, Tammy Presley and Stacey Knight and husband, Jimmy; great-grandchildren, Jamie and Kyle Knight and Paul, Shellie and Holly Presley, and five great-great-grandchildren.

## Tracey Ranay (Dickson) Love

Tracey Ranay Dickson Love, 41, passed away May 13, 2004, surrounded by family and friends in the loving comfort of her parents’ home in Blue Ridge, Texas. Tracey was born July 24, 1962, in McKinney, Texas. She grew up, lived most of her life, and raised her loving children in Blue Ridge. She was active in the community, schools, and anything her children pursued. She loved the outdoors, flowers, and friends and family. She was involved in the Garden Club, PTA, Blue Ridge Riding Club, and Race for the Cure. Tracey was a member of the First Baptist Church of Blue Ridge.

Tracey was a woman of great strength and devotion as well as caring and compassionate. She was an inspiration to others and truly a blessing to her family and many friends. She touched the life of everyone she came in contact with. Tracey was deeply grateful for her loving family and many wonderful friends who helped her through her courageous eight-year battle with cancer.

Survivors include her loving children, Amanda and Brent Love; loving partner, Wayne Sneed, and his children, Jenna and Philip Sneed; parents, Billy John and Pam Dickson; brother, Duane Dickson, and his children, Jason, Shania and Matt Dickson; numerous aunts including her Aunt Delphine Webb Dickson of Durant, Oklahoma, uncles, cousins, friends, and her loyal dog, Maggie.

## Leonard Jones

Leonard Jones, 88, passed away April 23, 2004, in Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital. He was born July 9, 1915, on Dollie Duncan Mountain in the Bell Community, Adair County, Oklahoma, the son of Frank and Geneva Jones. He was married to Juanita Kester on March 25, 1938. They recently celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary and their union was blessed with four sons, Vonnice, Herman, Dewey and Morris Jones.



Leonard accepted Christ as his Saviour at an early age and was a charter member of the Bell Baptist Church where he remained faithful until his death. He served as the official bell ringer along with many other positions in the church. He also served the community as a charter member of the Bell Rural Fire Department. He was a farmer and worked construction as a carpenter. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting, trapping and working in the timber. Affectionately known by many as “Grandpa Jones,” he loved all children and always took the time to entertain them with his many colorful stories and to teach them by generously sharing his wealth of knowledge and experience.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Albert Kester and Claude Phillips; one sister, Annie Littledeer; a stepsister, Viola Sutton; a special buddy, his daughter-in-law, Peggy Jones; two great-grandchildren, Kaleb Hopkins and Heather Marie Edwards.

Survivors include his wife, Juanita, of their home in Stilwell, Oklahoma; four sons, Vonnice and wife, Shirley, Herman, Dewey and wife, Joann, and Morris and wife, Kaye, all of Stilwell; 12 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren, one helper and friend, Regina Bogart, and a host of other relatives and friends.

## Georgia Rose Thompson

Georgia Rose Thompson, 78, passed away May 17, 2004, in Childress, Texas. She was born August 26, 1925, in Durant, Oklahoma. She and her husband, the Rev. Norman Thompson Sr., were married 60 years. He preceded her in death in 1993. Mrs. Thompson enjoyed working in her yard. She was a member of Pentecostals of Childress.



Survivors include four daughters and their husbands, Georgia and Troy Lovelady of Palestine, Texas, Opal and Jim Bailey of Childress, Norma and Dewayne Alexander of Lubbock, Texas, and Linda Cabler of Shamrock, Texas; four sons, Norman Thompson Jr. of Palestine, Lawrence and Levinie Thompson of Clovis, New Mexico, Charles David and Malinda Thompson and Bill and Anita Thompson, all of Childress; two sisters, Meada Rusco of Austin, Texas, and Flora Dillard of Pottsboro, Texas; 29 grandchildren and 57 great-grandchildren.

## Carl Lee Dixon

Carl Lee Dixon, 85, passed away February 28, 2004. He was born December 20, 1918, a native of Guilford County and the son of Berry Davis Dixon and Nettie Dye Dixon.

Mr. Dixon was a veteran of the U.S. Army having served during World War II. He was the retired owner and operator of Dixon’s Gulf Station and had worked at Carlson Farms Country Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Roy Dixon and Berry Davis Dixon Jr.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Sarah Hardage Dixon; two daughters, Cathy Stultz of McLeansville and Sammie Nichols of Charlotte, North Carolina; three grandchildren, Mindy Stultz, Jeffrey Nichols and Mike Nichols; four great-grandchildren; stepmother, Bessie Dixon of Madison, North Carolina; two brothers, Ross Dixon and wife, Edna, of Randleman, North Carolina, and Jack Dixon and wife, Oneida, of Summerfield, North Carolina; four sisters, Ora Price, Lottie Mae Hawkins and Frances Thomas and husband, Harold, all of Greensboro, North Carolina, and Evelyn Moore and husband, David, of Madison, and sister-in-law, Beatrice Dixon of Summerfield.

## K.C. Conner

Kermit Curtis “K.C.” Conner, 77, passed away quietly at home surrounded by family and friends on January 13, 2004, in Walnut Creek, California. Mr. Conner loved Walnut Creek (except for the downtown traffic) where he moved in 1982 to be near his beloved grand twins, Marika and Robin. He was born and raised in central Oklahoma and was very proud of his “Okie” roots, both white and American Indian.

He spent most of his life in California and Arizona, enjoying the opportunities for growth these expanding areas provided. Because of his quick wit, sparkling intelligence, unparalleled charm, movie-star looks and strong will, he took that poor little Okie boy with a tenth grade education and turned him into a successful businessman. Along the way, he used his natural generosity to enrich the lives of those he was close to. He served this country in World War II as a seaman in the Navy. His favorite pastimes were horseback riding, cowboy movies and dealing in used cars.

Mr. Conner was retired from International Hair and Scalp Specialists Inc., the company he founded in Phoenix, Arizona, about 40 years ago. He was the respected elder of his family and a leader among his friends. We will miss his wonderful energy and easy smile.

Survivors include his wife, Marsha; sons, Gary and Tim; sister, Deana; brothers, Bill and David; his loving grandchildren, nephews and nieces, as well as many friends who shared life with him.