



BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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May 2002 Issue

Choctaw Nation opens WIC Overseas Warehouse

Choctaw Chief Gregory E. Pyle is proud to announce the official opening of the Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise (CM/SE) WIC Overseas Warehouse and Distribution Center. The facility, located at 2101 West Arkansas in Durant, was crowded with tribal and city officials at a recent ribbon cutting ceremony. The newly remodeled warehouse building will house offices and goods that supply WIC sites overseas.

WIC Overseas (WICO) is funded through the federal government and administered through a contract with CM/SE. WIC, which is an acronym for Women, Infants and Children, is a nutrition and education program that serves pregnant and breast-feeding women and children under five.

The WIC Overseas program mirrors the stateside WIC pro-

gram, servicing military members, family members and other Department of Defense eligible personnel at 46 sites in seven foreign countries. Previously, military service members, government civilian employees and family members did not have access to the WIC program when transferred to overseas locations. CM/SE continues to implement this important program, with the expectation of having over 60 sites in operation before the end of 2002.

Matt Novick, Managing Officer of CM/SE, commented on the tremendous growth of the business since its inception in 1997. Records quoted by both Novick and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey indicate that although the program began with two nurses, CM/SE now has over 2,500 employees across the world.

(See *WICO* on Page 12)



Code Talkers may receive gold medal from Congress

Choctaw Code Talkers may soon receive long overdue recognition for their efforts in World War I. Legislation has been introduced to both the House and the Senate in Washington, D.C. that would allow for specially minted gold medals to be presented posthumously to the 18 men who were trained to utilize their native language as a "code" to confuse the enemy during the first world war.

Congressman Wes Watkins was the House sponsor of the legislation and Senator Jim Inhofe introduced the bill to the Senate. Both men, as representatives of Oklahoma, were proud to put forth legislation that would honor people from their home state who had served in the military under such unique circumstances. In addition to the Choctaw Code Talkers of WWI, the first of the Comanche Code Talker effort, who served in WWII, are included in the legislation giving

recognition to these veterans.

The Choctaw Nation also had tribal members who used the tribal language to transmit messages in WWII. The native languages were an excellent tool to use on behalf of the allied forces in both wars. Until the use of the Choctaw language in WWI, the Germans had decoded all transmitted messages sent by the Allied Forces.

In WWI, according to a memo from the commanding officer of the 142nd Infantry Division, Col. A.W. Bloor, "The first use of the Indians was made in ordering a delicate withdrawal of two companies of the 2nd En. from Chufilly to Chardoney on the night of October 26th. This movement was completed without mishap, although it left the Third Battalion greatly depleted in previous fighting, without support. The Indians were used repeatedly on the 27th in preparation for

the assault on Forest Farm. The enemy's complete surprise is evidence that he could not decipher the messages.

"After the withdrawal of the regiment to Louppy-le-Petit, a number of Indians were detailed for training in transmitting messages over the telephone. The instruction was carried on by the Liaison Officer, Lieutenant Black. It had been found that the Indian's vocabulary of military terms was insufficient. The Indian for 'Big Gun' was used to indicate artillery. 'Little gun shoot fast,' was substituted for machine gun, and the battalions were indicated by one, two, and three grains of corn.

"It was found that the Indian tongues do not permit verbatim translation, but at the end of the short training period at Louppy-le-Petit, (See *CODE TALKERS* on Page 13)

Council approves plan for new Wellness Center

During the regular monthly meeting on May 11, Choctaw Nation Tribal Councilmembers agreed to adopt a plan for construction of the Gena Stanley Wellness Center south of Durant. Authorization was given to apply to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for a Community Block Development Grant in the amount of \$750,000 for the construction of the center. Funding for maintenance and operation of the facility was also approved.

Grant funds in the amount of

\$3,952,462 were approved for the Choctaw Nation Child Care and Development Fund.

Councilmembers also authorized \$580,171 for the 2002 Summer Youth Program and \$744,873 for the 2002 Workforce Investment Act Program.

A bill was passed okaying submission of an application for a grant to fund certain eligible Indian tribes' Community Development Block Grant Program activities and in connection with the application, resolve and make assurances that residents

are being provided an opportunity to review and comment on community grants.

Continuing a partnership between the Durant Literacy Council and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma was approved and \$3,000 in funds from gaming approved for funding. The partnership assists Choctaw adults and their families in Bryan County to become more productive in the workplace, have a stronger family unit and become active members of the community.

The Tribal Council approved \$640 from gaming funds to sponsor the Kiamichi Owa-Chito Festival Choctaw Princess Pageant. The pageant, to be held Friday, June 14, is open to all Choctaw girls between the ages of eight and 18.

The 30th annual Kiamichi Owa-Chito Festival begins Thursday, June 13 and runs through Sunday, June 16 at Beavers Bend.



Choctaw Heritage Day

More photos on Page 6

CHR Matilda Davis stirs a pot of pork.

Chief Greg Pyle named Minority Advocate of Year

Chief Gregory E. Pyle has been named the Minority Advocate of the Year by the Oklahoma Small Business Administration.

The Durant Chamber of Commerce nominated Chief Pyle for the honor, and he received an award on May 15th, when state and regional winners were recognized publicly. Pyle won in both the state and regional category. Regional competitors included people from Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, New Mexico and Louisiana.



Tribe opens new community center at Crowder

Councilmembers, Chief Pyle and area dignitaries cut the ribbon to officially mark the opening of the tribe's newest community center. The Senior Citizens/Community Center, located in Crowder, is in District #12, represented by James Frazier. On the day of the opening, lunch was served to about 150 people, some of whom were visiting from other district centers. A free lunch will be served weekly at the Crowder Center for Native Americans 55 and older and their spouses.

Tribal leaders address Congress on Arkansas Riverbed issue

Chickasaw Governor Bill Anoatubby, Cherokee Chief Chad Smith and Choctaw Chief Gregory E. Pyle spoke before members of the U.S. Congress in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, April 17, on the issue of the Arkansas Riverbed.

The tribal leaders proposed a settlement be made to the Indian Nations from the federal government. Congressmen Wes Watkins, Brad Carson and Dale Kildee sponsored HR 3534, the legislation that was being discussed. If approved as written, the tribes would share in \$41 million in compensation of loss of tribal resources.

Over the years, the riverbed has shifted, creating over 7,500 acres of dry land. Farmers have moved on this land and sand, gravel, coal and gas resources associated with the river were extracted and sold by non-Indians without any compensation to the tribes.

The settlement proposition



Tribal leaders traveling to Washington, D.C. to speak before Congress are Chickasaw Governor Bill Anoatubby, Cherokee Chief Chad Smith and Choctaw Chief Greg Pyle. The Arkansas Riverbed legislation was sponsored by, standing, Congressmen Wes Watkins, Brad Carson and Dale Kildee.

buys the 7,500 acres of land and the minerals, as well as makes provision for the government to take steps to clear the title of the land for the current occupants.

The bill also contains a one-time payment of about \$8 million for the continued production of electricity by powerheads located in the river.

Letters

Family benefits from tribal services

Dear Chief Pyle,

Thank you for the outstanding job you have done for our tribe during your term. I am pleased with your work on the health clinic and diabetes center. Although I live in Tulsa, Oklahoma and do not visit the Talihina hospital, my family in Idabel and Wright City benefit greatly from these services.

Recently, my great-grandmother has been very ill and if not for the hospital my family would struggle tremendously with the medical bills because they are trying to help put me through college at this time.

I am so pleased with the Higher Education department's decision to award me this scholarship because it has basically allowed me to continue my education at Tulsa Community College.

I do not believe that all my Native brothers and sisters are aware of the program and I would like to see the Higher Education publish more announcements in the BISHINIK. If there are any other forms of financial help that students just like me can receive, I would like to see these published in a newsletter of some sort, also. I think it is very important for my generation to educate themselves and set good examples for our younger brothers and sisters.

Again, thank you for the services you have brought to our tribe and to my family.

Heather Pearl Hughes
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Home receives much-needed repair

Dear Chief Pyle,

On behalf of my family, I want to thank you and members of the Tribal Council for the help that you gave me and my family shortly after the Christmas holidays this year. As you may have heard, we sustained water damage to our home that caused the floor in our home to collapse. With help from tribal authorities, we were served with superior skill and consideration in a very short amount of time.

Under the direction of Carl Marlow Construction Co., our home's foundation and floor was leveled and secured without any intrusion into our daily lives and with tremendous professionalism and care. We are very grateful and thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

As a member of the tribe, the father of six Choctaws, the grandfather of many Choctaw grandchildren, and as a veteran of World War II, I thank you on behalf of my wife, Jane, and myself.

Leo and Jane Smallwood
Rattan, Oklahoma

Student continuing education at OU

Dear Editor,

I would like to express my appreciation to the Choctaw Nation for helping me financially with my college education. I was in the Scholars Program at Carl Albert State College, graduating from CASC in the spring of 2001 with an Associate's Degree in Pre-journalism. While at Carl Albert I was the sports editor for the college paper and did the public address for the men and women's basketball games.

I am currently enrolled at the University of Oklahoma, finishing my second semester. I work at the college radio station, write for the school paper and work in the athletic media relations office. I'm interested in a possible career in broadcast journalism.

My parents are Linda and Gary Roop and they live in Heavener. My grandparents are Jewel and the late J.D. Roop and James and the late Martha Ann Hall. My great-grandmother, the late Edna Jefferson Simmons, was an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation.

Sam Roop
Heavener, Oklahoma

OSU student completes freshman year

Dear Editor,

Thanks so much to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Chief Gregory Pyle for the financial assistance you have provided me to attend Oklahoma State University. I am in my second semester of my freshman year. During the fall semester, I made a 4.0 grade point average. I will endeavor to represent my tribe and family well while at college.

J. Edmon Perkins
Stillwater, Oklahoma

Seeking facts on great-great-grandmother

Dear Editor,

I am trying to locate my great-great-grandmother, Mary Hyten Ray. I have found her, I think, on the Dawes Commission. Does anyone have any information about Mary P. Ray or Mary Dillon Ray? My grandfather always said that his grandmother was Choctaw and he remembers living for a time with his family at Broken Bow. I have been able to locate my grandfather in the 1920 census in McCurtain County.

Sherrie Meyers
6400 Crimson Ave.
Fort Smith, AR 72903

Gregory E. Pyle
Chief

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

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Young Choctaw hoop dancers compete for world championship



Jace "Peanut" Roberts, left, an eight-year-old Choctaw from Shawnee, Oklahoma recently traveled with his family to Phoenix, Arizona to take part in the World Champion Hoop Dancing Competition. He placed third in the youth category.

This is the second year he has participated in the competition. Last year he placed fourth overall. Jace is in the third grade and an honor student who enjoys all activities including hoop dancing, grass dancing and traveling to powwows.

His three-year-old sister, Oke-Tw'sha Roberts, was the youngest to compete for the second year in the tiny tots.

Both traveled to Germany last year to demonstrate this dance for EuroDisney and for the children's show "Tabaluga." Also, both have danced for former Vice President Al Gore in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Jace and Oke-Tw'sha will be performing the hoop dance during the Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival in September.

They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Roberts. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. Derek Daniels.

The family would like to thank the Choctaw Nation, their family and friends for all of their support.



Reunions

Bacone College Reunion Concert

A concert, "Echos from the Past", in honor of Bacone's choirs, will be held 7:30-9:00 p.m. Saturday, June 1 in conjunction with Bacone's 2002 Reunion, May 30-June 2. All former choir members are invited to participate. Registration begins May 30. Rehearsal will be at 10 a.m. For more information call 918-781-7221.

Anderson Family Reunion

A family reunion will be held June 8 at the Choctaw Community Center in Talihina, Oklahoma for relatives of Gertie and Bethel Anderson and Crawford J. Anderson. Pictures are needed of Houston and Wesley Anderson. The reunion starts at 10 a.m. Please bring a covered dish. For further information call or write Jerry Anderson at 817-473-4533 or 408 S. 2nd Ave., Mansfield, TX 76063.

Jefferson Family Reunion

Buster Jefferson is announcing a family reunion June 22 at Robber's Cave Park at Wilburton. For further information, call 405-685-0860.

Samuels/White/Cusher Family Reunion

A family reunion will be held June 8, 2002 at the Camp Fulsom campgrounds in Bethel, Oklahoma. It will begin at 10 a.m. and last throughout the night. There will be a memorial service at 11:30 a.m. where each family who has lost a loved one is encouraged to bring a plant(s) with the loved one's name and date of death. There will be a drawing throughout the day where the plants will be given out. Dinner will be served after the service. Please bring items for hamburgers and hot dogs. We have planned a full day of games, bingo and many other activities with prizes to be given out. There will be a gospel singing beginning at 7 p.m.. It is open to the public and will feature several groups. Supper will be served at 5 p.m. Please bring a covered dish. Please come and enjoy a memorable day. If you would like your loved one's eulogy read please send the information to Rubye Taylor, 714 N.E. 7th St., Antlers, OK 74523.

For more information call Rubye Samuels Taylor at 580-298-6485 or Norris Samuels at 405-619-7205.

Gibson/Pope Family Reunion

The Gibson and Pope families are having their annual family reunion June 15 at the Choctaw Community Center, 1632 S. George Nigh Expressway in McAlester, Oklahoma. Starting at 9 a.m., we will have plenty of time for visiting and taking pictures. Lunch will be served at noon with plenty of good food. All friends are also invited. For further information contact Clara Blevins at 918-423-4766.

Crank/Walker Family Reunion

A Crank/Walker family reunion has been planned for the very first time. It will be held July 4 in Talihina. If you know of anyone who is from the Katherine (Walker) Crank family, please contact Phyllis Essert at 918-280-0615 or you may write 2210 S. 96th E. Ave., Apt. C, Tulsa, OK 74129 or e-mail sonman@kxo.j.zzn.com. We would love to hear from you!

Franklin/Louis Family Reunion

A family reunion is scheduled for Pearley M. Franklin/William J. Louis of Wright City on July 6 at the City Park in Broken Bow, Oklahoma. If you know anyone who is of Franklin or Louis kinship, please tell them about this. Bring pictures, letters and anything to tell us about our family. For more information, please contact DeVonda Silvas (972) 289-7023 or via e-mail at devonda@msn.com.

Pebworth/Pebsworth Family Reunion

The ninth Pebworth/Pebsworth family reunion is scheduled for this summer. It will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning, July 19-21, at Lake Texoma. Pavilion #3 is reserved and Wade and his crew have been very busy fishing so we can have a wonderful fish fry. A block of rooms and cabins has been reserved at the lodge in the Pebworth/Pebsworth Reunion name. Reservations must be made before June 19 or the rooms will be released for others to use. Call 800-528-0593 for reservations. There is a two-night minimum stay required of Friday and Saturday nights on all summer weekends. Lake Texoma Resort Park is located five miles east of Kingston, Oklahoma. For more information, contact Todd or Robin Pebsworth at 806-647-5244 (work) or 806-938-2395 (leave message) or e-mail pebworth@nts-online.net.



Head Start students go to the zoo

Dear Editor,

The KIBOIS Head Start, Muse Center, would like thank the Choctaw Nation for the use of their charter bus on our field trip to the Tulsa Zoo. It was a very pleasant trip thanks to the driver, Johnny Parham. The children, parents and staff enjoyed the ride and the company. It is a trip that the children of the Muse Head Start will never forget. Once again our thanks to the Choctaw Nation for their generosity.

Haskell Reunion Committee seeking alumni

The committee of Alumni of Haskell Institute/Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence Kansas is planning a reunion of graduates from Haskell during the years 1950-1955 in the near future.

We would appreciate any assistance anyone can provide in finding the following graduates who were probably born around 1931-32:

James Billy	Otis Jefferson	Boyd Morris
LaHoma Hampton	Noel Kemp	Roy Wilson
Solomon D. Henry		

Please notify Ahnawake Taylor at 2108 Stoneham Pl. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120 if you have any information. Thank you.

Program great for youth

Dear Editor,

I just want to thank you for the information which is presented (on the website). I'm from our area, was raised in Texarkana, and my grandparents are members of our tribe listed under the names of Bleadso. I work with Native youth with an AmeriCorps program out of Alaska, a branch of Tanana Chiefs Conference Inc. of Fairbanks.

This is a great program for young Native youth from the ages of 18 to 26 to get money for education. We are an inresident program which supplies them with air fare and a place to stay on campus at no cost, plus food and housing. This would be a great place for youth of our tribe to get nine months of community service learning and earning up to \$4,700 for college or vocational training.

Roy Smart, facilities manager
smart4_99@yahoo.com

Searching for information

Dear Editor,

Do any of your readers have any information concerning the following persons of Choctaw connections?

- Struther Lawrence Ferguson, married to Alice Anderson from 1929 until 1980. They lived near Muskogee from 1929 until 1957.
- Riley Winship, the son of Simeon Winship and Parilee Mullins, born 1888.
- Dorene Jones of Idabel and her husband, Mr. Slinker. They moved to Oklahoma City.
- Edith Carroll, married to Thomas Campbell. He was the son of William and Idonia Campbell.
- Catherine O. Whitfield, married a Mr. Carrol. Her mother was Ida May Merry.
- Susan Ferguson, wife of James Madison Campbell and mother of Samuel S. Campbell.
- Maude Ferguson-Moore-Ward, whose second husband was Robert Jones Ward who had been born about 1850.
- Rebecca Carroll, wife of Levi Jacobs and mother of Elizabeth Jacobs.

D.R. Ferguson
22296 N. 4025 Dr.
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Tracing Choctaw heritage

Dear Editor,

I am trying to find out if my paternal grandmother had any Choctaw blood. Her name was Icee Hankins and she was born September 16, 1902 in Collinsville, Oklahoma, the daughter of Dora Bell Griggs (born December 9, 1865 in Indian Territory) and James Anderson Hankins. Dora Bell Griggs was the daughter of John Griggs and Patty Woods, both born in Texas.

I am also trying to find out the origin of my first name which was also my grandmother's first name. I would appreciate any information anyone can give me regarding my father's side of the family.

Icee L. Cokeley
HC 62 Box 112
Eufaula, OK 74432

Improvements made to home

Dear Editor,

I am writing to say "Thank You" to the Choctaw Nation, Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey, 3rd District Councilman Kenny Bryant, Herbert Jessie and Rickey Nored and other employees of CHA, Clyde Williams, contractor and his crew, Usher Sheet Metal Co. and their crew for the recent improvements made to our home.

Irene McCurtain-Davis
Hodgen, Oklahoma

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Oklahoma City, OK 73105**





Diabetes continues to attack tribal members

The Choctaw Nation continues to put programs in place that have long-term goals of improving lives. A recent effort is through a Diabetes Multi-Resource Task Force. This committee has been active for about ten months, working to increase awareness of diabetes and health problems that can occur because of the disease.

Some of the projects that have been initiated include a diabetic recipe contest, the results of which will be published in a cookbook, and a poster contest

with the winning designs to be displayed in tribal facilities throughout the Choctaw Nation.

To help counteract some of the lifestyles that can contribute to becoming diabetic, the Choctaw Nation has sponsored an exercise class in the Stigler area, and is in the process of installing playground equipment at health facilities to encourage children to get physical exercise rather than spend sedentary hours in front of the television or computer.

The third annual Choctaw Nation Youth Wellness Camps are

scheduled for June 12th and 19th at the Capitol Grounds at Tuskahoma.

The primary goal for the camps is to provide health education for the prevention of diabetes and heart disease, which are the two leading causes of deaths in Native Americans. The camps are for boys and girls age 9 to 13 and will last from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day.

Activities for the youth to enjoy are planned, and a healthy lunch and snacks will be provided. I encourage all youth in

this age bracket to attend. For more information on the camps, call (800) 349-7026, ext. 6044.

A new project for promoting diabetes prevention is in the early stages of planning. We hope to incorporate a course that includes education, screening and exercise for students in schools in the Choctaw Nation.

The Tribal Council and I are very concerned that tribal people live healthier lives, teaching the children better exercise and nutrition habits.

To conquer diabetes, we must

change the way we live over the next generation. Breakthroughs in treatment and care are often in the news, giving encouragement to those who currently have diabetes. There is also hope in the expectation that by changing the food we eat and the hours we exercise, we can prevent many cases of diabetes in our families.

Please keep in mind that although the disease continues to attack many of our Choctaw people, we can battle diabetes and win!

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

Tribal education programs helping many Choctaws

Graduations were held all over the Choctaw Nation this month, celebrating the advancement of youth from various levels of education. Some of the most joyful graduations took place at the Choctaw Nation Head Start Centers, marking the progression of young children to kindergarten.

The tribe has Head Start Programs in 14 locations: Antlers, Bennington, Bethel, Broken Bow, Coalgate, Durant, Atoka, Hugo, Idabel, McAlester, Poteau,

Stigler, Wilburton and Wright City.

Other graduations hailed completion of high school, with many Choctaw graduates planning to utilize tribal scholarships in their quest for higher education.

Choctaws who are attending college are encouraged to apply for a Higher Education scholarship, and are also eligible for a one-time grant for a clothing allowance. The clothing allowance

is only given once per student, and is based upon the grade point average.

The Adult Education Program will have graduation ceremonies in September, officially lauding the success of the adults who completed the GED classes. The Adult Education program provides an opportunity for those who did not complete high school to acquire basic educational and learning skills. There is no cost for this program's services.

Many students are still in high school and have an opportunity to prepare for college life through the Upward Bound Program. Participants reside in dormitories, and attend an intensive six-week summer program at Eastern Oklahoma State College. They experience college prep course work, laboratory work, tutoring, career exploration, intensive academic skills enrichment, motivation, and financial aid assistance. Students who have shown an ap-

titude and desire toward pursuing careers in math, science or engineering may be selected for the Upward Bound Math/Science Program. Other education programs administered by the Choctaw Nation include the Johnson O'Malley Program, Jones Academy Residential School and the Language Program.

Oliver Wendell Holmes once said, "A mind once stretched by a new idea never regains its original dimension." The Choctaw

Nation wants to help minds gain new ideas and greater education.



District 12 Councilman James Frazier attends the Choctaw Nation Head Start graduation in Coalgate. The three graduates, Brandon Courson, Gaven Ott and Austin Palmer, were joined by students Dominique Barnett, Trevor Brown, Noah Clem, Lauren Francis, Tristan Franks, Jennifer Harner, Robyn Ott, Emily Schuessler, Jordan Thunderbull, Johnathon Webb and Allen Spears in a patriotic ceremony.



Durant's Choctaw Nation Head Start graduates for the year 2001-02 include Dylan Anderson, Kevin Glenn, Alexis Brown, John Bernal, Kaileigh Powell, Jami Ashley, Tristan Sexton, Brittnei Hughes, Sedrick Ned and Savannah Thornberry.



SOSU women's basketball team to be awarded championship rings

Congratulations to the Southeastern Oklahoma State University women's basketball team for placing second in the nation at the NCAA Division II National Finals. The Choctaw Nation, First United Bank, and Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise (CM/SE) are teaming with SOSU to present championship rings to the team members. Pictured with Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey and CM/SE Managing Officer Matt Novick, are teammates Christy Derzapf, Katy Morrow Korstyins, Tera Newman, Asia Reed, Taylor Robinson, Dana Sutton; Coach Keith and Dr. Parum; and Assistant Coaches Brett Franks and Nate Baker. Members of the team who were not available for the photograph are Brandi Robinson, Morgan Moylan, Amy Shelby, Natalie Wimble, Vanessa Tice and Manager B.J. Robinson.



Broken Bow Head Start graduates include Joshua Anna, Kayvion Burris, Justin Byington, Anthony Dunavant, Genna London, Alexa Luper, Bree Noah, Caleb Stewart and Delilah Wages.



Atoka Head Start children present a program in honor of this year's four graduates, Dakavia Crawford, Seth Leal, Riley Loftin and Caitlin Tubby. Other participants are Jerai Billy, Jamie Daney, Brandon Estep, Sadie Fomby, Kaitlin Goodwin, Callee Graham, Alisha Hardy, Alice Jones, Staci Sheffield, Lexie Slawson, Courtney Viney and Airianna Smith.



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2002

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Exercise class for Native Americans

The Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina, Oklahoma has begun a free 12-week exercise class for Native Americans. Classes are held in the gymnasium of the First Baptist Church in Stigler. This class was previously held at the Stigler Choctaw Nation Community Center on Thursday evenings.

The REACH 2010 federal grant program at Choctaw Nation Health Care Center coordinates the class and provides exercise supplies and funding for class leaders.

Exercises such as step aerobics, high/low impact aerobics, strengthening exercises using hand weights, and stretching will be included. Exercises may vary from class to class. Classes will last for approximately 45 minutes to one hour. Leslie Rose of Stigler will be instructing most of the classes.

Native American men and women are invited to participate. Everyone can exercise at their own pace so no previous experience with aerobics is necessary. Native Americans are at high risk for heart disease and diabetes. The American Heart Association, the American Diabetes Association, Centers for Disease Control, as well as a number of other highly regarded associations, encourage physical activity to improve health and decrease the risks associated with both diseases.

No babysitting will be provided so make arrangements for childcare if necessary. All participants need to wear exercise clothing and tennis shoes. All persons wanting to participate are encouraged to consult with their physician before beginning an exercise program. Any person currently under the care of a physician needs to bring a signed physician's permission to participate.

The Choctaw Nation Health Care Center wishes to thank the First Baptist Church for the gracious use of their facility and Leslie Rose for her help in making the arrangements.

For information on the exercise class, please call Nancy Clark, RN, MS, Director of Health Education at CNHCC at 1-800-349-7026, ext. 6044.



Wright City Health Fair

A Health Fair and Dinner were held at Wright City on April 16. Councilmember Jack Austin visited with the District 7 residents who attended, including Junior Billy, photo at left. Choctaw Nation CHRs were on hand to check such things as blood pressure and blood sugar. CHR Melinda Hobbs is pricking Connie Slabaugh's finger to get a reading on her blood sugar. Several Choctaw Nation staff were also set up with information on different programs available.



Heart health should be the front line of diabetes care

Intensive treatment of cardiovascular risk factors is vital for people with diabetes, according to a series of reports from the American Heart Association's Prevention Conference VI: Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease published in Circulation: Journal of the American Heart Association.

"The No. 1 consequence of diabetes is cardiovascular disease," says Scott M. Grundy, MD, PhD, lead author of the executive summary and chair of the American Heart Association's diabetes committee. "About two-thirds of people with diabetes eventually die of heart or blood vessel disease. We want to make people more aware of the problem of diabetes as a major contributor to the problem of cardiovascular disease."

Several recent studies show that the increase in cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk associated with diabetes can be lessened by controlling individual risk factors such as obesity, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure.

"One-third to one-half of the people with this syn-

drome eventually develop diabetes, but metabolic syndrome can lead to cardiovascular disease even before you get diabetes because of the high blood lipids and cluster of risk factors," he says.

"The syndrome is particularly alarming in adolescents. It is a multitiered problem that starts with obesity and continues to the metabolic syndrome and diabetes," Grundy explains. "Changes that are spread out in most adults who gain weight over many years are compressed into a few short years in young teens."

The rise in type 2 diabetes in children and adolescents is a disturbing trend, the authors say. It is likely due to obesity and sedentary lifestyle, and increases their risk of early CVD.

Grundy says that merely calling diabetes a risk factor underestimates its effect on cardiovascular disease because the consequences are so far-ranging – from heart attack and stroke to kidney disease, heart failure, diminished heart function and problems in both the large and small vessels, like those in the eyes.

"In the last few years we've learned how important it is to treat cardiovascular risk factors in patients with diabetes and how much benefit can be derived," says Grundy.

With many other ailments, there are a lot of treatments or aspects of disease management that patients can do on their own, he says. However, diabetes is one condition in which physician involvement is critical.

"It is extremely important that patients with diabetes work closely with physicians to reduce risk factors and not try to self-manage their condition," he says. "Diabetes is a serious and complicated condition that must be treated with a team approach between the patient and physicians, which may include a primary care doctor, an endocrinologist and a cardiologist."

More than 16 million Americans have diabetes and approximately one-third of them are undiagnosed and untreated. Blacks and Hispanic Americans have nearly twice the incidence of type 2 diabetes as whites and many Native American tribes are experiencing epidemic rates.

Registration forms accepted for Youth Wellness Camps

The Choctaw Nation and REACH 2010 would like to invite children between the ages 9 and 13 to attend a Youth Wellness Camp. The camp will be held at the Choctaw Nation Tribal Grounds in Tuskahoma. Dates are June 12 for McCurtain, Pushmataha, Choctaw and Bryan County youth and June 19 for LeFlore, Latimer, Haskell, Pittsburg, Hughes, Coal and Atoka counties.

The camp's primary goal is to provide diabetes prevention education. Also as a goal is motivation – motivating our youth to develop a healthy lifestyle that will improve their health now and in the future.

Presentations on diabetes, nutrition, insulin pumps, obesity, sexual abuse prevention, fire safety and drug abuse prevention will be on the program. The children will participate in a nature walk, cultural dance and exercise fitness events.

A maximum of 100 applicants will be accepted for each day of the camp. All applicants must have proof of CDIB. Children are to wear casual play clothes and appropriate shoes for indoor and outdoor activities.

All permission forms requiring parent or guardian signature will

YOUTH WELLNESS CAMPS

Registration Form

Deadline: May 24, 2002

Name _____

Age _____ Birthdate _____ Sex: M _____ F _____

Address _____

City/County/Zip _____

Phone _____

Tribe(s) _____

T-Shirt Size: Sm _____ Med _____ Lg _____ XLg _____ 2XLg _____

I give my permission for any photos taken at the camp of my child to use for Bishinik or other Choctaw Nation newsletter articles or physical activity promotion materials.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Mail registration & permission form to:
Choctaw Nation Health Care Center
Health Education Department
One Choctaw Way
Talihina, OK 74571

be sent when the registration forms are received.

Permission forms can be mailed to CNHCC, Health Education Department, One Choctaw Way, Talihina, OK or given to

your CHR who will turn them in for you.

For more information please contact the Health Education department, ext. 6044 at 918-567-7000 or 1-800-349-7026.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
June 2002							1
	2	3 Stigler 9-2 Coalgate 9-10:30 Atoka 12-2	4 Wilburton 9-12 Broken Bow 9-2	5 Talihina 9-12	6	7 Poteau (A-H) 9-2	8
	9	10	11 Bethel 9-10:30 Smithville 12-2	12	13 Idabel 9-12	14	15
	16 <small>Father's Day</small>	17 Poteau (I-P) 9-2	18	19	20 Wright City 9-10:30 Hugo 12-2	21 <small>Summer Begins</small>	22
	23 <small>30</small>	24 Poteau (Q-Z) 9-2	25	26 Closed Inventory	27 Closed Inventory	28 Closed Inventory	29

Food Distribution Sites

ANTLERS – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 200 S.W. "O" St.

ATOKA – National Guard Armory.

BETHEL – Choctaw Nation Community Building.

BROKEN BOW – Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.

COALGATE – Choctaw Community Center.

DURANT – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 100 Waldron Dr.

HUGO – Housing Authority.
IDABEL – Choctaw Village

Shopping Center.

McALESTER – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 1212 S. Main.

POTEAU – Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.

SMITHVILLE – Big Lick Church.

STIGLER – Choctaw Community Building.

TALIHINA – Boys & Girls Club.

WILBURTON – Choctaw Community Building.

WRIGHT CITY – Choctaw Head Start Building.

The Food Distribution Pro-

gram workers will take a 30 minute lunch break from 11:30 to 12 noon.

Please bring boxes to pick up your commodities.

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

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

DIABETES EDUCATION

Diabetes Education and Blood Sugar Screenings are available at:

BROKEN BOW FAMILY INVESTMENT CENTER
Every Wednesday
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

By appointment or walk-in:

BROKEN BOW CLINIC
Mondays 8 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

HUGO CLINIC
Fridays 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

Information is available on diet, exercise, medication, benefits of controlling blood sugar and improving quality of life. Education provided by

Annette Choate, RN
Diabetes Wellness Center
918-465-8031 or
580-584-2740.



Carl Albert team has successful season

The starting five players of the Carl Albert State College basketball team were instrumental in the success of the 2001-02 season. These five young ladies not only started for the team but won several individual honors. All of these young ladies and Coach Nick Durant are Native American and proud of their heritage.

These ladies broke several individual and team records, including most conference wins in a season, 15-3; most wins in a season, 26-6; first 20 wins in a season; first national ranking, top 20; national ranking in team categories, free throws, field goal percentage, 3-point percentage and scoring average.

Individual honors were won by:

Julie Davis (Choctaw) of Panama,

Toni Price (Choctaw) of Antlers,

Kelli Himes (Choctaw-Caddo) of Talihina, All Conference, All Region,

Laura Hamilton (Choctaw-Chickasaw) of Madill, All Conference, All Region, All Region Tournament team, All American, and

Kim Lewis (Wichita-Caddo-Pawnee-Kiowa) of Anadarko, All Conference, All Region, All American.

Coach Durant has finished his fifth season as coach at Carl Albert. Two years ago another one of his players made All American, Sara Hudson (Choctaw) of Van Cove, Arkansas.

7th Annual California Choctaw Gathering



Choctaw Nation Color Guard lead veterans into the main circle to post the flags. The gathering was held May 4 and 5 at Camp Okihi in Choctaw Valley, Bakersfield.



Shirley Williamson and Bill Harrison, board members of the Okla Chahta Clan, accept a gift of appreciation on behalf of the planning committee.



Johnny Suiter pulls a wagonload – Michael Price, Rachel Price and little Johnny Suiter.



Marilyn Hooker is pictured with Chief and Patti Pyle.



Councilmembers Perry Thompson, Jack Austin, Delton Cox, Kenny Bryant and Billy Paul Baker are showing George Jamie how to cook pork the old-fashioned way.



Lisa and Bernie Eaton and Marjorie and Connie Krebbs.



Ruben Stallaby and his wife, Ginger, spent the weekend at the Bakersfield event.



Councilman Perry Thompson, Harrison Frazier and Councilman Jack Austin.



Councilman Billy Paul Baker visits with relatives Robert, Dinh, Megan and Cody Baker.



Alan Folsom holds 9-month-old Benjamin Folsom.



Councilmen Ted Dosh and Bob Pate are pictured with Georganne Bickle of Burbank.



Five Bryants – Jim, Kenny, Bob, Mark and Mike.



Ray O'Dell and sister and brother-in-law, Beverly and Brad Gilton.



Sandra Dukes and Sue Fortner check Jackie Phillips' blood glucose level.



Okla Chahta Clan members who organized the free meal for Saturday evening said they served close to 2,000 plates.

CHOCTAW NATION HERITAGE DAY



Alec Davis of Oklahoma City and Chief Gregory Pyle enjoy the day.



Carrie Ward and Ruby Taylor prepare fry bread. It took the entire CHR staff and other volunteers to prepare the meal for Heritage Day on April 20.



Heritage Day fare includes such favorites as fry bread, beans, pork, tanchi labona, banaha, raisin dumplings and grape dumplings.



Panama JOM students and Chief Pyle.



Oklahoma Choctaws vs. Mississippi Choctaws in a stickball game.



Nancy Southerland-Holmes and Mary, the widow of Sydney White, watch the stickball game with Chief Pyle.



Broken Bow dancers performed throughout the day.



JOM students and representatives from Moyers School gather for a photo with Chief.



Olin and Bernice Williams with daughters Christine Bui and Crystal Williams and grandchildren Aysha Bui, Brittney Williams and Preston Williams. Olin was in charge of the Heritage Day committee.



Phillip York and three-year-old twin sons, Dylan and Dalton, are pictured with Chief Pyle.



Charles Sanders shows a cast of dinosaur bones he found in Atoka County to Logan Amos, Asia Bui, Efrem Parra and Shannon Parra.



David Tanksley and T.J. Welch gave horseback rides to people during Heritage Day. Pictured on Sundance is Kelly King and on Buck is Gavin Smith.



Minko Issi Vbi Billy



Brandon Battiest



Tim Amos and daughter Daurah are picture perfect.



Lighthorsemen patrolling the grounds are Stacy Caldwell of Idabel, Mike Johnson of Durant, Dan Brashears of Durant and Thomas Williston of Idabel.



Scotty Grant



Carrie Ward and Carol Harris chop their share of wood for the cooking fires.

Committee commends all involved with Heritage Day



PUSHMATAHA
Michael Loman

The Choctaw Nation Historical Museum Committee would like to thank everyone who assisted in preparing for Heritage Day activities and for all who attended. It takes the involvement and dedication of many people to see a project of this size to completion and our committee is sincerely appreciative and grateful to each of them.

We would especially like to thank the CHR Department for the many, many hours they spent in preparing the traditional meal. The Language Department and language instructors also deserve special praise for their contributions toward the Choctaw animal stories and the Choctaw school.

If it had not been for the vision and support of Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike



Bailey and all of the Tribal Councilmembers, the Heritage Day concept would never have been turned into reality. Last, but certainly not least, we truly appreciate the cooperation and assistance of

the Housing Department, Environmental Health and Tribal Police.

We sincerely hope everyone had a good day visiting with friends and relatives on the Choctaw Capitol grounds and par-

ticipating in some of the activities. Even though it did not rain, the anticipation of rain changed some of the activity plans. We hope this did not create any inconvenience. Our Choctaw culture is a rich

culture and we hope that all who joined us on April 20 gave thought to what our culture means to us now and to our future.

If you were not able to stay for the evening events, you missed a great experience. The two young men who portrayed Chief Pushmataha and Chief Tecumseh, Michael Loman and Taloa Gibson, respectively, did an outstanding job. The Choctaw student dancers, Mississippi dancers, guest speakers, and performances by the Choctaw Princesses were extraordinary and really honored the Choctaw people and the Choctaw culture.

We appreciate all comments received and will consider all of these in preparation for next year's event. Yakoke.



TECUMSEH
Taloa Gibson



Pettyjohn retires after 17 years of service

Doris Pettyjohn, LPN, retired from the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center on April 12 after 17 years of service. Doris worked for the Indian Health Service from 1958 to 1962.

A retirement party was held for Doris on her last day of work. Many employees who have worked with Doris helped with a money tree that was presented to her during the party. Her oldest sister, Velma, and her youngest sister, Sue, along with her daughter, Debra, who works in the CNHCC Women's Clinic, were present to help celebrate her retirement from the Medical/Surgical Department. Reece Sherrill, CNHCC Assistant Administrator, had previously worked with Doris, was also present along with many co-workers.

Doris has been a joy to both her co-workers and patients. She will be missed by everyone and we wish her much enjoyment in the future.



District 11 seniors enjoy egg hunt

The Choctaw Nation District 11 Senior Citizens went on an Easter egg hunt Wednesday, March 27 at the Mt. Zion Church grounds. The group had a picnic lunch and a hat contest. Wynema McAdoo won first place, Pat Curliss took second and Alene Ward placed third. Games were enjoyed outside and Katherine Estelle won the bag-throwing contest. Everyone drew eggs out of a basket. Some were filled with candy and some had a gold dollar coin in them. Everyone enjoyed the event and is looking forward to doing it again.

Workshops aid women in developing business

The OIO Women's Business Center and the Choctaw Nation are jointly sponsoring two workshops to assist women who are going into business or who are already in business. If you feel you need assistance call OIO at 1-800-375-3737 or Susan Edwards at the Choctaw Nation, 1-800-522-6170 ext. 2161, to register for these free workshops.

“Developing Your Business Plan”
(Plan Your Work – Work Your Plan)
June 6, 13, 20 & 27 • 1-4 p.m.
At the Choctaw Nation WICO Office
Conference Room
1408 Chuckwa in Durant

Topics covered include:

The Management Plan	Key Production Factors
Personnel Management	Business Concepts
Market Analysis	Market Trends
Financial Analysis	Competition
Forecasting Profitability	Developing Strategies

“Building Blocks to Starting a Successful Business”
June 18 • 10 a.m.-12 noon
At the Choctaw Nation Community Center
Next to Choctaw Nation Gaming Center
1632 S. George Nigh Expressway in McAlester

Topics covered include:

Planning for Success	Tax Considerations
Legal Structures	Insurance
Licensing Requirements	Franchising
Registering with Governmental Agencies	Basic Record Keeping
	Creative Management Techniques

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



Several OK Choctaw members enjoyed Heritage Day and visiting with Chief Gregory E. Pyle.

OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance schedules June ribbon-cutting

A June 8 ribbon-cutting will open the door for OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, Inc. members to begin using their new kitchen. The grand opening will begin at 10 a.m. at the center, located at 5320 S. Youngs Blvd. in Oklahoma City.

Beginning at 11 a.m., two Choctaw Gospel groups will be performing. The New Battiest Indian Family of Hollywood, Florida and The Master's Touch of Oklahoma City will bring the good news in song until 1 p.m.

Also beginning at 11 a.m. and lasting until 8 that evening will be the center's monthly Indian Taco Sale. A baked goods auction will be held at 1 p.m. to raise money for the Charities Committee.

Open singing will be held from 2 to 8. Bring your Choctaw hymnals and come out to sing. Any groups that want to sing, please contact 405-688-4191 or just show up ready to sing.

CARES poster board contest

The Choctaw Nation CARES project will be conducting a poster board contest for Choctaw Nation service area children.

We invite American Indian children living within the Choctaw Nation Service Area to enter. The children will be asked to answer the question – “What makes me strong?” We will look for entries that address the areas of community, mind, body and spirit. First, second and third place prizes will be awarded in two age groups, 6-10 and 11-18.

Closing date for entries is June 14. Winners will be notified July 5 and a reception for contest winners will be held July 26.

Board size must measure 22” by 28”. Mediums: artist's choice, can be crayons, paints, markers or pencils. The more colorful the better!

Entries can be left with local tribal community field offices for pickup by CARES staff.

For more information contact Sandra Stroud or Kathryn Pitchford at 918-567-4128.



Playgrounds promote activity in children

In order to promote health and fitness among our children, the Choctaw Nation is currently installing playgrounds at Choctaw Nation Health Care Center and the four Choctaw Nation Health Care Clinics in Broken Bow, Hugo, McAlester and Poteau.

The Choctaw Nation's Diabetic Task Force initiated the playground project as part of its goal to reduce diabetes among tribal members and others living in the Choctaw Nation.

“Exercise is extremely impor-

tant in preventing diabetes,” said Sharon Maddox, task force leader. “The playgrounds will provide exercise and activity for children while visiting our health centers.”

Chief Gregory E. Pyle established the Diabetic Task Force in September 2001 and charged the group to focus on projects to prevent diabetes. Type 2 diabetes has reached epidemic proportions in the United States and is especially prevalent among Native Americans. Statistics show it can

be prevented in 58% of the high-risk population through weight loss and physical activity.

The task force believes playground equipment will promote physical activity for children. In Talihina, the playground is located adjacent to the newly completed walking path constructed at Choctaw Nation Health Care Center.

Both of the playground and the walking track promote physical activity for employees and patients alike.

People You Know



Finalist to perform in state competition

Madysen E. John, a 16-year-old sophomore from Oakley, California, proudly shows off her first- and second-place trophies with her grandparents, James and Mary John, formerly of Idabel, Oklahoma. Madyson is also the great-granddaughter of James John of Garvin, Oklahoma.

She won the awards on March 2 at the Regional Singing Competition in the 16- to 22- year-old age category, held

in Cupertino, California. Her first-place award was with a Disney melody. In May, she will compete in the state finals in San Jose and she has also been invited to compete in the World Competition for the Performing Arts held in Los Angeles in October.

Congratulations!

Graduating with the Westmoore Class of '02

Congratulations to Emerson Legg who is graduating from Westmoore High School from Moore, Oklahoma.

Emerson is the brother of Casey and the son of Bob and Margaret Legg of Oklahoma City. He is the grandson of Ruth Carshall of Red Oak, Oklahoma and the late Lee Carshall and the late Margy and Robert Legg of Midwest City, Oklahoma.

Good luck!



Julian celebrates 12th birthday



Happy birthday, Julian, from your mom and sister, Rhiannon!

Julian, a sixth-grader, has turned 12 years old.



Happy third birthday, Jordon

Jordon Harris celebrated his birthday on May 17. He turned three. Jordon is the son of Dona Fay Harris and the grandson of the late Wanda Wallace. Have a happy birthday!



Twins turn seven in April

Twins Austin and Autumn Celestine celebrated their seventh birthday on April 8.

Their grandparents are the late Hattie Ruth Brown and Lawrence M. Brown of Panama

City, Florida and the late Hollis Battiest and Doris Battiest of Livingston, Texas.



Makayla turns four

Makayla Horse will turn four years old on May 29.

She is the daughter of Kesa Horse of Oklahoma City and the granddaughter of the late Wanda Wallace.

Your aunts, uncle and cousin want you to have a happy birthday.

Belated happy birthday

Belated happy birthday wishes are sent to Kyla Taylor who turned four years old on April 14. Proud parents are Ned and Geneva Taylor of Cherokee, North Carolina. Proud grandparents are Jimmie and Ruthie Jefferson of Bethel, Oklahoma and Dolly Taylor of Cherokee. Happy birthday from your brothers and sister. We love you lots!



Joey turns 18

We would like to wish Joey Tom a belated happy 18th birthday on April 19. We would also like to congratulate Joey for being chosen Prom King at Broken Bow on March 29 and for being AILYC Honorary Head Man on April 6. He graduated high school May 19.

Joey is the son of Jimmy and Betty Tom and has a brother, Jared, and a sister, Gennavie. His grandparents are Robert and Melissa Bohanan of Bethel, Oklahoma and the late Albert and Genese Tom.

Kiercy is one year old

Kiercy Leighan Skieens of Durant, Oklahoma celebrated her first birthday on May 22. She is the daughter of proud parents Mandi Gross and Taylor Skieens and the granddaughter of Randy and Lillian Gross of Wright City, Oklahoma. We love you so much Kiercy. Happy birthday and love always, Ma-Ma, Da-Da, Mamoo and Poppy.



Look who turned nine!

Happy birthday to Morgan Tracy James. She turned nine years old on May 15. Morgan is in the third grade and loves to play baseball. We are very proud of her.

Morgan would like to say, "Happy birthday" to her daddy, Lonnie Bond. His birthday is June 8.

We love you both.



Original enrollee celebrates 99th

Willie Lee (Pusley) Garrett celebrated her 99th birthday with a party hosted by her family. Mrs. Garrett is one of a few original enrollees still living. Known to everyone as "Bill", she resides at Jan Francis in Ada, Oklahoma. She had lived in Gerty most of her life.

Attending the party were Blan and Eula Garrett, Louis and Lou Garrett, Tommy and Linda Orr, Johnny and Norma Holt, Larry and Sandra Woods, Benny Mauldin, Cleo Buckner, Lea Lucas, Madyson and Luc, Skip and Joe Powell, Doug and Jesse Orr, Viva Poole, Gilbert Priest and Sharon Battershell.

Kiamichi All-Star

Congratulations to Rock Creek senior Joey Williams, a member of this year's Kiamichi All-Star Baseball team. The third-baseman has played baseball for four years, participating in district and state championship games for three seasons. The team reached state quarterfinals twice and semifinals once. They were Regional Champions twice and three-time Regional runner-up. Joey has also played basketball two years.

Joey's parents are Donna Williams of Bokchito and Dannye Williams of Bennington.



Happy birthday, J.D.

J.D. Wallace celebrated his birthday on May 15.

He is the son of the late Sam Wallace and Laura Lewis.

All of the children, brothers and sister want to wish you many more!

Breezy celebrates tenth birthday

We would like to wish Bree' Ann Chanel James a happy birthday. Bree turned 10 years old on April 9. Her parents are Ireta and Lonnie Bond of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

We are very proud of her and much love to Breezy from all of us.



Happy birthday

Papa Bill Amos wishes happy birthday to Justin Williams of Edmond who turned

17 years old on April 23 and to Andrew Amos who turned one on April 27.



Young tribal members achieve academically

Jordan Flowers, finishing his freshman year at Princeton University, is working toward an A.B. degree from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy and International Affairs, with a certificate in finance. His older brother, Justin Flowers, is graduating in May from the New York University School of Law. A National Merit Scholar graduate of the University of Oklahoma, Justin will be sitting for the New York State bar exam in July. Their parents are Joe Storey and Cynthia Fisher Flowers of Arlington, Texas.

These young Choctaw tribal members are grandsons of Herbert and Juanita Storey Flowers, originally from McCurtain County, Oklahoma, and both deceased. The Flowers send greetings to their many Choctaw relatives from the Storey family.



Happy birthday

Dona Faye Harris celebrated her birthday on May 20. Anitra Horse celebrated hers on



May 21. They are the daughters of the late Wanda Wallace. Your aunts, uncle and cousin want to wish you a happy birthday.

Happy birthday, Chad

Belated happy birthday wishes go to Chad Moore of Marlton, New Jersey who turned the big "5" on May 3. He is the son of Steve and Kariann Moore of Marlton.

Chad is the grandson of Francis E. and Lucretia Roberts Brown of Oklahoma City, Elise Lowry of Florida and Ron Griswold of Marlton.

We love you and we miss you!



Congratulations, Pee Wee, and happy 19th birthday

The family of Truman "Pee Wee" Keniutubbe would like to wish him a happy 19th birthday on May 14. They would also like to say congratulations on completing his GED. He is the son of Osborne and Martha Keniutubbe, Jr. of McAlester, Oklahoma.

Congratulations and happy birthday, Gabe

We would like to wish Gabe Hunter a happy sixth birthday on May 30. We would also like to congratulate him on being the runner-up in the Cutest Tots and Big Kids Photo Contest in McAlester, Oklahoma. Gabe also graduated from kindergarten May 16 in Savanna.

His proud parents are Julie Ketcherside and Chad Lusk of Krebs, Oklahoma. His brother is Colby Payne. Grandparents are Terry Ketcherside of Krebs, William Amos, Jr. of Bache and Jan and Cliff Mangrum of Savanna. Great-grandparents include Billie Lusk of Savanna and Josephine Amos of Hartshorne, Oklahoma. We love you!



OKC resident earns Ph.D.

Congratulations to Patricia Vawter of Oklahoma City for earning her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from Oklahoma State University.

Patricia has started an educational consulting business.

Haileyville salutatorian

Tra Dean Nichols is the 18-year old son of Reggie and Judy Nichols of Alderson, Oklahoma and the grandson of Odis and Betty Nichols of Lane, Oklahoma and Laura Smith of Coalgate, Oklahoma.

He enjoys playing basketball and showing livestock. He is the President of the Student Council and FFA, as well as being active in FCA and being this year's salutatorian. He is a member of the national and state honor societies and Who's Who Among American High School Students. He has won numerous awards and was a delegate at Boys' State as well as being a member of the Choctaw Nation Upward Bound Math and Science Program.



Happy birthday

William Aitison and Carlos Morales turned four and five years old on May 5.

William is the son of "Baby"



Sue Wallace of Ft. Cobb and the grandson of J.D. Wallace and Vera Thomas of Oklahoma City. Carlos is the son of Anitra Horse and the grandson of the late Wanda Wallace. All of your aunts, uncles and cousins want to wish both a happy birthday.

Belated happy birthday wishes

Happy, happy belated birthday to our Grandpa and Aunt. Our Grandpa Jonas James of Wright City, Oklahoma turned 69 years old on March 15 and our Aunt Jacquelyn James of Springfield, Missouri turned 31 on March 26. We love you both, from Alex, Bree, Morgan and the rest of the kids.



Happy birthday, Natascha!

We would like to wish a very happy birthday to our daughter, Natascha Poole. She has been the light of our lives for nine years now. In addition to wishing her a happy birthday we would also like to congratulate her on winning first place in the district science fair. Happy birthday, Natascha! From Mom, Dad, Nancy and Taylor.



Congratulations, Kelli

Kelli Sam graduated May 14 from the University of Oklahoma. She was on the dean's honor roll all four years and was named a mentor for the American Indians. Kelli received scholarships from the Choctaw Nation and from Bill Gates to help her accomplish her goal. Kelli will enter the master's program at OU this fall, pursuing her dream of becoming an attorney.

Kelli is the daughter of Ronnie and Dianne Woody of McAlester, Oklahoma. Sisters are Verna, Alena and Faith. She is the granddaughter of Virgil and Bessie Sam of McAlester. Other relatives include uncles, Douglas and Sonny Sam of McAlester; aunt, Nellie Meashintubby and her husband, Harold, of McAlester; cousins, Harold, Jr., Nathaniel and Tasha Meashintubby.

Kelli is the great-granddaughter of Charley and Louisa Sam of McAlester.

Congratulations, Mom, from your son, Ashton Henry!

Happy 60th, Jerry

Jerry Wayne Snead was born June 2, 1942 in Ft. Towson, Oklahoma. He will be 60 years old. He currently makes his home in Lathrop, California. He married Maxine Martinez on May 12, 1967. They will be celebrating their 35th anniversary this year. His mother is Lorene Ellington of Tracy, California and his father was Doyle Snead of Ft. Towson. Sisters are Bessie VanTassel of Phoenix, Arizona and Barbara Byrd of Vian, Oklahoma, Charlene, Janice and Colette. Brothers are Charles Ross and Lynn of Oklahoma.



Happy first birthday, Erin

Happy first birthday wishes go to Erin Marie Willis, born April 26, 2001 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Proud parents are Paul and Lisa Willis of Tulsa. Grandparents are Mary Louise Billy of El Reno, Oklahoma and the late Richard Thunderbull, Jr. of Clinton, Oklahoma and Karl and Ella Willis of Tulsa. Erin is the great-granddaughter of Emeline Bohanon of Ludlow, Oklahoma and the late Adam and Melvina Willis of Lindsay, Oklahoma.



Eagle Scout

Scott Jackson of Clifton Forge, Virginia has become the latest Alleghany High School teen to receive his Eagle Scout award. The Eagle Award is the highest rank a scout can receive and is achieved by only two percent of Boy Scouts across the country.

A senior, Scott has been involved in scouting since joining the scouts as a Tiger Cub. To earn his Eagle rank, he held the positions of scribe, patrol leader, senior patrol leader and assistant junior scout master with Troop 2 and has earned numerous merit badges. His service project was developing a cross-country course at Douthat State Park.

Scott is the son of Jack and Nancy Jackson. He has one sister, Kimberly.

He is the grandson of the late Utah Jackson and the great-grandson of the late Mamie Parsons Reddout, both of Oklahoma.

Science award winner

Akeyra Carroll of Atoka, Oklahoma has been named a U.S. National Award Winner in Science. She was nominated by Mrs. Stacy Smith, her science teacher at McCall Junior High School.

She is the daughter of Keith and DeeDee McClure Toney of Atoka and David Carroll of Sheridan, Arkansas. Her grandparents are Janey and the late Benjamin McClure of Coalgate, Oklahoma, Jane Callicoate of Lane, Oklahoma, the late Robert Carroll, Sam and Jannette Toney of Valliant, Oklahoma and Brenda Stover of Atoka Congratulations!.



Student of the Month

Tara Pankowski was honored recently as Exchange Club Student of the Month for Oliveview School for the month of December. Tara, 10, is in the fifth grade. She is the daughter of Chris and Dawnita Pankowski of Corning, California.

She likes acting and poetry and plans to continue her education at UCLA or Julliard when she graduates.

An honor student, Tara has been recognized for several academic achievements including Student of the Month three prior times, Citizenship Award in 1997 and 2001 and an Appreciation Award in 2001. Congratulations, Tara!

Team ropers place fourth

Congratulations to Michael McIntosh and Vic Doyle of Talihina, Oklahoma. The team of McIntosh and Doyle combined together to place fourth out of 400 teams in the #5 roping at the Ft. Smith USTRC Team Roping event held April 21 of this year. Michael led the two-man team in the header position and Vic anchored the team in the heeler position.

Lexington's 2002 co-valedictorian

DeanaKay Scott is one of several Choctaw students at Lexington High School. She graduated May 17, 2002 as co-valedictorian. Throughout Deana's high school career she has accomplished many endeavors and received numerous academic awards which include maintaining a 4.0 grade point average, scoring a 30 on the ACT, placing first in the District FFA Speech Contest, receiving a Superior rating in Piano Performance at a scholastic meet at Redlands Community College, and placing second at a scholastic meet at Murray State College in Anatomy and Physiology.

Deana will attend a ceremony honoring the Oklahoma Academic Scholars on April 16 hosted by State Superintendent Sandy Garrett. Deana has been named to the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society, National Honor Society, and Oklahoma Honor Society as well as being selected as a delegate to Girls' State.

Besides school, Deana is an active member at the Springhill Free Will Baptist Church where she is also the assistant pianist. She has been enrolled at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College this year and will start her full-time college career with 15 credit hours. Deana has been accepted at the University of Oklahoma where she plans to pursue a nursing degree.



All-American Scholar

The U.S. Achievement Academy has announced that Rickey Nored II of Hugo, Oklahoma has been named an All-American Scholar. Rickey, who attends Hugo High School, was nominated for the national award by Mrs. Bloodworth. He will be listed in the All-American Scholar Yearbook which is published nationally.

Rickey is the son of Rickey and Ruby Nored of Hugo. His grandparents are R.W. and Liz Nored of Hugo and Billy Jack and Loretta Brown of Ft. Towson, Oklahoma.

Member of Bowlegs 2002 senior class

Justin Wayne Brauning is a 2002 graduate of Bowlegs High School in Bowlegs, Oklahoma. He attended school four years at Finksburg, Maryland. He completed the final nine years at Bowlegs. Justin belonged to the JOM club and lettered four years in baseball and football.

He is the son of Jimmy and Kay Brauning. Grandparents are the late Charlie "Sonny" Leader and Helen Leader of Bowlegs and Wayne and Nelmon Brauning of Seminole, Oklahoma. He is the great-grandson of Mary Lois Goer Clifford of Ada, Oklahoma and Jim Brauning of Skyesville, Maryland. Justin is a descendant of Choctaw enrollee and great-great-grandfather Henderson Goer.



Family's super star is five

Cearra Jewel Curtis turned five years old on April 27. Cearra goes to K-4 in Claremore, Oklahoma. She takes dance and gymnastics and loves to do beauty pageants. Her parents are Mark and Shelly Curtis of Claremore. Happy birthday, Angel!



Five generations

Five generations of Choctaw women got together on great-great-grandmother Maebell (Bush) Needham's 96th birthday. Granny Needham was born in Indian Territory on February 25, 1906. With her are her great-great-grandchildren, three-week-old Kendra and Samantha; great-granddaughter, Tabbatha Miller; granddaughter, Renda Pendergrass, and daughter, Bernice Stoner.

Bernice celebrates March birthday

Happy birthday Bernice (Thompson) Anderson. Bernice celebrated her birthday on March 20.

All her children wish her a happy birthday. We love you!



Baileys celebrate 46th anniversary

Happy 46th wedding anniversary to Don and Inell (Pistubbee) Bailey of Tulsa, Oklahoma. They were married May 21, 1956 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Inell's brother, Raymond Pistubbee of Boswell, Oklahoma; sisters, Rena Six of Arlington, Texas and Hattie James of Boswell, sons, nephews and nieces would all like to wish them lots of happiness.

Grandma Atchley celebrates 80th

Von Marie Atchley enjoyed her 80th birthday on April 2. She was born in Boswell, Oklahoma to Daniel C. Bench, an original enrollee, and Katie Stephens-Bench. She now lives in Troy, Missouri where she celebrated the occasion with many of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. All of her family and friends wish her a very happy birthday and many more to come.



Honor student excels

Christie Dawn Goad of Jonesboro, Arkansas graduated in May from Greene County Tech High School in Paragould, Arkansas. Christie is the daughter of Jeff and Pam Goad of Summerfield, Oklahoma and Chris and Shelley Kelley of Jonesboro. She is the granddaughter of Cecil and Deb O'Neal of Summerfield, Claudette and Cub Hamner of Reichert, Oklahoma,

Don and Judy Goad of Summerfield and Mary Kelley of Jonesboro. She is the great-granddaughter of Imogene Welch of Reichert.

Christie is an Arkansas Scholar, Eagles Scholar Citizen, Who's Who Among American High School Students and on the National Honor Roll. She will be attending Arkansas State University in Jonesboro where she will be majoring in athletic training and plans to continue to graduate school at ASU to obtain a degree in physical therapy.

Broken Bow student is All-American Scholar

Cynthia Hicks of Broken Bow, Oklahoma has been named an All-American Scholar for the second consecutive year by the U.S. Achievement Academy. She was nominated for the award by Mrs. Dillard of Broken Bow High School. Cynthia will appear in the All-American Yearbook.

Cynthia was also among several high school seniors who were honored April 16 in Oklahoma City by State School Superintendent Sandy Garrett for achieving the designation of Oklahoma Academic Scholars. This is her third year to be listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students."

Cynthia is the daughter of Sue and DeWayne Hicks of Broken Bow.

Tonya has May birthday

Tonya Wallace celebrated her birthday on May 12. She is the daughter of J.D. Wallace and Vera Thomas.

Your aunts, uncle, brothers, sister and cousins wish you a happy birthday.



Congratulations on your new brother and sister

Anna and Ethan Kenieutubbe would like to wish their big brother a happy seventh birthday on May 12.

Austin would also like to welcome his new twin sister and brother, Anna Makenzie and Ethan Lane, to the family. Anna and Ethan were born January 27, 2002 at the McAlester Regional Hospital in McAlester, Oklahoma.



Keaton D. Rowell

Eric and Davania Rowell would like to announce the newest addition to their family. Keaton D. Rowell was born at 2:30 a.m. November 10, 2001, weighing 8 pounds, 8 ounces.

Keaton's sister, Emily, will celebrate her fourth birthday on May 31. Her mom and dad would like to wish their very special daughter a happy birthday!



Braylon Wayne Spears

Brandon and Keli Spears of Hartshorne, Oklahoma are proud to announce the birth of a son, Braylon Wayne. Braylon was born at 7:22 p.m. January 22, 2002 at McAlester Regional Health Center in McAlester, Oklahoma. He weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

Grandparents are Larry and Kathy Jennings of Hartshorne, Robert and Mitzi Park of Okay, Oklahoma and Clyde and Alice Ann Spears of Gowen, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents include Archie and Doris Pruitt and the late Harold and Alice Park, all of Checotah, Oklahoma, Homer and the late Gladys Jennings of Stidham, Oklahoma, Earl Spears and the late Frances Spears of Hartshorne and Joe and Mary Alice Benedict of Adamson, Oklahoma.



Shelby Jane Richroath

Jon and Sheila Richroath of Whitesboro, Texas would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Shelby Jane Richroath. Shelby was born at 5:58 p.m. February 26, 2002 at Denton Regional Medical Center in Denton, Texas. She weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 19.75 inches long.

Shelby's grandparents are John and Marth Richroath of Whitesboro, Texas, D.J. and Mary Freeman of Klondike, Texas and Dwain and Oliva Holt of Sherman, Texas.

Great-grandparents are Henry and Jane Richroath of Gainesville, Texas, Marlene Smith of Sherman, Linda Cole of Sherman, and Don Cole of Klondike.

She has a sister, three-year-old Montana Nicole Faulkner of Pottsboro.



Maria Mercedes McIntosh

Maria Mercedes McIntosh was born March 4, 2002 to Michael and Judy McIntosh of Oklahoma City.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William McIntosh of McAlester, Oklahoma and Mr. and Mrs. Keith O'Dell of Oklahoma City.

"She's our precious little daughter, sent from Heaven above, to fill our home with laughter, and our hearts with lots of love."



Lindsey Rose Battiest

Lindsey Rose Battiest was born February 15, 2002 at Talihina, Oklahoma. She weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long. Proud parents are J.R. and Angela Battiest of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. She has two brothers, Kyle and Quentin. Lindsey's grandparents are Louis Battiest of Broken Bow, Rose and Jim Shemwell of Idabel and Doris Lewis of Oklahoma City. Her great-grandparents are Frances and the late Hampton Williams of Idabel.



Christian Dale Ketcherside

Proud parents Kevin Ketcherside and Julie Hood of Krebs, Oklahoma would like to announce the birth of a son. Christian Dale was born February 21, 2002 at McAlester Regional Health Center. He weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 22.5 inches long. He joins siblings, Ricki, 11; Daniel, 9, and Hanna, 6. Grandparents include Terry Ketcherside of Krebs, the late Richard Lee and William and Ann Hood of McAlester.



Samuel Pink Floyd

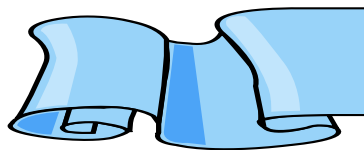
Samuel Pink Floyd was named for his great-grandfather Pink and his great-great-grandfather Samuel Floyd.

Samuel's parents are John Floyd and Rebecca Evans Floyd. Grandparents include Milton Floyd and Connie Sanders Floyd. A family reunion is planned in August for the 107 descendants of Pink and Lillie Floyd, his great-grandparents.

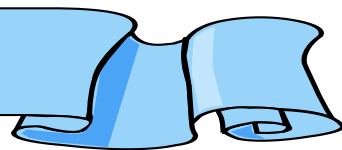


Anna and Ethan Kenieutubbe





OBITUARIES



Louise M. Romano

Louise M. Romano, 82, of Krebs, Oklahoma passed away Tuesday, March 5, 2002 at a nursing home in Okmulgee. She was born November 17, 1919 in Allen, Oklahoma, the daughter of Jefferson and Lillie Mae Reed Motes.

She graduated from Indianola High School and married Eugene Romano on May 30, 1942 in Yuma, Arizona. She was a homemaker and a lifelong resident of McAlester and Krebs. She was of the Baptist faith.

Her parents and a brother preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband; two daughters and sons-in-law, Norma and Michael Sandlin of Okmulgee and Mary and Larry Carter of Dallas, Texas; two granddaughters, Kristen Crow of The Colony, Texas and Suzanne Carter of Dallas; a great-grandson, Keegan Crow of The Colony; three sisters, Peggy Crooks, Lucille Rogers and Alice Relford, and three brothers, John Motes, Paul Motes and Bill Motes.

Julia Etta Carnes Story

Former Chickasha, Oklahoma resident Julia Etta Carnes Story, 90, passed away Thursday, February 7, 2002 in Oklahoma City. She was born December 13, 1911 in Alex, Oklahoma and lived in Chickasha most of her married life.

Julia was married to J.W. Story who preceded her in death in 1981.

She worked in several nursing homes until her retirement from Eventide in 1981.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, a sister, four brothers, three grandsons and a granddaughter.

Survivors include one daughter, Gail Nixon-Chavers of the home; four sons, Gerald Story, Jim Story of Oklahoma City and Ben and Alford Story of Chickasha; 19 grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

The most precious angel will be truly missed by all that ever came in contact with her.

Ida Bell Walters

Ida Bell Walters, 81, passed away Thursday, January 17, 2002 in Ardmore, Oklahoma. She was born October 1, 1920 in Ardmore to Frank R. and Hattie Cameron Stribling.

She married Edward Walters on November 24, 1942 in Ardmore. He preceded her in death on January 13, 1972.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, seven sisters and a son-in-law, Bobby Gene Gentry.

A longtime resident of the Ardmore area, she was retired from the Ardmore Motor Lodge. She was a member of the Ladies Home League and attended Crystal Rock Cathedral.

Survivors include three sons, Richard Walters and Henry Walters, both of Ardmore, and Charles Walters and his wife, Brenda, of Lewisville, Texas; five daughters, China Bilberey of Maysville, Edna Kay Gentry and Donna Walters, both of Ardmore, Isabelle Carmon and her husband, Jerry, of Irving, Texas and Linda Montgomery and her husband, Gary, of Shawnee; six grandchildren, Homer Calvin Hunley III, Debra Jack, Rhonda Bartlett, Dene Montgomery and Toby and Cody Walters, and nine great-grandchildren.

Dennis Williams, Jr.

Dennis Williams, Jr., 79, a full-blood Choctaw, passed away Wednesday, April 3, 2002 at his home in Dallas, Texas. He was born June 30, 1922 in Haworth, Oklahoma.

Mr. Williams served his country in World War II in the U.S. Army and was awarded the Purple Heart. He married Emma Jean in 1946. She preceded him in death in 1965.

He moved to Dallas in 1953 to work for Ford Motor Co. where he retired in 1972. He was a member of the Dallas Indian United Methodist Church.

Survivors include four sons, Edson Dennis, Nathan Dale, James Alan and David Wayne; four daughters, Jean Ellen, Jacqueline, Olivia Denise and Bertha Mae; 14 grandchildren, Tricia, Jimmy, Roberta, Tonya, Sonia, Anthony, Stephanie, Jacob, Johnny, Raymond, Jobina, Tenayah, Angel and Buddy; 18 great-grandchildren, three nieces and two nephews.

Elvin Wayne "Amafo" Durant

Wayne Durant passed away March 2, 2002 at his home in San Jacinto, California. He was born May 20, 1936 in Kiowa, Oklahoma to Albert and Pearl Durant.

He met Dorothy Astbury in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1959. The two were wed that same year at Calvary Baptist Church. They had a total of six children, five boys and a girl. The two were married for 43 years. Mr. Durant served his country in the U.S. Army during the first few years of their marriage.

Wayne worked construction and was a leader of the men he supervised as a foreman. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time with his grandchildren who referred to him as "Amafo". He also served God and spoke of the relationship he had with his Savior. He attended San Jacinto United Methodist Church.

In 1998, he had the opportunity to meet with Chief Gregory E. Pyle in Bakersfield, California. He honored our Chief with the presentation of an eagle feather, thanking him for his service to our people. He enjoyed the chance to meet with Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey and Tribal Councilmembers and visit with other Choctaws.

Survivors include his wife; children, Kay Durant, Brian Durant, David Durant, Wayne Durant Jr., Michael Durant and James Durant; 11 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and three sisters, Winona Partain, Gloria Marvin and Deloris Taylor.

Buddy Paul Duer

Buddy Paul Duer, 59, of Pearl Land, Texas passed away Saturday, April 6, 2002. He was born June 10, 1942 in Longview, Texas to Bud and Loma Duer.

He worked for Shell Oil Company in Deer Park, Texas as an operation engineer.

His father preceded him in death.

Survivors include his beloved wife and caregiver, Carol; three sons, Sean Duer of Durant, Oklahoma, Forrest Duer of Hooks, Texas, and Edward Miller and wife, Jamie, of Houston, Texas; three daughters, Paula Duer of Strong, Arkansas, Pam Duer Murphree of Durant and Julie Fraser and husband, Ron, of Pearl Land; mother, Loma Duer of Bryant, Arkansas; three brothers, Mark Duer and wife, Linda, Tom Duer of Bryant, and Robert Duer of Little Rock, Arkansas; four sisters, Mary Ann McCoskey and husband, Bob, of Phoenix, Arizona, Bonnie Walker of Deer Park, Texas, Judy Dixon and husband James of Bryant and Sandra Knox of Alexander, Arkansas; 12 grandchildren and a host of loving nieces and nephews.



Zola Marie Goodrich

Zola Marie Goodrich, 64, of Bartlesville, Oklahoma passed away Monday, March 11, 2002. She was born January 24, 1938 in Spiro, Oklahoma to Roy and Alice (Avery) Goins.

Zola's early childhood was spent in Tulsa and she graduated from Tulsa Central High School in 1956. She married Glenn Goodrich on August 22, 1958 in Tulsa. For the most part, over the past 40 years, they lived in Bartlesville.

Mrs. Goodrich was a member of the First Baptist Church of Bartlesville. She was an avid gardener, bird watcher, and she had a love for the outdoors.

Her parents preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband; a son, Glenn Goodrich, Jr. and his wife, Lisa, of Guthrie, Oklahoma; a daughter, Ellen Miller and her husband, Craig, of Quakertown, Pennsylvania; four grandchildren, Ashley, Glenn III, Mason and Morgan; a sister, Betty Holloway of Shawnee, Oklahoma; numerous nephews, a niece and a host of friends.



Mildred D. Hamill

Mildred D. Hamill, 91, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, April 7, 2002.

A native of Durant, Oklahoma, Mildred received her education from Southeastern State College, receiving her bachelor's degree in education. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Benedictine Oblates of St. Joseph Monastery.

Her husband, Rudolph, and a son, Robert D. Hamill, preceded her in death.

Survivors include sons, the Rev. William A. Hamill of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Dr. James Hamill of Oxford, Ohio and David Hamill of Charleston, South Carolina; daughters, Dr. Diane Williamson of Tulsa and Mary Virginia Hamill of Norman, Oklahoma; 17 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Claude "Buster" Cleveland

Claude "Buster" Cleveland, 90, of Bokchito, Oklahoma passed away Monday, March 4, 2002 at his residence. He was born Monday, February 19, 1912 in Bennington, Oklahoma, the son of James Clayton and Dora Milanda (Sample) Cleveland. He married Mildred Beames on December 27, 1931 in Bennington.

He was self-employed and a longtime resident of Oklahoma City where he owned Mildred's Dancewear. Following his retirement in 1977, the Cleverlands returned to Bokchito to live on the original home place. He enjoyed gardening, giving to the community and cooking for his grandkids. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Bokchito.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Buzzy Cleveland; granddaughter, Diana Cleveland; sister, Ethel Roberson; brothers, Bill Cleveland, J.D. Cleveland, Robert Cleveland and Cortez Cleveland.

Survivors include his wife; daughters, Mildred Marie Cleveland of Oklahoma City, and Shirley Miller of Durant, Oklahoma; sons, Jerry William Cleveland of Tenn Colony, Texas and Robert Lee Cleveland of Oklahoma City; brother, Cecil Cleveland of Durant; 15 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Lela Alene Ward

Lela Alene Ward, 89, passed away Thursday April 11, 2002 in Fresno, California. She was born August 11, 1912 in Leflore, Oklahoma to Walter "Gus" Ward and Sallie Kennedy Leflore. Lela spent 40 years in the nursing profession before retiring in 1974.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers and sisters, Willie Lee, Bud Lafayette, Mack Scott, Cleo Elizabeth, Nell Marie, Woodrow Wilson, Virginia Ethel, Jack Guthrie and Walter, Jr.

Survivors include her sister, Babe Ruth Raleigh of Apple Valley, California; caregiver and nephew, Jimmy Pope, and many nieces and nephews.



Mary Ann Butler

Mary Ann Butler, 57, passed away Sunday, February 3, 2002 in Paris, Texas. She was born November 4, 1944 in Darwin to Sham and Anna Mae Parish.

Mrs. Butler was a lifelong resident of the Antlers area. She attended the Antlers Bible Church. She enjoyed reading and sketching in her leisure time. She was a licensed practical nurse.

Her parents and her husband, Dee Butler, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her three children and their spouses, Ruby and Charles Gann of Hugo, Oklahoma, Sharrie Patterson of Antlers and Garnet and Christina Butler of Antlers; one brother, Sham Parish, Jr. of Tulsa, Oklahoma; five sisters, Ruth Gibson of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Sina Hopper of Harrah, Oklahoma, Faye Cleveland of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Lucille Loman of Midwest City, Oklahoma and Francine Thorton of Tulsa, and six grandchildren.

Richard W. Nelson

Richard W. Nelson, 89, of Las Vegas, New Mexico passed away Friday, March 22, 2002 at his residence. He was born November 20, 1912 in Hugo, Oklahoma to Julius Jethel and Josie (Locke) Nelson.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Mildred Nelson, June Collins and Elaine Smith, and brother, Harold Nelson.

Survivors include his wife, Elenor D. Nelson of Las Vegas; daughters, Susan Christiansen and husband, Rick, of Denver, Colorado, Sally Kruse of Thoreau, New Mexico and Elizabeth Nelson of Cincinnati, Ohio; grandchildren, Laura Kavanaugh and husband, Scott, of New Hampshire, Eric Kruse of Denver, and Aaron Kruse of Fairbanks, Alaska; sisters and brothers, Nixon Nelson and wife, Bill, of Oklahoma, Mary King of Abiquiu, New Mexico and Mike Nelson and wife, Pat, of Pojoaque, New Mexico, and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Ethel Estelle Wilson

Ethel Estelle Wilson, 81, of Oak Grove, Louisiana passed away Wednesday, April 10 at Carroll Nursing Home in Oak Grove. She was born March 18, 1921 at Ty Valley, Oklahoma to Cornelia Bell Vanhorn Mayo and Albert Mayo, an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dave Wilson; a son, Claude Dell Plumley; a daughter, Glenda Plumley; a granddaughter, Sharla McGee, and a grandson, Alan Plumley.

Survivors include her stepmother, Eunice Mayo of Antlers, Oklahoma; two sons, James Plumley and Dewayne Plumley, both of Ft. Worth, Texas; two daughters, Joyce Snyder of Clifton, Tennessee and Barbara McGee of Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee; three brothers, Louis Mayo of Azel, Texas, David Joslin of Antlers, and Dwight Mayo of Pototoc, Mississippi; a sister, Leona Boyd of Oak Grove, 11 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Johnny Ray Ludlow

Johnny Ray Ludlow, 55, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma passed away Monday, February 4, 2002 at OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City. He was born August 25, 1946 in Honobia, Oklahoma, the son of Aaron and Ruth Ludlow.

He was a faithful member of Tohwali United Methodist Church, a servant of Christ, chairman and member of the Southeast Region Board of Trustees for the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. Mr. Ludlow was a volunteer in missions, helped build churches, a fellowship hall and roof homes from Oklahoma to Johns Island off the coast of South Carolina.

A brother, Joe Ludlow, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Linda Ludlow of the home; two sons, Cameron Rydell Ludlow of the home and Jeffrey Ray Ludlow of Alma, Arkansas; a daughter, Kiamita Sue Ludlow of Spartanburg, South Carolina; his father, Aaron Ludlow of Honobia, Oklahoma; his mother, Ruth Ludlow of Hugo, Oklahoma; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Roy and Margaret Ludlow of Finley, Oklahoma, Bobby and Ruby Ludlow of Smithville, Oklahoma and Gaylon and Rose Ludlow of San Antonio, Texas; three sisters, Sarah Hardy and Jean Ingram, both of Hugo, and Lucille Ingram of Talihina, Oklahoma; seven grandchildren, Matthew, Sebastian, Tony, J.R., Carmen Racquel, Carmilita Lynn, and Jessica Rosy; four stepgrandchildren, several nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

Helen Marie Lovell

Helen Marie Lovell, 78, of Panama, Oklahoma passed away Thursday, January 10, 2002 in Heavener, Oklahoma. She was born May 18, 1923 in Haw Creek, Oklahoma. Mrs. Lovell was a homemaker and a member of the Assembly of God Church in Heavener.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Maggie (Watson) Brown; her husband, Murl Lovell; four brothers and four sisters.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Delenia and Larry Hayes of Claremore, Oklahoma; a grandson, Anthony Hayes of New York City, New York; a granddaughter and her husband, Angelique and Mike Carroll of Tulsa, Oklahoma; two brothers, Otis and Delbert Brown, both of Heavener; four sisters, Mildred Carl of Dustin, Oklahoma, Laverne Maxwell, Wanda Benson and Jewel Dean Holmes, all of Heavener; 43 nieces and nephews; numerous other relatives and loved ones and a host of beloved friends.

Jackie Darrel Noah

Jackie Darrel Noah, 45, of Atoka, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, December 23, 2001 at Fort Smith, Arkansas. He was born January 7, 1956 in Talihina, Oklahoma to John and Martha (Stewart) Noah.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Alfred and Hattie Noah of Albion, Oklahoma; his father, John Noah of Antlers, Oklahoma; one brother, Leonard Lee Noah of Antlers, and a half-brother, John Wayne Noah of Antlers.

Survivors include his mother, Martha Rhodes of Atoka, Oklahoma; a son, Jacky Lee Noah of Antlers; four brothers, Alfred L. Noah of Atoka, Jimmy Noah of Antlers, and the twins, David and Donald Rhodes of Atoka; four sisters and brothers-in-law, Joyce and Brett Smith of Antlers, Marilyn and Richard Pfaff of Atoka, Peggy and Bill Greary of Atoka and Lou and Don Martin of Arkansas.



Ronnie Dale Damron

Ronnie Dale Damron, 57, of Bokchito, Oklahoma passed away Wednesday, March 6, 2002 at his residence. He was born January 29, 1945 in Durant, Oklahoma, the son of Marvin William and Pauline (Paddock) Damron. A Bryan County resident all of his life, he attended schools in Durant. He was in the Army National Guard and was of the Baptist faith. He loved camping, fishing and taking care of his lawn. He worked in construction and was employed with R.S. Construction and Airington Concrete.

He was preceded in death by his father in 1973; brother, Tommy Damron, in 1994, and infant son, Randal Damron, in 1979.

Survivors include his mother of Durant; wife of the home; sons, Nathan Parker and wife, Misty, of Durant and Damon Damron of the home; daughters, Ronel Brimage and husband, Brownie, of Edmond, Oklahoma, Laurie Damron of Oklahoma City and Katherine Roarke of Mesquite, Texas; brothers, Teddy Damron and wife, Cathy, and Randy Damron and wife, Lesa, all of Durant; sisters, Christie Damron and Carol Smith Wright and husband, Forrest, all of Durant; grandchildren, Brittany Brimage, Brownie Ray Brimage, Kendra Damron, Natasha Satterfield, and Jillian Parker, and many nieces, nephews, friends and dear loved ones.

Ed "Wahoo" McDaniel

Ed "Wahoo" McDaniel, 63, passed away Thursday, April 18, 2002 in Houston, Texas. He was born June 19, 1938 in Bernice, Louisiana to Hugh "Big Wahoo" McDaniel and Catherine Swanger McDaniel.

He attended South Elementary, Cowden Junior High and graduated from Midland High School in 1956. He graduated in 1960 from Oklahoma University where he claimed numerous football records and was a collegiate wrestler. For ten years he played professional football with the old Dallas Texans, Denver Broncos, New York Jets and Miami Dolphins. After his retirement from football, he became a professional wrestler for over 20 years. He had lived in North Carolina for 25 years before moving to Houston.

Wahoo was very proud of his Native American heritage and was an avid supporter of the causes and especially the battle of diabetes among the Native Americans.

He was preceded in death by his father.

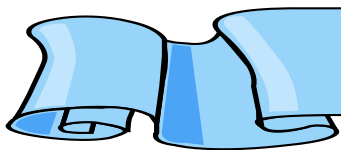
Survivors include his mother, Catherine McDaniel of Midland, Texas; two daughters, Nikki Rowe and husband, Bobby, and Cindi Blank of Dallas; son, Zack McDaniel of Mexico Beach, Florida; grandchildren, Brittany and Dustin Rowe of Houston, Morgan and Taylor Blank of Dallas, Texas; two sisters, Margaret White and husband, Ralph, of Midland and Dana Erdmann and husband, Tom, of Houston; a nephew, Clayton White of Midland, and three nieces, Kelly Ross of Caddo Mills, Texas, Michelle Griffin of Cleburne, Texas and Stacy Jeffery of Burleson, Texas.

To the friends and family of Ed "Wahoo" McDaniel

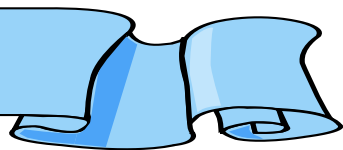
I would like to thank friends and family for their generous contributions to the Diabetes Wellness Center in memory of Edward Hugh "Wahoo" McDaniel. The staff of the Diabetes Wellness Center is saddened by the loss of Mr. McDaniel. Diabetes is a terrible disease that is taking the lives of so many Choctaw people. It will take all our collaborative efforts to battle this killer disease. The donations will be used in the fight against diabetes among the Choctaw people.

With heartfelt sympathy,
Sharon Maddox Moore, Director, Diabetes Wellness Center





OBITUARIES



Freida Isabelle Ward Moore

Freida Isabelle Ward Moore, 99, passed away Monday, April 29, 2002. She was born March 10, 1903 in Spiro, IT to Jefferson Davis Ward and Helen Isabel Hahn Ward.

Freida attended Spiro Public Schools where she was the valedictorian of her graduating class. In 1923, she graduated from Oklahoma College for Women in Chickasha with a degree in mathematics. Later, she received her master's degree in mathematics from the University of Michigan in 1928.

She took further graduate work at the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University and the University of Colorado. She taught school at Cameron High School for several years until returning to Spiro to teach at the local high school for nine years.

Freida and Lyman Southard "Sud" Moore were married June 30, 1931 at the First Presbyterian Church in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Mr. Moore, the son of Edgar Allen and Jessie Ainsworth Moore, passed away in 1983.

Mrs. Moore was an active member of Spiro's First United Methodist Church where she served as president and later secretary of the United Methodist Women. She taught Sunday school classes and freely gave her time for the church she loved. Rarely did she miss attending church. She was indeed one of the most treasured members of the congregation.

For over 70 years, Mrs. Moore was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, serving as a past matron, as well as serving as secretary for 25 years.

Mrs. Moore was an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation, as was her husband. Her family was active in Choctaw tribal affairs and also active in the early days of Spiro's township and its establishment in the state of Oklahoma. Her grandmother, Eliza Leflore, who married Jeremiah H. Ward, came as a young girl from her native state over the famous Trail of Tears to what is now LeFlore County.

Freida was very active in virtually every aspect of the Spiro Senior Citizens' undertakings. For several years she wrote a weekly column for the Spiro Graphic concerning their activities. She repeatedly received recognition from various organizations for her work and service to the community of Spiro.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Moore was preceded in death by her parents, a sister, Maud Helene Skinner, and a brother, Jeff D. Ward, Jr.

Survivors include a brother, Martin J. Ward of Marshall, Missouri; two nieces, Roberta Ward Field and Genevieve Ward Bolles, both of Phoenix, Arizona; two nephews, Jean-Paul Moore of Shreveport, Louisiana and Tod Allen Moore of Wichita Falls, Texas, and several great-nieces and great-nephews.



Tom M. Suddath

Tom M. Suddath, 60, of Courtney, Oklahoma passed away Thursday, February 28, 2002 at his home. He was born February 7, 1942 in Gainesville, Texas, the only son of Ralph Milton and Gladis Camp Suddath of Marietta and Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

Mr. Suddath had been a resident of Love County much of his life. He lived several years in Willis. He was the grandson of Oklahoma pioneers, Tom M. and Betty Roff Suddath of Roff. Joe Roff, founder of Roff, IT, was Tom's great-grandfather. The Roff brothers built the first ranch house where Ardmore now stands. Mr. Suddath was also a descendant of former Choctaw Chief Peter Pitchlynn. His maternal grandparents were Joe and Alla Wallace Camp, a pioneer ranching family in the Pauls Valley area.

Tom and his family lived for a time in Denton, Texas when he was a boy. He then attended high school at Schreiner Military Academy in Kerrville, Texas, Marietta High School and was graduated from Gainesville, Texas. When his father became ill, he left school and, for a time, returned to the family home in Marietta to help care for his father. After high school, he attended Texas A&M University at Commerce and graduated with a bachelor's degree. While in college, he worked at the family shoe store in Gainesville. He worked in retail sales throughout his life as well as working with his brother-in-law on the Northcutt family ranch in Willis. He also served in the U.S. Marine Corps where his passion was forever with his Marine comrades. He was proud of his military service and was an active lifetime member of the 4th Marine Division organization.

Mr. Suddath married Linda Lott in Denton in 1961 and had four children, Ralph M. Suddath of Denton, Scott Suddath of Dallas, Kim Coslett and husband, Jerry, of Denton and Karen Coakley and husband, Darius, of San Diego, California. He is also survived by his second wife, Barbara Thomas; four grandchildren, Heather, Ashley, Christian and Celeste Coslett; four sisters and three brothers-in-law, Dr. Betty Lockett of Davie, Florida, Nick and Jane Theodore of Keller, Texas; Al and Sue Hovey of Ormond Beach, Florida and Delmas and Lou Northcutt of Denison, Texas; nine nieces and nephews and numerous great-nieces and great-nephews.

Preceding him in death were his father in 1958 and his mother in 1999.

Clovos "Choc" Hull

Clovos "Choc" Hull, 79, of Oklahoma City passed away Saturday, April 20, 2002 in an Oklahoma City hospital. He was born October 13, 1922 in Matoy, Oklahoma to Clem Young "Skinny" and Mabel Pearl Hollaway Hull.

He married Nela Mae Smith on September 11, 1943 in Caddo, Oklahoma.

Mr. Hull was a retired school administrator, having served the school systems of Graham, Madill, Hugo and Garber. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Medical Department of the U.S. Army from January 29, 1943 to December 29, 1945. His service included 17 months in the United States and 18 months in the Southwest Pacific Theater of Operations. He served overseas with the 37th Infantry Division, holding the rank of technician 4th grade. He was awarded six service ribbons, including the Bronze Star.

He was a member of the Oklahoma Association of School Administrators, CCOSA, School Business Officials and American Association of School Administrators. He was a 32nd degree Mason, a member in good standing in the McAlester Consistory, Valley of McAlester, Orient of Oklahoma, the Masonic Lodge, Oakland Lodge 74, Madill, the Red Red Rose and Hugo Rotary Club. He was a past president and vice president of the Carter County School Master's Club; listed in Who's Who in American Education and Who's Who in the Southwest; past vice president of Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association, and currently was serving his third term on the board of directors of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association.

His parents and a granddaughter preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife; three sons, Gerry Hull and Ronnie Hull, both of Marietta, Oklahoma and Gene Hull of Lebanon, Oklahoma; a sister, Beatrice Emmons of Duncan, Oklahoma and one grandson.



Ernest Eastman Bice

Ernest Eastman Bice, 83, of Elkhart, Texas passed away Sunday, February 3, 2002 in Palestine, Texas.

He was born June 21, 1918 in Healdton, Oklahoma to the late Robert Lee and Lula Hart Bice.

Mr. Bice lived in Arizona before moving to Anderson County, Texas 30 years ago. He was a retired supervisor with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. He was a former commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Arizona and helped organize a fraternal Order of Eagles organization and a 32nd degree Mason in Denver, Colorado.

He served in the Army during World War II, serving in the European, African and Middle Eastern Theatres, receiving three Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star medal.

A sister, Ethel Nee Bice Cannon, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Gladys Bice of Elkhart; sons, Ernie Bice and Craig Bice, both of Elkhart, and George Bice of Houghton, Louisiana; daughter, Shirley Bice Farrow of Tucumcari, New Mexico; brother, Leo Bice of San Simon, Arizona; sister, Abbie Nee Herrell of Purcell, Oklahoma; eleven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Ruth May Dixon Murdock

Ruth May (Dixon) Murdock, 97, passed away Monday, April 29, 2002 in Kaiser Hospital, Vallejo, California.

She was born November 16, 1904 in Naples, Oklahoma to Amber and Wallace Dixon. She was the second to oldest of eight children.

She married N.C. Drennan of Hawkins, Oklahoma on May 14, 1921. In 1941, they moved to Richmond, California.

Ruth worked for the first time as a welder in the shipyards of Richmond during World War II. In the last five years of her life she was honored by Gov. Davis and President Clinton as a "Rosie the Riveter" at an honorary service dedicating a memorial park at the original site of the shipyards in Richmond. Congressman George Miller was the key speaker.

A few years after the death of Mr. Drennan, she moved to Lake Tahoe, California to be near her younger daughter, Juanita. Seven years later they moved back to the San Francisco Bay area. At that time as age brought her down and her everyday routine became a challenge, she moved in with her daughter, Juanita. In January 2002 she entered the Sunbridge Nursing Home.

Ruth was an original enrollee, having a great-great-grandmother in the well-known Trail of Tears. She was fiercely proud of her Choctaw heritage. She belonged to fraternities of Eagles and Eastern Star.

She was the soft-spoken matriarch of her family of two daughters, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, all of the Vallejo area. She is also survived by one brother of Grass Valley, a sister of Lake Tahoe and a sister of Hanford, California.

No matter what problem arose, you felt safe if Ruth was with you. She made you feel better just because she was a special spirit that was calm, loving and protecting.

She leaves a legacy of love for all who knew her that will be cherished forever.



Peggy Ann Barber

Peggy Ann Barber, 77, of Blackwell, Oklahoma passed away Saturday, April 20, 2002 at Blackwell Regional Hospital.

She was born October 29, 1924 at Spiro, Oklahoma to Miles Ricker and Mabel LeFlore Collins.

She later moved with her family to Blackwell where she attended Blackwell Public Schools, graduating in 1942. She then began working as an operator for Southwestern Bell.

She married Sam Barber on December 3, 1943 in Syracuse, New York and they settled in Blackwell. She retired from Southwestern Bell in 1944 to remain at home and raise her family.

Mrs. Barber was a member of the First Christian Church in Blackwell where she was active in the adult sanctuary choir and the Harmony Sunday school class. She also was a member and sang with the Sweet Adelines. She held a lifetime membership in Blackwell Hospital Ladies Auxiliary. She enjoyed reading books and was an avid shopper.

Her father preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband; her mother, Mable Collins of Blackwell; daughters, Sue Ann Hawkins and husband, Chuck, of Midwest City, Oklahoma, Jo Jordan and husband, Paul, of Blackwell and Sammie Kay Reid and husband, Richard, of Vacaville, California; a sister, Miles Ellen Kellogg of Muskogee, Oklahoma; grandchildren, Todd and Tammie Reid of San Antonio, Texas, Kimmie Turner of Blackwell, Kristi Eckerd of Alexander, Arkansas, Samantha Larsen of Hamilton, Ontario, Matthew Shields of Oklahoma City, Clay Hawkins of Norman, Oklahoma and Suzie Davis of Cincinnati, Arkansas; and great-grandchildren, Layne and Carson Turner of Blackwell, Kylie and Bryce Eckerd of Alexander and B.J. and Sarah Davis of Cincinnati.



Alma J. Phillips

Alma J. Phillips, 91, passed away Saturday, May 11, 2002 in Paris, Texas.

She was born October 15, 1910 in Pittsburgh, Oklahoma, the daughter of Charlie and Louisa (Gibson) Jacob.

Mrs. Phillips had lived in the Boswell, Oklahoma area for the past 75 years. She was a member of the Boswell Catholic Church.

Alma married Custer Phillips in June of 1926. He preceded her in death in 1972. She was also preceded in death by a son, Anthony Phillips in 2001, and three grandchildren, Diane, Maxine and Carl Vantrees in June 1974.

Survivors include two sons, Eugene Phillips of Boswell and Roger Phillips of Grant, Oklahoma; four daughters, Janet Phillips of Boswell, Marceline Lawson of Avenger, Texas, Leona Vaughn of Hugo, Oklahoma and Christine James of Boswell; 23 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Carrie S. Cotton

Carrie Sivlean Cotton, 72, passed away Wednesday, May 10, 1995 at her home.

Mrs. Cotton was born March 5, 1923 in Ardmore, Oklahoma to Marvin and Nellie Gray (Chatham) Ned.

On January 8, 1945, she married George Odis Cotton at Ardmore. Mr. Cotton preceded her in death on October 11, 1992.

Mrs. Cotton was a homemaker and a self-employed landscape specialist. She was a Baptist.

Survivors include a brother, Gabe Ned of Duncan, Oklahoma and a sister, Suveller Andrews of Boswell, Oklahoma.

Edwin Alexander "Ed" Anderson

Edwin Alexander "Ed" Anderson, 85, passed away Sunday, April 28 at his home. The last remaining member of his family of three brothers and four sisters, he was born to Rayson (Reason) and Emeline Taylor Anderson on January 18, 1917 in Yanush, Oklahoma.

Ed attended Jones Academy and graduated from Konawa High School in 1937 where he was a multiple varsity sport athlete who answered to the nickname "Chick." He served in the U.S. Army at the end of World War II. During Chief David Gardner's administration, Ed served as a member of the Choctaw Tribal Council. A longtime resident of Oklahoma City, he was a Mason and an active member of Central Baptist Church.

His wife, Audry Lavon Humphrey, preceded him in death.

Survivors include two sons, Edwin Rayson Anderson of Oklahoma City and Jeff Randel Anderson of Phoenix, Arizona; two daughters, Jo Ellen Hayes of Norman, Oklahoma and Linda Turner of Weaverville, California; five grandchildren, Alison Naples, Kimberly Ehn, Jennifer LeBlanc, Todd Turner and Sean Clark; six great-grandchildren, and a host of cousins and very special friends.



Lela Mae Blair

Lela Mae Blair, 70, of Valliant, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, March 24, 2002 at McCurtain Memorial Hospital, Idabel, Oklahoma. She was born July 25, 1931 in the Holly Creek community to Clarence Billy and Lena Turner Billy Simmons.

Lela was a lifetime resident of McCurtain County. She loved playing dominoes and cards with family and friends. She was retired from the Choctaw Nation where she served as a Community Health Representative. She was raised in the Baptist faith.

Her parents and a brother, Roy Dale "Lighting" Billy, preceded her in death.

Survivors include a son, Randall Welch of Tahlequah, Oklahoma; three daughters and sons-in-law, Sherri and Gary Stephens of Dallas, Texas, Glenda and Wayland Copeland of Idabel and Cassandra and Greg Taylor of Austin, Texas; five grandchildren, Myra Floyd of Dallas, Texas, Matthew Winship of Augusta, Georgia, Michelle Gaskey of Dallas, Marion Sue Browne of Eagletown, Oklahoma and Brandi Cain of Idabel; three great-grandchildren, Lindsay and Landon Floyd of Dallas and Hunter Browne of Eagletown; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, a host of friends and a special friend, Dean Barnett.

Veda Lindley

Veda Lindley, 80, of Savanna, Oklahoma passed away Saturday, March 23, 2002 at McAlester Regional Health Center in McAlester, Oklahoma. She was born March 10, 1922 in McAlester, the daughter of Frank and Osie Barnett Grubbs.

She was a lifelong resident of Pittsburg County and married M.F. "Dude" Lindley on December 3, 1942 in McAlester.

Veda was extremely proud of her Choctaw heritage. Her father was an original enrollee. She attended every event sponsored by the Choctaws. Her main purpose in life was to instill values to her family and pass on the traditions of the Choctaws. She will be greatly missed by family, friends and the Choctaw senior citizens. However, her memory will live on.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Curtis Grubbs, Rod Grubbs, Kirk Ronald Grubbs and Tom Cates, and a sister, Vivian Johnson.

Survivors include her husband; a son, Gary Lindley of McAlester; grandchildren, Shaun Lindley, Tammy Randazzo and Kelley Lindley, all of McAlester; great-grandchildren, Logan Lindley and Gavin Randazzo, both of McAlester; sisters, Marie Standridge of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Nina Williams of McAlester and Joy Dillion of Savanna; brothers, Burl Grubbs of Stigler, Oklahoma, Pat Grubbs of Oklahoma City and Frank W. Grubbs of Norman, Oklahoma.

Betty Lou Williams

Betty Lou Williams, 53, of Wewoka, Oklahoma passed away March 25, 2002 at Holdenville General Hospital following a brief illness. She was born August 30, 1948 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to Johnny E. Jones and Mary Jane Amos Jones.

She was raised in the Krebs area and graduated from Crowder High School in 1968. She married C. Kenneth Williams on December 21, 1973 in Tulsa, Oklahoma and they moved to Houston where they lived for 20 years prior to returning to Oklahoma.

An active member of the Akasvmkv Baptist Church, Mrs. Williams enjoyed gospel music and loved to cook and bake.

Her father and one brother, David Jones, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband; daughter, Renee L. Williams of Seminole, Oklahoma; son, Michael D. Williams of the home; step-daughter, Cheryl L. Williams of the home; mother, Mary Amos Jones of Krebs; sisters, Ruth Settlemire of Muskogee, Oklahoma, Linda Sawyer of Sapulpa, Oklahoma, Wanda Garrett of Barnsdall, Oklahoma, Helen Guley of Rockwall, Texas, Elizabeth Banks of Palm Coast, California and Ruby Jones of Salina, Kansas, and brothers, Johnny Jones, Jr. of McAlester, Leon Jones of Hawaii, Daniel Jones of Ada, Oklahoma and Samuel Jones of Missouri.

Fred L. Keller, Sr.

Fred Lincoln Keller, Sr., 68, passed away Thursday, March 7, 2002. He was born in Okmulgee on March 1, 1934 to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Keller.

He graduated from Wewoka High School in 1953, spent a four-year stint in the U.S. Air Force, attended Langston University, attended a barber school in Tyler, Texas and then attended a school for morticians.

Mr. Keller founded Keller & Bailey Funeral Home in Wewoka, Oklahoma in 1982. He later founded Keller Funeral Home in Wewoka and Keller Funeral Chapel in Boley, Oklahoma.

He was a member of the Church of the Living God in Seminole, Oklahoma. He was also a 33rd degree Mason.

Survivors include ten sons, Spencer McCoy, Sterling Smith, John Cargil, Nathaniel Green, Damien D. Ware and Fredrick Lyle Keller, all of Oklahoma City, and Bobby Ray Keller, Terry Brown, Kenneth Ray Seals and Floyd Carrethers, all of Ada, Oklahoma; nine daughters, Mavis McCoy Perez and Fredetta Green, both of Oklahoma City, Wanda Keller, Tanya Keller Rasmussen and Aretha Keller, all of Ada, Roslyn Gail Autry of Ft. Washington, Maryland, Lasheila A. Grayson of Wewoka, Marquette Louise Bailey of Ponca City, Oklahoma and Cassandra Keller of McAlester, Oklahoma; one sister, Wanda Keller Callahan of Oklahoma City; Willard Callahan of Oklahoma City; 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Coach Bud O’Dea inducted into NIAA Hall of Fame

William Abbott “Bud” O’Dea was recently inducted posthumously into the Nevada Inter-scholastic Activities Association Hall of Fame.

Bud was born in Caddo, Oklahoma, raised in Durant, Oklahoma and a 1940 All-State football center for the Durant High School Lions. He played football at the University of Oklahoma and Southeastern State Teachers College with a stint in the Army during World War II sandwiched between.

He earned Bachelor of Science degrees in history and physical education from Southeastern in 1947-1948.

Bud began his coaching career at Idabel, Oklahoma and continued at Chickasha before moving his family to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1957.

He taught and coached at Sunrise Acres, Roy Martin and Rancho High School in the Las Vegas area until his retirement in 1989.

In 1963, Bud co-founded high



school cross-country running in Nevada and his Rancho teams won five state championships as well as two in track and field. In Bud’s 20 seasons of dual meet competitions, his teams posted a combined 163-57 record with the results of three seasons unavailable.

O’Dea coached 20 seasons of cross country through 1983, the first year son Mike O’Dea began coaching at the high school level.

Bud continued to follow the sport closely despite his failing health and was present at Desert Breeze Park in 1999 to see his grandson, James “Jimmy” Ryan O’Dea, compete for Bonanza against Mike’s Durango team. Bud was also there a few months earlier, greeting family and friends, to see Mike’s Trailblazers capture the 1999 large school boys state track and field championship.

An O’Dea family member has been associated with Nevada cross country since the very beginning, an era now spanning 38 years.

Bud passed away in March of 2000 and was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Verlee Watson O’Dea in 1998.

Bud was a lifetime member of the First Christian Church. He made his home in Nevada for 43 years and was forever proud of his Sooner heritage.

Survivors include their three children, Mike O’Dea, Nancy DeLaVega and Patricia Kelley.



Art project benefits youth

Johnny Pate, Jr., son of the late Johnny Pate of Wilburton, Oklahoma and Gail Rutledge of McAlester, Oklahoma, and nephew of Bob Pate and Jack Pate, is the project artist for a Texas-size exhibition in Fort Worth, Texas. This will be the largest public art exhibit in the history of Fort Worth ... probably even of Texas!

Johnny has made the prototype sculptures for a 7 1/2 foot high by 12 foot long Texas-size longhorn with 8 1/2 foot horns and a 4 1/2 foot by 6 1/2 foot longhorn calf.

The original sculptures of the Texas-size longhorn and calf have been made into molds from which fiberglass longhorns are cast. The fiberglass longhorns are then painted and embellished and turned into works of “popular art” for a citywide art exhibit for “Cowtown” – Fort Worth.

The proceeds from this project will fund fine arts education for the youth of Fort Worth.

Johnny and BulLovArts Public Art Exhibit will be featured in the official Fort Worth magazine, Fort Worth Magazine, in June.

National Geographic was in Fort Worth in May

taking photos of Johnny with one of the Texas-size longhorns for a feature story on the city.

A local TV program as well as numerous newspaper articles have featured the artist and the project.

Johnny’s two painted longhorns, “Blue” – the Legendary Longhorn, and “Zeus” – the Golden Steer were exhibited at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport during the Christmas holiday. DFW is purchasing four Texas-size longhorns and two calves for the airport.

Local corporations and sponsors are purchasing longhorns and donating them to schools. Some are exhibited in front of large corporations.

The exhibit will run through April 2003. The goal is to sell a minimum of 50 longhorns. There have already been 16 sold and the project just kicked off April 20th.

Johnny, a multi-talented artist, was art director, production director and “artist” in the feature film soon to be released, “World Without Waves” and will be featured and help in the production of a film on “Shamism.”

Making the most of family mealtime

Reap the benefits

Would it surprise you that children who eat regularly with their families tend to have healthier eating patterns that contain more fruits and vegetables and less fried foods, soda and saturated fat compared with those who do not eat regularly with their families?

In fact, they also have a higher intake of calcium, iron, fiber and vitamins – all of which are important to children’s growing bodies.

Children learn important lessons and skills during dinner, including viewing food as nourishment for active and healthy bodies. Establishing positive eating habits in childhood years help children build skills that can last a lifetime.

Parents and caregivers can set a positive example for children at mealtime by using and teaching appropriate table manners. Eating dinner together is not only nutritionally important, it can also help your children develop social skills in a comfortable setting. For example, when each family member takes a turn to speak and listen, it reinforces the importance of polite conversation.

Creating a positive mealtime atmosphere

Create a welcoming eating atmosphere and make the most of your dinnertime by trying these ideas:

- Turn off the television and radio so everyone can focus on conversation without distraction.
- Let the answering machine pick up calls or turn off the phone ringer to avoid dinner interruptions. A phone call can always be

WIC

WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

Speak up for 5 a day!

Research shows that diets containing at least 5 servings of fruits and vegetables may help prevent 35 percent or more of all causes of cancer.

In fact, eating more fruits and vegetables may reduce the risk of obesity, heart disease, and hypertension, as well. Eating 5 or more servings of fruits and vegetables each day is one of the most important things you can do for good health.

Of course, setting a goal and reaching it can be two different things. Many people find it especially challenging when they don’t prepare meals at home. And let’s face it, the busier our schedules, the more difficult it is to plan meals, grocery shop and cook.

returned after dinner.

- Discuss positive events of the day or upcoming family activities. Criticism and unpleasant topics during meals create a stressful atmosphere.
- Remember that kids often take more time to eat than adults do. Take your time through dinner and enjoy the extra few minutes sitting at the table before cleaning up.
- Offer a variety of choices from all food groups. If you label foods as good or bad, health foods or junk foods, you can set up a situ-

ation where your children may feel deprived of certain foods. Then they may find other ways to sneak them in. If you offer all types of foods with a trusting atmosphere, your children will likely choose a nutritious variety.

Making the most of your time together

In a recent survey, 38 percent of family cooks said their children have a major influence on what is purchased and prepared, so why not get them involved in the cooking and grocery shopping process?

Most households spend 35 minutes preparing and 30 minutes eating dinner each night. This 65 minutes represents a significant portion of the time families spend together each day. By combining lessons in food preparation, food safety, and manners with quality time, everyone wins.

Here are some easy ideas for involving children in shopping, meal preparation and home food safety.

- Encourage and help younger children wash their hands before helping in the kitchen.
- Ask children to help look for recipes in cookbooks or on web sites. With your guidance, children can develop the skills for planning a delicious, nutritious and balanced menu.
- Encourage children to help with measuring and mixing ingredients and setting and clearing the table.
- Involve older children when creating your grocery list or when shopping to teach the skill of staying within a budget.

Lamb producers reminded to sign up for program

Signup is under way at local Farm Service Agency Offices for lamb producers participating in the LMAAP program. The U.S. Department of Agriculture is providing incentive payments to help ewe lamb producers suffering financial losses due to current poor market conditions. The LMAAP program is a four-year program, which began in 2000 to help stabilize the lamb market. The incentive payments have two application periods. Applications for the first period (year 3), which lasts from August 1, 2001, through July 31, 2002, are due by August 15, 2002. Applications for the second period (year 4), August 1, 2002, through July 31, 2003, are due August 15, 2003.

Final date to request a FSA loan or LDP

May 31, 2002 is the final availability date for loans or LDPs for the crop year 2001 corn, cotton, grain sorghum, soybeans, and sunflowers. For more information or if you have any question, please call your local Farm Service Agency.

WICO continued from Page 1

CM/SE has shown exceptional performance and a dedication to the military and Department of Defense civilian community through the WICO contract. In just two short months, CM/SE had analyzed and assessed the requirements of the WIC state-side program and began implementation of a like program with the eight pilot sites – England, Germany, Cuba, mainland Japan and four sites on Okinawa. The geographical dispersion of these selections challenged staff to learn the unique characteristics of each military service and to operate in five very different locations of the world.

CM/SE moved rapidly to hire a qualified, enthusiastic staff of registered dietitians, nurses, home economists and administrative assistants to manage the WIC Overseas offices. Paramount in CM/SE’s hiring practices was the selection of qualified staff from the population of family members within the local communities. Through CM/SE’s extensive and dedicated recruiting efforts, over 90 percent of the staff for the eight pilot sites were hired locally.

CM/SE has remained steadfast in its commitment to open sites quickly and efficiently, now having 46 locations.

Chief Pyle reminded everyone in attendance at the ribbon cutting that the business is not simply for Choctaw Nation, it benefits all of Southeast Oklahoma.

“When we have jobs in Choctaw Nation, we create opportunities for our children to work

here and have a good and sustainable life.”

Many times, said the Chief, young people must move away to larger cities in order to find jobs that can support them and their families. The Choctaw Nation has a long-term goal of being able to provide jobs to all Choctaws who wish to work. CM/SE is just one of the businesses owned and operated through the tribe that brings in profits that support services for the Choctaw people.

The first revenues earned through CM/SE were used to purchase 12 buses – one for each district – so that the Senior Citizens groups would have comfortable, reliable transportation to the nutrition lunches and field trips.

The WICO warehouse that has just been opened by the tribe will share space with another CM/SE contract. About one-third of the building will be used for data imaging and information technology equipment and employees. These employees will be scanning and storing documents and will be assisting with third-party billing.

In addition to the leadership of Chief Greg Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Managing Officer of CM/SE Matt Novick and the members of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council, CM/SE has a committee that meets weekly to oversee the business end of the organization. Charles Cayton, Paula Wingfield and Diane Perrin all work with the other leaders to ensure upstanding, productive contracts.



Events

All Indian Men’s Fast-Pitch Tournament

June 1, 2002
Ardmore Softball Complex
Ardmore, Oklahoma
Double Elimination • 15 Man Roster
Entry fee: \$150
Deadline for entry: May 29, 2002
Send Cashier’s Check or
Money Order ONLY made payable to:
Christine Lewis
P.O. Box 2405
Ardmore, OK 73402
For more information, contact Christine Lewis at 580-226-4821 or after 5 p.m. call 580-223-7611

Indian Taco Sale

10 a.m. to ???
Friday, June 7
Choctaw Nation Community Center
Wright City
Cost is \$5 for Indian Taco, Drink and Dessert
Deliveries Available – For orders call 981-7011
Fundraiser is for Wright City Senior Citizens’ trip

Miss Choctaw Owa-Chito Princess Pageant


June 14, 2002 – 2 p.m.
Youth Camp #1
Beavers Bend State Park
Broken Bow, Oklahoma

Coordinator: Pat Sullivan, Idabel, 580-286-6870
Assistant: Linda Jessie, Broken Bow, 580-584-2941

Entries available at:
Idabel Chamber of Commerce
Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce
or from Pat Sullivan or Linda Jessie

Application Deadline: Friday, May 31, 2002

Pageant is open to all Choctaw Indian girls between the ages of 8 and 18. There will be three divisions: Little Miss 8-10 years of age, Jr. Miss 11-13 years of age and Sr. Miss 14-18 years of age. The winner of each division will represent the Kiamichi Owa-Chito throughout the festival.



Kiamichi Owa-Chito “Festival of the Forest”

June 13-16
Beavers Bend State Park
Broken Bow, Oklahoma

Happy Mother's Day



Wayne Baker joined parents Mary Lou and Councilman Billy Paul Baker in honoring the mothers of District 2.



Mary Thierry of Broken Bow won the drawing for the balloon centerpiece.



Honored by District 2 Councilman Billy Paul Baker as the "Oldest" and "Youngest" at a Mother's Day luncheon were Julia Tims, 90, of Smithville and Jasney Wade, 56, of Bethel.



No dishes to do today ... Raymond Touchstone cleans up after he and wife Betty get through eating.



Friends Mildred Ashalintubbi of Eagletown and Hildred Mombi of Broken Bow enjoy the meal and fellowship.



The May 8 Mother's Day lunch, catered from Kentucky Fried Chicken, was finger-licking good.



Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

It has been a privilege to meet our Choctaw people with the Chief and Tribal Councilmembers in various meetings and activities in the last few weeks. It is always a blessing to share God's plan and purpose for us from the Bible.

The Bible teaches that a life of inward rest and outward victory is a Christian's birthright. Christianity was never meant to be something to make people miserable but rather something to make them happy.

Yet for many people the Christian life is not an entirely joyous affair. Someone has said, "You Christians seem to have a religion that makes you miserable. You are like a man with a headache. He does not want to get rid of his head, but it hurts him to keep it."

Some of you remember the day you trusted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. You were sure of victory then. How easy it seemed! You said as Paul said in Romans 8:37, "... We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us."

Yet how different has your real experience been! Victories have been few and defeats many. You have not lived as you believe children of God ought to live. You may have a clear understanding of Biblical truth, but you have not experienced the power of that truth. You may believe in Christ and even talk about Him, but He is not filling you with His presence hour by hour.

Many Christians have yet to experience His power from sin. Deep in their hearts many believers know that such defeated living is not the Scriptural experience.

It seems that all many people expect from their Christian life is a life of discouragement and defeat. One hour they try to live the Christian life, the next hour they fail, the next hour they repent and begin again, only to fail again, and again. Soon the current level of Christian living is a constant source of embarrassment to those who are engaged in Christian service.

Are we Christians going to preach and talk of all the power of Jesus, yet never really have that power to be a real testimony for Him.

It is written in the Scriptures that the early church was filled with the Holy Spirit in those days, without bibles, church buildings, automobile, planes, television or radio, Christians turned their world upside down for their Lord.

They were vigorous, powerful. They lived their lives daily for the glory of God. They gladly suffered persecution, and even death, for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Today's Christians are not living up to the standard set by the early church. We have failed to meet the requirements that Jesus set forth. If we are ever to rise to the level of vitality that God desires for our witness for Him, it will have to be done by a church whose individual members have yielded their lives completely and fully to Jesus Christ.

Unbelievers are confused as they see the strife within and between religious bodies. Instead of seeing a dynamic, growing, powerful Christ-centered church, they see divisions, discord, pettiness, greed, jealousy and spiritual laziness, while the world is tottering on the brink of disaster.

The great need today, whether the Native American Nations or America, is for Christians to learn the secret of daily victory over sin. Too many are burning up their energy in struggles within themselves.

Paul himself spoke of his struggle, he spoke of his desiring to please God, but of not being able to do so. The things he did not want to do, he did, and the things that he wanted to do, he did not do. Nearly driven to despair, he cried out in Romans 7:24 ... "Who shall deliver me from the body of this death!" And immediately He records God's answer to that all important question when he said, "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Jesus Christ was and is the Deliverer.

Today you may be thinking or asking, "Why as a Christian do I do some of the things I find myself doing? Why do I as a Christian leave undone the things that I ought to be doing?"

You even name the name of Jesus Christ, but you are living in continuous defeat. You have unclean hands, unclean lips, an

unclean tongue, unclean feet, unclean thoughts and an unclean heart, and yet you claim to be a Christian.

You claim Christ, you attend church, you try to pray and yet you know that there are things in your souls that are not right. You do not have the complete and constant victory that is promised in the Word of God.

The unsundered Christian stands condemned for what he does not do more than for what he does. He is unconcerned about the souls of men. This unconcern stamped upon his life marks the essential difference between himself and the consecrated Christian. He may be willing to fight and argue, but when it comes to faithfulness, power and support, he is not there.

May God have mercy upon us, forgive our sins, and set us on fire for Him in this desperate time we're living.

There are Christians who have never learned the secret of daily devotional life. Your quiet time (your prayer time and the time you spend reading the Bible) is essential to a happy Christian life. Discover what a joy it is to walk in the way of Christ. And you cannot possibly be a powerful Christian without such a daily walk with Jesus Christ.

You may ask, "How can I do this?" It is to completely give your all to Jesus Christ. It is to surrender in the same way that salvation comes to the sinner. There needs to be confession of sin and a complete yielding of every area of life and will to Jesus Christ.

Your response will make the difference between success and failure in your spiritual life, it will make the difference between your needing help and being able to help others.

If you are not a Christian, give yourself wholly to God through Jesus Christ, receive Him as your own personal Savior, by faith.

May God bless you and use you for His own glory. Pray for our Native American people. Pray for our leaders for courage, strength and wisdom as they lead our nations, both our Native Americans and the United States of America.

SUMMER CAMP 2002



Ringold, Oklahoma

Activities include Bible study, water sports, boating, canoeing, team recreation activities, crafts, archery/B.B. guns, hiking, tetherball, basketball, volleyball and scavenger hunts



DATES
June 2-7
Kids Week 1
~
June 9-14
Kids Week 2
~
June 16-21
Kids Week 3
~
June 23-28
Teen Week
Kids Camp
is for ages 8-12
Teen Camp
is for grades 7-12

TUITION
\$25.00 per camper per week
~
Scholarships are limited. Arrangements MUST be made through the camp office PRIOR to registration. 580-981-2647

What to pack in your duffle bag:

- Bible, pen and paper
- Bedding and pillows
- Towel, washcloth, soap, etc.
- Casual clothes, tennis shoes
- Swimsuit – no two-piece or high-cut styles, please
- Spending money for snack shack

What NOT to bring to BBBC:

- Radios, CD players, cell phones
- Game Boys, computer games
- Weapons of any kind; fireworks
- Shaving cream
- Magazines and comic books
- Lighters and matches
- Alcohol, drugs, tobacco products

Check-in time: 4-6 p.m. Sundays; Check-out time: 10 a.m. Fridays

For more information and registration brochures, call the camp office at 580-981-2647

Code Talkers continued from Page 1

the results were very gratifying, and it is believed, had the regiment gone back into the line, fine results would have been obtained. We were confident the possibilities of the telephone had been obtained without its hazards."

The Choctaw Nation is very proud of the story of the original Code Talkers, and even has a granite monument at the entrance to their capitol grounds that bears the engraved names of the men who used the Choctaw language to help win World War I.

Verbal history, combined with written history, has revealed the names of the 18 Choctaws who were trained to use their own language to transmit messages that

the enemy was never able to decipher. These men were Tobias Frazier, Victor Brown, Joseph Oklahombi, Ben Hampton, Albert Billy, Walter Veach, Ben Carterby, James Edwards, Solomon Louis, Pete Maytubby, Mitchell Bobb, Calvin Wilson, Jeff Nelson, Joseph Davenport, George Davenport, Noel Johnson, Otis Leader and Robert Taylor.

Originally, only eight men were asked to be Choctaw Code Talkers, but as the success of using their native language as a "code" was recognized, others were quickly pressed into service.

"The Choctaw Nation is grateful for the proposed recognition

of these men," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "I thank Congressman Watkins and Senator Inhofe for their leadership on this issue. This will add an exciting chapter to the history of our Choctaw Code Talkers."

Senator Inhofe said, "The Choctaw and Comanche Code Talkers are true American war heroes whose accomplishments have been too long forgotten. This legislation would give overdue recognition and honor a group of people who made a real difference in the fight for freedom during World Wars I and II. Their service on the front lines helped propel the allied forces to victory."

Original enrollee counts every sunrise a blessing

Contributed by Bob West

Dorothy Arnote West of Antlers embarked upon one of the biggest undertakings of her life after retiring in 1972 – researching and writing the first-ever history of Pushmataha County. The nearly 400-page book, which will be published this summer under the title “Pushmataha County: The Early Years,” includes a thoroughly researched chapter on the county’s Choctaw Indian heritage.

A hundred summers have come and a hundred winters have gone since Dorothy was born August 15, 1902 at Antlers, IT. The south wind blows soft and warm as spring moves toward summer at Dorothy’s home. Still residing on her mother’s Indian allotted land, she watches birds at a feeder from her kitchen window, or gazes from a south window toward a wooded pasture and often sees deer grazing with the cows.

Dorothy looks forward to the birthday celebration planned for her by her three children, just as she looks forward to her family gatherings each Thanksgiving and Easter at the Arnote-West home place. She reads her Bible each night and counts every sunrise a blessing.

Pushmataha County is Dorothy West’s home, her life and her heritage.

That south wind blows from Mississippi where her Choctaw ancestor, Sophia Folsom, was born in 1773. Buried at Garland Cemetery, east of Tom, Sophia’s gravestone has the earliest date on any known gravestone in Oklahoma. Dorothy’s Oklahoma heritage goes back to her great-grandmother, Elizabeth “Betsy” Pitchlynn Harris, who in 1836 as a 16-year-old bride came to Choctaw Nation West and with Lorenzo Harris established a farm and family east of Eagletown. Later Betsy moved to Red River. The Betsy Harris farm and ferry is now Choctaw Nation farmland. Her Antlers heritage goes back to 1889 when a 16-year-old Annie Taaffe, oldest of seven children, gathered up her sisters and brothers after their mother died in childbirth and their father was killed by cattle thieves. They came on a wagon to Antlers to make a new start in a new town established on the Frisco railroad line.

Dorothy was the third daughter of six children born to Annie and Andrew J. Arnote. Her mother, Annie, was a self-educated teacher, “a magician in the classroom,” said her brother, Francis Taaffe. She home-schooled Dorothy and brother William for their first year, and the next year they were placed in the third grade at the new brick schoolhouse. Dorothy graduated in 1919 from Antlers High School and went on to the University of Oklahoma. When her father, who was the first county attorney of Pushmataha County, died in 1920, Dorothy dropped out for a time to help the family, taking teaching jobs at Eubanks and Divide. She rode the train to Eubanks, but for the 23-mile trip to Divide, the 18-year-old teacher rode horseback each Sunday afternoon and rode back to Antlers each Friday evening.

Senior Citizens Day is May 29

Senior Citizens Day kicks off at 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 29 at the Choctaw Bingo in Durant.

As in the past, everyone will be able to enjoy a great lunch and lots of fun activities. Door prizes will be given and the ever-popular hat and singing contests are planned. If anyone needs transportation, please call your local field office or the Choctaw Nation headquarters.

Transportation is also being provided to Choctaws living in the Chickasaw Nation boundaries. Please call 580-924-8280, ext. 2272 or toll free 1-800-522-6170.

PRINCESS PAGEANTS

DISTRICT 1

The District 1 Princess Pageant will be 6:30 p.m. Saturday, May 25 at the Choctaw Community Center in Idabel. For more information, please contact Vicky Amos at 580-286-6116.

DISTRICT 2

The District 2 Princess Pageant will be 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 24, at the Choctaw Nation Investment Center in Broken Bow. For more information, please call Cathy Roberts at 580-584-2045.

DISTRICT 4

The District 4 Princess Pageant will be Saturday, June 1 at the Family Investment Center in Poteau. For more information, contact Delton Cox, Tribal Councilman, 103 E. George, Pocola, OK 74902.

DISTRICT 8

The District 8 Princess Pageant will be 7 p.m. Saturday, June 8 at the Choctaw Community Center in Hugo. Deadline for applications is May 24. For more information or applications, please contact District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson at 580-326-9466.

DISTRICT 9

The District 9 Princess Pageant will be 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 31 on the Courthouse Lawn during the Magnolia Festival in Durant. For more information, please contact Kay Jackson or Martha Polk at 1-800-522-6170 or 580-924-8280, ext. 2203.

DISTRICT 10

The District 10 Princess Pageant will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 8 at the Choctaw Nation Community Center in Atoka. For more information, please contact Naomi Leflore, P.O. Box 311, Lehigh, OK 74556 or 580-927-3377 or the Choctaw Field Office at 580-889-6147.



HELP WANTED

Fun & Exciting Opportunity

★ ALL POSITIONS / ALL SHIFTS ★

Night & Weekend positions available!

Supervisor or Management Experience Helpful!

- Admission Clerks • Casino Floor Clerks
- Casino Cashiers • OTB Tellers
- Bingo Floor Clerks • Machine Technicians
- Food Service Personnel

Position will give preference to Indians in accordance with Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination Act. Please bring photo I.D. and CDIB card if applicable.

Apply at Choctaw Gaming Center
1638 George Nigh Expressway, McAlester, OK
Call Jill at 918-423-8161 to set up an interview.



DOROTHY WEST

“She has many gifts but the greatest of these has been her love and devotion to family and friends and her deep appreciation of her heritage.”

– Vicki Marshall

She stayed with Grandma Donica during the week. She finished her bachelor’s degree at OU in 1923, majoring in economics.

Dorothy Arnote became Mrs. Powell West in 1925. She met her husband, an Ada native, at Anadarko where they worked on competing papers. They moved to Oklahoma City and again they were competitors. Dorothy became the editor of the women’s page for the Daily Oklahoman. Younger sister Suzanne and brother Jay stayed with them while in school there.

Now her only surviving sibling, Suzanne Arnote Holloway of Tulsa was a longtime food editor and columnist for the Tulsa World.

A vivid memory of Dorothy’s is seeing Babe Ruth at an exhibition game in Oklahoma City.

“The game was stopped when kids ran on the field and mobbed him,” she recalled. “They would throw pillows at him and he would throw them back.”

Diabetes Recipe Contest Winners

My experience with diabetes



I realized that someday I might have diabetes because my brother had diabetes. I had my blood glucose and blood pressure checked frequently, but then I did get diabetes and have now had it for 20 years. I believe diabetes is to be taken seriously, in fact, as a matter of life and death. I read all I can on the subject, attended diabetic camp,

listened to the docotrs, watched my diet, and did not miss my appointments. I am enrolled in the REACH program. My goal is to discontinue medications, and to use diet and exercise to control diabetes.

**Harriet Amerman
Duncan, Oklahoma
– 1st Place Dessert Recipe**

Enjoys sharing diabetic recipes



I am very surprised and happy to receive your letter that I’m a prizewinner in the diabetic recipe contest. Thanks for the prize. I hope my recipe will help other diabetics.

I’ve known I have diabetes for over 30 years, but doctors say I had it even as a child.

I have to be strict with my sugar intake to feel good. I made up my mind

to be sensible and eat right and exercise. I do both very faithfully and it pays off.

I use lots of diabetic recipes and I love sharing them with others. I’d like to encourage others with diabetes to be more responsible about your eating and exercise. It’s a matter of life! We have to make right choices!

I am part Cherokee and I realize that all Indians are at high risk for diabetes.

**Florence Campbell
Broken Bow, Oklahoma
– 1st Place Bread Recipe**

Winning recipe a surprise



What a surprise to be a winner for my Easy Diebetic Meat Loaf recipe to be published in the diabetic recipe cookbook. I hope everyone will purchase this valuable recipe book to help our Choctaw people with diabetes.

Thank you, Chief Pyle.

**Patsy France
Burbank, California
– 1st Place Meat Recipe**

We would like to congratulate and thank the winners of the Diabetic Recipe Contest, including Ellen Gregory of Roanoake, Texas for her 1st Place Vegetable Recipe. All of the recipes entered in the contest were delicious and we would like to say thank you to each and every one who mailed in an entry. The recipes are to be compiled in a Diabetic Recipe Cookbook with the proceeds going to further the education and promotion to fight diabetes. Every time a diabetic dish is prepared for a meal, it contributes to the battle.

Adventurous Powell and Dorothy hiked and camped in Colorado, attended Indian powwows at Anadarko and fished on Pennington Creek.

They made a bold move in 1933 by starting a family and business simultaneously. Their daughter, Ann, was born and the couple became the publishers of the weekly Shawnee American.

In 1936, the hottest year of the Dust Bowl, second daughter Sally was born. In 1941, the year of Pearl Harbor, their son, Robert Powell, was born. Dorothy’s mother, Annie, had died the year before, and in 1944, the family sold the paper at Shawnee and moved to Antlers. They fixed up the old homestead and Powell acquired a Ford dealership.

After the tornado that destroyed much of the town including the Ford place, Antlers built back and Powell and Dorothy grew with it. Powell built a new Ford building on West Main. Dorothy worked part time at the Antlers American and kept books for Powell. In 1959, she resumed teaching – one year at Choctawone year at Tuskahoma and eleven years at Moyers. At first she taught high school English and was yearbook advisor, then when Moyers became a grade school, she taught third and fourth grade. She enjoyed her years there and made many friends. One of her students was Raymond Bohanon, whose son, Brian Bohanon, is a major league pitcher.

People who know Dorothy say she’s never been afraid of work or challenges, and they cite her loyalty to her family, friends and the organizations she has belonged to. The latter include the Antlers First Presbyterian Church, the Choctaw Nation Senior Citizen Center, Antlers Library Board, and both county and state historical societies.

The most taxing challenge of her life was when Powell West suffered a stroke in 1976 that left him paralyzed. For the next 18 months, she was at his side providing encouragement and support. After Powell’s death in 1978, Dorothy took up where she had left off on the book, spending weeks in the state capitol archives, staying with her daughter and son-in-law, Sally and Bob Swatek, while in Oklahoma City. She took a trip to Europe and Ireland with daughter Ann and her family. They found and photographed the Taaffe Castle. One fall, she toured New England with a friend. She took time out to expand her mother’s memoirs into an impressive book of family reminiscences. Just as she enjoyed her children, she has relished watching her eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren grow and develop. Often, she would take a personal hand.

“Mama Dot is the reason I became a teacher,” says granddaughter Vicki West Marshall, a kindergarten teacher at Dickson.

“She has many gifts but the greatest of these has been her love and devotion to family and friends and her deep appreciation of her heritage.”



Louise Ott of the Coalgate Field Office and Chief Gregory E. Pyle congratulate Elizabeth Harkins of Coalgate on her prize-winning entry in the recent Diabetes Recipe Contest. Elizabeth’s Banana Oatmeal Cake won grand prize over all the delicious recipes submitted for the contest. Louise says Elizabeth has to make a double batch when she brings it to the Community Center.

Grand prize winner enjoys recipes that please everyone

Thank you for selecting my Banana Oatmeal Cake recipe for the grand prize. I am always looking for a diabetic recipe that looks good, tastes good and is good for you.

I cook for the seniors at Coalgate Center and a lot of them are diabetics so I want to cook food that looks good, tastes good and is good for them as well as the non-diabetics.

I am not a diabetic. I can’t tell the difference in this cake. I can eat diabetic and non-diabetic food so if a diabetic food tastes as good as a non-diabetic food, I choose the diabetic food because it is better for you.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Harkins, Tupelo, Oklahoma



Mother of twins knows what’s appealing to kids

I am the mom of six-year-old twins, Mahli

and Bethanie, and also have a 21- and 22-year old.

I have been a childcare professional for 25 years. Presently, I am working as a geriatric nursing aide.

I had gestational diabetes with the twins and have had difficulty with sugar throughout the years.

The recipe for Easy Macaroni and Cheese was submitted during a time when I was testing for type 2 diabetes.

**Joanne Webster
Indian Head, Maryland
– Most Appealing to Kids Recipe**

