



# BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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November 2001 Issue



Major General Leroy Sisco and Chief Gregory E. Pyle salute our fallen veterans.

## Veterans are honored

Wreaths were laid at the foot of the Choctaw War Memorial at Tushka Homma by Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey during a ceremony to honor the veterans of the Choctaw Nation. Hundreds of people in attendance stood solemnly with hand over heart as the Color Guard presented a 21-gun salute in memory of those who have served our country.

"It is great to be an American," Chief Pyle said. "I am awed to be here with all of the veterans I stand here looking at. I can see many uniforms and caps in the crowd - I see Korean veterans, World War II veterans, Vietnam veterans and Desert Storm veterans. We have more war veterans overseas right now.

"Several generations ago, Indians began volunteering for foreign wars. Behind me are names of Choctaws who gave their lives in foreign wars. Please remember these people who gave their lives so we may have freedom today," he said.

Chief Pyle encouraged everyone to come forward following the ceremony and read the names of the Choctaw people who had given the ultimate sacrifice to protect the privileges the United

States enjoys today.

Assistant Chief Bailey spoke of the act of war on the United States on September 11. He said, "I know many of our young people wonder why things happen. The one thing we have to remember is there is hope and God has reasons for what he does. As we move forward we have to turn to Him and believe things will work out."

Sherry Corbin of Congressman Wes Watkins' office attended the ceremony, representing Watkins who couldn't be there. "It gives me great pride to be here and as a member of this sovereign nation, I have great pride to be the descendant of a Code Talker," she said.

"Sometimes the younger generation tends to take for granted the freedom and liberties that we share," said Corbin. "We always should try to remember when we see a name on such a wall, hear our National Anthem - remember those people, not only the dead, but those who risk their lives for our freedom, for us and for generations to come."

Speaker of the Tribal Council Kenny Bryant  
See **VETERANS** on Page 5

## Tribe opens Choctaw Independent Living Community

*Idabel site is first of several planned for Choctaw elderly*

Residents of the Choctaw Nation Independent Living Community in Idabel are enjoying beautiful new homes. The Idabel community has ten homes set in a beautiful site with lots of pine trees and plenty of privacy.

This is a totally new living concept for the Choctaw elders. This is a community developed for those who are still capable of living independently, in a safe and affordable environment. Many older Choctaws live alone in isolated, rural areas and this community gives them association with one another, as they choose. The yards and housing units will be maintained by the Choctaw Housing Authority. Selection of applicants for the homes is based on income, and the monthly rent includes basic utilities such as electricity and water.

The one-bedroom homes were produced at the Choctaw Nation Modular Housing plant in Coalgate. Each home features full kitchen  
See **IDABEL** on Page 10



Marie Boudreau and Chief Gregory E. Pyle

## Original enrollee shares memories

Marie Boudreau turned 100 years old on November 5th. On November 5th, 1901, little Mary Lee (Marie) Edwards, an original enrollee, was born in her home in Antlers Oklahoma. Her father, Thomas Benjamin (T.B.) Edwards, and mother, Minnie Tyson Edwards, already had Emma, 7 years old. T.B. came from Texarkana, Texas where his father, Henry Clay Edwards, a full-blood Choctaw, owned a sawmill. Outlaws once held a gun on Henry Clay, as T.B. watched, while he made a coffin for their buddy who was shot in a robbery. Henry Clay later stepped on a rusty nail and subsequently died.

Marie was in first grade when Indian Territory changed to Oklahoma and said it was very difficult learning to spell Oklahoma and writing it down instead of IT. She remembers the teacher putting Oklahoma on the chalkboard so that all the students could see it and memorize the new name for the state.

She said she rode a train for the first time when she was six years old, from Ardmore to Hugo. One of her most memorable trips as a child was at the age of two and a half, when she traveled from Antlers to Byers in a covered wagon. "Papa covered the wagon and put a mattress in back. My mother was sick, so she was on the mattress. We started at daylight, stopped at noon by a house to water the horses, then stopped again at night. It took three days and two nights to get  
See **MRS. BOUDREAU** on Page 3

## EOSC hosts American Indian College Day

Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton, Oklahoma set aside October 26 as American Indian College Day. Juniors and Seniors from area high schools spent the day touring the campus, visiting with faculty and Native American Student Association club members and learning of the many options open to them.

"Your experience here will be what you make it," NASA Club President Cindy Tran told the students.

"Be ready for your college experience," she advised. "Bring reminders of home, join clubs, become a part of things."

"One of the things this school is all about is education - to teach and train so you can enjoy where you're at in life," said EOSC President Dr. Reimer.

"You have a challenge to educate yourself so you can do the things you dream of."

Dr. Reimer thanked District 6 Councilman Randle Durant and his wife, Margaret, for all the support they've provided EOSC and



Area American Indian high school juniors and seniors, Choctaw Nation education staff members, NASA club members and EOSC faculty participate in American Indian College Day.

its students over the years.

Choctaw Nation Executive Director of Education Joy Culbreath spoke to the students, emphasizing the importance of education.

"Choose an area to go on to,"

she said. "Do not be left behind. Education is one thing no one can take away from you."

"Some may want college, some a vocational school," she said. "Now is the time to make decisions. You have numerous

opportunities - you can do it."

Culbreath pointed out that we are living in a different society since September 11. People are beginning to pray again, to say "God bless America."

"Be sure you have faith in God," she encouraged. "Depend on Him."

The group was informed of the many educational aids available. The Choctaw Nation Higher Education department is accepting scholarship applications from Choctaw students. The deadline for turning in an application to the Choctaw Nation is March 15, 2002. Higher Education staff members were on hand to explain the financial aid benefits and answer any questions the students had. For more information on scholarships, please call 1-800-522-6170 and ask for the Higher Education department.

"A word we're hearing more today is 'responsible'," said Culbreath. "Go to class, make your grades and have a wonderful time while in college."

## Choctaws, DHS and school systems sign agreement



Chief Pyle and Tribal Councilmembers join DHS State Director Howard Hendrick, seated, Area 4 Field Liason Curtis Rose and Area 4 Director Alice Foran for the signing of a social worker agreement.

The Choctaw Nation is entering a partnership with the Department of Human Services (DHS) and school districts in the tribal boundaries to share the cost of having a social worker in school districts in each of the 12 council districts. These 12 school systems will each contribute \$8,142 per social worker, the tribe will contribute a matching amount of \$8,142 and DHS will contribute \$16,284 per social worker. This is a program titled School Based Social Work and will help students and their families who are at risk or in crisis. The social workers will also work in cooperation with teachers, counselors, school administrators and child advocates.

The Tribal Council has passed legislation allowing the Choctaw Nation to fund their portion of the program, and tribal officials met with State Director of DHS Howard Hendrick to sign the contract on November 8.

## The legend of Starvation Hill

Dear Editor,

On a recent visit to Banty, Oklahoma for a school reunion, I saw a historical marker where the old General Store stood. On the marker was the story of a legend of Starvation Hill. I am searching for any information about this legend. If anyone knows about it, please e-mail, call or write me.

Banty is northeast of Bokchito, Oklahoma. This was the community where my grandparents lived.

The legend is a story about Choctaw Indians. I would love to hear from anyone who could tell me more about it. Thank you.

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Midwest City, OK 73110  
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e-mail: grannynadine@webtv.net

## Tribe believes in power of education

Dear Chief Pyle and Choctaw Nation,

I'm writing this letter with great gratitude and appreciation for your generous gift in support of education. It is through your support that I am able to attend college.

To me your gift represents more than just a contribution. It symbolizes a belief in the promise of equal opportunity. You are helping to ensure a student's financial condition, so that it doesn't interfere with his/her artistic and intellectual growth. Moreover, you've shown through your willingness to award excellence that you believe in the power of education and its ability to better both individuals and the world.

I take seriously the mandate set forth to me by such an award. I intend to work hard to maintain and improve my current academic record and strive to become a contributing and forthright member of society.

Again, thank you for your kind and selfless contribution on my behalf.

Lindsay Chaney-McCarter  
Ravia, Oklahoma

## Pray for missing teen and family

Dear Chief Pyle and Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank all of you for remembering my grandson, Jeffery Ben, at the Council House over Labor Day. You wouldn't think anyone could just fade off the face of the earth, but it seems like it with Jeffery.

The Choctaw Nation has made a 100 percent improvement in the way the people live - medicine, houses and food.

Also, Gary Batton is one in a hundred. He has helped us so much. Jeffery was a proud Choctaw.

Please keep all of us in your prayers. It is the only way we can deal with this.

Florence Ben  
Clayton, Oklahoma

## Jones Male Academy Reunion a success

Dear Editor,

First of all, I want to thank all the alumni and their family for coming and making all this a complete success. We had many who have made all three reunions and some who have made at least two of the three. We thank them for being faithful. We also had people from Illinois, California, Texas and Oklahoma attending. There were 15 or more for the first time.

We also want to thank Jones Academy for putting up with us, providing the generator and many other things that they helped us with. We are grateful.

We want to thank the BISHNIK for all the ads, the write-ups and the publicity they did. Thanks Judy and staff.

We want to thank Chief Greg Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey for coming to our reunion and Chief for bringing his sister with him.

We had a fish fry at the third pond and everyone said, "It was real good." Mr. and Mrs. David Peersy of Holdenville, Oklahoma did the catering. They cooked it all right there at the third pond.

The meeting went well with over a hundred people in attendance. The gospel singing was also a big hit with many people and singers attending.

Jones Male Academy Alumni

## Seeking knowledge of Choctaw heritage

Dear Editor,

I am trying to find someone with knowledge of my Choctaw heritage. My great-grandmother's name was Mary Tanner, born in Mississippi as far as I know. She married a man by the name of William Jefferson Waits. Their son was Thomas Wallace Waits. She later married a man whose last name was Harvey. She passed on in Sherman, Texas between 1932 and 1951.

I would like letters from anyone who has information on or knowledge of any of these people. I know I am Choctaw and I am proud of my heritage. If you are able to help, please contact:

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

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# Choctaw tribal member is INFR 2001 World Champion Breakaway Roper

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma hosted a reception Friday, November 9 for tribal member and employee Brenna Winship of Hugo, Oklahoma who recently won the Indian National Finals Rodeo Women's World Championship in Breakaway Roping.

It was announced that a resolution was passed by the Choctaw Tribal Council designating Saturday, November 10 as Brenna Winship Day.

"It's a great day when we can recognize a member of the Choctaw Nation as the best in the world," Chief Gregory E. Pyle said to the overflowing auditorium.

Brenna was presented a gift from the Choctaw Nation - a jacket with the logos of her sponsors, Choctaw Gaming and Choctaw Racing, on the front.

"She has accomplished a very worthwhile endeavor," said Assistant Chief Mike Bailey. "Brenna competed and was crowned champion. She has represented our tribe very well and wore our logos throughout the



Brenna is pictured with Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Chief Gregory E. Pyle, parents Kenneth and Dora Winship and niece Alex.

United States, making the Choctaw Nation very proud."

The championships were held October 25-28 in Billings, Montana. Two breakaway qualifiers

from each of 12 regions attend the world finals. Brenna won second in the first go, second in the second go, first in the third go, split second and third in the

4th and won the average. Her average was 12.9 on four head of calves. Brenna, 27, began riding when she was 13 years old. She started out on barrels and began roping about 10 years ago. She has two quarterhorses she uses in competition - Doc Chavez, 12 years old, and Star, 18 years old. She has qualified for the world finals before but couldn't attend because of college. In 1998 she placed fourth in the finals at Scottsdale, Arizona.

Immediately following this year's Choctaw Nation Labor Day festival in September, she left for the Navajo Nation Fair and Rodeo where she won the average and show down.

"I would like to thank everyone who has helped me," Brenna said. "Especially my family, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Ernie Taylor and Mack and Melody Wilson. I appreciate the trust the Choctaw Nation showed in allowing me to wear these shirts with their logos and represent them. I couldn't have done it without all the support."

## GED classes scheduled

Choctaw Nation GED classes have been scheduled for:

### Leflore County

beginning November 26, 2001

Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at  
Kiamichi Technology Center, Talihina, Oklahoma  
and

### Pittsburg County

beginning November 27, 2001

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at  
EOSC Campus, 1802 E. College Ave., McAlester, Oklahoma

The class will meet 2 days each week for approximately 3 months. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. In addition, a \$10 (per day) transportation stipend is paid to those who attend classes on a regular basis and attempt the GED test. If you have turned in an application with our Adult Education Program for GED classes and wish to attend the upcoming class, please contact our office. If you have not applied and wish to attend these or future classes, please contact Linda Tyler or Felicia Carnes at the Durant office or call (800) 522-6170 or (580) 924-8280 ext. 2319. Also, you may register at the first class. A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is required.

## Choctaw Nation is progressing

Dear Editor,

It has been several months since I logged onto this site (www.choctawnation.com), and I am amazed at how much more information is available online. I am so impressed with Chief Gregory Pyle's leadership and that of his entire staff which has helped make the Choctaw Nation progress so successfully - the motivation of the Chahtas, the promotion of education, the community programs and improvements made throughout the nation.

It is as though God has laid His hands upon the Choctaw Nation and blessed us. I am so proud to read the BISHNIK and pass it on to other local California Indians. It's so good to read about the progress and outreach programs.

Carmelita Riesgo

## Council declares Brenna Winship Day

The Choctaw Tribal Council voted in regular session November 10, 2001 as Brenna Winship Day. Ms. Winship, a member of the Choctaw Nation, recently was declared the 2001 World Champion Breakaway Roper at the Indian National Finals Rodeo.

Two new language teachers received certification to hold classes in the Choctaw language. Ken Battiest and Linda James were presented their certificates by Council Speaker Kenny Bryant and Language Program Director Richard Adams.

The Council also agreed to use \$5,000 of gaming funds to assist the Kinta School FFA in build-

ing a swine shelter for the students to utilize.

Budgets approved during the meeting included the Voter Registration Department, Environmental office's Tribal Air Quality Project and Jones Academy. Amendments were approved for Higher Education, the 2001 Indian Housing Plan, and the KEDDO budget, which provides Outreach nutrition services to southern LeFlore elderly Indians through the Talihina office.

Councilmembers approved a \$21,000 tribal match for the COPS Tribal Resources Grant Program, as well as easements for lands in McCurtain and Bryan Counties.



Ken Battiest and Linda James were presented teaching certificates by Council Speaker Kenny Bryant and Language Program Director Richard Adams.

## Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

Thanksgiving Day is a day set aside as a national holiday. A day when we can pause and thank God for the blessings He has bestowed upon us during the year. Let us thank Him.

Our forefathers lived under more terrible conditions than we are living today. Many of them died because of these hardships, yet those who survived thanked our heavenly Father and expressed this with a feast of thanksgiving.

Paul the Apostle wrote in First Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything give thanks." Paul practiced this exhortation.

Paul thanked God for the faith of believers in Romans 1:8, "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world."

Paul thanked God for his personal relationship with Jesus Christ, he wrote in II Corinthians 9:15, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift."

Let us thank God that we are alive, if we had never been born, we would never enjoy our family and friends. Thank the people who are making life better for us. It is a good time to express our appreciation.

We are thankful for friends who stand with us in the vital ministry of preaching the gospel and teaching the Word among the American Indian people. Many of us know that we have learned the most through the rough experiences of life. God's way is to

bring about the best in us under the pressure of tough times. God usually gets our attention when we feel our inability to cope with these circumstances. Sometimes we have to hit the bottom before we look up.

Paul wrote to the Corinthian Christians in II Corinthians 12:10 these words:

"Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

Our weakness gives God an opportunity to show His strength. "Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth forever." (II Chronicles 20:21)

Praise conditions our minds and hearts to receive blessings from the Lord. As we thank God for what He has done and will do, we are saying that He is in charge of our world. We are letting Him know that we are open to His continued good works in our lives.

When we learn to thank God for everything, He turns what seems like a failure into a blessing. During these times, the Lord brings us closer to Himself.

As Christians we can thank God for past events that brought hope for this life and for eternity. We can thank Him for the first coming of Jesus Christ and the hope of the second coming, the cross, and the resurrection.

We can thank God for our Christian heritage which goes back before the Indian Removal

Act (which includes the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek and Seminole tribes) in the early 1830s. The execution of this Act is known as "The Trail of Tears". Missionaries lived with them and wrote hymns and translated the Bible into their languages. We are thankful for the missionaries' love and concern for Native Americans.

The Apostle Paul was generous in giving thanks. After writing a letter to the believers at Rome, Paul named friends whom he wanted greeted and for whom he was grateful. He wrote in Romans 16:3-4:

"Greet Priscilla and Aquilla, my helpers in Christ Jesus: Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles."

He also wrote in verse 13: "Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine."

As Christians, we look forward to when Jesus Christ will reign on earth as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Paul wrote to the Philippian Christians in Philippians 2:11, "... that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Jesus said in John 17:17: "... thy Word is truth." Because the Bible is true, we know the promise of Christ's return and all other prophecies in God's Word will be fulfilled.

We can be grateful for the signs of realization of God's great pro-

gram for the earth. We are grateful for these signs that point to God's ultimate triumph. God is in charge of our world, and His glorious plans will be realized.

We know our future as individual believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. We can echo the words of Paul in Romans 8:38-39:

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Let us thank God for both good and bad times. Let us thank Him for past blessings and future promises. Let us be generous with words of thanks to all people.

Perhaps you are not a Christian. We read these words in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." And we read these words in John 1:12, "But as many as received Him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God." Will you trust Jesus as your Savior? If you will trust Him, this will be the greatest Thanksgiving you will ever have.

Pray for our Nations, the U.S.A., the Native America, and their leaders for strength and wisdom. Pray for our Service men and women.

From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

# Choctaw Nation is especially thankful this year



During the holiday season that we are entering, individuals and families reflect on the many blessings that have been given during their lifetime. This year, the Choctaw Nation has much to be thankful for. In this time of war, it is more important than ever that we take the time to say "thank you" to those around us.

I feel it is an honor and a privilege to serve as Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. However, I could not carry out the duties of this position without the dedicated employees who work with me. I would like to publicly extend a "thank you" for the hard work that they do for the Choctaw Nation and its people.

The employees, Council, and the executive branch all work to make a difference for the Choctaw people. Many hours are spent each week working on projects and ideas that will improve services, initiate new pro-

*From my family to yours, have a safe and happy holiday season - may God bless you all*

grams and create additional economic development.

We are all attuned to events in our nation, and across the world. Concern and sympathy for those immediately affected by the September 11th tragedy were

proven by the outpouring of money to assist those in need. Last month, it was announced that \$71,000 had been raised. That amount has increased to more than \$75,800, thanks to gifts from people who want to help.

The President has cautioned everyone to be conscious of our surroundings because of national threats. It is important that all Americans continue with daily work, school, church and entertainment, yet at the same time remain on alert for any dangers.

I have faith that the Choctaw Nation will continue to progress and improve through the years to come, and that our citizens will become even stronger. Though the tribe is sovereign, our people are also proud citizens of the United States as well as the Choctaw Nation, and military service has been greatly enhanced by soldiers who are members of our tribe.

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

## Tribal revenues from contracts and businesses

It is very exciting to witness all of the contracts being signed to bring new business revenue to the Choctaw Nation. Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise (CM/SE) began its first contract in mid-1997 with providing six physician assistants. CM/SE has now grown to about \$65 million gross a year. Contracts that are current include the WIC Over-

seas program and INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service) offices across the United States. We are looking forward to future contracts that will allow us to furnish Emergency Room doctors around the world and a 3rd Party Billing contract that will begin in just a few weeks.

The Choctaw Nation Travel Plazas continue to be profitable

for the tribe. During the week that all fuel sales went toward the disaster relief, record amounts of gasoline and diesel were pumped at our plazas. The generosity of the Chief and Council in allowing this donation increased loyalty from customers, and brought many new customers to the stores. We expect to continue to serve these people at all of our

locations.

Profits from all tribal businesses are used to provide services for the Choctaw people. Education, language, health and emergency needs are just a few of the needs that these revenues help meet. A fairly new allocation of tribal business profits is helping to supply social workers for schools across the Choctaw

Nation boundaries. A partnership is being established between the tribe, the Department of Human Services and 12 school systems. Under this partnership, DHS will contribute \$16,284 per social worker, the school systems will each contribute \$8,142 per social worker and the tribe will match the amount from the school system with another \$8,142.



Bertram Bobb, Henry York and Tom Williston enjoyed the third annual Jones Academy reunion held on October 20.

## Jones Academy holds all-male reunion

A fish fry at the third pond was one of the highlights at the Jones Academy reunion for students who were there during the time it was an all-male school. Chief Gregory E. Pyle visited with the former students and their families who came to share memories and life stories.

Most of the students had a "run-away" story, and one had a story where he borrowed a truck and was "asked to leave, since they didn't appreciate him borrowing a vehicle without asking."

Teasing among the former classmates drew laughs from the crowd as nicknames and old gossip was told by the men.

Volunteers cooked and served



Jackson Puller and son Mark Puller joined in the festivities on the campus near Hartshorne.

the great lunch and alumni were encouraged to remain on the academy grounds throughout the

afternoon and enjoy the gospel singing planned for the evening gathering.

### District Choctaw Children's Parties

**DECEMBER 7**  
Durant Community Center - 6:30 p.m.  
Hugo Cultural Center - 7:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER 8**  
McAlester Community Center - 12 noon  
Stigler Community Center - 1:00 p.m.  
Wilburton Community Center - 6:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER 9**  
Coalgate Community Dinner (potluck) and Children's Party at the School - 2:00 p.m.  
Antlers Community Center - 2:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER 10**  
Idabel Bingo - 6:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER 13**  
Smithville - 7 p.m.

**DECEMBER 14**  
Tushka Homma Cafeteria - 6:00 p.m.  
Talihina Community Center - 7:00 p.m.  
Bethel Community Center - 6:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER 15**  
Broken Bow Family Investment Center - 3:00 p.m.  
Eagletown - 6:00 p.m.  
Poteau Family Investment Center - 4:00 p.m.  
Heavener - 4:30 p.m.

**DECEMBER 16**  
Summerfield - 2:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER 18**  
Wright City Community Center - 6:00 p.m.

### District Choctaw Christmas Dinners

**DECEMBER 11**  
Antlers Community Center - 11:30

**DECEMBER 13**  
Poteau Family Investment Center - 12 noon  
Atoka Middle School - 6:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER 12**  
Stigler Community Center - 11:30 a.m.  
Broken Bow Family Investment Center - 12 noon  
McAlester Community Center - 12 noon  
Coalgate Community Center - 12 noon

**DECEMBER 14**  
Hugo Community Center - 6 p.m.

**DECEMBER 19**  
Antlers Community Center - 12 noon

**DECEMBER 20**  
Wright City Community Center - 12 noon

## Mrs. Boudreau continued from Page 1

to Byers." Her mother was expecting a baby and became ill with "uremic poisoning." Minnie and the newborn later died.

After being cared for by relatives for four years, Marie was placed in a boarding school, first in Antlers then at St. Agnes in Ardmore. She lived there until she was fourteen. She remembers, "I was only six years old, but it wasn't so bad since my sister was there to help me get dressed in the morning. We wore white blouses, dark blue skirts, bloomers and high lace-up boots with garters." When home on holidays, Marie remembers her father singing to her in the Choctaw language.

T.B. remarried and Nora proved to be a loving stepmother. "She shopped with me for the best flour sacks to make my underpants. (I was fourteen years old before I got a store-bought pair) and she taught me how to

sew."

Around 1915, Marie and her parents moved to New Mexico for 2 1/2 years where she was treated for tuberculosis. When she and the family returned to Purcell she attended school where she met her future husband, Albert Frances Boudreau. Albert tormented her by putting her braids in the inkwell. This led to an exchange of letters from Antlers to Purcell and marriage in 1919. French Canadian, Albert came to Oklahoma from Canada in a covered wagon. He later worked in baggage claim for the Santa Fe railroad. Marie enjoyed riding the train to see her sister, Emma, in Arkansas City. Emma was the first woman to own a car in Purcell, Oklahoma.

Marie said, "I remember washing on washboards, using bluing, hanging our clothes on the line, jumping rope, playing ball outside. In my lifetime I've seen the first electric lights, cars, air-



Centenarian Marie Boudreau of Oklahoma City presents Chief Gregory E. Pyle with a pair of coaters she made for him. Chief Pyle and several staff members visited Mrs. Boudreau to wish her a happy 100th birthday.

planes, televisions, spaceships and computers."

In the last hundred years, what does Marie tout as the single most amazing invention? The TV. "To see things happen all over the world - to see them right here and now!

"When I saw my first airplane, it looked like a big bird up in the sky. I guess I was about fifteen years old at the time," said Marie.

"I was very excited about the first television and first radio that I saw - I was at the Chicago World's Fair," said Marie. "I went into an exhibit room and saw a great big screen on the wall. They would have different ones come and talk over a microphone. They could see themselves on the screen."

Marie laughed and told of how her husband encouraged her to "get up there" and take a turn at talking on the radio. "I was asked where I was from and for a minute I couldn't think where I was from. Then I said Oklahoma City. I saw myself on the screen, but it didn't look like me. I didn't recognize myself.

"I had my first ice cream cone at that fair, too," said Marie.

Marie, Mamaw to the family who loves her, has always been

the matriarch of the family. Her daughter, Betty Sue, married Earl Pitzer of Oklahoma City. They had two children, Al Pitzer and Carole Pitzer Ayers. Marie has had two grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and thirteen great-great-grandchildren.

She has sewn countless clothes, cooked many meals, listened to lots of children, and prayed a multitude of prayers for the family she loves. Her mind is clear and her humor is sharp. She is truly a strong and amazing woman. Happy 100th birthday!

## Information is sought on former Choctaw chiefs

If anyone has any information on former Choctaw chiefs Alfred Wade, term 1857-1858; Tandy Walker, term 1858-1859; or Basil Leflore, term 1859-1860, please contact:

**Brenda Wilson  
Choctaw Nation  
of Oklahoma  
Bishinik  
P.O. Drawer 1210  
Durant, OK 74701**



## Mutual admiration

Talihina resident Ruth James enjoyed artist Carol Ayers' display at this year's Labor Day Festival. The admiration was mutual. Carol admired Ruth's traditional dress so much that she requested a photo be taken so she could hang it in her Edmond gallery.

Carol is the granddaughter of original enrollee Marie Boudreau who recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

# FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Closed Inventory	4 Stigler 9-2	5	6 Coalgate 9-10:30 Atoka 12-2	7 Wilburton 9-12 Broken Bow 9-2	8
9	10 Hugo 9-12	11 Bethel 9-10:30 Smithville 12-2	12	13 Talihina 9-2	14 Wright City 9-12	15
16	17 Closed Employee Meeting	18 Poteau (A-H) 9-2	19	20 Poteau (I-P) 9-2	21	22
23	24 Ottawa Closed	25 Closed	26 Idabel 9-2	27	28 Poteau (Q-Z) 9-2	29
30	31 New Year's Day					

December 2001

## 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 1-800-522-6170 so that you can be rescheduled to go to Antlers, Durant or McAlester.  
 The Food Distribution Program does not discriminate because of sex, race, color, age, political beliefs, religion, handicapped or national origin.

## Organization provides educational support

The Jones Academy Student Educational Foundation (JASEF) is a non-profit organization formed for the exclusive purpose of providing scholarships and extra support necessary for our children to have a higher quality education. This means providing resources to turn those ideas into reality.  
 The JASEF membership is composed of individuals dedicated to the goals of this foundation. While the JASEF is not intended to replace publicly financed education, we can encourage educational excellence, generate optimism, self-esteem and excitement in the educational process for the students and teachers at Jones Academy.

This is your foundation – how successful it is will be determined by your commitment to educational excellence, the students at Jones Academy and the goals of the JASEF. These students, with

your help, can reach their full potential.  
 For more information or to find out how you can help, please call Jones Academy at 918-297-2518.

## Child and Adult Care Food Program

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Day Care Program announces its participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. All participants in attendance are served meals at no extra charge to the parents and without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. In accordance with federal law and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, this institution is prohibited from dis-

criminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.  
 To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. You may also write to the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs Section, Room 310, 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599.



## Honoring fallen firefighters

A memorial service honoring all firefighters killed in the line of duty during the year 2000 was held October 7 in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Choctaw firefighters Presley Byington and Tom Smith are pictured in front of the Maltese Cross Memorial in Emmitsburg. On October 4, 1981, President Ronald Reagan dedicated the memorial to all firefighters killed in the line of duty.



## Chahtas take first at Chickasaw Festival

Chahtas were first-place winners in the Women's Fast-Pitch Softball Tournament at the 2001 Chickasaw Nation Festival during the first weekend in October.

Team members are Misty Madbull, pitcher; JoLynn Tohnika, pitcher and third base; Sheila Watson, first base; Chery Billy, center field; Nona James, left field; Kris Mitchell, shortstop; Cimmaron Chastain, second base; Cobra Yarborough, center field and third base; Suzanne Abyta, right field; Leslie Shaw, catcher; Jay Watson, manager; Jonah Billy and Chuck Madbull, assistant coaches. The all-star team included Misty Madbull, JoLynn Tohnika, Chery Billy, Nona James, Kris Mitchell and Cimmaron Chastain. Congratulations!

# Choctaw named Native American Contemporary Storyteller of Year

The Woodcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers named Tim Tingle Contemporary Storyteller of the Year during an awards banquet October 13 in Norman, Oklahoma.

Tingle, a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, resides in Canyon Lake, Texas. He is a graduate of the University of Texas and is completing his thesis entitled "Choctaw Oral Literature" for a master's degree in Native American Studies at the University of Oklahoma. While at the university, Tingle studied Choctaw language and culture with Ron Seale. As a current project, Tim is collecting recordings of older Choctaws telling their own stories. His story about his father, Archie D. Tingle, was featured in the March/April issue of Storytelling World Magazine.

Under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Defense, Tingle has toured Germany five times and in December will tour U.S. naval bases in Italy. He performs annually at hundreds of school, festival and university concerts throughout the United States. In March 2001, he was a featured performer at the Texas Storytelling Festival, which featured four of the top storytellers in America. Recent performances included an evening concert of Choctaw stories at the Jacobson House in Norman on November 12.

Founder of Storytribe Publishing, Tingle has produced eight



recordings of his stories, three of which have won awards from Storytelling World. His most popular work, "The Choctaw Way," is dedicated to Councilman Charlie Jones and features traditional and historical Choctaw stories, as well as chants recorded from the Mississippi Choctaw.

Tingle attends the Choctaw Labor Day Festival at Tuska-

homa and can often be found chopping onions in the OK Choctaw's Indian taco concession. For the past two Labor Days, he has performed for the Code Talkers Association's annual meeting.

Tingle is proud of his Choctaw heritage and makes yearly trips to Philadelphia, Mississippi to collect stories and learn Choctaw songs.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>DECEMBER</b>						1
2	3 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	4 McAlester 10 am-2 pm	5 Durant 10-12 noon	6	7 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	8
9	10 Antlers 1-3:30 pm	11 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm	12 Poteau 11 am-1:30 pm	13	14 Broken Bow 9:30 am-2 pm	15
16	17	18 McAlester by appt only	19 Stigler by appt only Coalgate 10 am-2 pm	20 Bethel by appt only	21	22
23	24	25	26 Durant by appt only	27	28 Atoka 10 am-2 pm	29
30	31					

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

## Summer youth applications available

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma will begin accepting applications for its Summer Youth Program January 1 through April 15, 2002. The Summer Youth Program, under the Workforce Investment Act Program (WIA), will begin its work program June 3 and continue through July 5, 2002.

Applications must be mailed, not faxed. Faxed applications will not be accepted. All applications

received after the April 15 postmark will be put on a waiting list.

To be eligible for this five-week summer work program, one must be 14-21 years of age, have their own Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB), or their tribal Membership Card, a Social Security Card and meet the federal financial requirements.

The student must be 14 years of age on the date the application is

signed. Applications must be complete before students are eligible to begin work. All tribal affiliations within the 10 1/2 county Choctaw Nation service area are eligible to apply.

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

Choctaw Nation headquarters in Durant.

All WIA staff will be visiting high schools in the 10 1/2 county service area in the month of January. Students may contact their high school to verify the date and time of this visit to receive more information.

For further questions, call the WIA department at 1-800-522-6170.

## WIA School Site Schedule

<b>Achille</b>	January 24	1:00 p.m.	<b>Kinta</b>	January 16	10:30 a.m.
<b>Antlers</b>	January 31	9:00 a.m.	<b>Kiowa</b>	January 14	9:00 a.m.
<b>Atoka</b>	January 24	12:45 p.m.	<b>Leflore</b>	January 28	9:30 a.m.
<b>Battiest</b>	January 7	1:00 p.m.	<b>McCurtain</b>	January 16	11:30 a.m.
<b>Bennington</b>	January 18	2:00 p.m.	<b>Moyers</b>	January 31	10:00 a.m.
<b>Bokoshe</b>	January 16	1:10 p.m.	<b>Olney</b>	January 10	9:15 a.m.
<b>Boswell</b>	January 18	1:00 p.m.	<b>Panama</b>	January 15	1:00 p.m.
<b>Broken Bow</b>	January 10	1:00 p.m.	<b>Panola</b>	January 28	11:00 a.m.
<b>Buffalo Valley</b>	January 17	8:50 a.m.	<b>Pittsburg</b>	January 14	10:00 a.m.
<b>Caddo</b>	January 25	9:00 a.m.	<b>Pocola</b>	January 15	9:00 a.m.
<b>Calera</b>	January 24	1:00 p.m.	<b>Poteau</b>	January 9	10:00 a.m.
<b>Cameron</b>	January 15	11:00 a.m.	<b>Quinton</b>	January 16	9:25 a.m.
<b>Canadian</b>	January 17	10:30 a.m.	<b>Rattan</b>	To be scheduled	
<b>Caney</b>	January 22	9:30 a.m.	<b>Red Oak</b>	January 28	12:20 p.m.
<b>Clayton</b>	January 17	12:30 p.m.	<b>Rock Creek</b>	January 18	10:00 a.m.
<b>Coalgate</b>	January 10	12:15 p.m.	<b>Savanna</b>	January 14	11:00 a.m.
<b>Colbert</b>	January 24	1:00 p.m.	<b>Silo</b>	January 24	2:00 p.m.
<b>Crowder</b>	January 17	9:30 a.m.	<b>Smithville</b>	January 7	11:00 a.m.
<b>Durant</b>	January 29	1:00 p.m.	<b>Soper</b>	January 31	1:00 p.m.
<b>Eagletown</b>	January 10	10:45 a.m.	<b>Spiro</b>	January 17	11:00 a.m.
<b>Ft. Towson</b>	January 18	9:30 a.m.	<b>Stigler</b>	January 17	12:55 p.m.
<b>Haileyville</b>	January 22	10:00 a.m.	<b>Stringtown</b>	To be scheduled	
<b>Hartshorne</b>	January 22	10:45 a.m.	<b>Talihina</b>	January 8	1:00 p.m.
<b>Haworth</b>	January 8	11:00 a.m.	<b>Tupelo</b>	January 10	10:00 a.m.
<b>Heavener</b>	January 9	12 noon	<b>Tushka</b>	January 24	11:15 a.m.
<b>Howe</b>	January 9	11:00 a.m.	<b>Valliant</b>	January 18	11:00 a.m.
<b>Hugo</b>	January 22	9:00 a.m.	<b>Whitesboro</b>	January 8	10:30 a.m.
<b>Idabel High School</b>	January 11	10:15 a.m.	<b>Wilburton High School</b>	January 22	1:30 p.m.
<b>Idabel Middle School</b>	January 11	1:00 p.m.	<b>Wister</b>	January 9	1:10 p.m.
<b>Indianola</b>	January 17	11:30 a.m.	<b>Wright City</b>	January 18	1:00 p.m.
<b>Keota</b>	January 17	9:30 a.m.			

# A TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERANS

Continued from Page 1

said, "I count it a great honor today to be here and speak to the veterans. I know all you veterans out there remember the letter that you got one day that said, 'Greetings, you have been selected to serve in the United States Army.'

"I never will forget the day that I received that letter. I wanted to cry. I wanted to run somewhere because we were going to another country and didn't know if we were going to come home.

"You never know what a veteran goes through when they enter the service," Bryant continued. "We don't forget our buddies that we left laying there, or the ones we shot. I'd like to say to the veterans you are on my heart daily because I think of the water, the mud that we laid in at different times to serve our country. I am glad to be a veteran. I will never forget the day that we came back from overseas.

"When I hit the ground I kissed that old blacktop - I was glad to be back in my country. You never know what our veterans have had to do so that we have the freedom to come here today to celebrate our veterans," said Bryant, repeating his thanks.

Major General Leroy Sisco, the highest ranking Choctaw officer in the military today, was the keynote speaker for the event. He thanked Chief Pyle for the ceremony dedicated to the veterans and said he was proud to be there to show his appreciation to those men and women.

"I also want to thank this incredible Color Guard," Gen. Sisco said. "They have been a tremendous asset to the Choctaw Nation.

"Who would have thought that a year ago I would have been standing here saying this nation is at war today? No one would have thought that. But it is true. Almost 6,000 of our fellow citizens were murdered inside our borders on September 11 - over 5,000 in New York City and hundreds in Washington, D.C.

"When you see those kind of things happen, it makes you stop and think," Gen. Sisco said. "We also should not forget the brave souls in Pennsylvania who said the famous last words, 'Let's roll'. They gave their lives to save no telling how many lives in that one moment. That is what I call the 'American resolve'. The resolve we have in this country is more than I could ever have imagined."

Gen. Sisco continued, "Out of tragic things, there are always positive things that come out of it. Have you ever seen patriotism like it is today? Prayer on national TV in such huge volumes? The single factor that bin Laden and his murder of innocent civilians did not calculate was that this country would come together and support our president and our nation even more strongly than it did after Pearl Harbor. Bin Laden thought we would tuck tail and run, our economy would fall apart and the U.S. would be brought to its knees.

"In that case he was right - we will drop to our knees - to take aim and make sure we hit the target and the target is him and other terrorists around the world!"

"Every major nation is behind us, not just with verbiage but with weapons and troops. There will be veterans from this war, there will be Medal of Honor recipients. We are indebted to our veterans. We owe them our freedom."



Chief Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey lay wreaths at the foot of the Choctaw War Memorial.



Chief Gregory E. Pyle urges everyone to remember those who gave their lives for our freedom today.



A solemn group stands in respect.



Assistant Chief Mike Bailey enjoys visiting with friend Truman Heron of Durant. Heron is wearing the jacket he had on when he flew 100 Air Force missions in WW II. The back of the jacket has a notch for every mission he flew.



Willie Ward is an Army Veteran who served in combat in Vietnam and in Korea after the truce was signed.



Arvard McLellan, an Army veteran of WW II, and Buck DeLoach, a WW II Navy veteran, are both from Coalgate, Oklahoma.



Chief Pyle talks with Cecil Hewitt, right, and John Wood, center.



The Choctaw Nation Color guard presents a 21-gun salute in memory of those who have served our country.



Waiting for the ceremony to begin are, bottom row, Wilma Matthews of Coalgate, Mildred Burris of Centrahoma and Evelyn Guffey, Tupelo, and seated above them, John and Sharon Anderson of Talihina. Burris served in the Air Force in 1944-45 and says she enjoyed every day of it.



Angel Rowland, an employee of the Choctaw Nation, and veteran John Brown of Tulsa. Brown served in the Army from 1940 to 1945.



Cecil James of Colbert is a veteran of the second World War.



Vietnam veteran Jim Langston of Shawnee, Oklahoma stands before the War Memorial.



Dean Jefferson and Betty Canary of Oklahoma City visited Tushka Homma for the veterans ceremony.

# People You Know



## Surprise!!!

Happy birthday Aunt Dude! Just a little something from me to you as we both celebrate our birthdays. I cherish the wonderful family memories of my childhood and you play a big part in them all. Have a wonderful birthday and always remember that I'm thinking of you and Uncle Cecil.

Clora Mabel "Dude" McCants-Brooksher celebrated her birthday on October 27. She was born in Stigler, Oklahoma to Guss and Edna M. Westbrook-McCants. Dude's great-niece, Nancy McCants, celebrated her 35th birthday on October 29. Dude became a great-great-great-aunt on August 24 with the birth of David A. Flores, Jr. Congratulations!



## Happy birthday!!!

Happy birthday wishes are sent to Kerry Tonihka who will be 23 years old on October 19; Keithan Tonihka who is celebrating his fifth birthday in December and Kaylee who will turn four in December. All are from Broken Bow, Oklahoma.



## Michaela turns three

The Gentry family would like to wish Michaela Green a very happy birthday. She turned three years old on August 26. Michaela is pictured holding Kamryn Gentry who was born August 7.

We all love you very much, Michaela!

## Happy birthday to Walter L. Berg

Happy birthday wishes are sent to Walter L. Berg pf Tulsa who turned 47 years old on Friday, November 16. Walter is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Berg of Tulsa and works as a lot checker for Central Parking System.

## Noah turns two

Granny Mattie B. Jones and Uncles Fred and Jeff Warden, all of Kiowa, Oklahoma, send happy birthday wishes to Noah Parker Morgan who turns two years old on November 28.

Noah's parents are Crystal, Mattie's granddaughter, and Jeremy Morgan. His grandparents are Ann and Dan Baskin and Judy and Rick Morgan, all of Durant, Oklahoma.



## A special happy birthday

Special happy birthday wishes are sent to Lynnette Jean Johnson of Lemoore, California with love from her mother. Happy birthday on November 15.



## Wyatt celebrates sixth

Wyatt Lane Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Williams of Stonewall, Oklahoma, celebrated his sixth birthday on September 9.

His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Arvel Williams of Summerfield, Oklahoma and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scott of Idabel, Oklahoma.

## Happy sixth!

Jeffrey Keith Davis, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Davis of Texarkana, Texas, celebrated his sixth birthday on September 14.

His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scott, all of Idabel, Oklahoma. His great-grandmother is Evelyn Mills of Atlanta, Texas.



## Rattan student turns seven

Happy seventh birthday to Rachel Ann Taylor on November 8. She attends school at Rattan Elementary School in Rattan, Oklahoma.

Rachel's parents are Julie Heady and Dwayne Taylor, both of Hugo, Oklahoma. Her grandparents are Judy and Clifford Heady of Sawyer, Oklahoma, Theda and Dodson Lamb of Hugo and William and Judy Taylor of Soper.



## Matthew turns 12

Happy birthday to Matthew Lynn Sexton who turned 12 years old on August 21.

Matthew is the son of Tim and Shirley Sexton of Asher, Oklahoma.

## Couple marry in June ceremony

Cristina McGinley and Evan Brimhall, both of Farmington, New Mexico, were married June 23 at First Presbyterian Church.

Cristina is the daughter of Maria De Prado of Jerez De La Frontera, Spain. She is employed by Farmington Municipal Schools.

Evan is the son of Ralph and Paula Brimhall of Farmington and the grandson of Othel and Pauline Sorrels of Farmington. His great-grandparents included Choctaw enrollees Cole Nelson and Elizabeth Harris.



## Happy birthday Holly and Misty Jones!

Happy birthday wishes are sent sisters Holly and Misty Jones. Holly will be 16 years old on December 18 and Misty turned 22 on August 2. Holly is a sophomore at Atoka High School, on the honor roll and a member of the Wampus Cats basketball team.

Their parents are Anita Jones of Atoka, Oklahoma and Alan Jones of Claremore, Oklahoma. Grandparents are E.J. Johnson and the late Marie Johnson of Atoka and Robert and Carol Schmidt of Sallisaw, Oklahoma.



## Wow! Summer turns 21



Vickie Sue Coffey Stokes and Seber Scott Stokes want to wish their daughter, Summer Nicole Rickerd, the biggest and best birthday on October 2. Summer is active in showing paint horses and has won many ribbons. She is a graduate of East Nicolaus High.

Summer's grandmother, Verdie Mae Flowers Crowder Coffey, sends happy birthday wishes to her little sweetheart.

Summer is the great-granddaughter of the late Lelia Mae Durant Flowers Crowder, an original enrollee.

Summer would like to wish her cousins, Paul and little Chaz, happy belated birthdays in October.

## Happy first birthday

Kimberly Kay Walton celebrated her first birthday on November 9. She is the daughter of Larry and Marissa Walton of Atoka, Oklahoma.

Grandparents include Pat and Kim Eberl and Gary Pettigrew, all of Atoka. Joy Oswalt of Atoka is her great-grandmother and Lula Pearl Webb of Wapanucka, Oklahoma is her great-great-grandmother.

Happy birthday, K.K.!



## Celebrating first birthday

Wishing Cody Wayne Elliott a happy first birthday on November 21 are his parents, Tommy and Carma Elliott of Durant; his Pe-Pa Toy and Me-Ma Barbara Marlow of Durant; his Grandpa A.J. and Grandma Marie McCann of Bokchito, and his aunts and uncles, Gary and Vickie Walker, Carl and Melissa Marlow, Terry and Kim Ragan, Rick and Frances Goolsby, Georgia Vandenburg and Brent and Mandy McCann. Happy birthday, Cody! We love you!



## Dorothy turns 61

Dorothy Henderson Cochnouer turned 69 years old on November 1. She is the daughter of original enrollee Henry Cochnouer.

Dorothy likes to shop, go to lunches and travel. She has lived in Brentwood, California for 55 years.

Keep up the good work, Dorothy!



## Todd turns one

Todd Michael Keith Johnson turned one year old on October 25. Todd is the son of Todd and Lynnette Johnson of Lemoore, California. He has two big sisters, Darrian and Jaiden.

Grandparents are Cliff and Pat Johnson of Merced, California, Bruce Johnson of Turlock, California and Keith and Catherine Boles of Coalinga, California.

Great-grandparents include Gene and Clara Hunter from whom he gets his Choctaw and Cherokee Indian blood.

Todd is the great-great-grandson of Andee Dale Hunter who was full-blood Choctaw and an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation.



## Mark turns three

Grandparents Allen and Roberta Ashiking and Uncle Albert, all of Forest Lake, Arizona, would like to wish Mark Joseph Chino a big happy birthday on November 3. He celebrated with his parents, Mark Jr. and Milyssa Chino of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Mark is the great-grandson of the late Coleman Ray Felihkatubbee. His great-grandmother is Eva Parish of Riverside, California, formerly of Antlers, Oklahoma. Grandparents include Mark Sr. and Barbara Chino of Albuquerque.

Your great-grandpa, Aunt Tobey and Yo, all from Albuquerque, wish you a very happy birthday, too!

## Happy first, Tyler!

Kiesha and Jessica Amos would like to wish their baby cousin, Tyler Reece Wesley, a happy first birthday on October 5. He is the son of Courtney Causey and Nathan Wesley.

Also, Jessica Amos turned 15 years old on October 21. Jessica is the daughter of Betty and Gary Tom of Holly Creek and Hickman Wallace of Dallas, Texas.



## Happy birthday, Paul

Paul Dexter Naylor, Jr. turned 18 on October 11. He is a senior at East Nicolaus High School in East Nicolaus, California. Paul's parents are Venus Mae Gustafson Naylor of Grapevine, Texas and Paul D. Naylor of Ohio.

Paul is currently living with his maternal grandmother, Ollie Mae "Vicky" Cordes Gustafson of East Nicolaus, to finish his senior year before moving to Texas.

He is the great-grandson of Verdie Mae "Bobby" Flowers Crowder and the great-great-grandson of the late Lelia Mae Durant Flowers Crowder, an original enrollee.

Paul has made football fans of his entire family through his playing and love of the sport.



## This little cowboy turned two years old

This happy little cowboy, Charles Thomas "Chaz" Gustafson, turned two years old on October 26. He is the son of Charles and Debbie Gustafson. Proud grandmother is Ollie Mae "Vicky" Cordes Gustafson Church. Chaz is the great-grandson of Verdie Mae Flowers Crowder Coffey and the great-great-grandson of the late Lelia Mae Durant Flowers Crowder, an original enrollee.

Chaz loves to ride his black and white paint horse, Eclipse. He started riding in horse shows when he was eight months old and has won many ribbons including four for first place in western pleasure.

His grandparents include Thomas and Yvonne Smith of McAlester, Oklahoma. Great-grandmother is Ida Harris Elkins and the late George Clinton Elkins of Trowbridge, California.

## Peggy celebrates 39th

Peggy Tushka turned 39 years old on November 4. Lots of love, hugs and blessings from Mark, Patty, Eric and Leo.

Peggy is the daughter of Nancy Barrentine Tushka of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.



## Artwork wins first place

Allen and Roberta Ashiking of Forest Lake, Arizona would like to share the news of their son's achievements in school. Recently, Albert, who is an eighth grader in Pinon, Arizona, entered an art contest and won first place. His artwork and several others were taken to hang in the Navajo Nation Art Museum in Window Rock, Arizona.

Albert has attended Pinon schools since fifth grade and has always shown an interest in art. He is the grandson of the late Colen Ray Felihkatubbee, formerly of Finley, Oklahoma. Albert's grandmother is Eva Parish of Riverside, California, formerly of Antlers, Oklahoma.

Albert is of Choctaw and Navajo descent. His grandparents are Eric and Bah Ashiking of Forest Lake.

Your family is very proud of you, Albert. Keep up the good work!

## Look who's one!

Allen and Roberta Albert of Forest Lake, Arizona would like to wish Brandon Lee Felihkatubbee a belated happy birthday. Brandon Lee celebrated on July 24, turning one year old. His parents are Robert and Dinah Felihkatubbee of Perris, California.

Brandon is the grandson of the late Coleman Ray Felihkatubbee, formerly of Finley, Oklahoma, who lived in Perris, California until his untimely death.

Brandon Lee's grandmother is Eva Parish who lives in Riverside, California. She is formerly of Antlers, Oklahoma.

We all wish you a happy birthday, Brandon - love, your Aunt Bert, Uncle Allen and cousin, Albert, of Forest Lake.



## Happy 18th, Nikki

We would like to wish LeAshley Nicole Jefferson a happy 18th birthday on October 21. She is a senior this fall at Broken Bow High School. LeAshley is the daughter of Phyllis Roberts and Elias Roberts, Jr. of Broken Bow and the granddaughter of Elias Sr. and Josephine Roberts of Wright City, Oklahoma, Mary J. Jefferson

of Broken Bow, and Esias Jefferson of Bethel, Oklahoma.

Happy birthday, Nikki.

## Happy birthday, Erica

Erica Lynn Vanderveen turned 14 years old on November 6. She is the daughter of Dwight and Wanda Vanderveen of Durant, Oklahoma.

Erica is currently a student at Durant Middle School.

Happy birthday wishes are sent Erica from her three brothers and cousin, Dylan.



## Look who's five!

Destiny Shanelle May, the daughter of Kenneth and Shelly May of Atoka, Oklahoma, turned five years old on October 8.

Happy birthday, Destiny! We love you - Mom and Dad.

## Kingfisher's Native American Princess

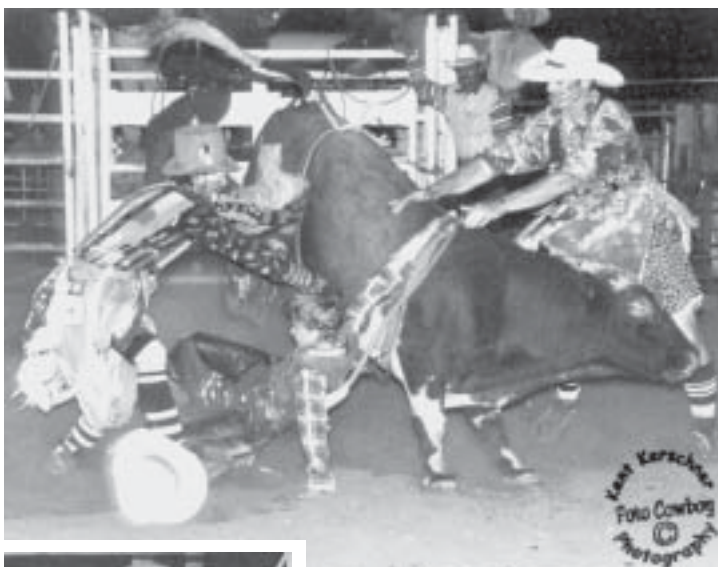
Sixteen-year-old Shilah Mae Bonham was chosen as Native American Princess of Kingfisher High School during homecoming festivities on October 12.

Shilah is the student council representative for the junior class, member of the Native American club, member of FCA, on the principal's honor roll, ACA All-American Cheerleader and on the high school softball team.

She is the daughter of Virgil and Rhonda Bonham and the granddaughter of the late Orville and Lillie Bonham of Atoka, Oklahoma.

Shilah's escort was Good-warrior Deer.





## Man of many hats

Larry Tonihka of Wichita, Kansas dons many hats as a professional rodeo clown, bullfighter and performer of specialty acts. In the photo above,

Larry, on the left, jumps in to save a bullrider from injury.

A full blood Choctaw, Larry is currently working the Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma rodeo circuit.

He would like to say happy birthday to his children and grandchildren – Amber Tonihka on August 19, Tonya Tonihka on October 4, Ashley Tonihka on October 10, Karita Tonihka on October 19, Jesse Tonihka on December 5 and Ryan Tonihka on December 22.

## Watkins baby wins beauty pageant

Maranda Kay Lillian Watkins was recently entered in The Starbound USA Baby Pageant, which is open to all children newborn to six years of age. Maranda placed first in the Beauty Contest and second in the Photo Contest for the 4 to 6 months old age group.

She was awarded a Loving Cup Trophy on stage at the Coronation Ceremony and plans to compete for the title of Little Miss Starbound USA on November 11. The daughter of Marty Watkins and Amanda Reta of Oklahoma City, Maranda was born April 12, 2001 at the Presbyterian Hospital in Oklahoma City.



## Original enrollee turns 99

Choctaw original enrollee Ethel Eugenia Lewis Duncan celebrated her 99th birthday on November 2, 2001. Helping her celebrate were her family and friends. Ethel resides in Hughes, Oklahoma in the same home she has lived in since 1929.

She was born in Leflore, Oklahoma to Howard Eugene Lewis and Alice Jane Kincaid, the oldest of nine children and the only one still living. She was married to the late Martin E. Duncan in 1926.

On her birthday, Ethel received flowers, cards, money, gifts and a beautiful birthday cake. She has six children, 17 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren and 26 great-great-grandchildren.

The family wishes her a very nice birthday and hopes they can all be together on her 100th birthday.



## Berryhill in second year at Coast Guard Academy

Brian Keith Berryhill, son of Ken and Meda Sue (Quick) Berryhill, is in his second year at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Following graduation from Holmes High School in San Antonio, Texas in 1996, Brian served three years active duty in the Coast Guard where he was stationed in places such as Guam and Galveston, Texas, obtaining the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class as a Quartermaster. He spent one year at Military Educational Prep School and is now in his second year at the academy in New London, Connecticut.



## Congratulations State Champs!!!

The Madill Lady Wildcat Cross Country Team was named Oklahoma State Champions at the Cross Country State Meet on October 20 at Oklahoma Baptist University.

Team members pictured are Kathleen Carnes, Erin Sweeney, Savannah Harvey, Ashley Rushing, Claribel Mendoza and Heather Hoedebeck.

## Spring class schedule set for Internet Language Course

Spring registration for all Internet Language classes will begin at 8 a.m. CST on Monday, December 3. The registration for day classes will close at 4:30 CST on January 7. Evening class registration closes at 10 p.m. CST on January 8.

– Spring Schedule –

### “BEGINNING CHOCTAW GRAMMAR”

Beginning December 31, 2001; Ending April 19, 2002  
10 a.m. CST – Monday-Wednesday-Friday (50-minute class)

### “INTERMEDIATE CHOCTAW GRAMMAR”

Beginning December 31, 2001; Ending April 19, 2002  
1 p.m. CST – Monday-Wednesday-Friday (50-minute class)

### “BEGINNING CHOCTAW GRAMMAR”

Beginning January 3, 2002; Ending April 18, 2002  
9 p.m. CST Tuesday-Thursday (50-minute class)

A registration form may be found at [www.choctawnation.com](http://www.choctawnation.com)

## Stigler native completes internship

Stigler native Emily Cariker recently completed a six-week internship in U.S. Senator Don Nickles' Washington office.

Emily, 20, is the daughter of Chris and Pegi Cariker. A 1999 graduate of Stigler High School, she is currently attending Baylor University in Waco, Texas, majoring in economics. During her term on Capitol Hill, she researched legislative issues for Nickles and his staff, helped respond to constituent requests and witnessed firsthand the inner workings of Congress and its relationship to the other branches of government.

Emily is a member of the Optimist Club, the Baylor Economists and serves as the co-membership chair of her sorority. She has also done an internship for Senator Stratton Taylor at the Oklahoma State Capitol.



## Williams meets U.S. Attorney General

Joseph Williams, the son of Olin and Bernice Williams of Bennington, Oklahoma, was honored to meet U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft recently.

Joe completed his studies at Oklahoma City University of Law in May of this year. He passed the bar exams in July. The swearing-in ceremony was held on October 2, 2001.

He is practicing law with Pitchlynn and Morse, P.A. of Norman, Oklahoma.

## Wilson appointed special emphasis manager

The Central Texas Veterans Health Care System is pleased to announce that Oklahoma Choctaw William Wilson is the Asian and Native American Special Emphasis Manager. He is assigned to the Temple facility.

Wilson is responsible for representation in veterans hospitals in Marlin and Waco and in community-based outpatient clinics located in Austin, Brownwood, Bryan/College Station and Palestine.

As special emphasis manager, Wilson ensures that the Veterans Health Care System can provide special accommodations to meet veterans' needs. If you have family in these areas that need special outreach, please call 254-778-4811, ext. 4455.



## Goldia Phillips celebrates 96th birthday

Relatives of Goldia (Turnbull) Phillips from Colorado recently helped her celebrate her 96th birthday. Mrs. Phillips is an original enrollee and resides in Denison, Texas. Pictured with her are her nieces, nephew and their spouses from Cañon City, Colorado.

Standing from left are Barbara and Doug Turnbull, Kathleen Wells and Gerry and Ray Pittman. Kneeling to Mrs. Phillips' right is Rocky Wells.

## Congratulations!

Michael Frazier just completed basic training from the Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Illinois. Michael is a graduate of Talihina High School and attended Eastern Oklahoma State College for two years.

His parents are Melvin and Corene Palmer of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Emeline Bohanon of Smithville, Oklahoma, the late Irene Frazier and Solomon Frazier of Talihina.



## Five generations

Original enrollee Maybell Bush Needham is holding her great-great-grandson Brandon Hays while surrounded by great-granddaughter Brandy Hays, daughter Bernice Stoner and granddaughter Desiree Beshears. Brandon was born March 31, 2001 at Lawton Indian Hospital.



## Isaac Marcelano McKinney

Isaac Marcelano McKinney was born at 5:30 p.m. on May 10, 2001 at the Tacoma General Hospital in Tacoma, Washington. Proud parents are Anna Galarza and Benjamin McKinney of Tacoma. Proud grandparents are Larry and Regina McKinney and Marie Williams and Vince Galarza, all of Tacoma.

Isaac is the great-grandson of Eddie McKinney of Honobia, Oklahoma.



## Ulloa Christopher Connell

Hunter Connell and his parents, Chris and Shirley Connell, announce the birth of his little brother, Ulloa Christopher Connell. Ulloa was born in Joplin, Missouri on July 6, 2001. He weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces.

Hunter and Ulloa's grandparents are Don and Darlene Connell and Mike and Marie Gillilan, all of Seneca, Missouri. His great-grandparents include Adam Betsey of Atoka, Oklahoma, Annie Betsey of Durant, Oklahoma and Betty Gillilan and the late Joseph Gillilan of Seal Beach, California.



## Alissa Alayne Deel

Alissa Alayne Deel was born at 4:53 a.m. July 28, 2001 at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She weighed 9 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 23 inches long.

Proud parents are Dewayne and Lisa Deel of Stillwater, Oklahoma. She has one sister, Michaela, and two brothers, Garrett and Joshua. Grandparents are John and Rose Deel of Kaibito, Arizona and Robert Thompson, Jr. of McAlester, Oklahoma. Alissa is of Choctaw/Navajo descent.



## Kamryn Marie Gentry

Sean and Brian Gentry of Broken Bow, Oklahoma would like to announce the birth of their baby sister, Kamryn Marie Gentry. She was born at 4:32 p.m. on August 7, 2001 at DeQueen Regional Medical Center in DeQueen, Arkansas. She weighed exactly 10 pounds and was 21.5 inches long.

Proud parents are Wayne and Valerie Gentry of Broken Bow. Her grandparents are Benny and Faye Gentry of DeQueen. Great-grandparents include Martha Jones and Evelyn Battiest, both of Broken Bow, and Rena Noah of Wright City, Oklahoma.



## Anthony Quinn-Lynn Sanders

Candy and John Sanders of Asher, Oklahoma are proud to announce the birth of their firstborn, Anthony Quinn-Lynn Sanders. Anthony was born at 11:44 p.m. on August 13, 2001 at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility in Ada, Oklahoma. He weighed 5 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 19.25 inches long.

Grandparents are Tim and Shirley Sexton of Asher and Faye and A.B. Sanders of Francis, Oklahoma. He is surrounded by loving aunts, uncles and cousins.



## David Antonio Flores, Jr.

Janice Shields and David Flores became the proud parents of David Antonio Flores, Jr. at 12:56 a.m. on August 24, 2001. He weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and measured 20.5 inches long.

The links to baby David's Choctaw bloodline are his mother, Janice; maternal grandmother, Billie Jo McCants-Shields; Billie Jo's father, Billie H. McCants; his father, George "Bill" McCants, and George's mother, Edna M. Westbrook-McCants who is the daughter of Andrew Jackson and Mattie McDaniels Westbrook.

A big congratulations, Janice and David, on your new beginning!



## Desiree Lynn Keifer

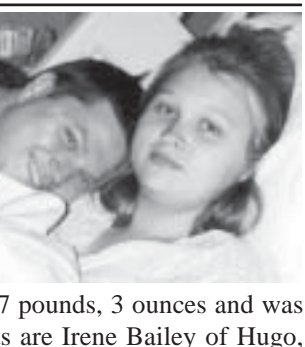
Proud parents Patrick Keifer and Christina Luera of San Gabriel, California would like to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Desiree Lynn Keifer.

Desiree was born September 6, 2001, weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces and measuring 19.5 inches in length.



## Avory Darrel Wayne Noah

Tiffany (Bailey) and Jacky L. Noah of Antlers, Oklahoma are proud to announce the birth of their son, Avory Darrel Wayne Noah. He was born August 29, 2001 in Durant, Oklahoma, weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. Avory's grandparents are Irene Bailey of Hugo, Doug Bundeson of Ukiah, California, James and Brenda McBride of Antlers and Jacky D. Noah of Atoka, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Betty Bailey of Hugo, Jerry Bailey of Robbins, California, Shirley Bundeson of Sacramento, California, the late Ralph Bundeson of Yuba City, California, Vernon and Claudine Read of Antlers, Martha Rhodes of Farris, Oklahoma and the late John Noah of Antlers. His great-great-grandpa is Monroe Abercrombie of Antlers.



# TULSA



Terry and Skyler Jarrad enjoyed the meeting held in Tulsa on October 18.



LeGina Lowry, Verdian Bruner, Verdian Keltner and DeLisa Woodruff gathered for a photo with Chief Pyle.



William Goodman fills out a membership form to receive his photo ID with assistance from Emily George.



Freida Qualls and Lois Ward visited with Executive Health Director Gary Batton and Chief Gregory Pyle.

# NORMAN



Alexa Lihyaoui and her mom, Lisa, visit with Chief Pyle in Norman.



Cleveland County Deputy Sheriff Lahoma Nelson is a proud member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.



Grandma Charley Graham escorted Bryce and Wade Petering to the Norman meeting on October 25. The twins turned one year old on November 7. Happy birthday!

## Mail order pharmacy available for Choctaw tribal members

The Choctaw Nation has a program that provides medications at a reduced price to Choctaws living anywhere in the United States.

The tribe has an agreement with a national mail order pharmaceutical network (PRxN) to provide prescription drugs through mail order for all Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma tribal members living both inside and outside of the tribal boundaries.

Patients who need prescription drugs that are not available at the tribal hospital and clinics may be able to get medical supplies and prescriptions from this mail order pharmacy. Tribal members who live outside of the 10 and 1/2 county boundary and cannot access the Indian health facilities in the Choctaw Nation will also be able to save money by ordering their maintenance medications from this mail order pharmacy.

The price of the medicines and supplies from this mail order pharmacy is reduced from what individuals are accustomed to paying in retail pharmacies. These lower

prices are possible because of the tribe's utilization of federal price schedules that are only available to Native Americans.

To enable you to receive this tremendously reduced pricing, the Choctaw Nation must document Indian eligibility to the mail order pharmacy. If you wish to use this mail order source for your prescriptions, please complete the application and return it to the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center, Mail Order Pharmacy, One Choctaw Way, Tahihina OK 74571 with a copy of your Tribal Membership Card.

Once we receive your application, and eligibility is approved, instructions on how to use the service and postage-paid mailer envelopes for ordering medications will be sent to you. There will be a toll-free phone number to call and receive free price quotes. Personal checks and most major credit cards will be accepted for payment.

This does not replace existing prescriptions provided by health care facilities within the Choctaw Nation boundaries.

### CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

### Mail Order Pharmacy Application

If you are interested in participating in the Choctaw Nation Mail Order Pharmacy Program, please complete this form and *mail to the following address*

**Choctaw Nation Health Care Center  
Attn: Mail Order Pharmacy  
One Choctaw Way  
Talihina, OK 74571**

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach a copy of your Tribal Membership Card to this application)



Rosalie Carlisle of Norman is originally from McAlester, Oklahoma.



# Alzheimer's study continues focus on Native Americans

November is National Alzheimer's Awareness Month. An Alzheimer's disease (AD) Clinic was held October 24 and 25 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center (CNHCC) in Talihiina. Once again, the clinic was full, suggesting there is a continuing need for this study in Native Americans.

An in-service program was presented by the AD Center, UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, for the staff of CNHCC. Staff members were updated on current trends in research as well as recognizing, understanding and treat AD and other dementias. Speakers at the in-service included Margaret

## Know the signs ...

- Forgets things more often - such as job skills.
- Has problems doing familiar things.
- Puts things in strange places.
- Forgets common words or uses the wrong words.
- Has frequent problems with complicated tasks.
- Is confused about where they are (confused, suspicious or afraid).
- Has lost interest in doing things (or loses interest quickly if not encouraged).
- Have sudden changes in mood or behavior.
- Do things that don't seem to make sense.

Higgins, M.S.; Robert Rosenberg, M.D.; Myron Weiner, M.D.; Doris Svetlik, M.S., R.N., and Shane Goode, Regional Elders Coordinator.

The study remains focused on Native Americans, particularly

members of the Choctaw Nation with memory or cognitive impairment. Dementia-related disorders and AD are a major public health problem with profound impact on millions of patients and their families. AD is the lead-

ing cause of dementia with approximately 56% of all patients suffering from AD.

Dementia related to depression, drug interaction or thyroid may be reversible if detected early. A person with age-associ-

ated memory loss may forget parts of an experience, but will usually recall later. They are usually able to follow written or spoken directions and are usually able to care for themselves. Patients suffer from AD forget entire experiences and usually are unable to recall the event, and as the disease progresses, patients with AD are unable to care for themselves.

The first step to be evaluated is calling to schedule an appointment. A complete medical and family history is obtained. The assessment includes a complete neurological assessment, psychiatric assessment, neuropsychological testing, lab and if indi-

cated, CT scans to rule out other disorders. We offer evaluation, treatment, follow-up and information about AD and related disorders.

If you or someone you know suffers from memory loss, you may wish to participate in this study.

The next clinic held in Talihiina will be early in 2002 with a limited number of appointments available. We will also hold a clinic in Hugo on November 29, 2001.

Please call Shane Goode at 918-567-3978 or 918-329-6302 to schedule your appointment in Talihiina or Hugo.

## Center provides education and treatment of diabetes

November is National diabetes Awareness Month. The following diabetes facts are offered to raise awareness of diabetes.

Please call 800-349-7026, ext. 6673 to schedule an appointment or for more information about our program call ext. 6066.

### Diabetes Facts

#### What is diabetes?

Diabetes is a disease in which the body either fails to produce any insulin (type 1) or the insulin it does produce is unable to adequately trigger the conversion of food into energy (type 2). *What are the symptoms of diabetes?*

- Excessive thirst
- Frequent urination
- Weight loss
- Blurred vision
- Sometimes there are no

## Sweet Talk

By Sharon Passmore, Diabetes Treatment Center

symptoms with type 2 diabetes

*Who is at the greatest risk for developing diabetes?*

- People who:
- Are over 40
  - Are more than 20 percent overweight
  - Do not exercise regularly
  - Have someone in their family with diabetes
  - Are Native American
  - Have given birth to a child weighing more than 9 pounds at birth or weighed over 9 pounds at birth themselves
  - Have had gestational diabetes (diabetes during

- pregnancy)
- Have elevated blood pressure
  - Have an HDL cholesterol level ("good" cholesterol) of 35 mg/dl or lower and/or a triglyceride level of 250 mg/dl or higher
  - Both type 1 and now type 2 diabetes are increasingly being diagnosed in children as well

*What are the long-term complications of diabetes?*

- People with diabetes are two to four more times likely to develop heart disease or have a stroke as non-diabetics
- Diabetes is the leading cause

- of new blindness in adults in the United States
- Diabetes is the leading cause of end-stage kidney disease in the United States
- More than half of the limb amputations in the United States occur among people with diabetes
- About 60-70 percent of the people with diabetes have mild to severe nerve damage

*How can I prevent diabetes?*

You can reduce your risk of diabetes by as much as 50 percent by:

- Making lifestyle modifications:
  - A modest, sustained weight loss
  - 30 minutes of moderate activity for at least three times a week



## Peercy receives IHS award

Mickey Peercy, Director of Tribal Self Governance, recently received the Director's Merit Award from the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service.

Peercy is currently chairman of the Oklahoma City Inter-Tribal Health Board. In this capacity, he was instrumental in establishing a Health Board Office at the Oklahoma City Area IHS Service. He has also been a leader in health issues by serving on numerous workgroups including the Baseline Measures workgroup, Contract Health Service workgroup, and the Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee-Technical workgroup where he served as Tribal Co-chair.

Peercy is the administrative oversight person for the Title VI committee meetings. He also was active in the budget formulation meetings as the technical representative from the Oklahoma area.

He is recognized by his peers and the Choctaw Nation as a leader and has shown his commitment to the provision of quality health care for American Indians throughout Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. His background, experience and versatility have combined to make him an invaluable asset to the Oklahoma area and the Choctaw Nation.

## Ryan is Employee of the Quarter

The Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority has chosen and recognized Joanna Ryan of the Ruben White Clinic in Poteau as "Employee of the Quarter" for the third quarter of 2001. Joanna has worked at the Poteau Clinic since 1995 and is of Choctaw/Cherokee descent.

She attended Poteau High School and is a graduate of the Sparks School of Radiologic Technology. Joanna is a registered radiological technician who has advanced training in pediatric radiography as well as abdominal and breast ultrasound techniques.

Joanna enjoys music, camping, movies and travel. We are very proud of her achievement and recognition as employee of the quarter.

The honor carries with it a \$100 cash award and a plaque which was presented to her earlier by Bob Blum, Administrator, and Reece Sherrill, Assistant Administrator, during a ceremony held at the Poteau Clinic.



## Ace Boring, Inc. is chosen Small Business of the Year

The Oklahoma Native American Business Development Center is very pleased to announce that Wall ACE BORING, Inc. of Talihiina, Oklahoma has been chosen as recipient of the Small Business of the Year Award for 2001.

Gary Wall, president of ACE BORING, has been involved in the telecommunications industry for many years. ACE BORING is a family owned and operated business. Gary and his two sons, Chris Wall and Eli J. Wall, are members of the Choctaw Nation. ACE BORING is an Indian-owned company with minority certification. The company hires and trains many people in the Talihiina area.

Over the years, Gary's close working relationship with Ditch Witch of Tulsa resulted in the company beginning work with horizontal directional drilling units. Experience was gained in rural and metro areas helping to make the company a leader in the installation of single and multiple duct projects. Wall ACE BORING, Inc. now provides turnkey operations in utility construction. Services provided are directional drilling, plowing, trenching, engineering and staking, conduit systems and manhole placement.

The company is currently performing construction activities for Patton Management Corporation on a portion of the installation of a 241-mile, six-duct dual system for AT&T and PF.Net. The work for this project has been divided into three district segments. The central, and largest segment was awarded to ACE BORING. This segment begins near Rockdale, Georgia and ends in Ware Shoals, South Carolina.

## DIABETES EDUCATION MEETINGS

Diabetes Education Meetings are being held at the Choctaw Nation Community Centers to help increase awareness of ways to prevent diabetes, to prevent complications caused by diabetes, and to prevent further complications from occurring.

Everyone is welcome to attend any of the following meetings:

### ANTLERS COMMUNITY CENTER

November 28 at 9:30 a.m.  
December 6 at 9:30 a.m.  
December 20 at 9:30 a.m.

### BETHEL COMMUNITY CENTER

November 20 at 9 a.m.  
December 4 at 9 a.m.  
December 12 at 10 a.m.  
December 18 at 9 a.m.

### BROKEN BOW COMMUNITY CENTER

November 27 at 9 a.m.  
December 11 at 1 p.m.  
December 19 at 10 a.m.

### DURANT - TRIBAL COMPLEX AUDITORIUM

November 29 at 10 a.m.  
December 13 at 10 a.m.  
December 27 at 10 a.m.

### HUGO COMMUNITY CENTER

December 6 at 1 p.m.  
December 20 at 1 p.m.

### IDABEL COMMUNITY CENTER

November 27 at 1 p.m.  
December 11 at 9 a.m.  
December 26 at 9 a.m.

### WRIGHT CITY COMMUNITY CENTER

Pending



## Creston Simpson presented award

Creston Simpson, 18, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clayburn Simpson of Lane, Oklahoma, was presented a Choctaw Nation Award of Honor by Chief Gregory E. Pyle.

An Eagle Scout, Creston first began his scouting career in 1990 as a member of Cub Scout Pack 92 in Atoka. As a Boy Scout, he attended Camp Simpson Boy Scout Camp in 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999. Also in 1998, Creston became a member of Wisawanik Lodge 3190 of the Order of the Arrow. He is now an Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 92. For his Eagle Scout Service Project, Creston removed approximately ten feet of rock partition from the Atoka Youth Center creating an easier access from the main floor to the exit.

He has received numerous other awards including an Achievement Award presented by Atoka Mayor Bill Miller, the Governor's Commendation Award, a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from Congressman Wes Watkins, a Citation of Commendation from Lt. Gov. Mary Fallin, and a Letter of Recognition from U.S. Senator Don Nickles. A 2001 graduate of Atoka High School, Creston is currently employed at Town and Country Market in Atoka.

## Back sleeping is preferred position for infants

Back sleeping is the safest sleep position for your baby and provides the best protection against SIDS. The American Academy of Pediatrics says that back sleeping is the preferred sleep position for your infant.

Until recently, doctors told mothers to place babies on their stomachs to sleep. Research now shows that fewer babies die of SIDS when they sleep on their backs. In fact, before the Back to Sleep campaign began to recommend back sleeping as the best way to reduce SIDS, more than 5,000 babies in the United States died from SIDS every year. But now, as the Back to Sleep message spreads and more babies sleep on their backs, the number of babies who die of SIDS is under 3,000 each year.

Make sure everyone knows to place babies on their backs to sleep. Tell your baby's grandparents, aunts, uncles, child care providers, friends, babysitters and anyone who cares for your baby. Some babies don't like sleeping on their backs at first, but get used to

it quickly. Babies who are on their backs can move their arms and legs and look around more easily.

Many mothers worry that babies sleeping on their backs will choke if they spit up or vomit while sleeping. Because babies automatically swallow or cough up such fluid,

doctors have found no increase in choking or other problems in babies sleeping on their backs. Millions of babies around the world sleep safely on their back.

Another concern of the mothers is their baby getting a "flat spot" on their head while back sleeping. For the most part, a flat spot on the back of the baby's head is a passing condition that goes away a few months after the baby learns to sit up. Tummy time when your baby is awake is one way to reduce flat spots.

Another way to reduce flat spots is to change the direction that your baby lies in the crib. This means that the baby is not always sleeping on the same side of his or her head. If you think your baby has a more serious problem, talk to your doctor or nurse.

## What else can be done to lower the risk of SIDS?

- Place your baby on his or her back to sleep, at nighttime and naptime.
- Place your baby on a firm mattress, such as in a safety-approved crib.
- Remove all fluffy and loose bedding from the sleep area.
- Make sure your baby's head and face stay uncovered during sleep.
- Don't smoke before or after the birth of your baby.
- Don't let your baby overheat during sleep. Too many layers of clothing and blankets can overheat your baby. The baby's room should be at a temperature that is comfortable to an adult.

## Correction

### Florence Spalding among nominees

The name "Florence Spading" in October's "Outstanding elders are honored" was a misspelling. Florence Spalding of Idabel was among the nominees for Outstanding Elder. We apologize to Mrs. Spalding for this and any inconvenience this may have caused.

## National Caregiver's Month

November is National Caregiver's Month. For more information on the Choctaw Nation's caregiving program, please call 580-924-8280 or toll-free 800-522-6170, ext. 2202.



Chief Pyle visits with Melissa Smith and son, Nolen, of Keota.



Grandma Corine Nunn enjoys the Stigler Halloween luncheon with Wilene Nunn and Stormy.



District 5 Councilperson Charlotte Jackson receives a hug from Norma Coleman.

## Stigler



Owen McKibben says "Happy Halloween" everyone!



The Stigler Community Center was the site of good fun and fellowship on October 31.



Billie Maxwell and Ilene Kraush joined in the festivities at Stigler.

## Idabel



Chief Pyle and Council members Perry Thompson, Ted Dosh, Billy Paul Baker, Randle Durant and Charlie Jones attended the Idabel dinner.



Dave Jones enjoys his meal at Idabel's Thanksgiving dinner held November 7 in the Gaming Center.



Wayne Westbrook crafted this clock and presented it as a gift to Chief Pyle at Idabel.

**Living Center** continued from Page 1 — and bath facilities, complete with a stove, refrigerator, carpet, linoleum, and a utility room with washer-dryer hookups. To ensure safety, the entire community is well lighted.

Similar communities for elders to live independently are planned for the areas of Talihina, Durant, McAlester, Poteau, and Hugo.



Admiring the kitchen in one of the homes in the new Idabel Independent Living Community are Amanda James, Mary Carterby and Mary Hardy.



Shannon Mendez gets a flu shot from R.N. Kelly Adams after lunch.



Mary Watson, Helen Impson and Rosie Carnes attended the Idabel Thanksgiving Dinner.



The new modular homes are ready for occupants in the Idabel Independent Living Community.



Citizens join for fellowship and good food at Idabel.

# Atoka



Wanda Calvert and Ruth Laws enjoyed seeing each other during the Atoka dinner.



A large crowd gathered for the Thanksgiving meal at the Choctaw Community Center in Atoka.



Jerai Billy has a big smile for everyone.

## Happy Thanksgiving



Roger Coslow, Nita Jones and Beatrice Butler are having a good time.



Festive Thanksgiving decorations adorn the tables at Atoka including this one shared by Rose Bates and Debra Peters.



Digging in to the great potluck meal are Jack Walker and Clark Bohanon.

# Hugo



A.V. Crows says "Hello!" to all of his family and friends.



Micky Billy entertained during Hugo's festivities.



The Hugo Thanksgiving dinner was a big hit.



Hazel Furr visits with District 8 Councilman Perry Thompson.



Ernestine Rosenthal-Krohn and Chief Gregory E. Pyle discuss issues important to the Choctaw Nation.



Randall Swink and Pat Pyle enjoy having time to visit during the Hugo Thanksgiving dinner.

## Clearance Specials

Prints & T-Shirts 1/2 Price • Items from \$7.50-\$10.00



"Choctaw Pony Herd" by Ron Moore  
Regular Price \$15.00



"As One With The Earth" by Ron Moore  
Regular Price \$15.00



"Cooking" by B.B. Griffith  
Regular Price \$20.00



"Early Morning Hunt" by Norma Howard  
Regular Price \$25.00



"Magnolia" by Peggy Kee  
Regular Price \$15.00



"Playing Stickball" by B.B. Griffith  
Regular Price \$20.00



Indian Artwork T-Shirt  
Assorted Colors  
Regular Price \$15.00



"White Buffalo" by Peggy Kee  
Regular Price \$15.00



Indian Artwork T-Shirt  
Assorted Colors  
Regular Price \$15.00

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PO Box 668, Durant, Oklahoma 74702

## Nela McAlvain Dutton Givens



Nela Givens was born to Walter and Effie McAlvain on July 19, 1916 in Wister, Oklahoma. She passed away on September 29, 2001 in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 85.

Her family moved from the Wister area to Oologah, Oklahoma. While in school there she excelled in the athletic program, especially basketball.

She was preceded in death by both parents, two brothers Polk McAlvain and Ralph McAlvain, and a sister, Ona McAlvain Hill, all of Oologah.

Survivors include her husband, Herald Givens of the home; a son, Jerry Dutton of Skiatook, Oklahoma; a daughter, Janie Fleshier of Plainsboro, New Jersey; four grandchildren, Tony Chronister, Rhonda Jones, Rebecca Lewis and Steve Szczepanik; three stepchildren, Thelma Jean Wynne, Dorothy Pack and Herald Givens, Jr.; several nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends.

## Charley Davis

Charley Davis, 75, passed away June 16, 2001 at Texarkana, Texas. Mr. Davis was born October 12, 1925 in Valliant, Oklahoma.

Survivors include sons, Charles Davis of Dallas, Texas, Cliff Davis of Tyler, Texas and Tommy Davis, Greene Dale Davis and Charley A. Davis, Jr., all of Broken Bow, Oklahoma; daughters, Melba Jean Lilly of Tyler, Helen Ruth Hester of Millerton, Oklahoma and Bobbie Scott of Idabel, Oklahoma; brothers, William Charles of Paris, Texas and Jacob James of Broken Bow; sisters, Betty Baker of Hugo, Oklahoma, Lucille Olive of Bennington, Oklahoma and Norma Aunko of Tulsa, Oklahoma; a special cousin, Annie Mae Willis of Broken Bow; 21 grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.



## Neva Nan Ingram Leytham

Neva Nan Ingram Leytham was born October 29, 1941 in Enid, Oklahoma to J.R. and Mae L. Ball Ingram.

They moved to San Diego, California where she met and married Edward J. Leytham on June 13, 1958. The Leythams moved to Irvington, Alabama in 1963. She worked with handicapped citizens until a near fatal car accident on October 25, 1992 which left her a paraplegic. She lived at home until her death.

Survivors include her husband of 43 years, Edward J. Leytham; a daughter, Cheryl J. Leytham of Irvington; three sons, William E. Leytham, Sr. and wife, Tonia, John W. Leytham and Davy J. Leytham and wife, Toni, all of Irvington; five granddaughters, including two devoted, Sommer Leytham and Stacey Hurst, and five grandsons, including one devoted, William E. Leytham, Jr.; two great-granddaughters; two great-grandsons; two sisters, Rita Fenton of Guymon, Oklahoma and Linda Butler of Grand Bay, Alabama; two aunts, Jo Horne and Jane Cook, both of Holdenville, Oklahoma; an uncle, Kenneth Ball of Phoenix, Arizona, and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

## Mary Frances Brewer

Mary Frances Brewer, 81, great-granddaughter of Benjamin Franklin Smallwood, former Chief of the Choctaw Nation, passed away September 24, 2001 in Payson, Arizona. She was born May 4, 1920 at Atoka, Oklahoma to Lora and Irene McMurtrey.

She married Woodson Lee Brewer on November 29, 1939.

Her parents and two brothers, Guy (Jack) and Claude, and a sister, Ruth Offield, preceded her in death.

Survivors include two sisters, Beatrice Anderson of San Antonio, Texas and Mildred Faulkenberry of Phoenix, Arizona; two sons, Jerry Brewer of Ahwatukee, Arizona and Michael Brewer of Tempe, Arizona; four daughters, Janice Brewer and Dee Falk of Payson, Arizona, Imogene Hale of Christopher Creek, Arizona and Brenda Molloy of Tustin, California; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



## Patsy Ruth Tollett Oglesbee

Patsy Ruth Tollett Oglesbee was born the daughter of L.B. and Carrie Tollett in Non, Oklahoma, where she was raised and attended Non School. She graduated high school at Gerty, Oklahoma and trained as a surgical nurse at the Muskogee General Hospital. She met John Oglesbee in Muskogee and they were married at Denton, Texas on December 25, 1959. She became a full-time homemaker, raising four children and sustaining her husband through medical school and 31 years of medical practice. She was making her home in Grove, Oklahoma when she passed away at Tahlequah, Oklahoma on October 15, 2001.

Patsy was saved in the Missionary Baptist Church at Non and was a faithful Christian all her life. She was a member of the Antioch Missionary Baptist Mission in Carthage, Missouri at the time of her death.

Survivors include her husband, Dr. John Oglesbee of the home; four children, Jonathan Oglesbee and Robin Oglesbee, both of Tahlequah, Patricia Hanks of Lanagan, Missouri and Mary Wood of Lakeview, Washington; her mother, Carrie Tollett of Allen, Oklahoma; two brothers, Bobby Joe Tollett of Holdenville, Oklahoma and Buford Dwayne Tollett of Allen; a sister, Barbara Boyd of Allen; 14 grandchildren, John Adam, Patrick, Nathan, Rebecca, Natalie, Paul, Will, Samantha and Jennifer Oglesbee, Dayton, Gabriel and Autumn Hanks, Zachary and Nicholas Wood; and a host of cousins and other relatives.

## William Ray Pope

William Ray Pope, 71, of Wewoka, Oklahoma passed away Saturday, September 8, 2001 at Holdenville General Hospital. He was born December 31, 1929 in Quinton, Oklahoma to Noel and Judy (Sexton) Pope.

Mr. Pope grew up and was educated in the Quinton area. He entered the U.S. Navy in 1953 and was stationed in Washington. After serving in the Korean War, he was discharged from the Navy and remained in the Washington area for a number of years before moving to Wetumka and then Wewoka in 1996.

Mr. Pope was a resident of the Elmwood Nursing Home in Wewoka. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Paul Pope, Embery Pope, Alfred Pope and Leroy Pope, and sisters, Millie Anderson, Lizzie Janes, Sue Amos and Frances Harrison.

He is survived by one sister, Mattie Starr of Wewoka.

## Isaiah Kaleb Worcester

Isaiah Kaleb "Bayyeah" Worcester was born April 17, 2000 in Ada, Oklahoma to Steven and JoEva Worcester of Ada. He passed away on September 22, 2001.

Bayyeah, at 17 months old, stole the hearts of many people. He was also called "Smiley" for his wonderful smile.

At the tender age of two days he managed to secure the rank of "Boss" at the Worcester home. It had previously been held by brother Elijah Little Bear Worcester.

Bayyeah was well known at the barnyard for his ability to "work chicks." He, along with his FaFa, owned chickens, geese, ducks, guineas and rabbits. He had cheated harm once before when "Special the Goose" attacked him in the barnyard. Out of this he was awarded his "FaFa's Heart" for his bravery in the line of duty.

From the time he started walking until the time of his departure he pursued his lifetime profession of being a farmer. He had planted (spit) many watermelon seeds in the sandbox.

Bayyeah traveled a lot in his life to wonderful places such as Aunt Rena's, Aunt Naa's, Aunt Charlie's, Uncle Roy's, Uncle Frank's and Uncle Lester's. He grew up around MiMi's house and was in the process of being FaFa's neighbor. He had mastered the "Coyote Howl" at a young age and for the first time ever had given his greatest and most memorial word, "Mommma!", the day before his departure.

When Isaiah's heart gave away unexpectedly, he left behind his parents, Steven and JoEva Worcester and brother, Elijah, of the home, and grandparents, Tommy and Sharon Underwood of Ada.

He was preceded in death by a sister, April LaShay Worcester, and grandfather, Tony Worcester.



## Leonard Eli Potts

Leonard Eli Potts, 82, of Tuskahoma, Oklahoma passed away September 26, 2001 in Talihina, Oklahoma. He was born October 1, 1918 in Yanush, Oklahoma to Eli and Rosie Sturgeon Potts. He married Ruth Phillips on October 7, 1940 in Yanush.

Leonard was employed by Oklahoma State Forestry for 20 years and drove a bus for Buffalo Valley School for 23 years. A lifelong resident of the area, he was a member of Tuskahoma Masonic Lodge and the Cupco Freewill Baptist Church. He was active in music ministry.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Carolyn Gail and Calvin Draper of Ft. Worth, Texas; grandchildren, Lyle Draper of West Park, Ohio, Lance Draper and Stacey Draper, both of Ft. Worth, Stephanie Draper Phillips and Jeremy Phillips, both of Azle, Texas; great-grandchildren, Dal Draper, Kurstin Draper, Jacob Draper, Zakary Draper and Malachi Phillips; two brothers, Melford Potts of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Jewett Potts of Talihina; a sister, Lola Vern Kirkes of Hydro, Oklahoma, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

## Oren LeeRoy Crawford

Oren LeeRoy Crawford, 51, of Shawnee, Oklahoma passed away October 28, 2001. He was born July 29, 1950 in Oklahoma City to Oren and Thelma Geneva Crawford.

Following his high school attendance at Northeast High School in Oklahoma City, Oren attended Northeastern Oklahoma A&M in Miami and obtained his degree in electrical power. He earned his BS degree in education from Oklahoma State University.

After having proudly served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps during Vietnam, he earned the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Campaign Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon. He was honorably discharged on May 27, 1970.

Oren was employed for several years by the State of Oklahoma and was an active member of the Choctaw Nation and the Tulsa D.A.V. In his spare time, he was an avid deer hunter and the world's best fisherman. Our loving husband, father, grandfather and friend will be dearly missed by every life he touched.

He was preceded in death by his father, sister, Sandra Arlene Farmer, and brother-in-law, Charles Stephen Blue.

Survivors include his loving wife, Donita Fae Crawford; son, Oren LeeRoy Crawford, Jr. and wife, Tia; stepdaughter, Desiree Kay Moore; stepson, Dax Gene Moore; mother, Thelma Geneva Crawford; sisters, Tammy Rundell and husband, Alan, and Carol Blue; brothers, Carl Crawford and wife, Annie, and James Crawford and wife, Wilma; grandchild, Kimberly Dawn; nieces and nephews, Geneva Rundell, Paula Jean Houston, Jamie Kay O'Donnell, Terry Wayne Deal, Dawn Farmer, Amy Crawford, Kevin Lee Crawford and Kimberly Shaffner, and numerous friends and associates.

## Vina Allen Thorne

Vina Allen Thorne, 85, passed away September 29, 2001. She was born November 5, 1915 in Howe, Oklahoma to Sam Allen, Sr. and Mary Goeskey Allen. She was a member of Poteau Pentecostal Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joe Thorne; parents; brother, John Allen, and two sisters, Ada Robinson and Leona Harrison.

Survivors include two daughters, Carmel Dial of Delhi, California and Shirley Morrow of Wister, Oklahoma; two sisters, Verna Hughes and Wanda James, both of Poteau; a brother, Samuel J. Allen, Jr. of Poteau; 10 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, 24 great-great-grandchildren, two great-great-great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

## Rhonda Laverne Lewis Peters

Rhonda Laverne Lewis Peters, 42, of Oklahoma City passed away Friday, October 12, 2001 at Presbyterian Hospital in Oklahoma City. She was born June 23, 1959 at Talihina, Oklahoma, the daughter of Randal and Esther Lewis.

She resided in Oklahoma City most of her life and worked at Hutchison Products. Rhonda enjoyed traveling and spending time with her family and friends. She was of the Presbyterian faith.

Her parents, two brothers and a grandson preceded her in death.

Survivors include a son and grandson, Nicholas Peters and Kevin Bohanon, both of the home; four daughters, Renesa Bohanon of Juarez, Mexico, Kelly Bohanon of Tulsa, Jody Maytubbi of Midwest City and Heather Peters of Oklahoma City; six brothers, Marvin Lewis of Ardmore, Oklahoma, Virgil Lewis of Clarksville, Arkansas, Nathan Lewis of Idabel, Oklahoma, Daniel Lewis and Matthew Lewis, both of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and Ronald Lewis of Oklahoma City; five sisters, Rita Watson, Athaline Lewis and Regina Flanagan, all of Broken Bow, and Thelma Smith and Doris Lewis, both of Oklahoma City; two very special friends, Will Pewo and Clarice Larney, both of Oklahoma City; eleven grandchildren; several nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.

## Lequita "Keet" Hampton Sanders

Lequita "Keet" Belline Hampton Sanders, 67, of Longview, Texas passed away October 6, 2001. She was born August 31, 1934 in Ada, Oklahoma to Collen and Jessie Wylie Hampton.

Keet grew up in rural Oklahoma and attended school at Byng. She retired to Longview with her husband, U.S. Air Force MSgt. Bobby Joe Sanders, in 1976.

She was well loved by many people in the area, especially by her family and close friends. Keet was a bowling coach for many area youth and encouraged many adults to share her love of the sport through her time with Longview Lanes as the league coordinator. Everyone who met her was touched by her genuine concern and love for life.

Survivors include her husband of 42 years, Bob Sanders; sons, Aubrey Russell Staggs and wife, Tabby, of Clinton, Oklahoma and Robert Kyle Sanders and wife, Judi, of Flower Mound, Texas; daughters, Rebecca Lynn Staggs Feller and husband, Rick, of White Oak, Texas and Kyra Colleen Sanders of Ozark, Arkansas and her fiancé, Brian Thomas; sisters, Anna Leota Savoie of Ada, Jean Gunter of Benton, Louisiana and Patricia Cowart and husband, Danny, of Wann, Oklahoma, and brother, Hershell Hampton and wife, Donna, of Freeport, Texas. Keet enjoyed sharing in the lives of her grandsons, Chris and Travis Staggs of Oklahoma, Joshua and Brian Feller of White Oak, Texas and Aaron Reilly Harper of Rogers, Arkansas.

Her parents, a brother, Benny Hampton, and sisters, Avanelle Barnett and Juanita Brandon, preceded her in death.



## Bill Eeds

Bill Eeds, 80, of Apache, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, August 26, 2001. He was born January 4, 1921 in Durant, Oklahoma. He married Donna Warner on February 3, 1946 in Apache.

Mr. Eeds served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and flew 30 missions in the European Theater. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and the Good Conduct Medal.

He was employed by Southern Airways as a helicopter mechanic and supervisor until he retired in 1977, when he moved to Apache from Mineral Wells, Texas. He was a member of the First Christian Church of Apache. He was an avid fisherman.

Survivors include his wife of the home; three daughters, Sherry Robertson of Okmulgee; DeeDee Maynard of Eastland, Texas; Gail Martinson of Lawton, Oklahoma; four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and a brother, Gene Eeds of Ardmore.



## Jimmy Carl Queen

Jimmy Carl Queen, 69, passed away October 22, 2001 in El Reno, Oklahoma. He was born October 4, 1932 in Lovings, Oklahoma.

He and his daughter were in the real estate business, American Dream Real Estate, Inc. in El Reno.

Survivors include his wife, Lee; daughters, Carolyn, Diane, Loveda Sue Norton and Carla Lee; sisters Emma Ruth Carnes of Watsonville, California and Janize Dags of Hartford, Arkansas; brothers, Vester Queen of Hodgen, Oklahoma and Wayne Queen of Placeville, California.

## Helen Jean McMillan

Helen Jean McMillan, 76, of Foreman, Arkansas passed away October 22, 2001 in Texarkana, Texas. She was born March 4, 1925 in Boswell, Oklahoma and was a Baptist.

Survivors include her husband, E.L. "Spike" McMillan of Foreman; two sons, Bill McMillan of Foreman and Larry McMillan of Stockhand, California; three daughters, Jerry Daughette of Illinois, Sherry Wilkins of San Jose, California, and Lyndia Porcaro of Ashdown; one sister, Easter Capeheart of Foreman; 13 grandchildren and 16 great-great-grandchildren.

## Anthony Wayne Phillips

Anthony Wayne Phillips, 61, passed away September 28, 2001 in Torrance, California. He was born September 15, 1940 in Boswell, Oklahoma to Custer G. and Alma Jacobs Phillips.

Mr. Phillips was a machinist in the aerospace industry, working for McDonald Douglas for 17 years.

Survivors include daughters, Lucinda Phillips, Lucretia Phillips, Edith Trujillo and Mary E. Standefer; his mother, Alma Phillips; sisters, Leona Vaughn, Marline Lawson, Christine James and Janet Phillips; brothers, Roger Phillips and Eugene Phillips; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The Phillips family would like to acknowledge with grateful appreciation the kind expressions of sympathy they received. Thank you to the CHRs for the food, to the Choctaw Color Guard for the memorial services, to the Rev. Goodwin and his wife, Gleades, for the eulogy, to Josephine Wisenhunt and Wilson Burtis for singing the hymns and to Lila Kemp for playing the piano.

We would like to thank these people for their loving works and all of their help. From our hearts, thank you - The Phillips Family.

## Elizabeth "Betty" Sue Pitzer

Elizabeth "Betty" Sue Pitzer was born August 17, 1923 in Purcell, Oklahoma, a unique blend of French and Choctaw by her parents, Albert Francis and Marie Lee Boudreau.

Raised a special child, an apple of Dad's eye, Betty grew to become an accomplished watercolor artist and especially enjoyed landscape painting. She enriched her family with her love of music, dancing and art. She loved the changing holiday seasons and delighted in entertaining her family with piano and organ music, colorful decorations and costumes.

Betty worked for many years in credit departments for Peyton Marcus, Margo's LaMode, Sears and Union Bank, where she retired as a bank officer. She was a member of the Credit Women's Group of the National Association of Credit Management. She was a faithful member of Pennsylvania Avenue Christian Church for over 30 years and embraced the love of her extended church family.

Her husband of 59 years, Marvin Earl Pitzer, remained steadfast at her side.

Survivors include her mother, Marie; husband, Earl; daughter and son-in-law, Carole and Don Ayers; son and daughter-in-law, Albert Earl and Jean Pitzer; grandchildren, Steve and Cindy Ayers Larby, Greg and Stacy Ayers Pierce, Mark and Julie Ayers, Don and Connie Ayers, Clint and Jill Pitzer and Adrienne Pitzer; great-grandchildren, Daniel, Aaron, Carole Ann, Weston and Jimmy Wilson, Dylon Davis, Cecelia and Jackson Pierce, Amanda, Amelia and Elora Ayers and Anna Elizabeth and Caroline Pitzer.