



BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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October 2001 Issue



Chief Gregory E. Pyle presents plaques to the two Outstanding Choctaw Elders of 2001, Bill Amos and Juanita Jefferson.



Council authorizes donation to victims

Choctaw Tribal Councilmembers met in special session on September 19 to consider several Council Bills including one to aid victims of the September 11 tragedies. The approved bill allocates \$20,000 from Gaming and General Funds to assist the many victims and family members of victims affected by the Attack on America.

Other bills approved included:
• Authorizing Choctaw Management Development Corporation, a SBA certified 8(a) corporation, to obtain financing not to exceed \$750,000.

• Employment of water study specialists if needed to aid in negotiations with the State of Oklahoma over water rights in southeast and southern Oklahoma.

• Mechanical site preparation on tribal land near Hartshorne and Tuskahoma.

In regular session on October 13, Councilmembers approved the purchase of six new buses for the Head Start Program.

The Choctaw Nation will match the \$122,673 provided by the Administration for Children, Youth and Families/HSB/AIPB for the purchase of the buses with
See COUNCIL on Page 3

Tribe raises over \$71,000

Chief Gregory E. Pyle has announced that the Choctaw Nation has raised over \$71,000 to contribute to the victims and families of those affected by the tragedies of September 11, 2001.

All travel plazas owned and operated by the tribe donated 100% of their profits from gasoline and diesel sales for one week, raising \$20,884.15.

Choctaw Nation Gaming centers played special games, earning \$10,000 in proceeds to go toward disaster relief, employees made personal donations totalling about \$9,389.74, CM/SE donated \$10,000, Choctaw Racing donated \$1,500, and the Tribal Council and Chief agreed to allocate \$20,000 of tribal funds to assist with the relief effort. This is a total of \$71,773.89.

"God has blessed our tribe with the ability to sponsor these fundraising efforts, and I pray that He will bless America and its citizens," said Chief Pyle.

Outstanding elders are honored

Outstanding Choctaw elders were honored at a banquet held at the Choctaw Inn at Durant. Chief Gregory E. Pyle presented awards to those selected as Outstanding Elders for the years 1999, 2000 and 2001. He also gave awards of recognition to the nominees.

Nominations are based on all Nutrition Centers having the opportunity to select people to represent their respective Districts. Once the nominations are received, a committee is formed to review all biographies and make the final selections.

The 1999 Outstanding Elder is

Randle Durant of District #6. He is a Tribal Council member and a veteran of World War II. He earned numerous awards and honors while in the service, and later worked for the Indian Health Service.

The Outstanding Choctaw Elders for 2000 were Bertram Bobb of District #7 and Judith Perry of District #8.

Rev. Bobb is a Navy veteran of World War II, being honored with numerous awards. He is the founder of Christian Indian Ministries, Inc., and currently serves as the Choctaw Nation Chaplain.

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Bobb is a former Tribal Councilperson for Pushmataha County. Ms. Perry lives in District #8, and is the volunteer site coordinator for the District #9 Senior Citizen Program. She has been employed with the tribe for 24 years and drives to Durant each day from her hometown of Boswell. She is a charter member of the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging and is also active in the Salvation Army and United Way.

Bill Amos of District #1 and Juanita Jefferson of District #3

were chosen for the year 2001. Amos is a World War II and Vietnam veteran, and is retired from Tinker Field with 30 years of service.

He is now employed at the Choctaw Nation Travel Plaza in Broken Bow and says he enjoys sharing his garden with his elderly neighbors.

Jefferson currently serves as a Tribal Judge and is chairperson of the Choctaw Health Care Authority. She retired after 30 years of service with Indian Health Service.

Jefferson has received many
See ELDERS on Page 3

EOSC hosts annual GED graduation

Chief Gregory E. Pyle offered congratulations to the 84 GED graduates of the Choctaw Nation-sponsored program this year. Ceremonies were held at Eastern Oklahoma State College (EOSC) in Wilburton to mark the tremendous accomplishment of passing their GED course.

"The Adult Education program set a new record in numbers of graduates this year," said Director Linda Tyler. She praised the students and also thanked the GED instructors, Jodie Dunn and Charles Thompson, for their hard work and dedication.

Chief Pyle told the graduates that he personally was proud of their accomplishments. "The Choctaw Nation is behind each of you who wishes to further your education," he said. Programs that he mentioned that could provide assistance in seeking a higher education included the scholarship program and the clothing allowance program.

In addition to the services provided by the Choctaw Nation that can help make it possible to receive an education, Dr. Rhymer, Presi-

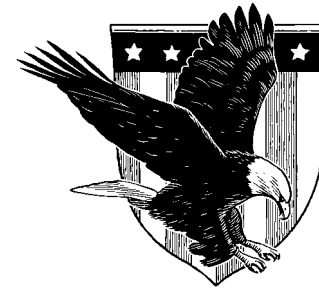
dent of EOSC announced that a special perk is also offered to the GED graduates from his college. "A one thousand dollar scholarship will be given to any of you who want to attend EOSC."

There are four on-going GED classes during the year. Each class lasts approximately 13 weeks, with emphasis placed on writing, grammar and math. Students who need extra help are provided a tutor in areas needed.

Those students who have dropped out of school have now been given the opportunity to pick up and move on with their lives. A high school education can make a tremendous difference. The Choctaw Nation Adult Education Program has given many students a chance to literally change their lives and to move on to better jobs or a higher level of learning.

"Thanks are extended to Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey and the Tribal Council for backing the Adult Education program and these students," said Education Executive Director Joy Culbreath.

See GRADUATION on Page 8



Veterans Ceremony planned

Choctaw veterans will be honored on Saturday, November 10 at Tushka Homma with a ceremony and lunch. Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Major General Leroy Sisco are among the speakers on the agenda for the program that will begin at 11 a.m. at the Choctaw War Memorial.

All veterans who have submitted their photograph and/or information regarding their time in the service will be featured in a special book that has been published by the tribe to document their individual stories.

Chief Pyle said that he looked forward to the event each year and enjoyed meeting all of the men and women who had dedicated a part of their lives to protecting the nation. "The Choctaws have a tremendous history of willing service to their country," said Chief Pyle. "I am humbled and honored to be in the presence of so many of our tribal heroes during the annual veterans ceremony."

The ceremony will be kicked off with the posting of the colors by the Choctaw Honor Guard and will feature a 21-gun salute at the war memorial that is engraved with the names of Choctaws who were killed in action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

Choctaw to carry Olympic Torch

The Salt Lake Organizing Committee (SLOC), Coca-Cola and Chevrolet have revealed that Choctaw tribal member Presley Byington of Idabel, Oklahoma will be among torchbearers selected to carry the Olympic Flame on its 65-day, 13,500-mile journey from Atlanta, Georgia to Salt Lake City. According to SLOC President Mitt Romney, "The relay will be a celebration of humanity and civilization and all 11,500 torchbearers will represent the best of our nation."

Torchbearers were nominated by family members, friends or co-workers by writing an essay describing how the nominee embodied the Olympic spirit and inspired an individual or a community. Presley Byington, a firefighter, was nominated last Spring by Dona Henderson, an employee of the U.S. Forest Service.

Henderson's nominating essay reads as follows: "Presley is a Professional Wildland Firefighter. He was injured in August 2000 fighting a wildland fire near Thermopolis, Wyoming. He recovered but unfortunately his partner, Jim Burnett, did not.

"He honors his Native American heritage by carving Choctaw Courting Flutes. Because of the injuries he received, it was doubtful he could still play his beautiful flutes. Thankfully, he has recovered enough to make the flutes sing.

"He is one of those people who always 'steps up to the plate.' "We ask this (the honor of him being a torchbearer) to show him how much we appreciate his dedication and to acknowledge what it has cost him personally."

"Congratulations to Presley on being chosen as a torchbearer for the upcoming Olympics," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "I hope to be among those cheering him on during his run in December."

The Olympic Flame will be lit during a ceremony in Olympia, Greece before traveling to Atlanta - where the flame last rested on American soil - and starting its cross-country journey through 46 states on December 4, 2001. An average of 180 torchbearers per day will carry the flame approximately two-tenths of a mile. Information released by the SLOC indicates that Presley will carry the torch either December 13 or 14, 2001.

Walk for diabetes awareness on November 7

The Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina is hosting the fourth annual Walk/Run for Diabetes Awareness on Wednesday, November 7. Two races will be held that day, first at 2 p.m. and again at 4:30.

Starting at the hospital, participants will walk or run a course of two miles. Each person entering will receive a small prize. First, second and third place runners and walkers will win a T-shirt! Refreshments will be

served to race participants.

November is Diabetes Awareness Month in America. The Diabetes Treatment Center and Health Education Department at CNHCC have been active in promoting diabetes awareness activities in the past and this year is no exception.

While at the Walk, Native Americans of all ages and their family members can also sign up to participate in the CNHCC REACH program.

REACH - Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health - is a federally funded program. The goal of REACH is to decrease the incidence of diabetes and heart disease in Native Americans. Promotion of and access to physical activity and a healthy lifestyle are the main ways REACH achieves its goals.

Complete information about REACH and registration opportunities will be available at the

Walk/Run or you can call the Health Education Office at the hospital, 918-567-7000. Persons signing up for the REACH program will also receive small gifts.

Walk registration starts at 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the flagpole. Whether you get in the race or just want to cheer us on, come out and support Diabetes Awareness Month at CNHCC!

In case of rain, the event will be held at the same times on November 8.



Ground-breaking held for Crowder Community Center

"The Choctaw Nation is proud to have selected a site to construct a nice center for the elderly in this area," said Assistant Chief Mike Bailey at the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Crowder Choctaw Community Center.

"It is a pleasure to be here as we break ground," said Councilman James Frazier. He complimented the senior citizens throughout his district for their support and efforts to make the Choctaw programs in

their area a success.

"The dedication of the Chief and Council is shown by the commitment of both to Choctaws everywhere," said Bailey.

"We wanted to make sure the Choctaws in the northern area of District 12 have a nice place to meet," said Chief Pyle. Construction on the Crowder site is under way and senior citizens in Spiro and Smithville are also slated to have their own centers built in the near future.

Programs help attain goal

Dear Chief Pyle,

I am writing this letter to thank the Choctaw Nation for all the help that I received while I went to college to receive my associates degree in nursing. Returning to school to finish my education had been a goal and dream of mine for years. However, with the financial strain that I anticipated to go along with the expense of school costs, I held my dream back. In February 1999, I became a single mother. It was then I realized that I needed to not only return to school to fulfill a goal but to also educate myself in order to be able to support my family.

I turned to the Choctaw Nation to see if there would be any programs that may help with tuition and school expenses. I was greeted with compassionate hearts that were truly excited for my quest for an education. The director of Higher Education not only helped in seeking educational support, he also pointed me in the right direction to other programs to help with other financial demands that would need to be met while I would be in school. I wanted my college experience to be a successful one so I was excited to see that no one sent me on futile searches for funding elsewhere.

I found that there were enough programs and funds available to me that I did not have to work while in school. I was able to devote time to my studies and my family with equal enthusiasm. I graduated in May from Eastern Oklahoma State College and I am very excited about my bright new future. My long-time goal and dream has been fulfilled thanks to all the people who worked so hard to help me reach the end of a long journey. I am very grateful that there were such wonderful programs provided to me by the Choctaw Nation and I strongly urge anyone else with such dreams to utilize these programs, too. Thank you and God bless.

Suzanne Deichler
McAlester, Oklahoma

This year's festival "the best"

Dear Labor Day organizers, staff, workers, etc.,

Every year it seems you outdo the year before, but this year you really, truly did "the best" with the addition of the Indian Village, the Choctaw wedding and dancers. A lot of us need and want to know more about our heritage and what a way to learn - seeing the events. The work and effort the players put into it was a nice way of feeling part of my heritage. Thank each and every one of them.

There seems to be more interest in learning the Choctaw language and the staff has a lot of materials, classes, and more set up for this.

The entertainment was great as usual. I especially enjoyed T.G. Sheppard. He's really a part of the festival. Keep up the great work and get lots of rest for next year's event. Thank you!

Jon Wayland
Haileyville, Oklahoma

Grateful for much-needed assistance

Dear Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey, Tribal Council and the Choctaw Nation,

I am writing to tell you how much I appreciate and thank you so very much for helping me in my time of need. I needed dental work done and I didn't have the funds to do it. I will be forever grateful.

I'm so proud of my heritage, so proud of the Choctaw Nation and all of the things that are being accomplished.

I also want to compliment those who work there. Every time I call whoever I talk to is so very polite, kind and informative. That is appreciated, too.

Thank you so much.

Betty Griffith
Vale, Oregon

Seeking Ford-Wilkinson relatives

Dear Editor,

I am trying to locate anyone who may know relatives of my grandparents. We will be celebrating the 30th reunion in August 2002. The following information is all we have.

Grandfather, William Walter Ford, born October 7, 1883 in Keota, Oklahoma to Zack Taylor Ford and Victoria Elizabeth Pearson. His siblings: Riley Ford and wife Dela, father remarried to Dawn and they had the following children, Beulah Ford, born 1902 in Haskell County, and Eunice Ford, born 1904 in Haskell County.

Grandmother, Mattie Carmen Wilkinson, born November 11, 1891 in Stigler, Pittsburg County, Oklahoma to Charles Taylor Wilkinson and Letty E. Compton (born November 22, 1860 in Booneville, Arkansas; Clay Wilkinsons, born June 12, 1880, Booneville, Logan County, Arkansas.

Jessie P. Daniel
12085 Lake Forest Dr.
Splendora, TX 77372
(281) 399-2753; e-mail Pdude1934@aol.com

Deadline for submitting articles to be considered for publication in the BISHINIK is the first of each month for that month's edition. Please include an address and phone number. If you have submitted a photograph, please include your name and address on the back of the photograph so it may be returned to you.

<p>Gregory E. Pyle <i>Chief</i></p>	<p>The Official Monthly Publication of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma</p> <p>Judy Allen, Editor Lisa Reed, Assistant Editor Vonna Shults, Special Assistant Brenda Wilson, Technical Assistant Kim Eberl, Webmaster Melissa Stevens, Circulation Manager</p> <p>P.O. Drawer 1210 Durant, OK 74702 (580) 924-8280 • (800) 522-6170 Fax (580) 924-4148 www.choctawnation.com e-mail: bishinik@choctawnation.com</p>	<p>Mike Bailey <i>Assistant Chief</i></p>
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The BISHINIK is printed each month as a service to Tribal Members. The BISHINIK reserves the right to edit submitted material which it finds inaccurate, profane, offensive or morally unacceptable. Copy may be edited for proper grammar and punctuation. Copy will be accepted in any readable form, but where possible, it is requested that material be typewritten and double spaced. You must include an address or phone number where you may be reached.

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

The BISHINIK is a nonprofit publication of the Choctaw Nation. Circulation is monthly.



Pictured from left, Coach Steve Phillips, Sarah Phillips, Shauna Williams, Kristin Head, Robin Colbert, Tesla Morris, Sam Colbert, Twauna Williams, Ashlin Hensley, Courtney Pollard, Andrea Hilderbrand, Tiffany Rowland, Coach Wade and Coach Carrie Routh.

Dixie Debs play in World Series

Dear Chief Pyle,

We would like to thank you and your staff for providing our transportation to South Carolina to play in the World Series. Some of us had never been any farther than Arkansas, so we got to see a lot of beautiful country.

The trip would not have been possible without your help. It was an experience I'm sure none of us will ever forget.

We would also like to thank Doyle and Johnny, our bus drivers, for making the trip so pleasant.

The Dixie Debs
Arkansas State Champs

Traditional designs and diagrams needed

Dear Editor,

Accomplished beader is seeking information pertaining to traditional Choctaw ornamental designs and diagrams. Also, I would like to hear from anyone who is into creating Native American items. I will exchange bead work for genuine help. Thank you.

Randy Simpson 129190
L.C.F. 8607 S.E. Flower Mound Rd.
Lawton, OK 73501

Desires to know more of heritage

Dear Editor,

My father's name is John R. Baker. I believe his birthdate is September 22, 1944. He has a brother that is a pastor for a church in Sand Springs.

I am enrolled in the Choctaw Nation but other than that and what little information I have described, I know nothing of my heritage.

I would appreciate any information that anyone could give me on the family that I haven't known for the last 23 years. Thank you very much.

Robyn (Dobbins) Rankin
28417 E. 140th St.
Coweta, OK 74429

Family receives help after losing home

Dear Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma,

Words cannot express how much I appreciate the Choctaw Nation for the help they gave my son and I after we lost our home to a house fire on July 29, 2001. Thanks to the tremendous response you gave us when we asked for your help, we are finally settled in a new home. We still miss our old home and we will always cherish the memories. We also will not forget how the Choctaw Nation gave us a great deal of help to start over at a time when we really needed it. At a time when we didn't know who to turn to, you were right there for us as you are for many people in and outside of the community.

I have the utmost respect for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. I hope you know what a great part you play in so many people's lives and we appreciate everything you do. Thank you so much!

Jodie and Seth Maytubbie
Midwest City, Oklahoma



Scholarship helps student attend OU

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the Choctaw Nation, the Tribal Council and the Department of Higher Education for providing me with a scholarship for the past two years at Carl Albert State College where I received an Associate of Arts degree. I'm proud to say that I will be furthering my education at the

University of Oklahoma where I will be pursuing a major in Health and Sport Sciences.

It's been my dream to attend the University of Oklahoma and now with the help of the Choctaw Nation, it is possible for my dream to come true. So once again, thank you very much.

Melissa Gore
Poteau, Oklahoma

Seeking heirs of Frances Eugenia Moore

Dear Editor,

Frances Eugenia Moore, who was of Choctaw descent, died in 1999 leaving a probate estate to be divided among her heirs at law. She was the granddaughter of Jackson McCurtain and his wife, Jane Austin. Jackson McCurtain was an early day Chief of the Choctaw Nation. I need information about the descendants of that marriage which may include Warren Edward Hurd, Eliza McCurtain and Cleopatra McCurtain.

Jackson McCurtain was also married to Marie Reilly. I also need information about the descendants of that marriage which include Brunetta Hampton and Josephine Wilmouth.

Frances Eugenia Moore was also the granddaughter of Lyman Moore, Sr. and Frances Eugenia McClain. I have knowledge of these descendants.

Lyman Moore, Sr. was also married to Jenny Annesly. I need to contact the living descendants of that marriage which includes the living descendants of Charles Frank Moore, whose children include Henry Moore, Virgil Moore, Mattie Moore, Susan Moore and Ella Moore. These folks at one time lived in the McAlester area.

The descendants of the Lyman Moore, Sr. marriage to Jenny Annesly also include Ella Barnett who had the following children: Cornelia Barnett, Brunetta Barnett, Irvin Barnett, Clifford Moore Barnett, James Barnett and Frank Lyman Barnett. Frank Lyman Barnett had a daughter named Dorothy Barnett.

If you have any knowledge of the above persons or their descendants, please contact me.

Robert Manke,
Personal Representative of Frances Eugenia Moore
2810 Haskell Blvd.
Muskogee, OK 74403
918-686-9101

Endeavoring to find grandparents

Dear Editor,

I am trying to find the whereabouts of my grandparents. I believe their names are Martha Simon Shockley (full-blood Choctaw) and Marion Franklin Shockley. I would appreciate any assistance in the matter. Thank you.

Daniel Shockley Jr. #770844
Ellis One Unit L4-84
F.M. 980
Huntsville, TX 77343-0001



Tribe's support of education appreciated

Dear Editor,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Choctaw Nation for its wonderful support of the young men and women of this great tribe through the Higher Education grants and scholarship program. Our son, Jacob Jones, is one such recipient and you, the Choctaw Nation, have helped open doors of opportunity for him and others through this program and should take great pride in these accomplishments. Jacob is attending Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa where he is majoring in biology. His long-term goal is to be a doctor of anesthesiology.

Jacob was an honor student his entire high school career in Mesquite, Texas and graduated with a 3.39 grade point average, 73rd in his class of 615. While in high school, Jacob was a member of Who's Who of American High School Students, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Calculus Club, and the Honors Program. Jacob is most proud of his affiliation with the Community of Christ Church and the Choctaw Nation.

While Jacob was very successful in the Academic Arena in high school, he also excelled in athletics where he lettered in football and baseball his junior and senior years. Jacob now takes these high school accomplishments to the next level with the help of the Choctaw Nation.

He continues his trek as he has signed with Graceland University to play football and baseball. We are very proud parents of Jacob and also very proud of our tribal affiliation with the Choctaw Nation. We salute you and thank you from the depths of our hearts.

Phillip and Sherri Jones
Mesquite, Texas

The best festival ever

Dear Editor,

They came and just kept coming up to Saturday night. It was estimated that there were 50,000 people there that day and night. The largest crowd to ever assemble at the Choctaw Council House at Muskogee, Oklahoma, September 2, 2001.

To Chief Pyle and Assistant Chief Bailey, the Tribal Council, the supervisors and a host of dedicated employees, we say thanks for supporting the best meeting ever.

Believe you me it took some preliminary planning to be able to accommodate a gathering of this magnitude. Did you notice the courtesy shown as you entered and exited the area? The absence of intoxicants? The manicured campus? The dress and politeness of the enforcement personnel? The availability of the first aid and the fire protection crew? The cleanliness of the kitchen and cafeteria area?

We tip our hats to the boys and girls club and the Housing Authority personnel, all under the leadership of Mr. Smith, for a well-planned noon meal served to about 3,500 people in one hour and fifteen minutes.

This gathering was very important to the young Americans that participated. Working with people they acquire knowledge whereby communication and navigation are parallel. These young people, as they return to their domicile, will have a much better and broader peripheral vision of present and future objectives.

The participants of this successful event, I feel confident, were selected for their attitudes, realizing most skills will be congruent to most present or latent endeavors.

Choctaws, this is your home here at Tushka Homma. Please come again, the sooner the better.

Mutt Standefers
Tuskahoma, Oklahoma

Hospital staff is helpful, professional

Dear Editor,

I recently visited the new hospital at Talihiina as a patient. My doctor was Marcia Matthews and the nurse was Martina. They were both very helpful and professional. I have utilized a variety of Indian facilities and programs and have often found that services provided to American Indians have been standard. I want to commend the leadership and commitment of Choctaw Nation for the difference I have seen take place in the last few years.

My brother and I travel from Dallas, Texas to Choctaw Nation to receive our healthcare. Even though we are employed, we do not have adequate insurance coverage for our conditions. He has fungal meningitis, a complication from diabetes, and I am expecting a baby in February.

The nurse, Martina, also informed me of the hospitality house which is of great benefit for me. It makes my visits less complicated and I have a chance to rest. The hospitality staff is so nice.

I appreciate not only the services, but the level of quality to which I have been served. It makes me very proud to know that we are taking care of our people once again. Thank you.

Nancy Anne Benton-Smith

Aid in disaster relief commended

Dear Chief Pyle,

This letter is to commend you and the Choctaw Nation for your recent announcement to direct all profits beginning Monday, September 24 through September 28 from fuel sales and certain gaming proceeds toward disaster relief in New York and Washington, D.C. The people who lost their lives cannot be replaced but their families will be able to benefit tremendously from contributions such as yours, for the cause of helping our fellow man.

I know your contributions and prayers will go a long way in helping the families of the victims and individuals who lost their lives to this world tragedy.

God bless you and your generous Nation.

Tommy Thompson, Executive Director
Native American Cultural & Educational Authority



From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Choctaw Nation extends efforts to aid in America's healing

I write to you on a much more somber note than just one month ago – a few days after I wrote my last article, the tragedies of September 11th were broadcast to all of us. The flags of our Country, State and Tribe are clearly visible from the windows of my office, and each day as I saw them waving at half-staff I gave thought to those who were working valiantly to recover persons in New York and I also felt great empathy for the victims and families of those who were directly affected by the incidents in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

The Choctaw Nation immediately began planning on ways that we could offer more than just our sympathy.

We wanted to be active in the recovery effort. Blood drives were organized and unique fundraisers were initiated. More than \$71,000 was raised by these efforts.

All of the Choctaw Nation Travel Plazas donated 100% of their gasoline and diesel profits for one week, raising \$20,884.15. Choctaw Gaming Centers sponsored special games, earning \$10,000, Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise donated \$10,000, Choctaw Racing Services donated \$1,500, tribal employees made personal contributions totaling about \$9,389 and a Council Bill was approved to allocate \$20,000 to assist with the relief effort.

We are very thankful that the Choctaw Nation has been blessed with the ability to sponsor these fundraising efforts, and trust that the funds will be used to provide for some of the most desperate needs that have been provoked by this act of terrorism.

2 Chronicles 7:14 says: "If my people which are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land."

The Assistant Chief, Council and I offer our prayers that America will be blessed and healed.

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

Repatriation of ancestor's remains a meaningful event for Choctaw Nation



I was privileged to witness a solemn event on October 13th – the repatriation of the remains of one of our ancestors.

The repatriation of the human skeleton, which was unfortunately once on display at an Oklahoma museum site, is made even more meaningful after seeing the telecasts on the impossibility of recovering thousands of bodies at the New York City Twin Towers. Families of these victims are agonizing not only over the deaths of their loved ones, but the failure to have remains to put to rest.

The Choctaw Nation is appreciative of the opportunity to put to rest this Choctaw man, thought to have died in the 1830s, although his identity is unknown. His permanent grave site is in an undisclosed location so that he may remain undisturbed for the centuries to come.

A funeral procession, and services led by a Choctaw minister, paid honor to this person who would have traveled the Trail of Tears from his original homeland in Mississippi. We may never know his personal story or who his family was, what he left behind, or what he experienced after his relocation to Indian Territory. We do know, however, that as a Choctaw man, he is a tribal ancestor.

Albert Schweitzer once said, "In the last analysis, the commandment of love means this: no one is a stranger to you; every man's welfare is your concern." The Choctaw Nation was proud to show respect to this stranger from our past.



A solemn procession escorts the repatriated remains of a Choctaw man who died in 1838 to a funeral ceremony at Tushka Homma.

Choctaw warrior first to be reburied on Tribal land

It was a day of sadness and a day of joy as we honored one of our ancestors.

Choctaws gathered at Tushka Homma on Saturday, October 13 to pay respect to a Choctaw man who has been returned to his native land 163 years after his death.

Notified of the remains which had been put in storage, Terry Cole and Olin Williams, members of the Choctaw Nation's Cultural Resources department, began the process of bringing him home 14 months ago.

Documents show that the Choctaw man, a warrior, died in 1838 shortly after walking the Trail of Tears from Mississippi. He was removed from his grave one-half mile south of Ft. Coffey

in LeFlore County on June 6, 1939. The act was not believed to be deliberate, but he was donated to the Woolaroc Museum in Bartlesville, Oklahoma where he remained on display for nearly 50 years. In 1987, he was put in storage.

"Our elder has not rested yet," Williams said. "He is still walking the Trail of Tears."

The ceremony began with a prayer and Choctaw Princess Reannon Frazier performing the Lord's prayer in sign language before the flag-draped coffin on the steps of the Capitol building. A flute and branches of cedar had been placed on top of the flag.

Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, members of the Tribal Council and many others fell in, escort-

ing the coffin as it was carried to the cafeteria where the ceremony continued.

"This is a historical day for the Choctaw Nation," Cole said. "We have been handed down certain responsibilities – one of those is to take care of the dead."

"We would like to thank Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey and the Council for their continued support of the NAGPRA program."

With the institution of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act in 1990, tribes have been given the right to reclaim their dead and return them to tribal land.

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey and the Tribal Council agreed to establishing

the tribe's own NAGPRA and Cultural Resources department in 1996. The Tribal Council has recently approved five acres of land to be set aside for NAGPRA-related reburials. This ancestor is the first to be reburied on Choctaw Nation land in Oklahoma.

"I encourage everyone to think about the courage of our ancestors and go forward," Williams said. "My wish is that in the future, all Choctaw people will be of one heart."

The funeral and reburial ceremonies will bring closure to this ancestor. As Hymn #66, the warrior's song, was sung, everyone passed before the coffin in respect and with the promise that he will now be protected and can rest in peace.



District 6 Councilperson Randle Durant is the 1999 Outstanding Elder.



Judith Perry, above, and Bertram Bobb, below, were chosen Outstanding Elders for the year 2000.



Elders continued from Page 1

awards and honors for her involvement with community organizations.

Selection of the Outstanding Elder was made from an incredible list of nominees, all with amazing histories of service to their fellow humans. These nominees included Bill Gibson of McAlester, Robert Sanders of Bennington, Geraldine McKinney of Durant, Anna Pipkins of Antlers, Leslie James of Talihina, Eugene Ludlow of Smithville, Laura Lewis of Battiast and Florence Spading of Idabel.



Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

Today, we are going to study about Satan and the works of Satan.

The Bible describes Satan as the enemy of God and warns us in Peter's first epistle, 1 Peter 5:8: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour."

The enemy of Jesus Christ is always attacking, hindering his followers. As a Christian we are in a battle. We are in a spiritual conflict – a spiritual warfare.

To the Christian the Apostle Paul writes in Ephesians 6:10-12: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might."

"Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

The names of Satan indicate what type of personality he is. In the Bible he is called a "deceiver," a "murderer," and a "liar," an "accuser," a "tempter," and "evil one." (cf Revelation 20:10, John 8:44, Revelation 12:10, Matthew 4:3, John 17:15.)

Every name in the Bible for Satan describes the type of personality with whom we are dealing.

The Bible warns us of the works of Satan. His works are defined as "wiles," "devices," "snares." (Ephesians 6:11, II

Corinthians 2:11, cf I Timothy 3:7.)

He also "beguiles," "seduces," "opposes," "resists," "deceives," "hinders," "buffets," "tempts," "persecutes," and "blasphemes." (II Corinthians 11:3, cf I Timothy 4:1, cf II Thessalonians 2:4, cr Zechariah 2:1, cf Revelation 12:9, cf I Thessalonians 2:18, cf II Corinthians 12:7, cf I Thessalonians 3:5, cf Revelation 12:13, cf Revelation 13:5-6.)

Every work of Satan is satanic and he can only destroy.

Every time Jesus spoke of Satan it was by a name that confirms that Satan is a genuine personality. The adversary of every Christian is personal and he is aggressive, intelligent, cunning and destructive.

Every day Satan must be dealt with seriously and intelligently. It is against this powerful spiritual being who directs a spiritual warfare that the forces of God must battle.

The Bible indicates that Satan has great authority in this world. Jesus called him "the Prince of this world" three times in the Gospel of John. (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11). The Book of Ephesians teaches that he is the ruling spirit over the children of disobedience (Ephesians 2:2), which includes all people who have not trusted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

The Bible teaches that Satan has powerful influences in every nation of the world, and he is the mastermind behind the whole system of evil that permeates the world dominated by lustful

power, greed, ambition, hatred, lies, aggression and brutality. Satan once offered Jesus all the kingdoms of this world and the glory if He would fall down and worship him. (Matthew 4:8-9).

Satan also has authority over the demons and evil spirits. Jesus taught that the devil even has his angels (Matthew 25:41). He has an organization of hellish forces working secretly and subtly against heavenly forces.

Yes, the devil is going all out against Christians today. He is offering us the greatest of worldly pleasures and amusements in the history of the world to get us sidetracked from our spiritual warfare and our witness for Jesus Christ.

The Bible teaches that we as Christians are to be separated from the world. We read in I John 2:15, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

The greatest hindrance to Satan's plan for the destruction of an individual or a nation is a strong God-fearing Christian. The greatest roadblock standing in Satan's way is the Christian who lives for God, who walks worthily, who is filled with the Spirit.

True believers are a dynamic minority. They are everywhere. They are members of His body. The prophet Isaiah said in Isaiah 1:9, "Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah."

Isaiah warned again in Isaiah 1:20, "But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

Let us recognize that we are involved in a spiritual conflict and that each of us has a role to play. Let us not be the pawns of the devil, but let us be the servant of God. The devil is the defeated enemy and some day we are going to see him cast into the bottomless pit (Revelation 20:1-3).

You must decide on which side you are going to serve – the devil's side or God's side. Choose God's side in this great spiritual conflict. Repent of your sins, trust Jesus Christ by faith.

September 11, 2001 continues to be on my heart. Pray for the unnumbered loved ones and friends who mourn for those who have died in the most horrible tragedy in New York and Washington, D.C. America is still stunned. Pray for America.

Pray for President George W. Bush, Commander in Chief, who is leading a war against the terrorists who are responsible for the hijacking and bombing of the twin towers of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Pray for our Native American leaders as they lead our American Indian people. They have expressed their support of the President in a war against terrorists.

Pray for our Native American people, both physical and spiritual welfare. May God bless you is my prayer now.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

November 2001

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

Food Distribution Sites

ANTLERS – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 200 S.W. "O" St.
 ATOKA – National Guard Armory.
 BETHEL – Choctaw Nation Community Building.
 BROKEN BOW – Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.
 COALGATE – Choctaw Community Center.
 DURANT – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 100 Waldron Dr.
 HUGO – Housing Authority.
 IDABEL – Choctaw Village Shopping Center.
 McALESTER – Choctaw

Commodity Warehouse, 1212 S. Main.
 POTEAU – Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.
 SMITHVILLE – Big Lick Church.
 STIGLER – Choctaw Community Building.
 TALIHINA – Boys & Girls Club.
 WILBURTON – Choctaw Community Building.
 WRIGHT CITY – Choctaw Head Start Building.
 The Food Distribution Program workers will take a 30 minute lunch break from 11:30 to 12 noon. Please bring boxes

to pick up your commodities.

If you cannot pick up commodities when you are scheduled, please notify the Food Distribution Office at 1-800-522-6170 so that you can be rescheduled to go to Antlers, Durant or McAlester.

All Commodity Warehouses (Antlers, Durant, McAlester) will be open November 6 through November 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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

Tribal member releases gospel music CD

Choctaw tribal member Kathleen (Turnbull) Wells of Colorado has recently released a gospel CD that will be a tremendous benefit to the students of Jones Academy.

Kathleen and her husband, Rocky, wanted to help provide for needs of Choctaw children, and based on conversations with Chief Gregory E. Pyle, came up with the idea that profits from the sale of her CD could be used to assist young people attending the residential school ran by the Choctaw Nation, Jones Academy.

The title for Kathleen's gospel album is "Himak Im Ai Vlhpesa", which she says is Choctaw for "In His Time". She said she was



thrilled to be able to contribute the profits from her recording to the Native American youth.

"The Choctaw Nation appreciates the fundraising project that Kathleen Wells has dedicated

herself to," said Chief Pyle. I feel sure that many young people will be helped through her efforts."

Kathleen's grandfather was a full-blood Choctaw and her ancestors walked the Trail of Tears when soldiers removed the Indians from their homes and land in Indian Territory, now the state of Oklahoma. Many of the tribal people did not survive the long trip. Hardships included hunger, cold and disease.

"I was born in Denison, Texas and moved to Colorado when I was 15," said Kathleen. She and her husband now live in Canon City, Colorado. She credits her parents, who are deceased, with having the greatest influence on her singing. "They were such inspirational, marvelous Christians who really encouraged me," said Kathleen.

Persons interested in purchasing a CD may send payment of \$16.25 (this includes shipping and handling) to Kathleen Wells, 12 Riverside Drive, Danon City, CO 81212.

Reunions

York Family

The second annual York family reunion will be on Thanksgiving Day, November 22 at the Stephens County fair-ground building in Duncan, Oklahoma. For further information contact Joyce Cooper, 1209 Aspen, Marlow, OK 73055, or call 1-800-219-5318.

Joe Key reported missing since February

A resident of Talihina, Oklahoma has been reported missing. Joe David Key was last seen February 14, 2001 at his home in Talihina.

He goes by "Joey" Key and was wearing blue jeans, a denim jeans jacket with a brown corduroy collar, black boots and a brown belt. Key had \$580 cash on him at the time of his disappearance.

He had no changes of clothing with him as he said he would, "... be right back" to his home in the Choctaw Housing Community.

Key must have medication for seizures and had no medicine with him. The seizures, suffered

If anyone has any information, please contact the Latimer County Sheriff's office at 918-465-2161.



from a gunshot wound to the head in February 1995, also caused him to be legally blind, have short-term memory function, and a great deal of paralysis on his left side. The paralysis causes him to walk with a stagger and shuffle.

He is 31 years old, has brown hair, brown eyes, is 5'9" tall and weighs 150 pounds. A tattoo of a knife and a motorcycle is on his

left arm. An enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation, he is 1/16 Choctaw and 1/16 Chickasaw.

Apply for CDIB card as soon as possible

When you have a new baby or grandchild, please apply for their Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card as soon as you can get the state full-form birth certificate which usually takes about 30 days.

Please don't wait until you need it. Processing time takes about 90 days or more, providing we have all the documents required.

Just because you or your parents have a CDIB card, please don't assume that we have all the documentation needed. We require a state full-form birth or death certificate on each individual to be kept in their record.

If the necessary records are not attached to the records, applicants may receive a letter from us requesting what is needed for us to issue a CDIB card. It may take several weeks or months to obtain the documents needed on where the person in question was born or died.

Many states are working behind, as we are, and applications are processed as received.

Remember, sometimes time is of the essence especially when you are applying for a job, education grants, health care, etc. Many times there are cut off dates and we don't have everything we

From your Tribal Membership Department

need to process your cards and you then don't have the time to obtain what is needed before its deadline.

When you wait until your child is of school age or older and you apply for their card, and you're trying to beat a deadline for school or medical help, you can get upset with tribal membership staff because they have requested other documents that are necessary because of federal guidelines.

The federal guidelines must be adhered to and if we don't have all of the legal documents required, the Bureau of Indian Affairs will not sign the cards. All tribes adhere to the same policy procedures, not just the Choctaw Nation.

Please keep in mind that a CDIB is a federal government card, issued and signed by the federal government. It has nothing to do with the tribe. It shows you are Indian, what tribe or tribes you are descended from, how much, your date of birth and states the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) office it was issued

from. A CDIB does not make you a member or eligible for membership with any tribe.

Once you have obtained your CDIB, you can make application to a tribe you are a part of for membership with that tribe. As stated above, many of the programs require that you are a member of a tribe to receive benefits. If you have a CDIB contact this office for a tribal membership application, even if you are still a minor. Once you reach the age of 18 you will be eligible to vote in tribal elections.

Hopefully, you will want to be a member of the great Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. If the CDIB card is the only card you have, then you are not a member.

Thousands of applications are received annually. Few are actually eligible to obtain their CDIB card. We do Choctaw research free of charge, so apply today. Don't delay. Be proud to say "I'm Choctaw and a member of the third largest Indian tribe in the United States!"

The Choctaw Nation Tribal Membership office would like to thank all servicemen and women who so proudly serve our country. Hopefully, you will remain safe and return to your families soon.

CNHSA Administrator elected to board

Bob Blum, Administrator of the Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority, based in Talihina was elected as Southeast Oklahoma Regional Chairman for the Oklahoma Hospital Association. In this role Blum will act as representative for approximately 30 hospitals located in the southeastern corner of the state.

"Rural healthcare is more challenging every day. Organizations like the Oklahoma Hospital Association need to maintain a close relationship with their rural members to represent their interests," said Blum. "Therefore, I was honored to be elected

to this position and look forward to being a voice for the rural healthcare facilities in our part of the state."

"I am very excited for Bob to serve in this role," added Gary Batton, Choctaw Nation Executive Health Director. "Bob is a talented health administrator who will well-represent the Choctaw Nation on the OHA Board." Batton said, "Bob will be the first administrator from an Indian health facility, in recent history, to serve on the OHA Board."

Blum takes office at the close of the 2001 OHA Convention in November.

Council continued from Page 1

funds appropriated from Gaming and/or Choctaw Management/Services Enterprises.

CM/SE Managing Officer Matt Novick filled Councilmembers in on the enterprise's latest developments.

"CM/SE has had an amazing year with contracts producing over \$80 million," Novick said. New contracts are pending which will supply several hundred more employees worldwide.

Councilmembers agreed to establish a partnership between the Choctaw Nation, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services and 12 school systems within the

Choctaw Nation to provide a social worker at each of the schools.

For each social worker, DHS will contribute \$16,284, the Choctaw Nation \$8,142, and each school \$8,142.

Budgets were approved for Jones Academy, Family Preservation Support Services, the Food Distribution Program, the DHS-funded Residential Energy Assistance Challenge Option (REACH) Program, the Consolidated Tribal Government Program and the Transportation Improvement Program.

Other Council Bills passed included:

- A donation of \$5,001 to the Shriner's Hospital for Children was authorized.

- Three farming and grazing leases.

- Modification of the Oklahoma Land Consolidation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program's fiscal year 2000 budget and the FY2001 budget of the Consolidated Tribal Government Programs.

The next regular session of the Tribal Council will be Saturday, November 10. Following the meeting a special Veteran's Day ceremony will be held on the Capitol grounds honoring all Choctaw Veterans.

RECIPES WANTED

The Okla Chahta Clan of California, Inc. California Choctaws is a Choctaw non-profit corporation that is dedicated to keeping alive the traditions and culture of the Choctaw people. One of the many things that we do is to have an annual gathering of Choctaw people to celebrate and learn these traditions.

We offer this opportunity free to those who attend. With help from Choctaw all over the world, we intend to continue the gatherings, the classes and helping in many other ways.

WE ARE MAKING A COOKBOOK AS A FUNDRAISER.

We need recipes! Will you please share your family recipes?

Both Choctaw and non-choctaw are welcome. If you would like to help by purchasing a cookbook please contact us. If you have recipes, please mail them to:

Okla Chahta Clan of California, Inc.
P.O. Box 42112
Bakersfield, CA 93384

or e-mail: shirley@oklachahta.org

We hope you will visit our website: www.oklachahta.org

If you are financially able and would like to make a monetary donation, your generosity will be greatly appreciated. We are a 501C3 non-profit organization.

ATTENTION

Former Choctaw Nation Princesses

We are seeking information on all former princesses of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. We need:

- your first, middle and maiden names
- your age when serving as princess
- the school you were attending and the grade
- the county and town you were living in at the time
- your talent for the pageant
- any items of importance to you at the time, such as "Student of the Year," "Honor Student", "Homecoming Queen", etc.
- a photo (please include your name and address on the back and we will return it)

Please mail to:

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Attn: Brenda Wilson

P.O. Drawer 1210

Durant, OK 74702

Congratulations Mark!

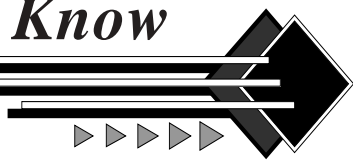
Mark E. Payne, P.E. received his professional engineering license from the Texas Board of Professional Engineers in July. Mark is a graduate of Oklahoma State University where he received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering. He is employed by the Texas Department of



Transportation in the Lufkin District office as a Project Manager and Engineer V in the Consultant Management Section.

Mark is the proud Choctaw son of Phillip and Sally Payne of Paris, Texas and Grandson of Nannie Payne of Hugo, Oklahoma. Congratulations to Mark on passing a very tough test and on a great accomplishment! Mark wishes to thank his Mom and Dad (who is also an Engineering Grad from OSU) and all of his kin folks in Hugo for all of their support!!!

People You Know



Original enrollee to celebrate 100th birthday

Alyne Johnico Robison was born October 21, 1901 to Ishum and Carolyn Johnico. She attended school at Haskell in Lawrence, Kansas. Happy 100th birthday from your family! You are the best mom and friend. We love you.



All of the Morgan family wishes Edward Morgan, Jr. a very happy birthday!

Original enrollee turns 96 this year

Goldia Lois Phillips celebrated her 96th birthday on September 23, 2001. She was born in Bryan County, Oklahoma, the daughter of Sam and Jessie Turnbull. Goldia was the only original enrollee in her family. She was enrolled before she was a year old.



She has two daughters, Gloria Sharp and Mackie Stokes, six grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren. She was married to the late McArthur Phillips for 62 years. Mrs. Phillips was honored with a birthday party on September 30. She resides at Homestead of Denison, Texas.



Happy birthday to our mommies!

Nick Byington, the son of Nonie Byington, and Adriana Chavez, the daughter of Tana Byington Chavez, would like to wish their mommies a happy birthday and tell them that they love them. Nonie's birthday was October 9 and Tana's birthday was October 2. They are the daughters of Wanda Byington and the late Houston Byington of McAlester, Oklahoma.



Happy 31st!

Happy 31st birthday to Sharon Ann Smith who was born September 25, 1970 and congratulations on your new start in life. Be happy, be healthy, and always keep your eyes on the Lord.



Happy birthday Greg

Greg Hudson celebrated another birthday on September 17. He is the son of the late Michael Tadlock and Sarah Hudson. Happy birthday from your brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews!



Brothers celebrate birthdays

Timothy D. Brady celebrated his birthday on August 27 and brother Michael D. Brady celebrated his on September 12.



They are the sons of Sammy and Lita (Hudson) Baxter of Gillham, Arkansas and the grandsons of the late Dixon and Sarah Hudson.

The teen years begin!

Benjamin Benson hit his teens this year with the Big 1-3. Your Aunt Sweetie Pie and cousin Brenda want to wish you the best. Happy birthday and we love you - Mom and Dad.



Lordy, Lordy! Look who's 40!

Happy birthday Donna Courtwright. We love you!



Tala's first birthday

David and Beatrice Bohanan of Houston, Texas would like to wish their daughter, Tala Lynn Bohanan, a happy birthday on October 4. Also wishing her a happy birthday are her two big brothers, Robert and Joseph. Tala would like to wish her two uncles, Daniel and Bobby Bohanan, and her two cousins, Andrew and Chris Noah, belated happy birthdays. And also, she wishes Grandpa Hack and Grandma Ella of Bethel, Oklahoma a happy anniversary this month!



Student receives scholarship awards

John Postel Carroll is a 2001 early graduate of Naaman Forest High in Garland, Texas. He was a member of the National Honor Society, a Texas Scholar, and was a member of the Naaman Forest Honor Band. He is a freshman at Texas Tech University in Lubbock where he is majoring in electrical engineering and computer science. John received the Presidential Endowed Scholarship from Texas Tech, a Choctaw Nation Academic Scholarship, and the Texas Education Agency early graduation award. John is the son of Donnie and Linda Carroll of Garland, Texas. He is the grandson of Clara Grubbs Carroll of Tulia, Texas and the great-grandson of the late Robert Grubbs of McAlester, Oklahoma.



Siblings celebrate birthdays

Happy birthday to Elijah Trenton Brown and his sissy, Kynsie Elaine Brown. Elijah turned four on October 11 and Kynsie will be one year old on October 28.



Proud parents are Trent and Christy Brown of Holly Creek, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Shirley Battiest Blackmon of Dierks, Arkansas and Jeff and Linda Brown of Smithville, Oklahoma.

Turning ten!

Kelis Betsey is going to be ten years old on October 30. He goes to Northwest Heights School in Durant, Oklahoma. Kelis is in Discovery, participates in Choctaw Language classes and is taking sign language at Big 5 in Durant. He is the great-grandson of Adam Betsey of Atoka, Oklahoma and Annie Betsey of Durant. Happy birthday!



Kristina turns 13

Christopher and Cherokee Lann would like to wish a belated happy birthday to their favorite cousin, Kristina. She turned 13 on August 7. Kristina lives in Haileyville, Oklahoma with her mother, Kathy Wyant. She is the granddaughter of Katherine and the late Travallo Garlin of Ft. Smith, Arkansas.



Monette is Sweet 16

Monette Jean Wacoche will be "Sweet 16" on October 28. She is a sophomore at Talihina High School. Happy birthday sis. We love you, from your family, Mom, Dad, Shane, David, Wayne and Isaac, Jr.



Tanner turns seven

Tanner Hudson will turn seven years old on September 16. He is the son of Shane and Tina Hudson, grandson of R.E. Hudson and great-grandson of the late Dixon and Sarah Hudson. He attends Smithville Elementary School. Happy birthday Tanner!



Dustin celebrates 18th

Dustin Hudson turned 18 years old on September 8. He is the son of Corinne Hudson and the grandson of the late Dixon and Sarah Hudson. Dustin is currently attending Tulsa Welding School. Birthday wishes are sent from his mother, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Happy birthday Amanda Robbins

Belated birthday wishes are sent to Amanda Elina Robbins, daughter of Teresa and Mark Robbins. Amanda is the granddaughter of Ruby Elinor Mandelin and the great-granddaughter of Frank Williams, an original enrollee.



Sweet 16

Kandise Reynolds turned 16 years old on October 2, 2001. She is a sophomore at Ardmore High School. Kandise has one sister, Kristen. Her parents are Kip and Terri Reynolds of Ardmore. Grandparents are Stan and Joyce Bryan of Oxnard, California and Doyle and Ann Reynolds of Ardmore. Happy 16th Kandise.

Happy birthday Brenda

Brenda Kay Wacoche of Talihina, Oklahoma turned 44 years old on September 23, 2001. Brenda is the wife of Isaac Wacoche, Sr. and the mother of Shane, David, Wayne, Monette and Isaac, Jr. She would like to wish her son, David Thompson, a happy birthday on September 9.



Quinton turns one!

Damion and Logan would like to wish their cousin, Quinton Tyree Owens, a happy first birthday. Quinton turned one on August 31, 2001. His parents are LeAnne Colbert and Phillip Owens of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Quinton also has a new sister, Neosha Cianne Owens.

Cornell graduate pursuing master's

Carmen Rosetta Jones graduated May 27, 2001 from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology. During her graduation she received the Ron La France Academic and Leadership Award, American Indian Science and Engineering Society Leadership Award, American Indian Program Recognition Award for Leadership and Dedication within the student organization. Currently, she holds a position in the National Organization AISES as a regional representative for Region VI.



She is presently pursuing her master's degree in social work at Washington University, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, in St. Louis, Missouri. Carmen is a recipient of the Katherine Buder Scholarship for the two years she is studying in St. Louis. Her field of study is preventive medicine and health promotion among young adults. She is presently working at the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis.

Carmen's proud parents are Rosalinda (Sali) Jones and Gene Jones of Whitehead, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. Her grandparents are Myrtle Ann Jones and the late Gaston Jones of Atoka, Oklahoma and R.C. Camata and Alberto Camata of Ada, Oklahoma. She is the great-granddaughter of Luther Lewis McGahey, an original Choctaw enrollee.



Team finishes second in summer league

Young Choctaws Sarah Edgmon and Shonda Moser were team members of the Mustang Extreme which finished second in the 14 and under El Reno-Yukon-Mustang Summer League. Sarah, the daughter of Larry and Suzanne Edgmon, is a freshman at Mustang High School. She played short stop for the Extreme. Shonda, the daughter of David and Susie Moser of Yukon, Oklahoma, is an eighth-grader at Mustang North Middle School. She covered third base.

Happy birthday Chesley and Jesse

Chesley Lyn Acuña celebrated her fifth birthday on September 24. Her brother, Jesse, turned six years old on October 4. Chesley and Jesse's parents are Robert and Robin Acuña of Caddo, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Jimmy and Rita Vinyard of Boswell, Oklahoma and Ray and the late Virgilia Acuña of Olney, Texas. Happy birthday!



Lucas given Citizenship Award

Lucas Allen Hotubbee was recently selected by his classmates for the Citizenship Award. This award is based on character and leadership of the student. Lucas was also recognized for volunteer efforts at A.R. Hederick Elementary School and was presented the Sportsmanship Award by the Physical Education Program. He also received the President's Gold Award for Education Excellence and a letter of congratulations from President and Mrs. Bush. He is the great-grandson of 97-year-old original enrollee Allen Hotubbee of Yanush, Oklahoma. Congratulations Lucas!



Sara enters Talent Show

Sarah Hotubbee competed in the 2001 Logan County Fair Talent show in Booneville, Arkansas on August 25. She sang "Born From His Heart" and was awarded first place. Sarah also enjoys softball, soccer and drawing. She would like to say hello to all of her Pate and Hotubbee cousins.



Happy birthday Trever and Mackenzie

The families of Trever Wann and Mackenzie Dills would like to wish them a belated happy birthday. Trever turned three on August 18 and Mackenzie turned nine on October 23.

They are the children of Janine Dills and Jerry Don Wann of Durant, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Gary and Janine Dills and Jerry and Ann Wann, all of Durant. Great-grandparents are Joe Kenneth and Mattie Maudine McClure and Bill and Corine Dills, all of Durant, and Inez Wann of Kinta, Oklahoma.





Golden Anniversary

Daniel A. Buttram and Betty D. Dodson-Buttram celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on June 30, 2001 at the Community Assembly of God Church in Modesto, California. Their three children, Beverly Claussen-Allen, Kathryn Zlab and Timothy Buttram, were the hosts and many family members, including the proud couples of five grandchildren, and friends were there to help them celebrate.



Folsom, Rudd exchange vows

Jennifer Folsom and Aaron Rudd were married on August 17, 2001 in a beautiful ceremony at the Oasis Church in Bellevue, Tennessee.

Parents are Shirley and Jim Folsom and Tabby and Jim Bob Campbell, all of Marietta, Oklahoma, and Marcia and Alan Rudd of Nolansville, Tennessee. Grandparents of the bride are Pat and Wally Thatcher of Sweetwater, Colorado, Rudolph and Helen Folsom, both deceased, and original enrollee Peter Ward Folsom and Diddie Folsom, both deceased. The groom's grandparents are Gladys and C.E. Treadwell of Marietta, Marilyn and Jim Rudd of Ardmore, Oklahoma, Judy Rooms of Seattle, Washington and Rozella Campbell of Marietta.

The bride attends Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro where she is a junior majoring in business and finance. The groom is a certified webmaster for Underground Image near Nashville. After celebrating their marriage with a honeymoon in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, the couple is at home in Murfreesboro.



Look who's one!

Happy birthday to Jaxon Paul Baker who turned one year old on October 10!

Jaxon is the son of Derek and Cindy Baker. His grandparents are Jeff and Carrie Gibbs and Billy Paul and Mary Lou Baker.

Emily turns two years old!



Emily Mae Stevens turned two years old on September 24. She celebrated her birthday with a "Winnie the Pooh" party attended by many family and friends. Emily is the daughter of Stephanie Stevens of Boswell, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Johnny and Betty Logue and Jimmy and Rita Vinyard, all of Boswell. Great-grandparents include Edgar Ray Stevens, Sr. and the late Etta Mae Stevens, both of Boswell. Happy birthday, Emily!

Happy birthday, Shannon Don Ben

We all love you very much and are so proud you are our Big Bubba! Happy Birthday Uncle Shannon! Love, Marli and McKinna. We love you! Sis, Chris, Mom, Jim, Eric, Dad and Kristy!



Look who's two!

Daddy, Mommy and Jordan would like to say happy birthday to Emily on her second birthday, October 4, 2001. Love, Me-Maw.



Ollie Snow celebrates 90th birthday

Ollie was born Ollie Green, August 25, 1911 near the communities of Newport and Stobtown, close to Ardmore, Oklahoma. She is the daughter of the late Robert and Noga (Hattensty) Green of Lone Grove. Ollie had one brother, Orville.



Ollie attended Chilocco Indian School near the Oklahoma and Kansas line. There she took nurses training and graduated in 1934. After graduation she started her career at Shawnee T.B. Hospital in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

In 1936 she married Jim Snow of Shawnee. A few years later they moved to Lone Grove, near Ardmore, where they owned a farm. They raised three children, Jim Jr., Gene and Thelma.

They grew cotton, hay and cattle on their 440-acre farm. Ollie was a homemaker. Jim operated a bulldozer as well as farmed and raised cattle. Jim passed away in 1979.

Ollie has five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was for many years active in her church, the community and Eastern Star. She received her 50-year pin from OES Chapter #484, Lone Grove, in 1995 and was hometown parade marshal of Lone Grove in 1992. She is 7/16 Choctaw and always proud of her Indian heritage.



Happy birthday to Jeff Warden

Mattie B. Jones of Kiowa, Oklahoma is not just feeding you a line - on October 4 her son, Jefferson Warden, turned 39. Love, Mom.

Huddleston, Anderson united in marriage

Staci D. Huddleston and Travis M. Anderson of Kenefic, Oklahoma, formerly of Talihina, were united in marriage in a doubling ceremony on August 25, 2001 at the Albion First Baptist Church.

The bride is the daughter of Nancy Huddleston of Talihina and the granddaughter of Dennis and Billie Huddleston. She is the great-granddaughter of V.J. Standefer of Talihina.

The groom is the son of Travis "Bud" and Eva Jo Head of Talihina. His grandparents include Opal Head and the late Jerome Head of Talihina and the late Bertha Anderson of Talihina.



High school sweethearts, Staci and Travis both graduated from Talihina High School in 1992 and Eastern Oklahoma State College in May 1994. The bride graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in May 1997 with a Bachelor of Science Degree and is currently employed with the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in Durant. The groom is currently employed with Sundowner Trailers in Coleman, Oklahoma.

The couple celebrated their marriage with a honeymoon trip to Shreveport, Louisiana and will reside in Kenefic, Oklahoma.

Father, daughter celebrate birthdays



Samantha Higgins, who turned 10 on October 11, was an early arriving birthday present to Phillip A. Higgins. Phillip, turning 36 on October 29, still maintains she was his best birthday present ever. The Higgins family lives near St. Louis, Missouri and visits relatives in Oklahoma every year. This summer Samantha spent several weeks in Oklahoma City visiting her grandmother, Carolyn Jones Higgins. The entire family enjoyed a summer vacation spending several weeks touring Oklahoma, searching for Indian made art work, visiting relatives, ancestral homes and historic sites. They were able to visit many places in the Choctaw Nation and attend the Labor Day Festival. Among the highlights of their trip was a visit with Senator and Mrs. Haney at his art studio. Another cherished memory was a visit to the First Baptist Church in Durant where their great-great-grandfather, Rev. Moses Carr Clark, was organizer and first pastor.



Crystal Morgan has grown up and now is an employee of Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in Durant. October 11 is her day. She was a blessing sent our way. Crystal, Jesus loves you and I do, too. With love, Granny, Kiowa, Oklahoma.



October 11 is your day, Crystal!

Crystal Morgan has grown up and now is an employee of Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in Durant. October 11 is her day. She was a blessing sent our way. Crystal, Jesus loves you and I do, too. With love, Granny, Kiowa, Oklahoma.



Twins first birthday!!

We would like to wish a very happy birthday to Marli Shannon and McKinna Dawn Nagel. This has been the best year



of our lives girls, we love you and are so proud of you! Mom and Dad and family!

Happy birthday to the Lann brothers

Christopher James Lann turned eight years old on August 31. He plays baseball, soccer and tennis. He is also the running back for the McCutchen Law 49ers this season. Christopher is a second-grader at Cavanaugh Elementary School.



Cherokee Blake Lann turned six years old on October 22. A party was held at the Outback for family and friends. Cherokee graduated from pre school and started Kindergarten this year. He plays T-ball for Harvest Time Tabernacle.



Proud parents are Chris and Katrina Lann of Ft. Smith, Arkansas. They are the grandsons of Katherine and the late Travallo Garlin, also of Ft. Smith, and Jim and Barbara Lann of Cushing, Oklahoma. Their great-grandparents include Joanna and the late John Pope of Harts-horne, Oklahoma.



Olivia Grace Clark

Doyle and Janie Clark of Lindsay, Oklahoma are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, Olivia Grace Clark. Olivia was born March 21, 2001 at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility in Ada, Oklahoma. She weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches long.



Grandparents are Donald Kay and Linda Kay and Shirley Clark and the late Clarence Clark. Great-grandparents include Elizabeth Kay and the late Ira Luther Babe Kay.

Olivia's brother, Zachary Elijah Clark, celebrated his second birthday on March 2 with a family birthday party at his grandmother Shirley Clark's home in Oklahoma City.

Happy birthday, Zach!

Savanna Lee Harris

Jon and Lesley Harris would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Savanna Lee.



Savanna was born on May 30, 2001 at Tahlequah, Oklahoma. She weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 17.5 inches long.

Savanna was welcomed home by her sisters, Jasmine and Mariah.

Cheyenne Lake Holman

Crystal Holman of Wilburton, Oklahoma is proud to announce the birth of her daughter, Cheyenne Lake Holman. Cheyenne was born August 8, 2001 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina, Oklahoma. She weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19.25 inches long.



Cheyenne is the granddaughter of Eulema Holman and the late Alfred Holman and Jesse James of Wilburton.

Cody Keith Franklin

Cody Keith Franklin was born July 20, 2001 at McCurtain Memorial Hospital to Brian Franklin and Tina McCleskey of Valliant, Oklahoma.



Cody's grandparents are Benjamin and Virginia Franklin of Idabel, Oklahoma and Jerry and Carol McCleskey of Valliant, Oklahoma.

He has lots of uncles, aunts and cousins who also love him very much.

Emily Elizabeth McClaughry

Kevin and Andrea McClaughry would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Emily Elizabeth McClaughry. She was born August 8, 2001 at Providence St. Vincent Hospital in Portland, Oregon. Emily weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 20 inches long.



She is the granddaughter of William and Judith Freeman and Patrick and Carolyn McClaughry, all of Salem, Oregon.

Devin Jake Emert

Big brother Mason Emert is thrilled to introduce his new best friend, Devin Jake. He was born July 3, 2001 weighing 8 pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 20 inches long.



Parents are Kevin and Angie Emert of Bennington, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Edmond and Crickett Jones of Bennington and Gilbert and Alice Emert of Atoka, Oklahoma.

Neosha Cianne Owens

Damian and Logan would like to announce the birth of their cousin, Neosha Cianne Owens. She was born at 12 a.m. August 8, 2001 at McCurtain Memorial in Idabel, Oklahoma. Neosha weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and measured 20 inches long.



Her parents are LeAnne Colbert and Phillip Owens of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Theresa Colbert of Idabel and Garry Colbert of Broken Bow.

Neosha also has a brother, Quinton Tyree Owens.

Keith Loring Taylor, Jr.

Keith and Marsha Taylor of Ada, Oklahoma are proud to announce the birth of their first son, Keith Loring Taylor, Jr. He was born at 11:17 a.m. on August 1, 2001 at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility in Ada, Oklahoma, weighing 10 pounds, 3.3 ounces and measuring 21 inches long. He is one-half Choctaw and one-half Chickasaw.



Keith joins sisters LaTosha, 9, and Halley, 7. Grandparents are Nellie Fulsom of Ada and the late Edward Fulsom. Great-grandparents are Clara Taylor of Ada and the late Loring Taylor, the late Maggie Kelley and John Underwood, and the late Charles and Lena Fulsom. Great-great-grandparents include the late Henry E. and Mandy Ward.

Tribe produces third edition in series of children's books



"Choctaw Jacks" is the third book in a series of five children's books produced by the Choctaw Nation. The first print of 1,000 books will be a collector's item, as will the first 1,000 in the next two books. These wonderful books will be produced every 6 months until the five are all completed.

The stories are written by Mary M. Frye, translated to the Choctaw language by Henry Willis and illustrated by artist Norma Howard. The entire story is written in the Choctaw language, then the second part of the book is written in the English language. The book contains eight bright, vividly colored illustrations.

The response we are receiving for these books is wonderful. At this time the first collector's book "The Pashofa Pole", is sold out.

We still have several copies left of "The Boy Who Almost Lost His Name," the second in the series.

The books are sold on a first-come first-served basis, the ones who bought "The Boy Who Almost Lost His Name" will receive first chance at the new book "Choctaw Jacks." The books are hard-cover bound, 8-1/2 inches wide by 9 inches long.

Attention all Haskell Alumni!

The Haskell football team of Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, Kansas, will be playing SW Assemblies of God University of Waxahachie, Texas on November 10 at 2 p.m. in Waxahachie.

All Alumni come out and support the team! For more information, call Coach Snelding at 785-749-8459 or e-mail: gsnelding@ross1.cc.haskell.edu.



World Champion Fancy Dancer

Michael Roberts recently won the title of World Champion Fancy Dancer Southern Style at the Mashantucket Pequot Powwow in Ledyard, Connecticut. Michael has been dancing fancy all of his life and has won championships all over the United States and Canada.

Michael is currently Head Dancer for the American Indian Dance Theater and recently performed in the Kennedy Center in New York City. He travels extensively for the theater. He is also a member of the Mashantucket Pequot dance troupe. You can also watch Michael perform on "Tales from the Painted Cave" with Robert Maribal on PBS.

Michael and his wife, Rebecca, live in Ada with their three children, T' Ata, Paan-Pai and Morningstar. He is the son of Wilson and Sharon Roberts of Ada and the grandson of the late Steven Roberts of Bennington and Annie Homer Roberts of Boswell.



A record-breaking number of GED students graduated during a September 28 ceremony held on the campus of EOSC.

Graduation continued from Page 1

"When Chief Pyle came into office he made sure there was help for every person who wanted to further their education." Culbreath went on to assure everyone that from young children in Head Start to programs such as Upward Bound and Higher Education, assistance from the tribe was available.

Chief Pyle said, "The Choctaw Nation has businesses that make money. The Council votes on how to spend this money, and I want everyone to know that the single largest allocation of the year has been to Higher Education. This year, \$3 million has been put into the budget for the current school year. We are proud to help ALL Choctaws - from the youngest to the oldest."

Tribal Council Speaker Kenny Bryant had a short message for the graduates to inspire them to continue their quest for education and an improved life, "You CAN do it," said Bryant.

Keynote speaker, Southeastern Oklahoma State University President, Dr. Johnson, asked the students to stand and applaud their friends and family for their support in obtaining an education. "This is a very special evening, and I think we should show appreciation for the families, the teachers and the Choctaw Nation.

"Achieving your GED has opened doors of opportunity to you."

This year's graduates were: Gary Allison, Daphne Baird, Corey Batey, Crystal Battiest, Jeanette Bohanon, Nicholas Bond, Nikki Boman, Norma Buckner, Wynona Burns, Joe Bushers, Roy Butler, Christi Chappell, Eric Chappell, William Childers, Marsha Christy, Chris Coberly, Jennifer Coffee, Rainey Colbert, Jacob Ellis, Brian England, Jerry Ford, Rebecca Foreman, Kelly Grimes, Jessica Hamill, Kaci Hankins, Michael Hargis, Tonya Harley, Thomas Henry, Dustin Hudson, Florence Hutto, Amy Isaac, Sonja John, Betsy John, Lana Justus, Michelle Lewallen, Chanda Lewis, Charles Lewis, Melissa Lindamood, Joann Lott, Jason Martin, Jackie Matlock, Cody McClendon III, Ashley Meyer, Trina Meyers, Jon Nahwooksy, Mistie Nichols, Jennifer Osborne, Sherry Page, Kevin Parish, John Peasha, Tina Powe, Mark Queen, Brian Ridgway, Stefan Roberts, Brandi Robinson, Rhonda Robinson, Rickey Robinson, Cheri Rose, Jes-



Chief Pyle congratulates Tonya Harley for having the highest test score of this year's graduating class.

sica Sanchez, Pamela Sanders, Robert Scrivner, Donna Sisk, Connie Skipworth, Cassie Smith, Stephanie Stevens, Casey Stormont, Andrea Suttmiller, Tommy Taylor, Sherry Terrell, Holly Thomas, Galen Tonihka, Dene Torres, Billy Tugle, Justin Waits, Jerry Warden, Barbara Webb, Justin Wilkett, Christy Willeby, Thomas Williams, Ronald Williamson, Amanda Woodrall, Tiffany Yahola, Barbara Young and Amanda Zachary.

Anyone interested in getting a GED is encouraged to call the Tribal Complex in Durant at 1-800-522-6170 or 580-924-8280, ext. 2319 and speak with Linda Tyler or Felicia Carnes.

"You CAN do it". You can be a GED graduate.

Obesity in children increases the risk of poor health in adulthood

Childhood obesity is caused when a child has too much body fat. Obesity is defined as a condition where an individual's weight is in excess of 20% of his ideal body weight. It usually is caused by overeating and a lack of exercise, whatever the genetic background.

Genetic factors are often blamed for obesity, but are uncommon primary reasons for obesity. Genes are thought to be responsible for 25 to 40% of the difference between children in the prevalence of obesity. The rest is determined by environmental factors.

Whether obesity can be contributed to genes or the environment, the level of childhood obesity is increasing in the United States today.

WIC WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

Obese children are more likely to remain obese as an adolescent than slimmer children. About 80 percent of obese adolescents will become obese adults.

The most obvious consequence of being overweight during childhood and adolescence are psychosocial. Obese children have a lower self-esteem. They are more likely not to do well academically, be socially isolated and have poor job prospects.

Excess calorie intake and a low activity level generally cause obesity. As a parent, there are things we can do to help our children stay slim or slim down. First, we can make sure our child eats the right amount of nutritious foods, eliminating foods high in sugar and dietary fats from their diets.

Foods high in dietary fats that are not burned off as energy will be stored as fat in your child's body. Second, we can encourage our children to be more active in the activities that burn off the calories they consume. Activities such as walking, running, skipping, skating, swimming and playing sports burns calories as well as building strong bodies and muscles.

Studies show that children

who watch more than 10 hours of TV or computer games a week are more likely to become overweight.

Encourage your child to be active by being a role model. A parent needs to participate in some of the physical activities that their children like to do.

The treatment of obesity in children is more likely to be successful than for an adult. Increase in exercise helps to reduce the

number of adipose (fat) cells that are in a child's body. Decreasing adipose (fat) cells as a child will help decrease the chance of that child becoming an obese adult.

Obesity in children increases the risk of poor health outcomes in adulthood. Health risk such as respiratory diseases, pancreatic disorders, orthopedic disorder, cardiovascular risk, diabetes, hypertension and high cholesterol are prevalent in obese adults.

TOASTED PUMPKIN SEEDS

- 1 large pumpkin
- 1/4 cup oil
- salt



Cut the top off a large pumpkin. Scoop out the seeds. Wash the seeds. Dry them overnight on paper towels. Heat oil in a frying pan. Fry seeds until golden. Drain seeds on paper towels. Sprinkle with salt and eat.

NOTE: You can carve eyes, nose and mouth into the pumpkin shell and make a Jack-O-Lantern for Halloween. Parent, please supervise closely all cooking experiences.

MARSHMALLOW SPIDERS



- 6 large marshmallows
- 12 M&M's
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips
- string licorice (16" for each spider)

Cut licorice into 2-inch strings and poke 8 pieces into marshmallow for legs. Melt over low heat the 1/2 cup of chocolate chips. Set spider on waxed paper and dribble a large spoonful of melted chocolate over the marshmallow. Add 2 M&M's for eyes. Cool and eat.

Thanksgiving Dinners

McAlester	
Senior Citizens	11:30 November 7
Community	11:30 November 9
Idabel (at Bingo)	Noon November 7
Atoka	Noon November 9
Hugo	6 p.m. November 9
Antlers	11:30 a.m. November 13
Stigler	11:30 a.m. November 14
Poteau	Noon November 14
Coalgate	Noon November 14
Durant	
Senior Citizens	Noon November 15
Community(at Bingo)	6 p.m. November 15
Wilburton	Noon November 16
Broken Bow	11:30 a.m. November 16
Bethel	6 p.m. November 19
Talihina	11:30 a.m. November 20

District 12 challenges other districts to match donation

At the regular monthly meeting of the District 12 Choctaw Council on September 13, 2001, the council members voted to send \$500 to the New York disaster relief fund. We would like to challenge the other eleven Choctaw Nation Districts to match our donation.

- James Frazier,**
Tribal Councilperson
- Louise Ott,**
Chair
- Christine Pickens,**
Vice Chair
- Tina Clem,**
Secretary/Treasurer

Chief receives Benefactor Award

The Choctaw Nation, under the leadership of Chief Gregory E. Pyle, was honored with a Benefactor Award during the annual awards luncheon at Southeastern Oklahoma State University's Homecoming Weekend.

The SOSU Benefactor Award is given to individuals or organizations who have generously contributed to the university through donations or in-kind gifts during the year.

Most recently, the Choctaw Nation has provided funds to pave parking areas at the Visual and Performing Arts Center on campus and renovate the Choctaw Tower dormitory.

"The people of the Choctaw Nation have a great understanding that education is the foundation upon which the future is built and have committed resources toward that mission," said Dr. Johnson, SOSU president.

"Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey and the Tribal Council continue their efforts in education, committing millions of dollars of funding to educational programs and scholarships for higher education."

Pyle has provided experienced leadership to the Choctaw Nation and has introduced many initiatives to provide more and better services for Choctaws around the world. These services include housing, child care development, health, language and history classes, and increased businesses for the tribe.





Lester Bostic and sons Dion and Chase meet Assistant Chief Mike Bailey.



Chief Pyle reminiscences with Dr. Fran Coxsee-Henderson on their days in the band at SOSU.



Curtis, Joyce and Allan Moran enjoys the Thursday night meeting.



About 100 people were at the Denver meeting.

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Brenda Hampton, Director of the Tribal Membership department, explains paperwork to members.



Chief Pyle poses for a photo with Catherine, Tad, Kenny and Angela Kincade.



Sandy Carillo, Herbert Carnes, LeAndra Marras, Chief Pyle and Sue Marris enjoyed visiting at the Denver meeting.



Frank Huffman, Assistant Chief Bailey and Eileen Hempling are pictured at the Choctaw meeting in Colorado.



OPC alumni tour complex

Sisters Sharon Olive Deloache and Mary Olive Wood were among those who toured the Choctaw Nation Tribal Complex (formerly the Oklahoma Presbyterian College) in Durant during the OPC Reunion on the weekend of October 5th and 6th.

Sharon and Mary are pictured here with Chief Gregory E. Pyle by a framed portrait of their great-great uncle, former Chief George Hudson.

Their mother, Thelma Hudson, went to school at OPC.

Inter-Tribal Council supports Operation Enduring Freedom

Resolutions passed by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes on October 12th in Sulphur included support of the United States in its mission called "Operation Enduring Freedom". The resolution stated that members of each of the Five Tribes (Choctaw, Chickasaw, Seminole, Creek and Cherokee) have served honorably in all American wars in all branches of service, in all ranks from Private to General, and from Seaman to Admiral with distinction. The Inter-Tribal Council also said they recognized that American Indians have historically had the highest record of military service per capita when compared to other ethnic or minority groups. The Council stated that an attack on the United States of America constitutes an attack on the sacred homeland of the First Americans and that the Five Civilized Tribes

remain firm allies of the United States of America and have promised to faithfully aid the United States in putting down its enemies.

Another resolution approved by the Inter-Tribal Council was supporting Native American Research Center for Health in partnership with the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Indian Health Service in association with the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health, has announced an intent to fund competitive and supplemental grants for Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH). Applications for this program must be made by tribes with collaborations with academic research centers and universities. The Inter-Tribal Council hopes that this will increase the capability of both the tribal health sys-

tems and the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center to produce specialty health services that benefit Oklahoma Indians.

A resolution was also passed asking for an amendment to the State Medicaid Plan to remove certain restrictions to Medicaid payments, allowing reimbursements for multiple encounters on the same day.

The fourth resolution passed by the Council was unified support for technical assistance for Indian National Family Caregiving Support Program grantees.

The next meeting of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes will be January 10-11, 2002, hosted by the Creek Nation.



The Choctaw Nation Health Care Center Ambulance heads the Talihina Homecoming Parade September 27.

Emaline Jordan

Emaline Jordan, 76, longtime Lequire, Oklahoma resident passed away Tuesday, September 25, 2001 at a Fort Smith hospital. A native of Lequire, she was born November 19, 1924 to William and Charlotte (Folsom) Martin.

She grew up at Lequire where she attended school until the eighth grade. She graduated from Kinta High School with the class of 1943. She later continued her education at Eastern Oklahoma State College. She made her home in California during World War II and worked in airplane assembly.

She was married to Neil Jordan on June 1, 1945 in San Francisco, California. They made their home together in several cities and states as Mr. Jordan served his country in the Air Force. They made their home back in Lequire in 1962. Emaline operated the Lequire Store and the Mountain Fork Cafe for many years. She was a former Den Mother for the Lequire Cub Scouts and a member of the Haskell County Historical Society as well as starting the Lequire Reunion Days. She was a longtime member of the Lequire First Baptist Church where she was treasurer for many years.

Her husband, Neil, a great-grandson, Hagen Michael Jordan, and two sisters, Rena Reyes and Rosalee Carlton, preceded her in death. Survivors include three sons, Martin Jordan and wife, Mikie, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, Joseph Jordan and wife, Vickie, of Lona Valley, and Michael Jordan and wife, Katy, of Lequire; eight grandchildren, Dana Jordan, Sherry McGlone, Cari Jordan, Michael Jordan, Shakia Jordan, Yaminta Jordan, Ashua Jordan and Travis Jordan; eight great-grandchildren, one brother, William C. and Robbie Martin of Lequire, and one sister, Vivian Jordan of Denver, Colorado.

Mary Ola Pierce

Mary Ola Pierce, 82, of Nashville, Tennessee, formally of Hugo, Oklahoma, passed away Sunday, September 23, 2001 in Franklin, Tennessee. She was born November 12, 1918 in Berwyn, Oklahoma (now known as Gene Autry) to James Lee Stribling and Bonnie Gertrude (Payne) Stribling.

Mrs. Pierce was the wife of the late George Howard Pierce. They were married on June 5, 1943 in Olympia, Washington and had made their home in the area from 1944 to 1956 and from 1986 to 1996. The Pierces had been together for over 50 years prior to his passing.

Mrs. Pierce was a graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma State College in Durant and received her BS degree in education. She was a high school home economics teacher and was retired from the Department of Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs Education System. She taught several years at Goodland School and at the Cherokee Indian High School in Cherokee, North Carolina.

She was a member of the National Educators Association and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. She was also a member of the First Baptist Church in Bryson City where she lived for 30 years. In 1996, illness necessitated her relocating to Tennessee where she resided until her death.

Survivors include a daughter, Susan Pierce Brintnall of Nashville; sister, Bonnie Lee Briscoe of Ardmore, Oklahoma; two grandchildren, Michael Douglas Brintnall of Brentwood, Tennessee, and Mary Elizabeth Massey of Columbia, Tennessee; six great-grandchildren, Pierce, Wilson and Miranda Brintnall and Sydney, Harrison and Hudson Massey, and one sister-in-law, Mary E. Pierce of Hugo.

Virginia (Gardner) Percell

Virginia (Gardner) Percell, 90, of Bennington, Oklahoma passed away Saturday, September 1, 2001. The daughter of Robert Lee Gardner, a full-blood Choctaw from Mississippi, and Tassie (Holloman) Gardner, she was born Tuesday, May 23, 1911 in Banty, Oklahoma. She married Earl Percell on April 22, 1933 in Bennington.

A housewife, Mrs. Percell and her husband were longtime Bennington ranchers and pecan producers. She was a longtime member of the Bennington Presbyterian Church, serving as a teacher and elder. She was also secretary of the Gardner Reunion held each year at Old Church.

She attended Oklahoma Presbyterian College and Southeastern to become a teacher. She taught at Whitesand Public School and served as an aid in Bennington Public School.

Mrs. Percell was proud of her Indian heritage and a strong supporter of the Choctaw Nation. She always helped her people in any way she could and enjoyed attending Indian activities.

Her parents, husband, three sisters and a brother preceded her in death.

Survivors include two daughters, Donna Pratt of Denison, Texas and Gloria Welch of Ft. Worth, Texas; brother, John Gardner of Oklahoma City; sister, Margaret Blackwell of Oklahoma City; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Original enrollee

Margaret Mahala Cochauer

Contributed by Reba Winfrey Dickson

My grandmother, Margaret Mahala Cochauer Harrison, was an exceptional lady. She was born February 12, 1876 near Caddo, Indian Territory and was an original enrollee in the Choctaw Indian Nation.

She led a simple life, but a happy one. She went about her work singing as if she didn't have a care in the world. She once expressed the desire to travel, but as far as anyone in the family can remember never traveled outside Bryan County. An avid reader, she did what we call "arm chair traveling".

However, I don't know when she found time to read. There were turkeys and chickens to care for, the vegetable garden and canning of vegetables, the canning and drying of fruit from the orchard, and the laundry which she did on scrub-board, drawing water from a well. I often wondered if she ever sat down except to churn the butter. It didn't seem to matter to her

that she had none of the modern conveniences of that time. She lived in a two-story unpainted house. The front porch spanned the entire length of the house and was used as a tack room. It was a mystery to me why the boys hung their saddles on the front porch when there was a barn and kraal nearby.

The house was scantily furnished with two beds in each room including the living room where she and grandpa slept in one bed and the two youngest children slept in the other with their heads at the foot of the bed. I assumed the purpose of sleeping that way, especially in the summer, was to get the breeze from the window. But that was the year-round custom. All the children and some of the grandchildren slept at the foot of the bed. It must have been an inherited trait.

Additional furnishings in the living room consisted of a dresser, sewing machine, and

cane chairs that faced the fireplace. The kitchen was furnished with a wood-burning cook stove, a homemade cabinet and work table, and a shelf near the back door for the water bucket and wash basin.

Drinking water was hauled three barrels at a time in a wagon from a community spring. The wagon was parked near the back door. The barrels were covered with canvas. The dining room was furnished with a long table with a bench along the side next to the wall and cane chairs along the other side and at either end. There was a sideboard and a built-in corner cabinet for Grandpa's small tools, nails, nuts and bolts.

On our annual visits to "grandma's house" she always met us at the door with hugs and kisses and tears of joy. Her love for children was evident in that she bore 14 and reared 12. One girl died in infancy and a boy at age 15 who was a genius in math-

ematics. No matter what we got into she never scolded. We had the run of the house, the orchard and barnyard. We all have fond memories of our visits to grandma's house.

Grandmother married September 1, 1894 to a tall lanky full-blood Irishman by the name of Bloomer White Harrison. I remember him as a kind, free-hearted, congenial person. Always had a story for the children, stories of his travels and adventures.

Rumors circulated the community that B.W. Harrison was the richest cattle rancher in Bryan County and that he had struck a gold mine in Alaska. I never saw evidence of it. He remained an active farmer-rancher into his eighties. He died of a stroke November 26, 1950. Grandmother survived him by 20 years, living in Bokchito. She died April 25, 1970. Both are buried in the Bokchito Cemetery.

Brandon Shane Fromme

Brandon Shane Fromme, 4, passed away on July 20, 2001. He was born May 28, 1997.

Brandon was so full of life and full of energy. He always had a smile on his face. He loved to play with his brothers, sister and cousins. He lived a short, but fulfilled life.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Corena Wilson. Survivors include his parents, Mary Fromme and David Fromme, Jr.; brothers, Blake and Wayne; sister, Victoria; half-brothers, Justin, Gregory, Jeffrey and Jeremy; half-sister, Melissa, and grandparents, George Wilson, Sr. and David Sr. and Peggy Fromme, all of Antlers, Oklahoma.

Lloyd Curtis Langley

Lloyd Curtis Langley, 72, passed away Thursday, August 16, 2001 in Amarillo, Texas. He was born November 7, 1928 to Jimmie Lee and Ethy Norman Langley in Quail.

Lloyd graduated from Quail High School in 1946. He attended Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, Texas and took a business course from Draughon's Business College. He joined the Primitive Baptist Church in 1946 and had served as deacon since 1958.

He married Mildred Clay on November 28, 1948 in Quail. He was a rural mail carrier from 1969 to 1991.

Mr. Langley's grandmother, Matilda E. Rubottom Langley, was an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation.

His parents preceded him in death. Survivors include his wife, Mildred of Wellington, Texas; three daughters, Paula Carson and husband, Ben, Pamala Neeley and husband, Cary, of Quail, and Susan Nixon and husband, Nick, of Wellington; sister, Melba Marcum of Wellington; three brothers, J.W. Langley and wife, Jo, of Powderly, Texas, Hoyd Langley and wife, Charlene, of Paris, Texas, and Donald Langley and wife, Juanita, of Quail; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Kenny Joe Bowen

Kenny Joe Bowen, 40, of Comanche, Oklahoma passed away Saturday, August 18, 2001 in Duncan Regional Hospital. He was born December 12, 1960 in Duncan, Oklahoma to Kenneth and Nell Jo Bowen of Comanche.

Mr. Bowen was a 1980 graduate of Comanche High School and was a machinist at Valco.

Survivors include his parents; a sister, Theresa Bowen of Meridian; three nephews, Cary McCreight of Denton, Texas, Coby Beck of Dallas, Texas and Chance Beck of Meridian; many cousins, aunts and uncles.

Kenny Joe was the grandson of the late Dewey and Opal Richards and E.N. and Hazel Bowen. He was the great-grandson of original enrollee Nellie Mae Spain.

George "Duke" Baker

George "Duke" Baker, 78, of Antlers, Oklahoma passed away Tuesday, July 10, 2001 at Pushmataha Hospital in Antlers. He was born February 21, 1923 in Bethel, Oklahoma, the son of Stewart Bohanon and Marswes (Colbert) Bohanon. His adoptive parents were Emaline Noah and Joe Baker.

Mr. Baker was a World War II veteran serving in the U.S. Navy. He was also of the Methodist faith. He married Betty Charles on June 5, 1949 in Hugo, Oklahoma. He was a TV repairman and had lived all of his life in this area.

He was preceded in death by both his adoptive parents and his natural parents; two brothers, Julius and Josh Bohanon, and two sisters, Ethel Constantine and Ann Sims.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Baker; one son, Michael Baker of Hugo, Oklahoma; four daughters, Quannah Williston, Patricia Baker, Vivian Baker and Tammye Baker, all of Hugo; two brothers, Pete Noah, Jr. of Hugo and Jacob Bohanon of Lawrence, Kansas; two sisters, Gladys Wood of Hugo and Josephine Roberts of Wright City, Oklahoma; one foster sister, Noakola Shufeldt of Hugo; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Goldman F. Kyle

Goldman F. Kyle, 77, of Clarksville, Texas, formerly of Charleson, Arkansas, passed away Friday, September 21, 2001 in Clarksville.

Mr. Kyle was a 32nd degree Mason, a member of the Masonic Friendship Lodge #16 of Clarksville, The Scottish Rite, Dallas, Texas, North Heights Alumni Association of Texarkana, Arkansas and the Highland Park Baptist Church of Texarkana, Texas.

Survivors include his wife, Bonnie Berry Kyle of Clarksville, and several nieces and nephews.

Grace Emma Mitchell

Grace Emma (Pebworth) Mitchell, 85, granddaughter of Green McCurtain, former Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, passed away May 7, 2001 in Burbank, California. She was born May 9, 1916 in Kinta, Oklahoma to Hugh and Cora (McCurtain) Pebworth. After graduating from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in elementary education, she taught school until retirement.



She settled in Burbank for her idyllic retirement years spent enjoying plays, concerts and the cinema. Short trips to Orange County, Hollywood and the beach were among her other passions.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Martin Jess Mitchell; brother, Sam Pebworth, and sister, Cora Stinson.

Survivors include her devoted son, Bobby Briar of Burbank, and a sister, Pauline Guyer, of Dallas, Texas.

Harrison "Dusty" Byars

Harrison "Dusty" Byars, 79, of Tishomingo, Oklahoma passed away September 6, 2001 in Tishomingo. Dusty was born August 21, 1922 in Connerville, Oklahoma.

He attended Jones Academy and Atoka High School. He was a veteran of World War II where he served with the U.S. Army and the U.S. Air Force. He married Juanita L. Holden on April 3, 1953 at Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Byars was an environmental health worker with the Chickasaw Nation. He was an elder at the Sandy Creek Presbyterian Church in Fillmore. He enjoyed singing, fishing and watching his grandchildren participate in sports.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Amiel and Bessie Byars; grandparents, Alec and Mahalia Byars and Hagan Greenwood; son and daughter-in-law, Joe and Lucille Cardinale; great-granddaughter, Tylar Wilson; brother, Junior Byars; sisters, Lorene Ethridge and Betty Darnell.

Survivors include his wife, Juanita L. Byars of the home; sons, Buck Byars and wife, Annie, of Latta, Oklahoma, DeWayne Byars and wife, Kay, Mark Byars and wife, Elaine, Michael Byars and Daniel Byars, all of Tishomingo; daughters, Linda Carter and Emma Wilson and husband, James, all of Latta, Carol Factor and husband, James, and Michelle Baken and husband, Byars "Hotshot", all of Tishomingo, and Christie Byars Chavez and husband, Luther, of Ravia; 30 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; a brother, Donald Ray Byars of Sparks, Nevada, and a sister, Emma Wilkerson of Davis, Oklahoma.

DeWayne "Bear" Byars

DeWayne "Bear" Byars, 45, of Tishomingo, Oklahoma passed away September 13, 2001 at Tishomingo. He was born September 22, 1955 in Talihina, Oklahoma.

DeWayne attended Milburn High School. He married Kay Pendergraft on November 25, 1992 in Sandy Creek, Oklahoma.

He was a maintenance engineer with the Health Systems Department of the Chickasaw Nation. He was a member of the Sandy Creek Presbyterian Church and enjoyed playing dominoes, camping, fishing, hunting, reading, cooking and walking in the outdoors.

His father, Harrison Byars; brother, Joseph Cardinale, and grandparents, James and Emma Holden and Amiel and Bessie Byars, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Kay Byars of the home; a son, Trent Byars of Tishomingo; brothers, Buck Byars and wife, Annie, of Latta, Oklahoma, Mark Byars and wife, Elaine, of Ravia, Oklahoma, Michael Byars and Daniel Byars, both of Tishomingo, and sisters, Linda Carter and Emma Wilson and her husband, Rick, all of Latta, Carol Factor and husband, James, and Michelle Baken and husband, Byars "Hotshot", all of Tishomingo, and Christie Byars Chavez and husband, Luther, of Ravia.

Murle Maurice Hulsey

Murle Maurice Hulsey, 84, of Tulsa, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, August 12, 2001 in Tulsa. He was born August 22, 1916 in Garland, Haskell County, Oklahoma, the second of eight children born to Henry Hunter and Ida Atlas Hulsey. His father, Henry, was an original enrollee. Mr. Hulsey married Viola Rose "Boots" Benson in 1939 in Coweta, Oklahoma. He had retired from McDonald-Douglas and had spent his later life ranching and investing in real estate.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, George L. and LaDeana Gail Hulsey of Tulsa; a daughter and son-in-law, Glenda Sue and Douglas R. Embrey of Tulsa; a son-in-law, Milt Daniel of Tulsa; grandsons, David Maurice and wife Juliane, Daniel Edward Embrey and wife Heather, and George Brhett Hulsey of Tulsa; granddaughters, Leslie Gail Hulsey Rowlands and husband Thomas, and Andrea Dianne Hulsey Skidgel and husband Chance of Tulsa, Jeanine Ann Hulsey Kinney and husband Sean of New York City; three great grandsons, Drew Thomas Rowlands, Scout Wesley and Tanner Wade Skidgel, all of Tulsa; eight great-granddaughters, Alix Taylor Rowlands, Allie Winslow Hutto, Kyleigh Morgan, Kaitlyn Miranda Embrey, Maegan Leann, Ashley Grace, Emily Rae and Erin Elizabeth Embrey, all of Tulsa; two sisters, Mildred Lucille Hulsey Henry and Florence Ethel Hulsey Henry and husband Leon of Tamaha; sisters-in-law, Inez Tackett Hulsey of Fort Smith, Arkansas, Erma Dean Hulsey Obannon of Muskogee, and Betty Jo Hulsey Davis of Bixby and a host of nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, "Boots"; a daughter, Murlene Hulsey Daniel; four brothers, Walter James Hulsey of Fort Smith, Arkansas, Gerald Wayne Hulsey of Muskogee, Clinton Lee Hulsey of Tamaha and Leon Melvin Hulsey of Tulsa, and a sister, Hester Marie Hulsey Cronic of Stigler.

James Edward Dyke

James Edward Dyke, 58, passed away October 1, 1982 at Wadsworth Veterans Hospital in Los Angeles, California. He was born January 5, 1924 in Oklahoma to Cornelia Hancock and Jon Ed Dyke. Cornelia made it through the Trail of Tears that brought her to Oklahoma.

Mr. Dyke, a former resident of Shafter, was living in Bakersfield, California at the time of his death. He retired from the U.S. Army as a Master Sergeant and had participated in World War II and the Korean Conflict, winning numerous medals and ribbons for his bravery.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Alene Dyke; three daughters, Belinda Dyke of Bakersfield, Connie Hudson of Kansas, and Carole Clarke of Florida; five sons, Richard and Donald of Oklahoma, Jimmy of Texas, Gary and Rickey of Bakersfield; 16 grandchildren; two sisters, Nona Jones of Nevada and Wanda Moody of Oklahoma, and two brothers, Donald of Georgia and Bruce of Kansas.