



BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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September 2001 Issue

State of the Nation address highlights annual festival

Huge crowds attended this year's Choctaw Festival held during the Labor Day Weekend at Tushka Homma, the historic tribal capitol. The weather was much more comfortable than the past few years, with temperatures in the high 80's and an overcast sky much of the weekend.

Monday activities always feature the State of the Nation Address, a free luncheon and a door prize giveaway of great items – this year a new pickup and cash.

Kenny Bryant, the Speaker of the Tribal Council, gave tribute to the growth of the Choctaw Nation and the Labor Day Festival. "We want to see the Choctaw Nation prosper, and with the help of God we will continue to do so." Bryant quoted Romans 8:31 "If God be for us, then who can be against us?"

Bryant spoke of the importance of having a goal of progress for the tribal services and programs. "As the Chief and Assistant Chief walk the halls of Congress, they will get the answers they are seeking because God walks with them," said Bryant.

Assistant Chief Mike Bailey thanked the many workers who had volunteered their time and efforts to making the festival a success. He also spoke of his appreciation of the Chief and for the numerous projects and programs that have been established during the last few years. Examples of these accomplishments included the beautiful Choctaw Nation Health Care Center at Talihina, the education programs such as scholarships and Child Development Centers, elderly programs such as the Independent Living Centers, and improved facilities at Jones Academy.

Chief Gregory E. Pyle shared the credit for these improvements and additions with the members of the Tribal Council. "We have a Tribal Council that is unmatched. They meet several times a week to learn about the needs of the Choctaw people and to seek solutions to those problems."

Chief Pyle spoke of the recent ribbon cutting at the tribe's ninth Travel Plaza – this one in Wilburton. He said that funds have been secured from HUD in the amount of \$750,000 each for travel plazas planned in Stringtown, Atoka, and Poteau. "These three travel stops will provide about 100 new jobs and also provide income to support services for Choctaws," said the Chief.

Other tribal business ventures mentioned in-



cluded CM/SE, an 8(a) company that provides services through government contracts, such as supplying medical personnel to military bases and supplying the WIC program overseas. The Chief also talked about three manufacturing plants the Choctaw Nation own: Atoka-based Choctaw Fabricators and Hugo and McAlester-based industrial plants.

In his State of the Nation Address, Chief Pyle announced that out of 585 Federally Recognized tribes in the United States of America, and the hundreds of Community Health Representative (CHR) Programs, the

Choctaws have the #1 rated CHR program in the country. He also said that plans for the future health care improvement of tribal people included hiring additional employees so that a physician and staff could travel to different field offices and community centers on a rotating basis.

People interested in the history of the Choctaw Nation were thrilled to hear the announcement that the museum would be renovated to offer more displays and additional safety precautions will be installed. "The improvements to the museum will be done carefully, because we want to be sure and retain the historical integrity of our Capitol Building," said Chief Pyle.

There are currently 14 community centers across the tribal boundaries, and the Chief said there was still a need for more. "Three additional community centers will be constructed – one at Spiro, one at Smithville and one at Crowder."

Programs to assist with housing needs have grown over the past months. The Modular Home plant in Coalgate continues to supply homes, and a second facility in Stigler is being built so that an increased number of Modular Homes can be constructed. There is also a program administered by the tribe called CHAP that can assist home buyers in eight states.

Chief Pyle thanked the Council for their support and votes that make these services available. A massive \$3 million dollar Council Bill was approved in August to fund education scholarships for the next year.

Six Councilmembers were inaugurated during the Labor Day ceremonies. Taking the Oath of Office from Chief Justice James Wolfe were Ted Dosh, Jack Austin, Delton Cox, Randle Durant, James Frazier and E.J. Johnson.



Reigning Choctaw Nation Princesses for 2001-02 are Jr. Miss Pakanli Polk, Sr. Miss Reannon Frazier and Little Miss Tia Hampton.

Choctaw Nation Princesses crowned

The Choctaw Nation Princess Pageant was held Saturday, September 1 during the annual Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma.

Crowned Sr. Miss Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma was Reannon Frazier of District 2. First runner-up for Sr. Miss is Kerri Scaggs of District 9; second runner-up is Katrina Taylor of District 7, and

third runner-up is Stacy Tims of District 8.

Six young ladies competed for the title of Jr. Miss Choctaw Nation. Pakanli Polk of District 9 won with District 8's Courtney Baker first runner-up and District 2's Tiffany Shomo second runner-up.

Vying for Little Miss were princesses from ten districts in the

Choctaw Nation. Tia Hampton of District 8 won the title. Jessica Paige Tenequer of District 10 is first runner-up and Andrea Jo Wilson of District 3 is second runner-up.

Judges for the 2001-02 Princess Pageant were Margaret Teal, Amancha Scott, Suzanne Heard-Harbour and Alestine Thomas.

Team effort leading to better road conditions



At the Speer Road are Doyle Bacon and Ernie Taylor of the Choctaw Nation Transportation Program, Tribal Councilmen Perry Thompson and Kenny Bryant, County Commissioner Wyndle David, Chief Greg Pyle and County Commissioner Danny Antwine.



Examining the new pavement on the Rufe Road are Doyle Bacon, Transportation Director Ernie Taylor, Chief Greg Pyle and County Commissioner Steve Jordan.

Road improvements are happening across the Choctaw Nation, thanks to the team effort of Choctaw Nation and local county commissioners. Two counties that have recently benefitted from the joint work of the tribe and commissioners are Choctaw County and McCurtain County.

Speer Road at Hugo has twelve and a half miles of pavement nearly completed. Commissioners Danny Antwine and Wyndle David are ready to begin striping the finished portion. The road will be paved from the Airport Bypass to Speer Road all the way from "I" Street.

McCurtain Countians have been enjoying riding over smoother roads around Rufe and Holly Creek. Nine miles of the Rufe Road are already paved.

County Commissioner Steve Jordan said the improvements on this road and the pavement of the Holly Creek Road have been praised by many people who travel the area on a regular basis. According to the commissioners in the two counties, the project could not have been successful without the tribe's assistance.

For road improvements in the Choctaw Nation boundaries, the tribal Transportation Program negotiates with the commissioners in

See **ROADS** on Page 4



Admiring the newly asphalted Holly Creek Road are Commissioner Steve Jordan, Chief Pyle, Ernie Taylor and Doyle Bacon.

McCaleb serving Native American community



Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Secretary of Interior Neal McCaleb, Council Speaker Kenny Bryant and Councilmember Jack Austin are pictured here. McCaleb is a member of the Chickasaw Nation and has served the Native American community in a variety of ways as an advocate of economic development and Indian self-determination. He has previously served as Secretary of Transportation in Oklahoma. As Assistant Secretary of Interior, McCaleb serves as the director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Tribal Council officers chosen

Tribal Councilmembers have voted to keep Kenny Bryant as Speaker of the Council for another year. The Council also chose Charlotte Jackson to remain in the office of Secretary and Jack Austin as the new Council Chaplain.

Three certificates were awarded to language teachers who will be working with the Choctaw Language Program – Liz Tonika, Ollie Marris and Tawana Waterson.

Cross Deputization agreements between the Choctaw Nation, BIA and McCurtain County Sheriff's office and also the Wil-

burton Police Department were approved by the Tribal Council.

Funding for the Choctaw Nation EDH Program was approved.

An expenditure from the Gaming Budget was approved in the amount of \$5,000 to assist with the cost of the Fallen Firefighter Memorial to honor wild land firefighters.

The Council agreed to allow the submission of a grant application to the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. If awarded, this grant could implement a program at Chi Hullo Li See **COUNCIL** on Page 11

Reconstructing Russell school records

Dear Editor,

The Russell School History-Preservation Group is trying to reconstruct school records of the Russell Training School on the campus of Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant.

Many Oklahoma Presbyterian College girls attended the training school even before the building was opened in 1920. The first classes (elementary and high school) were held in several places on the campus. After the Russell building opened, grades 1-12 attended. Southeastern's main purpose at that time was to train teachers and many OPC girls were part of that process. Some came for a short time and others for longer periods. They were all very much a part of Russell School.

We need names and addresses for everyone who attended OPC and Russell Training School. Many years have passed since the last high school class graduated in 1953. We realize of course that many of our classmates are now deceased. We still want their names on our class rolls. Please pass this information on to families, hoping they will supply the information for us. If the years attended are known, include that. If a graduation date is remembered, that should be included also.

I understand that there will be an OPC Reunion in early October. That would be a wonderful opportunity for those attending to pass the information on or they can mail it to either of the addresses below. We would appreciate it as soon as possible. Thank you.

Rena Dosh Caffey
1912 W. Main
Durant, OK 74701

Pat Green Swafford
2805 Briarwood Ave.
Durant, OK 74701

Student earns joint bachelor, master's degree

Dear Chief Pyle,

I would like to thank you for the financial assistance I received from the Choctaw Nation while attending the University of Oklahoma. I graduated from Hugo High School in 1996 and began my collegiate career in the fall of 1996 at the University of Oklahoma. I have been at this university for the past five years and received a joint Bachelor's and Master's degree in Accounting on May 11, 2001. Currently, I am employed with Deloitte & Touche as a staff tax accountant in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I want to thank Chief Pyle and Mr. Wade for their continued dedication to the Choctaw Nation.

I truly believe that the Choctaw Nation has grown a tremendous amount under the strong and remarkable leadership of Chief Pyle. I have greatly benefitted from the increase in scholarships that were able to be disbursed and I am assured that many other Choctaws have benefitted as well, ranging from the expansion of Head Start schools to assisting the elderly through the growth of senior citizen centers. I am greatly appreciative for the assistance I have received.

Heather Davidson
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Researching paternal family tree

Dear Editor,

I am researching my family tree on my father's side. In some of the records there is some question concerning my great-grandmother as being of Choctaw ancestry.

Her name is Catheda Ellen Lear (possibly Leah), born in 1853 (no date) and died shortly before or in 1912. Place of birth: Yazoo County, Mississippi. She married Thomas H. Ward (no date) and from such union, my grandmother, Willie Elizabeth Ward, was born. Willie Elizabeth Ward was born September 12, 1879 and died November 10, 1919 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Willie married William Robert Forbush on September 25, 1895.

Any information that you may have would be greatly appreciated.

Bettye J. Young
1004 Commercial Ave., PMB #338
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-299-2805 or Dalebettyey@aol.com

More information sought on old story

Dear Editor,

I am searching for information in regards to an Indian massacre on Pine Top Mountain south of Pittsburg, Oklahoma in the 1870s. My mother and grandmother told me this story.

Pittsburg and Blanco were mining towns. The Indians lived on the mountain. They were peaceful. The men in Pittsburg were drinking and went up and killed the Indians while they slept. Seven children were hid in the woods. The next day, the children were taken to Goodland Home in Hugo, Oklahoma. Some were adopted. My great-grandmother and her brother were adopted by Frank and Georgia Donahue. Some people called Frank "Doc". Ada married James Lee Bullard. While they were married James went away for a few days. When he returned he found that his best friend had raped Ada. He killed him and to keep him from going to jail, Ada's brother said he had killed the man. He went to jail for James. Ada was born 1867 and died 1920.

Does anyone know about this story? These are two that were spared. Where are, who are the other five? Please write me.

Catherine Housley
1516 E. Chickasaw
McAlester, OK 74501
918-423-1355

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Chì Hullo Li receives support for cultural activities

Dear Choctaw Nation,

My name is Harrison Burnside, a cultural Counselor at Choctaw Nation Chì Hullo Li, a six months residential substance abuse treatment center for Native American mothers and children in Talihina, Oklahoma. We would like to express our appreciation to the Choctaw Nation and the BISHINIK staff for their support. Our compliments to you for doing a good job covering the Nation.

Through your newspaper and support, we have given announcements. Our last announcement we had people who wanted correspondences with our women or individuals wanting us to teach them Native American culture. Some of our cultural activities and ceremonies are open to the public, but only to those with good intentions and are pure at heart.

Here at Chì Hullo Li, we try to share intertribal philosophies of living in harmony, dealing holistically with our situations, circumstances and conditions, heal-

ing spiritually, mentally, emotionally and physically. To understand what "multigenerational trauma and grief" and what "cultural disenfranchisement" mean, we try to understand our cultural, tribal and personal histories, to understand the present, and break the cycles of abuses and neglects in our lives, in order to gain hope and faith and to have positive plans and goals for the future.

Our "daughters," "sisters" and "nieces" here at the center are taught self-awareness and "LIFE responsibilities" on the cultural side of our therapy. This is where these good elders come in with their hearts. Each role model is a "hero" and our "strength."

We would like to thank a few certain dedicated people who give us guidance and share their wisdom. They have donated their time and material to the ladies and children at Chì Hullo Li. Thank you for remembering our Indian mothers and children. It is not often the female and the children are remembered and cherished without judgment, criticism or

politics.

Thank you, you kind elders, representing your different Christian denominations and traditional faiths, for your support without asking for monetary compensation. To those who have given presentations in our classes, to our Cultural Competency program; Darryl Brown and Burt Holt of Hugo; Harry and Carol James; Darrel and Renita Maxey; pastor and Choctaw Judge, the Honorable Juanita Jefferson; the local lumber companies for their donation of firewood for our ceremonies; the IHS Maintenance personnel who help us maintain our sweat lodge and tipi grounds; Althea Young and Lei Du'boit for their participation and encouragement; Darrel and the "Recovery Center" up the road from us for their participation in our "Talking Circles" and their loyal support, and Billy McClellan, Sr. of Agra, Noella Bowers of Hugo and Jimmy Johnson of Shawnee for running our sweat lodge ceremonies.

As before, we also take donations such as lumber, building materials, fence posts and hardware to maintain our sweat lodge and tipi grounds. If you need to get rid of your wood from last winter's ice storm, we need hardwood from fruit trees and oaks. We are looking for storytellers. If you would like to aid us with your knowledge of history and culture, please let us know.

Our women are of different tribes of Oklahoma so we are constantly searching for places to go such as tribal museums to reintroduce our clients to their tribal histories and contributions.

Also, we are in need of businesses where we could sell our crafts and art works. We use the funds for our cultural activities.

Our phone number is 918-567-2905.

Again, we would like to express our appreciation for your compassion and support "Against All Odds".

**Harrison Burnside and
the staff of Choctaw Nation
Chì Hullo Li**

Information needed on Webb Lewis

Dear Editor,

I am finishing a book about a few Oklahomans in World War I. One of which is Webb Lewis, a Choctaw full-blood from Durwood, Carter County, Oklahoma. He married Julia John at Ardmore in 1914. He and Julia had two children.

Webb was killed in action on October 7, 1918 during the battle of the Meuse Argonne near Chatel Chehery. Julia remarried in 1920, then divorced in 1924. I think one of the children, possibly a daughter, sang at the various powwows for many years.

I don't have any photos of Webb Lewis but know one must have been taken after his arrival at Camp Travis, Texas in 1917.

I would appreciate any more information. Thank you.

Neal Freeman
Rt. 5 Box F46
Ardmore, OK 73401
580-224-9019 or e-mail: nfreeman@keytech.net

Family appreciates assistance

Dear Chief Pyle,

I just want to say thank you and the Choctaw Nation for such wonderful things you have helped my family with.

My son, Robert, had his surgery and all went well. He is now in Lawrence, Kansas at Haskell Indian College. He is very excited about living in college and playing football again.

Also, I'd like to thank you for your help with my hot water heater tank. It was leaking gas in our home and the Choctaw Nation came in and fixed it.

Then I had to go into the hospital and wanted to let you know that the nursing staff there at Choctaw Nation hospital was so kind and very caring. I would like to praise them for their hard work. And thank you Kenny Bryant for all your help in letting me know who to contact for help.

May God continue to bless all the Choctaw Nation.

Lou Palmer
Talihina, Oklahoma

Seeking information on George Bumgarner

Dear Editor,

I am trying to find information on my great-grandfather, George Bumgarner. I recently found a George A. Bumgarner, an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation.

Does anyone have any information on this person? Any information on his parents, spouse or children would be quite helpful also. Thank you.

Jerry Pack
5626 S. 75 E.
Tulsa, OK 74145
e-mail: packj@swbell.net

Requesting information on Leon Jones

Dear Editor,

I was in the Navy and stationed with a Leon Jones with no middle name who was Choctaw. We were stationed together from 1979 to 1985 and have lost all contact with him. His last address was in Hawaii, but is no longer a good address. He had a sister named Helen I believe. They were from McAlester, Oklahoma or in that area. His last rank that I am aware of is BTCS Leon Jones. He was stationed on the USS Ouellet FF-1077.

Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Bill Isbill
10512 Willow Ridge Dr.
Midwest City, OK 73130
405-732-0689; e-mail: pidiver@earthlink.net

Searching for Indian baseball league records

Dear Editor,

My grandfather, Edmond Jackson, an original enrollee, was born in 1896 in Philadelphia, Mississippi. He grew up in Atoka, Oklahoma. He and my father, Fred, used to talk about grandfather's illustrious career as a baseball pitcher in the Indian League.

One of the high points was when big leaguers toured the area during the off-season. He supposedly pitched against Big Poison and Little Poison (the Waner brothers) and Ty Cobb was on the opposing team but did not play.

Does anyone have remembrances or records of these leagues? How many teams, their names, various players, places where the games were played?

Frederick Grant Jackson
853 Bridle Ave.
Ft. Worth, TX 76108
(817) 246-8553

Exploring Indian ancestry

Dear Editor,

I am looking for any information on my great-grandmother, Elizabeth or Lizzie Meuir (full-blood Cherokee), born January 27, 1880. She lived with the Choctaws in Southeastern Oklahoma until moving to McKinney, Texas and marrying a Taylor.

I would certainly appreciate any information anyone could give me on her or the Meuir family. Thank you so much.

Larry W. Taylor
P.O. Box 1122
Clarksville, TX 75426
903-427-0156 or e-mail: t12larrytaylor@webtv.net



Stonehenge, England was one stop during Maui Watkins' trip to Europe as a student ambassador.

Student has memories to last lifetime

Dear Editor,

Earlier this year I was chosen to be one of the 35 students from across the state to be a Student Ambassador to Europe, representing the State of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City Public Schools and the Choctaw Nation. We were gone 21 days and visited six countries - England, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland. Along with the wonderful usual tourist attractions, castles, the Tower of London, the Crown Jewels, the British Museum, Stonehenge, the original Hard Rock Cafe, we met with a member of Parliament in England, stayed with a family in the country in England, visited Normandy Beach, learned how to blow glass in Switzerland, planted a tree in the Black Forest of Germany, met with a member of the government in The Netherlands, swam in a lake in the Alps in Switzerland and sampled the wonderful chocolate across Europe. To cover all we did would take pages.

I could not have been able to participate in this chance of a lifetime if it had not been for the help of Chief Greg Pyle, Council Speaker Kenny Bryant, OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance in Oklahoma City, The Good Medicine Society of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma City Public Schools Foundation, my aunts and uncles and friends, and the hard work of my mother in the fund-raising projects she undertook.

The memories I have and the friends I made on this trip will last forever. Again, thanks to everyone who helped me achieve this and I hope other Choctaw students will be able to participate in this program.

Maui Watkins
Senior at Classen School of Advanced Studies
and Performing Arts, Oklahoma City

Searching for Indian ancestors

Dear Editor,

I am searching for my Indian ancestors. I am looking for information on Andrew Caldwell who was married to Francina Hardwick. Andrew Caldwell's mother's last name was Sevier and she was born around 1760. I think the Indian heritage comes in through Andrew's grandmother. If you have any information, please contact me. Thank you.

Mary Barber Woods
401 Towne Ct.
Alvin, TX 77511

Searching for relatives of Anthony Parrish

Dear Editor,

I am searching for anyone who is related to the Anthony Parrish line. He married E Yan Hum Bee and lived in Oklahoma. He was the son of Fountain Parrish. They were full-blood Choctaw. Brother to Garland, James T. and Jane D. Parrish.

I would appreciate any information about the Parrish family.

Juanita Burkhardt
115 Kenwood
Hot Springs, AR 71913
501-627-0988

Requesting genealogical information

Dear Editor,

I would like to hear from the family of Fannie Hester Fowler and add their genealogy to the data I've already collected. I would also like to hear from anyone who can give me information on the Chapman family, my great-grandmother's brother, Tom Chapman, and his sister, Alice Chapman Landers. Thank you.

Mrs. Harold (Janie Merida) Watt
HC 73 Box 210
Pawhuska, OK 74056
e-mail: jahewatt@aol.com

Researching Ward genealogy

Dear Editor,

I am searching for information on my grandfather, Cornelius Edward Ward. I know he was born December 1893 in Honobia, Oklahoma and was a full-blood Choctaw. I believe his family consisted of a brother, Henry; a sister, Celeste; his dad, Elias, and his mother, Sena. Cornelius had been married before he married my grandmother, Mary Jane Goodwin. Both Elias and Sena were full-blood Choctaw and made their home at Honobia, Oklahoma. Any information would be appreciated.

Carol Rice
HC 62 Box 2024
Pittsburg, Oklahoma 74560
918-432-5049 or e-mail: cjriceRice@netscape.net

Choctaw Nation wants better health for diabetics



Diabetes is one of the most prevalent diseases among the Choctaw people. One of my priorities in the coming months is to promote better health care for those who are diabetic and identification of persons who have the disease. Many times, persons are estimated to have high blood sugar for years before they discover they have diabetes.

The Choctaw Nation is moving forward quickly with plans to coordinate efforts to educate patients on diabetes care so that complications can be prevented. According to health professionals, these terrible complications

can be controlled if the disease is caught early and kept under control.

It may also be possible to prevent or delay the disease at times. Proper exercise and diet can help dramatically in the control of diabetes and many other health risks, such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol and heart disease. Since obesity is often linked to diabetes, it is extremely important that your diet and exercise habits make it possible to stay within your average weight guidelines.

The past few years, studies have shown that a rising number

of young people have been diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes – and many of them were overweight. Not so long ago, it was extremely rare for someone under the age of 21 to have Type 2 diabetes. The increasing amount of cases with this dangerous disease has prompted the Choctaw Nation to take action.

A multidisciplinary team has been developed, and many health professionals have agreed to take an active role in the prevention and control of diabetes among the Native American patients we see at our clinics, hospital and in the communities. One component of

this plan includes having RNs and a Certified Diabetes Educator visiting schools and community centers.

Various programs will work simultaneously on the effort. Resources from services such as the Vocational Rehabilitation Program, the CHRs, Social Services Program, WIC, Nutrition Program, Boys and Girls Club, Jones Academy, Head Start, and hospital and clinic personnel including doctors, therapists and pharmacists will coordinate ideas and efforts with the Diabetes Treatment Center staff to provide outreach and research on

the issue.

In the Choctaw Health Systems today, there are 3,800 identified diabetics. We expect that number to increase as a result of the effort to identify those who have the disease. It is extremely important to identify diabetes early, and then to follow the suggestions of the physician.

There were 831 new cases of diabetes diagnosed within our health systems just in the year 2000. Approximately 38% of people over the age of 60 have Type 2 diabetes. Fighting diabetes is a continuing battle – one we can't afford to lose.

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

WIC Overseas improves the quality of life for our service members and their families



Pictured at Navy London at the WICO opening are Capt. DeSaveorngniania, Commander USN CDR U.S. Navy Medical Clinic UK; Staci Crawford, CMSE WICO UK Regional Manager, HM1 Booth; Matt Novick, CM/SE Managing Officer; Assistant Chief Mike Bailey and Tribal Councilmen Ted Dosh and Kenny Bryant.



The ribbon cutting at Alconberry was attended by Assistant Chief Mike Bailey; LTC Kucsera, WICO Point of Contact; Staci Crawford, CM/SE WICO UK Regional Manager; Colonel Howell, Commander 48th Medical Group; Muriel Metcalf, Tricare Lead Agent Europe; Tribal Council Speaker Kenny Bryant and Councilman Ted Dosh.

Tribal Council Speaker Kenny Bryant, Councilman Ted Dosh and I were honored to join CM/SE (Choctaw Services/Management Enterprise) employees in England recently for the Grand Openings of two WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Overseas sites.

The WIC Overseas Program is a nutrition education program that provides supplemental foods which promote good health for pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women, infants and children up to age 5.

In the United States, WIC is operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. I am proud to say that WIC Overseas services are provided by Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise.

The London WIC Overseas site was the first U. S. Navy base in England to offer WIC Overseas services. It was great to visit with the personnel who are doing such an amazing job serving the eligible families. We also visited Alconbury Royal Air Force Base, England, for another WIC Overseas ribbon cutting and grand opening.

The Choctaw Nation is proud to participate in bringing this nutritional assistance program to overseas military and civilian personnel and family members.

The Chief, Council and I all appreciate the incredible job the employees are doing for the American public. I am proud to be a part of the team.

Our military service members who are assigned overseas were

unable to receive WIC benefits outside the United States. With the implementation of the WICO program, the Choctaw Nation is able to contribute and improve the quality of life for our service members and their families.

Both Councilmen Bryant and Dosh witnessed first-hand the services we are providing to overseas military personnel, civilians and their family members. There are now 13 sites of

WICO open, and by the end of this year, we expect to have 20 sites open in England, Germany, Italy, Spain, Japan and Korea. In one year, we expect to have approximately 64 sites staffed by CM/SE employees throughout the world.

The WIC program was not offered anywhere overseas before the Choctaw Nation stepped in to develop, staff, equip and implement the program.





Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

The 2001 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival marked another great weekend of family activities and the fellowship of families and friends. May our Choctaw Nation continue to grow.

We are reminded that a nation can rise no higher, can be no stronger, and be no better than the individuals which compose that nation. And today I share with you a challenge from the Book of Galatians 5:22-26. I believe it is impossible to understand the Bible, or Christian living without understanding something of the Person and the work of the Holy Spirit.

The Bible teaches that God is in three persons. God is One, but He is manifested in three Persons – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is coequal with the God the Father and coequal with God the Son. The Bible also teaches that the Holy Spirit is a Person. He is never to be referred to as "it". He is not just an agent. He is not just an influence. He is a Mighty Person, the Holy Spirit of God.

The Bible tells us that He is Omnipotent – that means that He has all power; that He is Omnipresent – that means that He is everywhere at the same time; that he is Omniscient – that means that He has all knowledge. He knows everything that you do – He watches you.

He hears the lies that you tell. He knows the thoughts and intents of your heart. He knows what is in your mind, the things you think, the intents of your soul. He knows all about it. He knows everything. The Bible teaches that He writes down in a book everything that you do and someday it shall be brought out as evidence at the Great Judgment of God.

The Bible tells us something of the work of the Holy Spirit. What does He do? We are told in the Gospel of John 16:8 that He convicts men of sin: "And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." It is the Holy Spirit who convicts you of your sin. He makes you feel uncomfortable. He pricks your conscience. He makes you acknowledge and admit to your-

self that you are a sinner, and then He gives you the strength and the power to turn from your sins. You cannot come to Jesus Christ unless the Holy Spirit convicts you, and you must repent of your sins.

Then the Bible teaches that when the Holy Spirit has convicted you of sin, when you are willing to give yourself to Christ, and when you come to Christ, He gives new life. That is the work of the Holy Spirit. The moment that you receive Jesus Christ as your Savior, the Holy Spirit of God comes in and regenerates.

The Bible also teaches that you are dead in trespasses and sins. Now this doesn't mean your body is dead. It's your soul that is dead. Your soul that lives in your body is going to live forever – that part of you is dead toward God. It is called "spiritual death". The moment you come to Jesus Christ, the Spirit of God brings the life of God into you and you begin to live. The soul that rejects the Lord Jesus Christ will spend eternity in a place prepared for the devil and his angels.

The Spirit of God has given to you the very life of God – and God is an eternal God – that means you will live as long as God lives and that is for eternity.

The Bible also teaches that the Spirit of God produces the fruit of the Spirit: "but the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance." (Galatians 5:22-23)

Now these nine things are to characterize the life of every born again child of God. We are to be filled with love, we are to have joy, we are to have peace, we are to have longsuffering or patience, we are to be gentle and kind, we are to be filled with goodness, we are to have faith, there is to be meekness, and we are to have temperance. But what do we find? We find in the average so-called Christian today the very opposite.

Everyone before he comes to Jesus Christ is dominated by one nature, the "old man", which is called the flesh. The flesh, the world, and the devil controls your life. You are controlled by your ego. You are controlled by yourself. The moment you re-

ceive Jesus Christ as your Savior, that self is put down and Christ is put on the throne in your life and the Spirit of God dominates your life.

One thing we remember – self is still there, sometimes hidden, sometimes quiet – waiting his opportunity and his chance to take control again.

As a Christian, you have the power, you have the will to yield either to the flesh and live a fleshly carnal life, or you have the power to yield to the Spirit, to live a Spirit-filled life. Which are you living? Are you living a life on the human plane, a fleshly carnal life in which there is little Bible reading, little prayer? You may go to a church, but there is no daily walk with Christ. There is no joy that you know a Christian should have. Your life is an up and down experience. God never meant it to be that way. God meant the Christian life to be on the highest possible plane at all times, bearing the fruit of the Spirit.

When you come to Jesus Christ by faith – He gives you the Holy Spirit who produces the fruit of the Spirit. After the Holy Spirit is in you, you must yield to Him so He controls your life. It is then that sin shall not rule over you.

The Bible says "... greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world." (1 John 4:4) If this is what you have been looking for, you must by an act of faith receive Jesus Christ. You must give Him your whole life. You can do this today!

Christian Indians and friends, paraphrase Paul the Apostle's desire in Roman's 10:1 and pray, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for 'American Indians' is that they might be saved."

We do pray for precious souls around the world as we are reminded in Matthew 7:13: "... broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there by which go in thereat."

Pray for President George W. Bush, the leaders of the United States of America and our Indian Nations. Pray for our Choctaw Chief, Assistant Chief, members of the Tribal Council and the spiritual leaders among us. May the Lord bless you!

Choctaw Code Talkers Association holds meeting

The Choctaw Code Talkers Association met during the Festival weekend, with descendants of several Code Talkers managing to be present. Bertram Bobb, whose ancestors included two Choctaw Code Talkers, Mitchell Bobb and James Edwards, said, "It is good to see the descendants of heroes.

"My Uncle James became a preacher when he came out of the service," said Bertram. "James Edwards performed my marriage."

Williston and Delia Wesley were present to participate in the meeting. Delia's father was Ben Carterby. She says that Ben volunteered to interpret for Joseph Oklahombi because Joseph didn't speak fluent English.

Descendants of Joseph Oklahombi who came to the Association gathering included Lee Sexton and Mauli Watkins.

Jim and Jean Edwards were there to represent his father, James Edwards. "My father didn't talk about his war services much. The Code Talkers were a 'secret weapon'."

Margaret McWilliams spoke of her grandfather, Calvin Wilson. "He was from Eagletown. I remember my grandfather, but don't know a lot about him."

Fred Bobb said that he was related to both Mitchell Bobb and James Edwards. Jennifer Bush, a descendant of Mitchell Bobb, was also present. President of the Association, Evangeline Wilson and her daughter Cynthia, are also descendants of both Edwards and Bobb.

Tewanna Edwards' Code Talker ancestor was Otis Leader. She said Leader was among the

first troops to arrive in France. Their government had commissioned an artist to depict a soldier that was representative of the United States. Otis Leader was the soldier chosen as a model. "His portrait hangs in Paris and a monument has been dedicated to him because of his great deeds," said Tewanna. She added that there is also a portrait and statue of Otis Leader in London, England.

Anella Garcia said her grandfather was Mitchell Bobb.

Anella's son, Larry was also at the meeting.

The Choctaw Code Talkers Association is always seeking membership from descendants of the Choctaw Code Talkers. The Association also appreciates any and all information that can be shared about these great men who used their native language to transmit secret messages.

For more information on the Association, please contact President Wilson at: P.O. Box 1671, Chickasha OK 73023.

Agreement with DHS allows for a social worker in each of five tribal health clinics

The Choctaw Nation and Department of Human Services recently signed an agreement that will provide social workers in the tribal clinics of Broken Bow, Hugo and McAlester. Contracts have also been signed to provide a social worker in Poteau and Talihina Clinics.

For the signing meeting, Chief Gregory E. Pyle was joined by Alice Foran, Area Director of the Southeast 15 counties for DHS; Bob North, Programs Administrator from the Oklahoma City Office of Field Operations; Shirley Lodes, Programs Manager for the same office; Joe Bray, County Director in Pittsburg County; Bill Wilson, Programs Manager of Field Operations out of Ada; Shannon McDaniel, Executive Director of Social Services for Choctaw Nation; Mickey Peercy, Director of Self Governance for the Choctaw Nation; Bob Blum, Choctaw Nation Health Care Center Administrator, and Gary Batton, Executive Director of Choctaw Nation Health Services.

The agreement allows DHS to pay half of the salary for the social worker, with the tribe paying the remaining salary. Based at the clinics, the social worker can help tribal members access other benefit programs such as day care, food stamps and counseling services.

"This is a true partnership with the Choctaw Nation and the State of Oklahoma. We are really happy about it," said Foran.

"Providing care to Indians and other persons in our communities will be much more manageable with these staff members in our facilities," said Batton.

The contracts are for a one year period.

Roads continued from Page 1

counties needing assistance so that the Choctaw Nation can purchase materials and the commissioners can provide the equipment and workers.

According to Transportation Director Ernie Taylor, the materials

can include everything from asphalt to tinhorns.

Having spent a great deal of his life in the rural areas of southeast Oklahoma, Chief Gregory E. Pyle has a high level of appreciation for the improvements. "I am familiar

with the shape these roads have been in the past few years, and the progress is tremendous. The county commissioners have done a wonderful job on the roads and I am thankful that the tribe was able to help."

Eye Clinic expands services, gains staff members



Choctaw Nation Health Care Center administrative staff members David Wharton, Dennis Franks and Reece Sherrill are pictured with Eye Clinic staff Dr. Mike Williams, Dr. Stephen Fransen, CNHCC Chief of Staff Dr. Jim Howard, Dr. Tanya Mayers, Dawnda Palmer, Desiree Hagerman and Patsy Dukes.



The addition of Optometrist Tanya Mayer will ensure more patients will be able to receive eye care at the Eye Clinic.

Optometrist joins CNHCC Eye Clinic

Dr. Tanya Mayer has become a full-time member of the staff at the Eye Clinic. She performs comprehensive eye examinations for all ages, treats glaucoma, monitors diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration.

Dr. Mayer was born and raised in Kazakhstan, a republic of the former Soviet Union. Seven years ago, she arrived in the United States with her mother. Prior to her immigration, Dr. Mayer completed four years of medical school at the Medical University of Aktubinsk. She received a Bachelor of Science from Oklahoma State University and a Doctor of Optometry degree from Northeastern State University College of Optometry in Tahlequah. Upon her graduation, she accepted the position at CNHCC. Her husband, Vitaliy, is a computer programmer. They have one child and reside in Talihina. They enjoy church activities, traveling, camping and mountain biking.

“Access to eye care has been a challenge for the Choctaw Nation,” said Bob Blum, CNHCC Administrator. “The addition of Dr. Mayer will add the capacity to see more patients. We are very happy to welcome her.”

Ophthalmologist to be in Talihina monthly

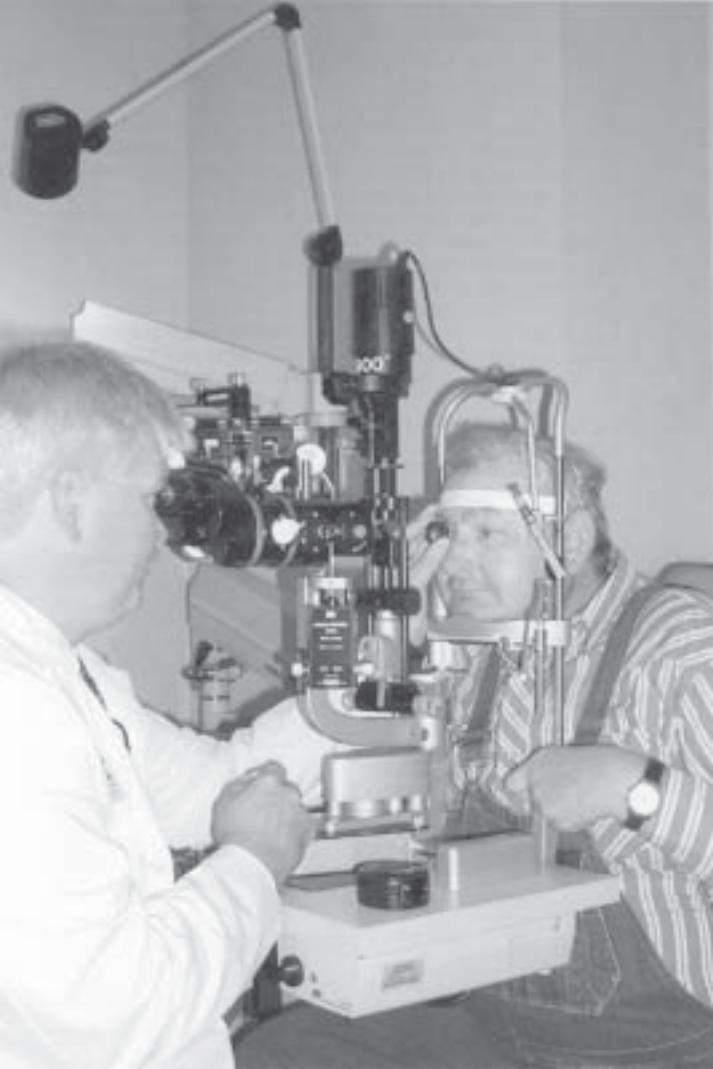
Dr. Stephen Fransen has joined the Eye Clinic at Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina as a part-time ophthalmologist. He specializes in diabetic retinopathy and has done thousands of laser treatments on diabetic patients.

Dr. Fransen is an Associate Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology, College of Medicine, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He graduated from the University of Manitoba College of Medicine, Canada, then completed his ophthalmology residency at the University of Oklahoma and medical retinal fellowship at the University of Miami-Bascom Palmer Eye Institute.

He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and was recognized with an Achievement Award for significant contributions during the Academy’s 2000 meeting. He is certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

He and his wife, Cindy, have three children, Sarah, Hannah and Ben. They reside in Edmond.

Dr. Fransen will come to Talihina one Thursday each month to see and treat patients with retinal problems. Patients who require treatment may sometimes be at the clinic all day, but this is



Dr. Stephen Fransen performs an eye examination on a patient in the Eye Clinic at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina.

less time consuming than the alternative – a round-trip to Oklahoma City.

“We are extremely pleased to add Dr. Fransen to our staff,” said Dr. Mike Williams, staff optometrist.

“For years our patients have been required to travel a great distance to benefit from his specialty,” he said. “Now they are able to receive these treatments right here in the Choctaw Nation.”

Promote healthy smiles – help prevent baby bottle tooth decay

Dental hygiene is just as important for your baby as it is for you. Caring for your baby’s teeth is important because the teeth are instrumental in helping your child speak correctly, for helping in the development of good eating habits (able to eat a variety of foods) and reserving space for the child’s permanent teeth.

For an infant, you need to clean your baby’s mouth using a wet washcloth. Be sure to wash inside the lips, cheeks, and all around the tongue, the roof of the mouth, and the upper and lower gums.

At 18 months, help your child use a toothbrush twice a day to help keep his teeth clean. Do not use toothpaste until age 2. When your child is old enough to brush their teeth, let them choose their

WIC WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

toothbrush. A toothbrush that is popular with the child will be used more often. Make sure any toothbrush you buy is a soft bristle baby toothbrush designed for little ones and new teeth.

Baby Bottle Tooth Decay is a type of tooth decay that occurs in babies and young children. It is caused by the sugars contained in breastmilk, formula, cow’s milk, fruit juice, Kool-Aid, and soda pop. When these drinks stay on the teeth for long periods of time, the sugar starts to rot the teeth and even turns them black.

Does Baby Bottle Tooth Decay happen to all children? The answer is NO. It is more preva-

lent with babies and small children that carry a bottle or sippy cup around with them and sip from it throughout the day or babies who are allowed to suck from a bottle while they are sleeping, especially babies whose parent props their bottle up for them at naptime.

A bottle may seem like the perfect way to soothe a toddler to sleep – but pediatric dentists are strongly against it. When a child falls asleep with a bottle in her mouth, the formula, milk or juice stays there and ferments. If your baby’s teeth have started to emerge, the naptime or nighttime bottle can cause the top front teeth to decay rapidly.

You may help keep your child’s teeth healthy by following these recommendations:

- Clean them at least once a day
- Have your baby’s first dental visit no later than one year of age
- Don’t put your baby to bed with a bottle ... NEVER prop up a bottle for a baby to eat from while sleeping
- Don’t allow your child to walk around with a bottle or sippy cup throughout the day
- Wean your baby from a bottle to a cup by 10-12 months
- Make sure your child gets enough fluoride. Most town water and rural water companies have fluoride put into their water source, so you need not worry. If you use well water, talk to your doctor about adding fluoride drops or using fluoridated toothpaste
- Set a good example. Brush and floss your own teeth every day and visit your dentist every six months.

TROPICAL PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICH

2 Tbsps peanut butter	12 slices bananas
2 tsps crushed pineapple	2 slices bread

Mix the peanut butter and crushed pineapple in a small bowl. Spread the mixture onto the bread. Count as you cut off 12 slices of banana. Be creative as you place the bananas on the peanut butter mixture. Put on top of slice of bread. *NOTE: Children should use plastic knife with this recipe.*

(Parent: As you help your child create their sandwich, you can also teach them. Mixing and slicing takes the use of small motor skills. Encourage your child to be independent while making their sandwich. Encourage your child to count as they measure the ingredients. Ask them what colors they see. A good geography lesson: ask what tropical fruits are and where they are grown?)

MONKEY MILKSHAKE

1 cup sliced strawberries	2 tsps vanilla
1 medium banana	3 ice cubes
1 cup milk (whole or skim)	

Combine ingredients in a blender until smooth and fluffy. Makes 2 to 3 servings. *NOTE: Parents should supervise the use of all electrical equipment.*

FOOD DISTRIBUTION						
October 2001	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wea	Thurs	Fri
		1 Closed Inventory	2 Closed Inventory	3 Atoka 9-12	4 Coalgate 9-12 Stigler 9-2	5 Wilburton 9-2 Hugo 9-12
	7	8 Broken Bow 9-2	9	10 Bethel 9-10:30 Smithville 12-2	11	12 Wright City 9-12
	14	15	16 Talihina 9-2	17	18 Poteau (A-H) 9-2	19
	21	22 Poteau (I-P) 9-2	23	24 Idabel 9-2	25	26 Poteau (Q-Z) 9-2
	28	29 Closed Inventory	30 Closed Inventory	31 Closed Inventory		

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 October 8 through October 26 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.

Guidelines for using Choctaw Nation health services

The Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority (CNHSA) would like to inform everyone of the eligibility guidelines at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina and all the field clinics.

Eligibility Guidelines

1. A Native American with a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card from a federally recognized tribe is eligible for all services. Verification of Social Security Number is also required. Please note: In order to be eligible for Contract Health Services, the patient must show proof of residency in Atoka, Choctaw, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, McCurtain, Pittsburg or Pushmataha Counties of Oklahoma.
2. Children, under the age of 19 years, of an eligible parent are eligible for all services. Eligibility will only be determined through parents. Grandparents, other relatives or friends can verify a child’s eligibility for care by presenting the child’s parent’s CDIB and a letter from the parent authorizing medical care for the child. Patients 19 years and older must present their own CDIB as proof of eligibility. In certain instances, as determined by Administration, care may be rendered without producing a CDIB. Individuals will be given one day to present the required documentation. Failure to comply will result in billing for services rendered and ineligibility for further care. In all cases, after the age of one (1) year, either a Social Security card or copy in the patient’s chart is necessary to provide services.
3. Adopted child, stepchild, foster child, legal ward or orphan under the age of 19 years of an eligible parent is eligible for all services. The following documents must be provided to document eligibility:
 - A. Marriage license of parents
 - B. Birth Certificate of child
 - C. CDIB of eligible parent
 - D. Proof of dependency (divorce papers, tax forms, adoption papers, custody agreements, court orders)
- E. Eligible parent MUST come in and complete an affidavit of acknowledgment of dependency form and have the form notarized
- F. Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority does not recognize common law marriages; stepchildren from these circumstances are not eligible for care.
4. Non-eligible spouses are eligible for limited services on a fee basis. Non-eligible spouses can use Laboratory Services, X-rays, Surgery Clinic, Women’s Clinic, Family Practice, Emergency/Urgent Care and In-Patient Services only. Non eligible spouses can not receive the following services: Contract Health, Eye Care, Dental Care, Pharmacy, Diabetes Treatment Center, Physical Therapy, Podiatry Services, Audiology, Cardiology, Orthopedics and Behavioral Health. Services will be rendered for cash, credit card, or the individual’s insurance will be billed. The following documents must be produced to determine eligibility:
 - A. Marriage license
 - B. CDIB card of spouse
 - C. Proof of insurance: Medicare Card, Medicaid

Card, or Private Insurance Card, unless cash or a credit card is offered for payment

- D. In the event of the eligible spouse’s death, services will continue until the non-eligible spouse remarries.
- E. Non-eligible spouses are seen only at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center.
5. Non-eligible spouses pregnant with an eligible’s baby: All Services related to pregnancy, up to the six (6) week post-partum visit. The following documents must be produced to determine eligibility:
 - A. Marriage license
 - B. CDIB of spouse
 - C. Proof of pregnancy (positive test from health department). CNHSA does not provide pregnancy tests.
- Please note: If individuals are not married, paternity papers must be completed at the hospital during the first prenatal visit. The eligible party must be present for signature.
6. Non-eligible Choctaw Nation employees, spouses and dependent children (including commissioned officers of the PHS), are eligible for limited services on a fee basis. Non-eligible employees can receive all services except Diabetes Treatment Center, Contract Health and Pharmacy. Spouses and dependent children of non-eligible employees can not receive the following services: Contract Health, Diabetes Treatment Center, Eye Care, Dental Care, Physical Therapy, Podiatry, Audiology, Pharmacy, Cardiology, Orthopedics and Behavioral Health services. These individuals are eligible for inpatient care and outpatient follow-up related to that inpatient episode only. Employees will be required to pay cash or meet their deductible and pay the remaining balance of the bill.
7. CNHSA will assess/treat any emergency with potential for loss of life or limb. (Please note: CNHSA complies with all laws governing emergency services.) Non-eligible patients presenting with a non-emergent complaint will be assessed to determine the necessity to treat. (An attempt will be made to stabilize the patient prior to transfer to another facility.) In questionable cases, the administrator on call will make the determination concerning admission. These individuals will be required to pay for the episode of care in cash or their insurance will be billed. A supply of medications will not be dispensed. If the provider determines a medical necessity and an alternate source for obtaining medication is unavailable, the provider may give a one-time dose or one-day dosage to start initial treatment.
8. Active Duty non-Indian member of the Armed Services are eligible for all services except Contract Health on a fee basis.
9. Non eligible spouse and dependents (under the age of 19 years) of non-Indian Active Duty members of the Armed Services are eligible for Lab, X-ray, and Emergency Room care only on a fee basis.
10. Non-Indian family members dwelling in the house of an eligible where an infectious disease has been diagnosed will be assessed/treated for the disease.

Call 405-688-4191 for a recording of activities. If you have any further questions, contact Rick Jones at 405-948-7785.

People You Know



Original enrollee turns 96

Original enrollee Oma (Sanner) Taylor is pictured with great-granddaughter Morgan Taylor McCullough. Oma was born September 7, 1905 in Indian Territory and has made her home in Stephens County since birth. She celebrated her 96th birthday with a party.



Matthew turns four

The family of Matthew McAmis would like to wish him a happy birthday! Matthew turned four on July 16. Matthew's parents are Matt and Stacey McAmis of Paris, Texas. His grandparents are Jackie Buffington of Paris, Texas, Marolyn and Robert Will of Livingston, Texas and Malcolm and Evelyn McAmis of Hurst, Texas. Great-grandparents are Emmitt Jefferson and the late Mary L. Jefferson of Paris and Charles King and the late Mary R. King of Detroit, Texas.

We love you!

Happy first birthday!

The family of Cheyenne Summer Upchurch would like to wish her a happy birthday. She turned one year old on September 7, 2001.

She is the daughter of Bill and Barbara Upchurch of Antlers, Oklahoma. Her sister is Corena Upchurch and she has a half-brother, Joseph Kerr, of Sherman, Texas.

Her grandparents are George, Sr. and the late Corena Wilson and the late John and the late Rena Upchurch. Sending her birthday wishes are the Wilson family and the Owens family. We all love you very much.



Happy birthday Gene Hudson!

We would like to wish our dad, grandpa, and husband a happy 38th birthday. Gene is the son of Lloyd Hudson of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and Barbara Hudson of DeQueen, Arkansas. Shown with him are his children, Misty, Micah, Kandis and Ryder, and his grandsons, Cody and Dakota.



Ethan's turning two

Luis Ethan Ray Mia turned two on Saturday, September 8, 2001. Ethan is the rambunctious little boy of ReBecca Wall and Luis Mia of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

On behalf of eight kids, 30 grandkids and the other 23 great-grandkids, Ethan would like to wish a VERY happy birthday to his Mafu, Ross Lawrence of Achille, Oklahoma. He will be 65 on September 9, 2001.

Look who's one

Happy birthday to Shantel Dominic Battiest. She turned one year old on August 28.

Shantel is the daughter of Arnold and Cerelia Battiest.

Her grandparents are Mary Battiest of Idabel, Oklahoma and Calvert and Inette Martinez of Zuni, New Mexico.



Happy birthday to our "Li'l Princess"

Happy birthday to LaTisa Davidson who turned nine years old on September 10. She is the daughter of Aubrey and Jennifer Davidson of Rattan, Oklahoma. Her grandparents are Wilson and Deloris Taylor of Rattan and Mary Davidson of Battiest, Oklahoma.

LaTisa would like to wish a belated happy birthday to her great-great-grandma, Ida Taylor of Rattan. Ida turned 92 on July 5.



Tyler and Bryanna celebrate birthdays

Tyler Blayne Adams turned two years old on June 27 and Bryanna Danyelle Adams turned four on July 23. Their parents are Bryan and Cristal (Ishcomer) Adams of Eldorado, Oklahoma.

Proud grandparents are Nathan and Patty Ishcomer of Quanah and Jean and Eddie Turner of Cordell, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Jolene Waller of Eldorado, Oklahoma, the late Daniel and Josephine Ishcomer and the late Roy Richeson.

Happy birthday wishes from Dad and Mom, Pa-Pa and Me-Me Ishcomer.



dergarten and Clay Cooper II



Congratulations!

Ellis and Barbara Cooper and Jim and Janice Cale would like to congratulate the three children of Clay and Juan Cooper on winning their awards and passing on to the next grade.

Rebecca Cooper, 10, of Krebs won six awards including honor roll and perfect attendance for five years in a row. She is now entering the fifth grade. Dakota, 4, will be entering Kindergarten and Clay Cooper II is passing on to the second grade.

Look who's six!

Jalen La Shawn Chenault celebrated his sixth birthday on July 17. He is the son of Renee Chenault and Kevin Dean of Oklahoma City. He is the grandson of Ruth Moncada of Oklahoma City.

Jalen's aunt and cousins of Clarksville, Arkansas and all of his family in Oklahoma City would like to wish him a happy birthday!



Nashoba turns two

Nashoba Dewayne Watson turned two years old on August 30. He is the son of Richard Watson and Denise Sanchez, both of Talihina, Oklahoma. He is the grandson of Cynthia Melton of Ft. Smith, Arkansas and Faith and Waylon Watson of Talihina. Great-grandparents include Loretta and James Melton of Talihina. His family would like to wish him a happy birthday and we love you very much.

Happy second birthday, Christian

Milo and Echo Merryman would like to wish Christian Lance Hampton a happy second birthday. Christian's parents are Robert and Amy Hampton of Talihina, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Johnny and Marie Hampton and Ramona Cate.

Kaylia and Raul celebrate birthdays

Happy birthday wishes go to Kaylia and Raul Trejo. Raul celebrated his first birthday on September 9 and Kaylia turn two on October 29.

Their parents are Brenda Jones and Mario Trejo of Joplin, Missouri. Grandparents are Debra Watson and the late Eugene Jones, both of Talihina, and Epifania Vizueth and Andres Trejo of Mexico.

Kaylia and Raul would like to say happy birthday to their grandma Debbie who will celebrate her 44th birthday on October 16 and to their uncle, David Jones, who will turn 18 on November 2.



Look who's two!

Clay Christopher Dixon of Camarillo, California will celebrate his second birthday on September 25. His parent are Chris and Kim Dixon.

Clay's proud grandparents James and Judy Dixon and great-grandparents Bud and Loma Duer are all of Bryant, Arkansas. Great-great-grandparents include the late Buck and Mary Duer (original enrollees) of Durant, Oklahoma.

Preston turns one year old in July



Preston Dyer Kimmel turned one year old on July 28, 2001. He is the son of Bryan and Chris Kimmel of Cottonwood, California.

His grandma is Shirley (Potter) Bruce. He is the great-grandson of James Dyer McClure and the late Ora McClure and Vernon and Mary Ann (McClure) Potter.

Sister says happy birthday, Jerry Walker

Happy birthday wishes are sent to Jerry Rollon Walker from his sister, Lilliam Perkins. Jerry turned 60 years old on July 18.

Happy 62nd, Alpheus Crosby

Alpheus Crosby celebrated his 62nd birthday on July 21.

Wishes for a happy birthday and many more are sent with love from his family.



Cousins celebrate fifth birthdays

Cousins Jordan and James recently turned five years old. Jordan celebrated his birthday on June 20 and James on July 17. They started Kindergarten this year.

Happy birthday! Love, Dad, Mom, Gramps and Gaga.

Birthday wishes for Lloyd Hudson

Even though we are many miles apart, you are beside me every day in my journeys and every night in my dreams!!

Happy birthday, grandpa. Love, Ryder.



Spains celebrate 59th anniversary

Claud C. and Mary Lea Spain celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on August 31, 2001. The couple have three children, Sandra Sue Spain, Jesse Don Spain and Carey Gill Spain, and one grandchild, Taunia Winlea Spain. They are presently raising a young man, Steven, who is 12 and a young lady, Marlene, 16. Steven was a year old and Marlene four years old when the couple first got them. Claud and Mary find great joy and pleasure in raising the two who call them Grandma and Grandpa.

The only time the Spains have been separated during their marriage was for 28 months while Claud was in Europe during World War II. Claud turned 81 on May 26 and Mary celebrated her 77th birthday on August 2. They stay young by following the athletic activities of Steven and Marlene.

Congratulations, Claud and Mary!



Gossetts celebrate 54th anniversary

Congratulations to Alma and Clifford Gossett of Caney, Oklahoma who celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary on July 26. They are pictured here with District 10 Councilperson E.J. Johnson and Chief Greg Pyle during the July 25th luncheon at the Atoka Senior Citizens Center.



Couple celebrates golden anniversary

Clyde E. and Martha M. Evans celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on September 1, 2001.

In honor of the occasion, they took their children and grandchildren to the place of their honeymoon, Cherokee, North Carolina, to see a production of "Unto These Hills," a story of the Trail of Tears.

Martha is a direct descendant of original enrollee Jense Beams and would appreciate contact with any other descendants. Their address is 125 Kimberly Dr., Auburn, Alabama 36832.

Noahs renew wedding vows August 2



Kenneth and Katie Noah celebrated their fifth anniversary by renewing their wedding vows in a double-ring ceremony on August 2, 2001 at St. Matthews Indian Presbyterian Church in Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Kenneth and Katie have three children, Tia Renee, Desiree Denisa and Krystal Deann Noah.

Nursery News

Erin Marie Willis



Proud parents Paul and Lisa Willis would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Erin Marie Willis. She was born at 9:12 a.m. April 26, 2001 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Grandparents are Karl and Ella Willis of Tulsa, Mary Louise Billy of El Reno, Oklahoma and the late Richard Thunderbull, Jr. of Clinton, Oklahoma.

We would like to thank all our family and friends for their prayers and support.

James Edward Dry



Joe and Michelle Dry of Clyde, Ohio are proud to announce the birth of their son, James Edward Dry. James was born at 3:09 a.m. on May 22, 2001. He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 21 inches long.

James has two brothers, Jerrad Dry of Muskogee, Oklahoma and Austin Dry of Clyde. Grandparents are Lucretia Burkhead of Muskogee, the late Ernest Dry, and Bill and Carol McGough of Gibsonburg, Ohio.

Savanna Lee Hicks



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.

Melody Rayne Thorne



Aire Thorne welcomes her new sister, Melody Rayne, born July 21, 2001 in Oklahoma City.

Proud parents are John Thorne and Marie Bateman. Grandparents are LaHoma and Gene Crauthers. Great-grandmother is Ella Murphy of Idabel, Oklahoma.

Melody is of Choctaw-Cherokee descent.

Gabriel Jacob Sperry



Gabriel Jacob Sperry was born at 12:42 a.m. on July 20, 2001. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 20 inches long. His proud parents are Charlotte and Christopher Sperry of Centerview, Missouri. His big sister, Solana Rae, is ready to help Mom and Dad with the new baby.

Grandparents are Jim and Vera Jacaway of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Margaret Bardgett of Kansas City, Missouri and Ralph Sperry of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Caitlyn Dawn Folsom



Proud parents Richard Folsom, Jr. and Misty Red Elk of Cache, Oklahoma would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Caitlyn Dawn. Caitlyn was born at 9:04 p.m. July 25, 2001 at Comanche County Memorial Hospital. She weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 19 inches long.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Folsom, Sr. of Walters, Oklahoma and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Red Elk of Cache.

Benjamin Scott Folsom



Benjamin Scott Folsom was born August 1, 2001 at Mercy General Hospital of Sacramento to Allan and Julie Folsom of West Sacramento, California. He weighed in at 6 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 19.25 inches long.

Benjamin is a proud addition to the Folsom Choctaws and is the great-grandson of original enrollee Edgar Roy Folsom, Sr.



Five generations

Five generations of Choctaw ladies originally from the Blanchard, Oklahoma area are Sally Campbell of Ventura, California, Denielle Lopez and baby Alicia Garcia of Yakima, Washington, Debbie Boe of South Gate, California and Nora Mae Sewell of Ventura, California.

Family members attend graduation



Congratulations Jennifer Allean Floyd on your high school graduation June 15. Family members attending the special event included her mom; older brothers Stacy Richmond and Kasey Daugherty and Skip Floyd, both of Santa Paula; younger brother and sister, Kayla and Goo of Santa Paula, and her Aunt Sandy and Uncle Bill. Everyone would like her to know how very proud they are of her.

Jennifer plans to attend college in Ventura, studying to become a veterinarian.

Cassé enters Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship Program

Michele Morgan Cassé has been accepted into the U.S. Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship Program administered by the Austrian-American Educational Commission (Fulbright Commission) for the 2001-2002 school year. She will be serving as a teaching assistant for two Austrian high schools in the towns of Melk and Ybbs-on-the-Danube. Michele graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a degree in German and was an adjunct German teacher at Classen School of Advanced Studies during the 2000-2001 school year.

Michele is the daughter of Ken and Judy Morgan of Oklahoma City and the granddaughter of Kenneth H. and Anne Morgan of Oklahoma City.

2001 Rodeo Queen

Sheraya Kaye "Sissy" Caldwell was crowned queen of the 2001 American Legion William Wright Post 74 Rodeo, Wright City, Oklahoma. Her prizes included a beautiful two-horse trailer, crown, saddle and blanket and a belt buckle. Sissy also won the Horsemanship and the Best Dressed divisions and received trophies for these.

On her horse, Brandy, Sissy competes in barrel racing and in pole bending, was in the top 15 in the Oklahoma Youth Rodeo Association and was a 2000 finalist at the Four States High School Rodeo Association. She loves competing in rodeo and is proud to have the opportunity to be a representative for such a great sport.

Sissy is the 13-year-old daughter of A.L. and Loretha Caldwell of Wright City, the granddaughter of Eleanor and the late Leo Caldwell of Wright City and the late Russell and Bertie Hardwick of Haworth, Oklahoma.



Tracy graduates ITT

Tracy Dawn Cooper recently graduated from ITT for Automotive Technician in Dallas, Texas.

She is now employed at James Hodge Ford in Idabel, Oklahoma. Congratulations, Tracy! We love you!

Little Miss Peach Blossom 2001-02

Kelsy J. WhiteBuffalo was crowned "Little Miss Peach Blossom 2001-02" during the Peach Festival at Stratford, Oklahoma. Kelsy is two and one-half years old and of Choctaw and Cheyenne descent. She has two brothers, Corey and Matthew.

Kelsy's parents are Efrain and Kelly WhiteBuffalo. Her grandparents are Rochell and Joy WhiteBuffalo and Norris and Glanda Phillips, all of Stratford, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Susie Romanose of Watonga, Oklahoma, Herbert WhiteBuffalo of Michigan and the late Abbie Smith of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, Perale of Stratford and William Gaines of Mayesville, Oklahoma. We are all proud of her.



Vanessa wins trophies at Cover Miss pageant

Vanessa Jefferson, full-blood Choctaw of Bethel, Oklahoma, recently was a runner-up in the America's Cover Miss pageant in Idabel. Vanessa received trophies for Runner-Up, Most Beautiful, Most Photogenic, and Friendliest. She will now compete

in the state pageant in November in Tulsa.

Vanessa is the daughter of Linda and Austin Jefferson and the granddaughter of Melissa and Robert Bohanan and Marilyn Jefferson and the late O'Sam Jefferson, all of Bethel.

We would like to say a big thank you to all the friends and relatives who sponsored Vanessa on this beautiful moment!

Charlotte Foster celebrates her first birthday

Charlotte M. Williams Foster of Gainesville, Texas celebrated her first birthday on August 3. Charlotte's Nanna Juanita Mills of Bennington, Oklahoma celebrated her 41st birthday on August 21.

Also celebrating birthdays in August are her Uncle Chester Cheatham who turned 24 on August 4 and her Aunt Amanda Cheatham who also turned 24 on August 30, both of Palestine, Texas.

Happy birthday, everyone!

Happy birthday Hazel and Matilda

Herb and Juanita Mills would like to wish a happy birthday to Hazel Taylor on August 31 and 19-year-old Matilda Taylor on August 17. Both are from Sobol, Oklahoma.



Beames and Beames is 2001 honor graduate

2001 Stephenville honor graduate Mackenzie Campbell-Furtick is the daughter of Roger and Cristy Furtick and the granddaughter of Freddy and Evelyn (Beames) Bell. She is the great-granddaughter of the late George and Mary Beames.

Mackenzie was a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Thespian Honor Society. She was Class Favorite for

three years, voted Best Sense of Humor, Prom Princess and Homecoming Queen her senior year and the Daughters of American Revolution Good Citizen 2001.

She played basketball, volleyball, ran cross country and received MVP 1st team for soccer. She won district for All Star Cast in her senior play. Mackenzie was a class officer and a cheerleader for three years, serving as captain during her senior year. She enjoys spending time with family and friends.

She graduated fourth in her class and will attend Tarleton University in Stephenville, Texas where she received a four-year academic scholarship in the fall.

Turnbull earns master's in environmental studies

Jon Hilton Turnbull, Jr. of Tacoma, Washington graduated June 15 with a master's degree in environmental studies from Evergreen College in Olympia, Washington. Hilton's thesis focused on a regional example of tribal/protected area relations in the Pacific Northwest. This involved examining how the Nisqually Indian tribe and the National Park Service have entered into formalized agreements for the co-management of culturally significant plant resources occurring within Mt. Ranier National Park.

Hilton has been working the past few years as a wetlands biologist and in the area of invasive (plant) species management. He was pleased to be able to combine his interests in Native American populations with his love of environmental protection for these graduate studies.

Hilton is the son of Jon and Bobby Rae Turnbull of Rockport, Texas, the husband of Karen Corr, and the grandson of the late Doris Dean Young Hynes, a registered Choctaw born in Oklahoma.

Quanah High School grad

Bradley Lane Ishcomer is a 2001 graduate of Quanah High School in Quanah, Texas. While in high school he was active in varsity basketball, baseball and track-cross country. He has received many awards and medals in each sport. He has received a scholarship from McMurry University in Abilene, Texas where he plans to major in physical education.

Bradley is the son of Nathan and Patty Ishcomer of Quanah and the

grandson of the late Daniel and Josephine Ishcomer and the late Clifford and Pauline Myers.

Way to go, Uncle B. We're very proud of you!

Happy 17th birthday to Crystal Hilton

Crystal Hilton, a senior at Talihina High School, enjoys playing basketball, softball and hanging out with her friends.

Crystal's parents are Charles Sr. and Ava Hilton of Tusahoma. Her grandparents are Wilson and Deloris Taylor of Sobol, Oklahoma, Frieda Hilton of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and Ida Taylor of Sobol.

Happy 17th birthday, Crystal, and good luck during your senior year – with love from your family.



Edmond senior Taylor Long excels



L. Taylor Long, a senior and honor student at Edmond Memorial High School, has many achievements to be proud of. He recently joined more than 112,000 students from all 50 states and eight foreign countries in taking the National Latin Exam. Taylor won a gold medal in Latin III.

He attained the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America in January and is serving as Youth Editor for the Oklahoma Mission. He attends St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Edmond. He has also served as Youth Board Representative for the Oklahoma City Region. He has long been an active Episcopalian youth, participating in Happening, New Beginnings, two Episcopal Youth Conferences, and six years of St. Crispin's summer camp. He was selected to serve on a youth mission team sponsored by VOOM that will travel to their sister Diocese of West Ankole, Uganda, this summer.

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.

Articles may be mailed to BISHINIK, P.O. Drawer 1210, Durant, OK 74702, faxed to 580-924-4148, or e-mailed to bishinik@choctawnation.com.

If you have had an individual/family photo ran in the BISHINIK and the photo has not been returned to you, please call the BISHINIK office at 800-522-6170 Ext. 2347. Please have a brief description of the photo and approximately when it appeared in the BISHINIK. We have several photos that have no return address or were returned by the post office.

LABOR DAY FESTIVAL TOURNAMENT WINNERS



Horseshoes – Ringer Champ: David Davis with 7 out of 10. Horseshoe coordinator Jeremy Loper presented the trophy.



Horseshoes – Wanda Morris was presented the first-place trophy in Women's Singles by coordinator Jeremy Loper.



Horseshoes – Men's Singles was won by Phillip Morris.



Horseshoes – Women's Doubles: Wanda Morris and Thelma Johnson.



Horseshoes – Men's Doubles: Phillip Morris and David Davis.



Men's Fast-Pitch – First Place: Shades of Red, Ada, Oklahoma. MVP: Allen Clay.



Men's Fast-Pitch – Second Place: Little Axe of Little Axe, Oklahoma.



Women's Fast Pitch – First Place: Oklahoma Tribe of Little Axe, Oklahoma.



Women's Fast Pitch – Second Place: Chahtas of the Oklahoma City area.



Volleyball – First Place: Kingfishers



Volleyball – Second Place: United Medical

LABOR DAY WINNERS



5K Run Overall Female Winner Karen Kirkpatrick of Talihina and Overall Male Winner Keith Willsey of Acorn, Arkansas are presented prizes by Chief Pyle.



Checkers – First Place: Mark Savage of Hartshorne, Oklahoma; Second Place: Henry Willis of Moore, Oklahoma.



Dominoes – First Place: Alfred Crosby of Wright City, Oklahoma; Second Place: Ray Burris of Richardson, Texas.



Basketball 3-on-3 first-place winners, 12 and under, are Uncle's Boys of Ada – Daniel Walker, Bubba Walker, Brandon Post oak and Nikki Walker.



Basketball 3-on-3 second-place winners, 12 and under, are the Noble Bears – Tiffany Rutherford, Chrystal Smith and Brittany Smith.



Basketball 3-on-3 first-place winners, 13-17 boys, are Da Boyz of Ada – Trevan Jimboy, James Poe, Brandon Whiteagle and Jarrod Factor.



Basketball 3-on-3 first-place winners in the women's division are the Goodwins of McAlester – Amber Gann, Angela Young, Sam Mattioda and Missy Morgan.



Basketball 3-on-3 second-place winners in the women's division are Tribal Court of Norman – Sarah Williams, Crystal Williams, Shawna Folsom and Christine Bui.



Basketball 3-on-3 second-place winners, 13-17 boys, are M&J of Fittstown – Mark Poe, Jim Thomas, Josh Ross and John Jessie.



Basketball 3-on-3 second-place winners in the men's division are the A-Team – David Bobb, Marcus Bobb, Allen Clay and Shawnee Berryhill.



Basketball 3-on-3 first-place winners in the men's division are Nike – Darrel Burisse, Mike Vitt, Don Tsosie and Kevin Tsosie.



Best Dressed Terrapins at the Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival belonged to Candance Cagle of Cove, Arkansas, 8-12 years; Roderick Hornbuckle of Wister, 4-7 years, and Kyra Hornbuckle of Wister, age 3 and under.



Chief Pyle awarded medallians to the oldest person attending the festival on Monday morning, Georgia May Self, 96, of Antlers, and the person traveling the farthest, Yuki Sato of Japan.



Eight- to 12-year-old winners in the Terrapin Races are Malinda Steve of Calera, Third Place; Hunter Duncan of Tuskahoma, Second Place, and Candance Cagle of Cove, Arkansas, with the First Place terrapin.



Winners in the 4-7 year division of the Terrapin Races are First Place, Nathan Thompson of Hugo; Third Place, Ariana Rodriguez of Talihina, and Second Place, Kailye Ward of Durant.



Owners of the fastest terrapins in the age 3 and under division are Second Place, Blake Strange of Miller; First Place, Mason Emert of Bennington, and Third Place, Kallie Sioux Voice of Ollusttee.

Labor Day 2001



Visiting onstage Monday are Greg Henning, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Bobby "Catfish" Bryant, Chief Greg Pyle, Billy Joe Bryant, Tribal Council Speaker Kenny Bryant and Charles Chastain.



Janice Stout gives Michelle Westbrook a foot massage at the CHR health fair.



Gilbert "Corky" Vails, Jr. was presented a plaque by Chief Greg Pyle on Monday in appreciation of his many years of dedicated work for the Choctaw Nation.



Chief Greg Pyle gives his wife, Pat, a beautiful bouquet honoring their 30th wedding anniversary.



D'andra Kos, Alisha Green, Tannehill School JOM Chairperson Nancy Sparks and little Lindsey McKee enjoyed browsing the arts and crafts booths.



Sally Palmer of Ardmore and great-grandson Derrick Taylor are prepared for rain or shine.



Artist Norma Howard autographs a calendar photo for Kathy Clark while Joy Culbreath and Vineta Thomas look on.



Keith Willis was injured during a stickball game but didn't stay on the sideline. As soon as his ankle was wrapped he rejoined the players to score for his team.



Pauline Porterfield of Talihina takes a break and samples a bit of the food available during the festival.



Powwow Head Man Dancer Michael Roberts recently won World Champion Fancy Dancer.



Shane Vittain of Tahlequah, Bailey Cooper of Stigler and Katelynn Welch and Haven Copeland of McAlester have some playground fun.



Jack Austin visits with Williston Wesley and Delia Wesley.



Betty Ketchashawno prepared banaha in the village so visitors could sample the boiled bread.



Assistant Chief Mike Bailey visits with Rowena Waggoner, her husband, Jon, and mother-in-law, Marie, who is a CHR at Talihina.



The McKinney Dancers demonstrated Choctaw dancing several times during the four-day festival.



Stickball is always a favorite of festival-goers.



Six Choctaw Nation Tribal Councilpersons are sworn in by Chief Justice James Wolfe. Beginning a four-year term are Ted Dosh, District 9; Delton Cox, District 4; Randle Durant, District 6; E.J. Johnson, District 10; James Frazier, District 12, and Jack Austin, District 7.



Wayne and Phyliss Cable of Newcastle look at beadwork done by Semaih Frazier of McCloud. The Cables are participants in the Choctaw Language class in Oklahoma City.



Mercedes Wilson enjoys the free play area full of colored plastic balls. Her grandpa, Gene Wilson of Eagletown, watched the fun.



CHR Margaret McKinney checks Nancy Peters' blood pressure.



Senator Enoch Kelly Haney, Jayne Myers and Chief Greg Pyle get ready for the Grand Entry of the Powwow.



A traditional Choctaw wedding was demonstrated in the village.



Julia Painter won the \$500 education scholarship from the tribe that was given away at the Youth Gathering during the Labor Day Festival. Julia is 20 years old, attends OU and is a former Miss Indian Oklahoma. Her CDIB shows her heritage from three tribes, the Kiowa, Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations. Julia is pictured here with the gospel group Forty Days who performed for the gathering.



Broken Bow Dancers perform the wedding dance for onlookers.



Happy 5th, Becca!

Rebecca Taylor York turns five years old on October 9. Her proud parents are Danny and Kathy York of Chico, Texas.

Becca's grandmother is Evelyn Dawson, also of Chico. Her grandfather is the late Roscoe York of Hugo, Oklahoma and her great-grandmother is the late Zeanie York of Hugo.

Becca comes from a family of proud Choctaws and is loved and cherished.

Happy birthday!

Happy birthday wishes go out to Alice F. Rodriguez who celebrated her 21st birthday on September 11. She is the daughter of George and Daisy Watson of Watson, Oklahoma.

Also, a belated happy birthday wish goes out to Carlos Rodriguez on August 8.

Happy birthday, Ali and Carlos, from your nephews, Cameron and Jordan Hodge. We love you!



Eagle Scout

Justin Heath Stricklin, 17, of Beebe, Arkansas has completed all requirements and has earned the highest rank attainable in scouting, the Eagle. Justin is a member of Troop 201 in Cabot, Arkansas. He has earned a total of 39 merit badges and constructed a playground at his church as his service project.

Justin, the son of Ricky and Kim Stricklin, contributes his success to a strong, supportive family, many role models and a remarkable group of Scout leaders.



University of Central Oklahoma graduate

The family of Kelly Ann Wietelman would like to express our appreciation to all those who were responsible for the grants she received from the Choctaw Nation.

Kelly recently graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. She was on the Dean's Honor Roll while attending college. Her major was psychology. She plans to continue attending UCO for her master's then attend University of Oklahoma for her Dad. We are very proud of Kelly for her accomplishments.

Pictured with Kelly are her grandmother, Newania (Crowder) Ferrall; her father, Bill Wietelman, and Jean Kemp.



Steels celebrate 40th anniversary

Ken and Willie Steel will celebrate 40 glorious years of marriage on September 30. The Steels lived in Texas, California and Oregon before settling in Tahlequah, Oklahoma last September. Ken is a retired meat cutter and Willie was privileged enough to be able to stay at home with the kids.

They are the proud parents and parents-in-law of Vickie, Jairus, Patty, Ken Jr., Theresa, Charlie, Tara, Kimberly and José; doting grandparents to Heidi, John, Amanda, Rebecca, Colleen, Keisha, Kathy, Joshua, Sara, Jaycee, Brandon, Charlie Jr. "C.J.", Sarah, Cheech and Chestnut, and love to spoil their great-grandchildren, April and LeAnne.

Happy anniversary, Mom and Dad! You are loved and adored by us all.



FLEETWOOD FAMILY

There will be a Fleetwood Family Reunion in Tahlequah, Oklahoma on October 4, 5, and 6. This gathering will focus on Charles Fleetwood, Lucinda Morgan and their 14 children (Minerva, Lorenzo, Charles, William, Miles, Prudence, Edmond, Houston, Delphenia, Sarah, Aquilla, Eljerry, Martha and Lucinda). Reunion activities include a bus tour to historic and family sites. There will also be presentations, charts, maps, pictures, displays, books and genealogy material pertaining to the history of this family. Pictures and stories are welcome. For more information, contact Jennifer Sparks, 10801 W. 805 Rd., Fort Gibson, OK 74434; phone 918-478-9953; e-mail: jennie@azalea.net.

HOKETT-HYDE FAMILY

The Hokett and Hyde reunion will be October 6 in the Caddo Community Center, Caddo, Oklahoma. Please come, bring your family, a covered dish and join the fun.

ROBERTS FAMILY

The annual Roberts reunion will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 20 on old Highway 3 at Centrahoma, Oklahoma. Please bring a covered dish and Bingo prize. For more information please contact Osborne Roberts, Coalgate, Oklahoma, 580-927-3342.

PADDOCK FAMILY

A reunion will be held for the descendants of James L. and Venia (Templeton) Paddock on Sunday, October 21 at the Boland Park in Caddo, Oklahoma. Lunch will be at noon. Bring a covered dish. For more information call Diane Perrin at 580-924-8280.

Council continued from Page 1

Residential Treatment Center that would enhance and expand the program.

Budgets were approved for the Choctaw Nation Family Preservation Support Services, Indian Child Welfare, Tribal Community Services, Upward Bound Math and Science, Vocational Rehabilitation, Disability Employment Program/Projects With Industry and the Health Services. Budget modifications were approved for NAGPRA, Family Violence and Upward Bound Math and Science.



Elgin named to top 10 women in business in Albuquerque area

Choctaw tribal member Carolyn Elgin, President of Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute, was recently honored by the Albuquerque Women in Business Directory as one of the "Ten Smart, Savvy and Successful" women of the Albuquerque community.

"My mother is my role model," Ms. Elgin was quoted. "She taught me to be proud of who I am, a Choctaw Indian woman, to value education, to make my own decisions and not to follow the crowd. I learned from her example to be caring, especially about family, to be kind, to share, how to preserve under adverse circumstances, and to be tenacious. She taught me to never forget where I came from."

Congratulations, Carolyn!

Look who's nine!

Happy ninth birthday to Randa Nicole Carrico. She turned nine on August 23, celebrating with a Barbie party attended by friends and family. Randa is the daughter of Carol and Gene Floyd of Soper, Oklahoma and Calvin Carrico of Rattan, Oklahoma. Her grandparents are Charlotte Hider of Hugo, Oklahoma and Curtis Adams of Soper. Great-grandmothers are Jessie Lawrence of Hugo and Minnie Adams of Soper.



Happy birthday, Mother!

Rose Bond Ward turned 64 years old on September 4.

Lots of love, hugs and blessings from your kids, Willis, Jim, Riley Dean, Carol Ann, Harry Lee, Dickie Lane Rasha, grandson Marcos Leopoldo Rasha and Pedro V. Lemus.



Kizer promoted to Lieutenant

Robert L. Kizer has recently been promoted to Lieutenant on the Idabel Police Department. Robert has been with the police department for six years. He is the son of Florence Crosby. He and his wife, Donna, and their two daughters, Robin and Jamie, have lived in and around the Idabel area since his discharge from the Marine Corps in 1993.



Look who's two!

Happy second birthday to Johnathan Rayn Pitts. He turned two years old on September 17. He is the son of Johnny and Sheila Pitts of McAlester, Oklahoma.

Grandparents are Leaven Pitts and Robert Caudill of Blanco and Jackie Shockey of Leedeey and Mary Rios of Elk City.

He is the great-grandson of Katie N. Strain of McAlester and the great-great-grandson of Dock Sr. and Zedie Nail of McAlester.



Happy birthday!

Happy 69th birthday wishes to Adam Betsey, above, from your kids, grandkids and favorite niece, Roberta.

Happy 16th birthday, Kristina Williams with love from your mom, dad, brother and sisters.



Happy 7th birthday to Destiny Nichole Maxey with love from Auntie Mickie and Uncle Leroy, and happy birthday to Darlene Connell!

T.J. enjoys festival

Tammy Noahubi and son, T.J. of Oklahoma City enjoyed the Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma.

T.J.'s grandparents are Darlene Noahubi and Alton Noahubi of Bethel and Christine and Larry Parsons. T.J.'s dad is Johnny Parsons.



Oklahoma All State Honorable Mention

Brooke Cassady, daughter of Renee Cassady and Cameron Cassady of Bristow, Oklahoma, was recently named as an Oklahoma All State Honorable Mention. Brooke is a student at Bristow High School where she is a key player for the Lady Pirates and helped lead the Pirates to a 4A Girls State Championship.

Brooke will continue to start for the Lady Pirates her senior year and will graduate in May of 2002. Brooke, #25, played post position and was one of the leading scorers for her team. The Lady Pirates defeated Idabel by one point during the state playoffs in April.

She is the great-great-granddaughter of Ada Virginia Denton-Atkins, an original Choctaw enrollee.



Happy 12th to our son!

Dustin Lynndale Ishcomer turned 12 years old on September 10. Her parents are Roger Ishcomer and Denise Ishcomer of Calera, Oklahoma.

Grandparents are Gary Sanders of Ardmore, Oklahoma, Martha Sanders of Van Alstyne, Texas and Kathy and Curtis Ishcomer of Altus, Oklahoma.

Dustin attends school in Calera. We love you and are proud to have a son like you.

Communications and art major at Lamar University

Zack Dubuisson graduated from Port-Neches Groves High School in 2000 and is now attending Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. He is majoring in communications and art in which he plans to work in film production specializing in special effects.

Last fall Zack made the Dean's list.

For the 2001-02 term, Zack was awarded a scholarship from the Choctaw Department of Higher Education.

He is the son of Danny and Christie Dubuisson and the grandson of Polly Henry and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dubuisson.



Look who's going to be seven years old!

Kristianna Holder turns seven on October 10. She loves her dog, Luke, as seen in the photo.

Kristianna is living with her grandparents, Clark and Peggy Holder, of Dallas, Texas and attends Lighthouse Christian Academy in the first grade. She enjoys swimming and playing all kinds of games. Happy birthday, Kristianna!

Choctaw teen selected as one of AIETEC's Outstanding Summer Youth Participants

The United Urban Indian Council and the American Indian Education, Training and Employment Center (AIETEC) recently selected three young men as Outstanding Summer Youth Participants. The three winners were Chad Sullivan (Choctaw), Brandon Standifer (Chickasaw) and Ross New Breast (Blackfeet). They were honored at a banquet on August 16 at the Holiday Inn in Oklahoma City.

Chad, discovering the realities of life without an education, decided to work toward his GED and began in the year-round program. He earned his GED in April 2001.

Chad had an interest in heat and air so the City of Midwest City was chosen as his worksite. He worked in the Community Development Department where he endured the summer's heat while assisting in remodeling houses for low-income families. He also helped to mentor a younger participant at the same worksite.

Chad received the 6th Annual Abe Conklin Award and would like to attend Metro Tech to receive training in heat and air.

Bully places third at Oklahoma State Leadership Conference

Curtis Bully of Durant, Oklahoma has entered his second year at Kiamichi Vocational Technical Center in Durant. His accomplishments during the 2000-01 term reflect the hard work and enthusiasm with which he has embraced his business and computer technology classes.

Curtis served as Spring 2001 Vice President of Business Professionals of America. He placed third in Business Procedures and sixth place in Impromptu Speaking at the 2001 Oklahoma BPA State Leadership conference. He was on the honor roll and chosen Fall 2000 Student of the Semester.

He honed his skills while working as photographer and reporter for the technical center's newsletter. Several of his photos have also appeared in local newspapers.

Curtis is pictured here with Jennifer Davidson, a counselor with the Choctaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program.



Business financing available to Native Americans through Choctaw Nation, REI

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. have announced the implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work together to provide business financing assistance to Choctaw tribal members and other Native American entrepreneurs.

REI is also coordinating with Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) representatives of Little Dixie Community Action Agency. RCDI representatives work throughout the Choctaw Nation's ten and one half county service area. Debbie Partin REI financial services director, coordinates her schedule

with the RCDI representatives at the respective community centers of the Choctaw Nation.

This cooperative effort between the Choctaw Nation, RCDI representatives and REI is working well.

The first loan closed under the effort was a \$2,000 Small Business Administration (SBA) micro loan made to James Lankford of Hodgen, Oklahoma for his start-up business, JL's Recyclable & Metals.

This Choctaw entrepreneur was referred to REI by Patti Harris, RCDI representative, and he was assisted with his business plan by Dean Qualls, Oklahoma Small Business Development

Center, East Central University Satellite Center at Carl Albert State College.

JL's Recyclable & Metals is a home based, start-up business that purchases wholesale metals and resale soft metals suitable for recycling. The products include aluminum and aluminum cans, copper wire, plate and tubing, brass and batteries. After a sufficient quality of recyclable material has accumulated, it is sold to an Arkansas processor.

The purpose of the MOU between Choctaw Nation and REI is to focus on marketing the business financing programs of REI to Choctaw tribal members and other Native Americans who

want to start or develop a business. REI provides financing assistance to small business concerns throughout the state, but the agreement between REI and Choctaw Nation targets the Native American population.

In the MOU, Choctaw Nation agreed to provide assistance to the targeted clientele to complete the loan application and business plans, and when funding is available, the Nation will participate with REI in funding the project.

REI has agreed to provide access to capital through its various lending programs. Upon completion of the loan applications, REI will make the final lending decision. REI will also

offer manufacturing, import/export and other business development assistance.

Charles Cayton, the Choctaw Nation's economic development officer, said he believes the MOU will be a great benefit to the tribe, and REI as well. "We will be partnering to help the Choctaw entrepreneur to get into business – or not to get into business, which can be just as important," said Cayton. "Chief Greg Pyle has expressed an interest in building the loan capacity to entrepreneurs, and REI is providing that link to make it possible."

Cayton also said that the MOU will provide a way to bring the needed assistance directly to the

people, in their own communities. "Bringing the needed assistance to the people is what it's all about," Cayton said.

"We want to help the Choctaw entrepreneur, as does REI, so we simply combined our resources and decided to deliver our services right to the people, in their own hometowns."

"It's great to get this partnership off the ground," Tom Seth Smith, REI President and CEO said.

"We have the financial products, Choctaw Nation and Little Dixie Community Action Agency have the contacts, so it's a perfect union to get the word out to Native American entrepreneurs about the assistance available to them."



CASA group visits Six Flags

Dear Editor,

We here at Consortium Against Substance Abuse (CASA) in Anadarko, Oklahoma would like to thank Choctaw Nation and Bingo for the Transportation Services we received for the trip to Six Flags we attended.

At the time we departed from Anadarko, the bus had 46 passengers on it. I am a member of the Choctaw tribe and the Coordinator for the JFOP we serve, Juvenile First Offenders Programs. We would like to thank everyone who helped make this trip a safe and fun day to remember.

Also, thanks to Glen Johnson for his help. I am enclosing a picture of the Choctaw Tribal Members who made the trip to Six Flags. They are from left to right Jessica Billy, Roxanne Beaver, Douglas Fraley, Nathan Fraley, Alfred Fraley and Phyllis Impson.

Douglas Fraley
Anadarko, Oklahoma

Hearing clinic makes a difference

Dear Editor,

We have an 8-year-old daughter who has been wearing hearing aids for four years, as well as a 16-month-old daughter who was recently diagnosed with hearing loss. Because of my husband's Indian heritage, we were able to get assistance from the Hearing Clinic in Talihiina. The staff there was helpful and fantastic to deal with. We were able to purchase very exceptional hearing aids for both girls. My older daughter, Sarah, would like to thank everyone for allowing us the opportunity to purchase the digital hearing aids for her. They have made a tremendous difference for her, providing her with better quality sound in the classroom. We also want to make a special thank you to Lana Moses who works at the hearing clinic for everything she has done. She is always so cheerful and helpful and truly cares about my girls.

Chris Clark Family
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

A very special thank you

Dear Editor,

Words cannot describe the amount of generosity, concern and appreciation we received during the loss of little Brandon's life. He was taken so young in life. It is times like this that the strength of friendships, family pulls together to help each other. Spiritual beliefs are truly and deeply appreciated.

We would like to take this time to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, phone calls, flowers, cards and food. Special heartfelt thanks go out to the Choctaw Nation. We would like to thank you for the food and the putting to rest of little Brandon in his resting place. We couldn't have done it without your help. God has truly blessed us with wonderful friends and family.

Mary Fromme and Kids
The Wilson Family

Grateful for what tribe has done

Dear Chief Pyle,

For the past several years, I've received a birthday card from everyone in charge. It is a most pleasant surprise. Yesterday, I received another one. It will be my 88th birthday.

My mother and her seven brothers and sisters were original enrollees. This is one documented fact that I'm most proud of. My mother and I received CDIB and membership cards during 1984.

Last evening, on ABC network, was a documentary outlining the plight of most Indian tribes who were subject to diabetic disease. It is saddening to know this, but reading in the Choctaw paper, BISHINIK, you have done so much to prevent the disease and help those who already have it.

I am forever grateful to the Choctaws for what the tribe does to help their members. Education will be the most helpful and long-lasting.

My mother and two sisters and two cousins attended boarding school at Tuskahoma for three years, 1903-1906. There she learned many talents for cooking, sewing, etc. and best of all, a beautiful handwriting. I could go on extolling the virtues of Indian culture.

I worked for the Oklahoma State Tax Commission from 1933-1978 and came to know W.A. Durant, his two sons, first Chairman of Oklahoma Tax Commission Melvin Cornish of McAlester and several others. Also, my "boss", a later chairman of Oklahoma Tax Commission, M.C. Connor of Canadian, Oklahoma and one-half Choctaw and a most admired friend.

My Oklahoma history and my family history are very much co-mingled and in my endeavor at genealogy, I have to keep the two separate – a most fascinating job.

Thanks again for greeting me on my birthday!

Mona Marie Lindsey
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Family grateful for assistance

Dear Editor,

Pigeon Roost Church would like to say thank you to the Choctaw Nation, the Housing Authority, White Sand Church and to all the friends who came at the death of our beloved Elder Carrie Robinson.

Elder Linda Scott

Gaming Center hosts conference

Dear Editor,

The Choctaw Nation recently hosted the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Conference at the Durant Gaming Center. I attended the conference as a vendor and would like to comment on what wonderful hosts the employees and staff of the Gaming Center were.

The conference was organized and run in a most professional manner. Not only did they accommodate a record attendance at the Conference, but also kept the center open to the public. It is difficult to describe how hard the employees worked day and night cleaning after one event and preparing for the next day.

I was most impressed, as were the other vendors with whom I spoke. We all look forward to attending next year's conference. Simply put to the employees and staff at the Gaming Center, "You're the best".

John F. Sullivan
Sullivan Insurance Agency
Ardmore, Oklahoma



Lois Burton honored on her retirement

Long-time Councilperson Lois Burton celebrated her retirement with a huge party thrown by her many friends. Several hundred people attended a luncheon in honor of Mrs. Burton at the Family Investment Center in Poteau.

Chief Gregory E. Pyle told of his appreciation of Lois, both as a friend and as a member of the Tribal Council. "I really respect Lois and I respect her opinion. She has exhibited a fierce loyalty to her people, her friends and her family."

Chief Pyle also said. "During her tenure, the Family Investment Center here was built, as was

the clinic next door. The Choctaw Nation has recently purchased another building near this property for tribal services and we have funding in place for a new travel plaza to be built in Poteau."

Chief Pyle informed the crowd that a joint effort between Lois Burton and Councilperson Charlotte Jackson of Haskell County will result in the construction of a community center in Spiro in the very near future.

Delton Cox was sworn in as the Councilperson for District #4 during the Labor Day ceremonies at Tushka Homma.

SWEET TALK

By Sharon Passmore

Diabetes Self-Management Class

Offered by: Diabetes Treatment Center
on the first Thursday of each month
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
in the
East Cafeteria
Choctaw Nation Health Care Center
Talihina, Oklahoma

Newly diagnosed diabetics or those who have not received diabetes education would benefit most from this class. You may bring one family member with you. To sign up call 800-349-7026, ext. 6673.

The diabetes screening at the Labor Day Festival was a huge success this year. Adults and children ten and older were screened for diabetes and referrals made for abnormal blood sugar levels. Several hundred were screened and people were found with dangerously high blood sugar levels greater than 500. These people were sent to the First Aid station for immediate medical attention and will be seen in the clinic for follow-up.

We are excited about the grant to build a diabetes clinic and wellness center at Talihiina for our program. The new clinic will have room for many added services. A conference center with kitchen facilities will allow cooking demonstrations during our diabetes self-management class each month. There will also be exercise equipment and

trained leaders in the wellness center. This will be open to patients and also to employees.

Staff is being hired now for our new primary prevention program. This program will take diabetes screening and education to the community. Programs are in the planning stage for the community centers and schools. If you have an idea for a service to

prevent diabetes or provide education, please call Sandra Dukes, RN Community Coordinator at 800-349-7026, ext. 6390.

The Diabetes Treatment Center is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. We are also open the second Saturday of each month. For an appointment call Ross Johnson at 800-349-7026, ext. 6673.



Americorps group spends time at Wheelock

The Americorps group working at Wheelock has gotten a great deal accomplished this summer, with improvements on the grounds and beautification of historic buildings. These people can choose to receive education benefits in return for their work. Americorps members who serve 1,700 hours (which is considered one year of service) can receive \$4,725 in education awards. Members of Americorps also get a living allowance. Chief Gregory E. Pyle is pictured after congratulating the team on their fine workmanship.

Choctaw Crafts and Books

Located inside the Choctaw Inn in Durant
P.O. Box 668 – 4202 South Hwy. 69/75 – Durant, OK 74702-0668
1-888-932-9199 – 1-580-931-9144 – www.choctawcrafts.com

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New Silver Coins with the Choctaw Nation Seal on one side and "The End of the Trail" on the other side. Beautiful one ounce solid silver coin. Weight: 1 oz. each. _____ \$20.00 each

Choctaw Nation Seal Watches

Color dial with leather band. Choice of men's (1 1/4" dial) or ladies' (7/8" dial). Weight: 5 oz. each. _____ \$25.00 each

Sub-total _____

Shipping price up to 1 pound add \$4.35. Please add \$1.20 for each additional pound thereafter (example: 3 pounds and 6 ounces will be \$6.75 shipping) _____

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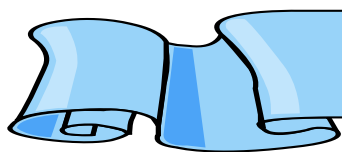
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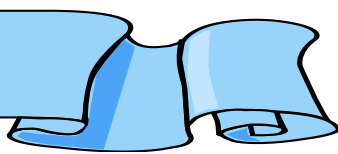
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Signature _____



OBITUARIES



B.J. Spring

B.J. Spring, 80, of Dallas, Texas, formerly of Kinta, Oklahoma, passed away Tuesday, August 7, 2001 in a Dallas hospital. He was born November 28, 1920 in Kinta to Benjamin J. Spring and Alice (Conser) Spring.

Mr. Spring grew up in Kinta where he was a graduate of the Class of 1940. He attended Northeastern State University.

He married Iva Harris on July 12, 1941 in Kinta and they made their home together in Wichita for one year and California for one year before settling in Detroit for eleven years.

They made their home in Dallas in 1958 when he began a career as a machinist with Security Engineering that spanned some 25 years until his retirement in 1983. They enjoyed traveling during their retirement. B.J. will be remembered as an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his parents; six sisters, Elma Weatherton, Beatrice Sallee, Beulah Council, Margie Intelmann, Helen Nicholson and Berniece Pollard, and three brothers, Jack Spring, Conser Spring and Joe Spring.

Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Iva of the home; one son, Gale Spring of Melbourne, Australia, and a sister, Wynema Williams and her husband, Gene, of Arlington, Texas.



Ralph David Lynn, Jr.

Ralph David Lynn, Jr., born September 22, 1949 in Denver, Colorado, passed away February 22, 2001 in Houston. Lt. Lynn was a 27-year veteran of the Houston Police Department.

He is survived by his wife, Jerri Lynn; daughter, Melissa Lynn; son, Christopher Lynn; stepson, Ronnie Krampota; father, Ralph D. Lynn, Sr.; mother, Bettye Rowland; sister, Sherry Krauskopf, along with numerous other family and close friends.



Donald Anderson

Donald Ray Anderson, 62, a longtime Stigler, Oklahoma resident, passed away Tuesday, August 3, 2001 in a Tulsa hospital. He was born November 21, 1938 in Tahlequah, Oklahoma to T.F. Anderson and Sarah (Hepsin) Anderson.

Mr. Anderson grew up in the Kanima community and began his education at Jones Academy in Hartshorne. He completed his high school education at Chilocco Indian School and served his country in the U.S. Navy for several years.

He made his home in Cleveland, Ohio while furthering his education in barber school. He worked as a barber in Cleveland for some 20 years, moving back to Stigler in 1977 where he continued to barber. He also owned and operated D.J.'s Convenience Store for several years.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, David Glenn Anderson and John Wayne Lewis.

Survivors include two brothers, Dixon Lewis and wife, Lorene, of Stigler and Melton Lewis and wife, Wilma, of Keota; his nieces and nephews, Damon Lewis, Michele Lewis Storment, Shirley Mahoney, Gary Lewis and Debbie Sewell, and a host of friends.

Pat Gregory

Pat Gregory, 80, passed away Sunday, August 19, 2001 at his home in Heavener, Oklahoma.

As a young man, Pat left Pocola, Oklahoma and joined the CCC's at Stapp, Oklahoma where he learned masonry. He met and eventually married the local beauty, Oynotis Pledger. They raised their five sons in the house that he built on the hill above the high school in Heavener. Over the years he served in the U.S. Navy with the Pacific Fleet during World War II. He served as president of the Arkansas Bricklayer's Union, past-president of the Heavener Eagles Aerie and was a 32nd Degree Mason.

Pat will be remembered by generations of families who wanted a new home built or an old one remodeled, a new building for a new or growing business or any and all general contracting projects. His conviction to provide a professional service made his reputation in the construction arena. He will be fondly remembered by any friend or stranger who shared a fishing hole with him. He loved to fish and was as no-nonsense about that as he was about his construction business. He was always on the hunt for that next big catfish.

Mr. Gregory was an unsung champion of the underdog. Many times during his lifetime he, through his generosity, made it easier for some to better help themselves.

Survivors include four sons, Tony, Dana, John and Jim, all of Heavener; two grandchildren, Guy of Tulsa and M. Jay of Heavener; two sisters, Elsie Freeman of Payson, Arizona and Esta Alice Pipkins of Pocola; one uncle, Edgar Gregory of Spiro; three nephews who regard him as their second father, Jerry Gregory of Pocola, Joe Gregory of Heavener and Robert McCaslin of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, and many more nieces and nephews.

Mitchell Ary

Mitchell Ary, 17, of Kinta, Oklahoma passed away Saturday, May 26, 2001 in Kinta. He was born January 23, 1984 in Ft. Smith, Arkansas to Donnie Ary and Donna Richardson.

Mitchell was a Kinta High School student who would have been a senior this fall. He was active in the high school football and basketball teams.

His grandfather, Clyde Ary, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his parents, Donna Richardson, Donnie Ary and Kevin and Ramona Bray; his grandparents, Velma Ary, Jim and Edith Bray, Betty Richardson and James Richardson; three sisters, Kelly Hyslop, Andrea Bray and Tesa Bray, and four brothers, Donald Lubbe, Douglas Lubbe, Clint Ary and Aaron Bray.

Norman A. Wyers

Norman A. Wyers, 85, of Keota, Oklahoma passed away Saturday, July 28, 2001 in Keota. He was born August 26, 1915 in McCurtain to John and Martha (Wilson) Wyers.

Mr. Wyers was a retired mine worker. He was a member of the Keota Blue Lodge and a 32nd Degree Master Mason.

Survivors include one daughter, Norma Villarreal of Littleton, Colorado; one son, Jim Wyers of Ridgeway, Colorado; one sister, Kathryn Hammonds of San Antonio, Texas; one brother, Paul Wyers of Diamond City, Arkansas; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Lewis Bullard, Jr.

Lewis Bullard, Jr., 76, a longtime Quinton, Oklahoma area rancher, passed away of complications from a brain tumor on Thursday, June 28, 2001 in his home in the Lona Valley Community. He was able to spend the last three weeks at home due to the outstanding care provided him by his daughter-in-law, Janet, sisters Mona and Dorothy, and the nurses and aides of Mid-Lake Hospice.

Mr. Bullard was born May 30, 1925 to Lewis Bullard, Sr. and Esther May (Haughey) Bullard in the Fairview area of southwest Haskell County. His birth was unique in the fact that he was delivered by his grandfather, Dr. A.C. Bullard, a pioneer physician in the Quinton area.

He attended school at Tucker Knob and Kinta, graduating from Quinton. At Quinton, he was active in FFA under longtime vocational agriculture instructor, H.C. Kirkpatrick. A highlight of his FFA career was showing the Reserve Grand Champion Steer at the 1943 Pittsburg County Livestock Show. His grandson, Robert, showed the Grand Champion Steer at the 50th Pittsburg County Show in 1993, allowing the Bullard family to say "it took 50 years to move up one place."

Because of scholastic ability he was allowed to bypass certain grades at Tucker Knobb. Mr. Bullard graduated during the height of World War II - too young for the draft. He traveled to Dumas, Texas where he lived with cousins and worked in the Dumas-Sunray area until becoming draft age.

He served during World War II with the 361st Regimental Combat Team. After training at Camp Fannin, Texas, and ranger training near Baltimore, Maryland, he embarked and landed at Casablanca in northern Africa. His unit was then moved to the island of Sicily, and then to the beaches at Anzio, Italy. Lewis was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star for Valor and other campaign and unit citation decorations.

After discharge, Bullard attended Eastern Oklahoma A&M College, where he received his associate degree in agriculture. During this period he met Wanda (Billie) Pulse and they were married on December 26, 1946, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. After completion of college, he was offered a job teaching agriculture to veterans under the VAT program at Quinton. He worked in this position for 13 years while pursuing his lifetime profession of being a rancher.

Bullard farmed with his father, Lewis, Sr., for a number of years while accumulating cattle. In 1957 he purchased the ranch in Lona Valley that would be his and Wanda's home for over four decades. By continuing to add additional acres, he owned three ranches in the Lona Valley and Fairview areas at the time of his death.

With his knowledge of land and land values, minerals and cattle, Bullard was selected to serve on the Haskell County Excise Board by County Commissioners Leo Reasnor, Jethro Henry and Ray Ballard. He served in this position over 20 years and made numerous friends with the courthouse employees and others in the county. He also served on the Haskell County Farm Bureau Board, held membership in the Quinton Masonic Lodge and the Quinton VFW and was a longtime member of the Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Wanda; only brother, Merle "Sonny" Bullard of Quinton; a niece, Bethel, and many of his Quinton friends and Army buddies.

Survivors include his son, Gerald "Joe" and wife, Janet, of the Lona Valley area; granddaughter, Melanie Clark of Eufaula, Oklahoma, and grandson, Robert of Lona Valley; two sisters, Mona Smith of Burleson, Texas and Dorothy Fern and husband, Ray Spivey, of Grand Prairie, Texas; great-grandchildren, Reed and Elizabeth Clark of Eufaula; nieces and nephews, Mike and Dawn Spivey of Grand Prairie, James Merle Bullard of Colorado, George Bullard of Stigler, Walt Berry Smith of Georgia, Shirley Cunningham of Chickasha and Phyllis Howell of Spiro, and his sisters-in-law, Darlene Bullard of Quinton and Blanche Howell of Broken.

Leona Mae Baker Roberson

Leona Mae Baker Roberson, 72, passed away December 5, 2000 at her home. She was born April 12, 1928 at Nashoba, Oklahoma to Noel Samuel and Roxie (Loman) Baker.

She attended Goodland, Wheelock and Sequoyah Schools. She worked in Food Service at Kullihoma and McCall's Chapel.

Leona married Ellis Carnes in 1948. They later divorced. She married Berman Roberson on January 7, 1971 at Antlers, Oklahoma. He preceded her in death on August 13, 1998.

Survivors include three sons, S.B. Hone-sa of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Noel Samuel Carnes of Ada, Oklahoma and Darren Roberson of Denison, Texas; seven daughters, Toni Bowers and Belva Roberson, both of Denison, Mary Hayes of Pryor, Oklahoma, Georgia Jarvis of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Lillie Dusenberry and Peggy Henderson, both of Ada, and Phyllis Carnes of Tahlequah; 19 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Vivian Noah

Vivian Noah, 76, of Wright City, Oklahoma passed away Monday, July 30, 2001 at her residence. She was born November 3, 1924 at Pickens, Oklahoma, the daughter of Quincy and Kitsey Maytubby.

She was a homemaker, a member of Chihowaj Chukka Assembly of God and had lived in the Wright City area all of her life. She loved gardening and church.

A son, Roy Sonny Noah, and her husband, Kelsey Noah, preceded her in death.

Survivors include two sons, Troy Noah of Wright City and Randall Watson of Broken Bow, Oklahoma; five daughters, Hannah Bryan of Durant, Oklahoma, Patricia Rodriguez and Jonita Zelaya, both of Mt. Pleasant, Texas, Sherri Santillano of Idabel, Oklahoma and Vicky Toribio of Broken Bow; one brother, Willis Maytubby of Wright City; one sister, Selma Holt of Tom, Oklahoma, and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Ella C. Murphy

Idabel resident Ella C. Murphy, 92, passed away Wednesday, September 5, 2001 at Wadley Regional Medical Center in Texarkana, Texas. She was born August 28, 1909 in Garvin, Oklahoma to Joe and Hannah Jones.

For many years, Ella Murphy had been very active in the Home Demonstration Club, the 4-H Club and the Women's Society of Christian Service. In 1984 she retired from the Choctaw Nation. In her 20 years of service as a Community Health Representative, she helped many people and touched many lives. Ella Murphy was a member of the Living Land Indian Methodist Church.

Ella Murphy was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, William T. Murphy; a son, Lee Murphy, and three brothers.

Survivors include her sons, James Lawrence of Oklahoma City and Percy Lawrence of Wisconsin; daughters and son-in-law, Jolene Kaueyda of Grants, New Mexico and LaHoma and Gene Crauthers of Oklahoma City; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Rosemary (Gann) Dunmon



Rosemary Dunman, 57, of Leonard, Texas passed away Wednesday, August 29, 2001. The daughter of Grady and Gladys (Bohanon) Gann, she was born October 17, 1943 in Sardis, Oklahoma.

She married B.C. Dunmon on September 19, 1964 in Dallas, Texas. She was a member of the Pentecostal Church and the owner of Aladdin Exterminating Services.

Rosemary was very proud of her Choctaw heritage.

Survivors include her husband, B.C.

of the home; sons, Clark Dunmon and Lance Dunmon, both of Leonard; grandchildren, Brandon Dunmon, Kaleigh Dunmon and Brittany Houser; her parents, Grady and Gladys Gann of Durant, Oklahoma, and sisters, Clione Ramos of Durant and Farene Freeman of Frisco, Texas.

Emma Lorene (Winters) Hyden



Emma Lorene (Winters) Hyden, 98, passed away July 16, 2001. She was born December 12, 1902 to Frank Jesse Winters and Daisy (Daggs) Winters in Indian Territory, in the area now known as Ada, Oklahoma.

She married Benjamin Lockard Hyden in 1919 who was at one time County Deputy Sheriff of Pontotoc County. They were married 49 years before he preceded her in death on January 17, 1970. They had lived for a time in Ada, Wynnewood and

Stratford, moving to Oakland, California in 1942. Four children were born to them.

A homemaker, she was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and a caregiver to everyone. She was always in the kitchen cooking and caring for her grandchildren and never tired of it.

She is survived by two sons, Lockard W. Hyden of Wynnewood and W.B. Hyden of Oakland, California, and two daughters, Daisy E. Clark of Charleston, South Carolina and Martha Patricia Florez of Ripon, California. She resided with daughter Martha for 25 years in Livermore, California then moved to Ripon on August 31, 2000. Also surviving her are numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Frank, Walter and Ozell Winters, and two sisters, Amanda and Hazel.

George Nolan Roberts

George Nolan Roberts, 64, of Yorba Linda, California, passed away on March 17, 2001 in Fullerton, California. He was born January 18, 1937 in Hugo, Oklahoma to George and Lola Roberts.

George lived in Hugo with his parents and two younger brothers, Bruce Roberts and John Roberts, until the age of nine when the family moved to Brawley, California.

George graduated from Brawly High School then moved to Yorba Linda where he met and married the love of his life, Frances Jean Roberts. They later had two sons.

George joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department on February 7, 1962 where he worked for 34 years in many different divisions within the department spending the last 20 years of his career in Homicide before retiring for health reasons. While in Homicide, George solved hundreds of cases including the most famous "Hillside Strangler Case". George received numerous commendations throughout this career.

He was proud of his Choctaw heritage, a strong Christian and a great family man. He enjoyed researching his family history, spending time with his family and free time on his yacht, Agape.

Survivors include his wife, Frances Jean Roberts; two sons, Tim Roberts, employed by Whittier Police Department, and Craig Roberts, employed by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; and four grandchildren.

Abe Frank "Cap" Winter

Abe Frank "Cap" Winter passed away on his 96th birthday, August 1, 2001 in Whitten, California. He was born to John and Cora Winter on August 1, 1905 in Bennington, Oklahoma.

Survivors include a daughter, Nelda, of Huntington Beach, California; a son, Kendel, of Hacienda Heights, California, and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Carl E. Olson

Longtime Las Vegas resident Carl Olson, 40, passed away August 18, 2001 in Kanab, Utah. He was born in Long Beach, California on December 20, 1960, the son of the great-granddaughter of David C. Merryman and the granddaughter of Leo E. Merryman, both original enrollees. Carl's mother is Donietha "Donna" (Clayton) Olson-Rivera of Las Vegas.

Carl spent many summers and winters growing up in Southern California weather, playing with cousins Debra and Russ who lived nearby. He held several jobs, the last few years working with his maternal Uncle Leroy Merryman in a detailing and washing business where they washed city vehicles in Nevada before moving to Utah. His life was tragically cut short by a car accident.

Carl was preceded in death by his uncle, Leon Merryman; great-grandparents, Leo and Oda Merryman, and grandfather, Edward Clayton.

Survivors include his children, Summer Marie and Kristyle Lee and their mother, Tina Leann Hodges; father, Carl; mother, Donietha; sister, Kathleen "Kathy" Olson-Taylor and her husband, Forrest, and their two daughters, Kamiah and Codie, of Nevada; grandmother, Beatrice Betty Merryman-Clayton; aunts and uncles and their families, Roger and April Clayton of Arizona, Bobby Clayton of Washington, Lola (Clayton) and Buddy Duvall of Arizona and Jacqueline Clayton of Washington, and many other relatives and friends.

Brandon Lee Lewis Carney

Brandon Lee Lewis Carney, 21, of Morris, Oklahoma passed away July 3, 2001 in Owasso, Oklahoma. He was born February 10, 1980 in Orange, California to Glen Dale and Cynthia Lynn (Smith) Carney.

Brandon attended Morris Public Schools and was employed by Patent Construction Systems in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was a caring and loving person with much potential who will be greatly missed.

Survivors include his mother, Cynthia Carney of Morris; father, Glen Dale Carney of Oklahoma; two daughters, Caitlyn Nicole Carney and Natalie ReAnn Carney, both of Okmulgee, Oklahoma; two brothers, Richard Carney of Sherwood, Arkansas and Kyle Carney of Morris, Oklahoma; his grandparents, Gene Smith of El Paso, Arkansas, Norma Smith of Jacksonville, Arkansas, Augusta Genn and Sam Carney, both of Ardmore, Oklahoma.