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September 2002 Issue



Little Miss Lindsey Noah, Senior Miss Ivanna Battiest and Junior Miss Malinda Thompson.

## Pageant held during Labor Day weekend

Three young ladies were chosen as reigning Choctaw Nation Princesses during the much-aniticpated pageant held every year as part of the Labor Day Festival. District 2's Ivanna Battiest was crowned Senior Miss Choctaw Nation. Junior Miss is Malinda Thompson of District 8 and Little Miss is Lindsey Noah of District 2.

In the Senior Miss division, the first runner-up is District 9 Princess Pakanli Polk. Tashina Taylor of District 3 is second runner-up.

First runner-up in the Junior Miss division is Sissy Caldwell, District 7; second runner-up is Tiffany Shomo, District 2. In the Little Miss contest, first runner-up is Lakota Byington, District 11; second runner-up is Paige Tenequer, District 10.

The panel of judges for the Saturday pageant included June Praytor, Amancha Scott, Margaret Teal, Alestine Thomas and Nanette

## Monday events highlight festival

### Chief Pyle delivers annual State of the Nation address

state of the Choctaw Nation," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle at the formal program during the Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma. He reported that tribal businesses are profitable and revenues are being used to help Choctaws. "We are trying to raise a higher standard living for Choctaw people, and we must have funds to do this.

"One of our most profitable business ventures is gaming," said Chief Pyle. "Earnings from these centers have been used to start a number of other businesses. Currently, about 75% of our total revenue comes from tribal businesses. We have eight travel plazas and three more are now being constructed."

Chief Pyle explained that new business facilities mean new jobs for Choctaw people. He talked of his expectation to increase the total employees both inside and outside the Choctaw Nation boundaries by continuing to add economic development ventures and by expanding the contracts that employ people all over the world through Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise (CM/SE).

"I know many of you have had to move to other states and cities to earn a living. The Council and I work to create jobs for the Choctaw people so they can reside close to their families if they wish."

Chief Pyle reported that a higher number of scholarships than ever before were being

"I am here to report on the given to Choctaws this year. Tribal dollars have supplemented the Higher Ed program over the last five years so that additional students can go to a college, university or other institute of higher learning.

> "This year, the Council passed the highest dollar amount of any education bill in tribal history,' said the Chief. "Four million dollars have been put into the Higher Ed budget to send about 2,300 students to school."

As services are improved through tribal dollars, numbers of Choctaws being assisted by tribal programs have increased. "Since the Choctaw Nation built the new hospital in Talihina, we have almost doubled the number of people we are able to see," said Chief Pyle. Applause greeted his announcement that a 14,000square-foot building was being constructed in Talihina that will be a Diabetes Wellness Center. The groundbreaking for this facility will be October 8th.

"A milestone has been crossed in our housing program," said Chief Pyle. "The CHAP program has been expanded to all 50 states, and has helped 500 families.'

Chief Pyle reported that muchneeded Community Centers are located in all of the districts in the tribal boundaries. Crowder has the newest one, and construction is ongoing in Spiro and

"Our Choctaw heritage is very close to my heart," said Chief Pyle. "It is overwhelming to



Chief Gregory Pyle and the Choctaw Nation honored centenarian Dock Nail of McAlester as being the oldest person attending the Monday festivities.

have our own museum, and we are working in phases to improve it." The Capitol Building is over 100 years old and workers have been instructed to not change or damage the integrity of the building.

"Now we need your help. We need assistance in getting display items. If you have artifacts or historic memorabilia, please consider donating or loaning them to the museum. With your input, we will have a really great museum.

Chief Pyle also reminded everyone how close the Choctaws were to losing their language just a few years ago. "For many years the U.S. Government policy was to stamp out culture and language of tribes. Since then, we have started the Choctaw Language Program to revive the Choctaw language. We have over 40 sites

with teachers and have also put live classes on the Internet, free of charge. Over 1,000 students are currently enrolled over the world wide web.

"Last year, we announced four schools were involved in a pilot program to have the Choctaw language in public schools. This year, we have 36 schools teaching Choctaw in accredited

"The Choctaw Nation has been working at the federal level to get recognition for the World War I Choctaw Code Talkers," said Chief Pyle. "The bill has passed the House and is now in the Senate." He asked that everyone write or call their United States Senator and encourage them to support the legislation to honor the Native American Code Talkers.

"I am proud to report that the

## Group agrees to develop **Strategic Health Alliance**

Partners from across southeast Oklahoma met this month to sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the Strategic Health Alliance with the Choctaw Nation. The group agreed to develop a strategic health alliance between educational partners at all levels and the Choctaw Nation that will provide an educational system that can deliver a pool of highly qualified health care professionals.

Representatives from East Central University, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Carl Albert State College, Eastern Oklahoma State College, Kiamichi Technology Center, Talihina **Public Schools** 



## Southeastern University appoints Choctaw as Academic Advisor

Shari Caldwell Williams has been hired as an academic advisor at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant. Williams will work with undergraduate students and the school's faculty advisors to help students make the transition to university life, with an emphasis on assisting American Indian students.

This academic advisor position was part of the agreement that Southeastern and the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations entered into earlier this year. In addition, the three partners are contributing financial resources to renovate the Chickasaw and Choctaw dormitories on campus.

"We are delighted that Shari Caldwell Williams is joining our academic advisory staff," said SOSU President Glen D. Johnson. "She will be a most valuable addition. Most importantly, our students will be the direct beneficiaries of this collaborative agreement. The Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations have played an important role in the history of the university and community and we are very grateful for



their continued support of higher

"Education continues to be a top priority of the Choctaw Nation," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle.

"The Council and I are thankful to have the economic revenue to offer financial scholarsips to Choctaw students who are interested in attending SOSU, as well as other institutes of higher learning.'

Chief Pyle also stated, "As academic advisor, Shari Williams, who is of Choctaw heritage, will serve as an excellent resource for the Native American students on campus."

Williams holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from American Indian College and a master's of education in curriculum and instruction in elementary education from Arizona State University. For the past seven years, she served as coordinator of Indian Education Programs for the Creighton School

District in Phoenix, Arizona.

"I am happy to be back in Southeast Oklahoma where I'm close to family and friends," Williams said. "I feel the collaboration among the two Nations and the University is much needed and it is great to see the support that both entities have given to the students, which is all the more reason I am looking forward to working with the students, the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, and Southeastern."



Tribe breaks ground for Assisted Living Community in Bryan County A groundbreaking was held recently at the site of the Durant Independent Living Community. Councilman Ted Dosh and Chief Greg Pyle an-

nounced that there would be ten homes in the Bryan County community, which is located west of the Choctaw Travel Plaza.

## **Council elects officers**

The first order of business at the September 14th Regular Session of the Choctaw Tribal Council was to elect the slate of officers. All votes were unanimous. Kenny Bryant was retained as Speaker, Charlotte Jackson kept her job as Secretary and Randle Durant will serve again as Chaplain.

Commitment was given to participate in a Joint Venture Construction Program with IHS for an Ambulatory Health Center in Idabel.

The Council approved a \$75,000 expenditure to continue employment of Tribal Police officers whose grants have expired.

The Jones Academy Policy & Procedures handbooks were accepted, and funds to close out the Labor Day carnival costs were approved.

Budgets approved included: Health Services, Family Violence Program, Upward Bound Math/Science, Consolidated Tribal Government Programs, WIC, Tribal Operations and Indirect Cost.

#### Letters



#### Los Angeles meeting informative Dear Chief Pyle,

I just wanted to say thank you for coming to California. My wife, Virginia, and I met you at the Airport Radisson in Los Angeles a few weeks ago. I was very pleased to meet you in person. I always come to Oklahoma every year to visit my father, Thomas, Sr., and brother, Rueben, and I can't forget my cousin, Martha Polk, with whom we stay every time we are back there. I was very impressed with the presentation that you gave. It was clear to me that you have vision for the Choctaw people and have the business savvy to have the Choctaw Nation be competitive within the business community.

Thank you for getting me in touch with the right staff members in regards to our process of adopting a child. Now I have a contact person at the Choctaw Nation to help me in regards to any questions that I might have.

God bless you, Chief Pyle. Thanks again.

**Thomas Marris** 

#### Program due special recognition

Dear Chief Pyle,

I felt a strong need to write to you to express my appreciation and admiration for the endeavors of the Choctaw Nation to help its people since you became Chief. The vision and efforts that you (and the "unseen" staff of so many departments) have put forth to help rebuild the Choctaw Nation and heal its people have stirred my heart. As a Choctaw man with a Choctaw family that has benefitted from these programs, I feel inspired by all of the efforts to do my part.

In writing of my admiration, there is one program I feel deserves special recognition. Sandra Stroud and Kathryn Pitchford of the Choctaw C.A.R.E.S. program in Talihina have worked selflessly and tirelessly to research the needs of the Nation in an effort to find ways to strengthen and rebuild our families. Their work has been an inspiration not only to me, but also to many of Oklahoma's family and youth service organizations, both tribal and Anglo-Saxon. The programs that they are trying so hard to establish have provided hope among tribal members that the problems and needs of Choctaw families will be addressed.

After years of hard work and sacrifice, it seems their vision and dream will become a reality by mid-September. Their grant seems secure and the work will continue ... thanks to these two Choctaw women. I would hate to see their creative and dedicated labor over the past few years overlooked. I am not sure how or when you honor certain members of the tribe, but certainly these two members and their staff deserve to be honored by you and the Nation in some way.

Thank you for your time.

### Tribe assists with education

The Department of Higher Education has been making it possible for me to receive an education for the past two-and-a-half years. I was able to receive my Associate's Degree in Art at Odessa College, and now I am preparing to attend Texas Tech University in the fall of 2002 to work towards a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies.

I was not sure if I was going to be able to attend Texas Tech University because of the increase in tuition and expenses of living on my own, but because of your assistance I will be able to attend Texas Tech and I am very grateful for your scholarship.

I cannot tell you how thankful I am for the help that you have given to me. I still have quite a few hours to obtain before I will be able to graduate with a Communication Studies Degree, but with the help from the Department of Higher Education the completion of my degree will be easier to obtain. Thank you again for your assistance.

Paige Reed

#### **Searching for information**

Dear Editor,

I am looking for information regarding my great-grandfather, Louis Monroe Killingsworth, and family. His year of birth was 1906 and he was a member of the Choctaw tribe.

Also, I would like to have any information on Jason Kendall Gamble, born September 26, 1971, died June 26, 2002. He was also Choctaw.

Jason was my newborn nephew's dad. He won't have a chance to get to know his father. Someday we hope to teach him who he was and where he and his family came from.

Thank you.

**Amanda Killingsworth** 8100 W. Britton Rd., Apt. 13 Oklahoma City, OK 73132

#### Youth appreciate opportunity

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank the Chief and the Tribe for allowing us to work on the Youth Program during the summer. We live in a small community and this gave us the opportunity to earn money during the summer. We very much appreciate it.

> **Anthony and Bill Moore** Soper, Oklahoma

Gregory E. Pyle Chief

The Official **Monthly Publication** 

Mike Bailey Assistant Chief

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of the **Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma** 

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typewritten and double spaced. You must include an address or phone

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

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Congratulations to the Choctaw boys who made the Southeast Oklahoma 13-year-old Division All Stars: front, Anthony Allen of Soper, Kelsey Carper of Wright City, Brandon Cloud of Sawyer; back, Russell Wood of Hugo, David Combs and Jeff Wallace of Wright City. We're proud of you guys!

#### Choctaws make All-Stars Team **Dear Choctaw Nation,**

The Southeast Oklahoma 13-year-old Division All-Stars would like to thank you for your generous donations to the team and to individual Choctaw players. It was greatly appreciated.

Your donations helped out with expenses for the team's trip to Bay City, Texas where the Southeast All-Stars competed in the 13-year-old Division Babe Ruth Southwest Regional Tournament.

Wayne Durrence, Assistant Coach

#### Staff provides excellent care Dear Chief Pyle,

I would like to sincerely thank you, your staff, and the doctors and staff at the Choctaw Nation Indian Hospital at Talihina. The care and concern for me was excellent. Chief Pyle, your leadership and concern for the Choctaws make me even more proud of my Choctaw heritage. My dad instilled in me an appreciation of being a Choctaw and that pride has grown even more. We appreciate your devotion to your position and wish that we had more leaders in this country like you.

Again, my sincere thanks and appreciation to you and your staff. **Helen Bigger Niles** 

### **Choctaw Nation supports its students**

I received my copy of the BISHINIK this month and it reminded me to write a special "thank you" to the Choctaw Nation. Our son, Zachary Smith, has just graduated from Oklahoma City University School of Law and has taken the Oklahoma Bar Exam. He is currently awaiting the test results while completing his three weeks active duty in Korea for the Oklahoma National Guard, of which he is a 1st Lieutenant.

My husband and I would like to again thank the Choctaw Nation from the bottom of our hearts for its scholarship funding assistance to our son, E. Zach Smith, and to our daughter, Dorya Starr, who is a senior at Texas A&M, Galveston. Please tell everyone for us how much it means to us for the Choctaw Nation to help support the students of our nation. We are so proud of our Choctaw tribe and heritage.

**Heather Smith** 

## **Interested in meeting family members**

Not being able to grow up in Oklahoma, I wasn't able to meet my mother's family. I was very surprised to be looking at a cousin of mine in the July BISHINIK who had just turned 18. My grandfather was Beard Job Harvey. My mother's name is Inita Harvey

I am very interested in meeting members of my family and finding out about them. My three-and-a-half-year-old son, Charley L. Logan, would also love to meet family seeing as he has not met any of them. Thank you.

Dorothy (Dorsey) and Charley Logan **5764 NW Grand Ave. #3** Glendale, AZ 85301

#### Trip to Mississippi very enjoyable Dear Chief Pyle and Assistant Chief Bailey,

The Choctaw Language Class who took the trip to Philadelphia, Mississippi wants to say "Thank You." We left Durant on a Choctaw bus and had wonderful drivers. It would have been perfect if our teacher, Ann Kaniatobe, had been able to attend. She is super!

The group that meets every Monday had a wonderful time. Indian food was prepared by the students of the Language Class. The hotels were very nice with food places right in the hotel.

We boarded the two buses to travel to the reservation, to their museum, bone mound and church. The Holy Rosary Parish Church was very interesting. The Catholic church, started in 1904, was of English origin. Restored in 1987, it is very old and small but still serving the Indians in Tucker community.

We went on to Nanih Waiya and then back to the casino. My book tells me that in 1541 there were more than 20,000 Choctaws in the Mother Mound, Nanih Waiya, area. We then attended a beautiful Choctaw princess pageant. It was perfectly and beautifully done.

We agreed in the bus that we must thank Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Bailey and the Council for a great trip.

> Julia Knight Durant, Oklahoma

#### Tribe's generosity aids with education **Dear Choctaw Nation,**

I sincerely want to thank my Choctaw family for your generosity in helping me continue my education. Without your support, I may not have been able to do so. I owe you a tremendous gratitude. Thank you and may God bless.

> Laci Bennett Enid, Oklahoma

#### Researching ancestry

I'm searching for family members of my great-grandfather. William A. Harris, born 1844 to Turner B. Harris and Selena (LeFlore) Harris in Brandon County, Mississippi.

He married my great-grandmother June 6, 1869 in Ofahoma, Mississippi, Leake County. Her name was Mississippi Carolina Fox of Leake City. In 1877 they moved to Indian Territory and he registered as a Choctaw. He died February 22, 1877 and was buried at Brazil Cemetery in Eastern Oklahoma, close to Spiro. There is no marker. I plan to put one there. I'd like to hear from some of his relatives.

Marie M. Keeling 3229 Willow Rock Rd. Norman, OK 73072

#### CHOCTAW MANAGEMENT/SERVICES ENTERPRISE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

#### MEDICAL INSURANCE **COLLECTION POSITIONS**

Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise is recruiting employees for the following positions in Durant, Oklahoma and the surrounding areas:

Collection Manager: Seeking a highly motivated individual with 5-7 years of proven experience in third party collections for a large healthcare facility. Must be highly organized, an effective communicator, and have the ability to identify, address and solve problems. Responsibilities will include the daily supervision of the collection's staff to ensure that all policies and procedures are followed, production levels maintained, and work is distributed in the most efficient manner. Must have proven record of interacting with insurance carriers and obtaining large sum resolutions/dispositions. Certified coder with experience in UR, billing and compliance required. College degree preferred.

Collectors: Seeking highly motivated individuals with 3-5 years of proven experience in third party collections for a large healthcare facility or large physician group practice. Must have extensive experience in processing claims against all types of third party providers. Must be able to facilitate all aspects of production management from QA/QC review, demand letters, follow-up and final resolution of claims. Must be able to work in a team environment and be responsible for production, performance and trend reports. Candidates must be highly organized, have effective communication skills both written and verbal, and have strong commitments to attention to details. Certified coder preferred. HS diploma required, college or associate degree preferred.

CM/SE, a rapidly growing provider of health, social, mental health, and administrative services worldwide, offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits package, including 401(k), full medical/dental/vision.

To apply, fax your resume with cover letter to the attention of TPC-PM at 210-341-3455, or submit via e-mail to TPCjobs@cmse.

Refer to Job Announcement #137.

#### **CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER**

Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise, a rapidly growing provider of health, social, mental health, and administrative services worldwide, has challenging full-time positions to work as Treatment Managers in the Family Advocacy Clinics at Ellsworth Air Force Base in Rapid City, South Dakota, and at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, Montana. Qualified applicants will have a Master's Degree in Social Work, current highest level Independent Clinical Social Work license, and a minimum of 2 years full-time post-graduate experience working with families.

Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise offers an attractive, competitive salary and benefits package, including 401(k), full medical/dental/vision, CME, a good working environment and opportunities for career relocation and growth.

Interested applicants should e-mail their resume and cover letter

Larry Warren at lwarren@cmse.net. You may also fax your resume to 877-267-3728. Closing date: Open until filled. Refer to Job Announcement #130

Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise, a government contractor, needs Cashiers, File Clerks, Data Entry Clerks, Mail Clerks and Courier to work in Phoenix, Arizona; San Antonio, Texas; San Diego, California, and Dallas, Texas.

Great Monday-Friday hours, good benefits package including Health, Vision and Dental, all effective 2 months after start date. At a minimum applicants must have a high school diploma or GED and must be a U.S. citizen.

Poly letters of interest indicating position desired slocation and section are section and section and section are section as section are section as sec

#### **DEPUTY PROGRAM MANAGER**

Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise, a government contractor, has an immediate opening for a highly motivated, dedicated individual to work as a Deputy Program Manager for our medical contracts. Will report directly to the program manager and assist him in managing 700 medical professionals nationwide. The qualified candidate must have a B.S. degree. Ideal candidate will have some military and/or medical experience with excellent computer and communication skills. Familiarity with government contracting practices and procedures a plus.

We offer an excellent compensation package, including full medical/dental/vision insurance to the employee at no charge and a 401(k) program. For more information and immediate consideration, please fax or e-mail your resume to:

> CM/SE **Attn: Jeremy Woodruff** 2161 NW Military, Suite 308 San Antonio, TX 78213 210-341-3336 Fax: 210-341-3455

e-mail: jbwoodruff@cmse.net Opening Date: August 26; Closing Date: Open until filled. Refer to Job Announcement #132.

#### Families send a special thank you

Dear Chief Pyle and the Tribal Council,

Deborah Dailey, Priscilla Harris, Avis Tugwell, Michelle Battiest, Susie Jacob and Rebecca Nahwooksy would like to give Chief Pyle and the Tribal Council a special thank you from our children for the free rides during the Labor Day Festival.

Thank you from Randy, Rusty, Ricky and Derrick Dailey, Casey and Tristan Harris, Cheselene Baker, David, R.J. and Joshua Battiest, Kristin Jacob, Valentina and Victoria Reyes and B.J. Gardner.

## Learning to fight diabetes

Diabetes is a chronic problem that affects most of our Indian families. The Choctaw Nation has been very active in trying to offer education and prevention methods to tribal members. Choctaws are almost 25% more likely to get diabetes than non-Indians, which means this prevention education is crucial to future generations. We want to win the battle against this terrible disease.

One of the most unique programs initiated through the Diabetes Multi-Resource Task Force is a team of health care workers and nutritionists who are presenting a two-hour interactive program for fifth-graders across the Choctaw Nation.

The students bring a permission slip from a parent or guardian so that their finger may be pricked for a single drop of blood and their glucose level checked. If their blood sugar is not within the normal range, a referral is given to that child so that the parent can be advised to



seek a medical opinion as soon as possible

As the students are taken three at a time to get their "itty bitty finger stick", the remainder of the class is entertained with great videos that tell about the importance of good nutrition and exercise. The fifth-graders help fix a snack of trail mix that is divided and shared with all participants before the end of the day. As they are preparing the cereal/nut/raisin snack, a nutritionist explains the nutritional value of each of the

ingredients and offers ideas on optional snacks that are also wise choices.

If asked about their favorite part of the two-hour presentation, the students are equally divided. Some love the singing of the "Salad Sisters", four ladies who are dressed as carrot, lettuce, tomato and broccoli, who tout the importance of a healthy diet. Other students vote for the fun activity with a multi-colored parachute outside. The kids each grab a portion of the perimeter of the chute and bounce balls, rubber chickens and toy pigs in the air, as well as taking turns racing underneath as others hold it in the air.

Before the program begins, each student is given a simple, five-question test on their knowledge of diabetes. The same test is repeated at the end of the two hours, and the improvement of scores has been gratifying.

I am proud to report that the young people are responding to the education and learning



Playground fun with a parachute and a classroom skit by the "Salad Sisters" are two of the Coalgate fifth-graders' favorite activities during Diabetes Prevention **Education Day. More photos are on Page 4.** 



Choctaw tradition was honored

this year at the festival with social

dancing and stickball exhibitions,

along with a weekend of activi-

ties at the village area. Examples

of artwork, bow making, blow

guns and even banaha and fry

bread cooking were ongoing

The festival gets better each

#### From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

## Labor Day Festival was great event enjoyed by record

Record crowds poured into the Tribal Capitol Grounds over the Labor Day Weekend to join the Choctaw Nation at our celebration. Musical giants such as George Jones and Clay Walker were highlights for many of the visitors to Tushka Homma, but there were many other highlights for me, the Chief and the Council.

Numerous young people, along with parents and grandparents, voiced their tremendous appreciation for the carnival being free

of charge this year. For the first time, the Choctaw Nation was able to let everyone, regardless of age or tribal membership, ride free all weekend. Many families said they were financially unable to allow their children to get arm bands or tickets for the rides and said they were very thankful that the kids were able to enjoy the huge carnival.

Congratulations go to the numerous winners of events this year. I was happy to see that competitions were held in

many areas. Children were given awards for turtle races, people of all ages received medals in a sanctioned 5 km race, competitors took home trophies for horseshoe pitch, checkers, dominoes and volleyball, and prizes such as jackets were handed out to winners in fast-pitch. The quilt display in the historic museum showcased the amazing talent of many individuals.

I was proud to meet many young people throughout the weekend who had positive experiences to share of their past year. Choctaw students who had 4-H and FFA projects to compete in swine and beef shows were assisted throughout this year, and some of the children brought their winning photographs and ribbons to show the Chief and me. College students told me how much the scholarships through Higher Education meant to them. Just a few short years ago, the tribe was limited in the number of scholarships that could be awarded, and only a portion of the applicants were helped. Under the administration of Chief Pyle, tribal revenues have been added and more than two thousand students will be helped this year.



Whitlie Curliss and Tabitha Barnhouse of Hartshorne show pictures of their 4-H projects to Chief Pyle and Assistant Chief Bailey at the Labor Day festival.

THE JONES ACADEMY

'ALL BOYS SCHOOL'

REUNION

Saturday, October 19

at the Jones Academy School

attended before the girls came, this is your reunion

and your wife/escort is also welcome. Last year we

Registration is 10 a.m.

Activities will be held all day, closing with a Gospel

Singing that night with a lot of people coming to the

school to attend this part of the program. For more

Jimmy Bruner – 580-298-3136

Ted LeFlore – 580-889-7989

Tom Williston – 580-286-3585

had 15 first-timers at the reunion.

information, please call:

We encourage all the Jones boys who attended up through the year 1954 to come and join us. If you

#### for the National Finals which year, so I hope you all begin will be held in California this planning now to attend the 2003 event. Chaplain's Corner By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

throughout the weekend.

The 2002 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival has come and gone. The Choctaw people present witnessed first hand the effective operations of our tribe. We will always experience success when the Legislative and Executive branches of our Choctaw Nation government are united with one goal: the highest quality of life for our Choctaw people. May we continue to pray for our Choctaws, and for our leaders along with the people and leaders of America. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; ..." (Psalms 33:12).

Five finalists in the National

All-Indian Rodeo were honored

during the weekend. Doyle Ba-

con, Kevin Bacon, J.D. Bacon,

Brian Bacon and Erica Bacon

were all congratulated on their

advancement to the National

competition. I also congratulate

another Choctaw acquaintance,

John Pickens, who also qualifyed

October.

Let's look at a verse in the Gospel of John 3, John 3:3. It is in this verse that Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again," as if to emphasize the truth that if a man like Nicodemus needed the new birth, certainly all others who are not as good as Nicodemus need the new birth also. It is just another way of saying ALL

must be born again. And to the question, "Why must we be born again?", the answer is that we were all born wrong the first time. We were born of the flesh, and "That which is born of the flesh is flesh ..." (John 3:6), sinful flesh – flesh under the condemnation of God. It will never be anything else in the world but flesh, the sinful flesh of Adam.

When a person is born again,

nothing happens to the old nature and the flesh. God instead places within the believer a new nature, the divine nature. Peter wrote in II Peter 1:4, "Whereby we are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world

through lust." The new nature is placed alongside the old nature, over which we must gain the victory, but the flesh remains flesh. After Paul had been born again for 35 years he could still say in Romans 7:18, "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh), there dwelleth no good thing ...'

That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and it makes no difference what the outward appearance of that flesh is. It may be red flesh, white flesh, yellow flesh or black flesh. That which is born of the flesh is flesh. It may be old flesh or young, moral flesh or vile, religious flesh or godless, church membership flesh or atheist's flesh, it still stands as Jesus said in John 3:6-7: "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

It is said of George Whitfield that he seldom preached a sermon without quoting somewhere these words of the Lord Jesus, "Ye must be born again." One day a friend asked him, "Why, Mr. Whitfield, do you always preach on 'Ye must be born again?' and Whitfield replied, "Because ... you must be born again."

This is a truth that is seldom understood by the average man, even in the Christian community – among church members. If you asked the first ten men you meet what it means to be born again, you would be surprised how few people would know what you were talking about. Nicodemus, a religious leader in Jesus' time, didn't understand either.

Now, Jesus explained to Nicodemus the HOW of the new birth in John 3:5: "Jesus answered, verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

Jesus said to Nicodemus, to be born again, or from above, does not mean being born over again in the flesh. I am talking about

a new thing, a "Spiritual" birth which is produced by water and

the Spirit. When water is used for washing, cleansing in the Bible, it refers to the Word of God. Let me illustrate, in John 15:3 where Jesus said, "Now ye are clean through the work which I have spoken unto you." In Titus 3:5 we read, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit."

This is the washing of the water of regeneration as stated by Peter in I Peter 1:23, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." Born again by the water of the Word! Paul calls it "water of the word" and "washing of regeneration" (Ephesians 5:26; Titus 3:5).

This explains the words of Jesus in John 3:5, "... Except a man be born of water and the Spirit, ..." The Spirit takes the Word and applies it to the heart of the sinner. He, under the conviction of the Spirit, believes and the sinner is born again by the Spirit into the family of God.

Will you believe God's Word concerning His Son Jesus Christ. God the Father's plan of salvation was finished in His Only Begotten Son when He died on the Cross paying the penalty for your sin and mine. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die ..." (Ezekiel 18:20). "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). Jesus died, He was buried and He arose from the grave on the third day (I Corinthians 15:3-4). Today He is alive! He lives! You can receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and be born again into the family of God. Will you trust Him now?

I would like to help you to grow - to have victory over the flesh - in your spiritual life. Let me know. You may contact me by mail at P.O. Box 9, Antlers, OK 74523. May God bless you in a very special way is my prayer now. Remember to pray for America! Also pray for the Native Americans.

#### Management-Leadership Program sets semi-

The Choctaw Nation Management-Leadership Program has had a good beginning. A meeting with Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey and top management personnel wants to identify those individuals who have exemplified leadership skills and who are interested in leadership opportunities. They want to provide these individual leaders with an opportunity to become top management executives within the Choctaw Nation.

On August 12, a meeting of all part-time and full-time employees of the Choctaw Nation was held at the Bingo Gaming Center in Durant to explain to the employees the need for a management-leadership program. As-

sistant Chief Bailey explained to all of the employees that leadership training will be provided and many will be selected for intern programs within the Choctaw Nation Enterprises.

On August 13 and 14, a twoday seminar was arranged in San Antonio for ten employees who work for Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise. The ten employees are new managers, assistant managers and potential leaders. The seminar was conducted by a professional trainer with National Seminars Group in Kansas. The seminar was an intensive workshop and the results were guaranteed to impact those who attended. After the seminar, the CM/SE employees were enthusiastic and expressed their

appreciation for the training.

The National Seminars Group will conduct an on-site seminar in Durant October 16-17. All directors and managers within the Choctaw Nation are to attend the seminar. Assistant Chief Bailey is asking all of the Executive Directors of the Choctaw Nation to notify their directors and managers to attend the seminar. It will be conducted in the Conference Room of the Choctaw Inn with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. The seminar class will break one hour for lunch and will dismiss at 3:30 p.m. each day. The seminar will be a great learning experience and very enjoyable for all employees.



## "Night of the Wolf" released

Chief Gregory E. Pyle congratulates Brenda Ivie on the publication of her book, "Night of the Wolf." Brenda has been employed by the

Choctaw Nation Head Start Program since 1998.

The book can be purchased through Brenda Ivie at the Choctaw

September 2002, BISHINIK, Page 4



# BATTLE DIABETES

#### ◆ Poster Series

Third-place winners in a recent Diabetes Awareness poster contest are, clockwise from top right:

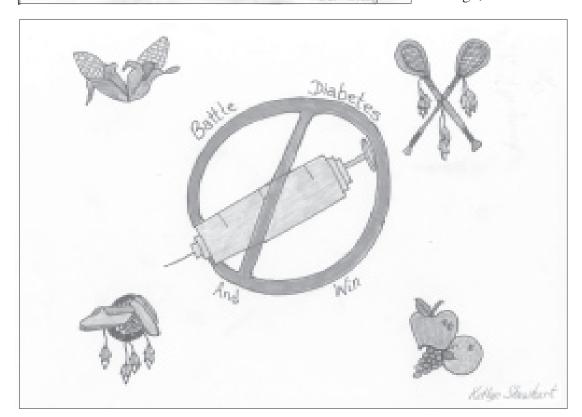
> Chelsea Wells 5th grade Hugo, Oklahoma

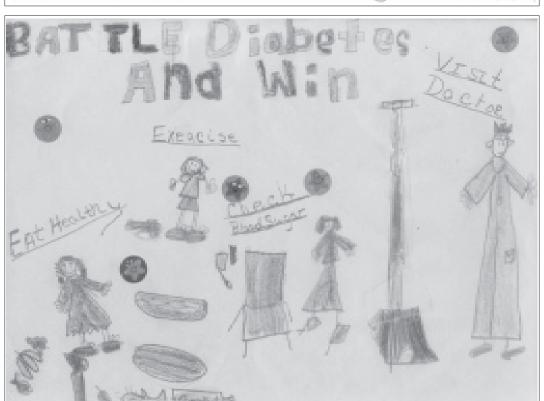
Madison Cress 1st grade Boswell, Oklahoma

Katlyn Shawhart 7th grade Hugo, Oklahoma

Keri Gray 10th grade Hugo, Oklahoma







## Diabetes Prevention Education Day held for fifth-graders

The Choctaw Nation of Okla- students whose parent/guardian homa's Diabetes Multi-Resource Task Force has been privileged to be able to present a two-hour interactive course on diabetes awareness and prevention to fifth-grade students. This presentation is scheduled in 18 elementary schools across southeastern Oklahoma.

Sessions include:

ing" - Blood Sugar (glucose) ity, one for upper body and one disease. screening by finger stick to those for lower body.

consented.

2. "What is Diabetes Anyway" - A simplified definition of diabetes including risk factors, signs and symptoms.

3. "Give Me Something Good to Eat" – An interactive nutrition lesson, which includes a snack the students made.

4. "Get Up and Get Moving" 1. "Itty Bitty Blood Screen- -Two sessions of physical activ- on ways to help prevent this

tentive and eager to participate, according to the presenting team from Choctaw Nation.

Diabetes can have a profound effect on a person's life and their families.

Type 2 Diabetes is increasing at an alarming rate across the United States. The Choctaw Nation is committed to increasing awareness and knowledge



**TALIHINA** 





**HAWORTH** 



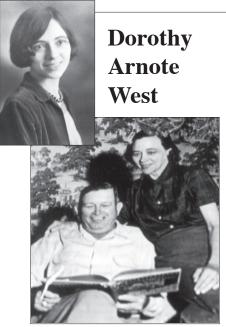




**STRINGTOWN** 



Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey congratulate Dorothy Arnote West on her 100th birthday during a reception held at Oliver's Inn in Antlers.



Dorothy and husband Powell West were married for 53 years.



Children Ann Elms of Fullerton, California, Sally Swatek of Oklahoma City and Bob West of Antlers lovingly planned their mother's centennial birthday celebration.

# Choctaw centenarian's life entwined with Antlers' history

Dorothy Arnote West was born on August 15, 1902 in Antlers, Indian Territory, a small settlement not much older than she was. A century later, family and friends joined in honoring the Antlers matriarch on her birthday.

Mrs. West has lived three-fourths of her life in Antlers. Her history is entwined with the Antlers' history. After retiring in 1972, she embarked on one of the biggest undertakings of her life, researching and writing the history of Pushmataha County. Her labor of love, "Pushmataha County, the Early Years" was released by publishers just weeks before her 100th birthday.

The daughter of Andrew and Annie Taaffe Arnote, Mrs. West is an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation. The 340-page book begins with the arrival of Choctaws in Pushmataha County and continues through the tornado of 1945 that was so devastating to the area. It includes stories of Antlers pioneers, memories, folklore

and much more

Mrs. West was a 1919 graduate of Antlers High School and graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in journalism in 1923. She married Powell West in 1925 and at one time they were publishers of the Shawnee American. In 1944, they sold the paper and moved to Antlers where they fixed up the old homestead and Powell acquired the Ford dealership.

Mrs. West continued to work for years at the Antlers American before beginning a teaching career that spanned decades.

She passed her love of education and writing on to her family. Daughter Ann Elms has taught and served as a principal in the school system in Fullerton, California. Daughter Sally Swatek followed the path of journalism as did son Bob West. Her family extends to eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren, all rooted in this lady's fine heritage.



Dorothy Arnote West has written the first-ever history of Pushmataha County. "Pushmataha County: The Early Years," can be purchased from the

Pushmataha County Historical Society Box 285 Antlers, OK 74523

The cost of the book is \$33, plus \$6 shipping and handling. Please include order form.

lame	No. of copies
ddress	
mount enclosed	

## CHOCTAW NATION GED CLASSES

#### **LeFlore County**

Beginning October 1, 2002 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Kiamichi Technology Center in Talihina, Oklahoma

#### **Choctaw County**

Beginning October 21, 2002 Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Choctaw Nation Community Center in Hugo, Oklahoma

#### **McCurtain County**

Beginning October 22, 2002
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Family Investment Center
in Broken Bow, Oklahoma

The class will meet two days each week for approximately three months. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. In addition, a \$10 (per day) transportation stipend is paid to those who attend classes on a regular basis and attempt the GED test. If you have turned in an application with our Adulf Education Program for GED classes and wish to attend the upcoming class, please contact our office. If you have not applied and wish to attend these or future classes, please contact Linda Tyler or Felicia Carnes at the Durant office or call 800-522-61 70 or \$80-924-8280, ext. 2319. Also, you may register at the first day of class. A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is required.

# Phase II Language Class DURANT

Phase II of the Choctaw Language Class began Monday, September 9. The class is held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at 1705 W. Locust behind the Choctaw Nation complex in Durant.

Instructor is Ann Kaniatobe. For more information call 924-5192 or Language Director Richard Adams at 924-8280.

#### Wills Clinic

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will be providing a free Wills Clinic from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. October 3 at the Choctaw Nation Field Office in Idabel. Attorneys Stephanie Hudson and Kim Bump and Paralegal Gregg Lewis will be on hand to assist tribal members with their will preparation. Interested parties need to bring any documentation, including deeds and/or court documents they feel will assist the attorneys in preparing a will. For more information, please call OILS, toll free in state, at 1-800-658-1497.

## Reunions

#### Jones-Meashintubby-Thompson Family

A family reunion for descendants of Cephus Jones, Reba Jones Meashintubby, Bettye Jones Thompson and Wilburn Jones, Sr. will be held Saturday, September 21, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Talihina City Park, Talihina, Oklahoma.

Food highlights include hog fry, banaha, tonchi labona, fry bread, desserts. Bring your favorite dish to share! Come early to cook and visit! For more information, contact Kathy Leach at 972-272-0773 or Joyce Purser at 972-424-7477.

#### Franklin Family

All descendants of John and Lou Franklin are invited to the Franklin Reunion to be held Sunday, October 13 at Bolin Park, Caddo, Oklahoma. Caddo is located between Durant and Atoka on Hwy. 69/75.

The reunion begins at 10 a.m. Please come and bring a covered dish or two. Horseshoes, dominoes, cards and basketballs will be available to help everyone get better acquainted. Please take the time and plan to attend. Family is important. May God be with you all.

#### **Roberts Family**

The annual Roberts Reunion will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, October 12 in Coalgate, Oklahoma. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a covered dish, lawn chair and a bingo prize.

For more information, contact Osborne and Christine Roberts at 580-927-5342.

# Parenting skills classes scheduled in McAlester, Antlers, Hugo, Idabel

The Choctaw Nation Children and Family Services will be conducting parenting classes at several local field offices. The classes are after work hours with daycare provided if necessary. The parenting skills classes are two hours a session for six weeks.

The classes will cover defining what the word parenting means, what children's needs are, ten ways to be a better parent, parenting models, child development, nutrition, self-evaluation, discipline techniques, child abuse issues, stress management, budgeting, prenatal care, nutrition, and health/environmental issues.

Four classes have been scheduled for the remainder of this year: Every Tuesday, September 24 through October 29 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

at the Choctaw Nation Field Office in McAlester, Oklahoma and the Choctaw Nation Field Office in Antlers, Oklahoma

Every Tuesday, November 12 through December 17 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

at the Choctaw Nation Field Office in Hugo, Oklahoma and the Choctaw Nation Field Office in Idabel, Oklahoma

These classes are open to the public; however, if daycare is going to be needed please call the Choctaw Nation Children & Family Services Office to make arrangements.

### Keep Our Children With Our Traditions

Choctaw Nation Children and Family Services are looking for tribal foster homes for foster children. Foster homes are vital to the future of our children and their traditions. Please note that there are certain criteria that must be met: Safety check/home study of home, criminal background checks, fingerprint carding, references, income that meets your own needs, and no prior child welfare history. Applications will be mailed through the Choctaw Nation Children and Family Services Office

Contact Billy Stephens, Director, 800-522-6170 or

22nd Annual
Gospel Singing
7 p.m.
September 28, 2002
Bryan County

Bryan County
Community Center

South Ninth St. at the fairgrounds Durant, Oklahoma

Free Admission –MC: Carney Buck, HoldenvilleFeatured Groups:

Faith, Hope & Love, Altus Daniel Taylor & The Chosen Few, Vilburton

The Chessers, Wewoks
Plus more!
Bring your groups

Concession available

# 11th Annual Eleston Willis Memorial Singing 7 p.m. on October 12 Bethel Hill Church Battiest, Oklahoma

Special groups scheduled include Poncho Family from Livingston, Texas, the Stopp Family Singers and Gospel Band from Tahlequah, Oklahoma and The Chosen from Southeastern Oklahoma.

A concession stand will be available. Everyone is wel-

# OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance Gospel Singing 6 p.m. October 26

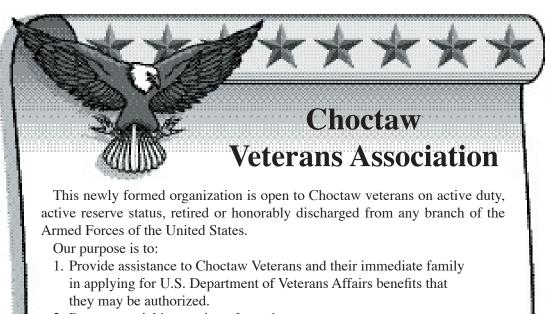
6 p.m. October 26 5320 S. Youngs Blvd. Oklahoma City

Hamburgers & Indian tacos available

# 14th Annual Fall Foliage Festival October 26-27 Talihina, Oklahoma

Arts & Crafts
Antique Car Show
Antique Tractor & Farm Implement Show
Talent Show
Puppet Show
Live Entertainment
Concessions available
For more information and
applications for booth space

contact the
Talihina Chamber of Commerce
918-567-3434
talihinacofc@leflorecounty.com



2. Promote social interaction of members.

3. Foster good citizenship.

3. Foster good citizenship.

4. Honor our veterans and perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and comfort their survivors.

For more information, you may contact one of the following: Chairman: Rev. Melvin L. Gaines 580-585-7375 Vice Chairman: Melvin Tom 580-584-6196, Mtom@octm.com Membership: Florence Spalding 580-286-6365, William Amos 580-286-

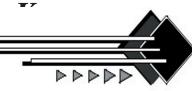
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Finance: Richard Adams 580-367-3055

Recorder: John W. Hart 918-465-3099, KL7jw@earthlink.net

Programs: Dixon Lewis 918-967-8072

Your support and membership will be greatly appreciated.



#### Look who's nine!

Happy birthday wishes are sent out to Dusty Robinson from all of his cousins in Monroe, Louisiana.

Dusty turned nine years old on September

Happy birthday! Love, Jessica, Rusty, Dakota, Tiffanie and Kevin.



#### Happy second birthday from Grandma and Grandpa

Hope Corsica Garcia turned two years old on September 19.

Her grandma and grandpa, Teresa Taylor "T.J." Longoria and Mike Longoria of Dallas, Texas; parents, Frencho and Orlina Garcia of Dallas; brother, Christopher Ozuna; great-grandparents, Louise Taylor and the late Melton Taylor of Bethel, Oklahoma and Suzanne and Rudy Langoria of Dallas; great-great-grandma, Clara Taylor; aunt and

uncle, Cathy and Jeff Taylor, would all like to wish Hope a happy

Hope entered the second annual end-of-the-year powwow in Dallas in April as Miss Tiny Tot.



#### Family gathers at Sardis Lake

Recently, the children of original enrollee Nathaniel J. and Evelyn G. Moore enjoyed a Family Reunion gathering at Sardis Lake. Those attending were Sylvester Moore, Lee Moore, Jessica, Jaleed and Lynette, Jennifer, Jay Dee and Jeffery, and Bea Lawrence, all of Talihina; Thurman and Ethie Moore and Robert and Beverly Honaker, Bobby, Courtney, Katherine and Nathan, all of Greenwood, Arkansas; N.J. Moore of Poteau; Rose Chronister and Rex of Wilburton, Ross Chronister of Hartshorne, Cendy and K.C. Brown, Kevin, Jewelie, and Mike, all of Tulsa; Carol Polston of Peoria, Illinois; Joseph Moore of Ft. Smith, Arkansas and Glenda, Buck and Jeremiah, all of Tulsa.

Glenda said she was the top player in the domino tournament.



#### **Myrtle McBroom** celebrates birthday

Myrtle Adelia (Willey) McBroom celebrated her 93rd birthday on June 16. Myrtle was born in Newcastle, Oklahoma to Orren L. Willey and Josephine Suds Bench, an original enrollee.

Myrtle now lives in the little town of Collbran, Colorado where she celebrated the

great-grandchildren, greacestan grahdchildren, framilgrand the first.

Myrtle, thank you for all the cards, calls and visits – We love you - from all your kids.

#### Look who's nine!

Jessie and Stephanie Tonihka of Minnesota would like to wish their beautiful daughter, Chelsea, a happy ninth birthday on September 16!

Congratulations to her, also, for winning her softball championship.

We are proud of you and love you



#### Amber turns eight

Amber Leann Robinson turned eight years old on August 8. Wishing her a happy birthday are her parents, Roy and Lora Ann Evans Robinson, and baby sister, Jenna BreAnn Robinson, of Hallsville, Texas; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Robinson and Michael and Deborah Evans Williamson, all of Hallsville. Also, sending happy birthday wishes are Troy Williamson, Robin and Randy Braden, Patrick and Amy Bacio,

and Shirley Nye, Danny, all of Texas: Jim and Sue McEyers Larry, and Carol Moore and Nathan Evans, all of Missouri, and Ann Lalli and Nichole Evans, both of Oklahoma.

Amber is the great-granddaughter of the late Lora Mae Evans of

#### Happy birthday!

Happy birthday wishes are sent to Diana Jean Birxey of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Diana turned 56 on September 1.

Hope you have a special day! With love from your little sis and hubby, Brenda and Isaac Wacoche of Talihina, Oklahoma.



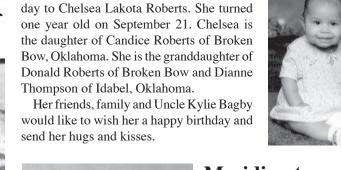
#### Happy third birthday, Emily! Emily Mae Stevens celebrated her third

birthday on September 24.

Emily is the daughter of Stephanie Stevens of Boswell, Oklahoma and the granddaughter of Johnny and Betty Logue and Jimmy and Rita Vinyard, all of Boswell. Happy birthday!!!

#### Happy first birthday!

We would like to wish a happy first birth-



#### Meridian turns five

Meridian Thomas turned five on September 9. She is the daughter of Rickey and Lisa Robinson of Hugo, Oklahoma and Jessica and Rusty Wilson of Monroe, Louisiana.

Meridian is the granddaughter of Bobbie Robinson of Soper, Oklahoma and Lori and James McLeroy of Detroit, Texas.

All of her brothers and sisters would like to send her birthday

of Hugo, Oklahoma, Tiffanie and Dakber Throttand Dusty Beltinson Day of Monroe and Taylor Linda Mood of Boswell, Oklahoma. We all love you and adore you very much. Happy birthday from Aunt Sam and Sammy, also.

#### Kristianna turns eight

Kristianna Holder will turn eight years old on October 10. She is the granddaughter of Clark and Peggy Holder of Dallas, Texas. Kristianna attends Lighthouse Christian Academy and is in the second grade. She takes ballet and tap lessons. Her favorite pasttime is playing with her dog, Luke.

Kristianna and her Grandpa Clark are members of the Choctaw Nation. Kristianna's mother is Shannon Sommers of Richardson, Texas.

Happy birthday, Kristianna!



#### Nicholas celebrates fifth

Nicholas Cain Cole turned five years old on August 28. He is the son of Carri and Steven Cole of Atoka, Oklahoma. He is the grandson of Jimmy and Betty Cole and Jewel and Danny Fritcher, all of Atoka, and the great-grandson of Annie Betsey of Durant, Oklahoma and Adam Betsey of Atoka.

#### Belated birthday wishes

Belated wishes for a happy birthday are sent Harlan Wright from the Wright, Hurds and Wesley families.

Harlan is a member of the U.S. Marines and is stationed at Camp Pendleton, California.



#### Happy birthday

Happy birthday to Neosha Cianne Owens who turned one on August 8. Her parents are Leanne Colbert and Phillip

grandparents are Theresa Colbert of Austin, Texail In Polario Colbert of Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Mary Jefferson of Broken Bow, Oklahoma and Christine Ludlow of Smithville, Oklahoma.

Also, happy birthday to Neosha's brother, Quinton Tyree Owens, who turned two years old on August 31.

We love you, from your aunts, Heather Lewis and Stacy Colbert, and uncle, Kevin Colbert, Logan and Damian.

#### Happy first anniversary

Happy first anniversary to Lawrence and Roberta Anderson of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

They were united in marriage at the Old Mills Chapel in Hot Springs, Ar-



#### Hannah turns one year old!

Hannah Grace Nations turned one year old on August 31. She is the daughter of Brian and Tawnya Nations of Millerton, Oklahoma. She is the granddaughter of Tim and Beverly Stuart of Valliant, Bob and Cherie Beene of Swink, Joyce Nations of Valliant and the late Benny Nations. Happy first birthday baby girl! We love you,

#### Terrific two

Mackenzie Blake Wright celebrated his second birthday on August 8. He is the son of Chad and Priscilla Wright and has one brother, Logan Clay Wright. All reside in Watson, Oklahoma.

Proud grandparents are George and Daisy Watson of Watson and John and Donna Parsons of Mena, Arkansas.

We love you Mackenzie (Bug)!



Acuña, Sr. and the late Virgilia Acuña of Olney, Texas.



Seven-month-old Brian Nicholson of Houston, Texas would like to wish his great-grandma Epristess Webster of Atoka, Oklahoma a happy 105th birthday in August.

#### William turns eleven

William Rockwell Seagraves, a sixth grade student at Panama Middle School, celebrated his eleventh birthday on September 10.

William is active in football, basketball, baseball and showing livestock. He also maintains an A and B average at school.

Happy birthday, William, from Dad, Sabra and Tiffany.



#### Happy birthday!

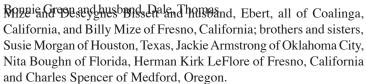
Happy birthday to our "sweethearts," Lena "Shelley" Willis who celebrated her 20th birthday on September 1 and her little sister, Whitney Dawn Griffith, who turned two on September 20. A birthday bash was held for them at Valliant City

Happy birthday girls! We love you!

#### Happy birthday, you're the greatest!!

Willa Mack (LeFlore) Floyd celebrated her 74th birthday on September 23. She is the oldest daughter of the late Harris and Destie LeFlore of LeFlore, Oklahoma.

Wishing Willa Mack a very happy birthday are Paul Floyd of Fresno, California; children, Etta Mae Balderaz,



Nadine and Herman Shahan of Lafayette, California and Ruth Thomas of Stockton, California also say happy birthday to their sister-in-law.

Willa Mack also has 14 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

We all wish you a very happy, happy birthday!

#### Elijah turns one!

Elijah Dean Gipson celebrated his first birthday on August 22. Elijah is the son of Robert and Michelle Gipson of Wright City, Oklahoma and the grandson of Sharon Gipson of Wright City and Todd and Kim Marable of Broken Bow. Tyler and Ember, along with his aunts, uncles and cousins, would like to wish their brother a happy birthday.



#### Amy celebrates August 12 birthday

Wishing Amy Sue (Nye) Bacio a happy birthday on August 12 are her husband, Patrick, and parents, Shirley and Larry Nye, of Jacksonville, Florida. Also wishing her a happy birthday are Aunt Sue and Jim McEv-

Orange Park, Florida; Affir EndiPortMcAileand, Onrialo Ma, Devoltaf and Michael Williamson of Hallsville, Texas; Jr. and Carol Moore of Park Hills, Missouri; Lora Ann, Amber, Jenna and Roy Robinson; Troy Williamson of Texas, and Nathan and Nichole Evans.

Amy just graduated from Texas Women University with a BS degree in science and legal studies. She is currently studying for her MS and is hoping to go to law school.

Amy is the granddaughter of the late Lora Mae (Isaac) Evans.

#### Look who's ten!

Randa Nicole Carrico celebrated her tenth birthday on August 23. She is the daughter of Carol and Bruce of Soper, Oklahoma and Calvin Carrico of Rattan, Oklahoma. She is the granddaughter of Charlotte Hider of Goodland, Oklahoma and the great-granddaughter of Jessie Lawrence of Hugo, Oklahoma.



Randa celebrated her birthday at home in Soper with a Barbie cake and ice cream with her family and friends.

#### Emily celebrates first birthday



Emily McClaughry celebrated her first birthday on August 8. Her parents, Kevin and Andrea McClaughry, and grandparents, William and Judith Freeman and Patrick and Carolyn McClaughry, would like to wish her a very happy first birthday.

#### McKenzie is three

McKenzie Anne DeWitt turned three years old on September 12.

She is the daughter of Gordon and LynnAnne DeWitt and the granddaughter of Jackie Lou Ward DeWitt and Gordon

We send our love and best wishes for a happy birthday!

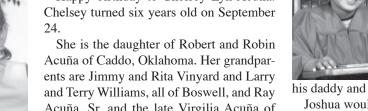


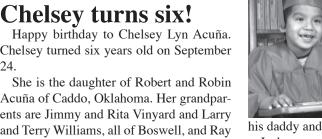
#### Happy birthday, Joshua

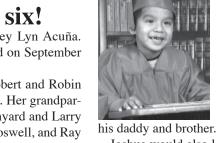
their big bubba, Joshua Anna, a happy fifth birthday on August 21. They are the children of Jason and Amy Anna of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

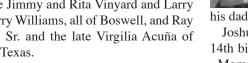
Joshua recently graduated from Choctaw Nation Head Start and will be in Kindergarten. He enjoys going to grandma's house, lifting weights, boxing and play fighting with

Joshua would also like to wish his uncle, Max Williston, a happy 14th birthday on August 14. Happy birthday, Joshua. We love you - Momma, Daddy, Blake and Terish.









Blake and Terish Anna would like to wish

#### **OU** sophomore interns at capitol

Kasey Young of Claremore, Oklahoma, an honor graduate of the CHS Class of 2001 and past president of FFA, has recently finished an internship in the offices of Congressman Brad Carson (D-OK) in Washington, D.C. Kasey is in her second year at the University of Oklahoma, majoring in



political science with the intention of studying for a degree in law. She remains in the honors program at OU and is a member of Beta Tau Alpha sorority.

The daughter of Clay and Cindy Young, Kasey is of Choctaw and Kiowa descent. She is the granddaughter of Cliff and Genevieve White and the great-granddaughter of Lucille Coleman, all longtime Claremore residents.

While interning for Congressman Carson, Kasey's duties included answering letters and calls, attending meetings pertaining to the state of Oklahoma, writing copy for the Congressman which was televised on C-Span, and escorting constituents on tours through the capitol. Other activities included attending the premiere of "Windtalkers" and having the pleasure of discussing with Senator Dole the fact that the first Native Americans who used their language in helping to win a war were Choctaw. He found it very interesting that the Choctaws were the first code talkers during the first world war. She also informed actor Nicholas Cage of this while shaking his hand.

Kasey had a magnificent summer and hopes other students will become interested in interning and have the good fortune to experience Washington, D.C. She would like to thank Chief Gregory Pyle and the Choctaw Nation for their assistance in making all this possible and helping her realize her dreams. She would like to encourage other Native Americans that it is possible to work for your dreams and just possibly, have them come true.

#### **Student is working** toward master's degree

Jimmy Arnold of DeQueen, Arkansas recently graduated magna cum laude with Associate of Arts Degree from Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas in DeQueen. While attending CCCUA he was president of the Student Senate, served as the Central District Regional Vice President



of the Oklahoma/Arkansas Region of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. He is currently attending Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas where he is working toward a bachelor of arts degree with a major in history and a minor in political science. His ultimate goal is to get a master's degree in history and teach college. He says, "Without the fantastic support of my wife, my family and my friends, I would not be where I am today, and I sincerely want to thank them all.'

#### James Brown earns

#### **Eagle Scout Award**

James Nathan Brown of Huntsville, Alabama was awarded the Eagle Scout Award in March 2002. The Eagle Scout Award is the highest rank a scout can

James participated in numerous positions while in scouting including serving

as patrol leader, assistant patrol leader, patrol quartermaster and troop guide. He also volunteered as a den chief with Cub Scouts his last three years of high school, as well as volunteering at Cub Scout Day Camp.

James graduated from Covenant Christian High School in May and is planning to attend the University of Alabama in Huntsville and then attend dental school.

#### National award winner

Alisha Billy of Broken Bow, Oklahoma has been named a National Award Winner in English. She was nominated for the award by Angela Stuart, her english teacher at Broken Bow High School.

Alisha is the daughter of Wynell Watson

#### Belated wishes for a happy birthday

Happy birthday to Terry W. Estrada of Alpharetta, Georgia on April 15; Kyla Taylor of Cherokee, North Carolina on April 14; Matthew Taylor of Cherokee on May 18; Mia Taylor of Cherokee on May 19; Jr. Jefferson of Jay, Oklahoma on May 16; Jana Jefferson of Jay on August 21; Erica Estrada of Alpharetta on June 7; Crystal Lopez of Cherokee on July 2; Dewayne Bond of Broken Bow, Oklahoma on

#### **Choctaw carries on baseball tradi-**

Bradley Ryan Wetzel, 13, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, the great-grandson of Choctaw Albert Harley West, traveled with his team, The Snappers, to Beijing, China for an International Baseball Invitational Tournament in August.

The tournament is held to promote goodwill between China and the United States.

Between games, Bradley and his mother, Kim, toured the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City.

Bradley is carrying on the tradition set by his great-grandfather from Francis, Oklahoma who was an avid baseball player

#### Trio says "Happy Grandparent's Day" Shardae Feest, Tyson

Allison and Brittany Feest would like to wish their grandma, Wilma Laymon Boudreau, a happy Grandparent's



#### **Deadline for BISHINIK articles**

Articles submitted for printing in the BISHINIK need to be received by the first of the month to be considered for publishing in that month's newspaper. Please mail to BISHINIK, P.O. Drawer 1210, Durant, OK 74702.

#### **David Wilson is appointed** Conference Superintendent

David M. Wilson is the newly appointed Conference Superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. Wilson follows Tom Roughface, who passed away May 9 following an auto accident. Dr. Roughface, 66, had been Conference Superintendent since 1990.

Wilson, 38, is a member of the Choctaw Nation. He graduated from Oklahoma City University in 1990 and earned his Master's of Divinity degree at Phillips Graduate Seminary in 1994. While serving at Northeastern Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah from 1991 to 1993, he developed the first Native American campus ministry on the campus. He was pastor of the D.D. Etchieson UMC in Tahlequah from 1993 to 1995. Since 1995, Wilson has been Promotion/Interpretation Specialist for OIMC. Since 1996, he has also been pastor of Norman First American UMC, one of the largest congregations in the OIMC. He will continue to supply Norman First American Church. He is also an adjunct professor at Oklahoma City University, a member of the General Commission on General Conference, and a trainer for Igniting Ministry.

Wilson is the son of Patsy Wilson and the late James E. Wilson and

#### All-Star player

Marissa Dill, 14, made it to the Softball All-Stars this year. She is the daughter of Veta Dill of Boswell, Oklahoma and Randall and Brenda Wilson of Durant, Oklahoma.

We all want to tell her how proud we are of her. Congratulations! We knew you could



## Young country music artist is developing her career

Lainey Edwards, a 16-year-old junior at Moore High School, is busy developing her career in country music and pursuing opportunities in acting, modeling and live

She has recorded an original patriotic song, "It's Our Freedom," written by Oklahoma songwriter Deanna Searcy following the attack of September 11. She performed in concert at Tinker AFB Family Day on September 7, closing with this inspirational

song and also entertained at the Governor's mansion and during the Capitol Dome Dedication.

In addition to performing at special events, Lainey appears regularly at the Oklahoma Opry in Oklahoma City and the McSwain Theatre

She has received numerous awards including CMOA Las Vegas Rising Star Awards for Female Vocalist Traditional Country (13-16) and Female Entertainer New Country (13-16), Overall Talent and Vocal Winner of the Kid's World Talent contest, and was a finalist for Oklahoma Opry's Female Vocalist of the Year (16 and under) 2000 and 2001 and for McSwain Theatre's Female Vocalist of the Year (16 and under) 2001.

#### Happy birthday!

Happy birthday to Dudley A. Pitts. Dudley celebrated his birthday on September 17.





#### **Tannor Richard DeWitt**

Tannor Richard DeWitt was born May 14, 2002 at Mercy Medical Center, Redding. California. He weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces.

Tannor's proud parents are Gordon and LynnAnne DeWitt. He has a sister, McKenzie Anne DeWitt. Grandparents are Jackie Lou Ward DeWitt and Gordon DeWitt and Rick and Janet MacDonald.



#### Kayden Lynn Bond

Davin and Monica Bond of Wright City, Oklahoma are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Kayden Lynn Bond. She was born May 11, 2002 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina, Oklahoma, weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces and measuring 19 inches long.

Kayden's grandparents are Betsy Bond of Bethel, Oklahoma, Gerald and Mary Steve of Del City, Oklahoma, the late Leonard Bond



of Bethel and the late Martel Steve of Talihina. Great-grandparents are the late Osbine and Maecian Bond of Bethel.

#### Jenna BreAnn Robinson

Jenna BreAnn Robinson was born July

Welcoming her are big sister, Amber Leann, and parents, Roy and Lora Ann Evans Robinson, of Hallsville, Texas; grandparents, Roy and Pat Robinson and Michael and Deborah Evans Williamson of Hallsville.

Jenna is the great-granddaughter of the late Lora Mae Evans of Wilburton, Oklahoma.



#### **Dakota McKnight Jackson**

Dakota McKnight Jackson was born at 5:44 a.m. May 15, 2002 at the Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City. Dakota weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21.5 inches long. He is the son of Shannon Jackson of Edmond and the late Jason Gamble of Harrah, Oklahoma. His grandparents include Al and Debbie Calyer of Edmond and Charlotte Gamble of Harrah.



#### Shandra Felicia Mallari Jones

Dr. Cristen Jones, M.D. and Rosario Jones, D.D.S. are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Shandra Felicia Mallari Jones (Little Turtle). She was born at 6:47 p.m. July 3, 2002 at Aberdeen, Washington.

She was visited by all her local Choctaw relatives and everyone is thrilled by her ar-

Tulntladistrions to able Fillpions was howilt be intaking her first trip to the Philippines this December to meet all the family there.

#### Alexander and Rhiannon have new brother

Alexander Leslie Prentice and Rhiannon Francis Prentice-Henry have a new



Thomas was born at 10:26 a.m. September 2, 2002 at Portsmouth Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Virginia. He weighed 8 pounds, 4.5 ounces and measured 20.75 inches long. Alex, the oldest, is turning five. He was born

at 8:02 p.m. October 21, 1997 at Comanche Memorial Hospital in Lawton, Oklahoma. He weighed 8 pounds and measured 21 inches Rhiannon, two, was born at 11:07 a.m. on February 14, 2000 at

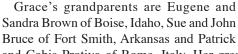
Portsmouth Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Virginia. She

They are the children of Jerry Henry and Lesley Prentice of Norfolk, Virginia. Grandparents are Sue Prentice of Plano, Texas, David Prentice of Newport News, Virginia, Joe Ella Saenz of Frederick,

weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19 inches long. Oklahoma and Jerry Henry, Sr. of Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

#### **Grace Tallulah Brown**

Brandon Brown and Tara Protiva-Brown are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Grace Tallulah Brown, who was born at 6:03 p.m. on July 9, 2002 in Springfield, Oregon. She weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 21 inches long.



and Cobis Protiva of Rome, Italy. Her great-grandparents include Ramona Brown and the late Eugene Brown of Bothel, Washington, Richard Johnson and the late Bernice Johnson of Mesa, Arizona, Helen Protiva and the late Albert Protiva of Norman, Oklahoma and the late Raymond and Helen Robison of Idaho City, Idaho. Grace is the great-granddaughter of an original enrollee, the late Calvin Watson.



Wyatt Chase Purdy was born at 7:19 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, 2002. He weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 20.5 inches

Wyatt's proud parents are Ron and Velda Purdy of West Monroe, Louisiana. He has one sister, Scarlett Purdy. His grandparents are Josephine Billy Lenard, Dale and Jan Mattingly and Leta Purdy.



#### Jayse Hunter Ward

Brittany and Tyler Ward are happy to announce the birth of their baby brother, Jayse Hunter Ward. He was born July 8, 2002 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina, Oklahoma. He weighed 9 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 inches long. Proud parents are Hoss and Sherry Ward of Talihina. Grandparents are Sherman and Gloria Ward of Talihina and Troy



and Wanda Beck of Stuart, Oklahoma. Great-grandmothers are Catherine Curley and Katherine Ward, both of Talihina.

#### Coleman Aaron Hill

Jeremiah Billy Mathews, who turned three years old on May 16, would like to introduce his new cousin, Coleman Aaron Hill, born July 3, 2002. Coleman is the son of Jason and Carrie Hill of Spiro, Oklahoma and the grandson of Eddie Hill of Lavaca and Blanche West of Fort Smith and the great-



grandson of Joy Hill of Paris, Arkansas. Jeremiah is the son of Derek and Christy Mathews, the grandson of Rex and Shirley Mathews of Fort Smith and the great-grandson of Eugene and Nell Mathews of Arkoma, Oklahoma. Jeremiah and Coleman are the grandsons of Billy D. and Ruth Coleman of Spiro and the great-grandsons of Billy J. and Ruth Coleman of Fort Smith and Louise Combs of Chouteau, Oklahoma.

#### Jamé Teresa-Charlene Vega

Jamé Teresa-Charlene Vega was born at 3:48 p.m. June 12, 2002 at North Central Medical Center in McKinney, Texas, weighing 8 pounds, 14.5 ounces and measuring 20 inches

Proud parents are Gerardo and Amy Baker Vega. Grandparents are Nancy John Denton and Gerardo and Rita Vega, all of McKinney. Great-grandparents include Teresa and the late



James John of Garvin, Oklahoma, for whom Jamé was named, and Antonio and Eustolia Martinez and Pasucal and Abvela Vega, all of Guanajuato, Mexico.

Jamé would like to wish her daddy, Grampa Vega and Uncle Michael Baker a happy birthday.

FO	OD D.	IS>	TRI	>BU-	-> <b>TIO</b>	N PKI	ÐAI
200			Closed Inventory	2 Closed Inventory	Stigler 9-2 Coalgate 9-10:30 Atoka 12-2	Wilburton 9-12 Broken Bow 9-2	5
ber 2	6	Rethel 9-10:30 Smithville 12-2	8	Talihina 9-12	10	Poteau (A-H) 9-2	12
October 2002	13	14	15 Wright City 9-10:30 Hugo 12-2	16	Poteau (I-P) 9-2	18	19
	20	Poteau (Q-Z) 9-2	22	<b>23</b> Idabel 9-12	24	25	26
	27	<b>28</b> Closed Inventory	29 Closed Inventory	<b>30</b> Closed Inventory	<b>31</b> 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 Cen-

COALGATE - Choctaw Community Center.

DURANT – Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 100 Waldron

HUGO – Housing Authority. IDABEL – Choctaw Village

Monday

Talihina

10 am-2 pm

Antlers

1-3:30 pm

**Bethel** 

\_Sunday

Tuesday

Durant

10-12 noon

Durant

by appt only

Wilburton

by appt only 10:30 am-2 pm 10 am-2 pm

Shopping Center.

McALESTER - Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 1212

POTEAU - Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.

SMITHVILLE – Big Lick

STIGLER - Choctaw Community Building. TALIHINA – Boys & Girls

WILBURTON – Choctaw

Community Building. WRIGHT CITY - Choctaw Head Start Building.

The Food Distribution Program workers will take a 30

**VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION** 

AND DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Wednesday

2 McAlester 3

10 am-2 pm

Stigler

by appt. only

Coalgate

10 am-2 pm

McAlester

by appt only

Atoka

A Vocational Rehabilitation and Disability Employment Representative will be available at the loca-

tions listed above. A representative is available Monday thru Friday 8-4:30 except for holidays at the

Thursday

minute lunch break from 11:30 to 12 noon.

Please bring boxes to pick up your commodities.

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

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

**Friday** 

**Idabel** 

10 am-2 pm

**Broken Bow** 

9:30 am-2 pm

Poteau

11 am-1:30 pm

Wright City

9:30 am-2 pm

Once or twice a week

More than once a day

Once or twice a week

If you score 3 or more on any

It is estimated that up to 30% of

American Indians have diabetes.

Currently, 10% of the population has been identified as having

Are you one of the unidenti-

fied? If you would like to be

screened for diabetes, talk to your

health care provider or contact

the Diabetes Wellness Center at

800-349-7026, ext. 6673.

of these questions you are placing yourself at risk of developing

Never

Never

diabetes.

diabetes

fat snack foods?

**Saturday** 

## Mobile Wellness Unit now providing cholesterol

The Choctaw Nation Core Capacity Building Grant has recently provided equipment to perform cholesterol checks in our Mobile Wellness Unit.

Native Americans are at HIGH RISK for heart disease. High cholesterol is a leading risk factor for heart disease.

Excess cholesterol in the bloodstream can form plaque (a thick, hard deposit) in artery walls. The cholesterol or plaque buildup causes arteries to become thicker, harder, and less flexible, resulting in less or blocked blood flow to the heart. When blood flow is restricted, chest pain can result. When blood flow is severely impaired and a clot stops blood flow completely, a heart attack occurs.

One simple fingerstick will provide total cholesterol, HDL, and glucose results. If you would like to have a complete lipid panel which provides total cholesterol, HDL, LDL and triglycerides, you must not eat and drink only water for eight hours prior to the test. You are allowed to take your regularly scheduled medication and/or supplements priot to the test. Test results are immediate. You will be provided with information on ways to lower your cholesterol and if necessary a referral to your nearest Choctaw Nation medical facility. The health services are for CDIB cardholders only.

Little Dixie business counselors will also staff the center to provide business support and training for those needing help developing a business plan, obtaining small business financing, advertising/marketing, creating a website, and other needs. Little Dixie provides their services free to all interested.

Please call 1-800-349-7026, ext. 7126 or 6675, for further information.

### WELLNESS CENTER SCHEDULE

	October 20	002
Date	9:30-12 noon	1-3 p.m.
October 1	Haworth - Main Street	Garvin - Hwy 70 Store
Cholesterol, d	liabetes & blood pressure screenings, alzho	eimer's & dementia education & prevention
October 8	Wilburton - Travel Plaza	Wilburton - Eastern State College
Cholesterol, d	liabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzhe	eimer's & dementia education & prevention
October 11	Poteau - Carl Albert State College	Howe - Debbie's Store
Vision, choles	sterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenin	gs; alzheimer's & dementia education & pre-
vention		
October 15	Spiro - Sunset Corner	Pocola - Travel Plaza
Cholesterol, d	liabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzhe	eimer's & dementia education & prevention
October 18	Enterprise - Jct. Hwy 9 & 71	Indianola - Post Office
Cholesterol, d	liabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzhe	eimer's & dementia education & prevention
October 22	Clayton - New Country Store	Moyers - Main Street
Cholesterol, d	liabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzho	eimer's & dementia education & prevention
October 24	Boswell - Hwy 70, west end of tow	n Bokchito - Hwy 70 Store
Hearing, chol	lesterol, diabetes & blood pressure scree	nings; alzheimer's & dementia education &
prevention	·	·
October 29	Soper - Main Street	Grant - Main Street
Cholesterol, d	liabetes & blood pressure screenings; alzh	eimer's & dementia education & prevention

## Fat: One of life's essentials

#### Fat facts

• Eating excess amounts of certain fats, notably saturated fat, can increase risk of chronic disease.

• Unsaturated fats have important functions in the body that promote health and well-being.

• On average, most Americans consume too much fat, especially saturated fat.

Before cutting back on the fat in our diets, remember that fat serves many important roles, including

- maintaining skin and hair
- storing and transporting fat soluble vitamins A, D, E and K
- protecting cell walls
- keeping our bodies warm • protecting organs

#### Gaining a bead on fat

That's a lot of work for a single nutrient. In fact, "fat" is actually an umbrella term for several substances, each with its own parts to play.

We get many fats from the foods we eat. Our bodies also

## **WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN**

manufacture some fats. As with all nutrients, when we consume fat, our bodies break it down to individual components and then use those components to build something else. It's like having three kinds of beads strung together, pulling them apart, and then stringing them in a whole new pattern.

These strands are known as fatty acids and they vary in the combination and number of "beads." We name fatty acids by their chemical structure and call them saturated, monounsat-urated, or polyunsaturated.

Saturated fats are among the most common fats in our diet. They are found in animal foods like meat, poultry and full-fat dairy products, and in tropical oils like palm and coconut. Diets high in saturated fats are associated with higher risks of heart disease, certain cancers and stroke.

Unsaturated fats are found in

foods from both plant and animal sources. Unsaturated fatty acids are further divided into monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFA) and polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA). MUFA are found mostly in vegetable oils such as olive, canola and peanut. PUFA are found in nuts and vegetable oils such as safflower, sunflower and soybean and in fatty fish.

#### Not too high - not too low

Remember to eat foods rich in the essential fatty acids linoleic and alpha-linoleic acids, such as the seeds and oils of plants and fatty fish like salmon, mackerel and herring. Choose reduced-fat or fat-free dairy products, and lean meat and poultry.

Even though it's important to decrease saturated fat intake, it's also important to keep fat intake in perspective - don't consume a very-high-fat or very-low-fat diet. A registered dietitian can help you apply these recommendations.

#### Are you at risk of developing diabe-Six or seven times a week 4

Assisting individuals in identifying their risk of diabetes was the focus of the activities of the Diabetes Wellness Center at the Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival in Tushka Homma.

Hugo office.

On Friday afternoon and Saturday, 344 individuals were screened by fasting blood glucose measurements to identify their risk of diabetes. Of this number, 35 individuals had a blood glucose level above 140

It was recommended that these individuals see their health providers for follow-up screening. We hope that all of these people have done so.

The normal blood glucose level before breakfast should be between 70 and 110 and back to this baseline 2 hours after meals. Sixty-four individuals with diabetes asked to have their blood glucose levels done. Of these, 22 had a blood glucose level above 200 mg/dl.

We are hoping that these high readings were a result of the funnel cakes, Indian tacos and other special occasion food that were enjoyed at this special celebration and not a reflection of their

usual blood glucose readings. We apologize for not being able to conduct testing after 2 p.m. on Saturday and on Sunday during the hot afternoon. The glucose monitoring machines can give inaccurate readings when overheated.

A check list, "Is the FAT in your diet putting you at risk of diabetes", was circulated to 115 individuals on Sunday. Over 50% of the participants' scores placed them at high risk of developing diabetes.

A diet high in fat and especially saturated fats increases your risk of developing diabetes and other chronic illnesses. Saturated fats are found in animal source foods, palm kernel and coconut oils and margarines and oils that are solid at room temperatures.

See how you score:

How often do you have fried More than once a day

Six or seven times a week 4 Three to five times a week 3 Once or twice a week Less than once a week

How many times a week do you have sausages or bacon and biscuits?

More than once a day

#### Three to five times a week Less than once a week How often do you have chips, nuts, chocolates, and other high Six or seven times a week Three to five times a week Less than once a week 0

# **Choctaw Nation WIC**

#### **Serving the Choctaw Nation at 14 sites**

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

Call today for an appointment

## Choctaw Nation All Indian Rodeo As-

**AVERAGE WINNER EVENT TOP MONEY EARNER TRIBE TRIBE** Bareback **Alex Johns** Seminole of Fl **Alex Johns** Seminole of Fl **Saddle Bronc** Phillip Whiteman, Jr. Phillip Whiteman, Jr. N Cheyenne N Cheyenne **Steer Wrestling Walker Small Howard Edmundson** Crow Creek **Calf Roping** Dee Keener Cherokee **Worm Shipley** Cherokee **Bull Riding Brad Fish Brad Fish** Creek Creek **Barrel Racing** Jennifer Weaver Cherokee Erica Bacon Choctaw **Kasi Prather Bobby Jo Warren Break-Away** Cherokee Cherokee **Team Roping Header Doyle Bacon** Choctaw Team-J.D. and Bryan Bacon Choctaw **Team Roping Healer Bryan Bacon** Choctaw Jr. Steer William Parker Choctaw William Parker Choctaw Cherokee Micaela Carlile Cherokee Jr Barrels Micaela Carlile Congratulations to



#### Wolfgang Shooting Team

Jones Academy's Wolfgang Shooting Team was invited to attend the July 6-7 National Junior Olympic Four Position Air Rifle Competition. The event was held at Wolf Creek Tom Lowe Shooting Grounds Olympic Complex in Atlanta, Georgia.

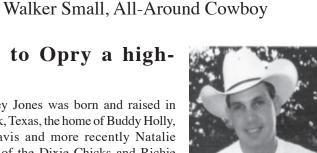
Wolfgang Shooters won second place in the Juniors State Competition in March. This is the team's first year of shooting. They only lost coming in first by eight points to a team that has been in competition for five years.

The team was scheduled to compete in four positions at the competition in Atlanta: standing, prone, kneeling and settings. They competed with individuals and teams from all over the world.

Team members pictured are Santo Garcia, Jonathon Wolf, Megan Ott, Samatha Oldman, Jessica Yeaquah, Stacey Saukey, Roberta Dixion, Team Leader Roger L. Wolf and Assistant Team Leader Jo Wolf.

The team has worked very hard this year and we are proud of them. We couldn't have made it without the teamwork. Even though we didn't bring home the gold medal, we made 100 points more than we did at the state competition.

A special thanks to Chief Gregory Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Brad Spears, Jones Academy staff and Robert Smith for all your support and hard work.



#### Trip to Opry a highlight Stacey Jones was born and raised in

Lubbock, Texas, the home of Buddy Holly, Mac Davis and more recently Natalie Maines of the Dixie Chicks and Richie McDonald of Lonestar.

Although he loved athletics and dreamed of being a professional baseball player as a boy, he realized in his teens that would not be possible.

Stacey's ability to entertain and his Dad's inspiring love of country music led him to the new dream of being a country music entertainer. Stacey began entertaining, doing his one-man show all over west Texas. Stacey has been an entertainer for over a decade and the highlight

Erica Bacon, All-Around Cowgirl, and

of his career came when he won a competition in Nashville. He placed first out of 150 to win an opportunity to sing at the Grand Ole Opry.

Stacey is being promoted by TOBI Entertainment, owned by Curtis and Margie Small. They create a voice for Native American people in the movie and music industry. The Grammy's have now opened a



# **Durant senior takes**

#### first at 4-H Round-Up

Recently, 4-H members from across Oklahoma met on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater for the 81st Oklahoma 4-H Round-Up. The event hosted workshops and competitions for 4-H members.

Speech Competition. The competition included divisions ranging from business and animal science to natural sciences. Competitors were required to present one prepared speech in front of a panel of

Katy Ann Boyd, a senior at Durant High School, represented Bryan



#### **Congratulations!**

The family of Ashlyn and Cody McCurtain want to congratulate them on a job well done.

Cody placed first and Ashlyn received an Honorable Mention in the Choctaw Nation C.A.R.E.S.





poster board contest. The theme was "What Makes Me Strong." Cody's faith and his heritage make him strong. Ashlyn's family make her strong. Congratulations, kids, we love you!



#### Flag bearers

Leading the parade route during the Clayton 4th of July Homecoming Parade is Kareesa Kennedy of the Albion 4-H Cloverbuds with the American Flag and Colten Ragan and Ross Phillips of Albion 4-H with the Oklahoma State Flag and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Flag. They are pictured with District 7 Councilman Jack Austin. The students each had dual roles, representing the Choctaw Nation and the North Pushmataha Booster Club. The North Pushmataha County Booster Club represents 4-H students from Clayton, Albion, Tuskahoma and Nashoba and FFA students from Clayton.



### **Shadow is Cleveland County's Grand Champion Steer for** 2002

Congratulations to Christopher D. Thurman whose steer, Shadow, was chosen Cleveland County's Grand Champion Steer for 2002.

Christopher's parents are Brenda and Jerry Randell of Noble, Oklahoma. His grandparents are Gene and Janyce Harkins of Midwest City, Oklahoma.

Christopher is an FFA student at Noble High School. He started in 4-H at nine years of age and has moved on to FFA. He is a sophomore

13th Annual **George Hammons** Memorial Bulldogging



October 5 & 6, 2002 North Hwy. 271 Finley, Oklahoma

#### **Bulldogging** 10 a.m. Sunday, October 6

All Entries Cash 19 & Under 3-Head - \$100, Wayne Lucas Saddle Open 3-Head - \$170, Wayne Lucas Saddle Stock Contractor: Roy Duvall

> Finley Picnic & BBQ 6 p.m. Saturday, October 5 Sponsored by Finley Community & friends

Concessions Available • Bring Lawn Chairs • Everyone Welcome! For more information call Bruce Hammons at 580-298-9841



September 2002, BISHINIK, Page 10



Wayne Walker exhibits how to make bows and arrows with bois d'arc wood.



**Haylee Himes of Talihina** 



is a favorite with everyone.



Sarah Belvin, 88, of Boswell accepts an award from Chief Gregory Pyle for being the second oldest person at the festival Monday morning.



Ruth McMillan holds pictures of her father, Tobias Frazier, at the Choctaw **Code Talker Association meeting.** 



Gourd dancing began early Friday afternoon.

Christian Indian Ministries, Inc.



Linda Bryant of Coalgate sands a gourd as she sits in her arts and craft booth.



Mississippi Choctaw dancers



Tribal Chaplain Bertram Bobb reserves

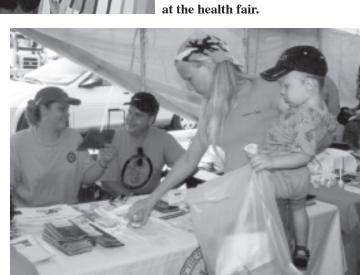
Gertie Jo the Clown entertains children



Banaha and fry bread are cooked on site at the village.



A group from Broken Bow demonstrates how goods were once bartered for.



The Health Fair, held daily, provides a wide variety of infor-





The shiniest of Monday's door-prizes - a 2002 PT Cruiser  ${\bf -}$  was won by Candi Baker of Antlers. She and daughter Morgan can't wait to take a drive. Among the other door prizes were a DVD player, camcorder, digital camera, microwave oven and 27" color TV.





Chief Pyle congratulates Meghan Benjaman for traveling the farthest to attend the Labor

Two ladies from the state of New York are honored by Chief Pyle for traveling the secondlongest distance to Tushka Homma. Gail Peterson is from Oakdale and Marilyn Prock resides in Ogdensburg.



Men's Fastpitch Softball Tournament Second Place: Little





Men's 3rd Place All-Stars from Indian Outlaws are Lyndell Ludlow, Richard Bohannon and Jared Noahubi.



Men's 2nd Place All-Stars from Little Axe are Michael Clay, third base; Luke Battiest, catcher,



and Lawrence Battiest, pitcher.



"Pushmataha" (Taloa Gibson) gives speech in the Capitol building's courtroom





**Fastpitch Softball Winners** 

All Stars: Paige Baker, pitcher

All Stars: JoLynn Tonihka, pitcher Mitzi Doster, pitcher Sheila Watson, first base

All Stars: Krystal Raines, shortstop

All Stars: Jody Hummingbird

Tommie Murrow David Beets

Luke Battiest, catcher Lawrence Battiest, pitcher

Lyndell Ludlow, shortstop Richard Bohannon, pitcher

All Stars: Michael Clay, third base

All Stars: Jared Noahubi, first base

2nd Place: Chatas - Hub Construction

1st Place: Oklahoma Tribes

3rd Place: Country Gals

1st Place: Jaguars

2nd Place: Little Axe

3rd Place: Indian Outlaws

(not all photos available at presstime) Women's

> Lisa Longman, catcher Serena Foreman, centerfield

Rachel Williams, centerfield

Symbra Wilson, pitcher

Men's

Dempsey Mathis and Wes Mathis.



Brent Oakes, a bicycle cop at the Labor Day Festival, is pictured with officer R.D. Hendrix.





First place in the volleyball tournament is Elk Hunters: Ashley Hart, Second place in the volleyball tournament is Feathers: Neva Harjochee, Kathy Niblett, Nakita Parnacher, Kathy Mathis Rita Hart, Josh Boller, Linda Hicks, Leyahna Hicks, Abby Walters, Brandon Hicks, James Hicks, Tim Harjochee, Harley Lewis and Daniel Billy.



First place in the Men's Horseshoe Doubles:



**Second place in the Men's Horseshoe Doubles: Doyle Adams and Danny Adams.** 



First place in the Women's Horseshoe Doubles:

Ava Hilton and Christine Meashintubby.

Second place in the Women's Horseshoe Doubles: Ruby Long and Thelma Johnson.



The 2002 Labor Day Festival Horseshoe Ringer Champion is Joe Nichols.

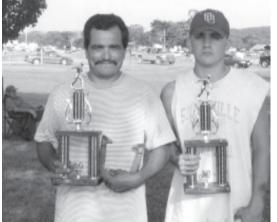




Women's Horseshoe winners are second place, Thelma Johnson; first place, Ava Hilton, and third place, Candace Tiger.



Men's Horseshoe winners are second place, Tony Nichols; first place, Bunky Impson, and third place, Dave Killey.



Third place in the Men's Horseshoe Doubles: Tony Nichols and Joe Nichols.



Third place in the Women's Horseshoe Doubles: Phyllis Bohanan and Candace Tiger.



Tournament checker winners are Mark Savage, first place, and Rickey Moon, second.



Tournament domino winners are Rodney Tehauno, first place, and Rickey Moon, second.

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The 5k Run got off to a great start on Saturday morning. Top winners, at right, are Keith Willsey of Mena, Arkansas and Sandy Tull of Waldron, Arkansas. Chief Gregory Pyle presented them each with a beautiful Choctaw Nation afghan.



#### **Quilt Show Winners**





1st place: (pictured at left) Entered by Jan West of Heavener, Oklahoma; quilted by Dorothy Steelman

1st place: Wanda Armstrong of Vernon, Florida, pictured above

2nd place: Dorothy Spears of Wilburton, Oklahoma 2nd place: Candice Vaughn of Heavener, Oklahoma 3rd place: Wanda Barnes of Talihina, Oklahoma



Choctaw War Hoop Winner in the 10-14 Coed division is the Native Ballers team from Stonewall, Josh Stick, Chris Cully, T.J.



Second place winners in the 10-14 co-ed War Hoop contest are The Main Event, Kayla Phillips, Cody Green, Shane Archie and Tiffany Jewel.



SleepyHeads from Antlers – Melton Coldwell, Layman Clay, Jeffery Madbull and Ashley Oldham – won second place in the Choctaw War Hoop Contest's 18-35 men's division. Coming in third was Boyz D Arc from Ada, Ric Greenwood, Jay Roberts, Melvin Carney and Victor Smith.



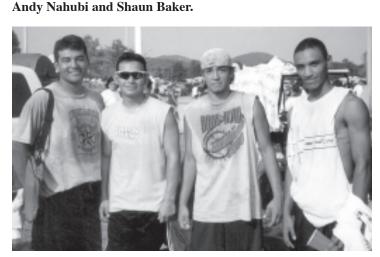
The top team in the 15-18 boys division of the Choctaw War Hoop is Ballers. The team from Watson includes David Tipton, Kelsey Ludlow, Kody Branson and Russell Southard. Not pictured are second-place winners, the Regulators from Antlers, Jeremy Taylor, Jon Taylor, Chay James and Dewayne; and third-place winners, the Panthers from Bethel, Channing Ward, Kyle Axton,



The 10-14 co-ed team, And 1 from Ada, took third place honors at the Choctaw War Hoop contest. They are Trevan Jimboy, Felicia Murphy, Nikki Walker and Billy Long.



Rigamortus from Hugo – Keno Clay, Tony Frazier, Chuck Madbull and Roland Branton – won second place in the 35 & up men's division of the War Hoop. In third was Dakotas from Roff, Mitchell Smith, Gene Smith, Omar Herningber and Martin Smith.



The A-Team from Rattan took first place in the 18-35 men's division of the War Hoops. They are Allen Clay, Bradley Clay, Michael Clay and Clint Baker.





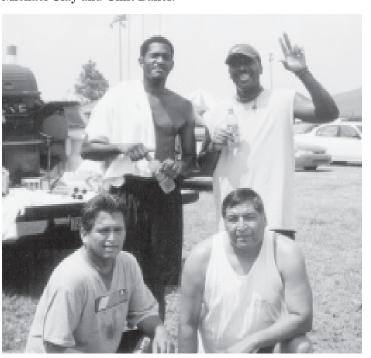
Free-throw winners during the Labor Day Festival are Whitney Barnes of Indianola, 14 & under, and Terra Ellis of Kiowa, 15-18. Steven Richardson was second place in the 15-18 division.



1st and 2nd place in the 18-35 3-point shootout are Kerry Voice of Altus and Felicia Gayton of Denton, Texas.



Michael Baker of Wright City is the top shooter in the 35 & up 3-point shootout. Darrell Burns of McAlester was second.



McAlester Jazz is the first-place team in the War Hoops'  $35\ \&$  up division. They are Don Tsosie, Elgie Hosay, Dandra Johnson and Darrell Burns.



Best-dressed terrapins were brought to the festival by Mason Jim of Coalgate, Sarah Thompson of Hugo and Devin Emert of Bennington.



Tiny tots whose terrapins won in the 0- to 3year-old category are Blade Strange of Moyers, 2nd place; Devin Emert of Bennington, 1st place, and Kyra Hornbuckle of Wister, 3rd place.



Owners of the fastest terrapins in the 4 to 7 category are Tyler Gardner of Union City, 2nd; Kallie Sioux Voice of Altus, 3rd, and Kielind Jim of Stringtown, 1st. Kallie's terrapin sported its handicap sign because it only has three legs.



In the 8-12 division of the terrapin races, winners are Vanessa Contreras of Dallas, 1st place; Sarah Thornton of Hugo, 3rd place, and Shawnlynn Pool of Antlers, second place.

## **CARES**

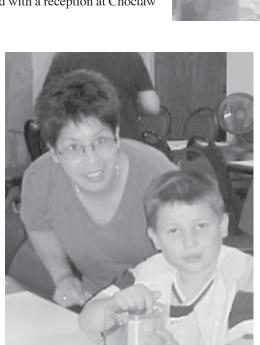
**Poster Board Contest** 

#### The Choctaw Nation CARES project sponsored a poster board contest in the months of April through June. The youth were asked to develop a poster that answered the question, "What makes you strong?" CARES staff took art supplies and refreshments to community centers, schools, churches, Jones Academy and the Boys and Girls Club in Talihina.

There were approximately 160 participants in 14 poster board sessions with 209 completed for judging. The contest ended with 16 winners; six for the Senior Division – First, Second, Third and three honorable mentions - with the same placements for the Junior Division. Four special awards were honored with a reception at Choctaw Nation Health Care Center on July 24.

And the winners are ...

**Senior Division** 1st Place - Cody McCurtain 2nd Place - Felicia Noahubi 3rd Place – Austin Jefferson Laur Honorable Mention Laur Hudlow Tracy Veal













# **ATTENTION!!!**

Artists Young and Old
The Art Contest for designing a seal for the Choctaw Nation Historical Society is October 1, 2002. So don't miss your chance to show your talents.

We would like to thank each and every person who has already sent in their pictures (drawings) and wish each and every one Good Luck!!!

## Alliance continued from Page 1

and the Choctaw Nation all participated in the signing ceremony. Region 9 has been working on the development and implementation of a Health Career Cluster. As a first step, the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina hosted teachers for a summer internship this past summer.

The signing of an official agreement moves this partnership to the next level. It highlights a true commitment from all partners to build a seamless transition system to address the workforce needs in healthcare.

For more information about the agreement contact Jill Ward, Region 9 Tech Prep Consortium at 918-647-1243.

### All Indian Men's Basketball Tournament

October 18, 19 & 20

Chickasaw Nation Gym in Ada, Oklahoma

Entry Fee: \$100

1st Place – Sweatshirts 2nd Place - T-shirts 3rd Place - Basketball

Please contact: Lori Frazier 580-272-0905





Wright City Everyone had a great time at an Appreciation Dinner hosted for Chief Gregory Pyle by District 7 Councilman Jack Austin at the Choctaw Com-







### **OBITUARIES**

#### Joseph "Ike" Izard

Joseph "Ike" Izard, 95, of Austin, Texas passed away Monday, August 12, 2002.

He was a lifelong Christian. He was a member of the Choctaw Nation, played triangle with the Skyview Baptist kitchen band and was a member of Carpenters Retiree Club.

He drove a blind truck and drove for Kerrville Bus Company as the UT football team's driver.

Survivors include his wife, Louvenia Izard of Cedar Park, Texas; children,

Nelma Johnson and husband, Hardy, of Liberty Hill, Texas, Betty Wiley and husband, Smokey, of Cedar Park, J.E. Izard and wife, Jo, of Marble Falls, Texas, Glynn Izard and wife, Karen, of Oklahoma City, Lynn Izard and wife, Sylvia, of Fredericksburg, Texas and Joyce Robertson and husband, Jake, of Fort Worth, Texas; 17 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

#### Bessie Ivora Baker Stoker

Bessie Ivora Baker Stoker, 85, passed away on Tuesday, July 2, 2002 in Talihina, Oklahoma. She was born July 11, 1916 near Weathers, Oklahoma.

Bessie was a full-blood Choctaw and attended the Tuskahoma Female Academy at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma, Wheelock Academy near Millerton, Oklahoma, Sequoyah Academy at Tahlequah, Oklahoma and St. John Hospital School of Nursing in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

She worked for 34 years as a Registered Nurse at what was then the Choctaw and Chickasaw Hospital, which later became the Public Health Service Indian Hospital and is now the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina, Oklahoma. She retired from there in February 1973.

She was preceded in death by her father, Logan Baker, mother, Mary A. James Baker; husband, Carl Elmer Stoker; two brothers, David Baker and Samuel Baker, and four sisters, Winnie Baker Jones, Emma Baker Jones, Amanda Baker and Elizabeth Baker.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Jane Carlene Stoker Pearce and Jerry Edwin Pearce of Talihina, Oklahoma, and one grandson, Christopher Daryl Pearce of Tulsa.

#### Johnny Lee James, Sr.

Johnny Lee James, Sr., 58, passed away Thursday, August 8, 2002 in Hugo, Oklahoma. He was born November 13, 1943 in Hugo, Oklahoma to C. Wilson and Willie Lee Hyatt James.

Johnny married Janette Oakes on December 29, 1962 in Hugo. He had been a member of this community most of his life, having graduated from Grant High School in 1962.

Johnny had been a locomotive engineer for 31 years, retiring from Kiamichi Railroad in 1999. He was a

member of the First Assembly of God Church in Hugo. Johnny will truly be missed by all who knew and loved him.

His father and his brother, Bob Rowland James, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife; a son and daughter-in-law, Johnny "Chief" and Jana James of Hugo; his mother; a brother, Charles James of Hugo; two sisters, Christine Chappel of Hugo and Becky Chandler of Soper; two grandchildren, Jason and Jessica James of Hugo, and numerous nieces and nephews and a host of family and friends.

#### Isaac Franklin Page

Isaac Franklin Page, 89, of Daisy, Oklahoma passed away Tuesday, November 6, 2001 at Daisy. He was born January 27, 1912 at Daisy, the son of William Page and Anganora Billy Page.

Mr. Page was a farmer, rancher and logger. He attended the McGee Valley Baptist Church. He married Martha Jo Davis on April 9, 1980 in Stringtown, Oklahoma.

Preceding him in death were his parents; his first wife, Birtie Marie Page; one son, Stephen Franklin Page; three brothers, Clarence Page, Joe Isom and Adolphus Isom, and one sister, Opal Burleson.

Survivors include his wife; a son, David Lee Page, and his wife, Liz, of Daisy; five grandchildren, David Page, Jr. of Talihina, Oklahoma, Karen Tatum of St. Petersburg, Florida and Steven Page, Shane Page and Sheldon Page, all of Farris, Oklahoma; three great-grandchildren, Cortney Tatum, Aaron Tatum and Reagan Page; five stepchildren, George Gardner and James Gardner, both of Daisy, Ruthann Wilson of Bromide, Oklahoma, Barbara Holmes of Kerrville, Texas and Richard Gardner of Keota, Oklahoma; a daughter-in-law, Robin Settlemire of Atoka, Oklahoma; two brothers, Monroe Isom and C.H. Isom, both of Daisy; a half-brother, Hubert Page of Richmond, California; three sisters, Virginia Stout, Audrey Burleson and Alice Hutson, all of Daisy, and a daughter, Marilyn Armstrong of California.

#### **Amanda Gail Durant**

Amanda Gail Durant, 20, of Paris, Texas, formerly of Krebs, Oklahoma, passed away Wednesday, August 21, 2002 near Honey Grove, Texas. She was born November 23, 1981 in McAlester, Oklahoma, the daughter of Dwayne Durant and Karen Glenn Durant.

She lived in Krebs until May 1996 before moving to Paris. She attended Krebs Public Schools through the eighth grade and graduated from North Lamar High School in Paris. Amanda

was a member of McAlester First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her father and mother, Dwayne and Carmen Durant of Krebs; her mother, Karen Durant of the home; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Audra and Luther Golightley of Tyler, Texas and Alissa and Chris Beck of Houston, Texas; grandparents, Wallace and Carol Durant of Krebs, Richard and Johnnye Glenn of Gowen, Oklahoma and George and Lahoma Hendricks of Nida, Oklahoma; great-grandmother, Ruth Campbell of Krebs; uncles and aunts, the Rev. Nathan and Melody Durant of Holdenville, Oklahoma, Kevin and Maye Durant of Krebs, David and Freda Duncan of Nida, Arlyn and Debbie Hendricks and Kirstie Glenn, all of Barnsdall, Johnny Lee and Pam Glenn of Gladewater, Texas and Charles and Donna Glenn of Gowen and numerous cousins.



Luther Ward, 73, of McAlester, Oklahoma passed away Monday, August 5, 2002 at McAlester Regional Health Center. He was born December 22, 1928 in Nashoba, the son of Eastman and Sibble Frazier Ward.

He served in the U.S. Army and married Agnes Wilson on July 5, 1951 in Antlers.

Mr. Ward worked for Tinker Field in Midwest City and then moved to McAlester in 1965 to work at the Army Ammunition Plant until his retirement after 37 years of service.

He loved to listen to gospel music and enjoyed playing baseball, softball and coaching men's and women's softball. He also enjoyed coaching his grandchildren and was a member of the Grace United Methodist Church in Hartshorne.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Steve Ward of the home; daughter, Lisa Ann Ward of Krebs; grandson, Gregory Shaun Smith of Krebs; granddaughter, Mikael Lynn Smith of Krebs; great-grandson, Owen Mikael Smith of McAlester; brother, Leroy Ward of Antlers, and special friends, Clelland and Rose Billy of Midwest City, Oklahoma.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Clenden Earl Ward; two sisters, Bernice and Rachel McCarty, and two brothers, E.G. and Josiah Ward.

#### **Louis Owens**

Louis Owens, 53, passed away Thursday, July 25, 2002. He was born in 1948 in Lompoc, California. He grew up in Mississippi and California.

He was a professor of English, Creative Writing and Native American Studies at the University of California at Davis. He had worked as a forest ranger and firefighter with the Forest Service. He received his BA and MA from the University of California at Santa Barbara and his Ph.D. from the University of California at Davis.

He taught at the University of New Mexico, the University of California at Santa Cruz and Davis, the University of Pisa in Pisa, Italy and California State University at Northridge.

Mr. Owens was a dedicated teacher who mentored and encouraged his students and other writers. Among the many recognitions he received for his teaching are the University of New Mexico Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence, and the University of California Santa Cruz Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award.

The time between his receiving his doctorate and being promoted to full professor was the shortest in the history of the University of California. He is an internationally known scholar and writer and has published many books including novels, collections of essays and volumes on literary criticism. Among the awards received for his novels are the American Book Award in 1997 for his novel, "Nightland," the Roman Noir Award for "The Sharpest Sight" in 1995, the PEN-Josephine Miles Awards for "The Sharpest Sight" and "Other Destinies" in 1993 and the Julian J. Rothbaum Prize for "Bonegame" in 1994. He received the Writer of the Year Award from Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers for Mixedblood Messages in 1998. He was also recognized as the Outstanding California Community College Alumnus in 1993.

Louis was a person who loved deeply and in return was loved very deeply. There are no stories or words that can describe how much he will be missed.

Survivors include his wife of 27 years, Polly; daughters, Elizabeth and Alexandra; father, Hoey; brothers, Gene, Troy and Richard, and sisters, Judy, Linda, Juanita and Brenda.

#### James Donald Ainsworth

James Donald Ainsworth, 59, passed away Saturday, June 29, 2002 at his home in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. He was born August 15, 1942 in Van Buren, Arkansas to James Drennen Ainsworth and Theresa Bennett Ainsworth. He was delivered by his grandfather, Dr. Burrell Bennett.

Jim was very proud of his Choctaw heritage. He always said that it wasn't the degree of "blood" but the way that you thought and felt in your heart that made you a Choctaw. His ancestors were very involved in the Choctaw Tribe. His great-grandfather, Thomas Drennen Ainsworth, was the first superintendent of Choctaw descent to be appointed head of the New Hope girls school. His uncle, Napoleon "Dime" Ainsworth, was appointed by the tribe to be a representative in the deliberations with the Dawes Commission. His great-grandmother was Green McCurtain's first wife and mother of D.C. McCurtain. His grandfather, Thomas Garrett Ainsworth, owned and was living in the old Scullyville Agency building when it burned in 1947. Jim was five years old and remembered seeing it burn.

Jim is remembered by his friends as being quite a talker. He never met a stranger and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

His father and a son, Jeffry Garrett Ainsworth, preceded him in

Survivors include his wife of 39 years, Lois Parker Ainsworth; sons, Jay Ainsworth, and his wife, Michelle, and Jim Ainsworth and his wife, Melanie; four grandchildren of whom he was very proud, Elizabeth Ainsworth and Kelsey, Garrett and Parker Ainsworth.

#### Gertrude "Trudy" May McNair

Gertrude "Trudy" May McNair, 82, of Poteau, Oklahoma passed away Friday, August 30, 2002 at her home. She was born May 24, 1920 in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma to Isom and Elizabeth Sumpter Allen.

Trudy lived most of her life in Pittsburg and Latimer counties and in Memphis, Tennessee. She married David J. "Mac" McNair on April 27, 1946 in Senatobia, Mississippi, a loving union that lasted through her passing. She attended school at Wheelock Academy in Millerton, Oklahoma and was a graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma State University where she received her bachelor's degree in education.

Trudy was proud of her Choctaw heritage, being the daughter and granddaughter of original enrollees.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Eugene "Buddy" Allen, Bill Nelson and Johnny Marvin Sadler, and a sister-in-law, Margaret Allen.

Survivors include her husband; daughter, Mary Fox of Houston; sisters and brothers-in-law, Maudell and John J. Potts of Ft. Smith, Arkansas and Geneva Kline and Jim Rowe of Fortuna, California; brother and sister-in-law, J.B. "Pete" and Wanda Nelson of Hartshorne, Oklahoma; a sister-in-law, Laryl Nelson of Springfield, Mis-

#### Wanda Kimberlin Keever

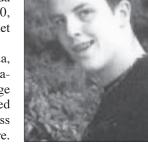
Wanda Kimberlin Keever, 84, passed away Wednesday, April 3, 2002 in Pleasanton, Texas. She was born in 1917 in Norman, Oklahoma. Wanda's Choctaw lineage extends to the 1770 Mississippi marriage of Al-Ne-Chi-Hoyo and Nathaniel Folsom, her fifth great-grandparents.

In 1925, Wanda moved to San Angelo, Texas with her parents, Kemper and Lena Mozley Kimberlin. Following adult residence in Colorado City, Snyder and Midland in West Texas, Wanda and her husband, C.B. Keever, resided since 1956 in Houston.

#### James "Chris" Hightower

James Christopher "Chris" Hightower, 20, of Ada, Oklahoma passed away on Friday, July 19, 2002 after being in a one-vehicle accident in Ada on July 17. He was born January 10, 1982 in Ada to James "Mark" and Janet Faye Harrison Hightower.

Chris lived most of his life in Ada, having spent a short time living in Lafayette, Louisiana and Bryan/College Station, Texas as a child. He graduated from Ada High School with the Class of 2001 and had many friends there. He moved to Pleasanton, Texas after



graduation and worked for Eagle Rock Excavation, before returning to Ada in May 2002. He was enrolled at Gordon Cooper Vo-Tech in Shawnee to begin fall classes for heating and air conditioning.

Chris' passion was skateboarding and he was great at it, although he did enjoy other outdoor sports. When he was out skating, he often took the time to show newcomers some tricks or give them some tips. Whenever there were kids around, they were instantly drawn to Chris. He spent his free time playing video games with his cousins and friends, going on family vacations, taking trips to amusement and water parks in Oklahoma and Texas with family and friends, going to favorite swimming holes and listening to music. He had lots of love and affection in his heart to give and never shied away from sharing it with his family and he was very easy to love. He was always ready to lend a hand with family projects. He was a good listener and a good friend to all who knew and loved him.

Survivors include his father, Mark Hightower of Ada; mother and stepfather, Janet and Carl Gray of Ada; grandparents, Bill and Betty Meneley of Ada and Jim and Sherri Hightower of McLoud, Oklahoma; stepgrandparents, Marie Gahagen of Roff, Oklahoma and Joe and Jane Gray of Ada, and numerous other relatives and friends.

#### John Calvin Gardner

John Calvin Gardner, 77, passed away Monday, August 19, 2002. He was born November 10, 1924 in Banty, Oklahoma to Leroy and Hazel Ella Gardner. His father, Leroy, was an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation.

John joined the Coast Guard in 1942 in San Francisco, California. After service to his country, he attended the University of Oklahoma, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Texas A&M University, Stephen F. Austin University and Austin College. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and a Master of Teaching



Attr 1950e, sohn married Ollie Money and moved to Louisiana where he was employed by Geophysical Services, Inc. He then moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma to teach math and science before settling in Denison, Texas where he taught mathematics for 32 years.

He was an active member of the First Baptist Church where he was a Sunday School teacher and a cook for many of the church functions. His passions in life were his family, teaching, cooking for family and friends, reading and gardening.

He is survived by his devoted and loving wife of 52 years, Ollie; son, John Gardner, Jr. and his wife, Cheryl; daughter, Debra Gardner and her husband, David Roach; daughter, Joan Verm and her husband, Michael; seven grandchildren and one great-grandson; four brothers, three sisters and numerous nieces and nephews.

#### Wayne D. Noel

Wayne D. Noel, 71, passed away Wednesday, April 3, 2002 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. He was born August 19, 1930 in Stigler, Oklahoma to Edmund C. and Victoria Matthews Noel.

Mr. Noel was a U.S. Army Veteran of the Korean War and a Liaison Project Officer for the Indian Health Services of Oklahoma City.

Survivors include his two daughters, Candace Meadows and Lorrinda Ford, both of Oklahoma City; son, Vincent Noel of Copperas Cove, Texas; eight grandchildren; three sisters, Mary Horn of Vian, Wanema Smith of Washington, D.C. and Jo Ann Brewer of Yukon; brother, Lawrence Noel of Shawnee, Oklahoma and several nieces,

#### **Sherry Annette Krauskopf**

Sherry Annette Lynn Krauskopf, 55, passed away Friday, July 12, 2002. She was born January 7, 1947 in Dallas, Texas

Sherry worked and retired from Gulf Oil Corp during her early years. She moved to Conroe, Texas and was an employee of Louisiana Pacific until her illness became too serious and retired shortly before her death. She attended Waltrip High School and later Sam Houston State University with honors.



Brothers Ralph D. Lynn, Jr. and Michael Mandrell preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband, George Krauskopf; a daughter, Stephanie Dawn Allen, and her husband, Bobby; six grandchildren, Billy, Courtney, Britney, Chris, John and Bobby; father, Ralph Lynn, Sr. and his wife, Joyce; mother, Betty Rowland; special mother, Mildred Lynn; mother-in-law, Margaret Krauskopf, and many other family and friends.

#### J.W. Williams

J.W. Williams, 76, of Coalgate, Oklahoma passed away Wednesday, July 10, 2002 in Coalgate. He was born May 12, 1926 in Centrahoma, Oklahoma to Wilson and Fern Baker Williams, Sr.

Mr. Williams was a former employee of Coal County, a rancher and a mason. He married Dorothy Lorene Sells on July 1, 1948.

Survivors include a daughter, Dottie Jordan and husband, Ray, of Coalgate; son, Dennis Williams of Coalgate; five sisters, Bernice Walkup and husband, Joe, of Coalgate, Opal Trent and Jackie Brown and husband, Grady, all of Duncan, Oklahoma, Betty Wright and husband, Leon, of Oklahoma City and Tammy Weaver and husband, Mickey, of Lawton, Oklahoma, three brothers, Maurice Williams and wife, Omega, Billy Williams and wife, Gloria, and Wilson Williams, Jr. and wife, Wilma, all of Coalgate; six grandchildren, Mellisa Jordan, Melody Jordan, Makayla Williams and Dillon Williams, all of Coalgate, and Twyla Williams and Seresa Williams, both of Ada.

He was preceded in death by his wife on October 2, 2001; parents; one brother, W.C. Williams; and four sisters, Loretta Hicks, Christine Bishop, Helen Hannah and Vera Taylor.