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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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September 2003 Issue

Future is bright for Choctaw Nation



Chief Gregory E. Pyle repeats the oath of office to Chief Justice James Wolfe.

Inauguration highlights festival

After taking the oath of office on Labor Day, Chief Gregory E. Pyle stepped to center stage to deliver the 2003 State of the Nation Address. Assistant Chief Mike Bailey introduced Chief Pyle as a man who "has a heart for the old as well as the young, making programs available to assist people of all ages." Assistant Chief Bailey also said to the crowd, "You chose to put him back in office without him drawing an opponent. This was an historic event, the first time that a Choctaw Chief's race did not have an opponent."

Chief Pyle spoke somberly of the actions of Native Americans during war times. "The United States as a powerful country has tremendous responsibility throughout the world. Many of our Choctaw men and women have volunteered in the military. This century, Choctaws have volunteered in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf and now Iraq. In fact, the Native Americans have a higher ratio per capita of volunteer participation than any other race of people."

"A young Choctaw man, Jarod Dennis of Antlers, was killed in action this past April while serving in Afghanistan in the War in Iraq. I ask that we pause for a moment of silence to show honor and respect to this brave soldier."

Chief Pyle told everyone of the Choctaw Care Program that was initiated in March. "We asked people who had friends and relatives over in Iraq and surrounding support areas to give us names and addresses. The Choctaw Nation, with the aid and assistance of many donations, sent these soldiers items they needed but could not obtain while in the field."



Beginning new terms are Councilpersons Bob Pate, Perry Thompson, Kenny Bryant, Mike Amos, Harrington "Hap" Ward and Charlotte Jackson.

The care packages contained snacks, socks, gloves, lotions, wet wipes, eye drops and many other things that are taken for granted in the United States. A great number of these soldiers mailed cards and letters to the tribe to say thank you for the gifts, imparting a deep gratitude for remembering them while they are on active duty.

Each year, the Choctaw Nation has a Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11th that pays tribute to all who have served. Approximately 1,500 veterans attended the ceremony last year. Chief Pyle asked that all veterans who were in the audience at the Labor Day event to stand and be recognized.

The economic improvement of the Choctaw Nation was highlighted in Chief Pyle's speech. "In 1971, 100% of the services were funded from the federal government. Today, the Choctaw Nation's total budgets are 80% funded by revenues from tribal

businesses. These businesses support the Labor Day Festival, the language program, education program and many other services that are not available through federal grants." Tribal businesses include travel plazas located across the ten and one-half counties. Three new ones opened in the past 12 months at Stringtown, Atoka and Poteau. When the renovated store at Heavener opens, the tribe will have 14 travel plazas. Gaming, CMSE, CMDC and Choctaw Archiving are other tribal businesses.

Health services have always been a priority for Chief Pyle. He announced that two new clinics were planned—one in Stigler and one in Idabel. "The clinic in Idabel will be about four times the size of the other clinics and may have as many as 80 on staff," said Chief Pyle.

"Jones Academy is one example of how the tribe is progressing with education programs," said Chief Pyle. "We

want the very best for the students. This year, the first and second grades will be taught on campus. In six years, all 12 grades will be taught at Jones Academy. This is important to the children. They must have the right tools for learning and the right support for their education. I appreciate the Tribal Council for approving the funding of the on-campus classes."

Chief Pyle told of the cultural importance of sharing the Choctaw language. "Many of our mothers, fathers and grandparents went to boarding schools and were severely punished for speaking anything other than English. Now, we have language classes that are totally funded by the Choctaw Nation. Classes are on the Internet, in 42 live classrooms in areas across the United States and in schools, colleges and universities as accredited courses."

"We have a great and bright future ahead of us," said the Chief.

Choctaw royalty



The 2003-04 Choctaw Nation Princesses were crowned Saturday, August 30 during the annual Labor Day Festival.

Beginning their reign are Morgan Steve of Durant as Little Miss Choctaw Nation; Dayla Amos of Broken Bow as Jr. Miss Choctaw Nation and Nicole Billy of Broken Bow as Sr. Miss Choctaw Nation.

See Page 9 for photos of the contestants

Reunion planned for Jones Male Academy alumni

The Jones Academy "All Boys School" Reunion will be Saturday, October 18 on the campus of Jones Academy. All Jones boys who attended the school through the year 1954 are encouraged to attend the reunion.

Registration is at 10 a.m. Activities are planned for the entire day, closing with the school's annual gospel singing that night.

For more information, please call Jimmy Bruner at 580-298-3136; Ted LeFlore at 580-889-7989; Tully Choate at 918-455-7255 or Tom Williston at 580-286-3585.

Homebuyer Education Workshops are scheduled

Do you dream of owning your own home? The Choctaw Nation Home Finance Department offers a variety of programs to help you become a homeowner.

Free workshops and homebuyer counseling services provide the information you will need to help you become a homeowner. These services are available to any Native American — at all income levels.

Issues covered include budgeting, insurance, realtors, lending process and credit issues.

Classes will be held in the following locations:

Sept. 15 Oklahoma City	Oct. 2 McAlester
Sept. 23 Poteau	Oct. 7 Durant
Sept. 25 Coalgate	Oct. 9 Antlers
Sept. 30 Stigler	

The Choctaw Nation Housing Authority has two locations that build modular homes. Please attend one of the Homebuyer's classes to find out if you are eligible to purchase a new modular home.

To register for a class or get more information, please call Nancy Kirby at the Choctaw Housing Authority, 1-800-235-3087 ext. 301.

Tribal Council certifies Choctaw language teachers



Council Speaker Kenny Bryant, Councilman Mike Amos, Deloris Samuels, Etta Johnson, Councilman Ted Dosh, Ruth Hancock, Councilman James Frazier, and Richard Adams of the Choctaw Language Department.

During the August Regular Session of the Choctaw Tribal Council, Language Teacher Certificates were presented to Etta Johnson of Ardmore, Deloris Samuels of Bethel and Ruth Hancock of Ada. These teachers are now approved to conduct classes in the Choctaw language.

Budget allocations, modifications and grant applications were approved for many tribal programs, including Indian Child Welfare, Family Preservation, Upward Bound, Vocational Rehabilitation, Food Distribution, WIC, LIHEAP and EDH.

Approval was given to fund the next year's Higher Education Scholarships with \$4 million from the gaming funds and motor fuel tax funds.

Book signing set for "The Choctaw of Oklahoma"



Ordering information on Page 8

Chief Gregory E. Pyle invites everyone to celebrate the debut of "The Choctaw of Oklahoma," an historic account of the Choctaw Nation.

A book signing with author Dr. Jim Milligan is planned for 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, October 2, at the Choctaw Inn, Hwy. 75 South in Durant.

The Choctaw Nation and Dr. Milligan have spent four years compiling the information for the commissioned and copyrighted history book. "The Choctaw of Oklahoma" is full of information, portraying the struggles and victories of the Choctaw people. Dr. Milligan covers many centuries of Choctaw history by bringing us to the present and stating goals for the future.

Interest rates are lower

The Southeastern Oklahoma Indian Credit Association offers small business, home, home improvement and agriculture loans. The current interest rate is 7%.

To be eligible to apply, a person must reside within the ten and one-half county service area of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and must possess a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) from a federally recognized tribe.

For more information, contact Susan Edwards at 580-924-8280 or toll-free 1-800-522-6170.

Health fair

Bernice Williams, right, checks the blood pressure of hundreds of visitors and Annette Choate, below, counsels on health improvements at the health tent during the Labor Day Festival. The tent, full of booths focusing on healthy living for all ages, opened for visitors Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

The 2003 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival marked another great weekend of family activities and the fellowship of families and friends. May our Choctaw Nation continue to grow.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bible tells us something of the work of the Holy Spirit. What does He do? We are told in the Gospel of John 16:8 that He convicts men of sin: "And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." It is the Holy Spirit who convicts you of your sin. He makes you feel uncomfortable, He pricks your conscience. He makes you acknowledge and admit to yourself that you are a sinner, and then He gives you the strength and the power to turn from your sins. You cannot come to Jesus Christ unless the Holy Spirit convicts you, and you must repent of your sins.

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

in and regenerates.

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

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

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

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

Everyone before he comes to Jesus Christ is dominated by one nature, the "old man", which is called the flesh. The flesh, the world, and the devil control your life. You are controlled by your ego. You are controlled by yourself. The moment you receive Jesus Christ as your Savior, that self is put down and Christ is put on the throne in your life and the Spirit of God dominates your life.

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

As a Christian, you have the power, you have the will to yield either to the flesh and live a fleshly carnal life, or you have the power to yield to the Spirit, to live a Spirit-filled life. Which are you living? Are you living a life on the human plane, a fleshly carnal life in which there is little Bible reading, little prayer? You may go to a church, but there is no daily walk



with Christ. There is no joy that you know a Christian should have. Your life is an up and down experience. God never meant it to be that way. God meant the Christian life to be on the highest possible plane at all times, bearing the fruit of the Spirit.

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

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

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

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

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

Atoka language class

A beginning Choctaw language class will start at 6:30 p.m. October 6 at the Choctaw Community Center in Atoka. For more information, please call 580-889-6147.

CHOCTAW APPRECIATION DAY

October 25, 2003 • Antlers, Oklahoma
 – Slowpitch Softball Tournament –
 Begins at 10 a.m. – Single Elimination
 Entry fee \$50 – Limited to first 12 teams
 Call (580) 298-2842 to enter
 – Dinner and speaking at 5:30 p.m. –
 ALL EVENTS AT ANTLERS FAIRGROUNDS

From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Encouragement for a healthier lifestyle

It is obvious that an epidemic of diabetes threatens the Choctaw people. Approximately 17 million Americans, or 6.2%, have diabetes. Unfortunately, one third do not know they have diabetes. A special task force has been created to work toward preventing diabetes and improving health among Choctaws.

The task force members are health professionals, Choctaw program directors, a representative of the Choctaw Council and myself. For almost two years, the task force has worked on special projects to raise diabetes awareness and prevention of diabetes.

Recently the task force changed its name to the Healthy Lifestyles Task Force and will focus on all the many health problems facing the Choctaw people, although diabetes remains the most serious health care issue.

The rate of diabetes for Native Americans and Alaska Natives is an average of 2.6 times higher than that of the non-Hispanic whites of similar age. Of the Choctaws receiving care from the Choctaw Nation Health Care Services, approximately 12% have diabetes.

More than 60% of Americans are classified as obese or over-



weight. This increases the risk of diabetes, heart disease and certain cancers.

Changing the lifestyle of people is an enormous task. Improvement of eating and exercise habits are a crucial part of the solution. Studies show that a decrease of 5% to 10% of body

weight and increasing physical activities to three times a week can reduce the chances of getting cancer by 58%.

These statistics should encourage all of us to live a healthier lifestyle, and increase the longevity of the Choctaw people from this year forward.

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

It is an honor to serve on EDGE

A great honor has been bestowed upon me by the Governor of Oklahoma, Brad Henry. In his quest for developing a plan to help the state gain a competitive edge in the global economy, Governor Henry wanted to include the Choctaw Nation. The Governor has created EDGE (Economic Development Generating Excellence) committees, which will be examining topics that include agriculture, energy, health, information technologies, infrastructure, manufacturing, tax policy and aerospace, among many others.

Being selected to serve on the Steering Committee which will spearhead the project is very exciting. I look forward to working with the expert panelists on the many topics. A number of these experts also live in Bryan County. Senator Jay Paul Gumm will serve on the expert panel for local and regional economic development. Southeastern Oklahoma State University President Glen Johnson has been appointed to the panel of experts on amenities and cultural climate. Representative John Carey of Durant will represent his district on



the expert panel on manufacturing. Choctaw Nation Executive Gary Batton has been appointed to serve on the health care panel.

I truly appreciate the confidence of the business and community leaders, especially John Massey and Chief Greg Pyle, who recommended me for the position. There are twenty-three panels of statewide experts from

the public and private sectors. The steering committee is charged with developing a proposal to be presented on economic growth for Oklahoma by December. This is an ambitious project for long-term economic prosperity.

The Steering Committee will gather input from experts and citizens and guide the process to its completion.

Councilman Jones retires



Going away gifts were presented to Charley Jones at his retirement party, showing appreciation for his many years of dedicated service to the Choctaw people. Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Tribal Councilmembers and Tribal program staff expressed best wishes to Mr. Jones.

CHILDREN OF TRADITION RETREAT

The Choctaw Nation Community Health Representatives and the CARES Project will be hosting a Children of Tradition Retreat on October 17-18, 2003 at the Choctaw Nation Capital Grounds in Tushka Homma. All Native American children from 8-12 years old residing in the 10 1/2 counties of the Choctaw Nation service area wishing to attend must be registered by September 26.

Choctaw, Pushmataha, Bryan, Atoka, Hughes and Coal county retreat date will be October 17.
 LeFlore, Latimer, Pittsburg, Haskell and McCurtain county retreat date will be October 18.

To register, please contact a Community Health Representative at 1-800-349-7026, ext. 6094 or 6093. The CARES Project is striving to help Native American children and families, experiencing a temporary disharmony, access services.



The Choctaw Nation Community Health Representatives and CARES are working together to build a healthy future for Native American youth.



KEDDO spotlights Councilman Durant

Choctaw Councilperson Randle Durant was spotlighted recently in the Kiamichi Economic Development District of Oklahoma's newsletter. Mr. Durant has served with the KEDDO Area Agency on Aging Silver Haired Legislature since 1992 and was selected as the KEDDO Area Outstanding Older Oklahoman in 1997. He was appointed to the KEDDO Board of Trustees in 1993 representing the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and has been an invaluable member of the board helping oversee programs that benefit not only Choctaws but all of Southeastern Oklahoma.



person. He is dedicated to improving the health, education and employment of all the members of the Choctaw Nation."

"Randle is a fine example of tribal leadership," said Chief Gregory Pyle. "He has devoted two decades to the Choctaws in District 6, serving as their Council-

Mr. Durant, 81, was born in Bennington. He attended Belvin School in Boswell, St. Agnes

Academy in Ardmore, and Goodland Indian Orphanage in Hugo. He joined the Oklahoma National Guard when he was 16 years old. In 1940, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving for 11 years, seeing action in both World War II and in Korea and becoming the most decorated Choctaw in these wars.

Randle and wife Margaret have lived in the Talihina area for 23 years. They have five children and ten grandchildren.

He was elected to the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council on September 1, 1983 and was elected to serve as the Speaker of the Council for six years. He has also served as President of Choctaw Nation Enterprise, Inc. and helped introduce the commodity and inventory programs for the tribe.

October Calendar

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND PROJECTS WITH INDUSTRY PROGRAM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A Vocational Rehabilitation and Projects With Industry representative will be available at the locations listed. A representative is available Monday thru Friday 8-4:30 except for holidays at the Hugo office.			1	2	3 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	4
5	6 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	7 Durant 10 am-12 noon	8 Stigler by appt. only McAlester 10 am-2 pm	9	10 Broken Bow 9:30 am-2 pm	11
12	13 Antlers by appt. only	14	15 Atoka 9-11 am Coalgate 12 noon-2 pm	16	17 Poteau 11 am-1:30 pm	18
19	20	21 Durant by appt. only	22 Crowder by appt. only McAlester by appt. only	23	24 Wright City by appt. only	25
26	27	28 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm	29	30	31 Bethel by appt. only	



Walter Phelps and Concetta Gragg, Crowder's outstanding Choctaw man and woman, Sharon Moore and Dena Cantrell are pictured with the center's new TV/VCR.

Crowder Choctaw Center concentrating on health

A healthy lifestyle is a focus of concern for Chief Gregory E. Pyle. In July, Sharon Moore was hired as director of the Healthy Lifestyles program. Sharon is visiting with program directors, council members and community centers to assess where each community is in regard to a healthy lifestyle and to coordinate activities to help them achieve better health.

Ms. Moore visited Crowder Community Center on July 30 and delivered a 19" color TV/VCR donated by Baetz Home Center of Poteau, Oklahoma.

The Crowder community is involved in many activities to enhance a healthy lifestyle for residents. Dena Cantrell, Crowder field representative, leads a group in exercise every Tuesday. After eating, they share lunch and make arts and crafts. The donated TV/VCR will allow them to use the exercise videos provided by the Diabetes Wellness Center.

The residents may also use the treadmill and exercise bike when the community center is open. According to Dena, she and other Choctaws in Crowder have lost weight and are getting stronger since starting the exercise program. She said there are great volunteers who help with community activities.

Healthy Lifestyle Tips

By Sharon Moore

Trade munching for crunching

If you are a nibbler by nature, trade a chip for a "strip" - of fresh, sliced vegetables such as peppers, green beans, carrots, celery, snow peas, etc. Fresh vegetables are crisp like crackers and have a built-in weight loss feature - volume. By choosing foods high in fiber and water, you will be satisfied with fewer calories. Raw vegetables, at only 25 calories a cup, make it hard to go overboard.

No time for exercise?

Trade exercising for extra movement worked into your day. At work or while shopping, park at the far end of the parking lot. Take stairs at work and hand deliver memos rather than e-mailing them. When at home and on the phone, walk around the room rather than sitting. Invest in a pedometer (a device that counts your steps) and work your way up to 10,000 steps a day - that translates into a 10-pound weight loss in a year!

Irish Cream Iced Cappuccino

- 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/2 cup instant coffee granules
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup Equal Spoonful or Splenda
- 6 cups fat-free milk
- 1/2 cup liquid Irish cream coffee creamer or flavor of choice

Whisk together first 3 ingredients in a large saucepan until smooth. Bring to a boil over medium heat, whisking constantly, 2 minutes. Remove mixture from heat; add Equal or Splenda. Cool slightly. Whisk in milk and creamer. Cover and chill at least 4 hours or up to 2 days.

Serve over ice. Makes 8 servings.
Nutrition information per serving: 123 cal, 9 g pro., 18 g carb., 2 g fat, 4 mg chol., 102 mg sodium. Food exchanges: 1 1/2 milk.

Dictionary Committee creates useful word list for beginners

The Choctaw Dictionary Committee is back at work. In July the Language Department moved into a new building, so we did not meet. In June and August we worked on a beginner's word list, *Chahta Anumpa Vmmona*, which will soon be published. This will have about 1,300 of the most useful nouns, verbs and adjectives arranged in groups according to meaning.

We have some more texts to share with you. The first two texts illustrate two variants of the Choctaw language. The third text is a poem which shows how Choctaw words can be used to enhance the beauty of a poem written in English.

Lillie Jessie grew up in Frederick, but now lives in Haworth. She teaches Choctaw community classes in Idabel, and is a member of the Dictionary Committee. She tells the following story in which a warning to her children proved to be prophetic.

Vlla tuchchina hosh iyyi okpulo ilahobbi

Vlla tuchchina hosh vm iyyasha hatuk o, okla moma kvv iyyi okpulo ilahobbi cha, iyyi ya vba takachit hottopa isht chiyomit ik eyo hosh, chohmit at asha tuk yo. Atuk o im anoli lih mvt, "Hvsh ahnik ma illa keyu mut, alikchi hvsh pisa chi. Ak mvt, hvchik nowa kachj kiyu ana, ak mvt na'sht apela isht ishi osh hvsh gya chi ana."
Atuk o qhi im anoli li tuk yo.



Members of the Choctaw Nation Dictionary Committee include, front row from left, Lillie Jessie, Rhoda Anderson, Kaye Choate and Christine Ludlow, and back row from left, Dale Nicklas, Evaline Steele, Henry Willis, Richard Adams and Paula Carney. Not pictured are Ken Baptiste, Dixon Lewis and Abe Frazier.

Moma kvv isht apela ishi beka tuk yo.

"I had three children, and they all pretended that their legs were broken, and so they were raising their legs up, acting like they were hurting real bad. So I told them, 'If you aren't careful, you will see the doctor, you will not be able to walk, you will go around with crutches.' So I did tell them the truth. All three did use crutches (at different times)."

The following recipe comes from Rhoda Anderson of Haywood. She teaches Choctaw

community classes in McAlester, and she teaches Choctaw in the bilingual education program in Canadian. She also serves on the Dictionary Committee.

Holhponi

oka kalvn iklvnna tanchi tohbi isht ishko ushta sotu ibana hinla

Oka kalvn iklvnna fokali shuti ibani, tanchi tohbi isht ishko ushta fokka oka ma itibani. Soti kangmosi, chiniffi achvffa fokali, ish ibana hinla. Ish towahanchik ma nona chi. Kiyo hokano lua hinla. Hvshi kvnalli tuchchina

fokka vahlvllik ma, vltaha. Kil oh impa!

"Put about a half gallon of water in a pot, add about four cups of white corn to the water. You can add some soda, about one pinch. You keep stirring until done. If not, it will burn. When it boils for about three hours, it is ready. Let's eat!"

Eveline Battiest Steele of Broken Bow teaches Choctaw in DeQueen, Arkansas. One of her students, Lynda Hightower, has written several poems using some of the Choctaw words she has learned. Here is a poem she wrote back in 2001 when she was in the first phase.

Red Earth to Flesh

*Red earth to flesh
Mother Earth gave birth
Hattak vpi humma
Hattak, Ohoyo, vlla
Ittakamvssa*

The land it was so good!
Plenty of *yanvsh chito* and *issi*
The *bok* was full of good *oka*
And plenty of *nvni*.
Pinak, achukma hoke!
Pvlvska, nipi, tanchi,
Ahe, takkon chito, and
pishukchi.
A, achukma hoke!
Red earth to flesh
Mother Earth gave birth.

Do you have a text to share with us? Send us your story to share with the Nation.

Okla ittim anumpoli cha, anumpa fylama et pi pilah!
Yakoke!

Child and Adult Care Food Program

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

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

This statement applies to the center(s) listed below: Atoka, Antlers, Bennington, Bethel, Broken Bow, Coalgate, Durant, Hugo, Idabel, McAlester, Poteau, Stigler, Wilburton and Wright City.

Artist's work on display

California Choctaw artist Laurie Moore will be a featured artist during a Native American group show in September. The Pacific Western Trader, which features Laurie's work, will be participating in the Sacramento area artwalk on September 13. Laurie's oil paintings are narrative paintings of Choctaw culture such as dancing and stickball.

For more information, please call the gallery at 916-985-3851. It is located at 305 Wool St., Folsom, California.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

OCTOBER 2003

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Poteau (A-L) 9-2 Stigler 9-2	3	4
5	6 Poteau (M-Z) 9-2 Coalgate 9-10:30 Atoka 12-2	7	8 Talihina 9-12	9	10 Broken Bow 9-2	11
12	13	14 Bethel 9-10:30 Smithville 12-2	15	16 Wright City 9-10:30 Hugo 12-2	17	18
19	20 Idabel 9-12	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Food Distribution Sites

- ANTLERS - Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 306 S.W. "O" St.
- ATOKA - National Guard Armory.
- BETHEL - Choctaw Nation Community Building.
- BROKEN BOW - Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.
- COALGATE - Choctaw Community Center.
- DURANT - Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 100 Waldron Dr.
- HUGO - Housing Authority.

- IDABEL - Choctaw Village Shopping Center.
- McALESTER - Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 1212 S. Main.
- POTEAU - Choctaw Nation Family Investment Center.
- SMITHVILLE - Big Lick Church.
- STIGLER - Choctaw Community Building.
- TALIHINA - Boys & Girls Club.
- WRIGHT CITY - Choctaw Head Start Building.

gram workers will take a 30 minute lunch break from 11:30 to 12 noon. Please bring boxes to pick up your commodities.

If you cannot pick up commodities when you are scheduled, please notify the Food Distribution Office at 580-924-7773 or 800-522-6170 so that you can be rescheduled to go to Antlers, Durant or McAlester.

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

2003 Chickasaw Annual Meeting & Festival

Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament

Saturday, September 27
Murray State College
Tishomingo, Oklahoma

8 Person Roster - Entry Fee: \$60
Entry Deadline: September 26
Tournament is limited to 12 teams.
For more information, please contact
John Impson at 580-310-6620 or 1-800-593-3356

Five generations

Congratulations to five generations in Spokane, Washington – Betty King and Valerie Johnston, standing, and Bessie King, Robbie Johnston and Saben Johnston. Bessie's mother, Maisie Bessie Tubbee Sewell, was an original enrollee.



Happy birthday

Happy birthday Risky Business Extreme Bullfighter, Sebastian Rokk Jacob. He turns seven on September 25. We love you! - Mom, Haileigh, Grandma, PaPa and Uncle of Valliant, Oklahoma.



Band Princess

Elissa Renee Holder, a student at Anadarko Middle School, was selected as the Freshman Band Princess 2003-04. She has been a member of the band program for three years and was selected to attend Tri-State this year. She is a member of the Anadarko Middle School basketball team, the tennis team and selected as a student council representative. Elissa also received an Academic Award from the Anadarko School's Indian Education Program. She was also nominated to the U.S. Achievement Academy and has been named a U.S. National award winner in English. Elissa has been a member of the Kitikiti'sh (Wichita) Little Sisters, an organization for Native American girls and has served as the organization's princess for the 2002-03 term.

She is the 14-year-old daughter of Mitchell and Victoria Holder of Anadarko and the granddaughter of Paula Eyachabbe of Oklahoma City. Great-grandparents include the late Jowick and Fannie Tonihka of Broken Bow and the late Rufus and Mary Eyachabbe of Antlers.

Congratulations Elissa. We are proud of all you have accomplished. Love, Mom, Dad, Marissa, Bubba, Granny and all your aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.



District 13 Commander

The American Legion Department of Texas held its 85th anniversary celebration on July 9-13 in Lubbock. The highlight of the convention was the nominations and elections of leaders for the upcoming term. There are 23 districts in Texas with over 87,000 members. One proud Choctaw, SGM E9 Harold L. McAlvain, retired, was appointed as the District 13 Commander for 2003-05. McAlvain, formerly of Oologah, Oklahoma, now residing in Nocona, Texas, completed and retired after 33 years service in the Armed Forces.



Congratulations, Kyla

Kyla Taylor graduated from Dora Reed Center on June 26 and will be entering kindergarten at Cherokee Elementary School in Cherokee, North Carolina.

Her proud parents, Ned and Geneva Taylor, sister, brothers and Granny Dolly Taylor, all of Cherokee, are proud of her. Congratulations and we love you!



Happy 30th anniversary

Happy anniversary to Larry and Regina McKinney of Tacoma, Washington who celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on July 21, 2003. May God continue to bless your lives and enrich your marriage. We love you both. Wishing you continued happiness are Natosha, Matteo, Blaine, Stephanie, Victoria, Joel, Ben, Anna and Isaac.



Whites celebrate 62nd

Albert and Nancy White celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on July 26, 2003. They were married in Dyer, Arkansas by Church of Christ minister B.F. England. Their married life was spent mostly in California, then in Kansas City, Missouri, before moving to Greenwood, Arkansas for retirement.

Mr. White is a member of the Choctaw Nation. His great-grandmother, grandmother and mother were all original enrollees. He was employed in aircraft work for many years, retiring from TWA Airlines in St. Louis, Missouri.

The couple have two children, the late Albert Lee White, Jr., and Lynda A. Kropf and Joe Kropf of Gainesville, Texas. They have two grandchildren, Lean Madoux of Bethany, Oklahoma and Darin Kropf of Gainesville, and one great-grandson, Dylan Madoux of Bethany.



Wedding bells

Congratulations to Wendy Bohanon and Kenny Frazier on their marriage on August 2, 2003 at Paris, Texas. Wendy is the daughter of Willard Bohanon of Ada, Oklahoma and Mary Sue and Phillip Sikes of Paris. She is the granddaughter of the late Isaac and Lula Bohanon of Paris and the late Norma Ballard. Kenny is the son of Elm and Vida Frazier of Paris.



BISHINIK deadline

Articles to be submitted for publication in the BISHINIK need to be received by the 10th of the month for the following month's edition.

Ellis receives Gold Award

Karen Anne Ellis, pictured here with her grandmother, Elizabeth Ellis of Hugo, Oklahoma, has been awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award for her outstanding achievements. The Gold Award is the highest honor bestowed on a girl scout. To receive the Girl Scout Gold Award, 50 hours must be dedicated to developing and implementing a project that has a positive, lasting impact on the community. Karen's project was a "Stars and Stripes Lock In" for the junior girl scouts. The girls learned how to fold a flag, practiced the Pledge of Allegiance in sign language, decorated T-shirts and enjoyed a guest speaker.

Karen is the daughter of Jim and Melody Ellis and a member of Girl Scout Troop #204 of Utica, Nebraska.



Happy 18th, Valedictorian

The family of Joseph G. Hernandez would like to wish him a very happy 18th birthday and congratulate him on his outstanding academic accomplishments, along with graduating at the top of his class. We wish you the very best as you continue your life's journey at Wingate University. We've been so blessed to have the privilege to have you in our lives. May God bless you, Joseph, and may you continue to strive for the very best in your life endeavors. Love, Mom and Dad, Gabriel and Pauletta Hernandez, and siblings, Vanessa, Rebecca, Elizabeth and Joshua Hernandez, all of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and grandmother, Mary L. Thierry of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.



All-American Scholar

The U.S. Achievement Academy has announced that Morgan McGee of Bethel, Oklahoma has been named an All-American Scholar. Morgan, who attends school at Battiest, Oklahoma, will appear in the All-American Scholar Yearbook, which is published nationally. He is the son of Michael McGee of Broken Bow and Deloris Samuels of Bethel. Grandparents are Virginia Jefferson of Bethel and Laura Lewis of Battiest.

Morgan celebrated his 16th birthday on July 7. Happy birthday and congratulations, Morgan!



Little Diamond Miss Pageant

Alexa Jo Coley, 11-month-old daughter of Talena Womack of Clayton, Oklahoma and Roger Coley of Wilburton, Oklahoma, won the title of "Divisional Supreme Baby" in the 0-18 month category of the Diamond Miss Pageant held in Clayton. Alexa also won second runner-up in the Sunburst Beauty Pageant held in McAlester, Oklahoma and won medals for the Prettiest Eyes, Prettiest Hair, Prettiest Smile, and Best Personality in the Sunburst Pageant.

Alexa is one-half Choctaw. She is the granddaughter of Rocky and Cheryl Burleson of Clayton, Mike Womack of Nashoba and Joe and Mary Coley of Wilburton. Way to go Alexa!



Graduation day

Jasmine McCarty recently graduated from Miracle Baptist Church school where she was the lead singer for the class song and also recited the numbers from 1 to 100. She received certificates for citizenship, attendance, social attitude and church attendance. Jasmine is a very lovable child who loves to sing and dance. She sends special love to her great-grandmother, Caroline, in Paris, Texas; her father, John, in Chicago, Illinois, and uncle, Harry, in Los Angeles. She received a B+ average in her school work.



Talihina graduate

Congratulations to Archie Meashintubby, Jr. on his graduation from Talihina High School. His plans are to attend OSU Okmulgee this fall. He is the son of MaryLou Meashintubby and Archie Meashintubby of Talihina. Great-grandparents are the late Lena Meashintubby of Honobia, Oklahoma and the late Norman and Reba Meashintubby of Talihina. We are very proud of you. May God be with you from all of your family.



Pilkinton, Voyles wed

Ruthie Michelle Pilkinton and Michael Everett Voyles were married June 21, 2003 at their residence in Copper Center, Alaska. Ruthie is the daughter of Charles Pilkinton, Jr. of Durant, Oklahoma and Mary Patterson of Aubrey, Texas. She is a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and very proud of her heritage. Michael is an Alaskan Native of the Copper River Region called Ahtna. They plan to continue living in Alaska and raising their daughter, Mary Alise Patterson.



Underwoods celebrate Golden Anniversary

Vernon and Carolyn Underwood celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, May 17, 2003. Their children, Mark Underwood and Marie Bush, and their grandchildren, Jennifer Deering, Luke Underwood, Carrie Bush and Callie Bush, hosted a reception at the Underwood home in Wilburton, Oklahoma. Approximately 125 friends and family dropped by to share in this special event. Vernon and Carolyn are Choctaw Senior Citizens at the Wilburton Choctaw Center where Carolyn serves on the senior citizens committee.



Pauls Valley Panthers

These three Sulphur members of the Pauls Valley Panthers recently placed fifth at the USSA National Baseball Tournament, held July 15-20 in Overland Park, Kansas.

The team, including 12-year-old Choctaws Lance Wallace, Tony Colungo and Chance Wallace, played teams from Arkansas, Nebraska and Missouri, among others in the single game elimination tournament. They lost the final game Saturday, July 18, in double overtime. Also pictured is Coach Antoine Colungo, who is also Choctaw.



Wright City Valedictorian

Carrie Bush graduated from Wright City High School with honors. She is the daughter of Mark Bush of Garvin, Oklahoma and Marie Bush of Cornelia, Georgia. Carrie received a four-year scholarship to Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant and will be pursuing a degree in the medical field.

Carrie's achievements and honors during her high school career include Honor Society (four years), Junior Class President, Senior Class President, Student Council member, Wisdom Club member, Spansih Club, Miss Wright City (2003), first place in curriculum contest (2002-2003), co-basketball captain and co-cheerleading captain and valedictorian. Grandparents are Choctaw Senior Citizens Vernon and Carolyn Underwood of Wilburton and Joe and Holly Bush of Locksberg, Arkansas.



Former California Jr. Princess featured in newspaper article

Merisha Lemmer, 16, Junior Choctaw Princess of California's Okla Chahta Clan in 2001-02 and 2002-03, was recently featured in the Press Democrat newspaper. A student at El Molino High School, Merisha lives in Camp Meeker with her mother, Amy, and her father, Dave. Her brother, Tyler, attends UC Santa Cruz.

Merisha takes pride in her Choctaw heritage and enjoys sharing it with others. Since the article was published, Merisha has been invited as a guest speaker at several programs.

A passionate artist, she's a painter and a sculptor. She has the wonderful opportunity of attending Oxbow School in Napa, California where she will live for a semester while taking classes in a variety of art techniques. Merisha has received some financial aid and is working to earn the remaining tuition for the prestigious art school. She is hoping the school will give her a competitive advantage when applying for college, another step in realizing her dream of earning a living by selling her art.



Miller joins Wilson PD

Shay Allen Miller graduated from the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Academy in Oklahoma City on March 5. Officer Miller is employed by the Wilson Police Department. He is the son of Evelyn Rose Miller of Lone Grove and the late Gary Don Miller. He is the grandson of Lula Parker of Lone Grove.



Class Salutatorian

Jennifer Heck was salutatorian of her senior class at Stonewall High School. She was also the salutatorian of her freshman class and won the Masonic Student of Today Award. She was voted Miss SHS by her class and has been a member of the National and Oklahoma Honor Societies and Gifted and Talented all during high school. She was Student of the Year, participated in Girls' State, and won the American Legion Americanism Award and the Army Outstanding National Scholar Athlete Award. Jennifer was Vice President of FFA, FBLA and her senior class. In FFA she has won numerous Grand Champions with her lamb and was awarded the State FFA Degree. She was also captain of the Lady Longhorn Basketball and Softball Teams. She won Basketball Defensive Player of the Year in basketball two years in a row and was SHS Basketball Queen. She made the Indian All-State Team, All-State Girls Basketball Alternate, OK All-State Softball Team, and recently made history being a member of the first team to qualify to go to the State Slow-Pitch Softball Tournament. Jennifer attends Coalgate First Baptist Church and is the daughter of Kenny and Shonda Denson and Randy Heck.



Emily turns two!

Emily Elizabeth McClaughry turned two years old on August 8. Her parents and grandparents wish her a happy birthday. She is the daughter of Kevin and Andrea McClaughry of Portland, Oregon. Her grandparents are William and Judith Freeman and Patrick and Carolyn McClaughry of Salem, Oregon.



Happy birthday

Wishes for a happy birthday are sent to John Airington and Bob and Rita Airington, all of Woodward, Oklahoma. John celebrated his birthday on August 28, Bob on September 14 and Rita on 18th. Happy birthday from all of your family!



Quilt to hang on display at Wheelock



A beautiful quilt, handstitched by girls at Wheelock Academy in the late 1940s or early 1950s, will soon be hanging on display at the former mission and girl's school near Miller-ton, Oklahoma.

If anyone remembers working on the quilt or has any other information about it, please call Barbara Asbill at 580-746-2139. The historical site is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Pictured holding the quilt are Barbara Asbill, Regina Green and Tiffani Davis.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services to hold Wills Clinic

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will be providing a free Wills Clinic from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. October 7 at the Choctaw Nation Field Office in Idabel and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. October 9 at the Choctaw Nation Tribal Complex in Durant.

Attorneys Stephanie Hudson and Kim Bump and Paralegal Gregg Lewis will be on hand to as-

sist 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 Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, toll-free in state, at 1-800-658-1497.

Silver Star



On August 18, 2003 the family of Jerod Dennis was presented the Army's Silver Star for his display of valor and courage during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Jerod, a Choctaw soldier from Antlers, Oklahoma, was killed in action on April 25, 2003 while in Afghanistan. Family members at the ceremony included Jerod's dad, Jerry Dennis; mom, Jane Dennis, and sister, Jillian Dennis.

CHOCTAW NATION BOOK STORE

PO Box 668, Durant, OK 74702
1-888-932-9199

The Choctaw of Oklahoma

Dr. James Milligan completed "The Choctaw of Oklahoma" after years of writing and a lifetime of love of researching the Choctaw. "The Choctaw of Oklahoma" presents the cultural values, customs, and an inner will of the Choctaw to live in spite of disturbing truths of violence and injustice. The 400-page book spans centuries of struggles and challenges of a people who always come back more resilient and prosperous than before their misfortune.

_____ \$30.00 each "The Choctaw of Oklahoma"

_____ Number of books ordered

\$ _____ Sub-total

\$ _____ Add shipping price of \$6.00 for each book ordered

\$ _____ **TOTAL PRICE**

Choctaw Nation Children's Books

Choctaw Nation children's books contain entertaining stories and historical information on the Choctaw culture. Each book is written by Mary M. Frye, illustrated by Norma Howard and translated by Henry Willis.

The characters will be featured in all five of the children's books - Grandmother, eight-year-old Serena, six-year-old Push and their collie dog, Partner. All stories contain two parts. The first part of the story is written in the Choctaw Language and then the second part of the book is written in the English Language. The books are hardcover. The first 1,000 of each series are numbered.

_____ \$20.00 each "The Pashofa Pole"

_____ \$20.00 each "The Boy Who Almost Lost His Name"

_____ \$20.00 each "Choctaw Jack"

_____ \$20.00 each "The Stomachache Tree"

_____ \$20.00 each "Push and Indian Time"

"Push and Indian Time," the last in the series of five books, will be out **July 15, 2003**. Reserve your copy today by calling our toll-free number 1-888-932-9199 or send check or money order to Choctaw Nation Book Store, P.O. Box 668, Durant, OK 74702.

_____ Number of books ordered

\$ _____ Sub-total

\$ _____ Add shipping price of \$4.95 for each book ordered

\$ _____ **TOTAL PRICE**

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Code Talker Association members awarded

Evangeline Wilson, left, presents certificates of appreciation to Code Talker descendants Rita Frazier McMillan and Teewanna Edwards for representing the Code Talker Association at an event in Virginia.

The Choctaw Code Talkers Association 2003 Cookbooks were displayed and sold at the Choctaw Labor Day Festival in Tuska-homa, Oklahoma, on Saturday, August 30, 2003. If you were unable to attend the festival and want to purchase a cookbook, please complete the following information and send a \$10.50 check or money order (includes shipping and handling) to the address listed below.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone number _____

Mail your check or money order to:

Anella L. Garcia
4712 NW 90th Terrace
Kansas City, MO 64154
(816) 420-0424
agarcia63@hotmail.com

*Thank you for
your order and
for your recipes!*

Winning poet

Chief Gregory E. Pyle congratulates Brenda Ivie on her recent accomplishment of winning a competition at Walt Disney World for her poem, "The Good Father." A medallion and a trophy for "Shakespearean Trophy of Excellence" were presented to Ms. Ivie by the Famous Poet Society for 2003. Her winning poem will be published in a collection in the coming year. Previously published works by Ms. Ivie include poems in collections from 1995 and 1998, and a novel, "Night of the Wolf," printed in 2002. Ms. Ivie has been an employee of the Choctaw Nation Head Start program since 1998.

★ STANDING TALL

Pvt 2 Eric Pebsworth

Pvt 2 Eric Pebsworth graduated basic training May 8, 2003 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He graduated advanced individual training for Multiple Launch Rocket System on June 18, 2003. On July 19, 2003, he left for Korea, his first assignment in support of his country.

Eric, 19, is the grandson of Roy and Madeline Pebsworth of Hugo, Oklahoma and the son of Michael and Linda Pebsworth of Wasilla, Alaska. We are very proud of Eric and ask prayers for his safety.

Rusty Beene

Rusty Beene of Valliant, Oklahoma is one of several local servicemen serving in Iraq.

Rusty, 27, is a member of the U.S. Army 1st Cavalry Division and a graduate of Valliant High School. His wife is Lorry Beene and he is the son of Tim and Beverly Stuart of Valliant and Bob and Cherie Beene of Swink, Oklahoma. Rusty's grandparents are Buddy and Mildred Stuart of Millerton, Oklahoma, Gwen Beene of Swink and the late Ernest Beene, and Douglas and Nelda Sherrell of Florida. Gladys Sherrell of Chandler, Oklahoma is his great-grandmother.

Rusty was pictured in the June 9 edition of Time Magazine while he and fellow soldiers helped control a crowd in Baghdad. The photo accompanied an article on the post-war violence in Iraq and the dangers American servicemen and women face there on a daily basis.

Traveling far

South and David Thompson of Anchorage, Alaska, pictured above, travelled the longest distance to attend the Labor Day Festival.

Ruth Frazier McMillan traveled from the state of Washington, the second-longest distance to the festival.

Quilt Show

Spectators enjoy the quilt show, held annually during the Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma. First place winners this year are Mary Lou Sherrod of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Merline Planer of Durant, Oklahoma.

Healthy Living Painting Contest

Dinah Redmon of Gainesville, Texas is the winner of the Labor Day Festival's Healthy Living Painting Contest. Congratulations!



Sr. Miss Division winners are Stephanie Horn, District 9, first runner-up; Nicole Billy, District 2, Miss Choctaw Nation, and Jennifer Carshall, District 4, second runner-up.



Jr. Miss Division winners are Leandra Morgan, District 12, second runner-up; Jr. Miss Choctaw Nation Dayla Amos, District 2, and Sissy Caldwell, District 7, first runner-up.

District Princesses compete for title of Miss Choctaw Nation

Several young ladies from all over the Choctaw Nation competed for the titles of Sr., Jr. and Little Miss Choctaw Nation, representing their district during the Princess Pageant at the annual Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival at Tushka Homma.

All contestants are judged on interview, personality, tradi-



tional Choctaw dress, traditional Choctaw accessories, beauty and poise.

The Senior and Junior Miss contestants are also judged on the categories of traditional talent and goals as princess.

The judges for this year's pageant were Nanette Wylie, Gwen Takes Horse, Melissa Stevens and Deborah Ross.



Little Miss Division winners are Raven Ott, District 12, second runner-up; Little Miss Choctaw Nation Morgan Steve, District 9, and Wendy Taylor, District 2, first runner-up.



NICOLE BILLY
SR. MISS DISTRICT 2



JENNIFER CARSHALL
SR. MISS DISTRICT 4



HEATHER BAKER
SR. MISS DISTRICT 6



MATILDA TAYLOR
SR. MISS DISTRICT 7



COURTNEY BAKER
SR. MISS DISTRICT 8



STEPHANIE HORN
SR. MISS DISTRICT 9



EMILY ROWTON
SR. MISS DISTRICT 10



ELIZABETH WRIGHT
SR. MISS DISTRICT 11



CHEYANNE CAGLE
SR. MISS DISTRICT 12



KIMBERLY HOBBS
JR. MISS DISTRICT 1



JESSICA COLWELL
JR. MISS DISTRICT 4



ALLISON PATTON
JR. MISS DISTRICT 5



SISSY CALDWELL
JR. MISS DISTRICT 7



RACHEL BOYKIN
JR. MISS DISTRICT 8



SARAH FOLSOM
JR. MISS DISTRICT 9



ASHLEY JONES
JR. MISS DISTRICT 10



STEVIE HECK
JR. MISS DISTRICT 11



LEANDRA MORGAN
JR. MISS DISTRICT 12



ANDREA FOX
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 1



WENDY TAYLOR
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 2



AMBER COLWELL
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 4



JENNIFER MCGUIRE
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 5



LATISA DAVIDSON
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 7



TAYLOR WADE
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 8



MORGAN STEVE
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 9



KANDA JACKSON
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 10



PRISCILLA PATE
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 11



RAVEN OTT
LITTLE MISS DISTRICT 12



First-place Men's Doubles in Horseshoe Pitching: Bobby Harjo and Sam Beaver, both of Okemah, Oklahoma.



Second-place Men's Doubles in Horseshoe Pitching: Bailey Walker of Ada, Oklahoma and Bunky Impson of Gerty, Oklahoma.



Third-place Men's Doubles in Horseshoe Pitching: Charlie Siler of Bengal, Oklahoma and Bill Reddin of LeFlore, Oklahoma.



Men's Singles in Horseshoe Pitching: Bailey Walker of Ada, Oklahoma, second; John Cummins of McAlester, Oklahoma, first, and Bobby Harjo of Okemah, Oklahoma, third.



Ringer Champion: Tony Nichols of Hatfield, Arkansas.



Women's Singles in Horseshoe Pitching: Ruby Long of Ada, Oklahoma, second; Phyllis Bohanan of Rattan, Oklahoma, first, and Laurie Medford of Moyers, Oklahoma third.



First-place Women's Doubles in Horseshoe Pitching: Ava Hilton of Tushka Homma, Oklahoma and Phyllis Bohanan of Rattan, Oklahoma.



Second-place Women's Doubles in Horseshoe Pitching: Ruby Long of Ada, Oklahoma and Claudia Hodge of Wilburton, Oklahoma.



Third-place Women's Doubles in Horseshoe Pitching: Kathy Garrett of Talihina, Oklahoma and Laurie Bedford of Moyers, Oklahoma.



Chief Gregory E. Pyle congratulates the overall winners of the 5-K run – Cade Lambert, 17.39, and Anna Hallond, 21.10, both of Mena, Arkansas.



Checkers champs: Tom Williams of Boswell, Oklahoma, first place, and Sylvester Moore of Talihina, Oklahoma, second place.



Domino champs: Stephanie Jones of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, first place, and Rodney Tehauno of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, second place.



Winning the terrapin races in the 4- to 7-year-old category are Joseph Thompson of Hugo, third; Blade Strange of Moyers, first, and Tanner Gardner of Union City, second.



Proud of their terrapins are Jackie Hubbard of Ada, first; Tanner Duncan of Tuskahoma, second, and Tyler Gardner of Union City, third, in the 8-12 age group



Devin Emert of Bennington has the best-dressed terrapin in the 0-3 category.



Morgan Spray of Midlothian, Texas, held by mom Stephanie, won second and Devin Emert of Bennington won third in the 0-3 division of the terrapin race.



James Vazquez of Calera has the fastest terrapin in the 0-3 group.



Jace Ford of Stigler won best-dressed terrapin in the 4-7 category.



Best-dressed terrapin in the 8-12 division belonged to Sara Thompson of Hugo.



Chief Gregory E. Pyle presents a medallion to Rose Page of Antlers, Oklahoma, the oldest person attending Monday's festivities.



Door prize winner Rita Jessie of Broken Bow, Oklahoma drove home with a brand new Chevrolet Silverado.



First-place volleyball tournament winners are Yardeka of Henryetta, Oklahoma.



Second-place volleyball tournament winners are Feathers of Castle, Oklahoma.



Tough Choctaws are Fighting Heart winner Ricky Willis, Philadelphia, Mississippi; Honorable Mention Todd Morgan, Ardmore, and Tough Choctaw Brother Ridge, Tulsa.



First-place golf tournament winners are Jack Folsom, Mike Skinner, Marvin Montgomery and Stan Coleman.



Second-place golf tournament winners are Tony Frazier, Evert Cannady, Floyd White Eagle and Larry Sockey.



Third-place golf tournament winners are Brian Hoff, Nate Cox, Jason Williston, Randa Hughes and Cecil Brown.



Little Man Slam Dunk Contest: First place: Allen Clay; second, Melvin Carney; third, Ben Bacon.



Men's 3-Point Shootout: First place: Kerry Voice; second, Michael Clay.



Women's 3-Point Shootout: First place: Lari Ann Brister; second, Terra Ellis.



Free Throw, 6-9 Division; First place: Cade Clay; second, Tanner Gwin; third, Kannon Dry.



War Hoops Free Throw 15-18 – First place: Daniel Stingley; second, Eric Delay; third, Steven Richardson.



War Hoops Free Throw, 10-14 – First place: Anthony Whitfield; second, Curtis John; third, Karissa Ellis.



War Hoops Co-ed 10-14 – First place: Wright City - Neal Wesley, Justin Steers, Michall Noah, Catherine James.



War Hoops Co-ed 10-14 – Second place: Hartshorne - Colton Baker, Bryce Killingsworth, Joey Barnhill, Siah Densim.



War Hoops Girls 15-18 – First place: Nuttin But Net - Britany Casey, Kayla Phillips, Tiffany Jewell, Misty Wood.



War Hoops Girls 15-18 – Second place: Misfits - Kim Phelps, Tessa Dill, Chrystal Smith, Desiree Snyder.



War Hoops Boys 15-18 – First place: Himitas - Dude Billy, Jeremiah Billy, Adrian Walls, Lance Ringatero.



War Hoops Boys 15-18 – Second place: Regulators - Chris Thomas, Jeremy Taylor, Chay James, John Taylor.



War Hoops Boys 15-18 – Third place: Red Hoops - Trev Jimboy, Jordan Parnacher, Jimmy Joe Thomas, James Poe.



War Hoops Men 18-35 – First place: No Game - Shawn Runyen, Brandon White Eagle, Adam Gibson, Randy Gibson.



War Hoops Men 18-35 – Second place: Team Nike - Dallen Burriss, Michael Clay, Allen Clay, Don Tsosie.



War Hoops Men 18-35 – Third place: Stringtown - Michael Guest, Jeremy Chaffin, Greg Foster, Chris Frazier.



War Hoops Men 36 & over – First place: Rigamortis - Kenneth Clay, Chuck Madbull, Roland Branton, Ronnie Scroggins.



War Hoops Men 36 & over – Second place: Mississippi Chatas - Ralph Isaac, Herman Smith, Terry Steve, Vandall Vaught.



Men's fast-pitch – First, Next of Kin, pictured; second, Green Jackets; third, Giants; fourth, Southeast Choctaws. Women's – First, Fus-Cate; second, Chatas; third, Shockley's Country Gals.

