

## Leaders outline impact of Oklahoma Diabetes Center

Flanked by lawmakers and tribal leaders as well as leaders in education and health care, the Governor of Oklahoma has announced the next step in establishing a state-of-the-art Oklahoma Diabetes Center. Funding for the facility was established this year through Senate Bill 90xx, which was signed ceremonially by Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry, Choctaw Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Chickasaw Governor Bill Anoatubby, and OU President David Boren.

The Oklahoma Diabetes Center (ODC), which will boast locations in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, will focus on diabetes treatment and prevention, as well as cutting-edge research.

Governor Brad Henry introduced President Boren as "A driving force in accomplishing this center." Henry also said this could not be accomplished without help from the sovereign tribal nations.

Boren said, "This is the right time for this to happen. Our people have a desperate need for help in prevention of diabetes. Oklahoma is at the top of the list in that. Now we are at the 'top of the list' in getting assistance."

"Governor Henry has been a leader in this effort," said Boren. "Native Americans suffer at more than twice the rate as the non-Indian population. Tribal leaders have supported this center by providing endowment positions."

"We are fortunate to have the partnership of tribes," said Henry. He quoted information from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention that shows one of two Native American children in Oklahoma may develop diabetes by the age of 50.

Governor Bill Anoatubby said, "People of Oklahoma will benefit from the Oklahoma Diabetes Center. It is only appropriate that tribal nations participate in the planning and in the funding. The Chickasaw Nation has agreed to fund two Chairs – we want to help find a cure for diabetes."

Chief Gregory E. Pyle said, "This is going to affect the children of our state and our tribe. We have a relationship with the University of Oklahoma that has been ongoing for several years, bringing doctors from the OU Health Sciences Center to the Choctaw Diabetes Center in Talihiha twice a month.

"When we found out President Boren was going to work toward this center, we were very excited and the Choctaw Council



Lawmakers and tribal leaders are on hand as Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry ceremonially signs Senate Bill 90xx, bringing everyone a step closer in establishing an Oklahoma Diabetes Center.

approved funding to assist with a couple of endowed positions," said Chief Pyle. "I have been in the Capitol with the Governor to sign tribal compacts, but those come no where close to the joy in coming here to sign this agreement for an Oklahoma Diabetes Center."

"This is a world-class partnership with the Governor, State and OU and this will be a world-class facility. Thank you Governor, for everything you are doing. We appreciate it on behalf of all our children," said Chief Pyle.

President Boren thanked the tribes for the faculty endowments added to the program. "We will see the physical presence of brick and mortar emerge over the next 12 to 24 months, then we

will see our physical talent expand."

"The rate of diabetes in Oklahoma exceeds the national average, with one in 10 Oklahomans diagnosed as diabetic and thousands of other cases being undiagnosed," Henry said. "I am proud that we are taking action to develop the very best treatment for this life-threatening disease. As a result of this world-class diabetes center, we will significantly boost Oklahomans' access to cutting-edge medical treatment and research."

More than 200,000 Oklahomans have diabetes, with another 900,000 at risk. The disease is a major cause of heart attacks, strokes, and limb amputations, and is the major cause of blindness and end-stage kidney failure in the United States.

### Senate shows overwhelming support to recognize Code Talkers

More than two thirds of the United States Senators have formally signed on to co-sponsor S 1035, the Code Talker Recognition Act. This is a giant impetus in the momentum to pass this legislation.

Introduced earlier this year by Oklahoma Senator James Inhofe, the bill is championed by both Republicans and Democrats. A whopping 75 Senators have put their name on the legislation, which gives it enough co-sponsors to move from the Banking Committee to the Senate floor for a vote.

The next step in getting medals presented to the Indian Code Talkers is to increase the number of co-sponsors in the House. There are currently 100 co-sponsors in the House of Representatives, and at least another 50 are needed. Tribal leaders, historians and veterans advocates are all seeking support from U.S.

Congress people so that 2006 can be the year that success is celebrated.

In addition to the Choctaw Code Talkers, several other tribes will receive recognition with the passage of the bill. Comanche, Sioux and Sac and Fox are also mentioned in the legislation, and there is a provision that the Secretary of Defense may identify other tribal code talkers. The Navajos received a medal in 2002 for services in World War II.

Hopefully, September 2006 will mark history with the passage of S 1035 and HR 4597, the Code Talker Recognition Act.

## SOSU, Choctaw Nation team up once again

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Southeastern Oklahoma State University have once again teamed up to meet the needs of students.

The National Science Foundation recently announced that it is funding the two entities' Project IMPACT! (Increasing Minority Participation in Academic Computer Training) grant in the amount of \$800,000.

The purpose of the grant is to establish an alliance between Southeastern and the Choctaw Nation to implement a comprehensive, innovative program to improve recruitment and retention of minority Native American students in the computing disciplines. Project IMPACT! will develop and implement interventions that support students (minorities, females, and individuals with disabilities); create sustainable changes in culture and practices at the institutional departmental, and organizational levels; and serve as a model and repository for effective practices to broaden participation.

"Southeastern is proud to partner with the Choctaw

### Students will benefit from \$800,000 grant

Nation of Oklahoma to provide additional educational opportunities for our students," said Southeastern President Dr. Glen D. Johnson. "The University is very appreciative of the outstanding support it receives from the Choctaw Nation. This grant from the National Science Foundation will be of great benefit to our students as they reach their academic and career goals."

"Computers and technology skills are very important in modern business," said Choctaw Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "A person has to be able to master and use them effectively on a daily basis. Unfortunately, as I've personally experienced in visits throughout our area, many children in southeastern Oklahoma do not have

access to technology or training opportunities – this puts them at a serious disadvantage from their peers. The Choctaw Nation teamed up with SOSU to develop Project IMPACT! so that children can participate in high quality instruction that prepares them for a successful future. We hope that they will take advantage of the opportunity to study and pursue degrees in the computing sciences and then utilize that knowledge to teach others or operate businesses in our communities. This is part of an effort to raise the quality of life for everyone in southeastern Oklahoma."

Project IMPACT! is projected to initially serve some 50 Native American/Choctaw students from five high schools – Durant, Colbert, McAlester, Hugo, and Talihiha. The program will provide students with access to computers and also offer extensive training in Microsoft Office and other computer skills.

"I think this is an exciting and innovative project that can open doors not just for these students, but for

**More on SOSU GRANT, Page 3**

## WIC Overseas continues offering services

WIC (for Women, Infants and Children) was provided overseas to military families for the first time ever in 2001, thanks to a joint effort between the United States and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. At that time, nourishing food, nutrition education and resources that improve health and well-being were provided through a contract awarded Choctaw Management Services Enterprise. This year, services continue to be offered soldiers and their families at 52 bases in foreign countries through another Choctaw business, Choctaw Archiving Enterprises (CAE).

"When the first WIC Overseas offices opened in 2001, the Choctaw Nation very quickly was launched into the spotlight among both the military leadership

and military families worldwide," said Matt Novick, CAE's Managing Officer.

Because of CMSE's exceptional performance on the WIC and other contracts, the company has grown into a large enterprise. As a result, it was no longer eligible to compete for the new contract, which the government had set aside for a small business. CAE was a new, small business that was qualified to compete for the task.

"Winning this contract, which will not expire until 2011, means the tribe will continue to be associated with sustaining healthy military families," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle.

"The Choctaw Nation is very thankful for the U.S.

soldiers who serve our great country," said Chief Pyle.

"We want to help them as much as possible, and the WIC program is a tremendous supplement to them and their families. Providing the free formula for babies, and milk and foods for children and expecting mothers can alleviate hundreds of dollars in expenses for the families. The education and guidance they receive are particularly precious to these families."

"The Choctaw Nation, through CAE, will continue to support this invaluable program," said Novick. "Each staff person is proud and honored to serve our military families as they make many sacrifices for our freedoms each day."

## Burton selected as Tribal Judge



Council members voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Lois Burton to the position of Tribal Judge that was vacated earlier this year by Juanita Jefferson.

Budgets approved in the August 12th Council meeting included WIC, Jones Academy, Upward Bound Math/Science, Family Violence Program, Upward Bound, Adolescent Family Life Program, Adult Protective Services, Faith-based Counseling For Crime Victims in Indian Country, Food Distribution, Indian Child Welfare, Tribal Operations, Indirect Cost, Vocational Rehabilitation, Injury Assistance, Indian Health Service Compact and the NEA Choctaw Labor Day Cultural Project Grant.



During the Tribal Council's Regular Session August 12, Council Speaker Mike Amos and Richard Adams, School of Choctaw Language, present accreditation certificates to Jon Reading, who will teach in Marlow, and Bernie Davis and Michael Davis who will be teaching through the Distance Learning classes which are broadcast to schools from a studio in the Durant complex.

# NOTES TO THE NATION

## College grad appreciates educational opportunities

Dear Chief Pyle and the Choctaw Nation,

I want to thank you very much for the support you afforded me through my years at Colorado State University. Through your support, I had the opportunity to become more aware of my own heritage, as well as the Native American situation in general. I will always feel a sense of pride being a member of the Choctaw Nation, as it will now help me set a stronger tone for the rest of my life through the opportunities enabled through higher education assistance provided by the Choctaw Nation.



Chase Weldon  
Lake Tahoe, California

## Going the extra mile

Dear Choctaw Nation,

We, the people of Chihowa/Chuka Assembly of God, would like to express our most sincere gratitude to our Councilman, Jack Austin; to Susan Skelton of the Wright City Field Office; the Dispatcher of the Choctaw Nation buses, and also to the bus driver, Randy. All went beyond the call of duty to make possible our trip to Magic Springs, even when our bus was diverted to Louisiana. We left three hours late, but we were able to stay later at Magic Springs.

God bless you all and please always pray for our country and its leadership, but most of all we say, "YAKOKE!" to the Choctaw Nation and its leaders and to those who go the extra mile for us.

## CNHCC has great staff

Dear Chief Pyle,

I am writing in regards to my care at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center during my pregnancy and birth of my child in July. The nurses at the Women's Health Clinic were always there to answer my questions and ease any anxiety I may have had. I can't thank them enough. Joni Yarnell, CNM, not only delivered my son, but gave me top-notch care during my pregnancy. I thank God for Joni. She was truly a blessing. The nurses on OB/Nursery were amazing. Amber, Helen, Stacy and Kim were wonderful. It was obvious that these women love what they do for they do it so well. I couldn't have asked for better care during my stay. I feel fortunate to be able to use the CNHCC and thank you for having such a great staff.

Martina Hawkins

## Searching for relatives

Dear Editor,

I have been searching for relatives and children who were born to Josephine Roberts Bacon who used to live in Choctaw Hunter, Oklahoma, around 1930. Her children were Cecil Bacon, Roda Bacon (deceased around 1941 after she had her daughter, Edith Kay Bacon), Collen Bacon. We are trying to search for Collen Bacon which would be her uncle, probably around 70 to 80 years old. Last known whereabouts was Oklahoma City. Please, if you know anything about this person, contact us as soon as you can. Even if it's a little information, it can help us. Thank you.

Edith Bacon  
P.O. Box 261, Chinle, AZ 86503  
or my son at 918-470-3154 or 918-429-0450

## Veterans ceremony a success

Dear Editor,

The Crowder Field Office would like to thank everyone who helped make their veterans ceremony a success: Concetta Gragg; Diamond Steak House, Crowder; Jerry Feck; McDonald's, Tandy Town; Choctaw Travel Plazas, McAlester and Wilburton; Premier Video and Pizza, Crowder, and Walter Phelps. We would also like to thank Miss Indian Oklahoma Elizabeth Wright, Councilman James Frazier, Kelly McKaughan, Brent Oakes, Monica Blaine, Choctaw Nation Color Guard and Nixon Family Barbecue.

Vanessa would like to thank all of the Crowder senior citizens and everyone for all that was done.

## Sister donates gift of life

Dear Chief Pyle,

I am writing to say thank you very much for the assistance I received from Choctaw Nation. On April 18 at Dallas, Texas, I donated one of my kidneys to my sister, Nancy John Denton. I'm an LPN and I was unable to work for three months or so. My sisters, my brother and I are 1/2 Choctaw on our Daddy's side and very proud. Daddy passed away in May of 2002. His name is James John. He would have been so proud of our family pulling together for our sister to live a healthy life.

So thank you, Choctaw Nation, very much. Our Mom, Teresa John, also sends her thank you's to you for the help you gave me and my two sons while recovering from surgery.

Kimberly John Blundell  
Valliant, Oklahoma

## Thank you for a helping hand

Dear Choctaw Nation,

The Red River Area 13 Special Olympics group would like to say thank you to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey. We send our deepest appreciation for your generosity in supporting our Durant "Team OK" Special Olympics Basketball Athletes who represented Oklahoma at the first-ever National Special Olympics. Your donation was a great boost to our expenses and helped our team have a wonderful trip. We won third place! Thank You!

## Thank you

Dear Choctaw Nation,

The family of Bennie McCurtain Adams would like to thank Chief Greg Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, the Tribal Council, James Shannon Dry, Choctaw Racing Staff, and employees of the Choctaw Nation for the support that was given during our time of grief. We would also like to thank the Choctaw Nation Honor Guard for the Military Rites Ceremony. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

## Thank you for higher education

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank the Department of Higher Education and the Choctaw Nation for the scholarship that I have been very fortunate to receive. This May I graduated with a BSBA in Management from the University of Tulsa. Without the financial support of the Choctaw Nation, this would truly not have been possible. Now I will be able to continue my studies at TU this fall to earn my MBA. I thank the Choctaw Nation for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity in support of my education.

Calvin Michael Moniz, Tulsa, Oklahoma

## Financial aid appreciated

Dear Choctaw Nation,

I would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for my financial aid help. I am beginning my fourth year in the Radiology Program at Western Oklahoma State College in Altus. It is very much appreciated.

Kari Jo Eeds, Elk City



## Enjoyed Bakersfield gathering

Dear Chief Pyle,

Just wanted you to know how much fun my sister, Joyce, and I had at the Bakersfield, California, gathering. And what an honor it was to meet you and your staff and speak with your knowledgeable representatives from the tribe. Thank you for all your hard work in helping the Choctaw Nation in its growth and the Choctaw people.

Donna Shore Null



Tieler Billy, Tyler Dickey, Halee and Kimalee Elledge, Trevor Kirkes, Baylee Luna, Mara and Shaelynn Stuart, the members of Christ Control, worked very hard to perfect their up-beat version of "Mama Fixed a Lunch."

## Youth group wins national competition

Dear Editor,

Christ Control, a small ensemble of second-, third- and fourth-graders, took first place in their division of music and arts at the FWB National Youth Conference on June 18 in Birmingham, Alabama, with a combined judges score of 99 percent. Their performance at state competition in May had earned them the opportunity to represent Oklahoma Free Will Baptists and compete at the national level. Christ Control would like to thank the Choctaw Nation for providing a bus for their group to attend the national competition. Many thanks go out to all who have helped provide the way for this group.

Tara Stuart

## Generosity will not be forgotten

Dear Editor,

Michael Botts and everyone at Reunion Plaza would like to thank you for your generous donation. It was greatly appreciated and will never be forgotten. About a month after the benefit, Michael was approved for disability. Thank you for helping him to stay on his feet until getting approved. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers. Thanks again and may God bless you.

Michael Botts and the Staff at Reunion Plaza

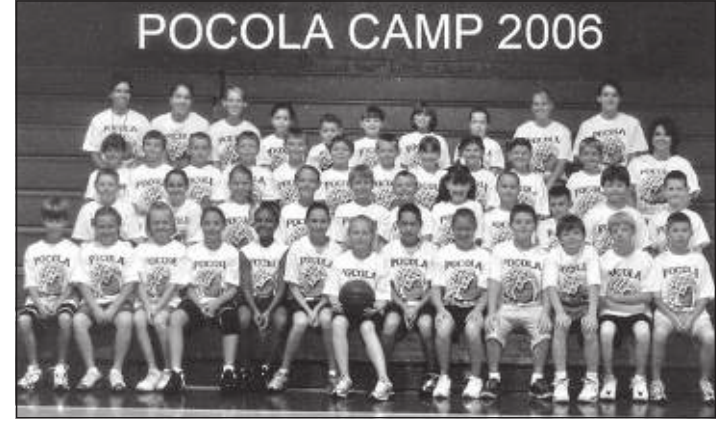
**ATTENTION**

**Wheelock Academy visitors**

Construction is under way on the grounds and it is recommended that visitors call before driving long distances to visit Wheelock Academy. Gates are temporarily closed on weekends. Museum hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

**580-746-2139**

**for reservations**



## Thank you from Pocola basketball camps

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Thank you so very much for your donation to the Pocola Elementary Basketball camp. On behalf of the campers and myself, we really appreciate your kindness. Because of your donation each child received a basketball, T-shirt and several awards for coming to the camp. The kids really had a good time at camp. Again, thank you very much and God Bless.

Sandy Wilson, Camp Director

## Pope, Gibson families gather

Family and friends of the late Adam and Winnie Pope Gibson had a day of visiting, taking pictures and eating lunch at the Choctaw Community Center in McAlester during their annual reunion. There were 81 attending.

Coming from McAlester were Jim and Marie Gibson, Bud and Clara Gibson Blevins, Ada Gibson Lusk, Ann Gibson Smith, Kathy Blevins Falkenstein, Diana Joan Blevins, Dick and Regina Blevins Steele; Deana Blevins Wilson, Jay and Robbie Looney, Randall Wilson, Nathan and Hillary Steele, Janie Gibson Lampkin, Doug and Althea Gibson Johnson, Fred and Debbie Gibson Workman, Dana and Briar Workman; Destiny and Harley Raleigh, Melissa Johnson, John Coffman, Bob and Betty Karr, Walter Amos, Steve and Dianne Gibson, Steven, Ricky and Lee Gibson, Robert and Trey Karr, Atonya Johnston, Buddy Cook, Oliver Johnston and Debbie Waterbury.

Coming from out of town were Raymond Pope of Ardmore; Lamon and Donna Pope of Mayer, Arizona; Jeff, Linda, Jelynn and Serena Pope of Prescott, Arizona; Angela, Jacqueline and Kimberly Weynard of Neosha Wisconsin; Rhonda, Koal and Alyx Kleinstiber of Surprise, Arizona; Rob, DeLana and Ethan Bahn of Fauke, Arkansas; Kendall, Peggy and Gage Steele of Bristow; Tony and Blanch Johnston Harmon of Sierra Vista, Arizona; Leslie, Cindy, Lisa, Chance and Chelse Gibson of Shawnee; Shawn and Tabitha Workman McGee of Oklahoma City; Wade, Debbie and Blaine Dunagan of Blackwell; Colt, Lee, Levi, Aston, Austin and Wade Pruitt of Blanchard.

**Enroll now at**

**Jones Academy**

Jones Academy is accepting applications for the 2006-07 calendar school year. We have openings in grades 1-12. Grades 1-6 will be taught on our campus. Students must have a CDIB. For an application call toll-free 888-767-2518; access www.choctawnation.com (go to Programs then Education); write Jones Academy, HCR 74 Box 102-5, Hartshorne, OK 74547; or e-mail bspears@bia.edu.

**Southeastern Oklahoma State University**

**Professional Position**  
**Academic Advisor/NAEIE Grant**

The position of Academic Advisor/NAEIE Grant is in the Academic Advising and Outreach Center and works directly with Native American students who have been awarded the Native American Excellence in Education grant for teacher education; assists those students with teacher education certification exam preparation and test registration; and reports to the Project Director of the grant. Specific job duties to include but are not limited to: organize and coordinate Oklahoma General Education Test (OGET), Oklahoma Subject Area Test (OSAT) and Oklahoma Professional Teacher Exam (OPTE) workshops; be familiar with and inform participants of admissions to the teacher education program at SOSU; assist with cultural in-service workshops for participants; maintain monthly grade reports on participants; monitor participant class attendance and retention and the participant's progress toward degree completion; assist with Native American Visitation Day; have willingness to work with and on faculty and student committees; and perform other duties as assigned by the Project Director. Required: Bachelor's degree; excellent written and oral communication skills; experience in higher education including academic advising, teaching or counseling young adults, admissions, or student development. Preferred: Bachelor's degree in education field with Oklahoma teacher certification or masters degree; 2-3 years experience in an education field of work; familiarity with Oklahoma teacher certification exam procedures; familiarity with SOSU enrollment processes and the teacher education programs at the university. Knowledge of local tribe's culture and history.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Position will be open until filled. Review of applications begins immediately. To apply, send letter of application, resume or vita, copies of all college transcripts and at least three professional references to: Office of Human Resources, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, 1405 N. 4<sup>th</sup>, Box 4016, Durant, OK 74701-0609

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Chief

**Mike Bailey**  
Assistant Chief

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From desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle ...

# Wheelock is an icon of Choctaw history



Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Wheelock Mission Academy symbolizes the Christian heritage that tribal people accepted, and the love of education that is still promoted by the tribe. Wheelock is also the first permanent settlement after the Trail of Tears, and became home to many people over the years. Native American girls have been educated at Wheelock since 1834. One of the most recognized structures on the property is Pushmataha Hall, a two story building that housed girls attending school there from 1884 to 1955.

The center of the front roof at Pushmataha Hall features a small louvered tower that encloses a brass bell engraved with "Defend the Poor and Fatherless." The wooden porch running the full width of the building is seen in countless photos taken since its construction. The kitchen and dining area is decorated with a pressed tin ceiling, once again a stylish decorative touch.

This treasured building has been in danger of falling in since the school was closed. Several attempts to restore the property have

been initiated by the Choctaw Nation, and the Tribal Council has been very generous in approving funds to use in the restoration efforts. The most recent action taken by the tribe is to shore up the foundation. Close to \$300,000 has been spent to ensure the foundation of Pushmataha Hall does not fail. Ram Jack was the contractor of choice on this repair project, and they have done an exemplary job on the serious problems they were presented with.

The stable foundation for the old school building helps ensure that it will remain to accept restoration and improvements for the former living quarters. We all strive to improve the foundation of our lives, faith and jobs, and seeing the exceptional changes in an old building when standing on a firm and stable base helps me remember how important a stable family life is. The Choctaw Nation wants to help tribal members provide that stability to their children. Programs dealing with education, health, social services and employment are all tools that can be used to access a level of stability.

## SOSU Grant

continued from Page 1

many other students in the future," said Durant Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Terry James. "We are very pleased to be participating in the project."

Southeastern computer science instructor Betty Clay will serve as project director, overseeing and coordinating all activities, including implementation, student selection, staff training, evaluation, and reporting requirements. Project assistant Lesa Sanders will work with recordkeeping and project coordination activities.

Pam Fahrendorf, a former SOSU faculty member and a member of the Choctaw Nation, will serve as the Project IMPACT! mentor to provide support and motivation for the participating Native American students.

Serving as adjunct instructors will be Ellen Hendrix and Mark Ross.

"I thank our partner SOSU, the participating school districts, the staff of the Choctaw Nation Education Department and our Grants, Research, and Development Department, as well as others involved for their important efforts on this grant project," Chief Pyle said. "The Choctaw Nation is also grateful to the National Science Foundation and the Oklahoma Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research for their financial support. We know the students and all involved will greatly benefit from this endeavor."

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey ...

# Federal funds come to EOSC with support of Choctaw Nation

GEAR UP, Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, is a grant program designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. More than \$6.7 million has been granted to Eastern Oklahoma State College for GEAR UP. The money will come from the US Department of Education over the next six years to be used to address severe gaps in services and resources at 19 schools, all within the Choctaw Nation.

In addition to the 19 schools, a major partner will be the Choctaw Nation. The tribe will provide cultural activities and Native American mentors. Chief Pyle and the Tribal Council want to increase educational opportunities for all youth, and GEAR UP has great components to meet this goal. Thanks to the Chief's support, the Choctaw Nation will provide staff to go to the 19 schools, help with the tutoring and mentoring, and also counsel in career exploration. This is an exciting mission for the Choctaw Nation, and our education staff look forward to providing assistance to these students.

Services provided through GEAR UP include increasing students' knowledge of college options and financing. Mentoring, tutoring and field trips are among the activities sponsored by the program. There is also college and career advisement for the students and



Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

their families, access to computers and educational materials.

As a regent for EOSC, I have heard many college graduates attribute their accomplishments to encouragement received long before they finished high school. It is very important that each student knows what help is available to them as they begin to plan for their higher level of education. Early preparation for college will make a more successful student.



# Choctaws compete in North American Indigenous Games

Denver, Colorado, was the host city of the 2006 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG). Many of the athletes were from the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Golf Team included Choctaw tribal members Matthew Roberts of Quinton, Madalyn Bryan of Idabel, Katy Williams of Pauls Valley and Cherokee member Keach Ballard of Durant. Track competitors were Cameron Williamson of Sulphur, Whitney Wallace of Davis, Charity Delozier of Hawthorn, Amber Watson of Quinton, Rebekah Boykin of Hugo and Kenna Chaffin of Durant.

Basketball team members for the girls were Malinda Steve of Calera, Ariole Bennett of Durant, Jordyn Mills of Allen, Rachel Darlene Wainscott of Byng, Danli Mills of Allen, Shelby Lackey of Ada, Bailey Caughern of McAlester, Malory Walker of LeHigh, Lorraine Bond of Wilburton, Britney Bush of Mead, Julia Davidson of Rattan and Brittney Clonch of Achille.

The boys Basketball Team members chosen included Choctaws Benjamin Robinson of Calera, Max White of Durant, William "Bo" White of Durant, Qumain Black of Ada, Jonathan Wade Garza of Lehigh, Ronald Lucas of Ada, Steffan Rashad

Jones of Ada, Jorday Coffman of Hawthorn, Glen Dale Davidson of Rattan, Michael Troy Roberts of Fitzhugh and Adam Roll of Heavener.

Team Oklahoma brought home 52 medals, including the following:

Gold - Basketball, Girls age 13-14

Gold - Boys 3K, Age 13-14, Indy Jones

Gold - Boys 400 Meter Dash, Age 13-14, Cameron Williamson

Gold - Girls 400 Meter Dash, Age 17-19, Kenna Chaffin

Gold - Boys 400 Meter Dash, Age 17-19, Ross Harlan

Gold - Boys 800 Meter Dash, Age 13-14, Indy Jones

Gold - Boys 800 Meter Dash, Age 17-19, Kelly Jury

Gold - Boys 1500 Meter Run, Age 13-14, Indy Jones

Gold - Girls 4x400 Meter Relay, Age 13-14

Gold - Boys 4x400 Meter Relay, Age 13-14

Gold - Girls 4x400 Meter Relay, Age 17-19

Gold - Girls Long Jump, Age 13-14, Lauren Wilson

Gold - Girls Shot Put, Age 17-19, Laresa Miller

Gold - Boys Shot Put, Age 17-19, Garrison Wilson

Gold - Girls Discus Throw, Age 17-19, Laresa Miller

Gold - Boys Discus Throw, Age 17-19, Garrison Wilson

Gold - Female Golf, Age 15-16, Taylor Howard

Gold - Male Golf, Age 17-19, Bryeson Lance

Silver - Boys Basketball, Age 15-16

Silver - Girls 100 Meter Dash, Age 17-19, Summit Durant

Silver - Boys 100 Meter Dash, Age 17-19, Ross Harlan

Silver - Boys 400 Meter Dash, Age 13-14, Indy Jones

Silver - Girls 800 Meter Dash, Age 15-16, Chelsea Gil-lum

Silver - Girls 4x100 Meter Relay, Age 13-14

Silver - Girls 4x400 Meter Relay, Age 15-16

Silver - Girls High Jump, Age 13-14, Haley Jumper

Bronze - Boys Basketball, Age 13-14

Bronze - Girls 400 Meter Dash, Age 13-14, Lauren Wilson

Bronze - Girls 800 Meter Dash, Age 17-19, Kenna Chaffin

Bronze - Girls 4x100 Meter Relay, Age 15-16

Bronze - Boys Discus Throw, Age 17-19, Josh Marquette

Bronze - Boys Javelin Throw, Age 17-19, Josh Marquette

Bronze - Female Golf, Age 13-14, Katy Williams

Other medals from Team Oklahoma have not yet been reported for press.

## Are you committed?

The fiscal year is ending and we are thankful for the growth and service the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has provided the Choctaw people. We are praying for the spiritual life of our people to grow, too.

Let's think about commitment. Have you committed yourself to the Lord Jesus Christ or just waiting for a wind to come along to blow you in any direction?

Will you count the cost and commit your all to Christ? Will you with love in your heart, surrendered and committed - follow Him?

Jesus said in Luke 14:27-30, "And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish."

What Jesus is saying is, "If you're going to follow me, sit down and count the cost."

We face three problems when we come to the Word of God.

First, there is a mind problem. We have to decide who Jesus Christ was. Was He the Son of the living God? He said in John 14:6, "... I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Was He all truth as He claimed? That's a decision that you have to make about Jesus Christ - an intellectual decision.

The Bible has something to say about the mind. We are to "... love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." (Matthew 22:37).

The mind is important. But remember that the mind has been affected by sin. You cannot come to Jesus Christ by your mind alone. That step has to be taken by faith. It was by faith that many of you said, "Lord Jesus, I believe You are who You claim to be, the Son of the living God, who died on the cross for my sins, was buried, and rose on the third day." When you did that He made you

a new person. You were born again into the family of God. And He will do that for many of you. (Read John 1:12.)

The second problem that we face in coming to Jesus is a moral problem - meeting the high standards of Christ. Jesus Christ demands first place in everything.

You come to Christ realizing that you will have to pay a price. You can't drag those dirty sins with you. You will have to quit lying. You will have to quit sleeping with that woman or man who is not your spouse. You will have to quit cheating in school or at work. You will have to spend time in the study of the Word of God to show yourself "... approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (II Timothy 2:15). All of these things are costly. Are you willing to pay the price?

You can't live a clean life today - except one way: with Christ in your heart.

The Apostle Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I love by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20).

There was a time when sin ruled in your life. But when you come to Christ, sin no longer rules. Christ rules. And He can help you meet the high standards that he sets in morality.

Now coming to Christ is not going to make you perfect. Suppose you accept Christ and you slip and fall. What happens? Immediately you need to say, "Oh Lord, I am sorry, forgive me. I turn from that sin. I don't ever want to commit it again." You confess it, and He is faithful and just to forgive you your sin. (Read I John 1:9).

The third problem in coming to Christ is: He wants everything surrendered to Him. God wants to be Lord over your career, your marriage, your friendships, your morals.

God makes three calls to you.

First, He calls you to a person: Person of Jesus Christ:

"Come now, and let us rea-



Chaplain's Corner

The Rev. Bertram Bobb

son together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18).

They can be made as white as snow because of the cross. He calls you to Jesus Christ, it is not a church call, it is not a family call. It is a call to a person, the Person of Christ.

Second, God calls you to consecration.

The word "consecration" means to "set apart." We can do the dedicating, but only God can consecrate:

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Romans 12:1).

When you give God your all, He becomes Lord. And the Bible tells us in Colossians 2:6, "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him."

Third, God calls you to serve.

We need more Native Americans, young people and adults, who would say, "Lord, I'll go where you want me to go and be what you want me to be." God needs you. He needs Christian leaders who are ready to pay the price and step out and serve Jesus Christ.

But you will have to make that first step. You will have to say, "Yes, by faith I receive Jesus Christ as my personal Savior," then, "no matter what the cost, I am willing to pay the price, whatever it is. I want to follow you."

May God bless you. Continue to pray for America and its leaders. Pray for our brave men and women in the armed services of our country.

# HEALTHY LIFESTYLES



Choctaw County Turning Point Coalition – Camp Pride/Hugo



Believers in Boswell Fit N Fun Camp



Bryan County Turning Point Coalition Summer Fun Camp

## Healthy Lifestyles Summer Youth Camps

Choctaw Nation Healthy Lifestyles was involved with numerous summer camps for youth 10-12 years of age. The objectives of the camps were to educate youth on a number of topics including physical fitness, nutrition, alcohol, tobacco, meth, bullying, leadership skills and abstinence.

The camps, located in Boswell, Hugo and Durant, were funded by grants received from a Turning Point/WIC grant supporting community coalitions efforts in promoting healthy living.

Healthy Lifestyles would like to say Thank You to all of the individuals who were involved in making the camps a success as your time and effort was greatly appreciated by all who attended.



Pushmataha County Turning Point Coalition Summer Arts Camp



Partnership for Change Summer Fun Camp, Coalgate

### Women with low iron have impaired physical performance

Are you tired and weak? Does the lining of your lower eyelids look pale?

If so, your iron could be low. But what does that mean? It means that either your red blood cells or the amount of hemoglobin (oxygen-carrying protein) in your red blood cells is low.

Women with low iron – but who are not quite anemic – must use more effort to do the same amount of physical work or exercise than women who are not iron-deficient. Women who have a low iron level tend to be very tired; they often find that moderate to brisk exercise is difficult for them because they lack stamina and endurance. With these conditions they may completely stop their regular exercise program in an attempt to avoid feeling tired. However, complete avoidance of exercise is not healthy, for it reduces oxygenation and circulation to vital organs, such as the brain and heart, as well as all the cells of the body.

Gentle exercise such as deep breathing exercises, progressive muscle relaxation, range-of-motion exercises to keep the joints mobile, and slow relaxed walking promote good oxygenation and circulation and can even help to increase energy. The key is to exercise in a gentle

fashion.

Women usually are unaware of their iron depletion, and physically active women and vegetarians are at particularly high risk for iron depletion. Women are 10 times more likely to be iron-deficient than men.

Studies provide evidence that iron depletion without anemia should be a concern. Other researchers have recently reported that moderate iron deficiency also compromises memory and verbal learning in teen-agers.

Iron is an essential component of hemoglobin in the blood and plays an important role in oxygen transport and utilization. When people consume iron-deficient diets, they first deplete their iron stores in the liver; at the final stage, they become anemic due to insufficient iron to produce new red blood cells.

To improve iron status through diet, eat red meat. Consuming orange juice (vitamin C) with meals will improve absorption from iron-rich foods such as legumes, whole grains and green vegetables.

For more information call Wellness Education/REACH 2010 at 1-800-349-7026, ext. 6044 or 6958.



Choctaw Nation Healthy Lifestyles Summer Fun Camp, Beavers Bend

### Get Movin'

## What foods are in the grain group?

Any food made from wheat, rice, oats, cornmeal, barley or another cereal grain is a grain product. Bread, pasta, oatmeal, breakfast cereals, tortillas, and grits are examples of grain products.

Grains are divided into 2 subgroups, whole grains and refined grains.

Whole grains contain the entire grain kernel – the bran, germ, and endosperm. Examples include:

- whole-wheat flour
- bulgur (cracked wheat)
- oatmeal
- whole cornmeal
- brown rice

Refined grains have been milled, a process that removes the bran and germ. This is done

to give grains a finer texture and improve their shelf life, but it also removes dietary fiber, iron, and many B vitamins. Some examples of refined grain products are:

- white flour
- degermed cornmeal
- white bread
- white rice

Most refined grains are *enriched*. This means certain B vitamins (thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, folic acid) and iron are added back after processing. Fiber is not added back to enriched grains. Check the ingredient list on refined grain products to make sure that the word "enriched" is included in the grain name. Some food products are made from mixtures of whole grains and refined grains.

## Medication refill processing changes

Due to the large number of refills, the Department of Family Medicine at the Choctaw Nation Health Center, Talihina, has announced that as of September 6 all medication refills handled by the Family Medicine Clinic will be processed within 48 hours.

Also, the Family Practice Clinic will no longer refill medications that the Diabetes Wellness Center is currently prescribing for DWC patients. For example, if you receive certain

medications from the Diabetes Wellness Center, please return to the DWC to request refills for those particular medications.

The Family Practice Clinic will continue to refill all medications that are prescribed by a provider at the Family Practice Clinic.

The necessary changes have been implemented to maintain the best possible service to all patients and your understanding and cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

## September is Suicide Prevention Month

Jeremy Bull  
CARES Communications/Media Specialist

Each year in America, nearly 30,000 people commit suicide. Nearly 70 percent of those people tell someone or give warning signs before taking their own life. Suicide Prevention Month is designed to teach the public how to recognize warning signs of suicide in family, friends, co-workers, and patients, and why one should respond as you would do with any medical emergency.

Some early warning signs that are indications that a person could possibly be in need of services provided by a mental health professional include:

- Hopelessness
- Rage, uncontrolled anger, seeking revenge
- Acting reckless or engaging in risky activities, seemingly without thinking
- Feeling trapped, like there's no way out
- Increased alcohol or drug use
- Withdrawing from friends, family, society
- Anxiety, agitation, unable to sleep or sleeping all the time

- Dramatic mood changes
- No reason for living; no sense of purpose in life

Contact a mental health professional *immediately* if you witness, hear, or see anyone exhibiting any one or more of the following:

- Someone threatening to hurt or kill him/herself, or talking of wanting to hurt or kill him/herself
- Someone looking for ways to kill him/herself by seeking access to firearms, available pills, or other means
- Someone talking or writing about death, dying or suicide, when these actions are out of the ordinary for the person

If you or someone you know exhibit any of these characteristics, feel free to call the Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or visit their website at [www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org).

For more information, feel free to contact the Choctaw Nation CARES Project at 918-567-4128 or [www.caresproject.com](http://www.caresproject.com). "Our Children Are Our Future."

## CHOCTAW NATION DIABETES 5 k

October 28, 2006  
No Registration Fee!!

5 k will be held during the Talihina Chamber of Commerce Fall Foliage Festival. Course certified by Glen's Road Race. Medals will be awarded to the top three male & female finishers in each age group for 5 k run. In addition, the overall male and female finisher in the 5 k run will receive a medal and gift card. Medals will be awarded to the top three Team finishers in the 5 k relay.  
Registration begins at 9:00 am at the Victory Baptist Church parking lot on 5<sup>th</sup> and Isherwood. Pre-registered participants will receive a t-shirt. On site registration t-shirt will be on first come first serve basis.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Race day age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Print  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Adult : Sm. Med. Lg. XL 2X 3X T-Shirt Youth: Sm. Med. Lg. XL  
 Deadline date: October 20, 2006  
 Category (circle one): 5 k run 5 k Relay (5 person team each person will run 1 km)  
 Mail or Fax Registration Form by Deadline date: October 20, 2006 Choctaw Nation REACH 2010 Fax # 918-567-7144  
 One Choctaw Way  
 Talihina, Ok. 74571

If registering for 5 k Relay please list team members and Team Name (must have Team Name).  
 5 k relay must have at least two females on a team.  
 Please Print

Team Name: _____	Each member must Read Waiver Form Below and Sign.
1 <sup>st</sup> runner _____	Signature (Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18 yrs.) _____ Date _____
2 <sup>nd</sup> runner _____ <small>(has hill)</small>	Signature (Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18 yrs.) _____ Date _____
3 <sup>rd</sup> runner _____	Signature (Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18 yrs.) _____ Date _____
4 <sup>th</sup> runner _____	Signature (Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18 yrs.) _____ Date _____
5 <sup>th</sup> runner _____	Signature (Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18 yrs.) _____ Date _____

Waiver of Liability: I know that the event is held on a road that is traveled on by vehicles and may be hazardous. I assume the risk and responsibility for my safety. I hereby waive all claims that I or my estate may have against any persons of entities involved in organizing, conducting or supporting this event for any injury of loss I might suffer even if injury of loss was caused by the negligence of those parties. I attest that I am physically fit and prepared for this event. I grant full permission for organizers to use photograph of me or my child in the Bishnik or other Choctaw Nation promotional posters, brochures and newspaper articles.

Entry Form# \_\_\_\_\_  
(official use only)  
 Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

For more information call Wellness Education/REACH 2010 at 567-7000 ext. 6044 or 6958



The "Happy Heart" Program



# September is National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month and the Choctaw Nation is joining a wide variety of local, state and national organizations, including the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in educating the public about preparing for emergencies. When unexpected emergencies occur, whether they are naturally or man-made, our greatest individual defense is preparedness. Getting an emergency supply kit together is one way to prepare ourselves. The list at right is recommended items to include in a basic emergency supply kit.

- ▶ Water: one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation.
- ▶ Food: at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- ▶ Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- ▶ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ▶ First aid kit
- ▶ Whistle to signal for help
- ▶ Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- ▶ Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ▶ Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- ▶ Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- ▶ Local maps
- ▶ Prescription medications and glasses

## Burn ban issued in Oklahoma

On August 2, Governor Brad Henry issued a BAN on outdoor burning for ALL counties in Oklahoma. Extended dry conditions and high winds have increased the fire danger in all Oklahoma counties. Dry vegetation will ignite easily and will burn with surprising intensity.

### BEWARE AND PREPARE

Keep lawns and surrounding pastures mowed even if vegetation is dead. Shorter grasses carry fire at a slower pace than taller grass.

Clear brush and dead fuel within 30 feet of all structures.

Keep roofs and gutters clear of needles, leaves, and other debris.

Clear exterior window sills of leaves, needles and other debris.

Have water hoses and sprinklers accessible in case they're needed. Ensure hoses will reach all perimeter boundaries around the home.

If welders are being used, prepare the area first by clearing dry and dead fuels. Have water immediately available should a fire start as a result of welding.

For more information visit [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org), [www.oda.state.ok.us](http://www.oda.state.ok.us) or call Choctaw Nation Forestry, Office of Fire Management, David Linton, Fire Prevention Officer, 1-800-509-4571, [dlinton@choctawnation.com](mailto:dlinton@choctawnation.com).



## CNHS wins numerous awards

The Choctaw Nation Health Services was honored at the Oklahoma Area Indian Health Service 2006 awards ceremony, held at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

The IHS awards program is highly competitive and recognizes the outstanding work of IHS federal, tribal, and urban sites all across the Oklahoma Area, which covers Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas.

Over 200 nominations were made for awards, some of which only recognized one program or person across the entire Oklahoma Area. Assistant Surgeon General and Admiral Dr. Charles Grim, IHS Director, and John Daugherty, Oklahoma Area Director, recognized award recipients. Choctaw Nation Health Services won numerous awards for programmatic and individual creativity, initiative and

exceptional performance.

Commissioned Officers for the Choctaw Nation Health Service received commendations and deployment awards.

Officers receiving awards were:

CDR Clint Bullock – *USPHS Commendation Medal Crisis Response Service Award Recipients*

This award was given for officers who were deployed to assist with hurricane Katrina and Rita victims: CDR Clint Bullock, CAPT Mary Nell Southard, Lt. Kris Hunley, CDR Jill Mayes, Lt. Kyle Scheffer.

Choctaw Nation Health Service employee award recipients were:

Lisa Isaac – *Peer Recognition Award*

Lee Ann Roberts – *Merit Award*

Gaylen Geiger – *Exceptional Performance Award, Non-Clinical*

The Exceptional Group Performance Award recognized two groups across the Oklahoma area, one clinical, and one non-clinical. Choctaw Nation Health Services received both awards.

Choctaw Nation Salad Sisters – *Exceptional Group Performance, Clinical*

Lee Ann Roberts, RN; Bernice Williams, RN; Annette Choate, RN, Raina Sparks, PLD

Choctaw Nation Project Child – *Exceptional Group Performance, Non-Clinical*

Todd Baughman, LPN

Martina Hawkins, LPN

Reece W. Sherrill – *Area Directors Excellence Award*

All Commissioned Officers and Choctaw Nation Health Services employees are proud to represent the Choctaw Nation in providing exceptional healthcare to our patients. Congratulations to the Health Service staff. Way to go!

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION							
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
OCTOBER 2006	1	2	3 Stigler by appt only McAlester 10 am-2 pm	4 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	5	6 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	7
	8	9 Antlers by appt only	10	11 Durant 10 am-12 pm	12	13 Broken Bow 10 am-2 pm	14
	15	16	17 Crowder and McAlester by appt only	18 Atoka 10 am-2 pm Coalgate 10:30-1:30	19	20 Poteau 11:30 am-1 pm	21
	22	23 Durant by appt only	24	25 Wright City by appt only	26	27 Bethel by appt only	28
	29	30	31 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm				

A Vocational Rehabilitation 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.

## Couples can build better relationships

The Healthy Marriages/Healthy Kids Project completed its first PREP (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program) on the Choctaw Nation Challenge Course. Couples who participated learned the danger signs in communication as well as an effective way to communicate by learning and practicing the speaker-listener technique. They also had a unique adventure experience on the challenge course which facilitated the couples group and individual development. The couples experienced adventure, fun, effective communication, and problem-solving while going through the many challenging stations on the course. They obtained greater mutual trust and support as they stretched their comfort zone by journeying through the obstacles of the course together.

One wife shared that her husband got out of his comfort zone of "being quiet and letting his wife do the talking." He shared

ideas in the games and later commented to his wife that he really enjoyed the games, and that he felt comfortable communicating with the other couples. He was also very encouraging and supportive when his wife climbed on a log suspended 25 feet above ground. She claims that he gave her the motivation and strength to walk on and complete the adventure. They have also used the speaker-listener technique at home where she gives him the floor to talk. She says it keeps her from doing all the talking.

One spouse shared a benefit of using the speaker-listener technique on a subject as simple as making coffee. Before he learned the technique he usually stated sarcastically, "Are we out of coffee?" "Or what happened to the coffee?" "Or I see there is no coffee made." He would say it with a demanding tone in his voice. The wife's response would be to either ignore him or say, "I didn't know I married

Archie Bunker." Afterward, the husband shared that he likes his wife to have coffee made for him because then he knows she had some forethought of doing something nice for him. To him the act of her making coffee was a way for him to know she cares. He also knows he can get up and make his own coffee. The wife did not realize that making coffee was a nice way to show she cares about him, until they practiced the speaker listener technique on this simple subject.

Couples can truly build a better relationship by participating in our PREP workshops.

A workshop was scheduled September 8 and 9 at the Atoka Choctaw Nation Field Office, 1410 S. Gin Rd.

There is also a retreat for couples at Beavers Bend State Park (see registration form below).

Workshops can be scheduled at your church or community center. Contact 918-567-3065.

## Choctaw Wellness Center

### After-School Youth Program

"Fun Sports & Healthy Activities"

Say Good-bye to TV and video games and hello to energetic, active fun. Here's a great way for kids to have fun, learn teamwork, acquire skills, and get lots of exercise! There's no need to be athletic or physically fit. The activities are designed to allow everyone to participate and have a great time. All ball games will use padded, soft balls for safety. We want to encourage kids of all shapes, sizes and skill levels to join us for an enjoyable way to improve fitness and health. We have 2 programs available:

#### 11 to 15 year-olds

- Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 3:15 to 5:15 pm
- Activities include Basketball, Softball, Soccer, Flickerball, Kickball, Frisbee Lacrosse, & Volleyball
- Daily Nutritional Facts and Information
- Participants must be Choctaw Wellness Center Members
- Parents may drop children off and leave
- We will conclude promptly at 5:15 pm and ask that parents be on time to pick kids up

#### 4 to 10 year olds

- Tuesdays & Thursdays from 3:15 to 5:15 pm
- Activities will be variable depending on the ages of the participants
- Participants must be Choctaw Wellness Center Members
- Parents must remain at the Choctaw Wellness Center while their children are participating (one purpose of this program is to allow parents with young children time to exercise).

## Healthy Marriages/Healthy Kids Project

Invites you to attend a

## Retreat and 12 hour workshop for Couples

The course is PREP (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program)

### Sept. 22-23, 2006

No Registration Fee (Room and meals are provided)

Retreat agenda: check in time 4:00 to 5:00pm, Friday Sept 22, 2006 – cook-out, and presentation, Saturday Sept 23-breakfast at 8:00, then workshop activities till 4:00pm, lunch will be provided.

Where: Beavers Bend State Park, Lakeview Lodge

Who can attend: Couples who want to build a better relationship or couples who are planning to marry.

### Registration Form

(Registration Deadline Date, Sept. 15, 2006, Space is limited)

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

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax form to: 918-567-3917

For more information call 918-567-3065

# WIC What should I do if my baby won't stop crying?

Debi Currie  
Choctaw WIC Nutritionist

If you are a parent or childcare provider who is caring for a baby who will not stop crying, do not be afraid to ask for help. If you feel overwhelmed, there are several strategies you can use to calm the baby as well as yourself:

- Rocking
- Playing music
- Offering the baby a pacifier
- Calling a friend or family member for assistance
- Walking the baby around the house
- Putting the baby in a crib and checking on him or her every five minutes

**Do not handle a baby if you are angry.** If you are caring for a baby and become angry, remember to stop, calm down, and try again.

If you feel that you have done everything you can to comfort your baby, call your baby's healthcare provider for further instructions.

### Shaken Baby Syndrome

Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) is a term used to describe the

brain damage caused when an infant is violently shaken or thrown against an object. Each year, approximately 50,000 babies suffer from SBS. About one in four of all shaken babies die, and many others may suffer from mental retardation or other disorders.

The following are some of the most common symptoms of shaken baby syndrome:

- Decreased appetite
- Difficulty breathing
- Vomiting
- Bone fractures
- No smiling or vocalizing
- Seizures
- Blood spots in the eyes
- Semi-consciousness
- Injury or bleeding in the mouth
- Inability to focus eyes

Shaken Baby Syndrome is completely preventable. A parent or childcare provider may shake a baby out of frustration, usually caused by the infant's inconsolable crying. If you leave your baby in someone else's care, visit your baby at unexpected times. Encourage your relatives or childcare providers to contact you if your baby does not stop crying. If you feel uncomfortable about the person caring for your infant, find another childcare provider.

*This information is not intended to replace the advice of a medical professional. If you have any questions, please consult your healthcare provider.*

## WIC Breastfeeding Classes

### TALIHINA

Class Two: Tuesday, September 26, 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
Choctaw Community Center, Talihina

### IDABEL

Class Two: Tuesday, October 3, 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
Choctaw Community Center, Idabel

### POTEAU

Class Two: Tuesday, October 10, 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
Choctaw Community Center, Poteau

## Family Advocacy Program is provided overseas by Choctaw enterprise

Choctaw Archiving Enterprise (CAE) recently was awarded a contract to provide social workers for the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) at 31 Army bases across the U.S. The contract, which spans five years, is estimated to be worth \$8.6 million in the first year alone. FAP exists to prevent, identify and treat domestic violence and sexual abuse within military families. As the contractor, CAE supplies nearly 80 social workers who provide prevention and treatment services to soldiers, spouses and their children.

Through CAE and Choctaw Management Services Enterprise (CMSE), the Choctaw Nation has a long history of providing family advocacy services. Both companies currently hold numerous FAP contracts and employ social workers throughout the U.S. and Europe.

Because of this extensive experience, the Army was confident that a Choctaw Nation enterprise would be successful. As a result, the government awarded the contract directly to CAE, without requiring the company to compete against other businesses.

"CAE was selected because the Army recognized our prior contract performance and outstanding track record, so they sought us out," said Matthew N. Novick, CAE's Managing Officer.

To date, the contract has proven to be the most profitable for CAE. All profits generated by CAE and CMSE support the Choctaw Nation's healthcare services, social programs, and educational assistance for tribal members.

## EVENTS

### Ishcomer-Wesley-Emeyabbi-Billy Reunion

The Ishcomer-Wesley-Emeyabbi-Billy Family Reunion starts at 10 a.m. Friday, September 15, at the Elem J. Wesley's house, Kanawka, Texas. There will be a gospel singing. On Saturday, September 16, supper is at 5:30; preaching by Ellis Taylor of Wright City starts at 6:30; singing at 7:30 with featured group Crosby Family of Wright City and many more. For more information call Truman Jefferson, MC, 580-286-9216. Bring your lawn chairs.

### Annual Roberts Family Reunion

The annual Roberts Family Reunion will be held on September 16 at the Coalgate Community Building on the corner of Railroad and Oak, from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. Please bring a covered dish and a Bingo prize. For more information, contact Osborne Roberts, 580-927-3342.

### Annual Jones Family Reunion

All descendants of Cephus Jones, Betty Jones Thompson, Reba Jones Meashintubby, and Wilburn Jones are invited to attend a reunion at Sardis Lake on September 23, between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Come and enjoy the day with family you haven't seen in a long time. Bring your favorite potluck dish, dessert and drinks - enough for your family plus one. Paper cups, plates, plastic ware, and napkins will also be needed. We can also use several ice chests filled with ice. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing all of you.

For information or directions call Eldeen and Evangeline, 580-889-8507, or Kathy Leach, 469-366-5572.

### Jones Academy All Boys School Reunion

The Jones Academy All Boys School Reunion will be held October 21 at the Jones Academy School. We encourage all the Jones boys to come and join us - those who attended Jones up through the year of 1954. Wives/escorts are welcome.

Registration is at 10 a.m. Activities will last all day, closing with the school's annual gospel singing. All alumni and visitors are welcome. For more information, please call Jimmy Bruner, Antlers, 580-298-3136; Ted LeFlore, Atoka, 580-889-7989; or Tully Choate, Broken Arrow, 918-455-7255.

### Haskell Alumni Reunion 2006

The Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma and Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, invites all Haskell alumni and friends to join us at the annual reunion on October 27th thru 29th, at the Biltmore Hotel, I-40 and Meridian, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Saturday evening dinner and dance, pre-registration cost \$25 per person.

Please contact Leon Yahola at 918-616-3757. Please pass this information to all Alumni and friends!



### It's five generations - five times!

Imogene Welch of Reichert has five sets of fifth generation little ones. All were present when Imogene celebrated her birthday this year. Pictured with Imogene, from left, are Raelyn Herell, 5; Luke Herell, 1; Kaydence Thornburg, 7 months; Kinley Branscum, 15 months; and Keiran Jarman, 2. A good time was had by all.

## Fitness and nutrition taught in exciting workshop

The Choctaw Nation WIC Program presented "All Aboard for Fitness and Nutrition," a program designed to promote the importance of good nutrition and exercise in the prevention of obesity in children.

Don Monopoli of the "The Learning Station Workshop" presented a live interactive musical production designed to engage younger students in activities that develop balance, locomotor skills, physical strength and coordination. Nutrition information was offered in the same exciting format.

This workshop offered exciting ideals for getting younger students exercising, moving, and grooving in an effort to prevent obesity.

This program was made possible through an OA Grant from USDA Food and Nutrition Services.

Choctaw Nation WIC Director is Claudene Williams. Deborah Currie is the WIC Nutritionist and Conference Coordinator.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

### October 2

Stigler 9 a.m.-12 noon  
Poteau (A-L) 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

### October 3

Idabel 9-11 a.m.  
Broken Bow 12 noon-2 p.m.

### October 4

Bethel 9-10:30 a.m.  
Smithville 12 noon-2 p.m.

### October 5

Poteau (M-Z) 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

### October 9

Warehouses open

### October 27

Last day for warehouses

### October 30-31

Closed for inventory

Food Distribution Program workers will take a 30-minute lunch break from 11:30 to 12 noon. Please bring boxes with you to pick up your commodities. If you cannot pick up commodities when you are scheduled, please notify the Food Distribution Office at 800-522-6170 so they can tell you where you need to go.

ANTLERS: Choctaw Community Center, 306 S.W. "O" St.  
BETHEL: Choctaw Community Building.

BROKEN BOW: Choctaw Family Investment Center.

DURANT: Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 100 Waldron Dr.

IDABEL: Choctaw Village Shopping Center.

McALESTER: Choctaw Commodity Warehouse, 1212 S. Main.

POTEAU: Choctaw Family Investment Center.

SMITHVILLE: Big Lick Church.

STIGLER: Choctaw Community Building.

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## NURSERY NEWS

### Arianna LaShay Williams

Aaron John and Rosita Williams of Albuquerque, New Mexico, would like to proudly announce the birth of their beautiful baby girl. Arianna LaShay Williams was born at 7:19 p.m. February 15, 2006. She weighed 8 pounds 4 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. Proud grandmother is Evelyn Rose Miller of Lone Grove, Oklahoma. Her great-grandmother is Lula Parker of Lone Grove.



### Dakota Tristan McVicker

Jeff and Claudia McVicker are proud to present their first son, Dakota Tristan McVicker. He was born at 10:47 a.m. on March 21, 2006, at Good Shepherd Hospital in Longview, Texas. He weighed in at 8 pounds 8 ounces and a length of 21.5 inches. He is the first-born grandson of Constantina and Ilie Banica of Sibiu, Romania. He is also the grandson of June and Dale Busch and the great-grandson of Virginia Ginn of Edmond. He joins the ranks with two older sisters, Cheyenne and Courtney McVicker, currently living in Wildeshausen, Germany.



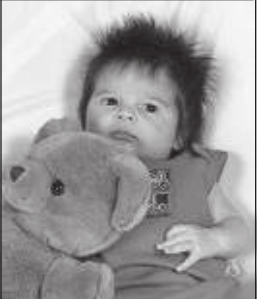
### Nathan Benny Drew Cloud

Nathan Benny Drew Cloud was born April 23, 2006, weighing 8 pounds 11 ounces and 20 inches long. Proud parents are Shannon and Dustin Cloud of Tahlequah. Grandparents are Benny Cloud of Bristow, the late Deborah Dilbeck of Fairfax, and Calvin and Letha James of Tahlequah. Great-grandparents are Nellie and the late Charlie Jones of Bristow, the late Eugene and Audrey Dilbeck of Fairfax, the late Joe and Lena Meashintubby of Honobia and Geneva and the late Rufus Hooper of Tahlequah. Nathan is the youngest of seven siblings, Derek, 12; Daniel, 7; Destiny, 11; Deborah, 9; Christian, 6, and Sadie, 2.



### Noah Bearheart Story

Josh and Jennifer Story of Aurora, Colorado, would like to introduce to you their little miracle from the Lord, Noah Bearheart Story. Noah was born at 12:35 p.m. May 3, 2006, at Aurora Medical Center. He weighed 9 pounds 6 ounces and was 21 inches long. He has a big family including: grandparents, Ron and Lorraine Johnson; Uncle Russell Johnson; Aunt Kathleen Johnson of Marietta; grandparents Mike and Dee Story of Centennial, Colorado.; Uncle Jeremy and Allison Story of Broken Arrow; great-grandpa, Floyd Story of Yukon; great-grandma, Wanda and Dewey Jay of Moore, and there are so many others we can't begin to mention them all. May God bless you always.



### Paula Joanne Anderson

Paula Joanne was born to John and Meden Anderson on June 21, 2006, in Reno, Nevada, weighing 6 pounds 13 ounces and measuring 20.5 inches long. Paula has two sisters, Teriessa, 7, and Kateena, 4. She also has proud grandparents, James and Mary Anderson Jr. of Reno and Romy and Esther Balewagan of Batac Ilocos Norte, Philippines. She is the great-granddaughter of the late James and Margaret Anderson and the great-niece of Davey and Mary Wilkett, Patricia Mitchel, Billy Anderson, and Pete and Estella Anderson of McAlester and Irene Homeer of San Francisco, California, and cousin, Katherine Latta of Marin, California, and lots of aunts and uncles in California.



### Sahara Jagger Dodd

Sahara Jagger Dodd was born at 5:55 p.m. July 4, 2006, at the Mercy Health Center in Oklahoma City. She weighed 5 pounds 14 ounces and measured 17 inches in length. Sahara is welcomed by her parents, David and Monique Dodd, and her grandparents, Lawrence and Peggy Noel and Johnny and Carla Dodd. She joins her siblings of the home - a brother, Harley Jace Dodd, 12, and sister, Sabra Jett Dodd, 4. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Edmund C. Noel, an original Choctaw enrollee, and the late Victoria Noel.



### Isabella Reese Grigson

Isabella Reese Grigson was born July 4, 2006, at Memphis, Tennessee, weighing 8 pounds 14 ounces and measuring 20.5 inches. Isabella is the daughter of Kristen Shirley Grigson, granddaughter of Danna Goines Shirley, great-granddaughter of Howard Goines and great-granddaughter of original enrollee Augusta Victoria Goines.



### Stormie Breanna Watson

Johnny Watson and Joanie Sharpe of Waldron, Arkansas, would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Stormie Breanna Watson, born July 15, 2006, at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina. She was born at 10:17 a.m., weighing 7 pounds 14 ounces and was 19.75 inches long. She has two brothers, Kelly and Jody Watson of Wickes, Arkansas. Grandparents are Julia Watson and the late Clyde Watson of Watson. Robert and Debra Sharpe of Waldron Arkansas. Great-grandmother is Rhonda Sullivan of Smithville. She is also welcomed by several aunts, uncles, cousins and other family members.



### Madison Miller

Proud grandparents Jerry and Toni Miller are pleased to announce the birth of their granddaughter, Madison. She was born August 8, 2006, at the hospital in Talihina. She weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces and was 18.75 inches long. Proud parents are Joshua and Calista Miller of Waldron, Arkansas. She was also welcomed home by her brothers, Dakota and Damon.





District 8 Senior Princess Courtney Baker gives the Lord's Prayer in sign language.



# Antlers

Attending the dinner held recently at the Choctaw Community Center in Antlers are Willis Coleman and Delia Wesley, at left. Below, Chief Gregory E. Pyle is pictured with District 7 Little Miss Lissa Willis, left, and District 7 Senior Miss Stacy Parker.



# Hugo



R.W. Nored presents Chief Pyle with a gift on behalf of District 8 Seniors during an Appreciation Dinner held at the Choctaw Center in Hugo. Assistant Chief Bailey was also honored with a gift that evening.



Judy and James Bell are among those attending the event in Hugo.



Also at the District 8 get-together are Katie Metcalf and Art and Wilma Southard.



It was a full house at Hugo, with everyone enjoying the dinner.



Showing appreciation for the people of District 7, Chief Pyle joins Councilman Jack Austin and other Tribal Councilmembers in a round of applause.



An Appreciation Dinner held at the beautifully remodeled Coalgate Center was attended by, in front, Councilperson James Frazier with grandson Colton and wife Vickie; Chief Gregory E. Pyle and wife Pat; Assistant Chief Mike Bailey; and Council Speaker Mike Amos and son Andrew; back row, Councilpersons Charlotte Jackson, Hap Ward, Jack Austin and Anthony Dillard.

# Coalgate



Councilman James Frazier is presented a gift of appreciation from District 12 Choctaws above. At left, youth provide entertainment during the event.



Concetta Gragg, above right, presents Assistant Chief Mike Bailey with a stickball set from the Crowder Senior Citizens. Crowder attended the Coalgate dinner to help celebrate the completed renovation.

# PEOPLE YOU KNOW

## Whites celebrate 65th anniversary

Albert and Nancy White celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary July 26. They were married in Dyer, Arkansas, on July 26, 1941, by the Rev. B.F. England at the Church of Christ. The couple has two children, Lynda Aline Kropf and Joe Kropf of Gainesville, Texas, and the late Albert L. White Jr. The couple has two grandchildren, Darin Kropf of Texas and Leann Medoux of Oklahoma City and one great-grandson of Oklahoma City, Dylan Maddoux. Mrs. White is a native of Ft. Smith. Mr. White retired from Trans World Airlines in St Louis, Missouri. The Whites spent their married life in California and moved to Greenwood in 1986 from Kansas City, Missouri. The Whites are members of the Senior Citizens Clubs of Greenwood and Lavaca.



## Party planned to celebrate 65th wedding anniversary

A 65th Wedding Anniversary party is planned for Ruby (Miller) Kerr and Marvin Bud Kerr. Ruby is the daughter of original enrollee Florence Fulton Miller. The party will be held Saturday, October 7, at 8 a.m., and lunch will be served at noon. The event will be held at the Choctaw Community Center, 305 California St., in Coalgate. If you would like more information please contact Elizabeth Harkins at (580) 845-2868.



## Birthday wishes

Birthday wishes from mom and dad go to Michelle Noah. She will turn 26 on September 19. Happy birthday wishes also go out to our beautiful granddaughters, Jeana Van Arsdall and Alaina Van Arsdall. Jeana will turn 10 on October 24 and Alaina will turn 8 on September 23. We wish you all very happy birthdays, Grandpa and Grandma Noah.

## Happy birthday, Orville

Belated birthday wishes go out to Orville Noah from Linda on July 19.



## You've hit 30!

Hey daughter! You finally hit the 30 mark! Happy birthday from mom and dad, Orville and Linda Noah. Kelly, you grow more beautiful with each passing year.



## Gerry has August birthday

Orville and Linda Noah would also like to send happy birthday wishes to Gerry Noah on August 7.



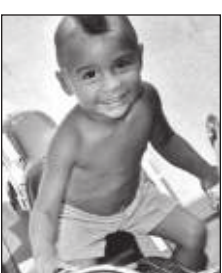
## Family says happy 84th!

The Noah family would like to send a very happy belated birthday to our wonderful mother, Willie Armentrout. She turned 84 years old on May 3.



## Choctaw boy turns 8

Aunt Elaine and Uncle Albert would like to wish their nephew, Jordan Isaac, a happy belated birthday on June 4. He turned 8. He enjoys playing all kinds of sports and being with his family. Jordan is the son of Ricky Bohanon and the late Rolena Bohanon of Ada. He is the grandson of the late Isaac and Lula Bohanon of Paris, Texas, and the late Josh and Minnie Wallace of Pauls Valley. Wishing him a happy birthday are his uncles, Brad Bohanon, Will Bohanon, Josh Wallace, and his Aunt Claire, all of Ada; his cousins, Cebrane, Rebecca, Kriscelle, Kathie and Vincent Wallace; along with his big brother, Randall Bohanon, all of Ada. May God bless you, Jordan, and always keep you safe – Aunt Elaine and Uncle Albert and family.



## Happy birthday

Aunt Tasha would like to wish a happy birthday to Raina Cheyenne. She turned 1 year old on July 26. She is the daughter of Harold Meashintubby Jr. and Whitney Pope. Her grandparents are Harold Sr. and Nellie Meashintubby of McAlester. Also the great-granddaughter of Virgel Sam of Albion and Bessie Sam of McAlester and the late Reba Meashintubby. She is the niece of Nathaniel Meashintubby. Tasha would also like to send a belated birthday wish to Nataya Marie who turned 1 year old on February 22 and wish happy birthday to Emmanuel Wayne who will be 3 on September 13. They are the children of Nathaniel Meashintubby and Nakina Williams.

## Look who's 1!

Kaylie Marie Minter of Broken Bow celebrated her first birthday on August 20. She is the daughter of Brent and Santana Minter and the granddaughter of Joe and Juanna Minter, Broken Bow, and the late Bertha Battiest Hutchison. Her great-grandparents are C.J. and Ann Christie and the late Kathleen Minter and great-great-grandmother, Lois Cooper, all of Broken Bow.

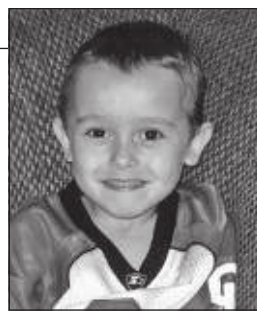


## Happy fifth birthday

Ambree Lynn Shelton of Broken Bow celebrated her fifth birthday on July 30. Ambree is the daughter of Susan Shelton and the granddaughter of Kim Shelton of Gillham, Arkansas, and the late Bertha Battiest Hutchison, formerly of Eagletown. Wishing her a happy birthday are her brother, Kendon, Aunt Tana, Uncle Brent, Kaylie, Mommy and Granny. Happy birthday, baby girl!

## Ryan turns 5

Ryan Thorne of Tucson, Arizona, turned 5 years old on August 28. His parents, Mike and Kristy, and brother, Billy, wish him a very happy birthday. His grandparents are Gene and LaHoma Murphy Crauthers of Oklahoma City. Ryan's great-grandparents are the late William T. and Ella Murphy of Idabel. He shares his birth date with his great-grandmother.



## Happy birthday

Kendon Jade Hutchison of Broken Bow celebrated his eighth birthday on June 2. He is the son of Susan Hutchison Shelton and the grandson of Kim Shelton and the late Bertha Battiest Hutchison. Wishing him a very happy birthday are his sister, Ambree, Aunt Tana, Kaylie, Uncle Brent, Mommy and Granny.

## Reigan celebrates first

Happy first birthday to Reigan Leann Crowell of Ardmore. She celebrated life on July 16. Her parents are Kristin and Ricky Crowell; grandparents, Kip and Terri Reynolds and Bill and Darlene Crowell; and great-grandparents, Doyle and Ann Reynolds.



## Austin turns 6

Caleb and Logan would like to wish their brother, Austin Sullivan, a late happy birthday. Austin celebrated his sixth birthday on August 22. He is in first grade at Northwest Heights and is doing so well. We are very proud of him. He also likes to play outside and ride his bike. When he grows up he wants to be a Red Power Ranger. Austin is the son of Matt and Lori Sullivan of Durant. His grandparents are the Rev. Floyd and Nancy Peters of Antlers and Dale and Lois Sullivan of Haworth. He has several aunts, uncles and cousins. All would like to say happy birthday!



## Happy 80th birthday

Happy birthday to Alpha Uptegrove of Antioch, California. Alpha turned 80 years old on August 27. She is the daughter of Henry Cochouer who was an original enrollee and Septiva Cochouer.



## Sadie turns 2

Sadie Cloud turned 2 on June 29 and celebrated with her friends and family at their home in Tahlequah. Sadie is the daughter of Shannon and Dustin Cloud. She is of the Wolf Clan and is a beginner shellshaker and a member of Nuyaka Ceremonial ground. Her grandparents are Benny Cloud of Bristow, the late Deborah Dilbeck of Fairfax and Calvin and Letha James of Tahlequah. Great-grandparents are Nellie Jones and the late Charlie Jones of Bristow, the late Eugene and Audrey Dilbeck of Fairfax, the late Joe and Lena Meashintubby of Honobia and Geneva Hooper and the late Rufus Hooper of Tahlequah. Sadie has three brothers, Derek, 12, Daniel, 7, and Nathan, 3 months, and three sisters, Destiny, 11, Deborah, 9, and Christian, 6.



## Happy first birthday

Happy first birthday to LaKenley Brooke Young. LaKenley turned one year old on June 28. She is the daughter of Wyatt and LaShawna Young of Clovis, New Mexico. Grandparents are Roy and Kay Young of Stratford, Texas, and Wilburn and Stephenie Brooks of Clovis. She is the great-granddaughter of Kenneth and Margarete Pate. We can't wait to bring her from home in Clovis, New Mexico, to visit the Choctaw Nation headquarters. She recently received her Choctaw membership card and we are so very proud.



## Wedding bells for Jessie, Nixon

Stacy D. Jessie and James A. Nixon would like to announce their upcoming marriage. The wedding is planned for 7 p.m. on September 16 at Tohwali United Methodist Church. The Rev. Ronnie Tom will officiate.



All friends and family are invited to a reception to follow. The bride-elect is the daughter of Eastman and Reda Jessie of Broken Bow and Julia Jessie of Tulsa.

The groom is the son of Robert and Bertha Nixon of Tulsa. Stacy and James will reside in Tulsa with their 18-month-old son, Miko Nixon.

## Thorne sisters have birthdays

Happy birthday to Aire, who turned 11 years old on April 14; Melody, who turned 5 on July 21; and Trinity, who will be 1 on September 12. They are the daughters of John Thorne and Marie Bateman of Moore and the granddaughters of Gene and LaHoma Murphy Crauthers of Oklahoma City. Their great-grandparents are the late William T. and Ella Murphy of Idabel.



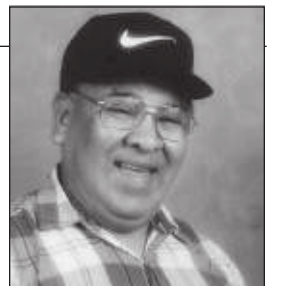
## Jera celebrates sixth

Jera JuliAnne Davis celebrated her sixth birthday on June 27. She is the daughter of Keith and Sharon Davis of Texarkana, Texas. Her grandparents are Earl and Ann Davis and Donald and Bobbie Scott of Idabel. She is the great-granddaughter of Evelyn Mills of Atlanta, Texas.



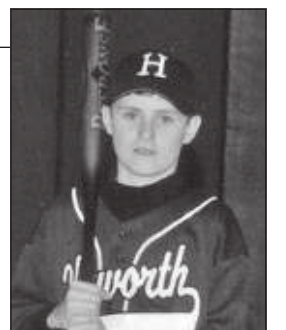
## Happy birthday

Birthday wishes go to Nelson Louis, who turns 68 years old on September 29. Nelson says "Halito" to all his friends and wants to hear from you. You may write him at Calera Manor Nursing Home, P.O. Box 367, Room # 211, Calera OK 74730.



## Wow! Look who's 14!

We would like to wish our son, Dylan Ray Cockrill, a very happy 14th birthday on August 20. He attends school at Haworth Jr. High in Haworth. He's on the A and B honor student roll and plays baseball. His sisters, Angie and Jessie; brothers, Chris and John; Grandma Olamae and numerous aunts and uncles wish him many more great birthdays.



## Happy ninth birthday

Birthday wishes go out to Nicholas Cole who will be 9 years old on August 28. He plays baseball for Atoka and enjoys it. He is the son of Steven and Carri Cole of Atoka, grandson of Jewel Cole and the late Jimmy Cole, great-grandson of Adam Betsey of McAlester and Annie Betsey of Durant and the great-grandson of Ruby Cole of Atoka.



## Look who's turning 9

Happy birthday, Shiane! Shiane is the daughter of Amanda Stevens of Boswell and Gilbert Acuna of Olney, Texas. Shiane was recently named Little Miss Choctaw of District 8. She goes to school at Boswell Elementary and has been on the superintendent's and principal's honor rolls for the last two years. She enjoys spending time with her family and learning about her Choctaw heritage. We hope she has a blessed year.



## Happy tenth birthday

Vanessa ShiAnne Martin will be turning 10 on September 30. She is an honor student at DeQueen Elementary School, enjoys playing softball, and loves to worship the Lord at His Way Fellowship Church. Parents Gwen Martin and Alfonso Martin and brothers Alexander and Donovan want to wish Nessa a very happy birthday. Her grandparents are Orlando Gibson of Wright City, Laura Gibson of Broken Bow, and Alfonso and Plasia Martin of Mexico. Great-grandparents are William and Quay Myers of Wright City and John Baker of Snow.



## Blaize turns 7

Happy birthday to Blaize Ryon Burns who turned 7 on August 2. He is the son of Karen Burns; grandson of Bob and Cathy Burns and Dwayne "Runt" Vansickle, all of Boswell. This is Blaize and his mule, Peanut, in the 2006 Boswell Homecoming Parade. Blaize enjoys riding Peanut, going to the woods hunting with his BB gun, and going to horse/mule sales with his Papa. Blaize is a member of the Pentecostal Jesus Name Church in Boswell.



## Happy birthday, Gina

Her Las Vegas family (Mom and Dad, William McCurtain and Peggy Sue Moore) want to wish Gina Michele Castilleja of Manteca, California, a happy birthday. We never thought she would make it past her 18th birthday and now she is saying the same thing about her son Anthony.



## Look who's 1!

Ethan Cole Auld, son of Brent and Tonya Auld, turned 1 on June 10. Ethan is the grandson of George and Donna Dickey of Mead and Eddie and Scotta Auld of Healdton. His great-grandparents are Ruby McCurry, Thelma Bradley, and Allen and Olla Taylor. Ethan celebrated his birthday by having cake, punch, and presents with his loving family.

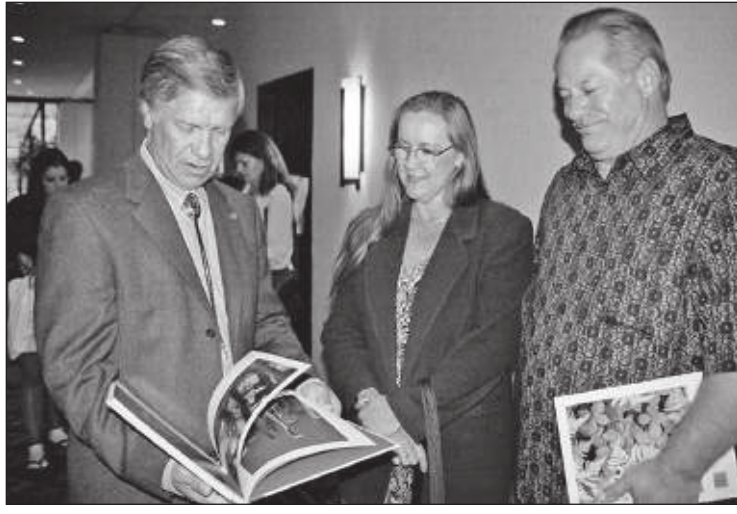




# Seattle & Portland



Chief Gregory E. Pyle greets Ruth Frazier McMillian as she arrives at a gathering of Choctaws in Seattle.



In Seattle, Chief Pyle is looking at a book given him by Lisa and Joseph Toscano.



Assisting Sue Folsom and Oneida Winship draw for door prizes in Seattle is Gabrielle Janesi.



Two-year-old Abigail McMurtrey with her dad, Daniel, in Portland.



Wayne and Nadine Bill, above with 3-year-old Nakine Ray, meet Chief Pyle in Seattle.

At left, Manaia Wells helps Onieda Winship draw for door prizes in Portland.

And at right, four generations are pictured at the Portland meeting - Barbara Liles, Marish Hiller, Ida Liles and Barbara Barker.



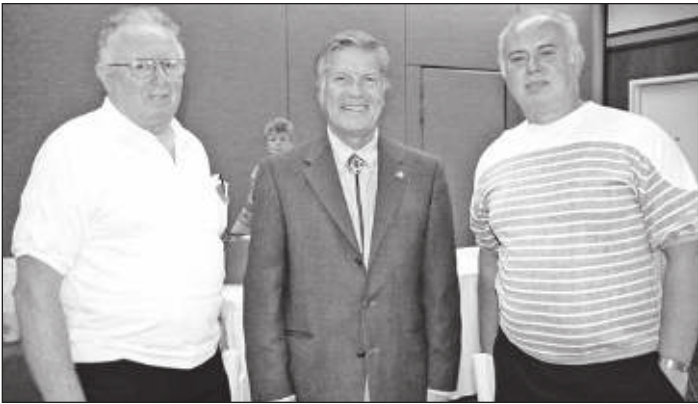
Kylee King, 1, is proud to be Choctaw.



Larry Wade explains details of Higher Ed to Gordon Culbertson while in Portland.



NARA staff members present Chief Pyle with a beautiful blanket. They are Sharon Fleming, Lela Buser and Jackie Mercer. Sharon is Chief's sister.



Father and son Quantis Vaile and Ted Vaile, pictured with Chief Pyle, are from Winlock, Washington, but attended the Portland meeting.



Malcolm Lacey and sisters Ellen Lacey and Judy Allen, all of Eugene, Oregon.



Rory Bounds, Chuck Bounds and Jerod Leloff enjoy themselves during the gathering in Portland.



Softball Camp - Bryan County



Softball Camp - Wilburton

## Youth camps wind up summer activities



Football Camp - McAlester



Softball Camp - Broken Bow



Cultural Camp - Clayton



Golf Camp - Clayton

# District princesses vie for Choctaw Nation titles



**Heather Fox**  
District 1 Little Miss



**Emily Rowell**  
District 2 Little Miss



**Stormy Pitcock**  
District 4 Little Miss

## Thursday night pageant kicks off festival

Young ladies from throughout the tribe's 12 districts will cross the stage at Tushka Homma, all with hopes of being chosen to represent the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for the next year. The annual Princess Pageant is kicking off the Labor Day Festival, beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, August 31, at the amphitheater on the Capitol grounds. Ten district princesses will be vying for Little Miss, 12 for Jr. Miss and seven for the title of Sr. Miss Choctaw Nation.

All have completed the interview portion of the contest, held August 10 at the Tribal Headquarters in Durant. During the pageant, they will all be judged on poise and traditional dress. The Jr. Miss and Sr. Miss contestants will also be judged on their talent.

Not pictured are contestants Joyce Cummings, District 3 Jr. Miss, and Victoria Maturino, District 10 Sr. Miss.



**Brandy Sockey**  
District 5 Little Miss



**Alyssa Willis**  
District 7 Little Miss



**Shiane Acuna**  
District 8 Little Miss



**Kayleigh Powell**  
District 9 Little Miss



**Kanda Jackson**  
District 10 Little Miss



**Cheyhoma Dugger**  
District 11 Little Miss



**Raven Ott**  
District 12 Little Miss



**Kelcie Franklin**  
District 1 Jr. Miss



**Whitney Shomo**  
District 2 Jr. Miss



**Marriah Barnard**  
District 4 Jr. Miss



**Rachel Hogan**  
District 5 Jr. Miss



**Ashton Dinardo**  
District 6 Jr. Miss



**Krysten Williams**  
District 7 Jr. Miss



**Rebeckah Boykin**  
District 8 Jr. Miss



**Crystal Perez**  
District 9 Jr. Miss



**Andria Yarbrough**  
District 10 Jr. Miss



**Heather Griffiths**  
District 11 Jr. Miss



**Sara Leandra Morgan**  
District 12 Jr. Miss



**Amy Davis**  
District 1 Sr. Miss



**Heather Tehauno**  
District 2 Sr. Miss



**Emily Carshall**  
District 4 Sr. Miss



**Candeece Baker**  
District 6 Sr. Miss



**Courtney Baker**  
District 8 Sr. Miss



**Jennifer Heck**  
District 9 Sr. Miss

## Storytelling Festival held at McAlester



District 11 Jr. Miss Adriana Cheyenne Nicole Byington and Miss Indian Oklahoma Elizabeth Wright are pictured above with Chief Pyle.



Pittsburg County Little Miss Sheyhoma Duggs offers congratulations to Assistant Chief Bailey and Chief Pyle for their years of great work.



Storyteller Tim Tingle winds up the evening with tales about Councilman Bob Pate, Chief Greg Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey.

## Goodland School holds annual reunion



Henry Willis, Chief Pyle, and David Dearing, Superintendent of Goodland, are on hand for the annual reunion.



Aaron Dry greets Chief Pyle and Dutch Crews.



James Williams, Neal Williams, Robert Williams, Virginia Johnson, Ramona McCready and Reggie Williams, pictured with Chief Pyle, are six of eight siblings who attended Goodland.



### Jernigen performs at National High School Finals

Ramey Jernigen, a tenth grade student of Indianola High School, recently was named Wrangler Cutting Champion at the Oklahoma High School Finals Rodeo held in Woodward June 7-11. In addition to receiving other awards and college scholarships given at the state level, Jernigen also received Wrangler 20X jeans and a special Wrangler state event champion patch to put on his official competition shirt.

Jernigen had also earned a position on the Oklahoma high school rodeo team and traveled with fellow teammates to Springfield, Illinois, in July, competing at the 58th Annual National High School Finals Rodeo in the Boys Cutting and Saddle Bronc competitions. Featuring over 1,500 contestants from 40 states, five Canadian Provinces and Australia, the National High School Finals is the world's largest rodeo.

### Churchill earns marketing degree

Summer Calais Churchill has completed the degree requirements at the University of Texas-Austin to receive her Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in Marketing with a minor degree in Spanish. Ms. Churchill has secured post-graduate employment in the marketing department of Philip-Morris USA. Graduation ceremonies took place in Austin on May 19 at the Frank C. Erwin Jr. Special Events Center. Summer is the daughter of Jeffrey D. Churchill of Corpus Christi, Texas, and Sunnye L. Churchill of Canyon Lake, Texas. She is the great-granddaughter of Catherine Fulton McMurry, an original Choctaw enrollee. Summer was married August 5 to Zachary Grier in New Braunfels, Texas.

Thank you to the people of the Choctaw Nation for helping Summer with her pursuit in higher education.



### Cronmeyer receives Associate of Science

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Susan Elaine Cronmeyer of Ardmore on her graduation in May from Murray State College, Tishomingo, with an Associate of Science degree. Susan plans to attend East Central University, majoring in Human Resource Counseling. After completing her education she wants to work with Native American youth.

### Parisi accepted into prestigious Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute

Christopher Thomas Parisi of Wyckoff, New Jersey, has been accepted into the prestigious Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute in New York City where he will study drama and musical theatre.

Strasberg, co-founder of the Group Theatre and former artistic director of the legendary Actors Studio in Manhattan, helped guide the careers of Marlon Brando, James Dean, Al Pacino, Robert De Niro, Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward and Marilyn Monroe. The Institute was founded in 1969 and counts among its alumni Steve Buscemi, Bridget Fonda, Alec Baldwin and Uma Thurman.

Chris says that as a tribal member and actor, he very much cherishes his Choctaw heritage. He is the grandson of the late Elza A. Sockey, who was born in Bokoshe, Oklahoma, and Constance L. Sculley Sockey. His great-grandfather, Richard Anderson Sockey, was an original tribal enrollee.

Chris' mom, Cheryl L. Sockey Parisi, an award-winning artist and photographer, is an art teacher at the Nellie K. Parker Elementary School in Hackensack, New Jersey.

Chris, a 2005 graduate of Ramapo High School's University Honors Program of Theatre Arts and Communications in Franklin Lakes, New Jersey, also studied at the Circle in the Square Theatre School on Broadway and the Neighborhood Playhouse School of Theatre in Manhattan. At Ramapo, Chris starred in the Gold Masque productions of Tennessee Williams' "The Rose Tattoo" as Alvaro Mangiacavallo and as Tommy in the Rock Opera "The Who's 'Tommy'."

His movie credits include the independent films "The Widening Gyre," "Modern Romance," "Wide Awake Dreaming" and "Sheep Happens," all under the direction of Langston Kahn.

Chris is currently appearing in the off-Broadway production of "Alice Through the Subway System" in New York City's Greenwich Village. When not on stage, Chris enjoys rock music, song writing, playing guitar and hiking. He works part-time at Goldberg's Famous Bagels in Wyckoff.



### Owens graduates from Athens State University

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Brie Alexandra Ann Owens of Trinity, Alabama. She graduated cum laude from Athens State University in Athens, Alabama, in August with a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Science with a minor in justice studies. She is a member of the Psi Chi honor society. She is the daughter of Donald W. and Becky Owens of Trinity and the granddaughter of Jerry D. and Janet Sims of Crane Hill, Alabama, and Kermit W. Owens and the late Arnell Owens of Trinity.



### Sturges earns degree from Northeastern State

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Katy Ann Sturges on earning a Bachelor's of Science in Early Childhood Education from Northeastern State University. Katy graduated in May.

### Hamilton graduates from University of Denver

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Leah Rea Hamilton who graduated from the University of Denver in August with a master's of social work.

### Miss Illinois United States Teen

Courtney King was crowned Miss Illinois United States Teen, in Matteson, Illinois, where she was also awarded "Most Photogenic." Courtney, Miss Illinois United States Teen, will represent Illinois and compete at the regional pageant for the title and awards of Miss United States Teen September 23rd-24th in Charlotte, North Carolina. Courtney travels around the state of Illinois, speaking to social groups, especially on the issues of kids getting involved in their community, sports and extra curricular activities to help increase their self-worth. She is a Church preschool teacher, camp counselor, candy striper, Girl's reserve member and Broadcasting Club Reporter. She will be a senior at Hinsdale Central High School. Courtney is a sports enthusiast and was co-captain of her softball team.



She is the great-granddaughter of the late Agnes Marie Stricklin, granddaughter of the late Patsy Ann Scherer, granddaughter of Joseph E. Ramsey of Markham, Texas, also the granddaughter of Fred and Lois King of Chicago, Illinois. Her parents are Bill and Mary King of Burr Ridge, Illinois. Courtney is proud of her Choctaw tribe membership and has written several times about Choctaw history.

### Nathan Edelman earns degree in dramatic writing

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Nathan Rufus Edelman, who graduated in June from the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a degree in Dramatic Writing/BA.



### Alex Edelman awarded BA in history

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Alex Thomas-Isaac Edelman, who graduated in June from the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a BA in History, minor in film.



### Fields is honor student

Cheyenne Fields, 13, finished seventh grade at Webster Middle School in Oklahoma City. She received an honor roll award, Best Overall in Core Subjects award, and Most Improved in Spanish award. Also, she received a trophy from the Johnson O'Malley Program for getting A's and B's all year. Cheyenne was included in Who's Who Among Outstanding Middle School Students 2005-06. In her free time, she likes to attend church, go on trips with her youth group and read a lot of books. Cheyenne is the daughter of Darlene Bohanon Fields, granddaughter of Danuta Bohanon and Sammy Bohanon and great-great-granddaughter of original enrollee Sam Bohanan. She descends from William Bohannon Sr. and full-blood Choctaw wife and also Daniel Anderson and Michou Jenny. She is very proud of her Choctaw heritage.



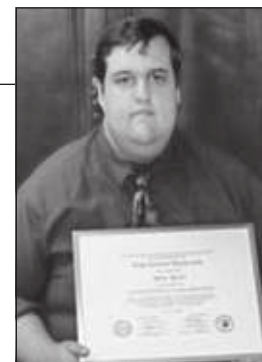
### Knudsen is Texas A&M grad

Amanda D. Knudsen, daughter of Chris and Tina Knudsen of Lockhart, Texas, graduated from Texas A&M University, College Station, on August 11 with her Bachelor's of Business Administration in Finance. During her time at Texas A&M, Amanda was named a Distinguished Student in the Mays School of Business, and was involved with the Financial Management Association, Freshman Business Initiative, The Big Event, and Circle K International. A three-year graduate, Amanda has accepted a position with Alix Partners LLC in Dallas as a financial analyst in the Electronic Discovery division of Case Management Services. Alix Partners is the world leader in bankruptcy consulting and reorganization with 12 offices all over the world.



### Burns receives master's degree from East Central University

Jason Burns graduated from East Central University with a master's in human resources with a concentration in vocational rehabilitation counseling. Jason completed his education and became a certified rehabilitation counselor in May 2006. Jason is currently employed as a counselor with the Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Department. Prior to employment, Jason served as a volunteer for the department. Jason explains his enjoyment in working with the staff truly works hard as a team to look out for each other, give the support they need and gain the knowledge to help the consumers in the best possible way. The staff is dedicated to education and professional development which allows them to serve their consumers better. I respect the dedication to learning and self improvement. Qualities I admire in people are finding solutions to problems and planning a process to reach an end goal and the Chickasaw Nation VR staff does just that."



Jason felt as though he owed the ability to make something of himself to a few people who helped him in his earlier childhood. Mr. Don Brimage, a member of the Shriners and Jason's sponsor as a young child, was a great influence in Jason's life. Jason recalls, "I had to travel to Shreveport, Louisiana, for several surgeries and Mr. Brimage would help my family out with expenses such as gas and hotel stays. Mr. Brimage was dedicated to my health care and for that I will always be thankful."

Another influence in Jason's life was Dr. John Jackson, a principal in the Durant school system. Jason explains, "Dr. Jackson was instrumental in fostering my personal commitment to education."

The most important influence in Jason's life would be his mother. Jason recalls, "Looking back on the past, I now realize my mother was the first person I watched advocate for a person with a disability, I certainly thank her for all she has done in aiding me with a better life."

Jason states, "College was difficult at times and I wanted to give up, but I continued moving forward because I owed the education to myself, the great influences in my life and many others who have helped me along the way."

### Musician to participate in 2007 Rose Bowl

On January 1, 2007, Mark Billy will be in Pasadena, California, to kick off the 93rd Rose Bowl Parade as a member of the Oklahoma Centennial Band. The Rose Bowl 2007 theme is "Our Good Nature." The Oklahoma Centennial Band also will be the first marching band in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade. Billy, a senior at Antlers High School, was selected to join the elite band of aspiring young high school musicians as ambassadors for the State of Oklahoma during its Centennial in 2007. Billy is the son of Lou and Steve Billy of Antlers. Billy plays the clarinet for The Pride of Antlers. Locally Billy plays under the direction of Ron Potter, Antlers Band Director. "Mr. Potter has helped me a lot." Billy said. "He always encourages me to do my very best."



Billy has quite a list of accomplishments himself. He is an active member of the United Methodist Youth and the Drug Taskforce Youth. He was invited to audition for the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute at Quartz Mountain, is First Chair Bb Clarinet in the A-2A-3A All-State Band, eleventh overall in Oklahoma. The first performance of the Oklahoma Centennial Band will be Saturday, September 16, at the State Fair of Oklahoma. The second performance is scheduled for Saturday, November 10, at the Tulsa Parade. And then the trip to southern California for The Granddaddy of Them ALL!

### Bills graduates SOSU

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Demetric Roshell Bills on her graduation in May from Southeastern Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice.



### Nichols graduates from OSU in May

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Ashley R. Nichols on her graduation from Oklahoma State University in May. Majoring in animal science, she earned a BS in Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

### Franseen earns degree

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Higher Education Department would like to recognize and congratulate Desiree Rachelle Franseen, who graduated from the University of Oklahoma with an accounting and marketing degree in May.



### Wildcatt chosen as employee of the year

Choctaw tribal member Dr. Lisa Wildcatt has been selected as Cherokee Indian Hospital's Employee of the Year. An employee of the hospital for three years, Dr. Wildcatt has developed the Cherokee pediatric clinic into a highly respected facility. She has worked tirelessly in improving staffing, medical resources and equipment and often gives of her personal time to care for patients and their families. She also spends much time pursuing grant funding to help improve clinical services as well as coordinating with other service providers such as the pediatric dental program, WIC and social services.

Lisa and husband Victor Wildcatt live in the Wolfstown township with their four children.

### All-Stars

Two proud 12-year-old Choctaws were selected to play on the All-Stars Team representing the Dallas Little League. Their team advanced to the quarterfinals in the District Tournament for the Texas state title. Trevor Curtis, left, is second baseman and pitcher. He is the son of Sheila and John Curtis of Dallas. He is the grandson of Marylu and Lewis Hampton Jr. of Dallas and great-grandson of Mary and Lewis Hampton Sr. of Durant. John-Richard "JR" Peterson, pitcher and third baseman, is the son of Pat and David Peterson of Dallas. He is the grandson of the late Rebecca and Richard Lester Sr. of Dallas and the great-grandson of the late Melvina Tubby-Willis of Stratford and the late Alice Pitchlynn and Preston S. Lester of McAlester.



### Cox recognized for achievements

Barbara E. Cox of Eufaula joined more than 40,000 Mary Kay independent business owners from throughout the United States and more than 30 of the company's international markets at the company's annual seminar held July 17-August 2 in Dallas. Cox began her Mary Kay business in January 2006 and is currently a Senior Beauty Consultant. At seminar, she was recognized for achieving Diamond Star Consultant and achieving membership in the prestigious Inner Circle, helping her unit achieve over 1 million dollars in retail sales. She is also a member of the fastest growing unit in Mary Kay history with Allison LaMarr as unit leader who achieved National Sales Director status in only three short years.



### Blackman plays for Team Florida in her free time

Forest High Junior Lacey Blackman competed in July as a member of Team Florida's international youth team at the USA Volleyball Girls' High Performance Championships in Ft. Lauderdale. The team fell to a strong Southern California entry on the way to a fourth-place finish among some of the nation's toughest regional and USA select teams. Playing with and against players with that level of talent and learning under the guidance of Team Florida coach and University of Florida associate head coach Nick Cheronis, counts as a productive summer for Blackman.

During her sophomore year, Lacey, who stands 6-1 in shoes at the age of 15, was 10th in the county in blocks, with 29 blocks in 53 games for a .55 block average.



## OBITUARIES

### Rosa Lee Mooneyham

Rosa Lee Mooneyham, 79, passed away July 5, 2006. She was born May 26, 1927, in Marshall County, Oklahoma, to Raymond and Dora Boston Willmond.

Rosa lived in Marietta and Madill. She attended the Chickasaw Nutrition Site. She loved church music and attended the Chickasha Baptist Church. Rosa loved helping people and making crafts, but her greatest love was spending time with her beloved family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her three husbands, Samuel Mooneyham, Ode Shelton and Earl Bowling; her parents; two sisters; and four brothers.

Survivors include four sons, Kenneth Shelton, Marietta, Robert Shelton of the home, Richard Shelton and Leo Shelton, Ardmore; five daughters, LouAnn Hardy, El Reno, Linda Stroder, Oklahoma City, Della Blackwood, Norman, Sherry Shelton, Ardmore, and Leesa Crawford and husband, Michael, and great-grandson, Brett Buster Lewis, all of the home; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

### Jacqueline C. Petrosky

Jacqueline C. Petrosky, 58, of Manassas, passed away July 21, 2006, at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital. She was born August 15, 1947, in Oklahoma, the daughter of the late Jack Simmons Sr. and Norma Hicks Simmons. On August 30, 1972, in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, she married Leonard Petrosky, who survives.



A beloved wife, mother and grandmother, Jackie was a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. She was a care-giving person and a devoted Christian.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, Joni Simmons and Laverne Kleshock.

Survivors include her loving husband of 34 years; two sons, Ramon Duran Jr. and wife Melanie of Manassas and their children, Ramon, Jon, Traci and Adam; Gary Duncan and wife Tammy of Spotsylvania and their children, James, Carrie, Tina, Samantha and David; one daughter, Lorrie L. Lewis and husband Brian and their children, Kaila and Hannah; one brother, Jack Simmons of California; and three sisters, Paulette Soanes, Jennifer Henderson and Linda Price, all of California.

### James Robert Wilson

James Robert Wilson passed away May 7, 2005. He was born July 2, 1919, in Tupelo, Oklahoma, to Simon Huston Wilson and Lorena Mae Harkins Wilson, who was an original enrollee. James moved with his family to California in the 1930s working in the citrus ranching industry in Orange County and Highland.

James served honorably in the U.S. Army during World War II, both in Pacific campaigns and later in Korea.

He married Anna Pauline Morton, also from Oklahoma on December 21, 1940. They lived in Highland most of their life, moving to Mentone, California, and then Yucaipa, California, in 1989.

When James and Ann were first married, they lived in Harlem Springs, California. James worked for Corwin Brothers Estates. Mr. Corwin owned many citrus groves in the Highland, East Highland, and Redlands areas. Mr. Corwin was a California State assemblyman and relied on James to run his citrus interests.

Later, James worked at Patton State Hospital in Highland, California. There he worked on the farm. He later worked in the motor pool. James retired from Patton State Hospital in 1984 after working there for 25 years.

In his retirement years, James and Ann traveled in their motor home and enjoyed spending time visiting their brothers and sisters living in Oklahoma, Texas and other areas of the country.

James was very proud of being Choctaw, his family and of being born and raised in Oklahoma.

Survivors include his wife, Ann, of 64 years, and two daughters, Judy Engel, Calimesa, California, and Cathy Seals, Yucaipa; four grandchildren, Marc Engel, Calimesa, James Engel, Orland, California, Jennifer O'Hara, Shoreline, Washington, Johanna Jill Darrow, Winchester, Virginia; 13 great-grandchildren; six brothers and two sisters, George, Patterson, Washington, Willie, San Diego, Tom, San Bernardino, Harold, Republic, Washington, Simon, San Bernardino, Luella Williams, Olney, Texas, and Betty White, Patterson, California.

### Noweta Adams Skinner

Noweta Adams Skinner, 82, of Daingerfield, Texas, passed away July 30, 2006, in Muskogee. She was born August 2, 1925, in Bokchito to Grover A. and Aurilla Adams.

Her husband, Pete; her parents; a sister; and her beloved brother, Bennie, who passed away July 5, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her son, Bob, and his wife, Jane, of Carrollton, Texas, and their daughter, Stephanie; her best friend and sister, Lucretia Burkhead of Muskogee; brother, G.A. Adams, and his wife, Juanita, of Hominy; numerous nieces, nephews, and their families to which she was very much loved and respected will miss her.

Noweta was a very kind and caring person. She loved to travel with her sister, enjoyed her little house down on the lake, and working crossword puzzles. She is greatly missed, but we know that she is in a better place and is at peace.

### Amber Dawn Wells

Amber Dawn Wells, 16, of Broken Bow, passed away July 30, 2006, at DeQueen, Arkansas. She was born September 22, 1989, in Talihina, the daughter of Herman and Brenda Kennedy Wells.

Amber loved basketball, track, camping and hunting and fishing with her dad. She was a junior at Broken Bow High School. Amber was affiliated with the Springs of Light Church. She loved her grandmother, Mildred Wells, very much and was very close to her. Amber was deeply loved and cherished and will be greatly missed.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather, Albert Jim Wells Jr., and grandmother, Barbara Leon Kennedy.

Survivors include her father, Herman Wells, Broken Bow; mother, Brenda Wells, Broken Bow; grandfather, Hubert D. Kennedy, Covington, West Virginia; grandmother, Mildred Jean Wells, Broken Bow; great-grandmother, Pearl Frances Summers, Broken Bow; uncles, R.D. Wells and wife Sherry, Broken Bow, Danny Wells and wife Roxann, Broken Bow, Ronnie Wells and wife Holly, Broken Bow, Doyle Kennedy and wife Bonnie, Ardmore, and Danny Kennedy, Louisiana; aunts, Darnette Taylor and husband Larry, Broken Bow, Jeannette Wells, Broken Bow, and Terry Harrison and husband Rodney, Wright City; special friends, Dewayne Tyson, Robert Tyson, Patricia Leonard, and Clancy and Terri Leonard; many cousins and a host of friends.



### Pauline E. Nelson Redwine

Pauline E. Nelson Redwine, 89, of Livermore, California, passed away May 31, 2006. She was born January 22, 1917, in Durant to Ida Anderson Nelson and Simon Nelson.

She attended Goodland Indian School where she met and married Floyd Fitzgerald. They lived in Tuskahoma where they had two sons, John Paul and Donald. In 1945, they moved to Alameda, California, where they worked in the shipyards. Pauline retired from Owens Illinois Glass Company. She did volunteer work for the Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore and loved her flowers and yard work.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Sam Jr., Solomon E., and John Henry, and four sisters, Margaret, Florence, Mildred and Leyvonne.

Survivors include her two sons; husband, Bob Redwine; four sisters, Mary Jane Fadely, Joyce Foraker, Patricia Butler, Wetanah Barker; five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and a host of nephews, nieces and cousins.

### Taygan Dawn Helene Joe

Taygan Dawn Helene Joe, 2 months, passed away July 18, 2006, in Ardmore. She was born May 13, 2006, to Anthony Thomas Joe and Mika Danielle Watts.

She was preceded in death by great-grandparents Don and Mary Boston and James and Bobbie Watts.

Survivors include her parents; three sisters, Sydney Danielle Joe, Mary Makala Ann Joe and McKenzie Danay Williams, all of Ardmore; grandparents, Donna Joe of the home, Michael R. Joe and wife Jonnie, Ardmore, and James M. and Uwannah Watts, Ardmore; great-grandparents, Donald and Ruby Joe and James and Allie Johnson; and several aunts and uncles.



### Jack A. LaCroix

Jack A. LaCroix, 84, of Enid passed away May 6, 2006, at his home. He was born December 8, 1921, at Soper, Oklahoma, the son of Julius Alfred and Ruth Randell LaCroix.

He started school at Goodland Presbyterian Boarding School, later moving to Seminole, then to Antlers where he graduated from high school. Jack attended Bacone College in Muskogee. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II from September 30, 1942, to February 1945. Upon discharge, Jack attended and graduated from Oklahoma A&M (OSU) where he was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Jack married Novella Marie Harrison in Oklahoma City on June 28, 1949, and they were married 56 years until her passing in May 2005. They moved to Enid in 1951 where they were members of First Presbyterian Church. Jack was a deacon and an elder and active in Chapter III. Jack was employed as a salesman for Wilson & Co. and later for Blooms Meat Co. until retirement in 1986. Jack was a 50-year member of Enid Masonic Lodge 501. He also was a member of the Jaycees and Elks.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Novella, on May 19, 2005, and two brothers, Thomas E. LaCroix and Dr. Julius A. LaCroix.

Survivors include son, Jack LaCroix Jr. and wife Becky and their children, Stuart and Chase, all of Aspen, Colorado; daughter, Linda and husband David Moore and their children, Jennifer and Keeven, all of Enid; son, Michael and wife Suzanne LaCroix and their children, Andy and Sarah of Minneapolis, Minnesota; sister, Christina Crews of Hugo; brother, Eugene and wife Maryann LaCroix of Port Arthur, Texas; brother-in-law, Dr. Gene Harrison of Tulsa; good friends, Bob and Mickey Cannon; and caregivers, Tammy Gililand and Terry Dennis.

### Lurena Shields Dodson-James

Lurena Laurice Shields Dodson-James, also known as "Chick" by family and close friends, passed away June 10, 2006. She was born September 30, 1916, in Stringtown, Oklahoma, to Isreal and Myrtle Shields.

Lurena was formally educated in the medical field as a licensed practical nurse, a profession in which she worked tirelessly in excess of 40 years.

In 1939, she was united in marriage to Delmar Louis Dodson, who preceded her in death. Through this love, three wonderful children were born, Robert, Germaine and Delrena Dodson. Love came into her life again and she was united in marriage to Percy Harold James Jr. Three beautiful children were born to this union, Percy Harold III, Roland and Leon James.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Anderson, Isreal Jr. and Damon Shields; two sisters, Lillie Shields and Ersalene McCoy; grandson Michael Edwards and great-granddaughter, Syneka Talley.

Survivors include her sister, Pearl Lee "O.P." Watkins of Oklahoma City; her six children, 16 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, a multitude of nieces and nephews and a host of medical colleagues and special friends.

### Harold Eugene Bootes

Harold Eugene Bootes, 79, passed away July 28, 2006, at Mercy Hospital, Oklahoma City. He was born October 16, 1926, in Durant to Ray and Georgia Bootes.



He received his business degree at Southeastern College, Durant. He was in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and was employed by OG&E for six years before transferring to Oklahoma City. From 1951 until his retirement, he became a Prudential Insurance Agent. After retiring, Harold worked as a volunteer at Mercy Hospital until his recent illness. Harold and his wife, Jean, have been members of the Lakeside United Methodist Church for 48 years. He loved hunting, fishing, and camping at Lake Texoma.

Survivors include his wife, Jean; brother, George Ray Bootes of Sulphur; son, Donny of Redlands, California; grandson, Kenny; and seven nieces and nephews.

Harold was devoted to God and family.

### Wynema Steidley Bell

Wynema Steidley Bell, 87, of McAlester passed away August 5, 2006, at McAlester Regional Health Center. Born March 10, 1919, in Indianola, she was the daughter of Eddie and Elsie Nale Steidley.

She married Eugene A. Bell in 1940 and they owned the restaurants, "The New Eat Shop" and "The DeLux," in McAlester for 25 years. She had wisdom in growing vegetables and beautiful flowers, but enjoyed her grandchildren the most. She was a member of McAlester First Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her father, Eddie Steidley; her parents, Elsie and Ed Clayton; a sister, Leona Harbor; and a brother, Howard Steidley.

Survivors include her son, Eddie Bell of McAlester; daughter and son-in-law, LaJoy and Jerry London of McAlester; five granddaughters and their husbands, Lori and Mark Linney, Tammy and Lee King, Sheila Martin, Sena and Steve Sparks and Kristina and Dean Fouquet; great-grandchildren, Lindsey and Lesley Linney, Christopher and Christian Porter, Amelia and Stephen Sparks and Erica and Wyatt Martin; two sisters-in-law, Dorothy Steidley and Jean Bell, and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

### 48-star flag



Bea Foster and Jerry Thompson presented a 48-star American flag to Chief Greg Pyle as a gift. The large flag, made at Valley Forge Flag Company, has been handed down through the years in Bea's family. She was in possession of the flag for approximately 20 years before donating it to Chief Pyle and the Choctaw Nation.

FALL  
2006

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