



BISHINIK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

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October 2002 Issue



Choctaw Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Cherokee Chief Chad Smith and Muscogee/Creek Chief Perry Beaver appear before Congress.

Chief Pyle testifies on importance of HR 2880

Choctaw Nation Chief Gregory E. Pyle appeared before Congress recently to testify on the importance of passing House Resolution 2880. This is legislation that protects against loss of Indian land of descendants of members of the Five Civilized Tribes.

The Choctaw, Cherokee, Seminole, Creek and Chickasaw Nations have a unique situation regarding tribal lands. In the 1830s, when the tribes were removed to the Oklahoma Indian Territory, the treaties signed transferred the land to the Five Tribes in fee simple. The lands were subject to a Federal restraint of alienation, but they were in a different legal status than the lands reserved to other tribes in treaties from 1830-1875.

As a result, lands of the Five Tribes were not subject to the See *HR 2880* on Page 11

Council approves budgets

The Choctaw Nation Tribal Council met in regular session October 12th to approve and amend budgets of several programs.

Funding was authorized for Tribal Community Services, Jones Academy, Food Distribution, the Color Guard and the Transportation Improvement Program.

Amendments to budgets were granted to complete the Poteau and Stringtown Travel Plazas. The Stringtown Travel Plaza, Poteau Travel Plaza and the Atoka Travel Mart are all due to open very soon.

The Council approved construction of a fire truck building for Wheelock Academy. The Garvin Volunteer Fire Department and Wheelock have agreed to join forces in fire control efforts by making the academy grounds a sub-station.

The Forestry Program received approval to construct an addition to a facility utilized by their program.

The next regular session is scheduled for November 9, 2002.

McAlester Center to serve Southeast Oklahoma children, families

Billy Stephens, Director of Indian Child Welfare for the Choctaw Nation, has been named by Chief Gregory E. Pyle as the Nation's representative to a committee of health care and child services leaders to plan a center to help meet the mental, emotional and physical health needs of area children and their families.

The center will serve families in 12 southeastern Oklahoma counties and will be located in McAlester. The 12 counties are Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, Coal, Haskell, Hughes, Latimer, LeFlore, McCurtain, McIntosh, Pittsburg and Pushmataha.

Mrs. Wanda Bass, Chairman of the Board, First National Bank and Trust Company of McAlester, serves as the committee's honorary chair. "While we have a number of outstanding services in southeast Oklahoma, our children have important needs that we're just unable to meet right now," said Mrs. Bass. "This center will bring the best in national ideas and standards to southeast Oklahoma."

The proposed center will work closely with existing agencies and programs to provide services that supplement and support their offerings. The center will also work with a child's family as part

Choctaws open homes for elders, build Wellness Center in Talihina

In spite of a rainy day on October 8th, the Choctaw Nation celebrated the Grand Opening and Groundbreaking of two new facilities in Talihina that will provide expanded housing and health care for the Choctaw people.

The new Independent Living Community has ten recently completed homes which are situated in a beautiful setting just a short walk from the hospital. They provide safe and affordable housing for Choctaws 55 and older.

Funding for this unique approach to assisting tribal elders was provided by HUD funding. The homes at the Talihina site complete Phase I of this particular project, with infrastructure in place for up to 30 more homes to be added on the site. Independent Living Communities are also planned for Poteau, McAlester and Hugo areas. The Idabel Independent Living Community is already occupied and the Durant site will soon open their homes to ten residents.

Groundbreaking ceremonies



Ribboncutting officially opens Independent Living Community in Talihina.

were held with shovels and umbrellas for the new Diabetes Wellness Center to be constructed on the grounds of the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center. Funding for this 12,000-

square-foot state-of-the-art facility was made possible through a \$750,000 Community Development Block Grant from HUD, as well as tribal funds. The Diabetes Wellness Center

will provide care for the many Choctaws battling diabetes, as well as an array of programs designed to educate and assist with the prevention of this terrible disease.



Officials break ground near the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center for a new Diabetes Wellness Center.



BILLY STEPHENS

of treating the child and will help families address such issues as domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, and health problems.

It will also work with schools, churches, businesses, support agencies, and the community as a whole, to help children and families become and stay healthy.

The planning project is being supported by a public-private partnership including the First National Bank and Trust Company of McAlester, Puterbaugh Foundation, City of McAlester, Indian Nations Council of Governments, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

The children's center project has also been recognized as an official centennial project by the Oklahoma Centennial Commemoration Commission, the state agency responsible for planning and implementing the multi-year commemoration recognizing Oklahoma's 100th anniversary of statehood in 2007.

"For Oklahoma to be a strong state, Oklahomans must be strong and healthy," said J. Blake Wade, Centennial Commission executive director.

"The Centennial will look back on our history, but it will also look to our future to ensure that Oklahomans are healthy and

ready for the future. This project is an important part of that effort."

Senator Gene Stipe of McAlester said, "Our children are Oklahoma's future. When we allow mental health or health problems, substance abuse, or child abuse to jeopardize our children, we're jeopardizing the very future of our state."

The Child Welfare League of America serves as project consultant.

Information on contributing to the children's center project or to other Centennial projects is available by calling (405) 228-2005.



Chickasaw Gov. Bill Anoatubby, Cherokee Chief Chad Smith, Choctaw Chief Gregory Pyle, Muscogee/Creek Chief Perry Beaver and Seminole Chief Jerry Haney preside over the Inter-Tribal Council.

IT Council holds quarterly meeting

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes passed five resolutions during its quarterly meeting October 11, hosted by the Muscogee/Creek Nation in Okmulgee. Resolutions introduced were:

- A response to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the Indian Reservation Roads Program
- Support of designating November 2002 as Indian Heritage Month
- Support of the "Hero, Hawk, and Open Hand: Ancient Indian Art of the Woodlands" exhibition
- Support of an Advisory Council on the Historical Preservation Database Project, and
- Identifying and affirming portions of the "Ocmulgee Old Fields" as a Muscogee Traditional Cultural Property and opposing construction which would adversely impact the property.

Graduation ceremony held for GED students

The Choctaw Nation Adult Education program honored 72 graduates at an annual ceremony on September 27th. Men and women who had successfully completed the program crossed the stage at EOSC in caps and gowns.

"It is an honor to witness these students receive their diplomas," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. He told of the growth of the Adult Education program and reminded everyone that the Tribal Council had agreed to fully fund the program when the federal dollars were stopped a few years ago.

"The Tribal Council has a tremendous dedication to education," said Chief Pyle. "This summer, the legislative body passed the single highest education bill in tribal history—\$4 million to higher education scholarships."

Council Speaker Kenny Bryant told the graduates, "I hope you can say when you leave tonight, 'I accomplished what I



set out to do.'" He encouraged them to always give credit to God for opportunities and successes.

Sandy Garrett, State Superintendent of Oklahoma State Department of Education, was the keynote speaker at the event.

She said, "This is a glorious evening. Thank you to the Tribal Council and Chief for your commitment to education and thank you for the scholarships you make available to Choctaws everywhere."

Superintendent Garrett ad-

vised of three basic things to remember as the students moved toward endeavors in life. These basic things were: 1. To have a plan; 2. To respect others; and 3. To expect a few mistakes along their way, and not to be afraid of

See *GRADUATION* on Page 9

Judge Juanita Jefferson honored

Dear Chief Pyle,

Just a brief note to express my feeling and appreciation for the 2002 Labor Day Festival. It was truly one of the greatest gatherings. Thanks so much for a tradition and heritage that we can long treasure.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Choctaw Nation for their contribution to have my name honored in the Dedication of the 8th Edition of 2002 International Who's Who of Business and Professional Women for leadership role and standard of excellence.

This recognition opened doors. This past year, I spoke to groups from Batesville, Arkansas and Rockwall, Texas as well as organizations, schools and churches at McAlester, Wilburton, Spiro and Talihina.

Chi yakoke li hoke
Juanita Jefferson

Searching for information on cousin

Dear Editor,

I am searching for my cousin, Donna Sue (Wolfe). Some time ago I read of the passing of Joe Wolfe of Duncan. The obit mentions a daughter, Donna Sue from Tulsa, I believe. I was out of town and was going to try to get in touch with her as she is a cousin of mine, but never got it done. If anyone has any information, I would very much like to contact her.

Please call 918-733-2766, write me at 15410 N. 270 Rd., Okmulgee, OK 74447 or e-mail okescort@yahoo.com.

Ann Shanks

Establishing family's heritage

Dear Editor,

I am trying to establish my family's heritage so that my children and grandchildren will know all of their ancestors and have a complete history. My father's name is William Ramond Hawkins and his father's name is John Washington Bass Hawkins. All my life my father and grandmother told me that my grandfather was a full-blood Choctaw from Mississippi, born about 1860, and that he had at least one brother named William, whom I believe that I am named after.

After doing some research I have learned that a William Hawkins, a full-blood Choctaw, was entered on the Dawes Commission Roll around 1902 and shortly thereafter moved to Oklahoma with his wife, a full-blood, and two or three small children.

My parents and grandparents are deceased and with no living relatives to obtain information from I would like to find somebody in the Nation of the Hawkins' name that may have information on my family and to unite with my ancestors and give my children and grandchildren their heritage.

Your gracious assistance in this matter is appreciated.

William E. Hawkins 00210-025 H-1-A
Federal Correctional Institution
P.O. Box 5000
Greenville, IL 62246

Searching for information

Dear Editor,

I am searching for my mother's sisters. My mother was born on March 5, 1955 to Betty Ritter. I do not know who her father was. Her sisters' names are Sherry Whitehead and Judy Wood. My mother's name was Dorothy Verleen Wood. She died when I was eleven. I would really like to meet them. If anyone has any information, please contact me. Thank you.

Tammy Potter
P.O. Box 1181
Poteau, OK 74753

Housing staff member goes extra mile

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Marsha Magby who works in the Hugo Housing Authority for the Choctaw Nation is one of the greatest people I have ever met. We went to her needing assistance. She agreed to help us, then went the extra mile by making sure we got what we needed. She made countless phone calls and faxes until we got what we needed. Even when I was flustered and ready to give up she kept trying. Many thanks to her and to you for having people who really do care for other people. She's one in a million!

Lisa Robinson

Health needs are met

Dear Choctaw Nation,

You approved a prostate biopsy for me during the month of June. Fortunately, the biopsy report was benign; however, I had experienced high PSA counts since 1997.

I want to thank you for the medical approval. That really meant a lot to me and my family.

The medical care which is received from the Hugo and Talihina clinics is also appreciated.

Walter Gooding
Hugo, Oklahoma

BISHINIK deadline

Articles to be considered for publication need to be received by the first of the month for that month's paper. Mail articles to BISHINIK, P.O. Drawer 1210, Durant, OK 74702.

<p>Gregory E. Pyle Chief</p>	<p>The Official Monthly Publication of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma</p>	<p>Mike Bailey Assistant Chief</p>
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The BISHINIK is printed each month as a service to Tribal Members. The BISHINIK reserves the right to edit submitted material which it finds inaccurate, profane, offensive or morally unacceptable. Copy may be edited for proper grammar and punctuation. Copy will be accepted in any readable form, but where possible, it is requested that material be typewritten and double spaced. You must include an address or phone number where you may be reached.

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

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

Department improving burial sites of former Choctaw chiefs

The Choctaw Nation Special Projects department has been participating in a project to upgrade and improve burial sites of former chiefs. As part of their ongoing efforts, staff members are seeking more information on the following ten chiefs:

- Alfred Wade**, 1857-1858, passed away March 18, 1878. Information needed: next of kin. Latimer County.
- Brazil Leflore**, 1859-1860, Eagletown, Oklahoma. Information needed: location of gravesite and next of kin.
- William Bryant**, 1870-1874, exact date of death unknown. Information needed: location of gravesite and next of kin.
- Coleman Cole**, 1874-1878, passed away in the autumn of 1886. Information needed: location of gravesite and next of kin.
- Isaac Garvin**, 1878-1880, passed away February 20, 1880. Information needed: next of kin. McCurtain County.

Information needed: location of gravesite and next of kin.

- Jackson McCurtain**, 1880-1884, passed away November 14, 1885. Information needed: next of kin. Pushmataha County.
- Thompson McKinney**, 1886-1888, passed away in 1889. Information needed: location of gravesite and next of kin. Latimer County.
- Ben Smallwood**, 1888-1890, passed away December 15, 1891. Information needed: location of gravesite and next of kin.

- Gilbert Dukes**, 1900-1902, passed away in December 26, 1919. Information needed: location of gravesite and next of kin. Carter County.
- Victor Locke**, 1910-1918, passed away January 7, 1929. Information needed: next of kin. Pushmataha County.

If anyone has any information, please contact the Special Projects department, 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2136 or 2132.

Oklahoma City area Choctaws active in the community



Oklahoma City schools drop off children for the tutoring program hosted by the OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance.

Dear Chief Pyle,

We just wanted to let you know how much we appreciate your help and support.

We have used our kitchen to host two dinners for members whose family had a loss as well as two meetings in which we made over \$1,400 – one for the University of Oklahoma and one for the Oklahoma City Native American Student Services.

We served breakfast and lunch to 70 children in our tutoring program. We also offered free lunches to any child one to 18 years old during the month of July.

Your help and support allowed us to serve many in our community. You will never know how many lives you have touched with your generosity.

OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance

Student earning degree in psychology

Dear Chief Pyle,

I am writing to express my appreciation to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for the financial support awarded for my higher education.

The scholarships have made it possible for me to earn a degree in addictions. With the financial support I am now earning a B.A. degree in psychology. After receiving my B.A. in May 2003, I will then qualify to take the (CAP) Certified Addictions Practitioner boards. A CAP license will make it possible for me to work in the addictions field treating victims of substance abuse.

I will be applying to graduate school March 2003. It is my goal to receive a master's degree in either counseling or social work.

Without the financial support from the Choctaw Nation my higher education would have been much more difficult to achieve. I will continue to work hard, not only for myself and the lives of my family, but also for the Choctaw Nation.

Helen Norcross
Casper, Wyoming

Interested in quilt pattern

Dear Editor,

I loved seeing the quilt show winners in the September 2002 BISHINIK. I am interested in making one like Jan West's. Was it an original design? If anyone has a copy of this pattern, please share it with me. Thank you.

Terry Wilson
461 CR 5011
Leonard, TX 75452

"Chaplain's Corner" is a real blessing

Dear Rev. Bobb,

I want to tell you just how much your "Chaplain's Corner" has meant to me. It is such a blessing that as I read the works, I have to stop and give thanks to our Lord for your understanding of the Word and for your making it so plain that everyone can understand.

For several years now I have collected and saved your column in BISHINIK and have shared these columns with friends. We are honored to have you as Chaplain for the Choctaw Nation. I want to say that your "Chaplain's Corner" is a real blessing to me. I pray for you and your ministry and know that you are being used of God. May God continue to use you and bless you richly.

Paul J. Cowan
Denton, Texas

Met many wonderful people at festival

Dear Assistant Chief Bailey,

My husband and I had the privilege of meeting you last year at the Choctaw Nation Festival. It was our first trip there and we ran into you on the grounds and you took time to visit with us, even though I'm sure you were very busy. We felt really special getting to visit with you. You were so nice and kind to us.

We came again this year and stayed in the RV park. We met so many wonderful people. All the events were so wonderful and the entertainment was the best ever! The security was good. We never once felt unsafe and there were hundreds of people there. Everyone seemed to be having clean, great fun.

Charlie and Bobbie Lynch

Choctaws bused in to enjoy festival

Dear Choctaw Nation,

The festival was very enjoyable. We had a good time and enjoyed all the things that were there – the rides for the children, the arts and crafts, the food and the gospel singing.

We just want to say thank you for the bus and the driver that came to Oklahoma City.

There are so many of us here who really couldn't have made the trip. We appreciate you thinking about us here and thanks again. We're looking forward to next year.

Rozella and James Williams
and Ruth Moncada

Achille family in "new" home

Dear Mr. Sossamon,

Just a note to let you know we are in our "new" home in Achille. As devastating as our house fire was, it is really great to be home. The accessibility for Rick throughout the house has made his life, and mine, much easier.

Lorne Hudson and Brian Chandler, Sr. are men under your directorship you should be extremely proud of.

Ronda DeCaire

OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance

The OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance has a full slate of activities for this fall.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---|
| Tuesdays | 7 p.m. | Adult Choctaw Language Classes (free) Phase I and II |
| Wednesdays | 7 p.m. | Sign Language (\$1 fee per session) |
| Thursdays | 7 p.m. | Adult Choctaw Language Classes (free) Phase III and Phase IV |
| Saturdays | 10 a.m. | Children's Choctaw Language Classes (free) |
| | 11 a.m. | Choctaw Dance and Culture Classes (free) |
| | Noon | Computer Classes (\$20 enrollment fee) |
| Second Saturday of every month | | 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Taco Sale/Gospel Singing |
| Second Monday of every month | | 6 p.m. Potluck dinner |
| | 7 p.m. | General Meeting (membership is not required to attend meetings) |
| October 26 | 6 p.m. | Gospel Singing |
| November 11 | 6 p.m. | Princess Pageant |

To sign up for classes, obtain Princess applications, or for more information, you may contact the office at 405-688-4191. The group meets at 5320 S. Youngs Blvd. in Oklahoma City.



Thank you

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for all of their help and support during the loss of my precious son, Brandon Paul Russell. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Kim Russell
Hartshorne, Oklahoma

Website helps with research resources

Dear Chief Pyle,

Several years ago, I contacted you about learning more about the Choctaw Nation, and you graciously sent me a sizeable packet of information which I greatly appreciate. I conducted a search for my Choctaw relative on the web and found a Lou Davis who may be the one I was looking for when I first contacted you. I am also looking into a Tishe Lou Davis who lived in 1887 and may have been the same person. My cousin, Sumpter Frazier, worked with the Choctaw Tribal Council. I have a hand-carved wooden child's chair that supposedly belonged to the Davis family when they entered Texas from Oklahoma territory. Despite rich, tangible links to the tribe both past and present, I admit that reconciling my life with all the loose ends has been a challenge. The new resources provided on the Choctaw Nation website have done much to fill in the gaps in my background. Before the website was available, finding out specific information about Choctaw customs, traditions and daily life was difficult for me.

The website has brought me much pride and peace of mind. I will keep searching and learning and I fully intend to make a study of the language as well.

Blessings and thank you for being such a dynamic leader.

Heather Lore

Tribe assists with education

Dear Chief Pyle,

I would like to express my thanks to you and the Choctaw Nation for helping me in continuing my education. Special thanks to Randy Hammons and Daryl Brown of Vocational Rehab and Larry Wade and his staff in the Higher Education Department. I am proud to be a Choctaw Tribal Member and very grateful for the Tribe's help with my education.

Roby Townsend
Millerton, Oklahoma

Family's home receives new windows

Dear Choctaw Nation,

Thank you so much for helping our family out by putting windows in our home. This was a great need of ours and is greatly appreciated! Thank you and God bless you all.

Gregory and Crystal Parks

Chelation therapy can be helpful

Dear Editor,

In reading the BISHINIK August 2002 issue, there are articles about diabetes and lead poisoning. There are some important pieces of information available that everyone needs to be made aware of: Chelation therapy can help in both instances.

As my roommate is an RN specializing in wholistic, alternative health methods, I am privileged to learn a lot of health information which is not commonly known to the general public.

She had me read a book on chelation called "Bypassing Bypass" which showed remarkable benefit for those suffering from heart disease and circulatory problems, but also benefitting lead poisoning and lessening symptoms of those suffering from diabetes.

EDTA chelation has been described as a man-made amino acid acting as a better bond for all the assorted junk and plaque/cholesterol clogging your arteries. It has an excellent safety record, and is intravenously injected over a three to four hour visit in the doctor's office. After eight months of weekly treatments it has the potential to clean out all 20 to 30 thousand miles of capillaries, veins and arteries in an average human circulatory system. Apparently it derives its benefits to any disease process by improved and increased blood circulation.

Other books which can be of enormous benefit to those wishing to supplement and support treatments prescribed by their doctors are available through book stores or your local health food stores.

Brad Cobb
Turlock, California



From the desk of Chief Gregory E. Pyle

Businesses and programs continue to benefit Choctaw people

The Choctaw Nation has been blessed this year with profitable businesses to finance programs that assist tribal people. We have also been blessed with federal grants that provide funding for many other exceptional programs. Just recently, award notifications have been received that confirm a \$350,000 a year grant for six years for the Recovery Center. This grant will enable the tribe to work with local law enforcement to do more prevention and intervention work.

Notification has also been received that the Choctaw

Nation will receive a \$900,000 grant to respond to the mental health needs for children. This grant will be administered through the CARES program. The Council and I are happy to announce that the Projects With Industry program will be continued for the next three years with a grant of \$250,000 per year.

HUD has also approved a \$750,000 grant to be used in construction of the Gena Stanley Wellness Center, which will have a gymnasium, walking track, workout room and a whirlpool and will be built near Durant. This

wellness center will be named in memory of a tribal employee who passed away last year after complications from diabetes.

It is encouraging that not only have federal grants been awarded for the benefit of Choctaw people, but new businesses owned by the tribe will be opening in the near future. Travel Plazas being built in Stringtown and Poteau, and a Travel Mart in Atoka will soon be providing new jobs for Choctaws in those areas. The tribe is trying very hard to take jobs to small communities.

From the desk of Assistant Chief Mike Bailey

Tribe's economic development rising at remarkable rate

Businesses and enterprises of the Choctaw Nation are growing at a tremendous rate. The Choctaw Management/Services Enterprise continues to receive government contracts, revenues from which are put into services for tribal members.

One reason that CM/SE continues to be successful is the stellar record that employees and managers have managed to maintain.

The WIC Overseas project that is administered through CM/SE to military bases overseas has just been surveyed with 99 percent satisfaction rating from participants. This customer satisfaction survey was completed in May and reported in the October 14th issue of the Army Times.

WIC Overseas is basically the same as the WIC program here in the United States mainland, offer-

ing nutrition education, food items and breast-feeding equipment to women who are pregnant, postpartum or breast-feeding up to one year, and to children up to age five.

WIC was not available overseas until a couple of years ago when CM/SE contracted with the federal government to operate those sites. Many families have commented on their appreciation of the education and the food items. Vouch-

ers are given for items such as juice, milk, formula, cereal, peanut butter and cheese. These foods are staples in a healthy diet.

CM/SE has been awarded a contract to assist with 3rd party claims and collections that can potentially provide a number of jobs. A building has been purchased in Boswell to house this scanning operation and we expect to be up and running soon after

the first of the year.

In September, CM/SE received a new five-year contract to provide over 130 mixed medical positions to specified Army and Air Force hospitals around the Nation. This contract is valued at over \$86 million. Anyone wishing more information on these vacancies, and how to apply, please contact Jeremy Woodruff at (877) 267-3728.



Checking out the six new Head Start buses are Chief Gregory E. Pyle; Head Start Director Rebecca Clapp; Lauren Bernal, Durant center; Deborah Dailey, Wright City center; Jana Johnson, Durant center; Linda Gothard, Transportation Coordinator, and Susie Jacob, Wright City center.

Six new Head Start buses ready to go

Head Start students in Antlers, Broken Bow, Durant, Hugo, McAlester and Wright City have brand-new buses to catch for school.

The Choctaw Tribal Council passed a bill approving matching funds of \$122,673 provided by the Administration for Children, Youth and Families/HSB/AIPB. The total \$245,346 was used to purchase six 24-passenger buses to replace the worn-out vehicles

in use for over a decade.

The buses are equipped with child restraint seats for passengers under 50 pounds. When these seats are in use, the bus will seat 16.

"Bus safety requirements have changed since the older buses were purchased in 1989," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "Replacing the older buses will not only increase the children's safety, it will allow more students to par-

ticipate in school activities."

"The new buses meet the state regulation, effective in 2004, requiring vehicles transporting children to be equipped for use of height and weight appropriate child safety restraint systems," said Rebecca Clapp, Head Start Director.

"Acquiring these buses is another step in our ongoing goal of providing comprehensive family services."

WIC Overseas clients rate program high

Survey: 99 percent of participants "satisfied"

By Karen Jowers
Times Staff Writer
Reprinted by permission,
Army Times Publishing

One young military mother living in Europe used to debate whether to buy milk or meat because her family's budget was so tight. That's all changed because of the Women, Infants and Children program overseas.

"She said she always chose milk because of the kids. Now she's able to buy both," said Army Lt. Col. Muriel Metcalf, WIC program coordinator at the Tricare Europe office. Tricare oversees the program.

Metcalf recently met with families all over Europe to get feedback about the program, and she heard good things.

"They said WIC Overseas has decreased family stress by helping the family budget," Metcalf said.

"They can buy meat, produce and things they couldn't buy before. Some say they're able to pay other bills and they're able to spend money on their children."

The only complaints she's heard are from people in areas where the program hasn't begun. Most of those complaints will be addressed by the end of the year, when the military's WIC Overseas program is expected to be completely up and running. By then, there will be 53 sites in 11 countries, said Army Lt. Col. Todd Dombroski, WIC Overseas program manager and deputy medical director for Tricare.

In a customer satisfaction survey in May, 99 percent of WIC participants said they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the

program.

WIC Overseas is mandated by Congress and run under the same basic guidelines as the stateside WIC program, which offers nutrition and education to low income women who are pregnant, postpartum and breast-feeding up to one year; and to children up to age 5. Both programs offer vouchers for milk, cheese, peanut butter, juices and other nutritional foods. The program also puts heavy emphasis on nutrition education.

Since the Defense Department started rolling out WIC Overseas nearly two years ago, 30,220 families have been enrolled at some point, Dombroski said. There are about 23,400 current participants. The numbers change as families move from overseas or become ineligible for the program.

WIC Overseas is open to service members, Defense Department civilians and contractors and their families. To qualify, a family of four must have a gross annual income of no more than \$41,866. Income eligibility requirements differ depending on family size.

An income eligibility chart can be found at the Department of Agriculture's Web site, <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic>. About 81 percent of families that qualify also have a nutritional or medical risk identified, such as anemia, low birth weight, poor eating habits, a mother who smokes and other factors.

Dombroski said the remaining 10 sites opening by the end of the year are Heidelberg, Mannheim, Stuttgart and Darmstadt in Germany; Naples, Sigonella, Gaeta Fleet, LaMadalena and Livorno in Italy; and Pusan, Korea. The 53

sites will serve about 94 percent of the estimated eligible population of 29,000, Dombroski said.

"The other 6 percent live more than 2 1/2 hours away from a commissary" or NEXMart, he said. NEXMarts sell food at commissary prices.

Defense officials are examining ways to help families in remote areas, he said.

The program cost about \$22 million in fiscal 2002. Officials have asked for \$24 million in fiscal 2003.

About two thirds of the costs are administrative, Dombroski said. In fiscal 2002, almost \$7 million was spent on food through the vouchers, and about \$15 million went for administrative costs.

"We have a substantial cost to run these centers in 11 different countries and 14 time zones," Dombroski said.

Officials expect the food costs to rise to about \$9 million next year with the new sites, but some of that will be offset by ongoing efforts to streamline administrative costs, he said.

Families receive extensive nutritional counseling for each member who qualifies for WIC Overseas, and Metcalf said families have commented that they appreciate the opportunity to discuss nutrition with experts.

Families say they have found no stigma in being part of the program. "The marketing has been very positive in this area," Metcalf said. "Many have said they are proud to be on WIC."

Choctaw Management Services Enterprise, a civilian contractor based in Durant, Oklahoma, operates the WIC sites overseas



Chaplain's Corner

By the Rev. Bertram Bobb, Choctaw Tribal Chaplain

We thank God for the Bible – His Holy Word. If we did not have the promises of God in the Bible we would be filled with fear. What a glorious privilege to be assured that God knows every step of the way of our life and has made provisions through His Wonderful Plan of Salvation.

If somebody says "saved," what does that mean to you? A doctor saves a patient's life by the skill that he uses in surgery. A life guard saves a child from drowning. But in the religious realm many people do not understand what "saved" means. The Apostle Paul said to the Philippian jailer in Acts 16:31, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Paul was using "saved" in its spiritual sense.

We all need to be saved. The Bible teaches that we have all broken God's law. We have all sinned against God, (Romans 3:23) we all need salvation.

We have problems in our homes. They are breaking up. We have business problems, health problems, family problems. Sometimes we want to scream. We want to just quit. We try to escape the reality of everyday living by using alcohol or drugs or even by trying suicide. Like that jailer in Philippi, mankind is crying, "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30)

The Apostle Paul and Silas had been preaching the Gospel. In Macedonia they went to Philippi, a great city and a Roman colony and they went to the place of prayer at the riverside. On their way they met a girl who was demon possessed. Paul said to the demon in the girl: "... come out of her." And the demon came out. The evil men who controlled the girl became angry because she had been telling future events and they were making money on her fortune telling. The men took Paul and Silas to the magistrates who had them beaten and thrown into jail and put in bonds. Instead of moaning and groaning because their backs were cut and bleeding and because they were in that dungeon, what did they do? Please read this record in Acts 16:25-31.

In Acts chapter 16 and verse 25 we read, "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises unto God; and the prisoners heard them."

All of a sudden an earthquake shook the whole prison. The doors opened, and the prisoners' bonds and chains were broken.

Under Roman law, if the keepers of the prison ever lost a prisoner, he had to die, so the jailer was on the job all the time. When the keeper of the prison saw the open doors, he thought he would be killed. He pulled out his sword and was ready to kill himself, when in verse 29, "... Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, do thyself no harm for we are all here."

The jailer fell trembling and fell down before Paul and Silas and said in Acts 16:31: "Sirs,

what must I do to be saved?" Paul and Silas answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

God is Eternal. God created the whole universe. He created us in His own image. (Genesis 1:26) And He holds us accountable for the life that we live. He holds us accountable for what we do with His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Apostle John tells us in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

There will be a day of judgment. If we do not know Jesus Christ – we should be trembling. The Good News is that, in spite of our sins God loves us. He is willing to save us. He is willing to forgive us. He wants to take us to Heaven.

After Peter preached his great sermon at Pentecost we read in Acts 2:37 the people were "pricked in their hearts," and they said to Peter, "what shall we do?"

That's the same question that the Ethiopian nobleman asked Philip, and Philip answered him, "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest."

The nobleman believed and went on his way rejoicing. This man didn't have to do a thing except believe, but what a big word "believe" is. The word "believe" has the idea of trust and faith. You believe to the point that you commit your life to Jesus Christ as Savior and let Him be the Lord of your life. You have no other Lord, no other gods; you are ready to change your whole lifestyle to make Him Lord, to take complete charge of your life. That's what it means. Are you committed that way?

The blind man came as he was, and believed. The leper came as he was, and believed. Mary

Magdalene with seven demons came, and believed.

The thief on the cross said, "Lord, remember me." And in that moment Jesus said, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:32-43) The thief had committed evil. He had no time to go and tell anybody he was sorry. He had no time to straighten anything out. He didn't pay any tithes. He wasn't baptized. He had no time to do anything. But he was saved that day. That's how marvelous salvation is. (John 1:12; Romans 4:5)

We thank God the Father for His Wonderful Plan of Salvation through His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus left the glories of Heaven to come to this earth. He was born of a virgin. He is fully man and fully God. He became man to pay the penalty for sin, which is death, in our place. God the Father was satisfied with His substitutionary death, that God the Holy Spirit raised Him up on the third day. (Romans 8:11) Today Jesus Christ is alive, He lives, He sits at the right hand of God the Father (Hebrews 1:1-3) and this is how we come into the presence of God the Father – through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Do you believe with all your heart? Have you committed your life completely to Jesus Christ? Have you said, "I want Jesus Christ to be my Savior and my Lord." Will you make this most important decision of your life? Write to me at Box 9, Antlers, OK 74523 and I will be happy to mail you, free of charge, two booklets, "Beginning with Christ" and "Going on with Christ."

May the Lord bless you in a very special way. Pray for America. Pray for encouragement, strength and wisdom for our leaders.



Choctaw sculptor brings "friend" to Wilburton Appreciation Dinner

Choctaw artist Johnny Pate is the Project Sculptor for BulLovArts Public Art Exhibition of painted longhorns. The colorful longhorns can be seen all over Fort Worth. Johnny is pictured here with Blue, who traveled with him recently to the Wilburton Appreciation Dinner for Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Mike Bailey.

Proceeds from the BulLovArts exhibit will benefit fine arts projects and programs for all the youth of Fort Worth

Appreciation Dinner held at Wilburton Community Center



Councilman Randle Durant and his wife, Margaret, host an Appreciation Dinner on September 19.



Rosie Mae Martinez, Jessica Wright and Jonathan Impson play with baby Anelle Impson.



Assistant Chief Mike Bailey and Chief Gregory Pyle are honored at the Wilburton Appreciation Dinner.



Lots of good food was prepared and enjoyed by all who attended.



The dinner was a great place for fellowship among friends and family.



Patriotic send-off

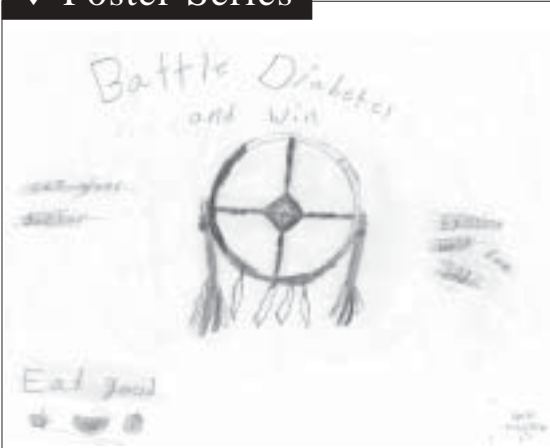
Choctaw Nation Head Start teachers and students in Poteau gather to participate in a farewell parade for area members of the National Guard who are being deployed.



BATTLE DIABETES AND WIN!



Poster Series



Entries in a recent Diabetes Awareness contest included, clockwise from top left, Jesse Carney, 6th grade, Hugo; Jarrin Hubbard, Kindergarten, Quinton; Austin Wheat, Kindergarten, Quinton, and Curtis Hamilton, 5th grade, Hugo.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

November 2002

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1 Stigler 9-2 Coalgate 9-10:30 Atoka 12-2	2
3	4 Wilburton 9-12 Broken Bow 9-2	5 Bethel 9-10:30 Smithville 12-2	6 Talihina 9-12	7	8 Poteau (A-H) 9-2	9
10	11	12 Wright City 9-10:30 Hugo 12-2	13	14 Poteau (I-P) 9-2	15	16
17	18 Poteau (Q-Z) 9-2	19	20 Idabel 9-12	21	22	23
24	25 Closed Inventory	26 Closed Inventory	27 Closed Inventory	28 Tribal Holiday	29 Tribal Holiday	30



Choctaw Nation WIC

Serving the Choctaw Nation at 14 sites

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

Call today for an appointment

Campaign helps women learn "The Heart Truth"

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for American women. Yet, if you're like most women, you're probably unaware of the threat. You may even think it's a "man's problem."

A new national campaign has been launched to help you discover "The Heart Truth." Sponsored by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of the Federal Government's National Institutes of Health, and partners, the campaign is meant as a wake-up call about heart disease – a call that could save your life.

"There's a big gap between what women fear and what really endangers them," said Daniel McFarland, a Project Coordinator with the Choctaw Nation Health Services, Core Capacity Building Grant, in Tahleah, Oklahoma. "Even if they know about some of the factors that increase the risk for heart disease, they still don't connect the dots and understand that it's their life that's in jeopardy."

"Women are very good at watching out for the health of their family, but not so good at watching out for their own well-being," Daniel said. "With this campaign, we're saying there's a lot you can do to protect your

Learn The Heart Truth

- Heart disease is the #1 killer of American women
- One of every three deaths for American women is from heart disease – one in every 30 deaths is from breast cancer
- Women's heart disease risk starts to rise in middle age
- One in eight American women aged 45-64 – and one in three women over 65 – has some form of heart disease
- In 2002, more than 40 million American women are over age 50
- Nearly two-thirds of American women who die suddenly of a heart attack had no prior symptoms
- About two-thirds of American women who have a heart attack do not make a full recovery
- According to a National Council on the Aging survey: Only 9 percent of American women view heart disease their main health concern – but 61 percent see breast cancer as their chief health concern

heart health but you have to begin today. You can't put it off. Heart disease is a "now" problem. Later may be too late."

The campaign is telling women to:

- Go see your doctor or other health care provider and ask about your risk for heart disease
- Find out what steps you can take to lower that risk
- If you already have heart disease, be sure it's under control – it's never too late to improve your heart health

Coronary heart disease is the main form of heart disease. It af-

fects the coronary arteries of the heart. Often referred to as heart disease, it develops over many years and may begin early, even in adolescence.

If steps are not taken to prevent or treat it, heart disease can lead to serious complications, including angina (chest pain), heart failure (in which the heart loses its ability to function well), and heart attack. About two-thirds of the women who have a heart attack do not make a full recovery.

Certain factors increase the risk of developing heart disease. These are:

- Smoking
- High blood pressure
- High blood cholesterol
- Overweight/obesity
- Physical inactivity
- Diabetes
- Family history of early heart disease
- Age (for women, 55 and older)

Age is important because women's risk of heart disease starts to rise during middle age, in part because of the drop of estrogen levels that comes with menopause. But middle age also is when many women develop heart disease risk factors.

Fortunately, except for age and family history, the risk factors can be prevented or controlled by lifestyle changes and, if needed, medication. Sometimes special procedures, such as bypass surgery and angioplasty, are used to treat heart disease – but they are not a "cure." Heart disease and its risk factors must still be controlled.

"We're not asking women to overhaul their lives overnight," said Daniel. "We're saying, 'Make a start.' You can begin by taking a brisk 30-minute walk today. Make it a habit. Or, if you haven't been active, then start with a 10-minute walk and work up to 30 minutes a day.

"Or, begin to follow a heart-healthy eating plan, which means one low in saturated fat and cholesterol and moderate in total fat. Include lots of fruits and vegetables. How can you start? Tonight, take the skin off the chicken before you eat it, or switch from whole to low-fat and then fat-free milk."

Daniel stresses that women can make these heart-healthy changes with their family. In fact, the sooner heart-healthy habits are learned, the better.

"The Heart Truth" campaign has plenty of resources to help women adopt a healthier lifestyle. Many are available through the campaign's special web page at www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/hearttruth. The web page includes personal stories from women

whose lives have been affected by heart disease. Materials also are available from the NHLBI Health Information Center at P.O. Box 30105, Bethesda, MD 20824-0105; phone 301-592-8573, TTY 240-629-3255.

"We hope women hear our message," said Daniel. "There's a lot they can do to protect themselves – and their families. That's also part of 'The Heart Truth.' You don't have to be threatened by heart disease. Start protecting yourself today and you'll have a better tomorrow."

Campaign co-sponsors include the American Heart Association, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health, and Women's Heart: the National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

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

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. You may also write to the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs Section, Room 310, 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599.

Forgetfulness: It's not always what you think

Many older people worry about becoming more forgetful. They think forgetfulness is the first sign of Alzheimer's disease. In the past, memory loss and confusion were considered a normal part of aging. However, scientists now know that most people remain both alert and able as they age, although it may take them longer to remember things.

A lot of people experience memory lapses. Some memory problems are serious and others are not. People who have serious changes in their memory, personality and behavior may suffer from a form of brain disease called dementia. Dementia seriously affects a person's ability to carry out daily activities. Alzheimer's disease is one of many types of dementia.

The term dementia describes a group of symptoms that are caused by changes in brain function. Dementia symptoms may include asking the same questions repeatedly; becoming lost in familiar places; being unable to follow directions; getting disoriented about time, people and places; and neglecting personal safety, hygiene and nutrition. People with dementia lose their abilities at different rates.

Dementia is caused by many conditions. Some conditions that cause dementia can be reversed and others cannot. Fur-

ther, many different medical conditions may cause symptoms that seem like Alzheimer's disease, but are not. Some of these medical conditions are treatable.

Reversible conditions can be caused by a high fever, dehydration, vitamin deficiency and poor nutrition, bad reactions to medicines, problems with the thyroid gland, or a minor head injury. Medical conditions like these can be serious and should be treated by a doctor as soon as possible.

Sometimes older people have emotional problems that can be mistaken for dementia. Feeling sad, lonely, worried or bored may be more common for older people facing retirement or coping with the death of a spouse, relative or friend. Adapting to these changes leaves some people feeling confused or forgetful. Emotional problems can be eased by supportive friends and family, or by professional help from a doctor or counselor.

The two most common forms of dementia in older people are Alzheimer's disease and multi-infarct dementia (sometimes called vascular dementia). These types of dementia are irreversible, which means they cannot be cured.

In Alzheimer's disease, nerve cell changes in certain parts of the brain result in the death of a large number of cells. Symptoms of Alzheimer's disease begin slowly and become steadily worse. As the disease progresses, symptoms

range from mild forgetfulness to serious impairments in thinking, judgment and the ability to perform daily activities. Eventually, patients may need total care.

In multi-infarct dementia, a series of small strokes or changes in the brain's blood supply may result in the death of brain tissue. The location in the brain where the small strokes occur determines the seriousness of the problem and the symptoms that arise. Symptoms that begin suddenly may be a sign of this kind of dementia.

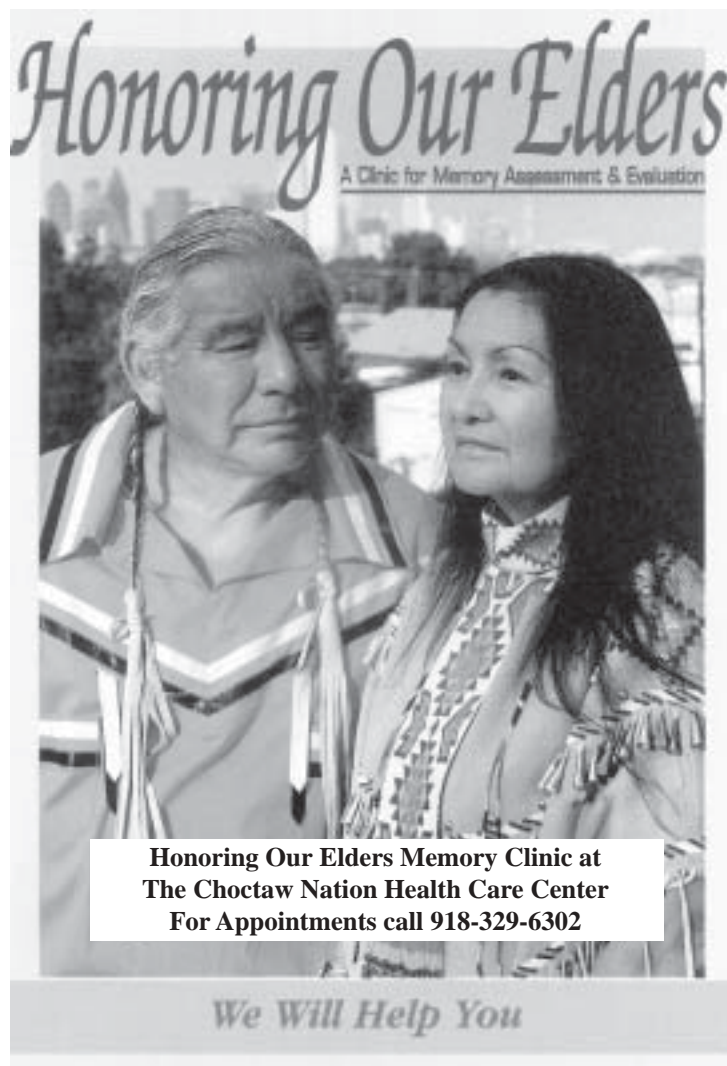
People with multi-infarct dementia are likely to show signs of improvement or remain stable for long periods of time, then quickly develop new symptoms if more strokes occur. In many people with multi-infarct dementia, high blood pressure is to blame. One of the most important reasons for controlling high blood pressure is to prevent strokes.

People who are worried about memory problems should see their doctor. If the doctor believes that the problem is serious, then a thorough physical, neurological and psychiatric evaluation may be recommended. (Information from Age Page, National Institute on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2002)

Honoring Our Elders Memory Clinic, a clinic for memory assessment and evaluation, is located at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Tahleah. Honoring Our Elders is a diagnostic clinic for Choctaws and American Indians who are experiencing memory impairment and dementia symptoms.

In addition, the clinic is conducting research among Choctaws and American Indians to determine the risk, incidence and prevalence of Alzheimer's disease and dementia among the American Indian population. Honoring Our Elders is a program of the Urban Inter-Tribal Center in Dallas, Texas and a satellite clinic of the Alzheimer's Disease Center located at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas.

Individuals or their family physician may schedule an appointment by calling Shane Goode, Regional Coordinator, at 918-329-6302. Patients may also be seen at other Choctaw Nation Health Care Clinics. For caregiver assistance and additional information/available resources about memory disorders, call Carey Fuller, Health Educator, at 918-522-4719.



WELLNESS CENTER SCHEDULE		
November 2002		
Date	9:30-12 noon	1-3 p.m.
November 5	Smithville - The Big Store	Watson - Main Street
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention		
November 7	Haworth - Hwy. 3	Tom - Main Street
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention		
November 12	Monroe - Store	Hodgen - Between P.O. and Store
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention		
November 15	Stigler - Community Center	Keota - Store/Carwash
Hearing, cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention		
October 18	Enterprise - Jct. Hwy 9 & 71	Indianola - Post Office
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention		
November 19	Quinton - Store	Blocker - Main Street
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention		
November 21	Durant - SOSU	Durant - SOSU
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention		
November 26	Crowder - Community Center	Canadian - Main Street
Cholesterol, diabetes & blood pressure screenings; Alzheimer's & dementia education & prevention		

Tribe receives refurbished ambulances

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is among the first to receive newly refurbished ambulances from Indian Health Services. The vehicles are procured through Project TRANSAM, which means they come from a commercial vendor that refurbishes them to be mechanically sound and to meet state certification requirements. A new vehicle would cost about \$80,000, whereas refurbished ones typically cost \$15,000 to \$28,000 each.

Also receiving refurbished ambulances are the Red Cliff and Rosebud Sioux Tribes and the Tahleah Ambulance Service.

Both CDIB and Membership cards necessary to enjoy benefits

The federally issued Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) and the Tribal Membership card issued by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma are both important to have.

Every person should have both cards. It doesn't matter at what age they are applied for. The cards are often needed in situations such as medical emergencies or to help with education expenses. Please don't wait until you need the services to apply. It can take longer than expected to obtain the required documents and complete the paperwork.

Applications for scholarships will soon be taken by the Higher Education department and students must have a Choctaw Tribal Membership card to be a recipient.

If there is a new baby in the family, apply as soon as you receive the child's state birth certificate.

A CDIB card must be obtained first and then application can be made for Tribal Membership. The CDIB does not make you a member.

Don't delay in getting your family's cards. They are too important and there are many benefits you could be missing out on.

NOVEMBER VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Idabel 10 am-2 pm	2
3	4 Talihina 10 am-2 pm	5 Durant 10-12 noon	6 McAlester 10 am-2 pm Stigler by appt. only	7	8 Broken Bow 9:30 am-2 pm	9
10	11 Holiday	12	13 Coalgate 10 am-2 pm	14	15 Poteau 11 am-1:30 pm	16
17	18 Antlers 1-3:30 pm	19 Durant by appt only	20 Atoka 10 am-2 pm	21	22 Wright City 9:30 am-2 pm	23
24	25 Bethel by appt only	26 Wilburton 10:30 am-2 pm	27	28 Holiday	29 Holiday	30

A Vocational Rehabilitation and Disability Employment Representative will be available at the locations listed above. A representative is available Monday thru Friday 8-4:30 except for holidays at the Hugo office.

People You Know



Belated birthday wishes!!!

We would like to send belated happy birthday wishes to Austin Anderson who turned seven years old on July

29 and Tyler Anderson who turned four on July 10. Proud parents are Amy and Scott Anderson of Mooreland, Oklahoma. Grandparents are James and Patsy Airington of Durant and Arvid and Judy Anderson of Mooreland.

Austin and Tyler would like to wish their Uncle Bobby John Airington a happy birthday on October 28.



Birthday brothers

Marco Antonio Maturino turned 14 years old and Sequoyah Kaine Fixico turned eight on August 30. Their parents are

Tony and Jeanetta Martinez of Denton, Texas. Brothers are Manuel Maturino and Joseph Martinez. Grandparents are Lole and Cleta Mata of Joplin, Missouri. Great-grandparents are the Rev. Dan and Catherine Sexton of Caney, Oklahoma. Best wishes from your aunts, uncles and cousins.

Congratulations Marco!

Congratulations to Marco Maturino of Joplin, Missouri for winning Missouri State Championship in Senior League Baseball. The tournament was held in Indiana and they were three games away from going to the World Series. The family is very proud of him and hopes he will continue to play ball.

Tierra's a teenager!

Tierra Rose Chenault turned 13 years old on October 27. She is the daughter of Michelle Chenault of Clarksville, Arkansas and the granddaughter of Ruth Moncada of Oklahoma City.

Happy 13th birthday from all of your aunts, uncle and cousins from Oklahoma City!



Look who's four!

Happy fourth birthday to Toni Hurd from her Mom, Dad, Grandma and all of her aunts, uncles and cousins!!!

Shila turns 12 years old

Shila Pewewardy turned 12 years old on September 19. She is the daughter of Anthony Wallace and the granddaughter of Rozella Williams of Oklahoma City.

Her Uncle James and all of her cousins, uncle and aunts from Oklahoma City send Shila a big "Happy 12th!"



Sonya Hamilton turns Sweet 16!

Billy and Lettie Moore would like to wish their granddaughter, Sonya Hamilton, a happy 16th birthday on October 5.

Happy birthday, Peggy

Happy birthday to Peggy Holder who turned 66 on September 20. Peggy is the wife of Clark Holder and grandmother of Kristianna Holder.

Mrs. Holder is a realtor in Duncanville, Texas and attends Gospel Lighthouse Church.



Joseph Kemp turns one

Wilmer and Lila Kemp would like to wish their grandson, Joseph Wilmer Kemp, a happy first birthday on September 19.

Joseph's parents are Warren Kemp of Fort Towson, Oklahoma and Tammy Kemp of Antlers, Oklahoma.

Jayna Noley working at Daily Oklahoman

Jayna Marvine Noley graduated college in December 2001 from the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, Oklahoma with bachelor of arts in journalism. While in college, she was a writer and photographer before becoming the editor in chief at UCO's The Vista. Since January, she has worked at The Daily Oklahoman as a copy editor. Her parents are James and Joyce Noley of Wilburton.



Eric and Dalton say "Congratulations!"

Eric and Dalton Poore would like to congratulate their Uncle Billy Butler and Aunt Jenna Jarvis of Durant, Oklahoma on their recent marriage. They were married on September 4 in Galveston, Texas. Their two children, Trenton and Caitlin, participated in the ceremony. Eric and Dalton are the sons of Mike and Melissa Poore. Also, a belated happy 24th birthday wish to Billy. We love you!

Look who turned one!

Morgan Wm. Bairos celebrated his first birthday on August 2. Friends and family joined Morgan for his celebration at Kerr Park in Oakdale, California with his sister, Karlie; brother, Joshua; cousin, Blaine, and lots more.

Morgan's Papa Ron turned 55 as well, so the two enjoyed the festivities together.

Morgan is the son of John and Carrie Bairos. He is the grandson of Ron and Jody Pini, John and Charlyn Bairos and Glen and Kathy Snow, all of California. His great-grandma Faye Mullins lives in Wilburton, Oklahoma.



Happy birthday!

Jimmie Jefferson would like to wish his wife, Ruthie Jefferson of Bethel, Oklahoma, a happy 58th birthday on October 4; his son, Jason Jefferson of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, a happy 32nd birthday on October 16; his daughter, Andrea Jefferson of Bethel, a happy 28th birthday, and his grandson, Adrain "Red" a happy 8th birthday.

Ball player turns eight

Happy birthday to ball player Cody Allen Carterby. He turned eight years old on October 5.

Cody is the son of Manuel Carterby and Velma Townley of Corsicana, Texas. He is the grandson of Cealis Carterby of Ardmore, Oklahoma.



Cassandra turns 12

Happy birthday to Cassandra Loudermilk who turned 12 years old on October 17.

Cassandra is the daughter of Tammy Loudermilk of Durant, Oklahoma and the granddaughter of Carl and Kathleen Loudermilk of Tushka, Oklahoma.

Lordy, Lordy!

Look who's 40!

Mattie B. Jones of Kiowa, Oklahoma would like to wish her son, Jefferson Warden, a happy birthday. He turned 40 on October 4.



Best wishes to family members

Erica Estrada and her son, Terry, would like to wish Erica's parents, Lisa and Terry, a happy 20th anniversary on October 3. Erica would also like to send belated happy birthday wishes to Terry whose birthday was April 15, and her daughter, Erica, whose birthday was June 7. Happy birthday to her husband, Terry Sr., on October 15!



Happy 80th birthday!

Happy birthday to Dorothy Adams who will be celebrating her 80th birthday on October 28.

Happy birthday!

Trent and Christy Brown of Holly Creek, Oklahoma would like to wish their two children a very happy birthday. Kynsie Elaine will be two on October 28 and her big brother, Elijah Trenton turned five years old on October 11.

Kynsie and Elijah are the grandchildren of Jeff and Linda Brown of Smithville, Oklahoma and Tommy Hackney and Shirley Blackmon of Dierks, Arkansas.



Happy birthday, Crystal

Mattie B. Jones of Kiowa, Oklahoma would like to wish her granddaughter, Crystal Morgan, a happy birthday on October 11. She's all grown up now and works in Durant, Oklahoma for the Choctaw Nation.

Thank you

The family of Rhoda Mae Notah would like to thank everyone who helped us in our time of need. Special thanks to the Choctaw Nation and Brown's Funeral Home for their patience. To the friends of the family who journeyed to comfort her family, we appreciate the warm hospitality, the food and the flowers. - The Sexton, Notah, Taylor, Martinez, Reitz, Mata and Maturino families



Happy 12th birthday

Happy 12th birthday to John James Going on October 28 from his mother, Bertha Going; three brothers, Gabriel Going of Texarkana, Kevin Carterby and Issiac Going; his grandmother, Mary Carterby, and cousin Ayla Carterby, all of Golden, Oklahoma.

Happy birthday, John!

John Lindsey, Jr. of Kansas City, Kansas celebrated his birthday on September 15. John is very active in football, basketball and track at Turner High School in Kansas City.

His parents are Pamela M. Sullivan-Lindsey of Kansas City and John E. Lindsey, Sr. of Midwest City, Oklahoma. John is the grandson of the late Violet Guess Sullivan and Clifford Sullivan. All of his family in Texas, Kansas, California and Oklahoma would like to wish him a happy birthday and many more.



Happy 54th birthday!

John Thompson, Jr. turned 54 years old on October 1. He is the son of Robert Thompson, Sr. of Wright City. He has a daughter, Lisa Thompson, and son, Tyron Thompson, both of Tulsa. Happy birthday!



Original enrollee turns 97

Goldia Phillips of Denison, Texas, an original enrollee, turned 97 years old on September 23. A birthday party was held at the Homestead of Denison.

Mrs. Phillips has two daughters, Gloria Sharp of Denison and Mackie Stokes of Kemp, Oklahoma. She has six grandchildren, Mary Jernigan of Tampa, Florida, Molly Beck of Kemp, Marty Little of Lewisville, Texas, Mona Swoffard of Coppell, Texas and Michelle Fluitt of Little Elm, Texas. She has 13 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren. Happy birthday!!!



Florence Jennings Mayes celebrates 90th birthday

Florence Jennings Mayes was born on October 21, 1912 to Patsy Alexander Jennings and Hiram Franklin Jennings. Florence's mother was an original enrollee.

Florence spent her grade school and high school years in Oklahoma where she went to school at Tupelo. She recalls riding a horse three miles to school for six years. In those days, she often had to cross Cole Creek and Boggie Creek when the water was up. One of her fears was that her horse would get caught in some fence wire that was under the water and couldn't be seen. "I always got through the creeks okay and never did have a problem riding that horse to school," she said.

In January 1932, Florence married Thomas Elbert Mayes and they had three children, Joy Francis, Wayne Keith and Jerry Dale Mayes. She now has nine grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

At age 47, Florence went back to school and became a nurse. She worked at St. Francis Hospital for seven years and at the Doctors Hospital for 15 years. Both are in Tulsa. In 1982, Francis Mayes retired from nursing to her home in Tulsa where she still lives and cares for herself today. Florence will celebrate her 90th birthday with a quiet evening at home on October 21, expecting her children to visit. We would like to wish Florence a happy birthday.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Kiercy Leighan Skieens of Durant, Oklahoma on winning First Runner-Up in the Miss McCurtain County Pageant on August 24.

Kiercy is the daughter of Mandi Gross and Taylor Skieens. She is the granddaughter of Randy and Lillian Gross of Wright City, Oklahoma.

Kiercy, we love you and are so proud of you.



Happy 19th birthday Pvt. Allen Snyder!

U.S. Army Pvt. Allen Snyder is wished a happy 19th birthday and congratulations on his October 11 graduation from basic training and A.I.T.

Allen is the son of Loretta K. Snyder of Broken Bow, and the brother of Jennifer Williston and Michelle May, both of Broken Bow. He is a 2002 graduate of Broken Bow High School. We are all proud of you!



Thank you very much to the Choctaw Nation for the scholarship.

Kristin Scott turns two

Kristin Faith Scott celebrated her second birthday on October 16 with her father whose birthday is also October 16. Kristin is the daughter of Lena Johnson and Michael Scott of Durant, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Della Johnson of Durant and the late Sigus Taylor Johnson and Sheila Thomas of Oklahoma City and Nathan Scott of Atoka, Oklahoma. Kristin is the great-granddaughter of Jr. Gilbert Marris of Garden Grove, California. Happy birthday, Kristin! Mommy loves you very much!



SOSU student inducted into Indian Honor Society

Brian Holt Ladner II, a 2002 graduate of Turner High School, has been inducted into the Oklahoma Indian Honor Society. He is currently attending Southeastern Oklahoma State University. He is the son of Brian and Melissa Ladner and the grandson of Ott and Laquitta Ladner of the Jimtown community in Love County. Brian is the great-great-great-grandson of original enrollee Sis Stout.

While in high school he was active in FFA and sports. Brian enjoys working on the family farm near the Red River where the Ladners have farmed and ranched since 1919. He is a member of the Love County Historical Society.



Cousins turn seven

Jeffrey Keith Davis, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Davis of Texarkana, Texas, celebrated his seventh birthday on



September 9. Jeffrey's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scott of Idabel, Oklahoma. His great-grandmother is Evelyn Mills of Atlanta, Texas.

Wyatt Lane Williams, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Williams of Idabel, Oklahoma, celebrated his seventh birthday on September 9. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Arvel Williams of Summerfield, Oklahoma and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scott of Idabel, Oklahoma.

Jesse Acuña turns seven years old

Happy birthday to Jesse Reynard Acuña. Jesse turned seven years old on October 4.

He is the son of Robert and Robin Acuña of Caddo, Oklahoma. Jesse's grandparents are Jimmy and Rita Vinyard and Larry and Terry Williams, all of Boswell, Oklahoma, and Ray Acuña, Sr. and the late Virgilia Acuña of Olney, Texas.



Nursery News

Lents celebrate 62nd anniversary



Bill, Nancy and Chris Witt honored their parents and grandparents with a 62nd anniversary celebration September 1 at the Alex Community Center. Over 150 friends and relatives gathered to help the couple celebrate this joyous time in their life.

Bowman Lents, son of C.M. and Bertie Lents of Alex, Oklahoma, and Alice Mae Drenna, daughter of Birdie and Stoney Drennan, also of Alex, were united in marriage on August 31, 1940 in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma in a double ceremony with the bride's cousin, Hyawannah Cofer and Jack Cecil. Alice Mae and Hyawannah are the great-great-granddaughters of Judge J.P. Turnbull, a prominent leader of the Choctaw Nation in the late 1800s.

Immediately after their marriage, the Lents started a dairy and farming operation at their current home west of Alex in Grady County where they still reside. Though no longer a dairy, they still raise hay, small grains, native grass pasture and beef cattle with the help of their 16-year-old grandson, Chris Witt.

Mr. and Mrs. Lents are the parents of the late Judy Sharp of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma and Nancy Witt and husband, Bill, of Alex. They are the grandparents of Bowman and Donnie Sharp of Pauls Valley, Lents Brown of Lindsay, Oklahoma and Chris Witt of Alex. The couple have six great-grandchildren, Derrick Chaffin and Coleton, Kaleb, Jade, Logan and Landon Sharp, all of Pauls Valley.

Jeffersons celebrate 40th anniversary



Belated wishes for a happy 40th anniversary on June 13 are sent to Jimmy and Ruthie Jefferson of Bethel, Oklahoma from all their kids and grandkids. We love you both with all our heart and thank you for all that you have done for us then and now!

Happy 28th wedding anniversary

The Jefferson family would like to wish Haskell and Ella Bohanan of Bethel, Oklahoma a happy 28th wedding anniversary on October 5th. We all would like to wish them the best and many more happy years.



NCSC inducts Bartleson

Mandi Leigh Bartleson, a 2001 graduate of Fortuna High School, has accepted membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, a highly selective, national non-profit honors organization.

Mandi participates in a variety of activities and clubs. Two of her community service endeavors are Beyond Shelter, where she volunteers at the San Luis Obispo shelter, and Best Buddies, an enriching program that gives college students the opportunity to make a difference in a mentally disabled person's life. Mandi also teaches Sunday School at the preschool level at Calvary Chapel, San Luis Obispo. She is an active member of Agriculture Ambassadors, Campus Crusades, Collegiate FFA and the Community Service Club. This fall, Mandi will be flying to Louisville, Kentucky to receive her American Degree, the highest degree possible in the largest youth organization, FFA.

Mandi is the daughter of Elvis and Linda Bartleson of Fortuna, California. She's the granddaughter of Lovem Mangrum King and the late Chester Woodrow King. Her great-grandparents are the late Minerva Anderson Mangrum, an original enrollee, and Arch Ray Mangrum.

Happy first birthday

We would like to wish Ryan Jacob Thorne a happy first birthday. He turned one on August 28. Ryan is the son of Michael and Kristy Thorne of Tucson, Arizona. His grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins would like to wish him a wonderful birthday as well. Ryan shares his birthday with his Aunt Kim Stinson of Tucson and his late great-grandmother, Ella Murphy of Idabel.



Happy birthday, Mackenzie Dills

Mackenzie Dills celebrated her tenth birthday on October 23rd. Her parents are Janine Dills and Jerry Don Wann.

Jeremie, Kelsie and Trevor would like to say happy birthday to their sister.

Mackenzie's grandparents are Gary and Janie Dills and Jerry and Ann Wann. Great-grandparents include Joe and Deane McClure and Bill and Corine Dills, all of Durant, and Inez Wann of Kinta, Oklahoma.

Emma turns four

Emma Hood of Sulphur, Oklahoma turned four years old on July 15. Wishing her a happy birthday are her dad, Mike Hood, Grama and PaPa Hood, Uncle Clarence, Aunt Jeanie, Melinda, Nicole, Casey, John, Wendy, Baby Mollie, Cloe, Boomer, Aunt Robin, Uncle Eric and Baby Morgan. We love you, Sissy.



Logan Masheli Polk

Logan Masheli Polk was born July 24, 2002 at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in Durant. Logan weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and measured 20 inches long. Proud parents are Julie Polk of Bennington and Greg Alkofer of Durant.



Logan has one sister, Jessica Polk of Bennington, and one brother, Garrett Alkofer of Texas. Her grandmothers are Ruth Polk of Bennington and Barbara Alkofer of Durant. Leshia Polk of Bennington is Logan's aunt.

Marissa Jewel Sherburn

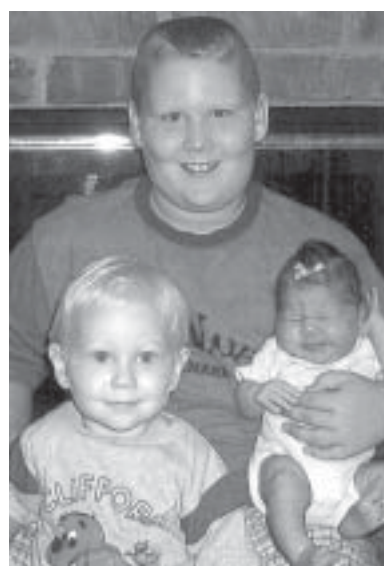
Marissa Jewel Sherburn of Lakeland, Michigan was born September 2, 2002 weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces and measuring 20.5 inches long. Her parents are David Sherburn and Amy Burrows.



Marissa is of Choctaw descent. Her grandparents include the late Teddy Vinson Burrows of Fort Worth, Texas and Kathy Elder Burrows of Lakeland. Great-grandparents include the late Ted V. Burrows and the late Lida Hamilton Burrows of Atoka, Oklahoma. Her great-great-grandparents are the late Terrance V. Burrows and the late Vinnie Maud James Burrows of Atoka. She has a host of adoring aunts, great-aunts and uncles and cousins.

Elexus Sadie Walker

Forrest Shane and Kendall James Walker would like to announce the birth of their sister, Elexus Sadie Walker. Elexus was born July 12, 2002 at Baylor Medical of Garland, Texas. She weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.



Parents are Michael Shane and Christy Walker of Nevada, Texas. Grandparents are Joyce Bodine and the late James E. Bodine, Sr. of Royce City, Texas and Shorty and Barbara Walker of Garland. Other proud relatives include James and Donna Bodine of Caddo Mills, Texas and Everett, Jaquita and Kristin Blalock of Durant, Oklahoma.

Jonathan Tanner

Jon and Sabra Odom of Cedarville, Arkansas are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Jonathan Tanner. He was born at 2:08 a.m. Saturday, July 27, 2002 at the W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Tanner weighed 10 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 inches long.



He joins his sister, Bailey Renee, age 3 1/2.

Grandparents are Joe Sirmon of Van Buren, Arkansas and Linda Sirmon of Fort Smith, Arkansas, Ronnie and Naoma King of Natural Dam, Arkansas and the late Billy Odom of Van Buren. Great-grandparents include Helen Blanche Whitson of Fort Smith and the late Herman E. Whitson and Fay Sirmon and the late Jean Sirmon of Van Buren.

Bailey and Tanner are the great-great-grandchildren of D.C. Whitson, an original Choctaw enrollee.

Happy 70th, Grandma June!

A special happy birthday has been sent just for Billie June Rodgers who turned 70 years young on September 25. She was born in 1932 in Albion, Oklahoma, the daughter of Joel and Sophia Daney.

June is a full-blood Choctaw. She and her husband, Burl, now reside in beautiful Quincy, California. They have three children, Vaughn Rodgers of Quincy, Darin Rodgers of Cool, California and Debbie Rodgers of Portland, Oregon. They have four grandchildren.

A special happy birthday to her from Vaughn, Michelle, Valerie and Vaughn, Jr. for everything she does. We love you!



Outstanding students

Sisters Nichole and Erica Hubbard have been recognized as outstanding students in the state of Texas. Nichole, 10, is a straight-A honor roll student. Erica, 8, is also a straight-A student and a two-time Student of the Month. Congratulations!



Kelis is growing up!

Happy birthday to Kelis Colin Betsey who will be eleven on October 30. He is the son of Carri Ferguson of Atoka, Oklahoma and the great-grandson of Annie Betsey of Durant, Oklahoma and Adam Betsey of Atoka.



Kobe Anderson

Proud parents Earon and Tammie Anderson would like to announce the birth of their son, Kobe Anderson. Kobe was born at 4:05 p.m. July 30, 2002 at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in Durant, Oklahoma. He weighed 7 pounds, 3.5 ounces and measured 19 inches long.



Proud grandparents include Charley and Belinda Webb of Calera, Oklahoma.

Joining in welcoming Kobe are his brother, Austin Hartman; sister, Toni Choate, and uncles, Terry Hulse, Daniel Lemons, Michael Lemons, and Jimmy Anderson.

Joseph "Little Bear" Battiest

Proud parents Randy and Donya Battiest would like to announce the birth of their new baby boy. Joseph "Little Bear" Battiest was born May 17, 2002. He weighed 9.12 pounds.



Grandparents are Luke and Viola Battiest of Wright City, Oklahoma and Arnold Taylor and JoAnn McKinney of Dallas, Texas.

Aniyá Skye Woolard

Family members would like to announce and welcome into their hearts Aniyá Skye Woolard. She was born May 5, 2002 at St. Edward Hospital in Fort Smith, Arkansas.



Proud parents are Allen and Jennifer Woolard of Barling, Arkansas. Grandparents are Sylvia and Hiram Bradshaw of Barling and Walter Woolard and the late Melba Woolard of Spiro, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Reyna and Felipe Hernandez of Fort Smith and the late Agnes and Johnny McNoel.

Our prayer for Aniyá and blessings for those who guide her way.

Bethany Lois Tobler

Christine Tobler and family welcome her precious daughter, Bethany Lois Tobler. Bethany was born December 11, 2001 at Eastern Oklahoma Medical Center in Poteau, Oklahoma.



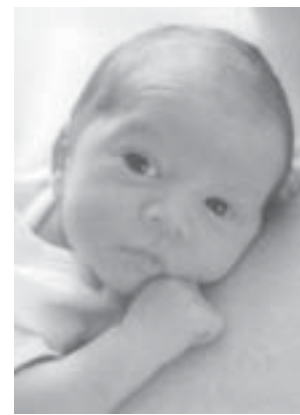
Grandparents are Ramona Suter of Bokoshe, Oklahoma and Charles Tobler of Spiro, Oklahoma.

Great-grandparents are Walter Woolard of Spiro and the late Melba Woolard and Charles Tobler of Spiro, Oklahoma.

Our prayer for Bethany is to have a strong mind and strong heart for we know that all God's children are beautiful.

Dylan Michael Garcia

Proud parents Kevin and Elizabeth Garcia wish to announce the birth of their son, Dylan Michael Garcia. He was born July 7, 2002 at the Tuality Community Hospital in Hillsboro, Oregon where Kevin and Elizabeth first met as nurses.



Dylan was welcomed home by his stepbrother, Trevor, and stepsister, Amber.

Grandparents/Godparents Stan and Nancy Garcia are busting with pride because Dylan is their first grandchild.

Grandparents Paula Hughes of Cornelius, Oregon and Sam Ashenbner of Beaverton, Oregon are also very proud of their newest grandson. Dylan's great-great-grandfathers, Christopher Spring and Henry Frank Oakes, were original Choctaw enrollees of the Dawes Roll.

Best wishes for Dylan come from relatives around the world - California, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, Wyoming, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Portugese Azores Islands and Wales.

Kamryn Rene Baker

Chris and Junior would like to announce the birth of their baby sister, Kamryn Rene Baker. Kamryn was born on June 11, 2002 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Tahihina, Oklahoma.



She weighed 9 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 21 inches long.

Her parents are Wayne and Michelle Baker of Wright City, Oklahoma. Grandparents are Bert Holt of Antlers and Lavada Baker of Wright City.

Jonah Everett Vance

David and Neile Vance would like to announce the birth of their son, Jonah Everett Vance. Jonah was born at 6:07 p.m. July 24, 2002 in Houston, Texas. He weighed 9 pounds, 15 ounces and measured 21 inches long.



Jonah has a brother, Jonathan Vance. His grandparents are Gary and Mary Jernigan of Tampa, Florida, Richard and Leda Oliver of Bedford, Texas, Mary Mills of Humble, Texas and David Vance of The Woodlands, Texas.

His great-grandparents include Mackie Stokes of Kemp, Oklahoma and Ray and Jessie Oliver. His great-great-grandmother, original enrollee Goldia Phillips, lives in Denison, Texas.

Choctaw Nation hosts DARE rodeo

The Hugo rodeo arena was packed as 4,000 4th-, 5th- and 6th-graders were treated to a day of fun entertainment – with an important message.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) was the theme of the day, continuing through a one-hour rodeo and various skits.

Students from throughout the Choctaw Nation's 10 1/2-county

service area were handed a morning snack by tribal employees as they filed from their buses to the arena stands.

Country music artist Bryan Gowan sang flag-waving, foot-stomping numbers until the last bus had unloaded its passengers.

Several guest speakers spoke to the crowd before the rodeo

events began, including Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Major General Leroy Sisco, former Texas Ranger John Acock, and Tribal Councilmembers.

Also on hand were famous rodeo cowboys Blair Burk, Cody Ohl, Roy Cooper and Ernie Taylor.

"It was just a great day," said

Chief Pyle. "The youth are at a receptive age. They need to learn that there are a lot of activities they can enjoy without abusing drugs."

"Our Executive Director of Education, Joy Culbreath, along with her staff and other employees of the Choctaw Nation worked hard to pull this together," Chief Pyle said, congratulating everyone on their efforts.

Chief Mike Bailey. "We have a large number of tribal members who have exceeded at different rodeo events nationwide. I would like to thank everyone who devoted their time to participate in the DARE rodeo."

After the rodeo, the students enjoyed lunch while watching the "Salad Sisters" present an educational program on diabetes.

"The rodeo is an example of good, clean fun," said Assistant



Choctaw Nation Director of Transportation Ernie Taylor, Blair Burk, Major General Leroy Sisco, Cody Ohl, Assistant Chief Mike Bailey, Roy Cooper and Chief Gregory Pyle.



Choctaw Nation staff members were ready with lunch and snacks for the 4,000 youth attending the DARE rodeo.



T. Texas Terry, center, and pals Daryl Titman and Paul Meyer entertained the packed arena with their crazy car act.



turkey shoot

The Choctaw Nation Historical Society is hosting a
Turkey Shoot
 1:30 to 5 p.m.
Veteran's Day, November 11
at the Kiamichi Rifle Range
of the Ouachita National Forest

Directions: Go three and a half miles North of Talihina on Highway 271, turn on blacktop road (Frazier Creek Rd.), go 2.3 miles, turn left on gravel road and travel 1.8 miles. Watch for signs.

Entry Fee: \$1 a shot
 Rules will be posted for all participants to follow

Prizes will be given for the best shot in each round of shooting

Participants will provide their own guns & ammo

SOSU offering special benefits for honor students

Higher Ed encouraging Choctaws to apply

Southeastern Oklahoma State University's Honors Program is a unique educational experience for students with special talents and outstanding academic abilities.

The Choctaw Nation Higher Education Department is searching for high school seniors of Choctaw descent with an ACT composite score of 25 or higher from a national test date to take advantage of this program.

Special benefits of the program include:
 • Academic scholarships ranging from \$6,400 to \$22,400 over four years

- Special honors program facility
- Outstanding faculty
- Field trips, cultural events and enrichment activities
- Opportunities to attend honors conferences
- Recognition upon graduation and notation on transcript

Seven of the eight students from the Choctaw Nation who applied last year were offered a four-year scholarship, ranging from \$6,000 to nearly \$23,000. Five of those students became Parson's Scholars.

In total, SOSU offered over \$122,000 in scholarships to the seven students from the Choctaw Nation.

If you or someone you know is qualified for this program, please contact Jo McDaniel with the Choctaw Nation Higher Education Department at 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2277.

The deadline for students to apply is January 23, 2003.

ATTENTION

ALL HASKELL ALUMNI OF 1950

We are planning a Golden Class Reunion in the Spring of 2003 at Haskell in Lawrence, Kansas. Please, if you see this notice and are aware of anyone who is interested in attending, get in contact with:

Anawake Taylor (Hitcher)
 2108 Stone Pl. NW
 Albuquerque, NM 87120
 Phone: 505-831-6522
 e-mail: Ahny@aol.com

or

Barbara Dean Czap
 5219 Gundry Ave.
 Long Beach, CA 90805
 Phone: 562-422-1004
 e-mail: bugsbunny_90712@yahoo.com

Time is of the essence and we need to plan for this special event for our Golden Alumni Reunion, so please get in touch with us. We are eagerly looking forward to seeing you after all these years!



COALGATE



District 12 Councilman James Frazier presents Pat and Chief Gregory Pyle a handmade quilt rack from the citizens of Coalgate during an Appreciation dinner held October 1. They were also given a rocking chair for their granddaughter, Skyler.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IN THE COALGATE AREA

PC TECHNICIAN

Under supervision of a Technical Manager, duties include:

- Installs, configures and upgrades operating systems and software, using standard business and administrative packages.
- Installs, assembles and configures computers, monitors, network infrastructure and peripherals such as printers.
- Troubleshoots problems with computer systems, including troubleshooting hardware and software, network and peripheral equipment problems; makes repairs and corrections where required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education and Experience:

Equivalent to completion of two years of college-level coursework in computer science, information technology or a related field and two years of general computer installation, maintenance and repair experience; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties is acceptable.

Physical Requirements and Working Conditions:

Must possess mobility to work in a standard office setting and to use standard office equipment, including a computer, stamina to maintain attention to detail despite interruptions, strength to lift and carry objects weighing up to 40 pounds.

Knowledge of:

Computer hardware, software and peripherals such as central processing units, servers, monitors, cables, network systems, printers, modems and NIC cards; procedures for installing, configuring, upgrading, troubleshooting and repairing applicable software, hardware and peripherals.

Please e-mail resume to jlee@choctawnation.com.

Preference given members of the Choctaw Nation.

PC TECHNICIAN - ENTRY

Under supervision of a PC Technician, duties include:

- Performs basic installation, configuration, and upgrade activities to support the PC Technician.
- Maintains the physical inventory of all personal computers, maintains request forms, and creates management reports as requested.
- Responsible for the inventory system and the computer request forms system.
- Responsible for loading/uploading personal computers as needed, carrying/driving personal computers to other locations, overall cleanliness of the facility.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education and Experience:

Equivalent to completion of one year of college-year coursework in computer science, information technology or a related field and two years of general computer installation, maintenance and repair experience; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties is acceptable.

Physical Requirements and Working Conditions:

Must possess mobility to work in a standard office setting and to use standard office equipment, including a computer, stamina to maintain attention to detail despite interruptions, strength to lift and carry objects weighing up to 40 pounds. Capable of driving a small van.

Knowledge of:

Basic computer knowledge in hardware, software and peripherals. Strong administrative skills, record keeping, physical inventory knowledge, and organizational skills.

Please e-mail resume to jlee@choctawnation.com.

Preference given to members of the Choctaw Nation.

Graduation continued from Page 1

those mistakes.

The highest ranking scores for the GED test this year were made by Bonnie Bauer and Mikaya Hocking. Others in the top ten scores were Melissa Balke, David Bridges, Crystal Coon, Sharon Flourney, Randall Fulton, Staci Kaniatobe, Tara Roberts and Lisa Smith.

The remaining 2002 graduates were: Sharon Allensworth, Soloman Anna, Adrienne Baker, Amber Brinlee, Patsy Cadwell, Jeremy Caldwell, Joshua Callahan, Misty Cameron, Daniel Davis, Kerry Duncan, Christie Eyring, Amy Farley, Jay Garrett, Amanda Griffiths, Marissa Guerrero, Gary Hamburt, Kevin Hamby, Marsha Harrison, Daniel Hibdon, Ava Hilton, Rita Hooser, Reba Hunnicutt, Andrea James, Stacey Jessie, Lorene Johnson, Rhonda Johnson, Jonathan Jones, Candice Lawrence, April McCabe, Heather Meeks, Toni Meeks, Jon Perteeet, Preston Por-

ter, Cassandra Prince, Felicia Rawls, Rosemary Rivera, Richard Sears, Regina Sellers, Lucy Sloan, Elana Smith, Christopher Sparks, Leslie Standifer, Amanda Stevens,

Michael Stewart, Michael Stinnett, Angela Stroble, Loretha Sweetin, Rocky Taylor, Adrienne Terry, Victoria Timms, Jerome Tubby, Lewis Tubby, Marcella Tyson,

Tony Tyson, Brandon Walker, Kody Ward, Justin Weathers, Rosanna White, Gregory Willie, II, Trevor Wilson, Susie Woodruff and Eugene Worden.



Visiting royalty

Miss Choctaw Nation Ivanna Battiest stopped in recently to visit with the children at the Head Start in Wright City.



Photos donated to Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Museum

The photographs above once belonged to Alice Mae Hynson Wilson, daughter of Judge Noland Hynson and Minnie J. Turnbull Hynson. Alice, an original Choctaw enrollee, traces her Choctaw ancestry through her mother, Minnie.

Minnie was the daughter of Judge J.P. Turnbull, who was Supreme Judge, Clerk of the Supreme Court and Secretary of the Choctaw Nation in the 1800s.

The two photos have been passed down to Mrs. Wilson's daughter, Birdie Wilson Drennan, a newborn enrollee, born 1902. At her death, the pictures passed down to her daughter, Alice Mae Drennan Lents.

The pictures are of school friends of Mrs. Hynson and appeared to have been sent to her by her Choctaw friend, S.B. Spring, as noted on the reverse of the picture on the left, "The Choctaws in

Clarksville, Tenn. of SWP University - From your friend, S.B. Spring - Group of 1892."

Included in this picture are John Bohanon, Caddo, IT; Smallwood Pusley, McAlester, IT, and Daniel Oakes and S. Bailey Spring of Goodland, IT.

The second picture says, "Choctaw Students Group of 1893 BS" and identifies them as, back row, Miss Ida Kelley, Caddo, IT; Norman Leand, Milton, IT, and Daniel Oakes, Goodland, IT; front row, Ellis Thompson, Tuskahoma, IT; Sam Spring, Goodland, IT, and Simpson McKinney, Caddo, IT.

The photos have graciously been donated to the Choctaw Nation Museum. If any descendants of anyone in the pictures would like to have copies, please contact Nancy Witt, RR 1 Box 84, Ninnekah, OK 73067.



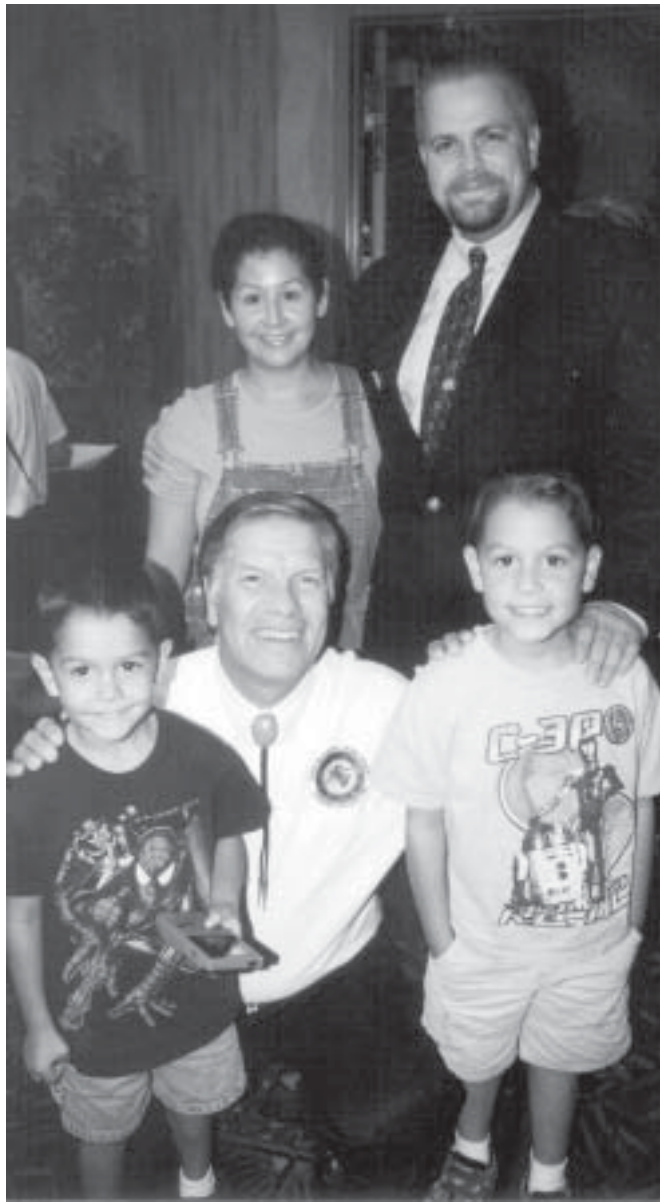
Chief Gregory E. Pyle greets Jimmie and Jim Brown at a meeting of Choctaws in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



Pauline Sorrells brings Chief Pyle a donation for the Choctaw Nation museum. The program is from a 1937 meeting of the Indian-Okla Club Banquet honoring former Chief W.A. Durant.



Information on tribal services is passed out to Albuquerque area residents.



The Leach family gathers for a picture with Chief Pyle. Clark, Alisha, and sons Ben and Jake are originally from Antlers.



Ashton Monahan draws a door prize ticket from the bowl held by Nanette Wylie.



Paula Brimhall visits with Chief Pyle.



Ernest Sanders and Lorin Sanders enjoy the gathering. Lorin says he's "the good-looking brother."



Church group enjoys trip

Members of the Chihowa i Chuka Church recently enjoyed a trip to Magic Springs and Hot Springs, Arkansas, traveling on one of the large Choctaw buses. They would all like to say "Thank You" to the Choctaw Nation and to District 7 Councilman Jack Austin for assisting with the trip.

CHOCTAW NATION GED CLASSES

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

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

Latimer County
Beginning October 28, 2002
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Choctaw Nation Community Center
in Wilburton, Oklahoma

The class will meet two days each week for approximately three months. Books, supplies and testing fees are provided. In addition, a \$10 (per day) transportation stipend is paid to those who attend classes on a regular basis and attempt the GED test. If you have turned in an application with our Adult Education Program for GED classes and wish to attend the upcoming class, please contact our office. If you have not applied and wish to attend these or future classes, please contact Linda Tyler or Felicia Carnes at the Durant office or call 800-522-6170 or 580-924-8280, ext. 2319. Also, you may register at the first day of class. A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is required.

Student explores leading roles in country's national security



James Kuykendall of Tulsa, Oklahoma has recently been selected to participate in the National Youth Leadership Forum on Defense, Intelligence and Diplomacy, October 22-27 in Washington, D.C. James will join approximately 400 outstanding high school students from across America at the forum. Students will take part in an array of seminars with current leaders key to U.S.

international relations, and will participate in a national security simulation exercise to pique their interests and test their problem-solving skills. James, an honor student at Wright Christian Academy in Tulsa, has won many awards for academic achievement and a scholarship for the National Youth Leadership Forum on Defense, Intelligence and Diplomacy. He works part-time at Quick Trip Corporation.

He is the son of John and Julie Kuykendall of Tulsa, grandson of Bill and Dorothy Blakemore of Bartlesville and Glenna Kuykendall and the late James Kuykendall of Tulsa.

Choctaws to honor veterans

Choctaw veterans will be honored at the Tribal Capitol Grounds, Tushka Homma, on Monday, November 11th. A ceremony will be held at the War Memorial near the front entrance at 11:00 a.m., and a luncheon will be served at noon.

A commemorative jacket will be presented to each Choctaw veteran in attendance.

Reunions

YORK FAMILY

The third annual York Family Reunion will be held Thanksgiving Day at the Stephens County Fairgrounds Building in Duncan, Oklahoma. Descendants of Belle (Joshua) and Amos York are invited to come. Belle and Amos were originally from Mississippi. Doors will open early. Come and participate in different activities during the day. Thanksgiving Dinner will begin at 1 p.m. Reunion T-shirts can be ordered. For further information, call Joyce or Linda Cooper, toll-free 1-866-219-5318.

Jeremy Anderson elected to carry U.S. flag in commemorative event



Jeremy Aaron Daniel Anderson, 15, a sophomore at North Dallas High School, was elected to carry the U.S. flag during the school's commemoration of September 11, 2001. Thirty other country's flags were also filed in by students of other nationalities, led by Jeremy. Also, while a student at Durant High School last year, Jeremy was a member of the National Honor Society.

He is the great-great-grandson of Emigish Bohanon, an original enrollee of the great Choctaw Nation.

Keep up the good work. We love you - Gram, Uncle Richard, Aunt Daisy, Uncle Pat and brothers, John, Brandon and Kenneth Anderson.



Choctaw poet wins award

Phillip C. Morgan of Blanchard, Oklahoma has been named winner of the 2002 North American Native Writers First Book Award for Poetry. The competition is the only one of its kind. It is open only to, and judged entirely by, Native Americans.

Mr. Morgan wins the award for "The Fork-in-the-Road Indian Poetry Store," a manuscript of poems about the poet's family life, political and business life and living close to the earth.

He is currently a doctoral student in the English department at the University of Oklahoma. He teaches writing courses there, is married, and the father of three children. He earned a BA from Oklahoma State University and a MA from the University of Oklahoma.



The Choctaw Veterans' Association (CVA) is a fraternal organization of Native American Veterans of service in the United States Armed Forces who are of Choctaw descent. The CVA is proud to perpetuate the memory of our veterans, both past and present.



We want to give special recognition in October to Mr. David S. Jones of Idabel, Oklahoma. Mr. Jones is a World War II veteran. He attended Goodland School and then entered the Navy in 1945. He served as a Seaman 1st Class on the USS Wren, a destroyer escort in the Asiatic Pacific theater of operation. After the war, Mr. Jones served 19 years in the U.S. Naval reserves as a gunner's mate and 12 years in the U.S. Army Reserve. While in the Army Reserve, Jones was an infantryman with a ski and mountain troop unit.

Mr. Jones' awards include: WWII Victory Medal and Ribbon, Navy Occupation, Reserve Service medal and ribbon, Sharp Shooter Badge and Grenade Launcher Badge, Meritorious Service Medal and Ribbon, Overseas Service Medal and National Defense.

David is a member of the CVA, VFW, Choctaw Nation Color Guard, the Lions Club, Masons, the McCurtain County Historical Society and a board member of the McCurtain County Boys and Girls Club.

He has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America for approximately 55 years, serving as a scout leader in Oklahoma, Kansas, Arizona and New Mexico. He has served at one time or another as a Cub Master, Scoutmaster, Explorer Advisor, Institutional Representative, Assistant District Commissioner and Neighborhood Commissioner.

Mr. Jones has been honored with a 50-year Scouting Pin. Other awards include Scouters Training Award, Scouters Key, Silver Beaver, Wood Badge with three beads, Order of the Arrow, Distinguished Indian Scouter Trophy, Frances X. Gardipee's Gray Wolf Scouting Award, God and Service Award.

Mr. Jones is a former school teacher principal. He enjoys writing and keeping in touch with friends, family and others.

We are proud of David S. Jones who has spent the majority of his life in service to the youth of America and defense of our country. We thank you David and may God bless.



Councilpersons Delton Cox, Charlotte Jackson, Billy Paul Baker, Jack Austin, Charley Jones and James Frazier visit the site of the signing of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.



An historical site commemorating the Nanih Wayia Mound is on the Councilmembers' list of interesting sites to see while in Mississippi.

Councilmembers enjoy trip to Choctaw, Mississippi



Mississippi Councilperson Brenda Stevens, center with daughter, invited the group from Oklahoma to watch the young dancers at Tucker School.

Six Choctaw Tribal Councilmembers and a former Councilperson took an educational trip to Mississippi this month. Delton Cox, Charlotte Jackson, Billy Paul Baker, Jack Austin, Charley Jones, James Frazier and Lois Burton toured a number of the Mississippi Band of Choctaws' businesses and visited many of the historical sites during their two-day stay.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaws has enjoyed a growth of economic development with many more ventures in the planning stages. Public Information Director Creda Stewart guided Choctaw bus driver Gabe Jacob and his travelers on a drive-about tour of the reservation which included a shopping center, housing addition, golf course and bed-and-breakfast inn, the newly opened 15-acre water park, and a lake under development, just stocked with thousands of fish.

Scheduled site tours were made of the tribe's American Greetings card factory, the Hospitality Institute, Choctaw Geo Imaging, and the Choctaw

Laundry. Mississippi Tribal Councilperson Bobby Thompson gave everyone a tour of the Tribal Headquarters. Councilperson Brenda Stevens also showed her Choctaw hospitality in many ways including arranging for the youth of Tucker Community to dance for the visitors.

A tour of the Bogue Chitto Elementary School was provided. From the computer lab for pre-Kindergarten to the large, well-equipped library, the beautiful building provides an harmonious atmosphere for the innovative educational tools being utilized for the students. Music students took time out from class to dance for their guests.

The Oklahoma group met with Chief Phillip Martin and spent an afternoon at the historic Mother Mound, Nanih Waiya, and the site where the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek was signed in 1830.

Fabulous fireworks marking the grand opening of the new 500-room hotel/casino, the Golden Moon, highlighted the end of the journey to Choctaw, Mississippi.

SPRING 2003 CLASSES

Chahta Anumpa Internet Course

Registration begins: 8 a.m. November 1, 2002
Registration ends: 10:00 p.m. December 6, 2002

- SCHEDULE -

- CLASS 1: 10:00 a.m. Mon.-Wed.-Fri.
Begins December 30, 2002
Ends April 16, 2003
- CLASS 2: 1:00 p.m. Mon.-Wed.-Fri.
Begins December 30, 2002
Ends April 16, 2003
- CLASS 3: 9:00 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
Begins December 31, 2002
Ends April 17, 2003

All are 50-minute classes

No classes on the following dates:
January 1, 2003 - New Year's Day
February 18, 2003 - President's Day
April 18, 2003 - Good Friday

Follow the Language link at
www.choctawnation.com
to apply for a course.

HR 2880

continued from Page 1

distributions and ravages of the 1888 Dawes Act, and Statehood for Oklahoma occurred with the land base fairly intact for these tribes. During the period 1900-1947 a series of Land Acts applicable only to the Five Tribes in Eastern Oklahoma were passed which lead to the present complex situation.

Jurisdiction over probate and other actions involving individual title to allotted lands was transferred to the State District Courts of Oklahoma.

Actions in these courts were subjected to costs and attorneys fees which led to thousands of acres of land being sold away from descendants to pay court costs associated with the estates. Thousands of estates have not been probated or have been subjected to inordinate delays. Thousands of acres of land have been lost by adverse action suits, when non Indians have encroached on Indian lands without the knowledge of Indian owners.

HR 2880 responds to this situation with remedial action. It would repeal the tangle of estate and property laws which apply to the Eastern half of Oklahoma and replace them with simple statements of law similar to the rest of Indian Country.



Program provides information on the 2002 Farm Bill

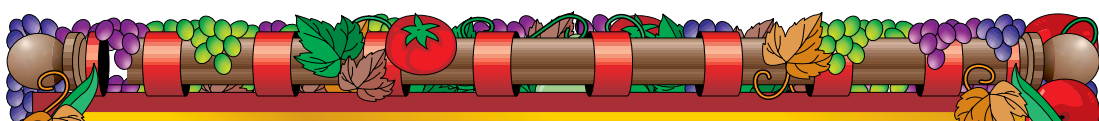
The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma teamed with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Oklahoma Cooperation Extension Service to present a day-long program on "What the 2002 Farm Bill Means to You," September 25 in the Choctaw Inn in Durant.

Program presenters included Mike Schrammel, Program Manager, Rural Business Cooperative Services; Dr. Larry Sanders, Oklahoma State University Director of Ag Policy; Phil Estes, Farm Loan Chief of the Oklahoma Farm Service Agency; Kevin Norton, Assistant State Conser-

vationist, National Resources Conservationist of Oklahoma; Darrel Dominick, NRCS State Conservationist; Brent Kisting, State Director of Oklahoma Rural Development; Billy Bailey, CMSE Program Manager, and John Glover, NRCS Deputy State Conservationist.

Topics addressed included NRCS programs, rural development, business and industry loans, FSA farm loans and livestock and commodity programs.

A question and answer panel was held following the presentations.



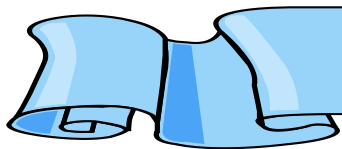
Thanksgiving Dinners

Antlers	6:30 p.m.	Thursday, November 7
Bethel	6:30 p.m.	Friday, November 8
Atoka	12 noon	Wednesday, November 13
Idabel	12 noon	Wednesday, November 13
Wright City	6:30 p.m.	Thursday, November 14
McAlester	11:30 a.m.	Friday, November 15
Broken Bow	6:30 p.m.	Friday, November 15
Durant	6:30 p.m.	Monday, November 18
Crowder Sr. Citizens	11:00 a.m.	Tuesday, November 19
Hugo	6:30 p.m.	Tuesday, November 19
Durant	11:30 a.m.	Wednesday, November 20
Stigler	11:30 a.m.	Wednesday, November 20
Coalgate	12 noon	Wednesday, November 20
Poteau	12 noon	Wednesday, November 20
Talihina	11:30 a.m.	Thursday, November 21
Wilburton	12 noon	Friday, November 22
Crowder Community	1:00 p.m.	Sunday, November 24

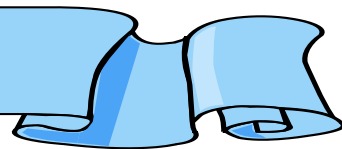


Students tour headquarters

Special Programs Executive Director Jack Pate hosted a group from Durant's Washington Irving Elementary School on a tour of the tribal headquarters and provided the students with an interesting history lesson.



OBITUARIES



Russell Ray Danenhour

Russell Ray Danenhour, 79, passed away Wednesday, September 18 in Okemah, Oklahoma. He was born July 6, 1923 in Kiowa, Oklahoma to Benjamin Franklin Danenhour, an original enrollee of the Choctaw Nation, and Jewel M. Adams Danenhour.

Mr. Danenhour had been a resident of the Okemah area most of his life. He and Betty Jolack were married November 10, 1944 in Okemah. He was a retired rancher and also served his country with the U.S. Army during World War II. He enjoyed hunting, trapping, fishing and coin collecting. He attended the Calvary Baptist Church in Okemah.

He was the grandson of Thomas Fernley Danenhour and Mary Ann Impson of Atoka, Oklahoma. He was the great-grandson of Josiah Impson of Jack Fork, Indian Territory and the great-great-grandson of Isaac Impson who came to Indian Territory during the first migration of Choctaws in the 1830s.

Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Betty, of the home in Okemah; two daughters, Gaile Grindheim and Rusty Danenhour Lang, both of Tulsa, Oklahoma; two grandchildren, Emily Jimenez of Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Daryl Russell Bean of Hemet, California; two great-grandchildren, Danielle Jimenez and Matthew Jimenez, both of Fort Sill.



Roy Thornton "Butch" Smith

Roy Thornton "Butch" Smith, 45, of Hulbert, Oklahoma passed away Monday, September 9, 2002 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was born April 22, 1957 in Tahlequah, Oklahoma to Quentin R. Smith, Sr. and Josephine Porter Smith.

Roy was a Golden Gloves Boxer for the Cherokee Boxing Club while he attended Tahlequah High School where he graduated in 1975. He enjoyed hunting and will be remembered for his saying, "Get in and let's go for the three-hour tour."

His mother and a brother, Timothy Smith, preceded him in death. Survivors include his children, Roy Thornton Smith, Jr., Cecile Smith and Danielle Smith; his longtime companion, Sally Swank; father, Quentin R. Smith, Sr.; sisters and brothers, Roxie Silverstein and her husband, Steve, of Tulsa, Quentin R. Smith, Jr. and his wife, Linda, of Oklahoma City, Venna-Ree Smith of Oklahoma City, and Joseph Smith and his wife, Lisa, of Hulbert; numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

We will miss your kindness, beautiful smile and your wonderful sense of humor. We will always love you.

Mary Sue Shaw

Mary Sue Shaw, 76, passed away Monday, September 23, 2002 in Paris, Texas. She was born on September 20, 1926 in Redden, Oklahoma to Burney and Grace Littlejohn Hampton.

She grew up in Redden and graduated from Stringtown High School. She married Carl Shaw on February 22, 1946 in Sherman, Texas and moved across the mountain to Jumbo where she operated the Jumbo Store for many years and helped Carl with the ranching.

Mrs. Shaw was retired as postmaster serving from 1955 to 1988 in Jumbo and Bokchito. She was a postmaster trainer, Southeast District Women's Program Coordinator, Past President of The National League of Postmasters and NAPUS. She was also honored as recipient of "Postmaster of the Year".

Sue was a member of the Church of Christ, volunteer for the Atoka Hospital and Atoka Museum, Home Extension Club, Pushmataha County Fair Board and Oklahoma Farm Bureau.

She had a love of people and a deep devotion to family. Much of her time was spent at family get-togethers where she enjoyed camping and fishing and no one ever went hungry as she loved to cook for everyone. She is remembered as a loving and devoted wife, mother and friend with a mischievous sense of humor.

Survivors include a son, Gary Shaw and wife, Dottie, of Antlers, Oklahoma; daughter, Carla Shaw of Grove, Oklahoma; four grandchildren, Angela Tyler and husband, Daniel, of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, and Bradley Burtch, Cullen Shaw and Eric Shaw, all of Antlers; and two great-grandchildren, Bailey and Zack Tyler of Tecumseh.

Susie Mae Battiest Jones

Susie Mae Battiest Jones, 54, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma passed away Friday, September 6, 2002 at St. Francis Health System in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She was born April 8, 1948, the daughter of Isaac, Sr. and Helen Fobb Battiest.

She was a member of St. Matthew Presbyterian Church, Oak Grove community. She was a dental assistant for the Choctaw Nation Health Clinic until retirement. She enjoyed singing and listening to gospel music. Also, she was concerned for others and enjoyed spending time with her grandsons. She had lived in Broken Bow all of her life.

Susie was preceded in death by her father, Isaac Battiest, Sr.; two brothers, Levi and Esau Battiest, and one aunt, Jane Poncho.

Survivors include her mother, Helen Battiest; one son and daughter-in-law, Danny R. and Edith Jones; one daughter and son-in-law, Arita S. and Carey Peters, all of Broken Bow; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Isaac, Jr. and Marie Battiest of Broken Bow, and Henry L. and Dinah Battiest of the Oak Hill community; 10 grandsons, Bryan and Ryan Battiest, Ales and Cody Peters, Danny, Jr., Derek, Dillon and Dusty Jones, Joey Wade and Kyle Wade Jones, all of Broken Bow, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends.

Franklin "Bub" Winship

Franklin "Bub" Winship, 70, of Broken Bow, Oklahoma passed away Friday, September 13, 2002 at Wadley Regional Medical Center. He was born July 4, 1932, the son of Bennie and Flossie Winship.

Survivors include two sons, Kevin Winship and Mark Winship; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Don and Melva Winship and Benny "Nip" and Debbie Winship; one sister and brother-in-law, Lorene and Jiggs Provence; one aunt, Mary Winship Allen, and several nieces and nephews.

Cornelius Winship, Sr.

Cornelius Winship, Sr., 73, passed away Saturday, August 31, 2002. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving on active duty from 1952 to 1953. He then spent 20 years in the U.S. Army Reserve before being honorably discharged in 1973.

Cornelius was a bonder-autoclave operator for Bell Helicopter-Telectron before his retirement in 1998 after 31 years of service. He enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Survivors include his wife of eight years, Karen Winship of Fort Worth, Texas; children, Cornelius Winship, Jr., Hiawatha Winship, Bill Winship and Michael Winship, all of Dallas, Texas, and Shayron McKerracher of Arlington, Texas; sisters, Irene Prest of Tennessee and Rena Winship of Fort Worth; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; many half-brothers and sisters, cousins, nieces and nephews in Texas and Oklahoma.

William P. Adams, Jr.

William P. Adams, Jr., 68, of Pittsburg, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, September 8, 2002 in Hartshorne, Oklahoma. He was born May 10, 1934 in Weathers, Oklahoma to William P. and Maggie Millus Adams.

Mr. Adams served in the U.S. Army and had worked at Jones Academy in Hartshorne as a laborer. He had lived in the area most of his life and was a member of the Jack Fork Assembly of God.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Maggie and Buster Adams; sister and brother-in-law, Wanda and Arlis Clunn; nephew, Arlis Glen Clunn, and brother-in-law, Jerry Holliday.

Survivors include his brother and sister-in-law, Billy Ray and Bonnie Adams of McAlester, Oklahoma; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Ruby and Jim Burns of Jack Fork and Janice and Bob Pedigo of Haileyville, Oklahoma; nephews, Jack, Randy, Lee, Ricky and Nicky; nieces, Thereasa, Terry Jean, Don Lynn, Gayline, Gloria and Gwendia; foster son, Bobby Patrick, and a host of friends, great-nephews and nieces and Church family.

Thelma E. Martin

Thelma E. Martin, 85, a resident of the North Plains, Oregon community, passed away Thursday, September 5, 2002 at Hopewell House in Portland. She was born December 16, 1916 in Corenn, Oklahoma, the daughter of Ben Frazier, an original enrollee, and Martha Musgrave Frazier. She was raised and received her education in Rattan, Oklahoma.

Thelma was united in marriage to Vorce E. Martin on May 18, 1935 in Oklahoma City. Following their marriage they lived in Oklahoma and Arizona until 1948 when they moved to Oregon, settling in the Marion community. They lived in Marion for nearly 30 years. Thelma and Vorce were married for 35 years. He preceded her in death on November 5, 1997. Thelma moved to the North Plains community to live with her daughter and family in 2001.

She was a homemaker and mother to her seven children. Thelma was a member of the Church of God in Turner, Oregon. Among her interests, Thelma had a great love for her family and always enjoyed spending time with her children and their families. She was a reknown quilter and her needlework was highly prized.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; four brothers, Wesley, Lee, Ray and Rufus Frazier; a sister, Viney Watts; two grandsons, B.J. Watson in 1975 and Billy Watson in 1991; and two sons-in-law, Harley Parry in 1997 and Clifford Merle Hocking in 2001.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Bill and Linda Jo Martin of Granite, Oregon and Jerry, Sr. and Sharon Martin of Turner, Oregon; five daughters and sons-in-law, Dorothy and Ladell Knight of Aumsville, Oregon, Linda Parry of Banks, Oregon, Maureen and Kenneth Wing, Pat and Rick Kemper and Debra Prickett, all of North Plains; a brother, Edgar Frazier of Rattan; 30 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandson and numerous nieces and nephews.

Janis Johnson

Janis Johnson passed away Monday at St. Anthony Hospital. She was born August 18, 1973 in Lawton, Oklahoma.

She grew up in Oklahoma City. She was a homemaker and a member of First Indian Church of the Nazarene.

Survivors include her husband, James Louis Bond of Oklahoma City; daughters, Hannah Cere of Tucson, Arizona, and Leslie Johnson and Anika Johnson, both of Oklahoma City; her parents, Bill and Dixie Nunley of Oklahoma City and a sister, Billie Reyes.

Cory Durant

Cory Durant, 25, of Boswell, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, September 1, 2002 at his home. He was born October 19, 1976 in Talihina, Oklahoma, the son of Mitchell Durant and Dorothy Simis Durant and had lived in Boswell all of his life. He attended the First Baptist Church of Boswell.

Survivors include his parents, Mitchell and Dorothy Durant of Boswell; three sisters, Kimberly Dancer of Durant, Lorinda Durant of Boswell and Janice Durant of Durant, Oklahoma.

H. Jack Williams

H. Jack Williams, 81, a resident of Oklahoma City for the past 17 years, passed away Wednesday, September 18, 2002. He was born January 19, 1921 in Centrahoma, Oklahoma to Joe and Cora Morrison Williams.

Jack married the love of his life, Nina Ruth Smith, on June 11, 1942 in Allen, Oklahoma. In September of 1942, he joined the U.S. Army, where he bravely fought for and faithfully served his country during World War II. He was honorably discharged as a Sergeant in January of 1946.

After his discharge, he returned to Centrahoma where they farmed for a few years. They later moved to California where Jack joined the Union-Pacific Railroad and worked as a switchman.

His parents preceded him in death. Survivors include his loving wife, Nina of the home; daughter, Barbara Peak and husband, Orel, of Oklahoma City; brother, Jessel Williams of Oklahoma City; sisters, Jo Zollezzi of Saverna Park, Maryland, Dorene Murphy and Nadine Weems, both of Tulsa, Oklahoma; grandson and wife, David and Sherrie Peak, and three great-grandchildren, Cori, Abby and J.D.

Jack was a loving, caring husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He will be fondly remembered for his time and resources that he so willingly invested and freely gave to his family, friends and neighbors.

Isaac "Ike" Burris

Isaac "Ike" Burris, 69, of Spencer, Oklahoma passed away Thursday, September 12, 2002 at the Midwest City Regional Center in Midwest City, Oklahoma. He was born April 21, 1933 at Coalgate, Oklahoma in Coal County to Buster Burris and Mary Hall, the stepson to Wilma Bacon.

He was a member of Central Baptist Church in Oklahoma City and was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War.

His brother, Leon, and sister, Delores, preceded him in death.

Survivors include two daughters, Winona Pumpkin Armstrong and Sandra Kay Burris, both of Spencer; two sons, Haskell Lee Burris and Harold Burris; four sisters, Joan Cowden of Midwest City, Oklahoma, Charlene Hawkins of Wayne, Oklahoma, Wynema Loving of Browning, Montana and Oleta Lafountain of Del City, Oklahoma; two brothers, Buster Burris, Jr. of Chickasha, Oklahoma and Richard Burris of Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Rodney Wayne Johnson

Rodney Wayne Johnson, 36, of Dallas, Texas passed away on August 30, 2002. He was born January 7, 1966 at Bentley, Oklahoma. Rodney was Choctaw and Chippewa.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, James and Janie Fisher, and an uncle, Daniel J. Fisher.

Survivors include his mother, Marjorie Brown; brother, Darrell Johnson; sister, Kim Brown of Dallas, Texas; three nieces, Amber, Marissa and Andrea; one nephew, Angel; four aunts, numerous cousins and a host of friends.

Gladys Cleo Bohanon Gann

Gladys Cleo Bohanon Gann, 83, passed away Sunday, August 25, 2002 at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in Durant. She was born November 26, 1918 in Sardis, Oklahoma to Sam Bohanon and Lue Ella Blevins Bohanon/Baucum.

She attended schools in Sardis and Tuskahoma. She married Grady Gann on October 8, 1934 in Antlers, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Gann began her ministry at the age of 22, building and pastoring her first church in Sardis. She spent 60 years ministering. Many lives were influenced and changed because of her love and dedication to the ministry. She was of the Holiness faith and a member of the Abundant Life Temple.

She will be greatly missed by her husband of 67 years, Grady Gann, as well as many family members and friends. Her father, Sam Bohanon, was an original Choctaw enrollee and she was very proud of her Choctaw heritage.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Robert Bohanon; daughter, Rosemary Dunmon; son, Wayland Gann, and son-in-law, Tommy Ramos.

Survivors include her husband; daughters, Clione Ramos of Durant, Oklahoma and Farene Freeman of Frisco, Texas; son-in-law, B.C. Dunmon of Leonard, Texas; brother, Bill Baucum of McAlester, Oklahoma; sister, Francine Gouez of Waco, Texas; grandchildren, Melesa Ramos of Durant, Mark Ramos of Boswell, Oklahoma, Clark and Lance Dunmon of Leonard, Vincent Freeman of Ft. Worth, Texas and Andrea Freeman of Tampa, Florida; great-grandchildren, Kacey and Tony Ramos of Durant, Shepard Ramos of Boswell, Brandon Dunmon of Leonard and Kaleigh Dunmon of Kingston, Oklahoma; numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.



Walter "Mac" McFarland

Walter "Mac" McFarland, 84, passed away July 23, 2002 in Paris, Texas. He was born June 29, 1918 in Spencerville, Oklahoma, the son of John Leavy McFarland and Susan Florence Everidge McFarland. He had lived in Hugo, Oklahoma since 1990.

Mac married Grace Sykes on March 28, 1992 in Hugo. He joined the Army Air Corps prior to World War II. He was taken prisoner in the Philippines by Japan.

Walter was retired from Chevron Oil Company in Richmond, California, where he worked on the Long Wharf loading and unloading fuels from tankers ships in San Pablo Bay. He liked hunting and fishing, but mostly loved just talking and remembering with his family and friends. He was a lifetime member of VFW Post 8316 and was Commander from 1998-2000. He was All-State Post Commander for the years 1999-2000. He was very active in the VFW and the community of Hugo. At present he was Post Trustee of the VFW. He also belonged to the Indian Warriors.

Survivors include his wife, Grace of the home; one son, Kim Eric McFarland of Santa Rosa, California; three daughters, Kathleen Fong of Mariposa, California, Kelly Martire of Nice, California and Ronna Platt of Roseville, Michigan; two sisters, Marie McClain and Eza Mae Adams, both of Hugo; one brother, David Hightower of Corning, California; 12 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Daniel James Fisher

Daniel James Fisher, 55, a lifelong Bentley, Oklahoma area resident, passed away Saturday, August 10, 2002 at his home. He was born July 4, 1947 at Bentley, the son of James and Janie Williams Fisher.

He attended school at Bentley and Atoka and graduated from Chilocco Indian School in 1966.

Mr. Fisher was a member of Cane Hill Methodist Church and a disabled Vietnam veteran.

His parents preceded him in death.

Survivors include five sisters, Marjorie Brown and husband, Arnold, Betty Cantu and Ernestine Ramirez and husband, Felix, all of Dallas, Texas, Wilma Davis and husband, Glen, of Cherokee, North Carolina, and Marilyn Taylor and husband, Bobby, of Ardmore, Oklahoma; an uncle and aunt, Noah and Pearl Lewis of Oklahoma City, and several nieces, nephews, cousins, many other relatives and many very dear and loved friends.

Lewey Justin Thompson

Lewey Justin Thompson, 37, of McAlester, Oklahoma passed away Sunday, October 6, 2002 in Savanna, Oklahoma. He was born August 20, 1965 in McAlester to Michael K. and Judy C. Oliver Thompson.

Lewey graduated from Enid High School. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1983 and he graduated from Colorado Springs Culinary Institute in 1992. He worked for C-2 Utility Construction Co. in Colorado Springs. He had worked for Komar and Citgo Thrift-T Mart and currently worked for L.C.'s Dandy Mart and as a carrier for the USA Today newspaper. Lewey was a member of the Indian Nation U.S. Marine Corps detachment.

His father; grandmother, Opal B. Oliver; aunts, Pauline Lalman and Sandra Atyia, and an uncle, Bill Thompson, preceded Lewey in death.

Survivors include his mother, Judy C. Thompson, of the home; uncles, Harold "Corky" Oliver and wife, Beth, of McAlester; Fried Atyia of Seminole, Oklahoma and Howard Lalman of McAlester; aunts, Betty Gilmore and husband, Jim, of New Braunfels, Texas and Melody Thompson of Marlow, Oklahoma; great aunt, Tillie Oliver of McAlester; great-great uncle, Jack Willis of Ponca City, Oklahoma; numerous cousins; special friend, Mike Bailey, and Lewey's special pets, Taz, Jasmine and Peetie.

Josephine Payton Duvall

Josephine Payton Duvall, 93, passed away August 10, 2002 at Longmeadow Care Center in Justin, Texas. She was born April 9, 1909 in Boswell, Oklahoma.

She attended Goodland and Wheelock schools and was of the Presbyterian faith. Josephine married Claud Duvall on August 11, 1928 in Hugo, Oklahoma.

Her husband, one grandchild, three brothers and two half-sisters preceded her in death.

Survivors include seven children, Cleo Wheeler, Carl Duvall, Wayne Duvall, Bobbie Westfall, Wynemia Long, Gary Duvall and Barbara Van Ness; 19 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren; a niece, Shirley Payton Freeman; two half-sisters and several half-nieces and nephews.