

Federal Reserve reappoints Gov. Anoatubby to 3-year term on OKC Branch board



Gov. Bill Anoatubby

OKLAHOMA CITY - Gov. Bill Anoatubby has recently been reappointed to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's Oklahoma City Branch.

The Oklahoma City Branch is one of three branches of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, which serves the Tenth Federal Reserve District.

As a director, Gov. Anoatubby participates in setting national monetary policy, supervising and regulating commercial banks and bank holding companies, and providing financial services to depository institutions.

It is Gov. Anoatubby's second term on the board. A total of seven directors sit on the board.



"Cybernuts" robotics team members Caleb Scott and Garrett Wampler program their team robot during competition play at the Stillwater LEGO League tournament December 12.

Youth robotics teams win awards

STILLWATER, Okla. - The Chickasaw Nation LEGO League team "Cybernuts" has won the "Gracious Professionalism Award" during Oklahoma's biggest annual FIRST LEGO League tournament in Stillwater.

"The Gracious Professionalism Award is one of the top honors you can receive at a LEGO League event," said Chickasaw Nation Science, Technology and Math manager Sara Willie.

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby said he is "very proud" of the students and others involved with the pro-

gram.

"This award demonstrates that these young students are not only learning about science and technology, they are also learning how to build positive relationships with teammates and competitors," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby.

The Chickasaw Nation FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO and Junior LEGO teams participated in the Smart Moves LEGO tournament Saturday, December 12 at Stillwater

SEE LEGO, PAGE 2

Chickasaws enjoy annual Elders' Christmas luncheon at Agriplex

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Aging hosted its annual Elders' Christmas Luncheon Friday, Dec. 18 at the Agriplex in Ada, Okla.

Refreshments were served as more than 500 elders arrived from Chickasaw Nation Senior Centers and played Christmas-themed games.

Elders from various sites took the stage for musical performances and Christmas skits before the Chickasaw Elders Choir sang Christmas carols.

Pontotoc District tribal

legislators Katie Case, Nancy Elliot, Mary Jo Green, and Dean McManus were in attendance, as well as Tishomingo District legislator Steven Woods.

The Chickasaw Princesses were also on hand.

Achille, Okla., elder Joe Beshirs gave the invocation before the event concluded with a traditional Christmas dinner served by the legislators, volunteers and staff of several senior sites.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.



Ada senior Doris Postoak tries her luck at the snow ball toss.



Christmas Celebration

Treyeon Crossley, grandson of Nina and Lee Crossley, visits Santa during the Metro Area Chickasaw Children's celebration in Oklahoma City. Santa also made visits to Ada, Ardmore and Tishomingo, Okla., during the annual holiday celebrations.

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LEGO | CONTINUED
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"Blockheads" are, back row from left, Avery Logan, mentor Keith Mowdy and mentor Loraine Weems. Front row, from left – Jason Morgan, Taylor Weems, Bailee McCurdy and Chelsea Wedlow



"Mechanical Masterminds" are, back row from left, Roudee Humphreys, Chase Horton, Winter Stephens, Thirkiel Wedlow and Courtney Burris. Front row, from left – Joshua Tingle, Brady Garrett and Patrick Cooke.



"Cybernuts" are, back row, from left, Mentors Beth Alcorn-Benton, Bryce Scott and Jay Mitchell. Front row, from left, Levi Hinson, Garrett Wampler, Madyson Mitchell and Caleb Scott.



"Superstorm" members are, back row from left, Mentors Kristi and Rean Brooks. Front row from left, Laura Wilson, Brady Brooks, Nayukpa Ramsey, Levi Brooks and Taylor Harrison.



"Tiny Techs" are, from left, Kelly Cooke, Lauren John, Andrea Underwood, Elijah Gibson and Logan Garrett. Not pictured - Mentors Jimsey Factor and Tom John



"Mini Mayhem" members are, from left, Mentor Reinee McAngus, Carly Horton, Sunzie Harrison, Matthew McAngus, Sean Cooke and Mentor Bill McAngus.

High School,

Three LEGO teams, Cybernuts, Blockheads and Mechanical Masterminds, and three Junior LEGO teams, Mini Mayhem, Tiny Techs and Superstorm, represented the Chickasaw Nation during the event.

"We are so proud of our LEGO teams," said Ms. Willie. "The teams performed well and worked really hard during the tournament."

The Gracious Professionalism Award honors the team that best represents positive team spirit and attitude, teamwork, sportsmanship and encouragement for other teams. Each LEGO team member also received a medal for their

hard work and participation.

The LEGO tournament consisted of 50 teams of students and mentors. Each team displayed problem-solving skills, creative thinking skills, teamwork, competitive play and sportsmanship. During tournament play, the teams program robots to maneuver through an obstacle course designed around the concept of transportation modes.

The LEGO competition was judged in project presentation, robot performance, technical design and programming of the robot and teamwork.

Approximately 30 Junior LEGO students also participated in the tournament by displaying trans-

portation models and presentations. Awards were presented to each Chickasaw team. Mini Mayhem received the Gracious Professionalism Award, Superstorm received the Most Creative Award and Tiny Techs received the Most Knowledgeable Award. Each Junior LEGO team member also received a medal for their presentation skills.

FIRST is a national organization founded in 1989 by inventor Dean Kamen. The mission of FIRST is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs. Through FIRST, students gain engineering and technology

skills, inspire innovation and develop self-confidence, communication and leadership skills.

For more information about FIRST and the LEGO teams, contact Sara Willie at 580-421-7711 or sara.willie@chickasaw.net

CONTRIBUTED BY Brooke Tidwell, Public Affairs

What is LEGO League?

LEGO League, established by the FIRST organization, opens up the world of engineering and technology for students ages six to 14. Through Junior LEGO and LEGO League, students experience real-world engineering. Students conduct research, and build real working LEGO-based robots. Adult mentors assist and guide students during the LEGO season. Through LEGO League, students discover future career opportunities in the fields of science, technology, math and engineering.

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2612 E. Arlington, Suite B
P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821
Chickasaw Times: (580) 332-2977; Fax: (580) 332-3949
e-mail: Times.Chickasaw@chickasaw.net
Chickasaw Headquarters: (580) 436-2603

Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Jefferson Keel
Lt. Governor

Tom Bolitho
Editor

Vicky Gold
Office Manager

Tony Choate
Media Relations Director

Carrie Buckley
Media Relations Specialist

Jeremy Oliver
Media Relations Specialist

Dana Hudspeth
Media Relations Supervisor

Karissa Pickett
Health Communications Officer

Brooke Tidwell
Education Communications Officer

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the Chickasaw Times. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.

Deadline for submission is the 22nd of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

What will \$17m buy? Lots of Chickasaw opportunity!

At the Chickasaw Nation, we talk a lot about our tribal self-sufficiency, our tribal governance and our commercial endeavors.

Each of these elements is vitally important to our tribe, our people and our future. Each is based on a vision of producing enough of our own resources to properly serve all Chickasaw people.

But what do they really mean in a Chickasaw family's everyday life? The tribal government works hard to protect its inherent sovereignty and to govern fairly. The tribal businesses are diligent in producing excellent financial results and developing new and innovative lines of business.

And our tribe pours its resources back into its people.

Let's look at our tribal education program, historically one of our top priorities.

In the fiscal year concluded on Sept. 30, 2009, the Chickasaw Nation had invested just shy of \$17 million in education programs and services.



GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor,
the Chickasaw
Nation

That's right! It's an amazing figure, and one that reflects our continued commitment to providing the education tools Chickasaws of all ages and situations require to learn, grow and achieve real happiness.

Our tribal businesses are huge contributors to this investment. Our administrators, managers and employees understand we are not creating profits simply for the joy of making money. We are hitting our financial goals so the Chickasaw people can access education programs at many, many levels.

That is where "the rubber meets the road!"

The funds we direct to our tribal education efforts correlate directly to fulfilled Chickasaw families, confident Chickasaw students and Chickasaw children starting out on the right foot.

You see the investment in our childhood development, child care and early reading programs. We understand our kids require a nurturing environment, great instructors and the

books, supplies and other resources to get ahead.

You see the investment in our tribal commitment to the Johnson-O'Malley program in the Chickasaw Nation. Thousands of Native children each year receive supplies, tutoring and other material they need to keep them on the right track.

Thousands more of our Chickasaw vocational, college and graduate-level students are receiving millions of dollars in scholarships, grants and incentives to assist them in completing their educations.

And there is so much more. Our adult education programs are making significant and positive changes in the lives of mature Chickasaws. Our engineering robotics programs are bringing alive the math and science disciplines for our children and teens. Our summer academies bring students from across the country to study aerospace, the environment, the arts and more.

With your valuable support, our tribe is building an outstanding educational foundation. As Chickasaws take advantage of these opportunities, traditions within families are created that lead new generations to educational excellence.

All we do at the tribe is designed to offer new and exciting opportunities to Chickasaw people everywhere. Take advantage today! We look forward to your personal success.

Kids turn out for annual Christmas celebrations



Santa greets two young guests at the Oklahoma City Metro Area Chickasaw Children's Christmas Celebration Dec. 8 at the Blazers Ice Center.

Christmas cheer was spread throughout the Chickasaw Nation during the annual Children's Christmas Celebrations, conducted last month.

Santa and his helpers made four stops, Oklahoma City, Ada, Tishomingo and Ardmore.

Tishomingo Christmas Celebration Features Fun

The Chickasaw Nation Community Center in Tishomingo was a flurry of Yuletide activity Thursday, Dec. 10.

Children of all ages had fun making Christmas cards, playing games such as bean bag toss, milk bottle bowling, ring toss and fishing.

Visiting with Santa, eating Christmas cookies, getting temporary holiday tat-

toos and jumping on the moon bounce were also popular activities.

Shelby Smith and Zac Floyd, both 12, enjoyed "everything" about the holiday event.

"I like the bean bag toss and the bouncy ball prize," Shelby said.

Three-year-old Braden Bivens liked the milk bottle bowling the best.

"I am scared of Santa," he said.

Stram Sisemoore, 8, said visiting Santa was the best part of the night.

Cheyenne Arkansas said she liked the milk bottle bowling.

Metro Area Scene of First Chickasaw Children's Christmas Celebration

Chickasaw families from across the state joined in the metro area Chickasaw Children's Christmas for a night of ice skating and holiday celebrations Tuesday, Dec. 8 at the Blazers Ice Center in Oklahoma City.

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Youth and Family Services hosted the event.

Families enjoyed ice skating accompanied by holiday music and a surprise guest appearance by Santa Claus.

More than 100 children took turns visiting Santa, putting in their last minute Christmas present request, and having photos taken.

The Chickasaw Princesses were also on-hand for photos and conversation.

"It was amazing! I had so much fun ice skating and meeting new friends," said Taylor Hicks.

As part of the festivities, families

were invited to make laminated Christmas cards for friends and family, and design and decorate their own Christmas cookies in workshops located around the ice rink.

A gift store was also available for attendees to pick up stockings stuffed with Bedre' chocolate to hang over the fireplace.

"It was wonderful being able to have the Chickasaw Children's Christmas in Oklahoma City this year for the first time and see so many new faces come to celebrate with us," said Toni Pace, executive director for the Chickasaw Boys & Girls Club.

Ardmore's Festival of Lights Illuminate Christmas Celebration

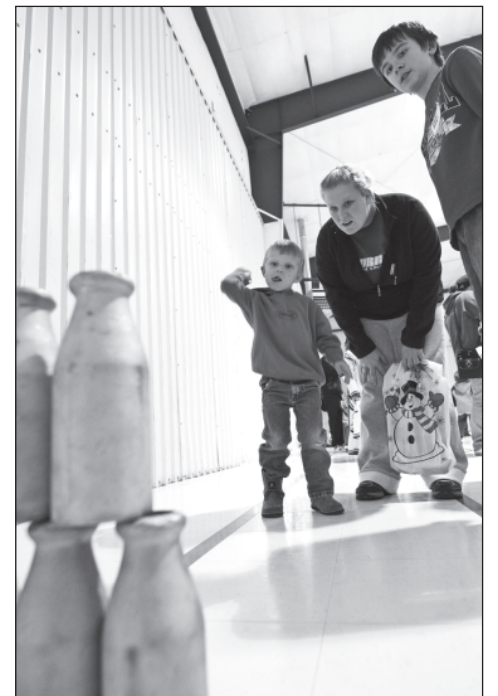
Dozens of children enjoyed the festival of lights, visiting with Santa and other events at the Chickasaw Nation Christmas Celebration in Ardmore.

Renee Sandvick of Ardmore, who brought her five-year-old daughter Carelee to the event, said she "thinks it is wonderful" that the Chickasaw Nation provides the event for children.

She added that she thinks it is "great" that the children are able to come together to create these memories.

Her daughter Carelee said she likes "everything" about Christmas.

Ada Children Celebrate the Season
Ada's Wintersmith Lodge was filled with the Christmas spirit Thursday, Dec. 17 as dozens of families from the Ada are gathered to celebrate the season.



Three-year-old Braden Bivens tries out milk bottle bowling at the Tishomingo Chickasaw Children's Christmas Celebration Dec. 10. Braden's mother, Chelsea, and volunteer Cooper Wingo, 12, are also pictured.

Chickasaw youth worked their way through roomfuls of activities and games including a bean bag toss, necklace making and face painting.

"I really liked everything I did," said Brady Jarrett, a fifth grader from Ada. "I just love Christmas!"

Talon Stidham, 8, enjoyed using her skill to win prizes.

"I won at the bean bag toss so I got a notebook," she said.

Students 'dig' into history at original Ada home site



Stonewall students Eric Carrell and Sebastian Reed sift through uncovered relics on the past found at the 100-year-old homesite. The students were part of six Stonewall students to participate in the program.

ADA, Okla. - Fish hooks, thimbles, marbles, and rusted pop bottle caps.

Mundane objects.

Until you consider they pre-date your birth and you find them buried beneath the soil - then they are artifacts.

That's what a group of six students from Stonewall (OK) High School alternative education program discovered during a collaborative archaeology project last month.

Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities and other tribal departments provided logistical assistance during the four-day project, which ran from Dec. 14 through Dec. 17.

"The fact that you can go find these old objects in a modern part of town is so cool," said student Billy Caldwell.

The group focused on Daggs' Prairie, a century-old homestead located on West 6th Street in Ada.



Dr. Philip Morgan of the Chickasaw Nation Press teaches the history of Indian Territory to Stonewall High School student archaeologists during the Daggs Prairie project.

The project, dubbed "Going Forward, Looking Back," paired University of Illinois professor Jim Wilson with Stonewall alternative education instructor Daryl Sawyer and six students.

"The purpose of the project is to teach young people how to empower their lives going forward by learning to look back, and enlarge their appreciation for the accomplishments of earlier generations," said Wilson.

Dr. Philip Morgan of the tribe's Chickasaw Press spoke to the students about the history of the Chickasaw Nation and Indian Territory.

Caldwell and the rest of the

students were amazed to find objects used by early Oklahomans were still in use today, albeit in a different forms, such as the use of plastics instead of glass.

Akin to a treasure hunt, students methodically searched in a one-meter squares in the home's yard on the cold December mornings.

They uncovered relics such as bullet casings, animal bones, brick fragments, checker pieces, assorted broken glass, rusted roofing nails and a 1944 penny.

Afternoons were spent in the classroom washing and cataloging the artifacts.

Time was also spent writ-

ing about their experience and findings and listening to guest speakers, who offered insight and advice during the project.

Students also learned about items such as legal descriptions and topographic maps, and more about the history of the Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory and Ada.

Longtime Ada resident Alberta Blackburn offered interpretation and historical insight during the excavation.

"There was a lot of cotton back then," she said. "Cotton was king."

When talking about the day's findings, she said, "He found the prettiest marble, it had all the different colors on it. I remember playing marbles."

Wilson said the project also seeks to join larger conversations regarding cultural resource management and the arts anywhere that the interests of tribal, local, and state communities intersect.

"For "Old Town" Ada, located in Pontotoc County, Chickasaw Nation, and in old Indian Territory of the State of Oklahoma—archaeological research can tell a story of how contemporary communities move forward with their pasts," Wilson explained.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Posting the colors



The Chickasaw Nation Honor Guard was among several Native American tribes who posted the colors at the Oklahoma State University versus Colorado football game on November 19. Pictured from left are Will Johnson, Mike Reed and Bernie Seeley.



Archaeologists Jim Wilson inventories artifacts uncovered during a day of the Going Forward, Looking Back Community and Archaeology projects at Daggs Prairie Home Site in "Old Town" Ada, Oklahoma.

About Daggs Prairie home site

Now located at 1001 W. 6th Street in Ada, the Daggs home was built in 1890 after William Daggs, a Choctaw, had taken his allotment land on the outskirts of what would become the town of Ada, Indian Territory.

The City of Ada was originally known as Daggs Prairie and Daggs Flatt after the Daggs family.

The town was later named when a local store owner submitted the name of his daughter, Ada.

In the late teens and early

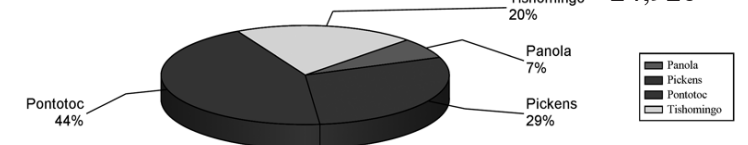
1920s Daggs allowed some of the merchants in downtown Ada to dump their damaged dry goods in a ravine on his land.

Today, Zelda Daggs, the only remaining child of William Daggs and Mollie Daggs, still maintains her parents' original farm house and allotment.

William Daggs, and his brother Lee Daggs, were the first men who used a portion of their allotment lands to create Ada's first baseball team and park.

Count of Voters by District

Panola	1,694	Pontotoc	11,022
Pickens	7,202	Tishomingo	<u>5,002</u>
			24,920



Programs opening the doors to our culture

Greetings and Happy 2010! I wish I could offer a sentiment to you in Chickasaw. I hope to attend more classes this year and become more educated in our spoken language.

I have a good friend who likes to correct people and instructors, no less, for speaking and teaching the wrong things. He will say, "That is not Chickasaw. That's Choctaw." Or another will say, "Our language is not written. We only come up with problems trying to learn a spoken language from reading it." And they are both right. Thankfully, in addition to classroom instruction, we have a master/apprentice program that teaches by way of a fluent speaker spending many hours each week conversing with his apprentice in the hopes that it will produce another fluent speaker, and so on.



**HOLLY
EASTERLING**

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

I also have friends who are reluctant to celebrate Chickasaw culture in a forum that is presented more in the form of entertainment for others. That perspective is foreign to them because of their upbringing. I have great respect for that. It is my hope that nothing we do as a tribe is insulting to anyone who is Chickasaw because that is not the spirit in which it is being presented.

There are many ways to celebrate and pass down Chickasaw heritage. I will be there trying to learn more about Chickasaw language, history, culture (and all things Chickasaw) any way that I can because my Chickasaw family was gone from me at the age of 6. I want to learn about their way of life and all the hardships they endured for my benefit. But I also understand there are still members of my tribe today who lived it and were able to pass down traditions, religion, foods, language in a more personal and private way within their families. We are blessed, as a tribe, with elders from these families willing to share their life stories with others so that we all may benefit.

I am thankful for a tribe that puts so much emphasis on those things that make us uniquely Chickasaw and promotes and encourages education in all forms. In this respect I look forward, with anticipation, to the opening of the Cultural Center in Sulphur, OK, this coming spring. And it is my hope that no matter what your upbringing or perspective, you can find some part of this wonderful place that speaks to you. It will be a place to learn, or simply embrace, those things that bind us together and to pay respect to those who have come before us.

I am thankful to be one of your representatives in the Chickasaw Legislature. It is an honor and a privilege. All the best to you and your family in this New Year!

Holly Easterling, Chairperson
Pontotoc District, Seat 1
1722 Augusta Drive, Ada, OK 74820
(580) 436-1460 Legislature (580) 399-4002 Cell
holly.easterling@chickasaw.net

Take advantage today of our eye clinic

Happy New Year! 2010 is here. This is an opportunity to start fresh and try new things. One of the new things I experienced at the Chickasaw Nation was

a trip to the optometrist. My appointment was at the Tishomingo Clinic with Dr. Laura L. Hill. Dr. Hill has been the optometrist (eye Dr.) at the clinic for the past six years. She and her husband, Dr. Stephen Hill, reside in Ada, Oklahoma. The interesting thing is that Dr. Stephen Hill is an optometrist too! He has been with the Chickasaw Nation for the past seven and one-half years and currently works out of the Ada Clinic. Both of the Doctors are pleased to be with the Nation and enjoy assisting citizens.



**BETH
ALEXANDER**

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

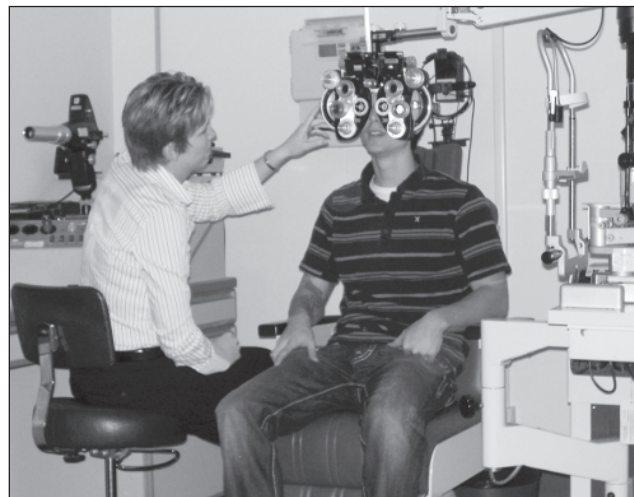
Having an optometry program for citizens is a good thing. Whether you reside in or out of the Nation, you can take advantage of this service.

Call (580) 436-3980 and ask for the eye clinic. Due to young age and rapid growth, children and youth need to have their eyes checked regularly, AND adults, don't wait until everything appears fuzzy before getting a checkup!

For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward

him...

II Chronicles 16:9
Beth Alexander
Panola District Legislator
P.O.Box 246
Achille, OK. 74720
(580) 283-3409
Bethalexander22@hotmail.com



We are always working to defeat diabetes

Hello Everyone, The holidays are a blessed time for the Chickasaw Nation and its citizens. We have had a very prosperous year and are looking forward to a great new year.

I am happy to have been appointed to the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee representing the Oklahoma Area. This national council meets quarterly to address the needs of diabetes treatment and prevention programs in each area of the United States. All Native Americans and Alaska Natives are included in these areas. Nearly 24 million adults and children in



**CONNIE
BARKER**

Chickasaw
Tribal
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the U.S. are affected by diabetes and an additional 57 million are living with pre-diabetes, and this number continues to grow at a dramatic rate.

Currently programs such as the Special Diabetes Program for Indians are funded with federal dollars and those monies are distributed to each area to fund diabetes prevention and treatment. Continued funding for these programs will ensure that the federal efforts to combat diabetes remains in the forefront of healthcare.

Construction work on the new Chickasaw Nation Medical Center continues to be in full swing and things are going according to plans.

Dr. Martin Powell, DDS will be rejoining the dental staff on December 14. He brings along with him 19 years of dental care expertise.

Patient visits for November 2009 were Internal Medicine 371, Emergency Department visits 1092, Pediatric visits 693, same day clinic visits 2511, Family Practice visits including satellite clinics were 2740 and OB/GYN visits 47. General surgery visits were 396 and general surgery cases performed were 268.

My family and I would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Connie Barker
Tribal Legislator, Pickens District

Reserve your 2010 Programs and Services Directory today!

This directory outlines the numerous programs and services available to you and your family.

The directory offers:

- Information on all programs and services available
- Program descriptions
- Important phone numbers and contact information
- Office locations and hours of operation
- Program requirements
- Detailed index with keywords

To reserve your copy of the 2010 directory, call (866) 466-1481. The directory can also be reserved online by visiting <http://www.chickasaw.net/servicedirectory>.

Chickasaw court system serving Chickasaws well

Happy New Year, Everyone! I hope this finds everyone feeling a sense of comfort and satisfaction for your enjoyment of the Holidays - that you did indeed enjoy them! And now you are off and running on the path to a great new year!

As I write this I am still looking forward to all the joys of Christmas and because a special granddaughter who lives in Virginia will be home and a great-granddaughter (not very old!) will also be in, it is destined to be a very special time. I hope that all of you are finding a reason to feel the same.



LINDA BRIGGS

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

When we settle in after the holiday we will be "settling in" to our new Legislative building and we are as excited about the prospect as a bunch of kids at Christmas. We have long needed more space and the reality is wonderful. The Legislative and Judicial buildings are next to each other, at an angle, and although the Judicial is a larger building by a little bit they are effectively twin buildings. The judges and their staff are also elated over the prospect as they too have long needed more space as the court system continues to grow.

A point of interest in the area of Judicial is that we now have more than 100 practicing attorneys from the area who are

affiliated with our court system. That's a small clue to the success of what they do.

The hospital continues to thrill and astound us as it rounds the last corners to completion. The actual moving is to be a finely coordinated effort on the parts of many people with the idea in mind of being of as little inconvenience as possible to the patients. With the people behind the planning I am going to think they will make it happen!

We are looking forward to the Senior Christmas Luncheon on Friday, December 18 and there will be several hundred of our finest gathering there. If you are a senior I wish you could be joining all of us! It will be a great day!

I wish for all of you a Safe, Wonderful Time of Year with God's blessings in abundance. Let's enjoy the path of 2010 together and hopefully, in good health!

Linda Briggs

Court Advocate services now available for tribal citizens

Court Advocate Services are now available in Ardmore, Ada, and Purcell to assist Native Americans with their legal problems.

To make an appointment call 1-800-479-1459.

This is a service provided by the tribal court system.

'Voices' project at ECU to inspire Indian students

Hello Everyone, Happy New Year! I hope all of your endeavors this year are successful. For those of you pursuing higher education this year, I want to share excerpts from an article written by Jill Frye of East Central University's Communications and Marketing Department.

Jill's article begins... from it's beginning, East Central University has been closely tied to the Chickasaw Nation and Native American culture. One hundred years ago Dan Hays, a Chickasaw Indian, donated the land for the original campus. Today, 20 percent of ECU's students are Native American and the university features a Native American Student Association, a Native American studies major and the Hayes Native American Studies Center.



KATIE CASE

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

A current tie between ECU and Native Americans is the Native American Voices Inspiring Student Success Project. The project is guided by one goal - to further improve and expand ECU's capacity to serve Native American and low-income students.

"The Voices Project has three main components - culturally integrated student support services focused on recruitment and retention, building renovations and faculty development,"

said Renee Hogue, director of the Voices Project.

As part of recruitment and retention, a comprehensive enrollment management center will be created that will focus on and support Native American and low-income students. This fall, a living and learning community was established in Pesagi Hall for freshmen who are Native American, majoring in Native American Studies or have an interest in native culture.

"We also have a student worker program for freshmen that allows us to employ 20 students across the campus that are either Native American or qualify as low income," said Hogue.

Other services provided to students include admissions coordination, academic advisement, enrollment, tribal and community service liaison assistance, cultural activities, campus resource and referral services and early warning/intervention programs for beginning freshmen who may be struggling to adjust to the college experiences.

In addition to Hogue, the director, the Voices Project includes Trish Frasher, the data collection specialist; Shawna Jackson, who coordinates retention efforts; and Kyle Gardner, the first-year program coordinator.

ECU enrollment for the Spring 2010 semester begins January 6, 2010. As the day approaches, please remember the services offered by the Voices Project. For more information about the Voices Project, call (580) 559-5654 or go by and visit with them.

Respectfully,
Katie

Education programs make a real difference!

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Committee Chair of the Education Committee! We hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and send our best wishes for the best of new years for 2010!

Lisa John, Administrator of the Division of Education, met with the Committee on December 7 and gave a lengthy report. In October, the Child Development Center served 161 children and the Sick Child Care Center served 62. The Childcare Program included 178 Chickasaw children.

The Division of Education has been doing several things in outreach to Chickasaw students. Representatives visited with 72 students in 11 schools. The Division held a college admissions preparatory workshop and a booth at an Indian youth career day at the University of Central Oklahoma. The Division also had a booth at Southeastern Oklahoma State University's College Fair.



MARY JO GREEN

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Johnson O'Malley (JOM) compliance monitoring is under way. Pontotoc, Murray, Johnston and Bryan Counties have been completed and Love County is ongoing. The Division gave achievement awards for Spanish (1), outstanding citizenship (1), outstanding academics (1), and overall achievement (5).

The Chickasaw Nation FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO and Junior FIRST LEGO teams participated in Oklahoma's biggest annual FIRST LEGO tournament at Stillwater High School on December 12. The LEGO team "Cybernuts," and the Junior LEGO team "Mini Mayhem" each won a "Gracious Professionalism Award" at the tournament.

The Chickasaw Nation has three FIRST LEGO teams for Chickasaw students ages nine to 14. Team names are the Blockheads, Cybernuts and Mechanical Masterminds. The LEGO program challenges students to demonstrate problem-solving skills, creative thinking, teamwork, competitive play, sportsmanship and sense of community.

Junior FIRST LEGO teams is geared toward six to nine year olds. The program introduces students to the wonders of science and technology through traditional, open-ended LEGO building. The Chickasaw Nation fields three Junior FIRST LEGO teams named Super Storm, Tiny Techs and Mini Mayhem.

We are encouraged by the number and variety of educational programs provided by the Chickasaw Nation. Because of these programs, today's students will certainly be better qualified to be tomorrow's leaders. Thanks to the Division of Education for all that you do!

I would love to hear from you. Please contact me through my email address mary.green@chickasaw.net or through the address and telephone number listed elsewhere in this and every issue of the Chickasaw Times and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. My articles are also located on the web site. Until next time, I wish God's blessings on all of our people. Thank you.

Our elders are an invaluable legacy

Happy New Year! This is the time of year we all feel refreshed and try to start anew. As I reflect on 2009, I have so many things to be grateful for - family, friends and my new position as a tribal legislator. It has been so wonderful meeting so many of my fellow Chickasaws.

I have been making my way around the Pickens district, visiting the various senior sites. What a treat! My conversations and encounters have given me so much joy and pride in our heritage. As I expressed to many of you during my campaign last summer, it is very important to me to help preserve the memories and stories of our elders. After all, we wouldn't be where we are today without them. I encourage all of you to listen to the stories of our elders. Write them down or record them. They are an invaluable legacy that should be passed from generation to generation.



SHANA HAMMOND

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

As I look forward to 2010, I have many great hopes for the Chickasaw people. I pray that it will be another great year for the tribe.

Many blessings for a Happy New Year!

Shana Tate Hammond
Pickens District, Seat 4
(580) 235-1438
shana.hammond@chickasaw.net

Chikasha Apihchi ikbi students bring holiday cheer

Members of Chikasha Apihchi Ikbi (Leadership Chickasaw) helped spread holiday cheer during the group's December session.

The group's members hosted a canned food drive for the month of November and collected 41 cans of food that were donated to the Salvation Army.

Additionally the group organized a toy drive and donated 71 toys to the Chepota Himmita Program. The toys were given to the children by Santa during their annual Christmas celebration.

The group, made up of 14- to 18-year-olds from throughout the Chickasaw Nation, also participated in training courses on domestic violence during the December session.

Led by instructor Tisha Williams, Domestic Violence Counselor for the Chickasaw Nation, the students learned about the physical, emotional, verbal and sexual abuse.

"I believe that educating our teens is very important because dating violence is very real in the lives of teens," said Williams.

The group also discussed "red flags" - signs that someone may be a victim of abuse, plus programs and services that are available.

Members also took part in self defense training led by Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts Coordinator Matt Clark.

Clark instructed the members on basic techniques and self defense moves.

The students capped off the training session with a Christmas celebration as students took part in a game of secret Santa and each student receiving a surprise gift.



Chikasha Apihchi Ikbi (Leadership Chickasaw) members celebrated Christmas last month during the group's monthly session by playing a variety of holiday games. Students also learned more about domestic violence prevention during the session.

"Small Business" is January's topic, including a trip to the Bedre Chocolate factory. The students will learn what is involved in the operation of a small business.

During the 12-month leadership program members gain first-hand knowledge of ways leaders deal with a wide variety of issues that affect their lives.

To be a member of the group, students are required to maintain a grade point average of 2.5 or better. To remain in good standing, members must attend a minimum of 75 percent of all regular meetings, fundraisers and service projects.

For more information about the Chikasha Apihchi Ikbi program, contact Ms. Tonya Bierce, youth leadership coordinator at (580) 310-6620.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Ada Senior Citizens Gift Shop

1005 Chamber Loop, Ada, OK
(580) 436-1007

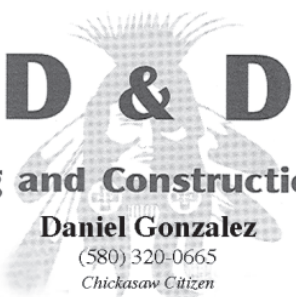
SW jewelry, dream catchers, caps and lots of Chickasaw items. Shop the Ada Senior Citizens Gift Shop for all your gift giving items!



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Michael W. Lovegrove

Chronicles the political life of an important Chickasaw leader.

www.chickasawpress.com (580) 559-0547

The Chickasaw Press is a department of the Chickasaw Nation Division of History and Culture.

Copies of Chickasaw storybook available

Copies of "It's Saturday!" (Nittak Hollo Nakfish!), a children's storybook distributed at this year's Chickasaw Festival, are available free of charge from the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities.

The book is the product of a collaboration among Laura Clark, Humanities and Literary Arts Coordinator for the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities; Joshua Hinson, Director of Cultural Education and Outreach for the Chickasaw Language Revitalization Program; and JoAnn Ellis, Chickasaw Language and Cultural Specialist.

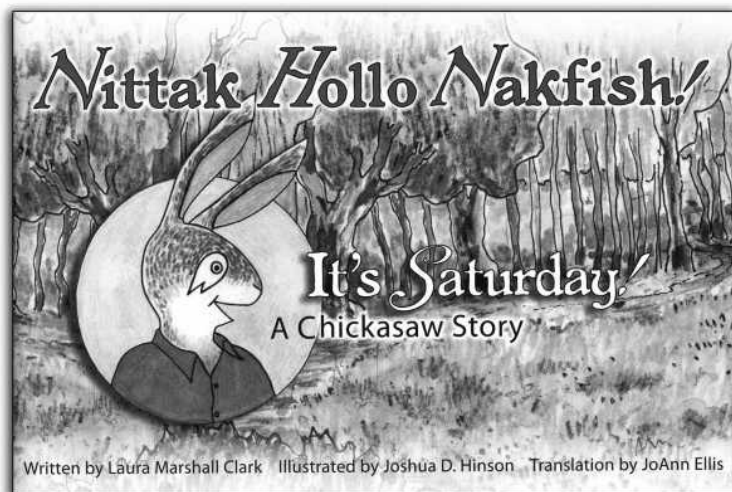
The book follows Talhoffi, a young rabbit during his day. The book is written in Chickasaw and includes a facing page with English transla-

tions. Ms. Clark wrote the story, Ms. Ellis provided translations and Mr. Hinson served as illustrator. The dialog includes many "everyday" Chickasaw words including colors, animals and family members.

For more information on re-

ceiving "It's Saturday!" (Nittak Hollo Nakfish!), contact Laura Clark at Laura.Clark@chickasaw.net or (580) 272-5525.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.



'Lowak Shoppala' DVDs, merchandise now available

Professional DVDs of the performance of "Lowak Shoppala" and silk-screened posters of the event are now available for purchase.

Chickasaw artist Dustin Mater created the artwork for the three posters, priced at \$20 each. All posters will be signed, and are limited editions.

"The Crossing" is the title of the first poster released. The

other two posters in the series - "The Minco" and "The Removal" - will be available later this year.

Both the posters and DVDs can be ordered by contacting the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Give the Gift of Art!

Greeting cards created by five young Chickasaw artists are currently available for purchase.

Each box is \$10. Boxes contain five cards featuring photographs of original artwork created by each student.

The cards are a product of the marketing and design class sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities.

The eight-week course, led by Graphic Arts and Design Coordinator Rachel Westmoreland, helps young artists develop and market their own artwork.

For more information, contact the Division of Arts and Humanities at (580) 272-5520 or email rwestmoreland@mac.com.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Tribal financial results holding steady through recession

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and the tribe's BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Chickasaw Enterprises. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of the tribal operation, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Businesses revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes, sales revenue at convenience, travel plazas and tobacco stores, rent and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, Chickasaw

Times and governor's and Lt. governor's offices. Expenditure for education includes education scholarship as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include senior citizens sites, eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending November 30, 2009

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled \$10.0 million for the month and \$20.7 million year-to-date. Expenditures were \$7.1 million for the month and \$13.7 million year-to-date. There has been a total, beginning in fiscal year 2004, of \$120.0 million transferred from the businesses that were reserved for capital projects.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming prizes for November totaled \$70.2 million and \$141.2 million

year-to-date. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was \$20.3 million for the month and \$39.5 million year-to-date. After transfers to the Tribal Government for capital projects and tribal program operations the net income was \$10.3 million year-to-date. The net income includes all rev-

Chickasaw Nation Tribal Operations Statement of Revenues and Expenditures For the Two Months Ended November 30, 2009

	Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues			
Transfers from businesses to tribal government	\$ 647,059	141,243,660	141,890,719
Total funds available	20,206,094	(20,206,094)	-
	20,853,153	121,037,566	141,890,719
Expenditures			
General government	1,714,921		1,714,921
Legislature	476,835		476,835
Judiciary	149,619		149,619
Education	1,786,268		1,786,268
Heritage Preservation	1,289,441		1,289,441
Health	2,462,700		2,462,700
Youth and Family Services	2,043,279		2,043,279
Nutrition Programs	725,746		725,746
Regulatory	1,158,663		1,158,663
Assistance Programs	1,966,543		1,966,543
Transfer to Loan Program	-		-
Gaming expense		81,068,915	81,068,915
Other businesses' expense		29,583,638	29,583,638
Total expenditures	13,774,015	110,652,553	124,426,568
Increase in net assets	7,079,138	10,385,013	17,464,152
Beginning net assets	372,970,602	495,790,033	868,760,635
Ending net assets	\$ 380,049,740	506,175,046	886,224,786

Chickasaw Nation Tribal Operations Statement of Net Assets November 30, 2009

	Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	\$ 137,357,476	145,761,428	283,118,904
Receivables	1,313,119	16,645,197	17,958,316
Inventory		5,308,598	5,308,598
Prepaid expenses		11,670,114	11,670,114
Other Assets		28,556,207	28,556,207
Fixed assets	242,646,190	473,949,642	716,595,832
Less payables	(1,267,045)	(175,716,140)	(176,983,185)
Net Assets	\$ 380,049,740	506,175,046	886,224,786

enue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At November 30, 2009, the tribal government funds had \$137 million in cash and investments. Of this amount, \$16.9 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had \$145 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of November 30, 2009, tribal operations, excluding federal program funding, had net assets of \$886 million compared to \$755 million at January 31, 2009 or an increase of \$131 million.

Archery, fishing, exploring and more**Hayaka Unta campers 'stay in the wilderness'**

Kenneth Smith and his sons Blake, right, and Kyle, all of Noble, Okla., at Hayaka Unta Winter Camp, conducted at Chickasaw Ranch, near Davis last month. The trio was joined by 30 other campers during the weekend camp.

DAVIS, Okla. - More than three dozen campers got back to basics during the 2009 Winter Hayaka Unta Camp, December 4-6 at the Chickasaw Ranch near Davis.

Hayaka Unta, which translates to "stay in the wilderness," gives Chickasaw youth and their parents or guardians a chance to pitch tents and try new outdoor activities.

Archery, firearms, fishing, exploring and hiking were all offered at the camp, along with the lure of a campfire, a chili cook off, and cultural demonstrations.

A total of 18 students, 15 parents and nine camp counselors braved the elements, including cold, gusty winds, for three days and two nights.

One of Dustyn Asbery's favorite things about the camp was the relaxed agenda. Many activities are offered, but campers can decide to participate or just relax around the campfire with their friends and family.

Dustyn, who lives in Wilson, Okla., attended camp for the first time.

Kenneth Smith, of Noble, Okla., attended the camp for the second time with his sons Kyle, 11, and Blake, 13.

"We were a little more prepared than the first time," Smith said. "We have warmer sleeping bags. We didn't even use our heater last night."

He said his sons started packing three days before the

first day of camp.

"They were ready to go," he said.

Smith liked that all campers attended a Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation hunter safety course, led by Gary Pratt, ranch operations manager.

"It's a good thing they are doing," he said.

"Playing" was 10-year-old Cedar Easterling's answer to his favorite part of Hayaka Unta.

Cedar has attended the camp, which is offered in December and March, six times with his father, Eddie Easterling. Easterling erects a teepee and teaches campers make their own dream catchers.

Glen Leming demonstrated bow making from inside his teepee.

Camper Joe Underwood's name was drawn and he got to take the finished bow home as a souvenir of camp.

Seven-year-old Abigail Nunn said she was excited about fishing, and did not have a problem staying warm as temperatures dipped below 30 degrees during the night.

"I packed a lot of warm clothes," said the Thackerville, Okla., student.

She attended the camp with her dad, Waylon.

"You have to survive out here," said ten-year-old Sim Mosley, of Kingston, Okla., as he read his hunter safety manual next to the fire.



Madysen Nunn, of Thackerville, Okla., bounces on a board used as a foot bridge at Hayaka Unta Winter Camp. She attended the camp with her sister Abigail and her dad, Waylon.

He attended the camp for the first time with his stepfather, Joel McAlister.

Sim said he was a little "freaked out" when he heard the coyotes and other creatures in the middle of the night.

A chili cook-off was Saturday night's main event.

The group was split into four teams and various chili ingredients were selected to make their own special brand of chili.

The team of Neil and Della Stuckey, Sherri and Kailey King, and Kenneth, Kyle and Blake Smith won the contest.

Campers also warmed up with cobbler made in a Dutch oven each night and enjoyed special music performed by Gary Pratt, an accomplished Cowboy and Western singer and songwriter.

Students also received a backpack filled with a variety of goodies, including sleeping bag warmers, flashlights, whistles, ponchos, waterproof matchbox, and compass to use at camp.

For more information about Hayaka Unta, contact Chickasaw Nation Youth and Family Division, Youth Services Department at (580) 310-6620, or log on to www.chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.



Chickasaw Ranch manager Gary Pratt relaxes in the food tent during Hayaka Unta. Pratt entertained the campers around the campfire with Cowboy and Western music and Christmas carols. He also led the group in a Hunter Safety Course during the camp.

Scholarship and grant application deadline is Feb. 1

Spring scholarship and grant applications due February 1.

Don't miss out on the gift of college funding after the holiday season!

The Chickasaw Nation Higher Education spring scholarship and grant application deadline is approaching soon. Completed applications are due to the Higher Education Department Feb. 1, 2010.

The Chickasaw Nation Higher Education Department offers scholarships and grants for full-time and part-time undergraduate, graduate and doctoral Chickasaw students. The scholarships and grants provide funding for tuition, fees and books for those students pursuing degrees from an accredited institution of higher education.

The scholarship and grant spring semester deadline is February 1; the summer semester deadline is June 15;

and the fall semester deadline is September 1. Students must submit completed applications by deadline indicated each semester to be considered. Only completed applications received by the Chickasaw Nation Higher Education Department will be reviewed.

Scholarships and grants are available to all Chickasaw students regardless of where they live. Students must be Chickasaw and possess a Chickasaw citizenship card. Eligibility requirements vary depending on the type of scholarship or grant.

For more information and to obtain required scholarship and grant applications, contact the higher education department at (580) 421-7711, deborah.hook@chickasaw.net or www.chickasaweducation-services.com.

CONTRIBUTED BY Brooke Tidwell, Public Affairs

January is National Mentoring Month

Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Club seeking a few good mentors



Boys & Girls Club students who participate in the Native American Mentoring Program at the Sulphur Club, include, front row from left, Elissa Neese, Jamin VanHorn, Cheyenne Johnson, Andrew Neese and Brianna Neese. Back row from left, Mattie Simmons, Payton Szalaj, Alison England, Destiny Rowell, Kellan Brown and A.J. Brown.

SULPHUR, Okla. - At least one day a week, Joni and Benny Wallace can be found at the Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Club of Sulphur making crafts, playing sports or board games with Boys & Girls Club students.

The Sulphur couple is among 15 people who volunteer as mentors at the club as a part of the Native American Mentoring Program.

The club is seeking additional volunteer mentors.

Mentors spend at least one hour a week, or four hours a month at the club, providing one-on-one interaction with students.

"An hour a week doesn't seem like a lot of time, but in the eyes of a child it can make a huge, positive impact, said Stormy Busby, local Mentor Program coordinator.

"The children get so excited when their mentor gets here."

No matter what the activity, the Wallaces said the most important thing they did at the club was give their time.

Benny, a Chickasaw citizen, has been volunteering for several years and says he lets the student choose the activity, whether it is making reindeers out of candy canes or playing basketball.

A youth minister for many years, he has always been able

to relate to kids on their level, he said, without passing judgment.

"I can show them how to live through a good example," he said.

Each student receives undivided attention, something they may not get in a home full of siblings and busy parents.

"I am not here for me, but for them," Benny said. "I just like to spend time with kids."

Benny's wife, Joni, teaches at Chickasaw Nation Head Start in Sulphur.

The mentoring program allows her to relate and work with older students.

"I've been around the Boys & Girls Club ever since they opened," Joni said. "I enjoy working with all ages of kids."

"I would encourage more people to get involved in the program."

Cheyenne Johnson, a second grader at Davis Elementary, is Joni's student. She said she likes all the attention.

Andrew Neese, 12, a Sulphur Junior High Student, is paired with Benny for the next few months.

All students enrolled at the club have a chance to participate in the program. Students rotate through the program every six months.

Besides spending time working puzzles, creating crafts or



Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Club of Sulphur mentor volunteers Joni Wallace, left, and her husband Benny, work on craft projects with Cheyenne Johnson and Andrew Neese recently at the Club. The couple is a part of the Club's Mentor program, which is seeking additional volunteers.

participating in sports, mentors and students also take group field trips throughout the year.

"The trips give many of the

students an opportunity to go places and do things they might not normally get to do," said Busby.

Volunteers must be over 16

years of age to participate. Any applicant 18 and older must pass a background check.

Spending one hour a week is the only requirement of volunteers, and scheduling is based on the volunteer's schedule.

"But mentors can come to the club as much as they want," Busby said.

The Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Club of Sulphur is part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. The club offers programs in character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, arts, sports, fitness and recreation.

For more information about the Native American Mentoring Program, contact Ms. Busby at (580) 622-8302.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

School to Work students graduate



Chickasaw Nation School to Work students who graduated from area schools in December are, from left, Joseph Ross, Katie Johnson, Rachel Williams and Tesia Worcester.

Four Chickasaw Nation School to Work students completed course work and graduated from area schools and universities last month and are now ready to further their careers.

Joseph Ross, of Ada, graduated from East Central University in December, earning a degree in Medical Physics. He hopes to be accepted for graduate study at the University of Oklahoma this spring to study Medical Physics or Health Physics.

Katie Johnson, of Konawa, Okla., earned a Kinesiology de-

gree from ECU last month. She hopes to secure full-time employment within the Chickasaw Nation and eventually obtain a master's and doctoral degrees in Education.

Rachel Williams, of Ada, graduated from ECU with a degree in Social Work. Williams was recently hired full time at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility working with the Medisaw program, where she completed her on the job training as a School to Work student. In the future, she would like to earn a master's degree in Social Work

and continue working with the Chickasaw Nation.

Tesia Worcester, of Ada, earned a Licensed Practical Nurse certificate from Pontotoc Technology Center recently. She plans to enroll in the Nursing program at Murray State College in Tishomingo this fall and eventually work as a Registered Nurse.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

What is School to Work?

The School to Work program helps eligible traditional and non-traditional Chickasaw students earn their educations while maintaining employment through an On-the-Job Training program.

Students accepted in the program attend class and work in an internship program, typically in an area associated with their field of study. Students are considered employees and receive a paycheck and benefits for their efforts.

For more information about the School to Work program, contact Valerie Nix at (580) 559-0815 in Ada, or Don Mose in Ardmore at (580) 222-2839.

BIRTHS



Adelaide Louise Elizabeth Dexter

Adelaide Louise Elizabeth Dexter was born Oct. 3, 2009. She weighed 9 lbs., 15 oz., and measured 22 inches at birth.

She is the daughter of Daniel M., II and Jennie Dexter, of Sand Springs, Okla.

She is the granddaughter of Terry and Deirdre Dexter, of Sand Springs. She is the niece of David Dexter, of Tulsa.

Maternal grandparents are Tim and Pat Malhoit, of Tulsa.

Adelaide is the great-granddaughter of Wanda Dexter, of Perry, Okla.



Kryee Rae-Ann Smith

Kryee Rae-Ann Smith was born June 16, 2009. She weighed 7 lbs., and measured 19 inches at birth.

Proud parents are Chelsea Kretzschmar and Joey Smith.

She is the granddaughter of Michele Kretzschmar and Bobby Secrets and Anne Smith.



BIRTHDAY



Kasen Dorsey

Kasen Brent Dorsey turned three Nov. 13, 2009. He celebrated his birthday at Community Fellowship, at Ringling, Okla. Helping him celebrate were his brother, Dillan Dorsey and sister, Isabella Dorsey, Weston and Becky Adams, Lauren and Landen Way, Penny and Katie Treadwell, Orry and Betty Lach, Julie, Michele and Charli Weatherford, Skyler Wesley, Jynesis, Italey, Oakley Brantley, Aaron Blackwell, Toni and Alivia Buckaloo, Kourtney McCrite, Austin Smith and Blaze Hacker.

He shares his birthday with his grandmother, Becky Adams.

Kasen is the son of Nathaniel and Sunnie Dorsey.

Happy Birthday Kasen!
We love you very much,
Mommy and Daddy



Complete the Customer Service Survey and win!

Chickasaw citizens who complete a tribal customer service survey can win \$100.

Chickasaws can access the Customer Service Survey through the tribal website at www.chickasaw.net. The survey seeks input from citizens regarding tribal programs, services and customer service.

After completing the survey, enter the giveaway. The \$100 will be given away each quarter. Winners will be announced in *the Chickasaw Times*.



Lena Callen Welch

The family of Lena Callen Welch helped her celebrate her birthday September 26, at Enid, Okla.

Mrs. Welch is the daughter of original enrollee the late Emma Humes Holden. She has one living brother, Jim Holden, of Lander, Wyo.

Her deceased siblings are, Juanita Holden Byars, Mary Holden Fillmore, Josie Lowery Imotichey, Louise Holden Jones, Johnston Holden and Earl Lowery. Those helping her celebrate were her children: Larry Callen, of Byars, Okla., Marggie Stewart and her husband, Jerry, of Carmen, Okla.; grandson Monty Doty and his family, of Enid, Okla.; Dale Callen, of Fillmore, Okla., Debbie Miller, of Jay, Okla., Rick and Emma Wilson, Marguax Talley, Linda Carter, Buffy Wilson, Josie King and Mya Wilson, all of Ada, Okla.

She has blessed her family with her wisdom and her love.

We just want to say we love you and may God bless you Aunt Lena!



Sarah Arles

Sarah Ann Arles celebrated her 16th birthday Dec. 10, 2009.

Sarah is the daughter of Joe and Armetta Looney, of Davis, Okla., and Albert and Francis Lewis, of Ardmore, Okla.

Happy Birthday!



Violet Harrill

Violet (Hays) Harrill celebrated her 92nd birthday Nov. 14 with family and friends.

She is the daughter of the late Thomas Wesley Hays, an original enrollee of the Chickasaw Nation.

She started with a photo session in her home honoring five generations including herself, daughter Arlene Nail, grand-

daughter Wendy McGahan, great-granddaughter Tracy McGahan and great-great-granddaughter Gracie Presley.

She then traveled to the home of her oldest granddaughter where she was greeted by Randy and Kay Harrill, Bill and Peggy (Harrill) Gipson, Dewayne, Lisa and Kathryn Gipson, Rhedonna (Gipson), Phillip, and J.J. Ralls, Jennifer Robbins, Robert and Tanya (Harrill) Teafatiller, Jason and Shana (Teafatiller) Freeman, Nyne Chapman, Layne and Addison Chapman, Kory Smith, Stephanie (Teafatiller) Metcalf and Coda Metcalf, and special friends Butch and Joanie White.

She enjoyed a phone conversation with Jessie Gipson stationed in Norfolk, Virginia with the U.S. Marine Corps.

When visiting and eating were complete, she went home for a short rest before traveling to Thackerville, Okla., to watch her great-granddaughter Ember (Ralls) Schaffer perform with Melody and Alysia Schaffer at River Ridge Restaurant.

Not a bad day for someone 92 years young!

Five generations of Chickasaws



Five generations of Chickasaws include, from left, great-great-grandmother Violet (Hays) Harrill, great-grandmother Arlene Nail, grandmother Wendy McGahan, mother Tracy McGahan and baby Gracie Presley.

Elders' Christmas Luncheon



Charles Vann of Pauls Valley introduces his fellow elders before they sing a selection of Christmas songs.

CHICKASAW STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Samantha Lawien

Chickasaw grad student researching soils

A Chickasaw graduate student is working on a research project that may lead to improved land management practices.

Samantha Lawien is a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Ms. Lawien is studying the sandy soils of northern Wisconsin and, more specifically, a specific soil formation known as "lamellae."

Lamellae are tiny, thin, wavy bands of soil that occur regularly in the sandy soils of Wisconsin. It has been found that lamellae slow water from flowing through the soil into ground water. This slowing allows plant life the opportunity to soak up nutrients before they are past the plants' roots.

The lamellae bands contain essential nutrients not available in the surrounding sandy soils.

Ms. Lawien's research project focuses on understanding how lamellae are formed, and relating that formation to environmental conditions.

The generosity of the Chickasaw Nation, Ms. Lawien said, has allowed her the opportunity to further her education. She is hopeful more Chickasaw and other Native students will engage in graduate level research.

Ms. Lawien is the daughter of Ward and Stefanie Sikorowski, of West Bend, Wis.

She is the great-granddaughter of Olive Jacobs and the great-great-granddaughter of Annie Seely.

Note of Thanks

The group "In His Gates" would like to thank the following for their contributions to the 2nd Annual Intertribal Gospel Singing for the Angel Tree of Johnston County.

Gov. Bill Anoatubby - Chickasaw Nation

Tommy Brown - Chickasaw Community Center

Kelcey Upton - Special Events Office

Bobby Thomas - The gospel sound

Temple of God - Connerville: Tony Poe, Pastor, Charlie Carter, Sr. Pastor, Randy Wade, Co Pastor

Luther John and Roger Scott - Master of Ceremonies

Class Singing

All of the groups and individuals who gave us their time and talent, Samson Leach, and the groups from The Cherokee Nation.

In His Gate

Nancy Wade - Lead vocals

Troy Arterberry - Rhythm guitar, vocals

Buck Byars - Lead guitar

Toni Walker - Bass guitar

Jerry Johnson and Allen Beck - Drums

JESUS IS LORD



Adrienne Dastgir

Adrienne Dastgir receives master's degree

A Chickasaw has recently received her master's degree.

Adrienne Cooper Dastgir was awarded a Master's Degree in Education with an emphasis in Biology from the University of Central Oklahoma during commencement ceremonies Dec. 12.

Mrs. Dastgir received her bachelor's degree in conservation biology. She is a 1997 graduate of Tishomingo (OK) High School.

Mrs. Dastgir has worked for the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management in Fort Benton, Montana and Malta, Montana. She has also worked for the University of Oklahoma Research Center in Oklahoma City.

Her plans are to team biology at the junior college level.

Mrs. Dastgir earned her degrees while also working through the challenges of dyslexia. She has encouraged students with dyslexia or other significant learning disabilities not to give up or lose sight of their goals. It takes a lot of work and persistence, she said, as well as encouragement from family and friends.

Mrs. Dastgir is one-quarter Chickasaw. She is the daughter of Linda Carol Lewis, of Milburn, Okla., and Lee Cooper, of Oklahoma City.

She is the granddaughter of the late Alvini and Myrtle Sweeten. Her great-grandparents were original enrollees Culberson "Buster" James and Bettie Brown Pitchlynn.



Tesia Worcester

Tesia Worcester completes LPN studies

Tesia Worcester is a 2009 graduate of Pontotoc Technology Center, Ada, Okla.

She graduated Dec. 5, from the License Practical Nursing Program.

Tesia is the daughter of Roy and Dinah Worcester. Her brother is Jeremiah.

She has two children, Jakobi and Jerin.

She is the granddaughter of the late Butch and Audra (Dumpy) Worcester and the late Virgil L. and Sarah Walker.

Congratulations goes to Tesia for her hard work, love and care and accomplishments from the Worcester Family.

(NM) Academy junior, is the center midfielder on the Academy girls' soccer team. Darcy's team won the Class 4A New Mexico State Championship by a 3-1 score. Darcy scored the first goal of the contest.

This is the second year in a row Academy has won the state championship.

Darcy was selected to the All State first team and the All District first team.

She is the daughter of Chloe Shi Moore Odom and Dennis Odom.



Jacob Crabb

Chickasaw naval officer part of family tradition

A Chickasaw man has recently graduated officer's candidate school.

Ensign Jacob Colby Crabb, USN, graduated from the U.S. Navy Officer's Candidate School at Newport, R.I. He has now reported to the U.S. Navy Supply Corps School in Athens, Georgia where he is attending Supply Corps Officer Basic Qualification Course. He will complete the course in 2010.

Ensign Crabb is continuing a family tradition with a naval career.

Also serving in the U.S. Navy are his father, Lt. Cmdr. Rick Crabb, USN Medical Service Corps; his mother, Lt. Cmdr. Jenette Crabb, U.S. Naval Reserve Nurse Corps; and his older brother, Ensign Justin Crabb, USN, currently assigned to the USS Cowpens (CG-63), homeport Yokosuka, Japan.

Ensign Crabb is the grandson of Marion Elizabeth Crabb, of Waxahachie, Texas.



Darcy Odom

Chickasaw midfielder on state champion squad

A Chickasaw high school athlete has recently won a state athletic championship.

Darcy Odom, an Albuquerque

Reirdon family collection

Chickasaw Children's Village receives special gift of books



From left, Diane Pettigrew (Academic Assistant), Jeff Reirdon, Lucinda Shipley (house parent) and Robert Hensley (Academic Manager).

KINGSTON, Okla. - Reading just got a little easier for the students at the Chickasaw Children's Village with over 500 new books being donated on behalf of the Reirdon family by Jeff Reirdon, a Chickasaw citizen from Durant, Okla.

The books were part of the Reirdon family's collection that had accumulated over the years. Many of the texts were brand new and were left over samples from a book distribution company Mr. Reirdon's brother had worked for.

"I come from a long line of teachers and believe reading and a good education is important for everyone," said Reirdon. "It feels really good that our family could donate these books to the children at the Chickasaw Children's Village."

The donated books ranged from elementary books to high school level books covering a variety of course subjects and styles of literary works.

Reirdon is a certified ele-

mentary and special education teacher and used many of the books in his own classroom. As the collection grew too large to keep, the Reirdon family looked for places where the book collection could be fully utilized once again.

"We decided to donate the collection to the Chickasaw Children's Village over a public school because we thought the books would make a greater impact in a smaller library where the students could utilize the books to their benefit," he said.

The staff at the Children's Village work closely with the students to improve their reading proficiency and the addition to their library will greatly expand their capabilities.

"The books will really be beneficial to our students at the Chickasaw Children's Village and be a great addition to expand our library," said Sallie Wallace, Chickasaw Children's Village Director. "We are so ap-

preciative of the Reirdon family's generous donation."

The Children's Village is a coeducational, family-style residential village and learning community operating throughout the school year.

The Children's Village focuses on providing a safe and structured environment for students that promotes their educational, physical, mental, social and spiritual development.

Students attend Kingston Public Schools and participate in a wide variety of both school and Children's Village activities, ranging from athletics to livestock competitions.

An equine program, recreation gym, playgrounds and a library are other amenities offered on the 165-acre campus, which overlooks Lake Texoma.

"I have seen this program tremendously affect the lives of many of the students at the

Village by giving them stability and allowing them to really excel in their education," said Wallace.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Language club to share Christmas stories

The January Chipota Chikashshanompoli (Children Speaking Chickasaw) language club meeting will feature "Christmas Story Time."

Kids ages three to 12 will meet at 9 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 16 at the Chickasaw Wellness Center gym on Seabrook Road in Ada.

Chipota Chikashshanompoli meetings focus on the importance of using the Chickasaw language in daily life. One Saturday each month the club meets to learn the Chickasaw language and embark on a fun adventure that will incorporate newly introduced Chickasaw words.

Club meetings are open to all children ages three to 12 who are interested in learning the Chickasaw language.

To join Chipota Chikashshanompoli or to inquire about upcoming meetings, contact Rachel Wedlow at (580) 436-2603, rachel.wedlow@chickasaw.net or visit www.chickasaw.net/cc.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

How to become a student

The Children's Village accepts first- through 12th-grade Native American children from any federally-recognized tribal nation. The Children's Village has a current capacity of 64 students annually.

The Children's Village is funded by the Chickasaw Nation and is free of charge to students accepted in the program.

Applicants applying to attend the Chickasaw Children's Village will need the following documents:

- Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood Card (CDIB) or tribal letter**
- Up-to-date immunization record**
- Birth certificate**
- Social Security card**
- School transcript or most recent grades**
- Private insurance, Medicaid, Sooner Care insurance card**
- Current contact list**
- Completed, signed and notarized application for enrollment**

All completed applications will be considered. A complete application must have all areas completed and signed. Required forms are available at www.chickasaw.net or can be mailed upon request. An applicant should know within three to five days if he qualifies for the program.

For more information, contact the Children's Village at (580) 564-3060. The facility is located at 1185 Village Road in Kingston, Oklahoma.

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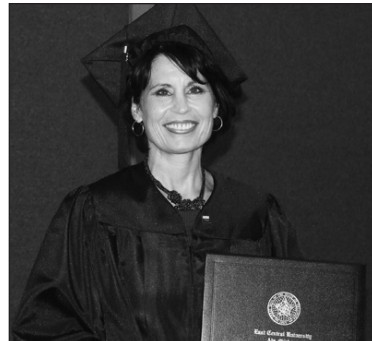
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Chickasaw Citizen

Chickasaw mom hits lifelong goal - a college degree



The Reach Higher program billboard featuring Chickasaw citizen Debbie Jewett is on North Mississippi in Ada, Okla.



Debbie Jewett

For 32 years Debbie Jewett has cherished the goal of graduating from college.

But life's obstacles, career and having a family slowed her path until she found the Oklahoma Reach Higher Program and the Chickasaw Nation higher education grant program.

The programs motivated Mrs. Jewett to complete her degree. She developed confidence in her ability to learn, and the programs provided her the necessary educational tools to complete her journey.

The Higher Reach program provides students flexible and affordable on-line based curriculum, and the tribal higher education grants provide the resources students need to graduate.

Graduating from Vanoss (OK) High School in 1977, Mrs. Jewett earned an associates degree from Seminole College in 1985. The associates degree is a two-year diploma.

She was unable to continue her education further after choosing to start a family and career.

"Achieving an education was an ambitious goal I set for myself approximately 32 years ago and although the pathway

to educational success held many compromises and obstacles, I never gave up," Mrs. Jewett said.

On Dec. 12, she earned a bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership from East Central University in Ada.

Mrs. Jewett is the first in her family to receive a bachelor's degree.

"I always wanted an education because I felt it was an accomplishment that helped define who we are," she said. "I wanted to be a positive role model for my children by dem-

onstrating that hard work, commitment and dedication is the formula for success."

Looking back Jewett realized that the discovery of ideas and new possibilities was a perpetual wheel. She credits tribal higher education grants and the Oklahoma Reach Higher Program with helping her succeed. Mrs. Jewett maintained a 4.0 grade point average throughout the degree completion program.

Her impressive record in the program most recently led to her being featured on a bill-

board for the program's ad campaign.

"During the journey, I learned that fear can be channeled into constructive energy and that obstacles can become an opportunity for achievement," she said. "The Oklahoma Reach Higher Program fosters the 'I can do it' mentality which helped me gain confidence in my learning ability."

While the Oklahoma Reach Higher Program was a pathway to success, Mrs. Jewett gives credit to her family, the support of the Chickasaw Nation, friends, co-workers and faculty

for being her driving force and backbone.

Mrs. Jewett, a Chickasaw citizen, is a married mother of two boys and a grandmother of four. She has been an employee of the Chickasaw Nation Finance Department for 15 years.

"I would challenge anyone to never give up their dreams," she said. "Perhaps my bachelor's degree is a stepping stone for greater things to come and the journey is just beginning for me."

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Letter to Editor:



Hamilton Cemetery in Marshall County, Oklahoma

Thanks to tribe for cemetery cleanup

Dear Editor:

We extend our thanks to Governor Anotubby and the Chickasaw Nation Cemetery program for the many hours of work and materials in aiding Ruby (Dodd) Haden and husband Ed Haden for preservation of the Hamilton Cemetery located south of Shay in Marshall County, Oklahoma.

The land for the cemetery was donated by Sallie Hamilton, full blood Chickasaw in early 1900s. Sallie is the mother of Phoebe Townsley, a long time resident of Marshall County whose daughter Maggie Townsley Driver was the only one keeping her allotment of land and residing in Marshall County until some 50 years ago. Maggie was the mother of three; Ruby, C.F. Cleburn and Lois Driver. Ruby still resides near the home place at Shay.

Through research from notes left the following graves were identified: Sallie Hamilton hus-

band, daughter Icy Hamilton Colbert husband Amos Colbert, birth and deaths of their children. Icy died of child birth leaving one son, Humphrey Colbert and he was killed in World War I in Fance. Sallie's grandson James Monroe Pete Townsley and baby Townsley. Number of graves (unmarked) of Levi Brown, full blood Chickasaw and F.L. Lewis and one white baby last name of Turner.

In conclusion we wish to extend thanks to Rene Santillion, owner, who granted permission for the clean-up and when approached about a fence enclosure with gate, he signed a notarized affidavit giving the Chickasaw Nation approval to complete the job and we can now enter through the gate. Relatives and friends may also enter without having to get permission.

Sincerely,
Ed and Ruby Haden
Kingston, OK

SEQUOYAH-TAHLEQUAH

Spirit of the Cherokees is beautiful in our sight, a winning attitude glows like magic tonight.

In battle Sequoyah-Tahlequah remains strong,
The Creek Indians yell their fight song.

The Shawnee and Sac & Fox stand behind Sequoyah-Tahlequah,
This is what generations of our people saw.

I hear the war drums of our Florida Seminole,
Everglades chant within a proud people's soul.

Sequoyah-Tahlequah has glory of the Comanche,
Our awesome school has the mighty Apache.

Our people of the Dakotas praise Sequoyah-Tahlequah,
Listen to the war thunder of the Kiowa.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho dance by our side,
While our OKLAHOMA cheers with pride.

Our timeless heart loves Sequoyah-Tahlequah,
See the endless honor of the Chickasaw.

Burgundy colors blaze through a Cherokee sunset,
Seneca nights and Choctaw victory have met.

Seqoyah-Tahlequah has a great basketball team
To win state is the power of our dream.

Clara L. Higgins
Choctaw/Chickasaw
Class of 1972

Help us update our military list!

The Chickasaw Nation is updating the military database for those on active duty and stationed away from home.

If you know of a Chickasaw in the service whom you would like to add to the list or update their address, please contact Joy Barrick in the Public Affairs Department at (580) 310-6451 or email joy.barrick@chickasaw.net.

Gov. Anoatubby presents Jim Thorpe Award

Recognition to top defensive back

Gov. Bill Anoatubby presented the Jim Thorpe Award to University of Tennessee safety Eric Berry at The Home Depot ESPNU College Football Awards ceremony last month.

The event was Dec. 10 at the Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

Gov. Anoatubby was joined by College Football Hall of Fame members Lou Holtz, Troy Aikman and Steve Young in honoring top college players.

The Jim Thorpe Award is presented to the player voted best defensive back in college football. The award was created in 1936 and is one of the nation's top collegiate sports honors.

Regarded by many as the greatest athlete of all time, Jim Thorpe was a member of



Gov. Anoatubby and fellow College Football Awards presenter Lou Holtz.

the Sac and Fox tribe. He excelled in professional football, baseball and basketball and earned two Olympic medals

at the 1912 Olympics.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center opens this month

What is the Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center? A place where people can bring used items for others to reuse. There is no charge for this service.

Why use the Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center? The Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center helps keep reusable items out of landfills. Smaller landfills mean less pollution to our environment. The Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center also gives price-conscious customers a way to find unique items and gently used furniture and materials for their homes.

What can you find at the Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center? Gently used or new building material, household and construction items, paint and much more. More information about accepted materials is available on the Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center Accepted

Materials list or by contacting the Chickasaw Nation Environmental Service Department.

Where is the Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center? The Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center is at 2205 N. Broadway in Ada (formerly Arrow Pump).

When will the Chickasaw Nation ReUse Center open? The center will be open to the public on Jan. 5.

Hours of operation:

Tuesday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thursday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

1st & 3rd Saturday of each month 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Interested? Volunteer opportunities are also available. For more information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Environmental Service Department at (580) 272-5400.

CONTRIBUTED BY Joshua Rogers, Public Affairs

Chickasaw appointed to California Commission on Disability Access



Rocky Burks

Rocky A. Burks has spent a lifetime fighting for the civil rights of Americans with disabilities after a traumatic head injury as a youth forced him to develop life skills that would allow him to not be categorized or marginalized by society.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger recently appointed Burks, a Chickasaw citizen, as Commissioner of the newly formed California Commission on Disability Access (CCDA).

Burks was appointed as Commissioner of the CCDA because of his commitment to enhancing the lives of persons with disabilities and expertise in

the field.

"Being appointed to the California Commission on Disability Access is an absolute honor due to the scope of the Commission's role and responsibilities," said Burks.

After his head injury as a youth, Burks experienced first hand the societal affects that persons with disabilities encounter every day of their lives.

Having to adjust to a social and educational system that attempted to write off people with learning difficulties, Burks persevered with the strength and support of his family, developing new ways to excel through the restrictions society attempted to place on him and his family.

After high school, Burks served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War as an Instrument Training Specialist Flight Instructor, obtaining the rank of Sergeant.

Upon returning to civilian life he observed the difficulties disabled veterans experienced accessing the built environment while improving their education leading to a good job.

"Understanding the United

States operates under the principle of the rule of law, I set upon a new career to change how society treats people under less fortunate circumstances and I have never looked back," said Burks.

After the military Burks attended California State University, Chico, where he received a bachelor's degree in Social Welfare and Sociology and completed coursework towards a master's degree in Public Administration.

Burks has had a successful career both personally and professionally fighting for equal access and civil rights of persons with disabilities.

Currently, Burks is serving as the Physical Access Manager for the City of Sacramento, Department of Transportation.

He has served on numerous committees for accessibility, design, fire and life safety, housing, and transportation for persons with disabilities, helping shape and restructure codes, regulations and laws across California and the nation.

As Commissioner, Burks hopes to promote societal changes by improving policies, practices and procedures that

will change the built environment to afford persons with disabilities the same opportunities that non-disabled persons are allowed every day.

"It's an awesome opportunity to affect possible changes to how persons with disabilities are afforded an equal opportunity to participate in daily activities," said Burks.

The CCDA is the first state Commission formed to address the civil rights compliance issues for persons of disability in the state of California.

"With my personal and professional experiences plus involvement in the field of disability rights, and with the honorable warrior spirits of our Chickasaw forefathers beside me to promote societal changes, I can reasonably say, in the words of Gandhi, 'First they ignore you; Then they laugh at you; Then they fight you; Then they win!'"

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

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Chickasaw infantryman shares Indian military legacy



Pfc. Aaron Medlock

Keeping his culture and heritage close to heart even on deployment overseas, U.S. Army Pfc. Aaron Mark Medlock was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for his presentation to the 2nd Infantry Division on American Indians in the military.

Pfc. Medlock gave his presentation Nov. 22, at Camp Casey, South Korea in front of a packed audience of over 200 people including the base General and his staff members, Commanding Officers, and fellow soldiers.

Pfc. Medlock received an enthusiastic standing ovation from the General and fellow soldiers for his presentation after which he was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and the Army Achievement Medal.

"I'm extremely proud to be honored with the Army Achievement Medal for my presentation," Pfc. Medlock said. "I had great leaders in my chain of command who helped me prepare the presentation making it a great overall experience."

Originally presented for his Commanding Officers, Pfc. Medlock's presentation on American Indians in the military was so impressive he was asked to represent it in front of the General's staff members and then to the General himself during the Division luncheon.

The presentation consisted of a power point display covering the history of Native Americans and Native Ameri-

can involvement throughout military history. The presentation was accompanied by Native American flute music.



"Differences in culture can lead to many misunderstandings," Pfc. Medlock said. "An

acceptance of differences and cross-cultural outreach is a key to avoiding problems."

His speech cited Pearl Harbor as a key event in Native American relations with other Americans. The attack was felt across the United States, he said, unifying men and women of all races and causing many to join the military.

The audience was moved by the impact American Indians have had over the course of American military history. Indian allies early in the country's history; Comanche and Navajo code talkers who impacted the outcome of World War II; and today's modern Indian soldier were represented.

"My Native American heritage has enriched all aspects of my military service by instilling in me the pride and warrior spirit of our

culture and so many great Native Americans who served before me," said Pfc. Medlock.

A Chickasaw citizen, Pfc. Medlock has been overseas since December 2008, serving with the U.S. Army 2nd Infantry "Warrior Country" Division at Camp Casey in Seoul, South Korea.

He's now returning to Oklahoma to be stationed at Fort Sill to serve in the Army 214th Fire Brigade.

Pfc. Medlock completed basic combat training at Fort Sill placing in the top 10 percent of his class and graduating with honors.

After basic training, Pfc. Medlock completed a four-week Advanced Instructional Training at Fort Sill before being stationed for one year in South Korea.

"We are so proud of Aaron for his accomplishments and all of his hard work," said his grandmother, Linda Medlock.

Pfc. Medlock graduated from Henryetta (OK) High School in 2008 and is a former summer youth employee and citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. He is the son of Mark Medlock and Karen Vaughn, of Okmulgee, Okla.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Youth clothing grant deadline is Feb. 1

The deadline for the Youth Services Clothing Grant applications is February 1, 2010. All applications must be dropped off or postmarked by close of business on February 1, 2010. The grant, funded by the Chickasaw Nation, assists eligible Chickasaw students by providing \$200 grant to purchase clothing for the school year.

Chickasaw students ages three to 18 years are eligible. Children five to 18 must attend an accredited elementary or secondary educational program. Home school children participating in an accredited curriculum are also eligible.

The Youth Services Clothing Grant Application is available for download at www.chickasaw.net, and must be completed in its entirety. The application is also available in person or by mail at the Chickasaw Nation Division of Youth & Family Services building, 231 Seabrook Road, Ada, Okla. 74820, phone

(580) 272-5585.

The application must document full-time student status with verification by a representative of the school administration. Only original, signed applications will be accepted. Faxed or electronic copies cannot be processed for awards.

All applications must be accompanied by a Chickasaw Nation citizenship card for applicants over the age of 12 or a citizenship certificate for applicants under the age of 12.

Awards will be delivered by certified mail through the U.S. Postal Service and all applicants should allow three to

four weeks for processing.

Grants will be provided in the form of a reusable VISA gift card, and will be awarded once per school year. The card now has a five-year expiration date, no inactivity fee assessment and the card balance is now available on-line.

This year marks the fourth school year the grant has been awarded to Chickasaw students throughout the world.

For questions or additional information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Department of Youth Services by calling (580) 272-5585 or by email at clothinggrantprogram@chickasaw.net.

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Chickasaw Citizen

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Chickasaws of Texoma Community Council

The Chickasaws of Texoma met October 22, 2009 for their first quarterly meeting at the Marshall County Chickasaw Community Center.

We had a great meal with BBQ provided by the Nation and members bringing potluck dishes. Honored guests were Representatives Beth Alexander, Connie Barker and Linda Briggs.

Ann Fink, Glenda Galvan and Susan Webb presented a slide show and spoke on historical sites for the Nation which included the Council House, the Capitol and well, all located in Tishomingo; the Chickasaw White House, in Emet; and the Burney Institute, located near Lebanon.

Wendyl Askew, a local historian, added some information about the cemeteries at the Burney Institute and Willis, Oklahoma. The latter is where

Governor Overton and four of his wives are buried. Mr. Askew related to the crowd how those graves came to be in the center of the Willis cemetery.

The next quarterly meeting will be January 28, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Marshall County Chickasaw Community Center on Enos Road, Kingston, Oklahoma. The meal will be catered, and the program will be on the new hospital in Ada, Oklahoma. Please join us.

For information, call Ruth McAdoo at 580 564-6803 or Patsy Bailey 580 564-2306.

Arizona Community Council

Chukma and Happy Holidays!

As the New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council looks back on 2009 (our second year) it is with a great deal of pride in the progress we have made as a group.

We are very fortunate to have found a centrally located place



Andrew Rodek, center, Keenan, Keshawn and Keion George inspect the Chickasaw Phraselator.

where we can hold our meetings regularly. Our new meeting location is Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 8600 Academy NE, Albuquerque, N.M.

Food, fun, and fellowship were the themes for our December pot luck. We had folks of all ages (five generations I think we counted!). A silent auction was held and lot of door prizes were given.

Our council had the opportunity recently to have a special training session with the Director of the newly formed Department of Chickasaw Language.

Joshua Hinson traveled to Albuquerque to spend a day training several members of the council's board on the use of the Chickasaw "phraselator" (a handheld talking dictionary) and Chickasaw Language instruction. The New Mexico Chickasaw Com-

munity Council board-of-directors has committed to adopting language instruction into its core mission. Stay tuned for more on this.

We encourage everyone to plan on attending the spring meeting, March 20 at 1 p.m.

This is such a great opportunity to connect with fellow Chickasaws, learn some meaningful history and the many benefits today of being Chickasaw. Please come out to support the council and consider becoming part of the leadership.

Wishing you and your family a blessed and joyous Holiday.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Pacific Northwest Community Council

Happy New Year fellow Oregon and Washington Chickasaws! We hope 2010 rung in safe and well for you all and we look forward to our first full year as new council.

If you have any questions please contact Kim at (503) 819-3097, Rena at jayjay17@centurytel.net or Michelle at lavenderrows@msn.com.

Next meeting details are: Potluck - Bring Those Yummy Dishes!

Saturday, February 6 from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Oak Room
Marshall Community Center (Luepke Senior Center)

1009 E. McLoughlin, Vancouver, WA 98660, (360) 487-7100

Guest Speaker: Chickasaw Nation Education

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS and EVENTS

For a complete listing of Chickasaw Nation camps, academies and other events visit www.chickasaw.net

OKLAHOMA

ADA

Winter Lock-In
(Children ages 10-18)
January 8-9, (580) 272-5551

Chipota Chikashshanompoli
(Chickasaw language club for children ages three to 12)
January 16, (580) 272-5540

Community Crop Walk
January 23, (580) 310-6620

Ada Red Heart Fair and Fashion Show with Luncheon
February 20, (580) 436-3980

Chipota Chikashshanompoli
(Chickasaw language club for children ages three to 12)
February 27, (580) 272-5540

CONNERVILLE

Connerville Area Chickasaw Community Council
2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Tony Poe, (580) 421-4994

KINGSTON

Chickasaws of Texoma Community Council
4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Ruth McAdoo, (580) 564-6803

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council
2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Sarah Lea, (580) 564-4570

NEWCASTLE

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council
2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Todd Griffith, (405) 615-1303

OKLAHOMA CITY

OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Linda O'Hagan, (405) 350-3311

PURCELL

Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
4th Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
John Hobbs, (405) 922-3926

TISHOMINGO

Johnston County Chickasaw Community Council
3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Ann Fink, (580) 371-3351

Elders Valentines Sweetheart Banquet
February 12, (580) 795-7355

ARIZONA

Chickasaws of Arizona
Quarterly Meetings
Angie Ott, (480) 834-7309

CALIFORNIA

Inland Empire/Desert Cities Chickasaw Community Council
Chickasaw Outreach 866-466-1481

Sacramento Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Chickasaw Outreach 866-466-1481

COLORADO

Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado
Quarterly Meetings
Stephen Bingham, (303) 377-4637

KANSAS

Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita
3rd Sunday at 3:00 p.m.
Lynn Stumblingbear, (316) 945-9219 or Pam Harjo, (316) 393-0696

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly Meetings
Vadare Cornelison, (505) 332-1776

OREGON/WASHINGTON

Pacific Northwest Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly meetings
Kim Factor, 503-819-3097 or Rena Smith, 503-543-7401

TEXAS

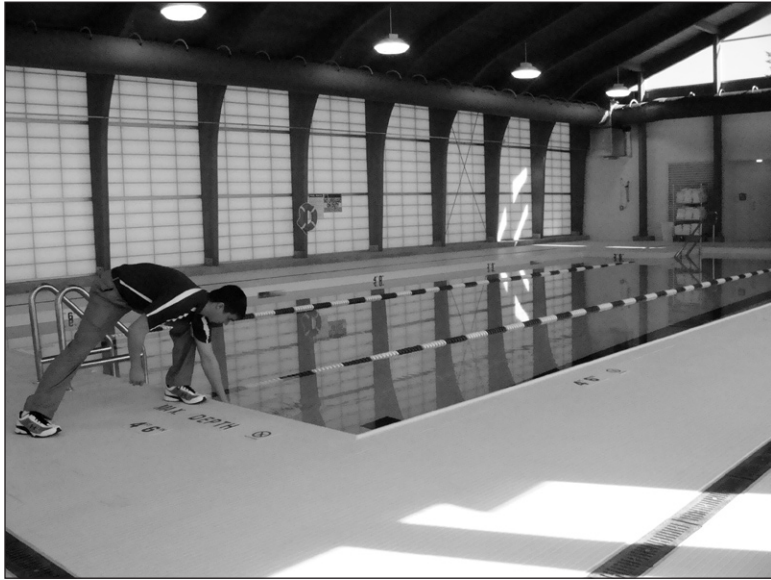
Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas
San Antonio, TX Area
Michele Moody, (210) 492-2288

Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas
Austin, Texas Area
2nd Sunday at 1:30 p.m.
Gene Thompson, (512) 258-7919

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
Dallas/Fort Worth Area, TX
3rd Saturday at 2:00 p.m.
John C. Atkins, (972) 271-0692

Ardmore, Tishomingo pools now open

Area wellness centers offer keys to healthy lifestyles



Chickasaw Nation Wellness Center Technician Ryan Brock checks the chemical levels in the new Tishomingo Wellness Center swimming pool. The pools in Tishomingo and Ardmore opened last month and are ready for swimmers.

From abdominal training to Yoga, Chickasaw Nation Wellness Centers, located in Ada, Ardmore and Tishomingo, offer a wide variety of programs, services and classes all designed to improve the health of the entire community.

Now, all three Centers offer aquatic activities with the opening of pools at Ardmore and Tishomingo – just in time to meet the demand of the popular New Year's resolution to get healthier.

Both 33,500-gallon indoor pools have connecting male and female locker rooms and a pool lift chair to provide easy water access for everyone.

The water temperature is set at a tropical 86 degrees.

Pool hours and classes vary by location.

Currently water aerobics and lap swimming are offered at each location.

Tishomingo Wellness Center Manager Bill Asbery and Ardmore Manager James Lampkin said youth swimming lessons will be offered this spring.

All three wellness centers provide education, mentoring, monitoring, incentives and access to activities to promote exercise and overall improved health, free to Chickasaw citizens and employees, and available to all at a reasonable price.

Nutrition services and cooking classes are available in Ada and Ardmore.

Treadmills, weight machines, free weights, Arc trainers, and

recumbent bikes are available for use, along with personal training, and evaluations and consultations.

"The equipment, Cybex, is comparable to any gym and the Cybex machines won't let you use them wrong," said Melinda Ward, Ada Wellness Center manager.

Physical assessments are available monthly.

Flexibility, Body Mass Index, measurements, grip, cardio health and overall physical fitness is assessed for both tribal employees and community members.

"We take their life history of sports and athletes and build a program for the client is that is what they want," said Asbery.

"We can assess and then set a program on the assessment. The personal training is included in the membership," said Lampkin.

Qualified staff members at each Center are CPR certified and most are lifeguard certified.

Almost every staff member is certified to teach land and water aerobics.

No Excuses

As for the excuse of not enough time to exercise, the fitness experts offer this advice:

"You have to make time for yourself. Exercise helps you mentally and physically. Once you exercise, you walk away with a better feeling," said Ward.

"Don't starve yourself, take it

slow and weigh yourself at the same time each day."

Aim for a two to three pound weight loss each week.

Asbery added, "I tell people if you have time to eat they have time to work out. It is a lifestyle decision. Make it a part of your everyday life.

"The health benefits are so great, even if you just walk on the treadmill. You build muscle, stop craving sweets and start craving protein that is needed for a workout."

Ada Family Life Center

The 30,000-plus square foot Ada Family Life Center is home of the Ada Wellness Center Located at 280 West Seabrook Road in Ada, the facility features a gymnasium, swimming pool, walking track, weight room, training kitchen, as well as aerobic and martial arts exercise areas.

A new key tag system is current being implemented.

Staff members will assist you with key tag check-in from a new reception area located near the front door.

"Members must have a key tag to enter the Wellness Center," said Ward.

The normal \$5 replacement fee will be waived as the new system goes into effect.

"If you don't have a key tag we will give you one."

New equipment, including treadmills, will also be delivered to the facility this year.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Wellness Center in Ada, call 580-310-9661.

Ardmore Wellness Center

Opened in 2007, the 9,000 square foot facility in Ardmore offers free weights and weight training machines, as well as treadmills and a variety of other cardiovascular training equipment.

The facility is located at 911 Locust in southwest Ardmore.

Chickasaw Wellness Center in Ardmore has almost 1,600 square feet dedicated to martial arts and aerobics classes.

To contact the Ardmore Wellness Center call 580-222-2828.

Tishomingo Wellness Center

Located at 821 E. 6th Street in Tishomingo, Okla., the Tishomingo Wellness Center opened in 2007.

The 9,365 square foot facility features a physical therapy area, an aerobics and martial arts area, along with areas designated for free weights, machine weights and cardio equipment, and now an indoor swimming.

To contact the Tishomingo Wellness Center call 580- 387-2711.

All Chickasaw Nation Wellness center hours of operation are:

Monday – Thursday
5:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Friday
5:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday
8:00 a.m. – Noon

Sunday
Closed

For more information on aerobic class schedule and pool schedules, contact the Center in your area.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Enrollment Schedule

Chickasaw Tribal Members

(Including immediate family members) Free of Charge

Chickasaw Nation Employees

(Including immediate family members) Free of Charge

American Indian Senior Citizens

(Including their spouse) Free of Charge

Non-Indian Senior Citizens

(60 and up) \$15.00/month

Other Indian Tribes - Individual

(With CDIB card) \$15.00/month

Other Indian Tribes - Family

(With CDIB card) \$25.00/month

Other Community Members - Individual

(No CDIB card) \$30.00/month

Other Community Members - Family

(No CDIB card) \$45.00/month



Ardmore Wellness Center.



Tishomingo Wellness Center's aerobics room.

Wiley honored for work in youth nutrition education



Ameyka D. Pittman, left, Oklahoma Fit Kids Coalition Project Coordinator is pictured with AnDina Wiley, Chickasaw Nation Youth Nutrition Education Specialist and Oklahoma Fit Kids Coalition Youth/Community Award winner.

The Oklahoma Fit Kids Coalition Youth/Community award is presented annually to an individual who demonstrates leadership and who positively impacts a school and/or community in the areas of health, fitness and nutrition.

Through her role as a youth nutrition education specialist for the Chickasaw Nation

Get Fresh! Program, AnDina positively impacted more than 3,000 students during the 2008-2009 school year. In addition, she has implemented nutrition education programs in 13 schools within the Chickasaw Nation boundaries.

CONTRIBUTED BY Karissa Pickett, Public Affairs

'Go red for Women' luncheon set for Feb. 20

In an effort to raise awareness about the affects of heart disease in women, the Chickasaw Nation Division of Health and Ada's Valley View Regional Hospital will co-host the "Go Red for Women" Ada Heart Fair, Fashion Show and Luncheon from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, February 20, 2010 at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center, 700 N. Mississippi in Ada.

Guest speakers will include Dr. Darius Noble of Valley View Regional Hospital and Dr. Timothy Medcalf of Oklahoma Cardiovascular Associates.

Participants will receive educational materials regarding women and heart disease. In addition, free give away items will also be available.

Those who are interested in reducing their risk for developing heart disease should plan to attend this special event.

For more information, please contact Barbara Quinlan at (580) 421-4533.

CONTRIBUTED BY Karissa Pickett, Public Affairs

The Chickasaw Nation Get Fresh! Program Announces Classes

Ada Nutrition Services, 518 E. Arlington

January 5: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 7: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 12: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 14: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 2: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 4: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 9: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 11: 10 a.m. and noon
 For more information, call (580) 272-5506.

Ada Family Life/Wellness Center, 229 W. Seabrook

January 6: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 13: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 14: 6 p.m.
 February 3: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 10: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 11: 6 p.m.
 For more information, call (580) 272-5506.

Ardmore Nutrition Services, 2350 Chickasaw Blvd.

January 5: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 6: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 12: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 13: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 2: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 3: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 9: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 10: 10 a.m. and noon
 For more information, call (580) 226-8289.

Purcell Nutrition Services, 1530 Hardcastle Blvd.

January 5: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m.
 January 7: 10 a.m. and noon
 January 12: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m.
 January 14: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 2: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m.
 February 4: 10 a.m. and noon
 February 9: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m.
 February 11: 10 a.m. and noon
 For more information, call (405) 527-6967.

These exciting cooking shows are free and open to the public and demonstrate healthy cooking for the entire family! Leave with recipes, nutrition education and new ideas to cook healthier every day! Classes offered on each day feature the same recipes during the times of availability.

Elder case manager ready to help you

Are you a Chickasaw Elder age 60 or older? Do you live within the tribal boundaries?

If so, call Lori Dodson, Elder Case Manager at 800-851-9136 ext. 80110 for personalized assistance navigating the Health System.

CNHS At-Large case manager will help

Are you a Chickasaw citizen living outside the tribal boundaries? Would you like more information on Health System programs available to you?

If so, call Amy Wampler, Services At-Large Case Manager, at 800-851-9136 ext. 61097.

CHICKASAW
HEALTH
INFORMATION
CENTER



Located in the main lobby of Carl Albert Indian Health Facility, the Chickasaw Health Information Center (CHIC) is a free online health information center for patients, family members and staff.



The center is equipped with computers and one kiosk with Internet access to the National Library of Medicine (NLM) databases. The goal of CHIC is to assist patients in making informed health choices, and to encourage patients to actively participate in their health care. The NLM website has information on medical diagnosis, medications, prevention, the latest medical research and published medical articles. Also included is information on the "Speak Up" Program which

is a national campaign to encourage patients to be informed and take an active role in communicating with their health care team.

Visit www.chicresources.net

Oklahoma Optical



Oklahoma Optical is located at 1005 North Country Club Road in Ada, Oklahoma.

A new showroom and large display area makes finding the right style more convenient for customers!

Oklahoma Optical is open to everyone. For more information, please contact Dixie Ernst-Phillips at (580) 332-2796.

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Health Division program graduates first pharmacy resident



Sharla Davis, center, receives a certificate signifying her completion of the Chickasaw Nation Division of Health Residency Program. From left, Lisa Bumpus, Chickasaw Nation Division of Health Deputy Administrator; Governor Bill Anoatubby; Sharla Davis, Clinical Pharmacist; Chris Anoatubby, Chief of Pharmacy Services, Chickasaw Nation Division of Health; and Stephanie Burns, Residency Program Director and Clinical Pharmacy Coordinator, Chickasaw Nation Division of Health.

Sharla Davis recently became the first Chickasaw Nation pharmacy resident to complete the newly established Division of Health Residency Program.

"The residency program was started in the summer of 2008 on the vision of expanding the education and application of pharmacy services within the Division of Health," said Chris Anoatubby, Chickasaw Nation Division of Health Chief of Pharmacy Services.

When the residency program was initiated, Ms. Davis was serving as a staff pharmacist. She was eager to volunteer for the residency program, even though the program is not yet

accredited.

"I came to the Chickasaw Nation Outpatient Pharmacy as a fourth-year pharmacy student in January 2007," said Ms. Davis. "I worked within the clinics, anticoagulation management services and the lipid clinic for the month of January. I really enjoyed the people, the patients and the versatility of a pharmacist's job within the outpatient pharmacy. I wanted to be a part of what was happening. Through God's good timing, I was allowed the opportunity to apply for a position in May of that same year and was hired."

Ms. Davis proved to be a

shining candidate for the program, and excelled throughout the course of the year.

"Sharla gained so many things from her residency training, but I would have to say the largest things were confidence in her abilities and finding her voice within our pharmacy," said Mr. Anoatubby. "She definitely found her passion and drive. It was

2010 Tobacco Cessation Classes

Tobacco cessation classes are available free of charge. Below are established class dates.

January 4 and 19, February 1 and 16.

March 1, 15 and 29, April 5.

Tobacco cessation classes offer basic information about tobacco, problem solving skills and social support.

Classes begin at 5:30 p.m. in the small conference room at

exciting to see that continue as her residency ended and she continued to pursue other projects within the department and health system."

Ms. Davis said she learned a lot about herself throughout the residency.

"I learned that there are many opportunities and ideas that are awaiting an eager mind and ambitious heart within the Chickasaw Nation Division of Health," she said. "I found people that are interested in providing the best health care possible for the Native Americans of this area."

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Health Residency Program is a one year post-graduate program for pharmacists and provides opportunities for participants to apply knowledge obtained and receive hands on experience in many areas of service.

"The residency is set up in rotations varying in length from one to two months," Stephanie Burns, residency program director and clinical pharmacy coordinator said. Residents gain diverse experiences in many areas of service includ-

ing: outpatient, inpatient, clinical, administration, leadership, ambulatory care and they also have the opportunity to participate in research projects. "The resident gains experience in each rotation from a resident preceptor, which is a departmental staff member who specializes in that particular area of pharmacy," said Anoatubby. "The new tools that the residents are equipped with often make them more desirable applicants in the competitive job markets and they are well above their peers in overall knowledge in particular areas of pharmacy." Each residency year is tailored to the individual resident.

Each resident is evaluated throughout their residency on the completion of overall required goals and objectives. Once the resident has completed all requirements by the end of the residency period, they receive a certificate of residency training from The Chickasaw Nation Division of Health training site.

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Health Pharmacy Residency Program underwent its first voluntary accreditation survey by the American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) in June of 2009.

"It was determined that our residency program had no areas of non-compliance and we hope to be fully accredited when the committee convenes in March of 2010," said Anoatubby.

The survey process ensures the program is accountable to a set of standards considered to be best practices in the different areas of pharmaceutical care.

After completing her residency, Davis is continuing her career with the Chickasaw Nation as a clinical pharmacist. She is currently working with the Diabetes team to help them expand pharmaceutical care services. Davis is from Durant and her parents are Steve and Rachel Davis.

For more information regarding any of the residency programs offered by the Chickasaw Nation Division of Health, please contact Stephanie Burns at (580) 421-4569.

CONTRIBUTED BY Karissa Pickett, Public Affairs

Christmas at the Museum



Will Bailey of Ada enlists the help of Council House Museum curator Ann Fink while seeking information about his ancestor, Chickasaw Governor Cyrus Harris. The museum conducted Christmas at the Museum Dec. 11 and hosted several patrons eager to learn more about Chickasaw history.

Full-time positions open at the Chickasaw Nation Health System

The Chickasaw Nation Health System has full-time, immediate openings within the tribal boundaries for qualified medical personnel in the following specialties:

- 1 General Surgeon, Ada
- Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant, Ardmore

For details on any of the professional positions listed above, please contact:

Ronnie Shaw, Professional Recruiter
Chickasaw Nation Health System
(580) 272-7272 ronnie.shaw@chickasaw.net

Beth Campbell, Staff Recruiter
Chickasaw Nation Health System
(580) 272-7320 beth.campbell@chickasaw.net

Healing Hands arts project brings generations of Chickasaws together



Members of the Chickasaw Nation Senior Center in Ada, Okla. construct collages as a part of the Healing Hands project sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities. Pictured left to right are Sharon Zack, Chickasaw Nation Art Instructor Elizabeth Swearingen, Charlie Russell and Emilea Stephens.

1. The Healing Hands project was created by the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities to provide multi-generational community within the Chickasaw Nation with mixed media art instruction in a class setting. Classes are led by Division art

instructors Trina Jones and Elizabeth Swearingen.

2. This year, members of the Chickasaw Nation Senior Centers in Ada, Purcell and Duncan, students of the A Saturday Art Program (ASAP) and

the young artists of the Chickasaw Young Artist Studio are participating in Healing Hands workshops. Each artist will create two pieces of artwork using collage and expressionistic methods. These works are inspired by colors that promote healing and words associated with a positive healing process.

3. Each artist will finish his work with a handprint before one or both of the works are donated for the project. The donated pieces will be constructed into an installation that can be displayed to inspire well being throughout the Chickasaw Nation's clinics and hospitals.

For more information on the Healing Hands project, contact Arts and Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw Youth Creative Writing Contest seeks entries

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities invites Chickasaw students and young adults to enter the 2010 Chickasaw Youth Creative Writing Contest.

Deadline for entries is Friday, February 26, 2010. This year's theme is "Destined for Greatness in the 21st Century: Challenges & Solutions for Modern Indian Youth."

Winners in three age divisions will win cash prizes, medals and certificates of achievement.

Open to enrolled citizens of the Chickasaw Nation, youth in grades six through 12 and young Chickasaw adults through age 24 may enter up to three works in this year's contest in three categories: poetry, short story, and narrative or essay.

"This year's topic is extremely important for Chickasaw youth and young adults to reflect upon and write about,"

said Lona Barrick, Division of Arts and Humanities administrator. "We are encouraging young writers to identify the challenges that face them in today's world and seek solutions for a bright future."

Contest winners will be announced Saturday, March 27 at the Chickasaw Nation Youth Arts Month Celebration at the Ada Chickasaw Nation Community Center.

Details about the contest and downloadable entry forms may be found at www.chickasaw.net. Completed entry forms along with proof of tribal citizenship must be submitted with entries on or before February 26.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities at (580) 272-5520, or email laura.clark@chickasaw.net or lorie.robins@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Creative Writing workshops set for Ada, Tishomingo, Kingston

Contest participants have the opportunity to improve their writing skills at three free workshops featuring professional writers. Workshop dates and locations include:

Chickasaw Children's Village Library
Kingston, Okla.
Tuesday, Jan. 12
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Chickasaw Nation Community Center
Ada, Okla.
Thursday, Jan. 14
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tishomingo Area Office
Tishomingo, Okla.
Wednesday, Jan. 20
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday Arts Program, Young Artists Studio now enrolling

Spaces are currently available in both the Chickasaw Nation Arts in Education "A Saturday Arts Program" (ASAP) and in the Chickasaw Young Artists Studio.

For participants in grades three through six, instructional art workshops will be conducted during ASAP. Pre-registration is required.

2010 ASAP workshop dates and locations are as follows:

Saturday, Jan. 16
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.
Ada Chickasaw Nation Old Community Center
Chickasaw Nation Headquarters Campus
520 East Arlington
Ada, Okla.

Saturday, Feb. 27
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Chickasaw Children's Village
71185 Village Road
Kingston, Okla.

Saturday, March 13
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Ardmore Area Office
2400 Chickasaw Blvd
Ardmore, Okla.

The Chickasaw Young Artists Studio, or Studio Y, is available for experienced artists of various mediums in grades seven through 12.

A studio will be provided at the old community center on the Chickasaw Nation Headquarters campus for students to work independently. Studio Y participants will book studio time slots every Tuesday and Thursday through May 2010 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

In addition to in-studio mentoring, the participants will receive guidance on how to build portfolios and enter in local and national competitions.

To sign up for either program or for more information, contact Cara Criswell, Arts in Education department at (580) 272-5520 or cara.criswell@chickasaw.net.

HORSESHOEING

Shawn Williams
(580) 622-2876; (580) 320-3125;
(580) 622-3316

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1899: Chickasaws looking into the abyss

BY RICHARD GREEN | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The final installment of a three-part Chickasaw history series highlighting the years 1699, 1799 and 1899.

Introduction

The Chickasaw chiefs are not on record in 1799, speculating about the tribe's chances to remain in the homeland east of the Mississippi River. You might think that by then, at least several leaders could see that some form of relocation was inevitable. But they didn't enjoy our retrospective vision at that time.

I believe it probably never seriously occurred to them—even the enterprising Colbert brothers—that Chickasaws would not live where they had settled after they parted ways with their Choctaw brethren, according to their migration story.

Consequently, in 1799, Chickasaws would have been shocked and distressed to know that within 40 years, they and their descendants would be forcibly removed from their homeland by their one-time ally, the United States, to a new homeland in Indian Territory. Furthermore, although the United States would guarantee that new homeland in perpetuity to the Chickasaws, just 60 years later, in 1899, the U.S. would be in the process of privatizing the tribal domain and ending tribal government.

One

How the Chickasaws got to such a sad state in 1899 is far too complex to recount here. But the gradual process escalated in 1893 when Congress created the Dawes Commission to negotiate agreements with the Five Civilized Tribes and divide the tribal domain into land allotments that then were to be divided among members of the tribe. Because the Chickasaws and Choctaws (by treaty) owned land in common, the United States treated both tribes together.

As part of this process, the Dawes Commission either accepted or rejected applicants for tribal membership based initially on whether the tribal government had previously recognized the applicant as a member of the tribe. In actuality, determining membership of the tribes would never be as simple as that.

In 1896, Congress gave the final determination of tribal membership to the Dawes Commission. The issue was greatly complicated by the fact that the approximately 5,000-plus Chickasaws were engulfed by some 150,000 whites, some of whom had hired lawyers, who in turn began maneuvering to get their clients placed on the tribal rolls.

Why the legal shenanigans? The average allotment was valued at approximately \$5,000. In terms of purchasing power, that translates to about \$130,000 today. Obviously, it was a process ready-made for graft and corruption. In addition, some of the 5,000 Chickasaw freedmen were clamoring for tribal membership and land allotments. They were enrolled preliminarily, but whether they could legally hold Chickasaw land allotments was still in question.

Furthermore, by 1898, some 2,500 fraudulent claimants, according to Chickasaw and Choctaw leaders, had been cleared by the Commission to become tribal members. When this decision was appealed by the tribes, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled only on the narrow question of whether the Dawes Commission had the authority to make these determinations. When the Court answered yes, the rulings, in effect, were upheld. With the average allotment valued at \$5,000, 2,500 fraudulent claimants would cost tribal members some \$12,500,000 in lost land.

In agreements with the Five Tribes, the United States had decreed that their governments must cease by 1906. Of the five, only the Chickasaws failed to ratify the agreement, called the Atoka Agreement of 1897. This provoked Congress to pass the Curtis Act, which virtually abolished tribal government. Tribal courts were abolished and all tribal legislative acts had to be approved by the United States.

Still, despite the willingness of recently elected Chickasaw Governor Douglas H. Johnston to cooperate with the United States, he was determined to hold the U.S. to its implicit promise that its actions would be not only legal, but right.

Johnston, a former superintendent of the tribe's Bloomfield Academy, had run against Hindman H. Burris in August 1898, and the two had offered voters a clear-cut choice. Johnston, believing that opposing the federal government's policy of abolishing tribal government was futile, said he would work with, not against, the U.S. government to wind up tribal affairs as favorably for the tribe as possible by the 1906 deadline. Burris campaigned largely on a policy of continued resistance to ending tribal affairs.

Johnston defeated Burris in all four districts, but there is no way to tell if the 372 men who voted were representative of the tribe. The 1867 Chickasaw Constitution excluded women, and for most Chickasaws, getting to one of the four polling places was a long and sometimes difficult trip. The final count was 255 for Johnston and 117 for Burris.

Johnston's campaign was undoubtedly much better financed because special interest groups stood to make a financial killing when the land and money started changing hands. If Chickasaws had voted for a lifestyle, most would have voted for the status quo. Tribal land always had been held in common, and there were few glaring disparities of wealth among tribal members.

As historian Arrell Gibson put it: "Life was easy for the Chickasaws with simple tastes. Their fertile fields and rich grasslands yielded crops and livestock increases which more than sufficed for their needs. Their former slaves, now freedmen, performed the rigorous toil as day laborers and sharecroppers." While this view seems overly bucolic, his point about most Chickasaws not wanting change is well taken. Had most of the fullbloods been mobilized to vote, Burris might have been elected governor, and then the United States might have been obliged to more demonstrably illuminate the concept of "might makes right."

Checking the tribal roll which was assembled at the turn of the century, we can't say how many of those tribal members still spoke only Chickasaw or how many spoke Chickasaw and English. But we can assume that the latter group was growing steadily if not rapidly. The roll presents one striking finding. Virtually no one was enrolled by one or two traditional Chickasaw names the way the great majority of tribal members were known in 1799 and all tribal members had been known in 1699: the transformation from Ayakatabe to Jonas Imotichey to William Smith was virtually complete.

Two

Despite the Congressional act calling for an end to tribal government by 1906, the Chickasaw Legislature appropriated funding for the construction of a new Capitol building in 1898. Within that year, the impressive granite (from former Governor Robert M. Har-

ris's quarries) structure arose on a Tishomingo hill; its cupola was visible above the tree line as travelers approached the small city.

Given the 1896 Congressional act ending tribal government by 1906, the site of the new Capitol going up must have been bewildering to visitors and some of the 500 or so residents of the then-tribal capital (since 1856). If so, they missed the point, which was emphasized in a lengthy and joyous dedication of the building on November 17, 1898. If tribal government were to cease, let this building stand as an impressive monument at least to the Chickasaws' glorious past.

One of the speakers that evening was William H. Murray, a Texan and young lawyer who was working for Governor Johnston and courting his niece, Mary Alice Hearrell. (In July 1899, the couple would wed after Murray paid the tribal fee of \$100 to become the most prominent intermarried Chickasaw citizen in history.) That Murray was a featured speaker attests to a remarkably swift ascension, as Murray had only arrived in Tishomingo earlier that year, broke, wearing a derby hat and carrying a small carpet bag purportedly containing a change of clothes, a world history book and a copy of the U.S. Constitution.

Although acknowledging that the Indians had been "cruelly treated," he told the Chickasaw audience emphatically that their evolution, nurtured by the American Republic, had resulted in an "enlightened civilization." The festivities that evening were a testament to that enlightenment. Chickasaws were making long, flowery speeches and singing and dancing 'til dawn, not in the traditional way of their ancestors, but to American standards and tunes of the "Gay Nineties" Surely, tribal leadership was poised for entry into American society.

It was a night to celebrate, commemorate and remember. Afterwards, it was time to get ready for the thorny issues involving land allotment, the 2,500 fraudulent claims to tribal citizenship and doubtless future matters of contention. Johnston would need Murray and others to progress through the incredibly complex thicket of rules, regulations, red tape and powerful interest groups and personalities of one stripe or another.

One of Murray's first tasks for the governor was to transform tribal enactments into a form and language that was palatable to Secretary of Interior Ethan Allan Hitchcock. "Can you do it?" asked Johnston in a meeting at Johnston's home, referred to as the Chickasaw White House.

"I can write anything from a political platform to the constitution of a republic," Murray said, adding that if he didn't succeed, it wouldn't cost the tribe anything. With no further talk of remuneration, Murray prepared the legislation, which was indeed approved by Hitchcock.

Murray's fee was \$500. Johnston was happy to pay it because he said that Murray's work had saved the tribe thousands of dollars. Among his work was a plan, enacted by the Chickasaw Legislature in 1899, to shift the target of tribal taxation from non-Chickasaw people to their livestock. This put the burden on those most able to pay: the big cattlemen from Texas who were driving herds to market and using the lush and abundant grass ranges to graze those herds.

Three

The lands of the Five Civilized Tribes (roughly the

1899: CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 22

eastern half of present-day Oklahoma) comprised one of the last frontiers of the United States. And, as Governor Johnston and most leaders of the Chickasaws realized, there was no way for the tribes to avoid being subsumed by what Arrell Gibson called, "a galvanizing, pervasive economic threat." The Chickasaw Nation's most striking and vexing problem in 1899 was what to do about the 2,500 non-Chickasaws already admitted to tribal citizenship by the Dawes Commission.

Many Chickasaws and Choctaws must have felt frustrated and angry, thinking nothing more could be done. But Governor Johnston was still looking for a legal remedy to the citizenship case. He had persevered in other tough litigious and political matters and won concessions from the United States.

Against the stated wishes of the American government, he had kept 13 tribal neighborhood schools open by securing funding, which the tribe still controlled from approximately \$30,000 in mineral royalty account deposited in a U.S. sub-treasury in St. Louis. Descendants of freedmen could not attend these schools because the tribe had never adopted the freedmen despite U.S. pressure to do so. Johnston had paid off the substantial national debt by insisting that the United States recognize the tribe's right to assess and collect tribal taxes levied on non-Chickasaws doing business in the Chickasaw Nation.

Aside from Bill Murray, Johnston had a very able team around him. His special assistant in 1899 was tribal member Ben H. Colbert, according to *The Purcell Tribune* (February 24, 1905). The year before, Colbert had been a member of the "Rough Riders" and Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's personal assistant in the Cuban campaign of the Spanish-American War.

Johnston was not a man to underestimate. Even though the U.S. Supreme Court had sustained the lower court's ruling in the matter of the fraudulent claimants, he, in his optimistic yet determined way, insisted to his Choctaw counter-part, Chief Green McCurtain, that there had to be another way for the tribes to proceed with an appeal. But how does one appeal beyond the U.S. Supreme Court?

On that very mission, Johnston's half brother, Tandy C. Walker, paid a visit in June 1899 to a South McAlester law firm, which had been in business less than a year. He presented the background of the citizenship case to the three law partners of the firm, and suggested that they visit with Governor Johnston at his capitol office in Tishomingo or in Emet at the White House. Although the firm was new, the three partners had considerable assets and experience—as Johnston was doubtless aware.

The lawyers did visit Governor Johnston, who was so impressed that he hired them, with U.S. permission, to work on the citizenship case. Later, Chief Green McCurtain retained the firm for the Choctaw Nation. Johnston agreed to pay the firm \$5,000 a year. While \$5,000 was a lot of money in 1899, it perhaps coincidentally was the equivalent of the average value of one allotment. So if the firm could help to remove just one of the 2,500 fraudulent claimants, it would earn its fee.

In his book, *A Nation in Transition: Douglas Henry Johnston and the Chickasaws, 1898-1939*, historian Michael Lovegrove characterized each partner. J. Frank McMurray was the "promoter and politically active member." Melven Cornish had experience as a clerk with the Dawes Commission and had a "general knowledge of tribal affairs, particularly the Chickasaw and Choctaw rolls." George Mansfield, the senior

partner, was "an indefatigable researcher," and he, in particular, would apply his skill, tenacity and legal acumen to finding a solution to the citizenship case.

Meanwhile, preparations continued for the enormous job—in scope and complexity—of dividing up and appraising approximately 11,300,000 million acres among approximately 28,400 Chickasaw and Choctaw citizens, not counting the fraudulent claimants.

Two individuals who took part deserve special notice here. Grant Foreman of Muskogee, was among those hired to survey and appraise the land; he later became an eminent Oklahoma historian. The Chickasaws' lone field representative was E. B. Johnson, son of famed Chickasaw rancher, Montford Johnson, the subject of the book, *The Chickasaw Rancher*. The work began in 1899 and was concluded by April 1900.

Mansfield, McMurray and Cornish spent months in 1899 examining the court records and tribal roll, and realized the widespread scope of the fraud. Some 240 people had not even applied; their names had just been added, possibly by clerks who were on the take. By virtue of this finding, those names were struck from the rolls.

But Mansfield made an even more important discovery and informed the Dawes Commission of it in November 1899. Since the Chickasaw and Choctaw lands were owned jointly, Mansfield contended that any ruling by the court was invalid, which admitted people to the rolls who had filed a claim or appeal against only one Nation. Governor Johnston felt Mansfield's argument was the "instrument in the hands of justice to right the wrongs already done the Choctaws and Chickasaws."

His opinion prevailed and proved to be essential to

the outcome. But, it would still take a carefully negotiated agreement (the Supplemental Agreement) in 1902 among the United States and the two tribes, and much political maneuvering by Frank McMurray, to create a special U.S. court whose ruling would actually strike the remainder of the 2,000-plus phony claimants from both tribal rolls.

Postscript

While the tribe won significant victories in 1899, no amount of moral righteousness and political maneuvering would stop the Americans drive to transform Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory into the state of Oklahoma. But the means to achieve the goal, snuffing out tribal governments, was not realized because tribal leaders, such as Douglas Johnston, continued to fight for fair settlements.

Bibliography

The following list represents only the main sources for the article, but other information came from the Douglas Johnston Collection, Tribal Archives, Ada, Oklahoma; I was assisted by senior archives manager Amanda Hudson. In examining the final Dawes Roll, I was assisted by tribal genealogist Amber Underwood.

Lovegrove, Michael, *A Nation in Transition: Douglas Henry Johnston and the Chickasaws, 1898-1939*.

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Dawes Final Roll, Chickasaw Nation, Chickasaw Nation Library.

2009-2010 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District Seat #	Pickens District Seat #	Tishomingo District Seat #
1. Holly Easterling 1722 Augusta Drive Ada, OK 74820 (580) 399-4002 Holly.Easterling@chickasaw.net	1. David Woerz P.O. Box 669 Ardmore, OK 73402 (580) 235-3240 David.Woerz@chickasaw.net	1. D. Scott Colbert P.O. Box 773 Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 421-3425 Scott.Colbert@chickasaw.net
2. Nancy Elliott 620 Ann Ada, OK 74820 (580) 399-4374 Nancy.Elliott@chickasaw.net	2. Connie Barker 509 SW 7th Ave. Marietta, OK 73448 (580) 272-4175 Connie.Barker@chickasaw.net	2. Tim Colbert P.O. Box 773 Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 421-7242
3. Katie Case 14368 County Road 3597 Ada, OK 74820 (580) 272-8385 Katie.Case@chickasaw.net	3. Linda Briggs 400 NW 4th Marietta, OK 73448 (580) 272-7268 Linda.Briggs@chickasaw.net	3. Steven Woods 4736 Chickasaw Trail Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 272-7270 Steve.Woods@chickasaw.net
4. Dean McManus 5980 CR 3430 Ada, OK 74820 (580) 235-2651 Dean.McManus@chickasaw.net	4. Shana Tate Hammond 1606 Southern Hills Dr. Ardmore, OK 73401 (580) 235-1438 Shana.Hammond@chickasaw.net	Panola District Seat # 1. Beth Alexander Box 246 Achille, OK 74720 (580) 272-7850 beth.alexander@chickasaw.net bethalexander22@hotmail.com
5. Mary Jo Green 2000 E. 14th Place Ada, OK 74820 (580) 310-4563 Mary.Green@chickasaw.net		

LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

**CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
David Stout Building
Ada, Oklahoma
November 20, 2009**

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Chairperson Holly Easterling called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

Members present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Holly Easterling, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

Staff present: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary, Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms, Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel, Eren Hatton, Administrative Aide

Guests present: Mike Watson, Wilma Stout, Dana Hudspeth, Tony Choate, Michael L. Wingo, Skip Fillmore, S. Ashley Large, Jerry Imotichey

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Ms. Green.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - October 16, 2009

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Green to approve the October 16, 2009 minutes. Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling

13 yes votes

The motion to approve the minutes of October 16, 2009, carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Steve Woods

No report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 27-005, Approval of Development Budget Amendment

Tishomingo Head Start Storm Shelter

The Chickasaw Nation provides nurturing and educational services to children through the Chickasaw Nation Head Start program. To ensure the safety and welfare of these children and the employees charged with their care, a storm shelter needs to be constructed on the site of the Chickasaw Nation Head Start program in Tishomingo. The location in southern Oklahoma designates the area as high risk for severe thunderstorms including tornadoes. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has designated funding to be utilized to construct storm shelters in these high risk areas. The Chickasaw Nation Head Start in Tishomingo is eligible to receive grant funds to construct the storm shelter.

The motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. McManus to approve GR 27-005.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling

13 yes votes

The motion to approve GR27-005, carried unanimously.

Ms. Briggs concluded her report.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Dean McManus

General Resolution Number 27-008, Gubernatorial Appointment to the Board of Directors of RSE Enterprises, Inc., Mr. Bill Lance

This resolution approves Governor Bill Anoatubby's appointment of Mr. Bill Lance to the Board of Directors of RSE Enterprises, Inc. Mr. Lance will fill the first of three seats on the Board of Directors of the company which was purchased by the Chickasaw Nation on May 8, 2007. Mr. Lance will fill an unexpired one-year term of office beginning upon adoption of this resolution and ending on November 1, 2010.

The motion was made by Ms. McManus and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve GR 27-008.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling

13 yes votes

The motion to approve GR27-008, carried unanimously.

Ms. McManus concluded her report.

LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair David Woerz

General Resolution Number 27-006, Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Murray County

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to acquire real property, in Sulphur, Murray County, Oklahoma. The Governor is authorized to request the Bureau of Indian Affairs to place the property U.S.A. in Trust for the Chickasaw Nation after acquisition, if such action is advantageous. The property is located at 901 Division Street, and it is to be utilized for future economic development.

The motion was made by Mr. Woerz and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve GR 27-006.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling

13 yes votes

The motion to approve GR27-006, carried unanimously.

Mr. Woerz concluded his report.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Mary Jo Green

No report.

HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Connie Barker

General Resolution Number 27-007, Authorization for Chickasaw Nation Division of Health to Apply for National Institutes of Health (NIH) Grant - Building Sustainable Community-Linked Infrastructure to Enable Health Science Research

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation Division of Health to apply for an NIH grant. This grant is intended to be used to support the development, expansion or reconfiguration of infrastructure needed to facilitate collaboration between academic health centers and community-based organizations for health science research. We will be partnering with the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Since 2000, the Chickasaw Nation has had a successful and ongoing relationship with OUHSC through other grants. The NIH has designated up to \$30 million in FY 2009-2010 to fund 30 or more grants. The award is limited to a maximum of \$1 million for the full project period. The Chickasaw Nation Division of Health would leverage these funds to develop infrastructure (personnel, equipment, office space) for a biomedical research department that would create

productive and sustainable academic-community research partnerships that can be utilized in the future for efficiently conducting research that includes and is relevant to affected communities, and through which research findings can be disseminated in a manner that maximizes impact on the public health of the Chickasaw people.

The motion was made by Ms. Barker and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve GR 27-007.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling

12 yes votes

Member abstaining:

Katie Case

1 abstention

The motion to approve GR27-007, carried.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Scott Colbert

Mr. Scott Colbert announced Lowak Shoppala' would be presented at the Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center on the East Central University Campus, in Ada, on November 21 and 22.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

Chairperson Easterling announced the Elders Luncheon today, at the Agri-Plex.

Mr. Jerry Imotichey asked the Legislature to check on an incident at the Tishomingo Clinic. He also inquired about small home repairs for citizens living outside the Chickasaw Nation boundaries, jobs for Chickasaws, and the elected officials serving on boards.

Mr. Mike Watson advised the Legislature that there would be a petition circulating to change the date of the Legislative Session, petitions for per capita payments, term limits, disclosure of compensation of employees earning more than \$50,000 a year, election reform, candidate's filing fees, and campaign contributions.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Briggs, Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

Prepared by: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole
December 14, 2009
Present: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling
Absent: Beth Alexander, Scott Colbert

Education Committee
December 7, 2009
Present: Mary Jo Green, Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Holly Easterling
Absent: Shana Hammond

Election Rules & Regulation Ad Hoc Committee
December 14, 2009
Present: Steve Woods, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Holly Easterling
Absent: Beth Alexander, Scott Colbert

Health Care Committee
December 7, 2009
Present: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus,

Holly Easterling
Absent: Connie Barker

Human Resources Committee
December 7, 2009
Present: Dean McManus, Katie Case, Mary Jo Green, Scott Colbert, David Woerz, Holly Easterling
Absent: Connie Barker

Land Development Committee
December 7, 2009
Present: David Woerz, Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Mary Jo Green, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling
Absent: Connie Barker

Legislative Committee
December 7, 2009
Present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Scott Colbert, Nancy Elliott
Absent: Tim Colbert, Connie Barker, Shana Hammond,

Holba' Kana'li film series features 'Barking Water' in January

Seminole/Creek director Sterlin Harjo will attend the January installment of the Holba' Kana'li Film Series to participate in a forum after the screening of his film "Barking Water."

The film will be shown at 6 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 14 at the McSwain Theatre in Ada. Tickets are \$5 and are available at www.mcswaintheatre.com or at the door.



against time to get Frankie home before he dies. The film followed Harjo's critically acclaimed "Four Sheets to the Wind," also a collaboration with Burris. "Barking Water" premiered as an official selection at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and has since won several awards, including an American Indian Movie Award for Best Film and Best Oklahoma Film at Oklahoma City's dead-CENTER Film Festival.

"Barking Water" was produced by Chickasaw Chad Burris. The movie chronicles a dying man, Frankie, and Irene, his on-again, off-again partner of 40 years. The two set out on a journey, racing

For more information, contact James Wallace, (580) 272-5520.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

DECEMBER 2009 RESOLUTIONS

General Resolution Number 27-009
Gubernatorial Reappointment to the Board of Commissioners
Of the Housing Authority of the Chickasaw Nation
Carla Miller
Explanation: Ms. Carla Miller has been a member of the Board of Commissioners of the Chickasaw Housing Authority since July 11, 1996. This resolution approves Governor Bill Anoatubby's reappointment of Ms. Carla Miller to the Board of Commissioners to fill a term of office beginning on January 23, 2010, and ending on January 23, 2013.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee
Yes votes: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling

General Resolution Number 27-010
Gubernatorial Reappointment to the Board of Commissioners
Of the Housing Authority of the Chickasaw Nation
Bill Johnson
Explanation: Mr. Bill Johnson has been a member of the Board of Commissioners of the Chickasaw Housing Authority since August 11, 1999. This resolution approves Governor Bill Anoatubby's reappointment of Mr. Bill Johnson to the Board of Commissioners to fill a term of office beginning on January 23, 2010, and ending on January 23, 2013.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee
Yes votes: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling

General Resolution Number 27-011
Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Love County
Explanation: This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to perform in-kind

construction services, to include but not limited to site utilities, road completion, and property line clearing and cleanup, for an estimated value of \$81,824, in order to acquire and in exchange for real property, located in Love County, Oklahoma, described as:

A tract or parcel of land lying in the Southeast Quarter (SE/4) of Section Twenty Nine (29), Township Nine (9) South, Range Two (2) East, of the Indian Meridian, Love County, Oklahoma, being 25 feet either side of the centerline being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest Corner of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 29; thence N 89°38'09" E along the North line of said SE/4, a distance of 1130.50 feet to the Point of beginning; thence S 22°26'07" E a distance of 49.04 feet; thence S 86°48'09" E a distance of 162.74 feet; thence S 0°38'28" W a distance of 1130.00 feet; thence S 0°03'57" E a distance of 376.00 feet; thence S 0°00'53" E a distance of 376.00 feet; thence S 0°07'52" E a distance of 376.00 feet; thence S 89°15'22" W a distance of 362.00 feet to the Point of Ending. Said described tract containing 3.25 acres more or less together with all improvements thereon, if any, in their present condition, ordinary wear and tear excepted.

The Governor is authorized to request the Bureau of Indian Affairs to place the property U.S.A. in Trust for the Chickasaw Nation after acquisition, if such action is advantageous.

Property Location: Near or adjacent to Exit 1 Thackerville, Oklahoma, River Ridge Development

Use: To be utilized for storm water infrastructure development needed to support the WinStar World Resort.

Presented By: Land Development Committee
Yes votes: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Steve Woods, Holly Easterling

Textile artist to exhibit, conduct workshop in Ada

ADA, Okla. - Contemporary hand woven designs and costumes from the world premiere of "Lowak Shoppala', Fire and Light," created by award-winning Chickasaw fiber expert, textile artist and designer Margaret Roach Wheeler, will be on exhibit in Ada in February. Works by the master artist will be displayed at the McSwain Theatre Art Gallery, beginning February 5 through February 26, 2010, at 130 West Main in Ada.

As sponsors of the exhibit, the Chickasaw Nation Division of arts and Humanities invites the public to an opening reception on Friday, February 5 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the McSwain Theatre Art Gallery.

Ms. Wheeler, who has held a

fellowship with the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in New York and whose awards range from 'Best of Class' at the Heard Museum and Indian Fair and Market to the President's Award at Red Earth Festival, will conduct a textile workshop on February 6, 2010. Enrollment is limited to 20 workshop participants. The workshop will be conducted at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center in Ada.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities at (580) 272-5520 or email marcus.milligan@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

If you go

WHAT: Holba' Kana'li Film Series featuring "Barking Water" followed by Q & A with director Sterlin Harjo.

WHEN: 6:00 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14

WHERE: McSwain Theatre, Ada

DETAILS: Tickets, \$5, will be available at the door or can be ordered by visiting www.mcswaintheatre.com.

CONTACT: James Wallace, (580) 272-5520

Lomedia Faye Taylor Ash



Lomedia Faye Taylor Ash, 60, died August 24, 2009 at Ardmore, Okla. Funeral services were Aug. 27 at Durwood Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. Randy Baptiste officiating. Interment followed in Durwood Cemetery.

Mrs. Ash was born Nov. 12, 1948 to John and Stella Mae (Johnson) Taylor at Madill, Okla.

Known by her family and friends as "Mead," she graduated from Dickson High School and received her associates degree in childcare from East Central University, of Ada, Okla. She married Doug Ash May 3, 1976 at Durant, Okla.

She served as a dormitory parent at Carter Seminary, Ardmore, taught Head Start students at the Chickasaw Nation and served as a Johnson O'Malley chairperson for many years.

She enjoyed spending time laughing with her family and friends and spoiling her grandchildren. Her passion was arts and crafts of all kinds. She excelled in quilting, bead work and cake decorating. She was an avid bingo player and a fan of the Oklahoma Sooners.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Austin Ray Taylor and Leo Ray Taylor; and a sister, Louise Bird Taylor.

She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Doug Ash; two sons, Ked Cree Ash and wife, Carla Jean, and Kurt Taylor Ash; granddaughter, Skylar Cree Ash; grandson, Xaryk Anthony Ash; a brother, Leonard Taylor; eight sisters, Johanna Boston, Marquita Gratner, Marcella Wilmond, Myrna Boston, Doreen Martinez, Tammy Stiles, Terry Sampson and Mary Ann Taylor; stepmother, Pauline

Taylor; two aunts, Josephine Taylor and Ahnawake Taylor; special sister, Vivian Sue Murray and husband, Ronnie; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Pallbearers were Jay Wallace, Ronnie Murray, Rodney Postoak, Charles Sampson, Leonard Taylor and Johnny John.

Honorary bearers were Ruby McMillian, Tammie Marris, Betty Baptiste, Frankie McCullough and Roxanna Newsome.

Condolences may be left at www.griffin-hillcrestFH.com

Harold (Hal) J. Morin



Harold (Hal) J. Morin died Nov. 13, 2009. Services were Nov. 18 at Safford Funeral Home, Safford, Ariz., with Pastor Danny Crotts officiating.

Mr. Morin was born March 12, 1928 to original enrollee Ola Owens Morin and Otto Earl Morin at Frisco, Okla.

Mr. Morin was a kind and caring person, always giving a helping hand to those in need. He was a member of the Church of New Life Fellowship.

He was proud of his Chickasaw heritage.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Ben Boach; grandson, J.D. Holyoak; best friend, Joe Land; and numerous relatives and friends.

He is survived by his loving wife, Judy; daughters, Linda Louder, of Santa Rosa, Calif., Mandy Roach and Kimberley Lozano, both of Safford, Ariz.; brother, Vern, of Yuma, Ariz.; sister, Melba Burnett, of Thatcher, Ariz.; and many grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends.

Pall bearers were Jimmy Lozano, Jason Roach, Danny Roach, Eric Roach, Mike Morrow and John Louder.

Honorary bearers were Lavern Morin, Valladie Crotts, Bruce Goodner, Bill Burnett and Norman Low.

We will all meet in Heaven

one day. Mr. Morin will be greatly missed and will be in our hearts forever.

Robbie Lynette Hanners



Robbie Lynette Hanners, 48, died Nov. 16, 2009 at her home in Englewood, Colo. She was born October 29, 1961 at Phoenix, to Robert and Judy Tyson.

She was married to Bob Hanners and they had five children, Janice and Steven, of Colorado, Christopher, of Washington D.C., and Jason and Justin, of Colorado.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband, Bob; children, Janice, Steven, Christopher, Jason and Justin; sisters, Janice Bozeman, of Topeka, and Tammarie Anderson, of Oregon; and many grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

What a joy she is having now without all the pain, Dad and Mom.

In Loving Memory

Winnie Lorene Bennett
April 6, 1921 -
November 20, 2008



We love you and miss you!

Forever in our hearts,
Robert and Jody; Lorene, Marie, Wanda and Doris; and grandchildren

Melinda Sue Smith



Melinda Sue (McNeely) Smith died Dec. 9, 2009 with her family at her side. Services were Dec. 12, 2009 at Griffin-Hillcrest Chapel with Pastor Ed Lee officiating. Interment followed in Rose Hill Cemetery, Ardmore, Okla.

Mrs. Smith was born Oct. 17, 1950 to Charles Edward and Winnie (Ned) McNeely at Ardmore.

She married Douglas Jerome Smith Aug. 12, 1967 at Ardmore and spent her life as a devoted wife, loving mother and grandmother. She loved her family very much.

She was preceded in death by her father Charles Edward McNeely; a brother, Nicky Dion McNeely; and a grandson Billy Max Smith.

She is survived by her husband, Jerome, of the home; two sons, Douglas J. Smith, Jr., and wife, Sara, and John Richard "Richie" Smith, all of Ardmore; grandson, Alec Smith, of Ardmore and his mother Jamee Smith; granddaughter Ann Smith, of Ardmore; mother, Winnie McNeely, of Lone Grove, Okla.; a brother, William Charles McNeely and wife, Vicki, of Lone Grove; a sister, Cheryl Rogers and husband, Ricky, of Ardmore; Uncle Carns Porter, of Ardmore; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Jovetta and Charles Callender, of Riverdale, Iowa; great-aunt, Lena Farve, of Enville, Okla.; and great-grandson, Drake Smith, of Madill, Okla.

Pallbearers were Kenneth Solley, JJ Hornback, William McNeely, Ricky Rogers, Charlie McNeely, Kevin McNeely and Charles Edward Callender.

Juanita S. (Goforth) Long



Juanita S. (Goforth) Long died Oct. 3, 2009 at Norman (OK) Regional Hospital just nine days before her 94th birthday. She was buried Oct. 6, 2009 with interment in Sunny Lane Cemetery, Del City, Okla.

She was born Oct. 15, 1915 at Kenefick, Okla., to original enrollee Fred W. Goforth and Mildred A. Wilfong.

She was married to Huey Long for 38 years until his death in 1970.

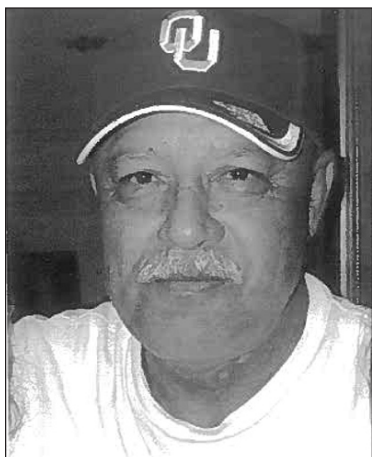
She was very active in Eastern Star, Del City Lodge and a member of Del City First Southern Baptist Church since 1959.

Mrs. Long was proud to be a member of the Chickasaw Nation and lived her life to the fullest.

She was preceded in death by her husband; and a brother, Bill Goforth, former Chickasaw Hospital Administrator.

She is survived by two sons, James Wayne Long and wife, Jimmie, of Norman, Okla., and Huey P. Long and wife, Tari, of Miami, Okla.; four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren; a younger sister, Margaret Ralls, of Wagoner, Okla.; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Jackie Glen Walton



Jackie Glen Walton, 61, of Dallas, died Nov. 23, 2009 at Fort Stockton, Texas. Services were Nov. 28, 2009 at Fort Stockton.

Mr. Walton was born Sept. 27, 1948 to Myrt Walton and Helen Shico an original enrollee.

He attended school at Tishomingo, Okla. He moved to Dallas in the late 60s and was a resident of Dallas until moving to Fort Stockton recently.

He was a truck driver, which he passionately loved.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Myrt and Helen Walton; much loved mother-in-law, Grace Hobbs; daughter, Tracie Lynn Walton; brothers, Thomas Frank Walton, Robert Walton, Donald Wayne Walton, and Johnny Green; a sister, Galela Walton.

He is survived by adoring daughters and husbands, Delisa and Scott Johnson, of Bridgeport, Texas and Michelle and Gillie Trevino, of Fort Stockton; grandchildren, Chad Mogus, Shawnea Leyva, Annbra Johnson, Dekkota and Cristian Perez; a brother, Myrt Walton; sisters, Susie Rose, Carolyn Green and Francis Boyd; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The world has lost a legend. Words cannot begin to express the heartache and grief we have over the lost of our father. He was a compassionate and wonderful person. He never met a stranger and never lost a friend. He is adored by his daughters and grandchildren. Grandpa "Dude" will forever walk beside grandchildren and protect them as he did in life. His daughters will never be able to fill the void of losing the most wonderful father there ever was. He was and forever will be our "Desperado."

Chickasaw Foundation Scholarships

The Chickasaw Foundation offers a variety of scholarships. Each year our application is available in early spring and lists available scholarships along with their criteria and amounts. Scholarship funding begins with each fall semester and is dependent upon the availability of funding. Scholarship awards shall be made payable directly to the students' designated college or university. Requirements and amounts for each funding source may change during the course of a school year.

All scholarship applications must be delivered or postmarked by the stated deadline date to be considered for funding.

The Chickasaw Foundation provides educational assistance for students who demonstrate excellence in academics, community service, dedication to Native

America and a commitment to learning.

You Provide: (Depending on the scholarship)

Two letters of recommendation from a school official or instructor

Two letters of recommendation from a high school official or instructor who is knowledgeable of your academic ability and character. Note: Applicants of the Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound Leadership Scholarship require one letter from the Upward Bound academic advisor that has been working with the student.

High school and/or college transcript (depends on classification)

Proof of enrollment for fall semester
Typed essay describing long-term goals and plans to achieve them

Copy of Chickasaw citizenship card or CDIB (depends on scholarship)

Copy of Your Chickasaw Nation employ-

ee badge holder

Copy of ACT/SAT scores

Proof of any honors, awards or achievements, participation in any clubs, societies, etc.

Proof of income

Proof of acceptance to law school and law school transcript

Eligibility: Eligibility requirements differ with each scholarship.

Deadlines: Deadline to apply is June 1. Applicants will be notified by mid-July if they are selected to receive the scholarship.

You may call our office at (580) 421-9030 or send an e-mail to ChickasawFoundation@chickasaw.net for any information regarding our scholarships or to be placed on our scholarship mailing list.



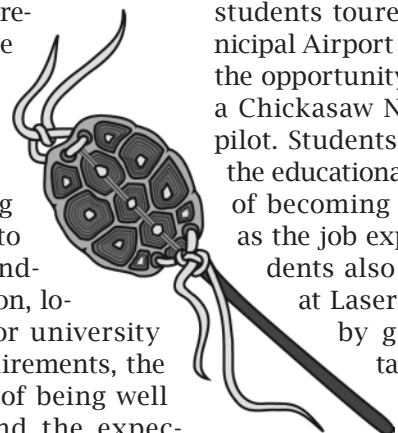
Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound students tour the Ada Municipal Airport and visit with a Chickasaw Nation Aviation pilot.

Upward Bound students prepare for ACT test

During the October monthly meeting, Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound (CFUB) students enjoyed a day of food, fun and ACT® preparation (the ACT® is a standardized test for high school achievement and college admissions in the United States). Information was presented to the students, such as why the ACT® test is so vital to gaining entrance into a post-secondary institution, local college or university scoring requirements, the importance of being well prepared and the expect-

tations of the actual test. As participants in the Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound program, students are eligible for ACT® fee waivers and approximately 30 fee waivers were provided to juniors and seniors who are scheduled to take the ACT® test this fall.

The CFUB Math and Science students toured the Ada Municipal Airport and were given the opportunity to speak with a Chickasaw Nation Aviation pilot. Students learned about the educational requirements of becoming a pilot as well as the job expectations. Students also enjoyed lunch at Laser Zone followed by games of laser tag and bowling.



Britt, Foster are Foundation 'Students of the Month'

Mr. Tanner Britt was selected October 2009 Chickasaw Foundation Student of the Month. He is a junior at Velma High School and has been a participant in Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound (CFUB) since 2007.



Tanner Britt

Tanner maintains a 4.0 grade point average and is president of his student council, captain of the academic team, editor of the school paper, and involved in show band as the section leader of the drum line. Last summer he attended the National Native American Youth Imitative Patty Iron Cloud Program in Washington, D.C. for students who have an interest in medicine. He is also a member of the BETA Club and the National and Oklahoma honor societies.

His volunteer activities include trash pick-up, blood drives, angel tree participation, tutoring and teaching karate to under-privileged children. In his spare time he likes to play his bass guitar during worship

at Velma Baptist Church. His future plans include attending the University of Oklahoma.

Tiffany Foster was selected November 2009 Student of the Month. She is a senior at Wayne High School and has been a member of Upward Bound since she was a freshman. Tiffany has over 30 hours of community service through Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound.



Tiffany Foster

She is involved in National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, McClain Bank Board of Education and is an active member of the First Baptist Church of Rosedale.

Tiffany received a "Top Student" award during the CFUB summer session from her geography class and the highest grade in Math for three years in a roll. She also received an award for top student from the Purcell Masonic Lodge. She is active in softball and cheerleading, and helps her grandfather on the family farm.

Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

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