



Prairie Band Potawatomi News

+++ A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation +++

- WINTER 2017 EDITION -

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Potawatomi Phrases

Mnogishgèt

It's a good day

Ksènyamgèt

It is cold

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Primed for Parity



Taking a stand for tribal sovereignty. Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Chairwoman Liana Onnen testifies at the November 1, 2017, Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Oversight Hearing regarding Tax Issues in Indian Country. Several pieces of legislation have been introduced in a bi-partisan effort to rectify outdated tax law affecting all Indian tribes.

By Liana Onnen & Michelle Simon

Tax legislation has been introduced to Congress to right some fundamental inequities faced by Indian tribes in the Internal Revenue tax code. Current tax laws are restrictive or completely overlook the unique status of Indian tribes creating undue hardship and a barrier to economic viability. The proposed legislation will ultimately equalize or provide parity between tribes and states under the federal tax code.

With the passage of pending legislation, the PBPB would experience a strengthening of sovereignty at the Federal level. At the reservation level, it would open the door to improving the quality of life for individual tribal members.

The last legislation enacted for the benefit of Indian Country occurred in 1982. Congress passed the Indian Tribal Governmental Tax Status Act. On a larger scale, the last time the United States amended the Internal Revenue Code was 1986. Currently the GOP is trying to overhaul the entire tax code, and a small group of bi-partisan Senators and House Representatives are trying to ensure Indian Country is included in the reform.

“The uncertainty and inconsistency of the application of the tax code to tribal governments is one of the most complex hurdles to overcome with regard to Economic Development. Parity with states when it comes to taxation and tax related matters is a major step in evening the playing field for tribes,” stated Liana Onnen, PBPB Tribal Chairwoman.

Over the course of the last twenty years, a handful of issues have repeatedly come to the forefront for tribes.

Instead of seeing each tribe go to court, litigate their individual instance and then set precedent for all 567 tribes, the bills proposed to amend the Internal Revenue Code will enhance the rights of all tribes in relation to the following:

Essential Government Functions (EGF) Test –The IRS currently implements the “essential government functions” test to determine if a business is an “essential government function” for tribes. States and local governments are not subject to this litmus test. The test is restrictive in nature toward Indian tribes and the proposed amendment found in H.R. 3138 would eliminate this test.

Tribes maintain almost all entities are essential because the revenues generated provide care for tribal members. Tribal revenues should not be subject to outside taxation because they are governmental revenues of a distinct sovereign. This is important to PBPB because the Nation does not have a large tax base to draw from, which again falls back to conflicts with taxation and tax jurisdiction.

Excise Taxes – The elimination of the EGF test would also allow for an easier time for Indian tribes seeking exemption from certain excise taxes. Under current law, states can seek exemption from the same excise taxes without having to pass the EGF test.

Tax-Exempt Bonds – For instance, if the PBPB Nation chose to build a recreation center, it would have a formidable time securing tax-exempt bond financing, to the point of it not being worth the time and effort. With the proposed changes in legislation, tax-exempt bonds would provide tribal governments with more flexibility in securing a realistic means to lower financing options for necessary projects.

Continued on page 2...

Key Legislation

S. 1116: The Indian Community Economic Enhancement Act of 2017
Introduced by Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Chairman John Hoeven (D – ND) and Senator John McCain (R-AZ)

S. 1935: The Tribal Tax Reform and Investment Act of 2017
Introduced by Senator Jerry Moran (R – KS)

S. 2012: The Tribal Economic Assistance Act of 2017
Introduced by Chairman Hoeven and Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)

S. 548: The Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act of 2017
Introduced by Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) along with the support of Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT)

H.R. 3138: The Tribal Tax and Investment Reform Act of 2017
Introduced by Representative Ron Kind (D – WI), with support from Representatives Lynn Jenkins (R-KS), Suzan DelBene (D-WA), David Reichert (R-WA), Doug LaMalfa (R-CA), Norma Torres (D-CA) and Tom Cole (R-OK). This bill has also been referred to both the House Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Chairwoman Liana Onnen: Message to the Nation



3rd Quarter Travel

Washington D.C. 9/12-9/13

Tax Advocacy/Lobbying with Senators Moran (R-KS), Thune (R-SD), Stabenow (D-MI), Staff Counsel – House Ways and Means Committee

Bethesda, MD 9/13-9/15

National Institutes of Health
Tribal Advisory Committee Meeting
Currently serving as Co-Chairperson

Milwaukee, WI 10/15-10/19

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)
Annual Conference - Focused on Tax Parity, Dual Taxation, Land-Into-Trust Reform concerns.

Washington D.C. 11/1-11/2

Testimony - Senate Committee
S. 1935: Tribal Tax Investment and Reform Act

To view oral and written testimony, visit:
<https://www.indian.senate.gov/hearing/oversight-hearing-building-tribal-economies-modernizing-tax-policies-work-indian-country>

PBPN Primed for Parity, Continued

Pension and Health Plans – Changes to the tax code can help cut costs by allowing the administration of one unified plan. Currently the Nation, as a government entity, cannot utilize one plan even though all business entities owned and operated by the Nation are for the benefit of the tribe and the membership. If combined, the tribe can realize cost savings by only paying for the administration of one plan and using the volume of employees to drive down the individual cost per person.

Tribal Child Support Enforcement – Unlike the PBP Nation, many tribes do not have access to the federal parent locator service. Inability to utilize this resource makes it harder on Tribal child support agencies to assist the children dependent on these dollars. Amendments would establish access to this resource and allow tribes to garnish federal tax returns.

Adoption Tax Credit – As it stands only state courts hold the authority to determine if a child eligible for adoption has “special needs,” and are thus eligible for an adoption tax credit. Tribal governments currently have

Greetings to every one of you. I hope this message finds you in good health and spirits. As we approach another season, I find myself reflecting upon this past year and looking forward to the new one. As we move into the New Year, I will be trying some new ways of communicating to you, the general membership, including changing the format and style of this article. My intention is to write an article that focuses on one main aspect of the work I have done in the past quarter. A brief overview of my travels and any other relevant activities will also be included in the article.

The primary focus for me this past quarter has been taxation in Indian Country. I began working on taxation issues back in late 2014, when the State of Kansas approached us about a tobacco tax compact. This approach was a result of the State entering into an agreement to regulate cigarette sales within the state of Kansas, including Indian reservations. Taxation jurisdiction in Indian Country is not always as clear-cut as we would like it to be. Case law and different states and different laws can make taxation in Indian Country unclear. To remedy this, some states will enter into tax compacts with tribes. Other states will not enter into compacts and will try to impose their taxes on Indian reservations. The experience of negotiating the Tobacco Tax Compact made it clear to me not only how confusing taxation and the incidence of taxation in Indian Country is, but also how detrimental these questions of taxation jurisdiction are in Indian Country especially as it pertains to economic development in Indian Country. If tribes are trying to entice businesses to the reservation, how can they do so competitively when there is tax uncertainty as well as better offers and advantages for other governments? This began my interest and advocacy for tax reform in Indian Country.

Last year, the Nation Congress of American Indians (NCAI) approached me to reach out to Rep. Lynn Jenkins of Kansas to see if she would be interested in being a Republican co-sponsor of the Tribal Tax Investment and Reform Act introduced by Rep. Ron Kind (D, WI.) The bill was drafted as way to remedy many issues with tribal tax parity, or equality. Many municipalities and governments enjoy tax benefits that tribal governments do not enjoy, whether due to unclear laws or to inconsistent application of existing laws. As a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Jenkins was an ideal candidate to be a co-sponsor. I met with Jenkins last year and after some discussion, she ultimately agreed and co-sponsored the bill, understanding the importance of tax parity and what an economic generator the tribe is in Jackson County and northeast Kansas and that when the Prairie Band Potawatomi succeeds, Kansas benefits as well.

This year, I met with Senator Moran and his staff to discuss his introduction of the Senate companion bill of the same name. After that meeting, Sen. Moran introduced the bill. In early November, I testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs (SCIA) about the problems with taxation in Indian Country. Although the SCIA does not handle taxation (that is the Senate Finance Committee), they worked closely with the Senate Finance Committee to understand this bill and others that address the number of tax issues in Indian Country. In the days following my testimony, the House unveiled its bill, The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. None of the provisions introduced by members of the SCIA were included. As part of NCAI’s Tax Working Group, I participated in several calls regarding the new bill and the lack of provisions, once again, for Indian Country. I have reached out to both of our Senators to encourage inclusion of these provisions and engagement with Indian Country as policy is developed.

As of the writing of this article, tax reform in this country is front and center. It appears the Senate Republicans may have a hard time rallying the support and votes needed to pass the Senate version of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. I will continue to monitor these developments and do all I can to advocate for our tribe and others when it comes to tax parity in Indian Country. I will continue to be a strong voice on this issue. Tribes must have an equal playing field with other governments and municipalities, so that we have the same opportunities and advantages other governments enjoy. I will continue to monitor, advocate and lobby for tax parity in Indian Country as developments continue.

As always, should you have any questions or concern, please contact my office at 785-966-4008. Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as you Chairwoman.

Liana Onnen

jurisdiction over Indian adoptions, but not the determination of “special needs.” The amended code would provide parity for adoptive tribal parents.

Tribal Foundations & Charities – Due to the current lack of parity faced by Tribal Nations, many find it difficult to form and fund separate nonprofit organizations for charitable purposes. The proposed changes to sections of the Internal Revenue Code would treat tribal funding as public support and with the same considerations as organizations formed to support state and local governments.

A few other areas of interest in the proposed amended legislation include:

- Allowing the Indian Health Service access to the same recruitment and retention tax incentives as other public sector health systems,
- Exempting minors’ trust funds from taxation at the rate of the child’s parents,
- Solidifying the Indian Employment Tax Credit, and

- Increase deployment of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits specifically in Indian Country.

All of the changes would go into effect the next calendar year beginning after the date of enactment.

With all this said, the promise of parity for Indian tribes remains hanging in the balance as Congress focuses on tax reform for the entire country. On November 16, 2017, the House of Representatives passed the Tax Cut and Jobs Act while the full Senate is working on maneuvering its own version of large-scale tax reform through the Senate chamber. Neither of those bills currently contain the language needed to deliver parity to Indian Country.

In order for change to occur Congress must pass the legislation aimed specifically at tax parity. If it does not happen during this congressional session, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation leadership and institutions like NCAI and the Native American Finance Officers Association will continue to advocate on behalf of Indian Country.

Who We Are:

2018 Potawatomi Gathering

Plans for the 2018 Potawatomi Gathering are in full swing. Members of the community gather together each month at the Old Bingo Hall to share a potluck meal and plan this momentous event. Come take part! Here are the dates of the next meetings, start time is 6 p.m. each month.

January 4 & February 1, 2018

Meetings dates are subject to change for inclement weather, notice will be posted at www.pbpindian-tribe.com and on Facebook.

The Gathering planning is broken down into several areas, and each area is overseen by a captain. If you would like to be involved in a specific area please reach out to the captain:

Gathering Captains

- Cultural Activities - Jackie Mitchell
- Elders - Laverne Hale
- Food & Entertainment - Camilla Chouteau
- Giveaway Gifts - Jeanette Little Sun
- Grounds - Robbie Lange
- Media - Michelle Simon
- Powwow, Princess & Vendors - Coleen Thomas
- Recreation - Paula Hopkins & Stephanie Jim
- Registration - Charles Nez
- Veterans - Lorrie Melchior
- Youth - Cheryl Hopkins & Joanna Mitchell

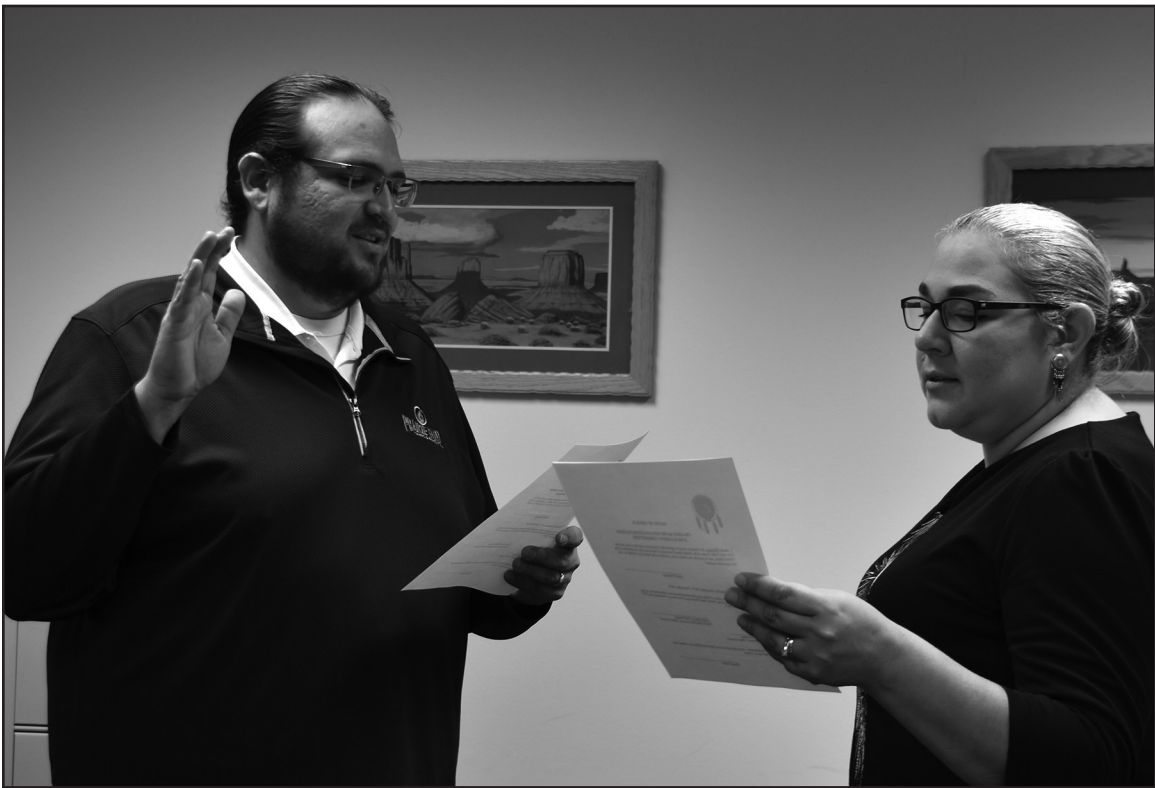


Mark Your Calendars! Catch the details as they become available, visit the website, follow Facebook and look for future articles in the newspaper.

Questions or ideas? Contact PBP Tribal Council Secretary Camilla Chouteau at 785-966-4022 or Legislative Assistant, Paula Hopkins at 785-966-4032. Or, email Media@pbpnation.org.

Information about the 2018 Gathering is available on the Nation's website, www.pbpindiantribe.com. Click "COMMUNITY" from the Menu Bar, and then click "2018 POTAWATOMI GATHERING" to visit the dedicated webpage. Information on the 2018 Gathering will be posted here as it becomes available, check in often!

Homebuyers Workshop
January 24, 2018
Old Bingo Hall
Watch for more details on Facebook



Jacob Tug Wamego takes the Oath of Office for the Enrollment Committee. Wamego was recently appointed by Tribal Council to fill a position left open by a resignation.

Charitable Contribution 3rd Quarter Recipient List

Total Donated \$73,620

- CASA of Shawnee County
- Doorstep, Inc.
- East Topeka Senior Center
- Florence Crittenton Service
- Holton Community Hospital
- Housing & Credit Counseling
- KSDS Assistance Dogs
- Midland Care Connection
- Morning Star, Inc.
- Rossville Grade School
- Royal Valley USD 337
- SLI - Sheltered Living
- TARC
- Topeka Civic Theatre
- Topeka Symphony Society
- We-Ta-Se American Legion

PBP Nation has jobs available,
apply today!
pbpnation.applicantpro.com/jobs/

Prairie Band Pulse

Here are a few key measures of the PBP:

- Enrolled Tribal Members: 4,628
- Full Blooded Enrolled Tribal Members: 44
- Fluent Potawatomi Speakers: 1
- Reservation Land
- Ownership: 42.7%
The PBP owns 42.7% of the land within the 11 by 11 square mile boundary
- Buffalo Stock: 300 Heads
- PBP Employees: 305

Wahwasuck Sworn in to Ethics Commission

With the addition of Chairwoman Wahwasuck, the Ethics Commission is now able to address the ethical behavior of elected and appointed officials of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Arlene Shipshee Wahwasuck took the Oath of Office on Monday, November 13, 2017 at the Old Bingo Hall. PBP Tribal Council Chairwoman Liana Onnen officiated.

Wahwasuck won the election on November 4, 2017. Of the 553 ballots cast, Wahwasuck received 52.98% of the vote while her opponent Lorrie Melchior received the remaining 47.02%.

In May 2017, Burton Warrington resigned the position after serving 10 months of the 3 year term. A special election was required to fill the term.

You can reach the Ethics Commission at PO Box 218, Mayetta, KS, 66509 or visit the website. The Ethics Commission page is located under "GOVERNMENT."



Wahwasuck steps up to serve as the Ethics Commission Chairperson.

Treasurer Wade Pahmahmie: Message to the Nation



Hello everyone! I hope that your holiday season is going well thus far as 2017 winds down. From a financial standpoint our fiscal year is winding down as well, as all of our audits have now been finalized, our FY18 budget process is near completion and our year end processing for W-2's and 1099's is just around the corner in January. Since my last newspaper article we have now filled my former position and have hired Lisa Wamego, PBPB Tribal Member, as our Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Lisa has spent the past 19+ years working in our Casino's Finance Department and prior to that worked in the Finance Department on the Government side working with our grants and contracts. It is great when we are able to fill our management positions with tribal members and I look forward to working with Lisa on several financial projects as well as continuing to improve our internal controls. Here are a few additional items that are going on in the Tribe's financial area.

Unclaimed Property Program

We continue to work with an outside legal firm on drafting a new ordinance to specifically deal with our unclaimed property. The plan is to have the new ordinance finalized and approved by Tribal Council in early 2018. In the meantime there is some work that we can do to clean up our outstanding check listings and begin re-issuing checks to our tribal members. This will reduce the amount of unclaimed property in the form of outstanding checks and make the implementation of the program much easier. Once the ordinance is in place we should be able minimize the amount of unclaimed property moving forward.

PBPB Seal

From time to time, the Tribal Council receives requests to utilize the Tribe's seal (also referred to as our logo). The Tribe's seal is officially trademarked and permission must be granted by the Tribe before the seal can be used. For those who would like to use the seal commercially, a trademark license agreement must be made between the Tribe and the individual/business, in addition to approval of the use. In the case of the seal being used commercially for items such as apparel, coffee mugs, folders, pens, planners, license plates and so on, the Tribe receives a royalty. Generally, the royalty is a percent-

age of each item sold at the retail level as spelled out in the agreement. As the Tribe continues to enter into additional trademark license agreements items branded with the Tribe's seal should become more readily available for Tribal Members to purchase. Currently all of our trademark license agreements are with Tribal and Tribal Member businesses.

Credit Card Acceptance

Currently the Tribe primarily accepts payments in the form of cash and checks for goods and services such as rent, disposal services, licenses, election filings, etc. We are in the process of adding credit cards as a payment option for departments that receive payments on a regular basis. The addition of the credit card payment option will add convenience for payment as well as reduce the amount of cash that we currently receive for goods and services. The credit card payment option will be available in early to mid-2018.

Shabehnay Modulares

The twenty modular buildings purchased in 2006 for the Shabehnay casino project have recently been approved to be sold by Tribal Council. We are currently in the process of accepting proposals from multiple auction companies. The auction company awarded the contract will administer the sale of the modulares. Originally the modulares were purchased and stored in Texas and were moved up to our 150/75 property on the east side of Highway 75 in 2014. The modulares have remained in that location since delivery and must be removed from the location before any site work can be done for the 150/75 development project. In 2008, General Council approved the 150/75 development project for \$19.3 million. Since the project is now nearly 10 years old we will be reviewing the project details as well as determining if the \$19.3 million is still sufficient due to increased costs and inflation. Taxation is also a key issue in proceeding with the project and we must ensure that the Tribe is able to collect as much of the taxes generated from the project as possible.

Year End Processing

As in prior years our two most common tax forms, Form W-2 and Form 1099-MISC must be issued to the recipients by January 31st. Form W-2 is issued to our employees for their wages, Form 1099-MISC is issued to our Vendors, Pow Wow Contest Winners and our Tribal Member's for their Per Caps. In addition to these two forms we also issue Form 1042-S to Foreign Persons/non-US Citizens primarily for Per Caps and Pow Wow winnings, Form 1099-S for land purchases and Form 1095-C for Health Insurance Reporting. Form 1099-MISC for Minors Trust Distributions, both age-based and discretionary, are issued by our Trustee, Providence First Trust Company. While the forms are not technically due to be issued until January 31st, we hope to have the forms in the mail no later than the week of January 22nd.

Annual Budget Process

For the main topic for my article this quarter, I would like to elaborate on our Annual Budget Process as we near the completion of our FY18 Budget Process. Our Annual Budget Process generally spans approximately 8 months from start to finish.

Beginning in May our Budget Committee (which consists of our CFO, General Manager, Assistant GM's and Performance Financial Analyst) formulates a target number for our Gaming Distribution based upon prior year activity and upcoming factors. This number is divided amongst our Tribal Government budgets and budget templates are sent out to our departments around June 30th.

Throughout July and early August our departments work with the Budget Committee to put together their annual operating budgets, their capital requests (equipment and projects in excess of \$5,000), travel requests and their additional employee requests. These requests are due back to the Budget Committee by mid-August. The Budget Committee reviews the requests and meets with the departments in late August to discuss the requests and recommend changes as necessary.

In mid-September each of our departments has the opportunity to also meet with Tribal Council to discuss their requests. In early October, the Budget Committee meets with Tribal Council to review and finalize the departments' budgets. After this meeting in early October, Tribal Council then formally approves the Tribal Government Budget, Casino Budget (due to Tribal Council by October 1st) and Gaming Commission Budget (due to Tribal Council by August 15th) in mid to late October. Once Tribal Council has approved the Tribal Government Budget, the Budget Committee meets with the departments to discuss what was approved and not approved.

Under the Tribe's Constitution it is the duty of the Tribal Council to approve the annual budget according to Article V, Section 1.(j) and the duty of the General Council to review the annual budget according to Article IV, Section 2.(d). The General Council budget review meeting is generally held in early December and was scheduled for December 5, 2017. The last step in the Annual Budget Process is to post the budgets in the system prior to January 1st.

If you have any questions on any of the topics mentioned in this article or financial questions in general about the Tribe's operations my contact information is: Office: (785) 966-3905 – E-mail: wadepahmahmie@pbnation.org., or you can always stop by my office or set up a meeting to discuss. Also, if you have any specific financial topics that you would like me to write about in future articles let me know and I can incorporate those.

Last, I would like to mention that our next Will and Estate Workshop is slated for late February/March. Additional information will follow once dates are determined based upon the availability of Kansas Legal Services.

As always thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Tribal Council Treasurer and I look forward to continuing to serve our Tribal Members.

Respectfully,

Wade Pahmahmie (Wap-tti-ge)

2018 POTAWATOMI GATHERING - WHO WE ARE
JULY 29 - AUGUST 5 | PRAIRIE PEOPLES PARK | MAYETTA, KS

Prairie Band, LLC Positioned for Continued Success in 2018

By Michelle Simon

The arc of Prairie Band, LLC activity is aimed at building long-term financial stability for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. On the day-to-day, the staff of PB, LLC is engaged with the often, arduous work required to build an institution.

Over the course of the last year and more, PB, LLC has been doing a lot of heavy lifting, in preparation to take the company, and specifically the Government Contracting Division to the next level. The company had several key wins in 2017 that are setting up 2018 with a foundation for success.

PB, LLC is the economic development company wholly owned by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Formed in 2010, as a means to economic development outside of the gaming industry, Prairie Band, LLC has grown into a family of seven subsidiary companies.

As members of Tribal Council have transitioned during the recent elections, so have members of the LLC Board, along with a change in the direct leadership of the LLC. Jacob “Tug” Wamego was selected as the President and CEO in January 2017, after serving as interim beginning in May 2016.

With the flux of changing leadership, one of the first outcomes was the disbursement of the remaining \$2M investment allocated to the LLC in the corporate implementation plan. Tribal Council also made the decision to defer the Year 6

(2016) dividends for re-investment back into the operation.

As the year comes to a close, here is a recap of the high points and a glimpse at future endeavors.

Prairie Band Distribution
Prairie Band Distribution is a new subsidiary established in 2017. The company’s primary focus is tobacco distribution. The company currently distributes Grand River Enterprises products (Seneca, SAGO and American Club) and Smoking Joes products. The company is currently in negotiations with a potential third tobacco manufacturing company. Additional product distribution avenues will be sought in 2018.

Prairie Band Construction
Operationally, the Prairie Band Construction has made tremendous strides in 2017. During the first quarter of 2017, PB Construction successfully bid and won the construction of the PBPB Language & Cultural Learning Center. This is the first major construction project the company has done in several years. The project was successfully implemented from design to build. The PBPB Language & Cultural Learning Center is slated to open in December 2017. PB Construction is lead by a seasoned professional, Greg Sharp. Greg has been diligently marketing the company over the past six months and recently completed a project at Tripler Medical Center in Oahu, Hawaii. Overall, PB Construction is on track to

generate \$1 million in revenue in 2017 and expects to maintain this momentum in 2018.

Prairie Band Health Services
Receiving SBA 8(a) certification has been a long time coming. The idea of the Nation obtaining the certification for a tribally owned company began over 10 years ago, prior to the establishment of the LLC. Now, under the guiding hand of Wamego and the Prairie Band, LLC Board and staff it has finally come to fruition. In November 2017, the LLC officially received the certification which opens the door to more sole sourcing opportunities, contracts and access to federal resources through the SBA.

PBHS has several task orders with the United States Navy. Positions range from Family Medicine Physicians and Emergency Room Physicians to Psychologists. The company currently has 4 proposals out with the federal government and will take significant efforts to market the SBA 8(a) certification in 2018.

Mill Creek, LLC
Also closing out 2017 was the acquisition of Mill Creek, LLC (MC). The process began in January and was completed in October 2017. The company is a provider of medical facility initial outfitting and transition services. Mill Creek is a solid addition to the Government Contracting Division as MC is a profitable company and has numerous contracts in place in both the government and private sector.

As an additional boon, MC’s respectable client base allows Prairie Band, LLC to cross market services with its other subsidiaries. These synergies will increase Prairie Band LLC’s government contracting presence for many years to come.

“Health care as an industry is robust, with the aging American population and long term growth trends, it makes it a great industry to be involved in,” stated Jacob Wamego, PB, LLC President and CEO.

According to the Population Reference Bureau report, ‘Aging in the United States:’ The number of Americans ages 65 and older is projected to more than double from 46 million in 2016 to over 98 million by 2060, and the 65-and-older age group’s share of the total U.S. population will rise to nearly 24 percent from 15 percent. These data points are also in line with projections by the U.S. Census.

The Future
By taking a holistic view of the company, Wamego, the Economic Development Board, and Tribal Council have positioned Prairie Band, LLC to leverage the full array of services provided through the company’s Government Contract Division. The Division is now able to access more contracts, provide any needed construction and has the capability to design, build, outfit, and staff health-care facilities. With these collaborative services and a long-term market base, Prairie Band, LLC anticipates a healthy increase to the bottom line in 2018 and the future.

Mill Creek, LLC Acquired by PB, LLC Submitted by PB, LLC

October 31, 2017 – Prairie Band, LLC (PB) announces that it has acquired Mill Creek LLC (MC), a leading provider of medical facility initial outfitting and transition services (IOT&A). This marks the third operating company in the PB portfolio of federal government contracting.

Jacob Wamego, President & CEO of Prairie Band LLC, said, “We are delighted to make a substantial investment in an outstanding company with massive growth potential within the federal healthcare space.”

Mill Creek, LLC is headquartered in the Denver, CO metropolitan area and provides the highest quality medical facility IOT&A to a variety of federal government customers.

Prairie Band, LLC was formed in 2010 as an economic development company wholly owned by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Since inception, Prairie Band, LLC has grown into a family of seven subsidiary companies including Mill Creek with commercial, federal, and local customers.

Prairie Band, LLC is part of the eco-

nomie development plan established by tribal leadership with the purpose of providing opportunity and prosperity to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. The company is headquartered on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation in northeast Kansas.

Legal advisors to Prairie Band were Galler Corporate Law Group. Galler Corporate Law Group is a boutique business advisory law firm based in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Galler Corporate Law Group has more than 20 years’ experience advising clients in many industry segments on business transactions, fund raising, government contracting and strategic planning.

Burton Woodward Partners, a Native American owned firm, advised on the transaction. Burton Woodward was founded by Darden graduates, Robert Burton and Ernest Woodward and is a boutique consulting firm specializing in advising Native American owned businesses. The firm also provides consulting services on strategy, start-ups, M&A, access to capital, and related disciplines.

To stay up-to-date on the latest happenings of Prairie Band, LLC visit:

www.prairiebandllc.com

**Prairie Band, LLC
Board of Directors**
Chairman: Zach Pahmahmie
Vice Chair: Peggy Houston
Secretary: Jona Rupnicki
Board Member: Jr. Wahweotten
Board Member: Tracy Stanhoff

PBHS Awarded SBA 8(a) Certification Submitted by PB, LLC

November 3, 2017 – Prairie Band Health Services, Inc. (PBHS) has been certified as a participant in the Small Business Administration’s 8(a) Program.

PBHS is a healthcare staffing company that serves the federal government, tribal governments, and corporate clients throughout the United States.

PBHS is headquartered on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation near Mayetta, KS. It is owned by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation’s economic development company, Prairie Band, LLC,

John Holtz, CEO of PBHS, said, “This is an exciting opportunity for Prairie Band. This certification will provide access to resources and support to

expand our business and continue to provide quality healthcare staffing management to our customers.”

The President and CEO of Prairie Band, LLC, Jacob Wamego, said, “This is the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation’s first company to be awarded SBA 8(a) certification. The process was arduous and we are fully prepared to capitalize on the opportunities and resources this certification brings. I am extremely proud of the Prairie Band team for their hard work.”

PBHS is a leader in the healthcare industry and provides a number of services including recruiting, credentialing, and placement of clinical, technical and administrative personnel.

Casino Expansion and Upgrade Proposal

Presented by the Casino Board of Directors

At the October General Council Meeting, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation's Board of Directors (The Board) and consultants from Thalden Boyd Emery (TBE) Architects and I-5 Design (I-5) presented the expansion to the General membership. After the presentation and some discussion, the General Council voted to postpone any decision on the expansion until January and asked for additional information and details regarding the expansion.

Below you will find a summary, which provides additional information and a broad overview of the expansion/upgrade project and its parts, in one of the first steps we will take to meet the request of the general membership.

Over the course of the past several years, the Board has worked on a strategic plan for the Casino's future. The first step in achieving this long-term vision is the expansion proposal currently under consideration. This proposal consists of nine key components. A breakdown of the nine components under consideration for the property expansion in the current proposal are as follows:

A. Hotel Expansion – 4 stories with 80 new rooms including suites to diversify room offerings. Hotel rooms would be located on the second thru fourth floors and would be located adjacent to the existing Garden Tower.

B.Amenities – The main floor of the new hotel would include a 3,600 sq. ft. spa, 28,000 sq. ft. indoor/outdoor pool, 1,500 sq. ft. fitness center, and 3,100 sq. ft. party rooms. This portion of the project would also require modifying the existing service road that circles the property and make modifications to parking lots on the side and back of the property.

C. Expanded Buffalo Grill/Admin/Gaming – This upgrade will expand the food outlet from its existing location out into the gaming floor. This would improve the presentation of our food offerings, change the customer experience, and make this area more traffic friendly. Additional administrative areas would be added to support back of house employee areas including a 7,300 sq. ft. addition to the Gaming Commission building. A small complement of games will be added where the current admin area is behind the casino cage to the right of the bingo entrance. This will be approximately 2,900 sq. ft. and will offset games lost due to the Buffalo Grill expansion on the other side of the casino gaming area.

D. Interior Upgrade - This portion of the project would include new carpet, lighting, signage, traffic flow, and modernize the look and feel of the casino. The project will also include an upgrade to the hotel lobby, which will include a social bar/gathering place in the lobby.

E. Architecture/Engineering – If the project is approved by the General Council, additional architectural designs, building engineering, and infrastructure would be immediately necessary for the construction areas. Miscellaneous costs include Information Technology systems, food service equipment, signage, etc.

F. Bingo Loan Consolidation – Because of the structure of the Bingo Loan with U.S. Bank and an option for more favorable rates with a Goldman-Sachs margin loan, the remaining balance of the Bingo Loan will be rolled into the financing of this project. The Tribal Government is not forgiving the Bingo Loan. Administration of the loan would simply move from U.S. Bank to Goldman Sachs and be combined with the newly proposed expansion loan so one payment is made. The casino would continue to make the payments.

G. Contingency – In addition to the consolidation of the Bingo loan, this portion of the project will include a standard project contingency to cover cost fluctuations and unexpected expenses that may occur during construction. For this project the contingency amount will be roughly ten percent (10%) of the overall project cost.

H. Parking Garage –500 spaces which would increase our guest parking capacity by about 50%. The garage is designed with an elevator for handicap access. The parking garage would provide protected access to the casino during any and all weather situations. This has been known to encourage additional monthly trips to the casino and is anticipated to increase the amount of time customers spend on property.

I. Highway 75 Bridge/150th Rd upgrades – Casino resorts across the country strive to create a “sense of arrival” at their properties for their customers and to draw customers off main roads and create excitement before entering the casino. This upgrade would address the “sense of arrival” by adding unique, Potawatomi design and feel to the overpass/bridge, landscaping near the bridge and along 150th Road, and improve lighting at night along the corridor.

The Board engaged with Thalden-Boyd-Emery to complete the main property expansion. This project requires a 12-month planning period, which includes detailed and finalized schematic designs and plans, as well as obtaining construction bids from different companies to ensure we achieve competitive pricing. The scheduled construction period for this is 15 months. This brings the total Thalden-Boyd-Emery project timeline to 27 months.

The Board is also proposing an interior upgrade of the casino. The Board of Directors selected I-5 Designs to complete this interior upgrade to address the outdated interior design. The company has already completed engineering/design work and is ready to begin construction.

The total project cost is to not exceed \$55 million (see chart for cost breakdown) and will be financed utilizing a margin loan through the Nation's investment manager, Goldman Sachs. The margin loan is essentially a line of credit that the Nation can draw upon for economic development projects. The Entertainment Board and Tribal Government will share the project cost with the Entertainment Board covering the interest portion of the loan. The loan repayment period proposed is just over 6 years. Repayment of the loan will be made from the Tribal Government's long-term investments as well as the expected return on investment from the project itself.

The Board, in conjunction with Tribal Council and feedback from the General Council members, has determined that three options will be provided for discussion and feedback at the December 5th Town Hall and presented at the January 20th General Council meeting for vote. These three options will include an “all-inclusive” option that covers all of the pieces above. The Board will work to develop two other options at lower costs. The Board will provide information on total costs and the return on investment (ROI) on all three of the options provided.

All Tribal Members age 18 years and older are encouraged to attend the January 20th General Council Meeting at the Old Bingo Hall.

*Images available on the back page of this edition of the newspaper.

*Construction details and all final costs are dependent on inflation, construction timing, and market conditions.

Project Components: Costs and Timelines

Project Component	Contractor/Company	Project Estimated Timeline	Cost (in millions)
A. Hotel Expansion	Thalden Boyd Emery	12 Months Planning 15 Months Construction 27 Months Total	10.2
B. Amenities			12.3
C. Expand Buffalo Grill/Admin/Gaming			2.7
D. Parking Garage			8.2
E. Architectural/Engineering			3.5
F. Bingo Loan Consolidation	Goldman Sachs (re-finance)	N/A	6.8
G. Interior Upgrade	I-5 Design	7 Months	5.3
H. Highway 75 Bridge/150th Road Upgrades	Not yet specified	6-12 Months	1.5
I. Contingency	Not applicable	N/A	4.5
Total			55

Public Services

EPA Awards PBPN \$30K to Reduce Drinking Water Contamination Through Well Closures

By Angela Brees

Lenexa, Kan., Oct. 30, 2017 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 has awarded \$30,000 to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation to increase community stakeholder awareness of drinking water problems, hazards, exposure, illness, and performance gaps through establishing an abandoned well closure pilot program.

The funding to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, headquartered in Mayetta, Kan., comes from EPA's Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) Program, which provides critical support to organizations that otherwise lack the funding and resources to address the environmental challenges in their community. The program is designed to help communities understand and address their exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks.

Understanding the impacts of multiple environmental risks can help communities develop more effective solutions to their environmental and health concerns. The long-term goals of the EJSG Program are to help build the capacity of the affected

community and create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships that will continue to improve local environments in the future.

Through its "Reducing Drinking Water Contamination Through Well Closures" project, the Tribe seeks to reduce health risks associated with contaminated groundwater, as contaminated water from abandoned wells leaches into groundwater. The program aims to engage approximately 580 local households through outreach and community events; establish well closure procedures and Tribal ordinances for the purposes of protecting groundwater resources and the health and safety of those utilizing groundwater for their domestic and agricultural needs; and close multiple wells in the initial phase of the program.

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.



Road & Bridge employee Billy Jim, Jr. spreads gravel for a community member using a trackloader.

Community Clean Up A Success

By Chago Hale

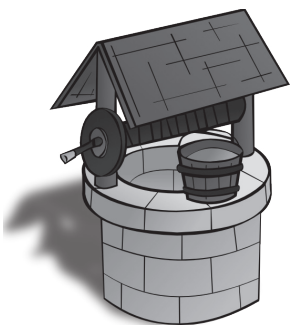
The Road & Bridge crew happily assisted 53 members during our community week, held from October 30 - November 3, 2017. Over 1500 tons of gravel were used to help with drives ways. Wood was cut for elders and other members. Crews were sent to clean gutters, chimneys and provide tree/brush clearing. The R&B staff were also able to deliver dirt to help with next years' gardens.

The PBPN Housing department assisted with trash pick up. Tribal Housing Residents were notified to haul out their trash, which included items like old furniture, appliances and other household items and clean-up crews collected it.

Other departments that contributed to the community week include, Building Maintenance, the Land Management department and Planning & Environmental Protection.

Road & Bridge director, Chago Hale stated, "Its been great working together helping the community! And we are very thankful for the departments that assisted, the General Manager's office and for Tribal Council's support and encouragement to reach out and help the community."

Another Community Week will be held in Spring 2018. Stay posted for details!



Do You Have a Domestic Well?

The Division of Planning & Environmental Protection (PEP) is offering FREE sampling of your well water. The service is available to the entire community residing on the PBPN Reservation. Contact Verna Potts at 785-966-8031 for more information!



Several different agencies participated in the PTFD Open House, many showcasing their equipment.



The Liëstar Air Ambulance helicopter lifted off to conclude the event.

Outstanding Open House

By Doug Schreiner

On Saturday October 7th the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department held our annual open house event to give the community a look at their fire station and equipment.

TVS painted a lot of faces and both the US Army Inflatable Obstacle Course and the Fire Truck Bounce House got quite a workout.

The Highway Patrol Seat Belt Convincer Crash Simulator and the Parks & Wildlife air boat were both big hits with the crowd.

Everyone gathered around to watch the Lifestar Air Ambulance helicopter take off at the end of the event. We even had a visit from Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey the Bear.

Between 11am and 2pm we served over 350 hotdogs! Lots of fun and laughter was had by all.

We wish to thank all the participating agencies that came to display their equipment including:

- American Red Cross
- Shawnee County AMCOM
- Communications Team
- Bureau of Indian Affairs – Horton Agency
- Kansas Fire Marshall's Office
- Delia Fire Department
- Holton Fire Department
- Hoyt Fire Department
- Jackson County Sheriff's Office
- Kansas Wildlife & Parks
- Kansas Highway Patrol
- University of Kansas Fire Science Program
- McLouth Fire Department
- Northeast Kansas K-9 Search & Rescue Team
- PBPN Diabetes Program
- PBPN Building Maintenance
- Potawatomi Tribal Police
- Pottawatomie County Emergency Management
- PBPN Tribal Victim Services
- Kansas Army National Guard
- Life Star of Kansas

Social Health & Wellness

Strike Back Against Crime

By Michelle Simon



PBPB Tribal PD executed a Strike Back Against Crime community awareness event on October 14, 2017. Members of the TPD pose with special guests Princess Leia, two storm troopers and Darth Vader at the Star Wars themed event.

The Potawatomi Tribal Police department sponsored a new community event, The Community Strikes Back Against Crime. PBPB Tribal PD collaborated with the Tribal Victim Service program, Tribal Court, Boys and Girls Club and the Diabetes Prevention Program to host an event based on the National Night Out movement with a Star Wars theme.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live according to the National Night Out website, www.natw.org. The intent of National Night Out activities are to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community, or in PBPB's case to strengthen our community. This style of social engagement provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

The goal of the local event was to provide neighbors and mem-

bers of the community a safe, fun evening where the community can heighten our crime and drug prevention awareness, to generate support for and participation in local crime prevention programs and to strengthen community/police partnerships and assist in increasing community spirit.

Originally scheduled at the Prairie Peoples Park, the rain-filled forecast made it necessary to relocate the Strike Back Against Crime to the Potawatomi Boys & Girls Club on K Road. Plenty of people from the community braved the rain to join in on the fun activities!

The event included door prizes, raffle drawings, and two bounce houses. The raffle items were a Pendleton blanket, a \$25 gas card and a Cooler/Fishing gift pack. In the kitchen, the DPP program provided turkey burgers, hot dogs, chips and drinks to guests while the Tribal Court sponsored a department entry Chili Cook Off. The Chili Cook Off was judged and afterward event participants were allowed to enjoy the spoils. The Hottest Chili category winner was an entry by

Social Services staff Maria Fairman and Janis Simon. The winner for Best All-Around Chili went to an entry on behalf of the Prairie Band LLC, submitted by Richele Pahmahmie-Potts.

Along with the food, TVS provided their face-painting services and the children enjoyed transforming their faces and arms. An on-site gaming trailer, equipped with seating, screens and a variety of games, was stationed at the building entrance and the kids, young and old, enjoyed the novelty.

The big hit of the night was the special appearance of Star Wars characters: Princess Leia, a couple storm troopers and the man himself, Darth Vader. Their appearance was well received and event attendees were able to take fan photos. Darth Vader had a small entourage of little boys trailing him throughout the venue. Smokey the Bear was also on the scene giving high-fives and posing for selfies with children and families. To end the festivities there was a showing of The Empire Strikes Back!

Domestic Violence Awareness Activities

Each October, the Tribal Victim Services (TVS) program plans a series of events for the PBPB community geared at raising awareness about domestic violence and abuse.

The program services any victim of any crime living in Jackson county, Kansas or any adjacent county. If you need assistance, please reach out at 785-966-8330.



Splatters That Matter: PBPB tribal member Thunderchild Thomas creates a piece of art during the art therapy event. This year it was held at the PBPB Boys & Girls Club.



Walk A Mile in Their Mocs: Kent Miller, TVS Program Manager, leads members of the community through Prairie Peoples Park. Participants received a hoodie & released balloons.



Trunk or Treat: Children parade the main road at Prairie Peoples Park on an unseasonably warm day. A huge crowd participated in the event

Tribal Dispatch

The PBPB Nation is a relatively safe community. The primary incidents on the reservation are animal related, i.e. lost animals, animal sightings, and deer related incidents. It stays this way because the residents of the area care about one another. The number one way to help prevent crime is to stay aware and report suspicious activity. If you see someone or something out of the ordinary, or out of place, report it by calling Tribal Dispatch at:

785-966-3024

24-Hour TVS Hotline
1-866-966-0173

24-Hour National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-7233

BIG BEAR MOON Traditional Powwow

Strengthening our families through togetherness
New Year's Eve, December 31st . PBPB Bingo Hall .
Pot-Luck at 6pm . Grand-entry at 7pm

PBPB TRIBAL VICTIM SERVICES
PBPB Social Services

Social Health & Wellness

Title IV-E Program Update

By Janis Simon
IV-E Coordinator

The Title IV-E Program is starting its third year in the planning process of developing an approvable Title IV-E Plan to receive reimbursements for foster care services through the Children’s Bureau.

Title IV-E is an entitlement program under the Social Security Act, as amended, and implemented under the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 45 CFR parts 1355, 1356, and 1357. Title IV-E of the Social Security Act provides funds for states and tribes to provide foster care, transitional independent living programs for children, guardianship assistance, and adoption assistance for children with special needs.

Tribes can be reimbursed for a percentage of funds spent on foster care based on a formula set by the Children’s Bureau. Right now foster care services are paid by the tribe and grant monies.

The deadline for submitting an approval plan is 9/30/18. To be IV-E compliant, the tribe is updating juvenile codes, policies & procedures within social services, and working on diligent recruitment of foster care placements.

Social Service staff has worked with the National Resource Center for Diligent Recruitment (NRC-DR), Capacity Building Center for Tribes (CBCT) and regional & national Children’s Bureau to develop an approvable plan. We also work closely with the tribal attorney and tribal court. We are planning to have the draft plan ready in July of 2018 in order to work on edits for the 9/30/18 deadline.

IT TAKES A TRIBE TO RAISE A CHILD. . .
+ FAMILY + TEACHERS + TRIBAL LEADERS +
+ NEIGHBORS + MENTORS + DOCTORS +
+ SPIRITUAL LEADERS + COACHES +



And sometimes a + FOSTER PARENT +

Here are the basic requirements to apply:

- At least 21 years of age
- Member of a federally recognized tribe
- Able to pass a fingerprint background check
- Financially self-sufficient
- Able to complete MAPP (Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting) 30 hour course
- In good overall health

ABOVE ALL:

- Willing to nurture & protect children

If you meet these requirements and would like more information about becoming a foster parent, please call Dawn Turner, PBP Social Services, Children & Family Services, (785)-966-8285.

Vukelich Visits PBP Nation

The Social Services Advisory Board brought Mr. James “Kaagegaabaw” Vukelich to the PBP Nation reservation for a presentation entitled, “Seven Generations & Seven Grandfather Teachings.”

Vukelich is a leading voice in Native Language Revitalization efforts. Through his work he shares the interconnectedness of tribal languages to tribal cultures. Vukelich works most closely with the Ojibwe language, a branch of the Algonquian language family.

Members of the community, along with the Social Services staff, Language Department and the Boys & Girls Club attended the event.



2017 Honored Elders: Jackie Mitchell and Hardy Eteeyan were recognized on October 25, 2017 as the year’s Honored Elders. Both were nominated for their kind heartedness and commitment to the community. Mitchell’s highlights include establishing the Bennotteh Wigwam, and serving the Nation for 8 years as a member of Tribal Council. Eteeyan is the creator of the Nation’s official Tribal Seal and is a respected employee of the Road & Bridge department.



Harvest Feast: The Diabetes Prevention Program held the annual Harvest Feast at Nozhackum Hall. A traditional Potawatomi meal with Buffalo, Deer, Fish, Corn, Wild Rice, Squash and many other fine foods were served.

Traditional foods are highly encouraged because of their health benefits. The foods are primarily supplied and cooked by members of the community for the benefit of everyone.

The Diabetes Prevention Program concluded the event with door prizes!

The Prairie Band Potawatomi News

The *Prairie Band Potawatomi News* or *PBP News* is a quarterly publication of the Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the PBP News are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the PBP Media staff, Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Nation.

The PBP News reserves the right to reject any materials or letters submitted for publication, including those submitted past

the deadline.

Send Submissions to:

Michelle Simon - Editor

Email: media@pbpnation.org

Mail: PBP News, 16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509

Phone: 785-966-3920

Website: www.pbpiniantribe.com

Follow us on Facebook:
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

**Deadline for
Spring 2018:**



February 2, 2018

Kambottek

*****All postings are reprinted from public obituaries or submissions from the family.*****

Derek Shopteese



TOPEKA, KS – Derek Randall “Wabski” Shopteese, 26, of Topeka, KS passed away Monday, October 30, 2017. He was born May 1, 1991 in Topeka, KS the son of Leland John Matchie and Victoria Ann Shopteese.

Derek attended school in Rapid City, SD. He had worked for Security Benefit in Topeka.

He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include his father, Leland Matchie of Mayetta, KS; his mother, Victoria Shopteese of Topeka, KS; 4 sisters, Joy Matchie and Keirsten Hale both of Mayetta, KS, Jana Shopteese of Topeka, KS and Jennifer Wood of Carbondale, KS; 8 brothers, Jason Wood and Jesse Kitterman both of Topeka, KS, Joshua Kitterman of Kansas City, MO, Nigel Matchie, Leland Matchie, Jr. and Dennis Matchie all of Topeka, KS, Todd Matchie of Konawa, OK and Shane Turnbull of Boulder, CO and many nieces and nephews.

Wake will be Friday evening, November 3, 2017 at Nozhackum Hall on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation. Burial will be 10:00 a.m. Saturday, November 4, 2017 at the Old Dance Ground Cemetery. Derek will lie in state at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton until 3:00 p.m. Friday.

- Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home

Lenwood Shobney

HOLTON, KS – Lenwood “John” Shobney, 67, of Holton, KS, formerly of Delia, passed away Sunday, October 29, 2017 at Medicalodge Jackson County. He was born January 13, 1950 in Holton, the son of Donald P. and Margaret (Matsapto) Shobney.

John graduated from Topeka High School in 1967 and attended Haskell Technology School in Lawrence. He worked for Potawatomi Food Distribution Program for many years.

John was a member of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and a believer in the Drum Religion.

Survivors include a sister, Carol Heimiller (Kevin) of Lecompton, KS; a brother, Michael “Joe” Shobney (Sharon) of Delia, KS and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Mary Lee Rogers.

Graveside Services will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at Matsapto Cemetery. John will lie in state Tuesday and Wednesday until 9:30 a.m. at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

- Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home

Alvina Johnson

MILWAUKEE, WI - Alvina M. Johnson (nee Daubon). Born on April 27, 1937. Born to Eternal Life November 8, 2017, at the age of 80 years. Beloved wife of the late George. Loving mother of Nancy (the late Thomas) Schmitz. Loving grandmother of Paul and Cheyenne and great-grandmother of Victor III. Further survived by other relatives and friends.

Alvina is a retiree of MATC. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Memorial Visitation Tuesday, Nov. 21 at the Rozga-Walloch Funeral Home from 2:00-3:00 PM followed by a Memorial Service at 3:00 PM.

- Courtesy of Rozga-Walloch Funeral Home & Cremation Services

Janette Davis



GLADSTONE, MO – Janette Elaine Davis, 61, of Gladstone, MO passed away peacefully October 4, 2017 at NorthCare Hospice House. She was born August 8, 1956 in Holton, Kansas to the late Charles Willis and Rosalind Janet (Hansen) Lee.

Janette was a member of Barry Christian Church from the time she was a young girl. She worked for the Kansas City Fire Department for 20 years and embraced her heritage by staying active in the Prairie Band Potawatomi

Nation. Janette was a very sweet and caring woman who would always give, even when she didn’t have any extra to give.

The family would like to extend their thanks to all the staff at NorthCare Hospice House for the wonderful care they received from each and every person.

In addition to her parents, Janette is preceded in death by her best friend, Mary Stewart.

Those left to cherish her memory include her husband of 31 years, Mike; 3 step-sons; 2 granddaughters, Avery and Jillian; brother-in-law, Donald Davis and her 2 furry companions, Savannah and Buster.

There will be a Celebration of Life Friday, October 13, 2017 at 11 AM at Barry Christian Church, 1500 NW Barry Rd, Kansas City, MO. Contributions are suggested to the Kansas City Pet Project or NorthCare Hospice House. Online condolences may be left at terraceparkfh.com.

- Courtesy of Terrace Park Funeral Home

Dodie Basgall

HAYS, KS - Dodie Lynn (Lewis) Basgall, 54, of Hays, KS, passed away Friday, October 13, 2017 at Hays Medical Center. She was born December 16, 1962 in Manhattan, KS the daughter of John Lewis and Mary (Anderson) Sheffert.

Dodie was a passionate gardener; she had a keen knowledge of horticulture, creating lush home gardens of both flowers and produce every summer. She was a jack of all trades, having been an EMT, cosmetologist and a truck driver for Navajo. She was also a homemaker, worked construction, and worked in asphalt maintenance for Stripe and Seal. For many years she was a caregiver for autistic savant, Erik Warren, it was her favorite occupation. Dodie, like her father and grandmother before her, was a proud member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

She married and divorced both Michael Miller and Randy Basgall, from which unions she had 3 children.

Survivors include her mother, Mary Sheffert of Marshalltown, IA; a daughter, Marlowe Basgall (Christopher Hannon) of Hays, KS; 2 sons, Charles Miller (Erica) of Lynn Valley, KS and Isaac Basgall of Wichita, KS; 2 sisters, Mary “Jo” Cherveney of Toledo, IA and Edna Kay Kruger of Topeka, KS; a brother, Armond Fielder of Des Moines, IA, 2 grandchildren, Sophia and Jacob Miller, and her charming cattle-dog, Zeus.

Dodie was preceded in death by her father, John Harold Lewis, and her beloved dog Autumn.

Burial will be Saturday morning at the Shipshee Cemetery. Mercer Funeral Home in Holton is in charge of arrangements. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

- Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home

Did You Know?

The PBPB has an established Burial Fund for enrolled tribal members to help ease the financial burden of funeral expenditures during a family member’s death.

The burial benefit will pay up to \$6,000 in burial costs per eligible individual. Tribal members with funeral expenses for stillborn or premature death of infant (within the first 12 months of life) can also be reimbursed for up to \$500 to be paid to a funeral home for burial.

All burial allowance applications and statements must be filed with the Tribal Council within one year from a member’s date of death.

For assistance with this benefit, contact the Member Services Department.

Member Services

Toll Free Line 1-877-715-6789
16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509
or visit their webpage at:
www.pbpindiantribe.com/member-services/

Community

Free food always tastes better on your birthday!

Based upon the feedback we received from the last Tribal Council Meeting, Prairie Band Casino and Resort is offering a special way to say Happy Birthday!

Please join us during your birthday month for a free buffet at your own Longhouse Buffet.

Simply stop by the Players Club, with Tribal Identification, to redeem your buffet offer good towards Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner, any day of the week.

This offer is valid for all Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation members 21 years or older.

Ryan Bandt
General Manager,
Prairie Band Casino & Resort



Happy 10th birthday Ki-Bo!
December 27th

Love you most!
Mom



Happy 95th Birthday
Alvina LaClair!
December 21st

From Family and Friends



- Mno Dbeshkan -
Happy Birthday
Kayla Briet Wiskigeamatyuk!
November 15th - 21 years old!

Love,
Mommy, Daddy, and little
brother Sen Wahbnosah



PFC
JASON J. SERNA-BLAKEMORE
UNITED STATES
MARINECORPS

3RD BATTALION
KILO COMPANY
PLATOON 3229
AUGUST 18, 2017

Congratulations Son! You did it!
Love,
Your very proud Family!
(Son of Anthony & Season Dominguez)

General Council Meeting

Saturday - 1.20.18
At the Old Bingo Hall

Registration begins at 8 a.m.
Light Breakfast 9-9:30 a.m.
Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.

PBPN TRIBAL MEMBERS 18 AND OVER ONLY.

A Prayer for The People

Father God of all living, Creator of all, thank You.

Thank You for the seasons and times, to You be all the glory, for only You have control to change them. How wonderful is Your infinite wisdom! How beautiful is the work of Your hands.

This is the day You have made, I pray we will be glad and rejoice in today and let the regrets of yesterday fade and the worries of tomorrow be for you to say, "Peace, be still and know that I am God." So I pray peace over every weary and overloaded soul to be at peace and to trust in You and to know Your goodness and grace.

Father I'm asking you meet people where they are. Father, overwhelm Your children with hope and Your steadfast love. God Almighty give our people freedom from addictions, stress, insecurities and poverty!

Oh Lord I lift up the fathers of our Nation to you, I thank You for how you created them, they are mighty men, providers and protectors so highly valued, respected and needed. Thank You for our men Lord.

I also lift up the beautifully sacred women of our nation to You. Thank You for how complex and delicate our women are; there is no one like them! God I ask You to bless the work of their hands, prosper all their

endeavors and clothe them with strength and dignity.

Lord, keep our children safe and far from harm. Thank You for their creativity and joy, there is no better medicine than a child's laugh. Lord continue to stir their spirit to hunger after Your ways and knowledge. God I'm asking You to raise up a generation free from drugs, alcohol and diabetes for they are our Nation's future.

Lord, keep our elders at rest and thank You for all the wisdom You have revealed to them over their years. Lord give them the strength and patience to teach us.

May You bless this holiday season with joyful and thankful hearts. May we be surrounded by loved ones in Your glorious presence.

I faithfully pray this in the mighty name of Jesus Christ, amen.

- Emily McKinney,
PBPN Tribal Member

[Editor's Note: As the editor of this publication, I requested a prayer from a member of the Prairie Band community to share with everyone as we wrap up the year. It is my hope that these words lift you up regardless of your personal religious practice. Igwien, Michelle Simon]

Native American Club Flies Flag



Native American Club members Mae Joslin, Felicity Price and Bella Thompson present Royal Valley High School Principal Jim Holloman with an official PBPN Flag. The club was looking for a way to symbolize the Native presence at the school where a majority of PBPN students attend. The flag will hang in the HS gym along side the American flag and the State flag.



Casino Expansion & Upgrade Continued..

(Top Left) An image of the proposed interior upgrade to the casino floor. The upgrade will include new carpet, lighting, signage, traffic flow, and modernize the look and feel of the casino. The concept was designed by I5 Designs.

(Center) A dynamic revisioning of the hotel entrance. The upgrade will transform the hotel lobby into a sophisticated social bar/gathering space for casino and golf course guests.



(Bottom) An overview of the Prairie Band Casino & Resort property detailing the primary additions to the property. They include the 500 space parking garage that will incorporate an elevator for handicap access, a new 4-story hotel wing of 80 rooms to be located adjacent to the existing Garden Tower, and an indoor/outdoor pool, a spa, and a fitness center.

