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Prairie Band Potawatomi News

Fall 2008 EDITION

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Prairie Band takes legal action against Harrah's in expanded-gaming case

It has been quite a roller coaster ride for the PBPB to keep up with all the activity that has taken place since the state passed expanding gaming legislation last year. And, it's not over yet.

The latest issue impacting the PBPB is that Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. vied for and was selected on August 22 by the Kansas Lottery Board to develop a destination casino in Sumner County, Kan. The PBPB believes that Harrah's has violated a noncompete management agreement that it made with the tribe last year, when the two groups parted ways, and is seeking to right that wrong through a lawsuit for injunctive relief.

On August 18 the Nation filed a lawsuit in Shawnee County District Court to enforce its rights under the non-compete agreement that said that for a reasonable time period after it stopped operating the Nation's gaming operations that Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. would not develop, promote, or encourage the

expansion of any casino business in the State of Kansas. The petition further alleged that Harrah's active involvement in a proposed casino in Sumner County, Kan. violated the non-compete agreement.

A hearing was held in Shawnee County District Court on August 29 and Jim Potter, Tribal Council Secretary, was called on to take the stand to testify on behalf of the tribe.

On September 5 the Court ruled in favor of the PBPB and issued an injunction against Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. and its affiliates. The Court wrote that both sides will have 30 days in which to enter into private mediation to resolve the issue.

Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP, from Kansas City, is providing outside legal counsel for the PBPB on this case.

In other news, the Kansas Lottery Board has picked all four developers to manage their state-owned casinos except for Ford County.

Here are your new Tribal Council members

Left to right is Chago Hale, member, Joyce Guerrero, vice-chairperson, and Carrie O'Toole, member, after being sworn into office at the Bingo Hall on September 3. Before the swearing-in ceremony, a farewell reception was held for the outgoing Tribal Council members.

The new Tribal Council members went right to work after the ceremony by attending their first Tribal Council meeting following the swearing-in.



Due to a constitutional change in the election process, that says candidates must win by a majority vote plus one, there were two elections held this summer to elect three members to the Tribal Council.

New constitutional amendments, approved by members last November, state that the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes must face each other in a second run-off mail-in ballot election in order to win a seat if they do not win by majority vote.

This election also saw for the first time the formation of an Ethics Commission which was another result of a change to the tribe's constitution. Four members were elected to the Ethics Commission with two seats remaining due to no candidates filing.

The first election was held on July 26 at the Bingo Hall. The final results from that election drew only five clear winners out of the nineteen candidates who ran and all of those winners ran unopposed. The six highest vote-getters then squared off in a second run-off election that was held August 27.

Winners in the first election were Ryan Dyer, Tribal Council treasurer, Shirley K. Trull, Ethics Commission chairperson, Trilby Wahwasuck, Ethics Commission vice-chairperson, Virginia LeClere, Ethics Commission secretary, and Frank Tecumseh,

Ethics Commissioner #1.

The six candidates who faced each other in the run-off election were Joyce Guerrero and Jackie Mitchell for vice-chairperson, Chago Hale and Peggy Nioce Houston for tribal councilperson #2 and Vernon Mzhickteno and Carrie O'Toole for tribal councilperson #3.

The winners in the run-off election were Joyce Guerrero, Chago Hale, and Carrie O'Toole. Ryan Dyer was sworn into office on August 4, the Ethics Commissioners on August 14, and the new Tribal Council members on September 3.

Outgoing Tribal Council members, Rey Kitchkumme, Jackie Mitchell and James Wabaunsee were feted with a farewell reception on September 3. Members who remain on the Council are Steve Ortiz, Junior Wahweotten, James Potter and Ryan Dyer.

The next election to be held will elect members to the Gaming Commission and possibly two more members to the Ethics Commission in February.

In other news, the Elections program is merging with the Enrollment and Per Capita offices to form a Member Services Department that will be housed together in the Government Center.

For full election results see page 3.

Expanded gaming activities in a nutshell

2007

April	State-owned gaming legislation in Kansas passes. Four destination casinos and slots at horse and dog tracks approved for specified counties
June	Kansas Lottery Gaming Facility Board organizes; begins casino proposal process
August	Kansas Attorney General files lawsuit with Kansas Supreme Court challenging constitutionality of legislation
September	Kansas Supreme Court makes no decision on constitutional challenge and throws case to Shawnee County District Court

2008

February	Shawnee County District Court rules expanded gaming constitutional
June	Kansas Supreme Court rules expanded gaming legislation constitutional
Aug.-Sept.	Kansas Lottery Board begins process of selecting casino developers

Intergovernmental agreement between Shabbona Village Board and PBPB reached

An intergovernmental agreement with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) and the Shabbona Village Board was approved at a special meeting they held on August 28. In the agreement, the Shabbona Village board agreed to provide sewer and water service to the PBPB for its proposed gaming facility and government center and pledged unanimous support for the gaming project.

The PBPB purchased 128 acres of land near the community of Shabbona, Illinois in April 2006 in hopes of building an electronic bingo hall and other PBPB entities on the property. Since

that time members of Tribal Council and other PBPB leaders have been traveling back and forth to the area to establish a business and neighborly presence in DeKalb County and surrounding communities.

Presently the land is being evaluated by the National Indian Gaming Commission as to whether it should receive reservation status or not. The land was originally reserved by the 1829 Treaty of Prairie du Chien for Chief Shabeh-nay and his Band which merged into and which is now recognized as the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Potawatomi Tribal Police Department receives grant to help with emergency response equipment

The U.S. Department of Justice has awarded a \$147,990 grant to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) to help the Tribal Police Department update technology for their emergency response equipment.

Chief of Tribal Police Sam Grant said the updated equipment will continue to help the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation remain current in emergency communications. It will also improve the tribe's ability to effectively and efficiently work with the surrounding agencies in emergency situations to protect the health and safety of their residents.

The Tribal Police Department is an integral part of the Tribal Emergency Response Commission (TERC). TERC is a group of interdepartmental PBPB government representatives who meet periodically to share information and promote training in preparation for managing emergencies on the reservation. The group was established in 1998.



Above is Sam Grant, Chief of Tribal Police, who gave a tribute to the fallen victims of the 911 disaster during a memorial service held outside the Prairie Band Casino & Resort on September 11. For more on the service see page 3.

PBPB share culture at Native American Diplomacy Symposium



A day-long educational symposium that focused on Native American issues was held at the Dole Institute in Lawrence, Kan. on September 12. In the photo are Steve Ortiz, Tribal Chairperson, at the podium, and some PBPB elders, in front, who opened the Native American Diplomacy Symposium with a prayer. From left to right are Delores Porter, Julia Lewis, Ortiz, Laveda Wahweotten, Bernadette Lewis and Andy Mitchell. We-Ta-Se also posted colors for the event and a highlight of the day was the presence of actor, Wes Studi, who gave a presentation about his upcoming film *The Only Good Indian*. The event was sponsored by groups associated with the Kansas Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The PBPB has received two other large grants recently.
Read more inside about
a U.S. Department of Justice grant given for a Drug Court on page 8
and
a U.S. Department of Transportation
Rural Roads Safety Grant on page 4
in *News from Public Works* by Tim Ramirez

Calendar of Events

Sept. 26	Government offices closed American Indian Day
Oct. 13	Government offices closed Employee Appreciation Day
Oct. 18	General Council meeting
Nov. 11	Government offices closed Veterans Day
Nov. 15	We-Ta-Se Veterans Pow-wow
Nov. 27-28	Government offices closed Thanksgiving holiday





Message to the Nation from Steve Ortiz, Tribal Council Chairperson

Peacemakers Circle. Please be prepared to vote on the number of Peacemakers there will be in one action. Then, in a second action, we will hold nominations for the number just previously voted on and if there are more nominations than vacancies for the positions we will follow with another vote on who will be nominated as determined. To conclude, we will take a final vote to appoint the individuals as Peacemakers. Neither the Constitution nor legislation addresses the issue of whether these are paid positions and what costs will be paid for. Please review the following:

Judicial Council - Peacemakers Circle

By its 2007 amendment, the PBP Constitution Article VI established the Judicial Council. Within the Judicial Council is "a separate mediating branch known as the Peacemakers Circle." It "shall have the responsibility for mediating disputes voluntarily submitted to them by the parties." Sec. 1. The number of peacemakers "shall be of such number as may be determined by the General Council" and "shall be selected by the Nation's members at a General Council Meeting."

New Tribal Legislation for Peacemakers
Section 2-5-1. Peacemakers Circle.

(A) Purpose. The peacemakers circle shall have the responsibility for mediating disputes voluntarily submitted to them by the parties.

(B) Appointment and term. The General Council shall determine the number of peacemakers and select them at a General Council Meeting. They shall have four year terms.

(C) Peacemaker functions. The function of the peacemakers is to assist the parties in reaching a mutually acceptable agreement to settle informal or formal disputes between them. The peacemakers shall aid the parties in identifying issues, reducing misunderstandings, clarifying priorities, exploring areas of compromise and finding points of agreement. An agreement reached by the parties is to be based upon the decisions of the parties and not the decisions of the

peacemaker.

(D) Duties of the peacemakers.
Peacemakers shall:

- (1) inform the parties that there shall be no charge for the mediation,
- (2) advise the parties that the peacemaker does not represent either or both of the parties,
- (3) define and describe the process of mediation,
- (4) disclose the nature and extent of any relationship with the parties and any personal, financial or other interests which could result in bias or conflict of interest,
- (5) advise each of the parties to obtain independent legal advice,
- (6) allow only the parties to attend the mediation sessions,
- (7) disclose to the parties' attorneys, if any, any factual documentation revealed during the mediation if at the end of the mediation process the disclosure is agreed to by the parties,
- (8) if children are involved, ensure the parties consider fully the best interests of the children and the parties understand the consequences of any decision they reach concerning the children, and
- (9) inform the parties of the extent to which information obtained from and about the participants through the mediation process is not privileged and may be subject to disclosure.

(E) The peacemaker may meet with the children of any party and, with the consent of the parties, may meet with other persons.

(F) The peacemaker shall make a written summary of understanding reached by the parties. A copy of the summary shall be provided to the parties and their attorneys, if any. Any understanding reached by the parties as a result of mediation shall not be binding upon the parties not admissible in court until it is reduced to writing, signed by the parties and their attorneys, if any, and approved by the court if there is a pending proceeding.

(G) Termination of mediation. At any time after the second mediation session, either party may terminate mediation. The peacemaker shall terminate mediation whenever the peacemaker believes that: (1) continuation of the process would harm or prejudice one or more of the parties or the children or (2) the ability or willingness of any party to participate meaningfully in mediation is so lacking that a reasonable agreement is unlikely.

If applicable, the peacemaker shall report the termination of mediation to the court. The peacemaker shall not state the reason for termination except when the termination is due to a conflict of interest or bias on

the part of the peacemaker.

(H) A peacemaker shall treat all verbal or written information transmitted between any party to a dispute and a peacemaker conducting the proceeding, or the staff of an approved program, as confidential communications. No admission, representation or statement made in the proceeding shall be admissible as evidence or subject to discovery. A peacemaker shall not be subject to process requiring the disclosure of any matter discussed during the mediation unless all the parties consent to a waiver. Any party and the peacemaker or staff of an approved program conducting the proceeding, participating in the proceeding has a privilege in any action to refuse to disclose, and to prevent a witness from disclosing, any communication made in the course of the proceeding. The privilege may be claimed by the party or the peacemaker or anyone the party or the peacemaker authorizes to claim the privilege. A peacemaker conducting the proceeding shall not be subject to process requiring the disclosure of any matter discussed within the proceedings unless all parties consent to a waiver. The confidentiality and privilege requirements of this section shall not apply to:

- (1) information that is reasonably necessary to allow investigation of or action for ethical violations against the peacemaker conducting the proceeding or for the defense of the peacemaker or staff of an approved program conducting the proceeding in an action against the peacemaker or staff of an approved program if the action is filed by a party to the proceeding;
- (2) any information under which there is a suspicion that a child has been harmed as a result of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse;
- (3) any information that is reasonably necessary to stop the commission of an ongoing crime or fraud or to prevent the commission of a crime or fraud in the future for which there was an expressed intent to commit such crime or fraud;
- (4) any information that the peacemaker is required to report or communicate under the specific provisions of any statute or in order to comply with orders of the court; or
- (5) any report to the court that a party has issued a threat of physical violence against a party, a party's dependent or family member, the peacemaker or an officer or employee of the court with the apparent intention of carrying out such threat.

(Enacted by PBP TC Resol. No. 2008-156,
July 2, 2008)

In other Constitutional actions needing completion here is an update:

Four of the six Ethics Commission seats have been filled by election and the two remaining unfilled seats are vacant due to no one filing for the positions.

Tribal Council will need to decide how to fill these seats. Suggestions are to either place the two Ethics Commission seats on the next Gaming Commission filing and ballot or have the General Council fill the seats through nomination and vote in a General Council meeting.

The duties and responsibilities of the Ethics Commission are outlined in the Constitution. However, under Article IX. Ethical Responsibilities Of Officials Section 3. - Five (5) affirmative votes shall be necessary in order to conduct the business of the Commission. etc. At this point there are only four (members) and a deadline designated by the Constitution for completion of the Code of Ethics is in Section 5, that states "Within one year of the effective date of this Amendment (December 6, 2007), the Ethics Commission shall develop a Code of Ethics governing the conduct of all Nation officials, etc. The Constitutional deadline is December 6, 2008.

The Employment Disputes Tribunal continues to be developed at this point. So far Tribal Council has filled two of the five seats which Tribal Council is to appoint. The General Manager of Tribal Operations held an election among the employees to fill two seats and the people selected in those four seats will soon appoint the fifth member of the Tribunal. Procedures governing the actions of the Employment Tribunal still need to be written and voted on by Tribal Council so as to be placed in the Nation's law.

Other Tribal Council activity:

The Tribal Council and DeKalb County Commissioners continue to await an opinion from the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) on the land's eligibility for gaming. The NIGC opinion must first be approved by the Department of the Interior before being released. There is no definite time line when this decision will happen. The PBP has made its first pilot payment to DeKalb County per the Intergovernmental

agreement with the County. The Village of Shabbona unanimously approved their Intergovernmental Agreement with the PBP and now the Tribal Council will approve the finalized agreement.

Preparations for the 2009 tribal government budgets are being made at this time. Tribal Council will review the completed budgets by mid-September 2008 and then present them to General Council for review at the October 18, 2008 General Council meeting.

The recent Tribal Council action to file a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) against Harrah's Entertainment in Shawnee County was heard on August 29. The Temporary Restraining Order seeks to stop Harrah's from entering into gaming activity in Kansas for a specific period of time which the PBP believes was violated by Harrah's recent casino proposal with the State of Kansas. The PBP had a non-compete Management Agreement with Harrah's when the Tribe took over managing the casino last year. The judge ruled on September 5 that there was enough evidence for a temporary injunction against Harrah's and now the PBP is preparing to enter into private legal mediation as ordered by the Court. In any event, there is still a fourth casino that will be developed near Wichita, Kan. and whether Harrah's is involved or not that is going to create competition for our casino.

On a related note, one of the agenda items for the General Council meeting will be BINGO. The Tribal Council has informed the Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation (PBPEC) Board of Directors and casino management to report on the prospects of renewing the Bingo operation.

My recent bus trip with the Elders to the Gathering 2008 in Walpole Island was enjoyable and informative. While there it was tentatively decided that the 2009 Gathering will be hosted by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation with a proposed date set for August 6, 7, 8 2009. Much work needs to be organized and completed by the August dates to confirm and to notify the other Potawatomi Bands. During a meeting of Bands/Tribal Council leaders at Walpole Island, the following items were suggested for the next Gathering: that it be centered on each Band's language programs; that it emphasize youth and their importance in tribal govern-

ments and leadership; that a day-long economic development meeting be held for Tribal Council members and that the issue of time allotted to giveaways and the role of the hosting Band during the giveaways be discussed. I am awaiting the minutes of the meeting for further details from our discussions on the giveaways.

Lastly, the PBP has a short window of opportunity to pay down debt and expand hotel rooms at the casino, complete the golf course and improve existing infrastructure on the reservation like expanding the childcare center and staff, building more housing units, upgrading existing information technology systems within the government's operation before the projected expanded state-owned gaming impacts the PBP revenue. Since the four Kansas casinos are expected to be in operation by mid-year 2010 and, according to a study done by Marquette Consulting for the PBP, the loss of revenue could be as much as 27 percent when all four Kansas casinos are up and running. The Shab-ey-nay project, even with a favorable NIGC ruling and the other agreements we've made, could be challenged by opposition that would further delay any future increases in revenue forthcoming to the Nation. In my opinion, the \$19.1 million scheduled to be spent on the U.S. 75 Highway & 150 Road project might well be better spent on the activities I have mentioned above and in other social, health, and general welfare programs. A project that is proposed to earn 7.1 percent return on a \$19.1 million expenditure needs to more solidly show that the project will return to the PBP \$1,356,100 in positive cash flow to the Nation annually. At this payback rate, if it can be achieved, will take 14 years to pay back on the initial amount. Also the project calls for the PBP to cash in all of its certificates of deposits to pay for the \$19.1 million. Even after paying for the project the PBP will still need to continue paying on the outstanding \$13 million loan it has out already. The new Tribal Council members will have exciting challenges to come before them over the next 15 months and I wish them the best and that they use wisely their power to make motions and vote on behalf of the PBP people.

Steve Ortiz (Mon-wah)
Tribal Chairman



Ethics Commissioners were sworn in on August 14 by Chairman Ortiz, far right, at the Bingo Hall. From left to right are Trilby Wahwasuck, Vice Chairperson, Shirley Trull, Chairperson, and Virginia LeClere, Secretary. A fourth commissioner, Frank Tecumseh, was absent that day and had been sworn in earlier in the week.



Left to right are outgoing Tribal Council members Rey Kitchkumme and James Wabaunsee who were bid farewell at a reception on Sept. 3 at the Bingo Hall. Another outgoing member, Jackie Mitchell was not in attendance that day.



All of the former Tribal Council attended the swearing in ceremony of Ryan Dyer, treasurer, on August 4 at the Bingo Hall. Left to right is Jim Potter, Steve Ortiz, James Wabaunsee, Ryan Dyer, Rey Kitchkumme, Junior Wahweotten and Jackie Mitchell.

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Prairie Band Potawatomi News

An Award Winning Newspaper

The *Prairie Band Potawatomi News* is a quarterly newspaper of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Prairie Band Potawatomi News staff, the Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Nation.

The *Prairie Band Potawatomi News* encourages and welcomes letters, editorials, articles and photos from its readers. This publication reserves the right to reject, edit or condense items submitted. We request your submissions by the Submit items by email (as an attachment) or disk in Microsoft Word or stop by the News office with your information.

Anonymous letters will NOT be printed or accepted. Letters which are libelous will NOT be published.

Please include your name, address, and telephone number where we can contact you should we need to verify information.

Photos submitted with news article will be returned after publication. Please print name on back of photo to ensure accuracy. Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope with the photo.





Election results

For more information contact
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PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION

TRIBAL COUNCIL RUN-OFF ELECTION

Mayetta, Kansas

August 27, 2008

UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS



TRIBAL COUNCIL VICE-CHAIRPERSON	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
JOYCE (KITCHKOMMIE) GUERRERO	484	6	490	51.26%
JACKIE MITCHELL	460	6	466	48.74%
TOTAL	944	12	956	

TRIBAL COUNCIL COUNCIL PERSON # 2	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
JOSEPH "CHAGO" HALE, JR.	526	7	533	55.12%
PEGGY (NIOCE) HOUSTON	429	5	434	44.88%
TOTAL	955	12	967	

TRIBAL COUNCIL COUNCIL PERSON # 3	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
VERNON MZHICKTENO	438	6	444	46.98%
CARRIE (WABAUNSEE) O'TOOLE	494	7	501	53.02%
TOTAL	932	13	945	

PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION

TRIBAL COUNCIL AND ETHICS COMMISSION ELECTION

Mayetta, Kansas

July 26, 2008

UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS



TRIBAL COUNCIL VICE-CHAIRPERSON	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
JOYCE (KITCHKOMMIE) GUERRERO	267	13	280	30.40%
JACKIE MITCHELL	436	20	456	49.51%
MAMIE (WAHASSUCK) RUPNICKI	175	10	185	20.09%
TOTAL	878	43	921	

TRIBAL COUNCIL TREASURER	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
RYAN DYER	655	39	694	100.00%
TOTAL	655	39	694	

TRIBAL COUNCIL COUNCIL PERSON # 2	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
RENCIE ETEEYAN	94	5	99	11.04%
JOSEPH "CHAGO" HALE, JR.	303	13	316	35.23%
PEGGY (NIOCE) HOUSTON	249	11	260	28.99%
FRANCIS T. SHOPTHESE, JR.	211	11	222	24.75%
TOTAL	857	40	897	

TRIBAL COUNCIL COUNCIL PERSON # 3	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
ANN M. DECOTEAU	123	7	130	14.18%
DALE I. DELG	120	4	124	13.52%
VERNON MZHICKTENO	138	6	144	15.70%
CARRIE (WABAUNSEE) O'TOOLE	170	4	174	18.97%
JONA (POTTS) RUPNICKI	98	3	101	11.01%
JAMES "NABBY" WABAUNSEE	126	8	134	14.61%
JOSETTE WAHASSUCK	104	6	110	12.00%
TOTAL	879	38	917	

ETHICS COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
SHIRLEY K. TRULL	643	36	679	100.00%
TOTAL	643	36	679	

ETHICS COMMISSION VICE-CHAIRPERSON	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
TRILBY WAHASSUCK	525	29	554	100.00%
TOTAL	525	29	554	

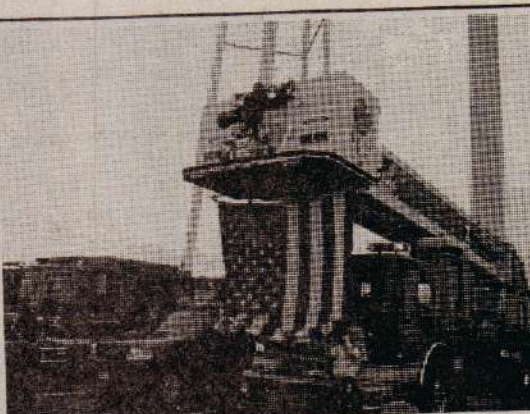
ETHICS COMMISSION SECRETARY	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
VIRGINIA LECLERE	702	38	740	100.00%
TOTAL	702	38	740	

ETHICS COMMISSION COMMISSIONER # 1	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
FRANK TECUMSEH	650	39	689	100.00%
TOTAL	650	39	689	

PBPN holds 911 Memorial Service at casino



Left to right: Ronnie Sellens, Curtis Simon Sr., Donna Cornwell and Steve Cook who were flag bearers during the 911 Memorial Service held September 11 at the casino. Sellens is with the Potawatomi Fire Department, Simon is Fire Chief for the Kickapoo, Cornwell is with Jackson County Emergency Services and Cook is with the PBPN Tribal Police.



Above: The flag being raised on the tribe's ladder fire truck during the service that honored fallen victims of the World Trade Center disaster.



Left: Paul Juedes, PBPN firefighter, who emceed the service that included two speeches and performances by We-Ta-Se and a bagpipe musician.



Left: Steve Cook, a PBPN member and a tribal police officer, acted as the official observer for the Tribal Council and Ethics Commission election held July 26. He is seen pulling the ballot box that he and Voncile Mitchell, Director of Elections, collected from the Mayetta Post Office that morning.

Did you know that one player at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort hit a jackpot of \$2.8 million on a Williams Gaming Top Gun machine in July?

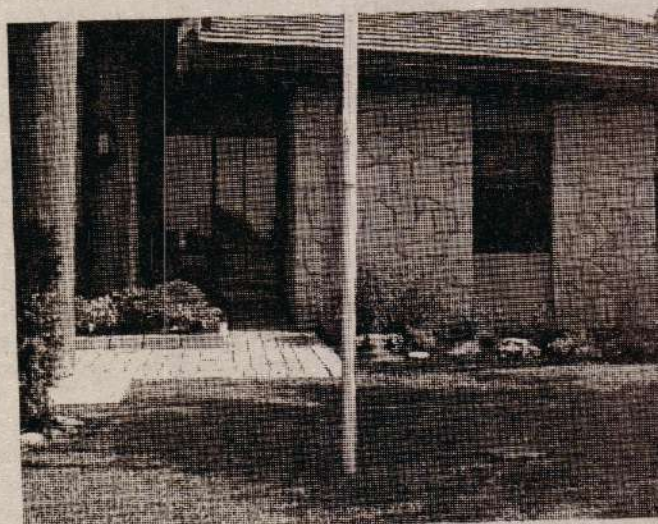
2008 Boys & Girls Club Golf Tourney raises \$35,000



The Boys & Girls Club hosted another successful golf tournament fundraiser at Shawnee Country Club on August 22. In the photo, above, from left to right, are Coleen Thomas, Steve McDonald, Frank Tecumseh, and LaVerne Hale who were organizers for the tournament. In the photo directly above, from left to right, are John Tuckwin, Steve Ortiz, Jr., Mark Adame and Dominic Ortiz who are all tribal members and work for the casino. Twenty-seven teams participated in the day-long event that also included a lot of raffle prizes and lunch.



Photo snaps

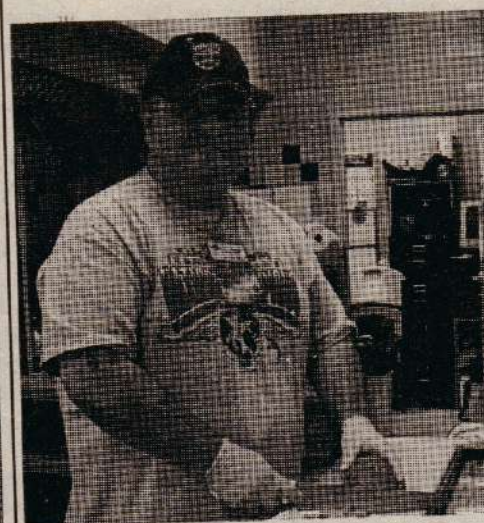


Some flower beds were planted in front of the Government Center this summer by Jackie Mitchell and Barb Cornelius using native prairie plants and flowers. Staff members in Maintenance prepared the beds for planting and helped spruce up the entry way.



Above is Gaming Commissioner Tammy McClammy, left, who is with two other people who are unidentified after receiving a certification with the National Indian Gaming Association at Quinault Beach Casino in Ocean Shores, Wash. in July.

Nation Station a popular lunch and convenience store spot



At left, is Tom Hernandez who cooks a mean daily special and Eric Hale, right, who is the new manager of Nation Station. The Prairie Band Casino & Resort began managing the store in July 1 that is located on the northwest corner of the casino grounds. Take out meals, fountain drinks and cigarettes are popular items for purchase at the store.



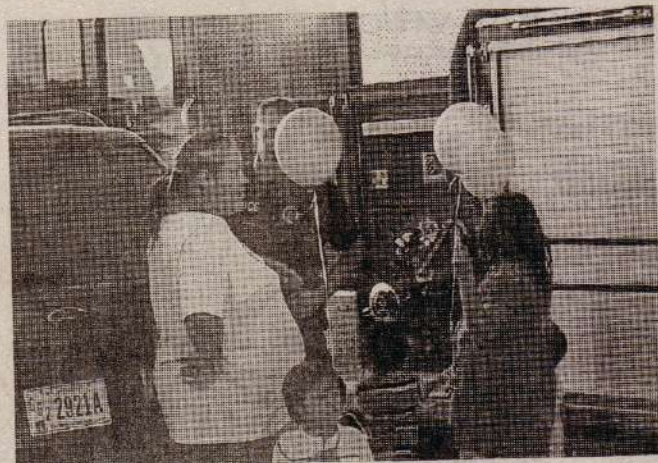
2008 Second Quarter Charitable Contributions

Morning Star Inc.	\$ 1,000
Sunflower State Games	2,500
North Jackson USD # 335	3,000
Mayetta Pioneer Day Assn.	1,000
YMCA Safe Visit	2,000
Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence	2,000
The Reading	15,000
North American Indian Tennis Assoc.	1,200
St Mary's Food Pantry	3,500
American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame	5,000
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 410	1,000
Race Against Breast Cancer	3,000
Shawnee Co. Allied Tribes	4,000
NE Area Agency on Aging	3,000
Holton/Jackson Co. Chamber of Commerce	2,000
Kansas Flatlanders	500
American Heart Association	3,000
Helping Hands Humane Society	1,000
Washburn Women's Alliance	2,000
Topeka School Fund/TPS	5,000
20-30 Topeka Childrens Charities	5,000
Haskell Catholic Campus Center	1,200
All Veterans Memorial Committee	426
OLG Fiesta Mexicana	5,000
Total	\$72,326



Departments and Programs

Prairie Band Potawatomi News



A National Night Out Open House was held at the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Station August 5. The tribal fire and police departments served food and drinks and showcased their emergency service vehicles and equipment. Public safety materials on emergency preparedness awareness and generating community awareness of crime and drug prevention were also available. Approximately 50 people attended the event.

Photo by J.R. Mueller

PBPN ambulances top notch

An inspection of the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department's advanced life support units were all found to be in good order during an annual review by the State of Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services in July.



Workshops help staff learn about budgets and grants



Human Resources sponsored two workshops to help department and program leaders prepare their 2009 annual budgets. The photo above shows two of the Finance Department staff (facing away from the camera) on August 11 leading a workshop at the Bingo Hall. Below is seminar trainer, Herb Callison who gave a workshop called "Understanding Nonprofit Finances" on July 29. He also gave another workshop on grant writing after the All-Employee meeting on September 5.



We-Ta-Se received new rifles for their Post. Left to right is Police Chief Sam Grant who delivered the guns to Frank Shopteese and Jim Potts of the We-Ta-Se Department.



Barbara Smelter, Director of Purchasing, second from left, is a member of the Mid-America Council of Public Purchasing whose chapter was recognized for innovativeness and increasing membership at the Annual National Purchasing Conference held in Charlotte, N.C. this fall. Barbara has been with the PBPN for almost six years.

Photo submitted by Barbara Smelter.

Employees have fun at Safety Appreciation Day



An afternoon of fun in the sun for employees and their families took place in Prairie Peoples Park on June 27. Volleyball, horse shoes, and bingo games were available for the adults and activities for children were also scheduled. And, of course, there were hamburgers and other good picnic foods available as Cheryl Walker, right, shows.



Photos by Micki Martinez

Childcare conference 'Lightens Up' with motivational speaker Steve Saffron



Above: Participants at this year's annual Pathway to our Future Early Childhood Education Conference were having fun with speaker Steve Saffron, who led them in a snake dance during his presentation about balancing work and play. The conference was held August 5-6 at the Bingo Hall and drew childcare workers from around the region.



News from Public Works

By Tim Ramirez, Public Works Director

The United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) awards of \$14.7 million for Rural Roads Safety, was the good news received on August 27 because the Tribe learned that the grant proposal submitted by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) and Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) was awarded the full amount requested.

Rural roads carry less than half of America's traffic but account for more than half the nation's vehicular deaths.

"Making one road safer is important. But making rural roads around the country less deadly is absolutely essential," said U. S. Transportation Deputy Secretary Thomas J. Barrett.

The grant was submitted to the Federal Highway Department in Washington, D. C. for the "Rural Safety Innovation Program" in cooperation with the PBPN and KDOT. When the Federal Highway Department grant dollars are available, by law, Indian tribal governments are eligible.

The selection was in two phases: round one, which was approved, allowed us to re-apply. To me, it was unbelievable that we got it. The goal of the program is to improve rural road safety by assisting rural communities in addressing highway safety problems and by providing them funds to compete for project funding to address these problems. The tribal government is eligible for this through partnering with the KDOT state agency. The PBPN and KDOT will be responsible for the 20% non-federal share match. It was worked out to be 15% (\$51,000 PBPN), 5% (\$20,000, KDOT), and 80% (\$284,000 Federal Highway), for a total project cost of \$355,000.

During a past discussion in the Tribal Council chambers, the Council, Federal Highway and KDOT representatives and staff from the Road and Bridge Department came to an agreement on what to focus attention on in addressing the top safety issues.

KDOT would like north and southbound message boards on U. S. Highway 75 in proximity to the 150 Road interchange for information to drivers as to changing road conditions, accidents, and road construction ahead. The Tribal Council chairman requested that Amber Alerts be posted and KDOT stated it could be done as the alerts are controlled by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI). The message boards would be similar to those already in Kansas City and would be controlled by KDOT and the Highway Patrol through wireless networks or fiber optics.

I Road to Our Lady of the Snows Church completed

By Tim Ramirez Public Works Director

The long awaited re-constructed road to the historic Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church was recently completed and opened to traffic. The project is approximately 1.5 miles in length from the intersection of 158 Road & I Road north one mile, then a mile west to the church and bazaar building. The road is engineered using modern criteria such as sight safety distance and road speed design. Proper right of way was also obtained. The asphalt road surface also extends into the church's parking lot.

The funding came from the Tribe's general fund/economic development.

The same alignment on this project, as in prior projects, completed, two bridges: The BIA Bridge #212 over Crow Creek built in 2002 on 166 Road, and Tribal Bridge #21 on I Road built in 2004 that we call Jane Puckee's Bridge. Those who remember the Old Snows

The Nation requested a camera be located overlooking the 150 Road/U.S. Highway 75 interchange that can be panned and controlled by the PBPN to examine live time conditions as well as by KDOT on the Internet. This was reviewed live by seeing the Kansas City scout system at several of their locations.

Remote temperature sensors were requested by the PBPN Public Works to be embedded in the 150 interchange bridge since bridge decks freeze before the roads. Having present-condition information would allow the PBPN and KDOT as to when to get out and best use their sand and salt and de-icing chemicals. The system information would be obtainable on the Internet and be accessible to any person or entity.

An area of concern for the PBPN was the intersections of 158 Road and 162 Road on U.S. 75 Highway. KDOT did have some suggestions and cited a similar problem on K-10 Highway east of Lawrence that was included in the grant.

This was a competitive grant with awards ranging from \$200,000 to \$500,000. Public Works brought the projected total project cost back to Council for a determination as to whether to partner with the State and it was supported and adopted by a Resolution for the grant.

The final items approved were the embedded temperature sensors, remote camera and the Dynamic Message boards. The proposed solutions to the intersections of 158 Road and 162 Road that meet the 70 miles per hour U. S. 75 divided highway are flashing warning signs on U. S. Highway 75 that are controlled and activated by a Queue system at the stop signs (not full time, only when occupied) that a vehicle may enter the highway. During accident data research it was found that all three intersections were included in the Federal Highway's 5% report of the most dangerous traffic locations nationwide. The 150 Road intersection was addressed by the \$11.2 million interchange funded by Federal Highway funds given to a state which by law a state must devote 10% to transportation enhancement projects. This same 10% law funded the Pedestrian & Bike Trail. The sad tally of these three locations in the last five years are: 29 accidents, 4 fatalities, 41 injured and 31 disabled, many were tribal members. Planning, design and consultation are works in progress with construction slated using 2009 federal highway dollars. The tribal departments of Public Works and the I. T. department will assist in the program to completion and actual use.

Bridge built in 1912 can now see it in Prairie Peoples Park, east of the Veterans Memorial. The BIA designed north and south of the 166/I roads intersection sheet piling retaining walls with guardrails during the bridge project to keep the straight road alignment and reduce right-of-way needed. Although the elevation was brought up 6 feet there still is no way to keep this intersection from flooding, so as part of this 2008 activity concrete ribbons 24" deep are on the edges on the asphalt in this area, so the flood velocity doesn't under cut the driving surface.

The Construction Manager and Road and Bridge crews are also happy to see this project end as they did quite a bit of activity out there. There was 14,000 yards of excess excavation hauled off and stockpiled for later use when needed, cleared and grubbed for utilities, fence torn out and rebuilt for traffic control. Hamms Construction Company did the project within the construction allotted timeframe and reservation residents appear to be pleased with it.

FEMA clean-up crew tackles huge task



The FEMA clean-up crew took a break one day with some soft drinks that Frank Shopteese brought them while they were working at an elder's home on 150 Road. In the photo from left to right is Frank Shopteese, Russell Jim, Sock Johnson, Sandy Mitchell, Shamoga Seymour, Eric Jim and Thomas Jim. Sandy Mitchell supervised the group and Frank works for We-Ta-Se American Legion Post #410.

By Tim Ramirez Public Works Director

A crew of six workers from the reservation has been cleaning up various sites damaged from the December 11-12, 2007 ice storm.

If you recall, it was quite a memorable and costly situation to the reservation. The Road & Bridge Department worked 56 hours straight by opening roads for emergency police and fire crews who transported residents to the Casino or Bingo Hall for shelter, since 90% of the power was out. The storm was declared a federal disaster by the President which then allowed FEMA to assist those Kansas counties and the reservations affected.

Audrey Oliverius, in Finance, was the lead person in ensuring that proper records were kept by various PBPN programs in hopes that there might be some reimbursement. Accordingly, the Public Works and Road and Bridge Department compiled a detailed list of damage to programs, housing units and clusters, religious sites or cemeteries, and road right of ways. Most have been restored back to pre-disaster conditions.

Some of the FEMA reimbursements have been given for programs of actual associated cost such as lodging, materials, wages, transport, generator use, equipment hours and labor.

FEMA clean-up crews were developed to clean the senior home sites that were not eligible for the reimbursement because they are not a public government facility or within a legal road right of way. The Tribal Council chairman requested that we assist the senior citizens in their clean-up and then we waited until the programs were paid back for funds expended and used some of the remaining funds to make it happen.

The reservation was split in to four quadrants NW, NE, SW and SE with 51 sites needing attention, and we also double checked for an additional 21 tribal significant sites. The contract workers we used were hired under the guidelines of PBPN Human Resources such as going through drug testing and formalized job descriptions and the workers have done an excellent job.



New faces in Social Services



Brian Jones
Foster Care Indian Child
Welfare Act (ICWA)
Social Worker

Brian Jones is a PBPB member who is pleased to be working in the Social Services Dept.

"My dream has been to come back here and work for the tribe," he said when recently interviewed.

Jones received his Bachelor's of Social Work degree last May from the University of Kansas and before that earned an Associate of Arts degree from Haskell Indian Nations University.

He said that he received a lot of financial support from the PBPB through the educational programs and through other multicultural programs at KU.

He is presently working full time as a Foster Care Social Worker and plans to take an exam soon to become licensed.



Mendy Thompson
Alcohol & Drug Counselor

Mendy Thompson began her position as an Alcohol & Drug Counselor June 16.

She holds degrees from Washburn University and Emporia State and worked at the Women's Recovery Center in Topeka from 1999-2007. After that time she worked at Valeo Behavioral Health Care Center for two years.

"I am happy to be here and excited about the possibility of working toward offering expanded services in the future through the PBPB Alcohol & Drug program," she said.

Mendy works with Shirlene Seymour and Elaine Mzhickteno-Barr who are also Alcohol & Drug counselors for the PBPB.

Washington, D.C. visitor here



Kimberly Woodard, on the front row right, made a site visit to the PBPB from Washington, D.C. on August 21. She is the program specialist for the STOP Violence Against Indian Women program and next to her is Tribal Chairman, Steve Ortiz, who attended the meeting to review the program and to meet Kimberly. Also attending the meeting were Judicial Administrator, Royetta Rodewald, back row left, Adele Thomas, center, Coordinator for the PBPB STOP Violence program, and Grant Writer, Dawn LeClere to Adele's right. The group discussed the grant and issues related to domestic violence in general that are affecting Native American people. The grant began in 2006 and was recently renewed for another two years.

Come to the Women's Parent Enhancement Group

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Social Services Conference Room
Contact: Georgia Platt-Sparta,
Foster Care Social Worker, 966.8324

Elders are especially encouraged to come mentor younger women and families

Clothing exchange a big success: serves over 130 from community



Robin Guerrero holds up a prom dress that was donated for a clothing exchange that was held August 1 and 2 at the Bingo Hall.

The Bingo Hall was the place to be to find good used clothing during a clothing exchange that took place August 1 and 2.

Originally the exchange was only scheduled for one day but it proved to be so popular it was carried over a day.

Tables were draped with clothes of all sizes and styles and were available for every age. One woman took away eight big bags of clothing for her family of four.

Overall, 113 tribal members were served and 17 non-tribal members which was further broken out into helping 71 children and 59 adults.

The exchange was sponsored by the PBPB Social Services Department. Robin Guerrero, administrative assistant, directed the project.

Other workers and volunteers who helped with the exchange were Shirley Wakolee-Frasier, Georgia Platt-Sparta, El-Von Belaire, Roberta Guerrero, Betty Rice, Carol Shopteese, and Verna Wahweotten.

The Social Services Department is located in the east wing of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center.

Meet the Domestic Violence program staff in Social Services



Verna Wahweotten

The Domestic Violence program is located in Social Services and is operated by Verna Wahweotten, left, a Victim's Advocate for the PBPB, and Adele Thomas, right, who is the program coordinator for the STOP Violence program.



Adele Thomas

At right is Mary Sands who is a Victims Therapist for the Tribal Victims Assistance Program that is supported by a grant from the U. S. Office of Justice. Mary's office is located in Social Services and she also works with the PBPB Domestic Violence Program. She is a licensed therapist.



Mary Sands

Need help?
Call Social Services today at
785.966.8331

- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Alcohol & Drug
- Community Health Representatives
- Foster Care Social Workers
- Adult Social Workers
- Three Rivers Independent Living
- Domestic Violence Prevention Program

Around the rez



Some big generators were installed at some of the PBPB government buildings this summer by Public Works in preparation for the next big power outage. The photo above was taken at the Boys & Girls Club on K Road.

(Photo submitted by Hardy Eteeyan)



Hardy Eteeyan seen driving a bulldozer. Hardy works in the Public Works Department.



People who travel along the newly paved I Road just north of 158 Road can now catch a glimpse of Roy Hale's (right) home that he recently named Fort Potawatomi. Roy is a tribal member and worked for We-Ta-Se Post 410 for many years.



The road to Our Lady of the Snows Church was paved this summer as well as the church's parking lot. The photo was taken facing west with the church in the far background on the left. Hamms Construction Company and the PBPB Public Works Department did the work on the road. For more information about the project see the article on page 4 I Road to Our Lady of the Snows Church by Tim Ramirez.



Above is Jim Potts who was lifted high in the air by a piece of equipment driven by B. J. Darnall of the Public Works Department. Jim was repairing the We-Ta-Se flag pole on the day this photograph was taken last summer and the photographer also got to get a shot of the We-Ta-Se building, above right, that houses the Department of Planning and EPA, Potawatomi News, and We-Ta-Se Department.



Vivien Gonzales and Rey Kitchkumme at the Tribal Council farewell reception in August.

Randy Mitchell eating some corn soup at the Boys & Girls Club.



Did you know that the law and order codes are now available on the PBPB website?
Visit www.pbpindiantribe.com





Gathering Notes from Gary Mitchell: Walpole Island, Canada

The 2008 Potawatomi Gathering took place at Walpole Island, Canada. In case anybody is wondering how we had Potawatomis ending up in Canada, a short history lesson may be necessary: Way back during the times of Indian removal many Potawatomi refused to go west, and they simply scattered and hid in the vast forest of the Lakes areas. Later, their groups emerged as separate distinct tribes. Many, who did move west, eventually migrated back to these locations.

The new lands of Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas were quite different with flat rolling prairie, often treeless, temperate and at one historical point, were considered the "Great American Desert." This land did not compare to the beautiful Great Lakes area, so the migration back was understandable. Several Potawatomi groups migrated into Canada to escape the westward march. In total, estimates have at least 2,500 Potawatomi ending up in Canada.

Over the years, the Potawatomi had become used to migration, in a sense, and Canada was an area of trade and a place of an old alliance. The British believed they owed the Potawatomi asylum because they had fought with them in past conflicts. The British had an ever present motive—they might need the Potawatomi in case of a future war with the United States. Not surprisingly, the Potawatomi were never really accepted there by the existing Canadian tribes and were viewed as intruders. In a nutshell, that's how Potawatomis ended up in Canada.

Regarding this year's Gathering, we were undecided about going because we lacked passports, but we found out they weren't necessary until 2009, so we changed our minds. We found out later that many did stay home because of the possible passport issues and didn't want to go through unnecessary hassles. A trip that takes you 903 miles one way is quite an undertaking, but travel from home can be fun, if you let it happen. On the trip around 3 p.m. one day, we stopped and ate in a small town in Illinois. An old man walked by and looked at our tag for the longest time and then looked at us. It was funny. I guess he never saw an Indian license tag or an Indian for that matter.

The scenic drive across Michigan's Hwy 95 went smooth, as did the drive through Motown (Detroit). We didn't stop and see the Temptations sing or watch the Detroit Tigers beat up on the Royals and we sure didn't get off the beaten path. We rode a ferry to Walpole Island. The ferry business is owned by non-Indians but they do employ Indian people. One Indian guy said he worked 12 days in a row, sometimes doing double shifts. The ferry ride was a first for us. We found the grounds and drove to town to find our motel - Wheels Inn, an older place but it looked good when you're tired and worn out.

On Friday we stayed all day at the Gathering - 12 hours total. We did a tour of the reserve. On the tour, they never did say how many people lived there or how people got by. Later, a woman said they had a huge farm. One of their leaders back in the '70s said, "If the white people can get rich farming, why can't we." Now they have a profitable business. They also share in a Canadian casino that disperses its profits to all the tribes in Canada. By the way, a map of the reserve would have been nice. They had a good language session on

the first day and people seemed to enjoy the other events. After the tour, the kids painted rocks and had races among themselves. Later, they had pizza for everybody at a concert (somebody with time on their hands figured the pizza cost \$6,000 by some calculation). They had a pow-wow, but it didn't seem like there were many people there. I think attendance was not what they had anticipated, but the mosquitoes were there to greet everybody and had a field day on Potawatomis who had no "Off." I took pictures of different people for the tribal paper. It was nice, cool weather and we sat around and visited people from the other bands, such as old friends like Jim Thunder, and his wife, and my old friend John Alloway. They are a sharp contrast of what our Indian world is today; one is a fluent speaker and the other is a tribal politician. We need both values to get by, it seems.

On Saturday, it was another 12-hour day. We attended a workshop about culture, had lunch, and listened to local Indian musicians. I did an interview for Harmony Rice. She works for APTN (Aboriginal People Television Network). The interview focused on Prairie Band history. It was to appear on the following Monday night. They told me that I will become famous in Canada. I said "Then what?" I always figured writing wouldn't pay the light bill, so there it is.

The host group had a big tent put up and it paid off when a rain storm took place in the afternoon. Without the tent, this probably would have disrupted the whole event. Some of us volunteered to help get the evening meal ready and loaded for transport to the main building. The meals were held in a hockey arena, where they field an Indian hockey team that does well in the area. They have many championship banners hanging from the rafters. It would have been nice to see an exhibition hockey game there, especially for some of us who never saw one before. Nonetheless, you could almost visualize the large Indian crowds watching their sons and grandsons playing the game.

In the evening, they had another pow-wow. Our Post 410, We-Ta-Se represented our tribe well once again. I was asked to talk for the PBP on a buffalo head giveaway, which is an annual tradition of the Prairie Band. I thanked the host tribe, Walpole Island for opening up their lands for this Gathering, for providing all the hospitality, food, and all the events. For some of us, this was the first trip to a gathering in Canada and it was well-worth the experience. I told them we would return the hospitality next year when they come to our lands, and how we have 120 head of buffalo on our reservation which we harvest for events such as this Gathering and one of the buffalo heads is mounted to be given to the host tribe of the Gathering. At this point, council people, Jackie Mitchell and Junior Wahweotten presented the mounted buffalo head to Chief Joseph and his council people. Our buffalo crew, represented at the Gathering presentation by Tim Ramirez, Alan Pahlmhamie and Hardy Eteeyan, do a good job of taking care of the buffalo. The buffalo is part of our culture and way of life and have been for a long, long time.

Later, they had a comedy show. A man named Don Burnstick, a Cree Indian, had me laughing the entire time of his performance. It was hilarious. We bought a DVD and a t-shirt that he

autographed. It was well-worth it to stay even though we were tired from a long day.

We left the room early Sunday and went back to the Gathering, ate a pretty good breakfast and stood around awhile and decided to leave. We went to the ferry and waited. Across the water there was a boat race that caused delays for the ferry, plus there was a bomb scare which kept people from going over a bridge north of there. But once over, we had no trouble getting through customs. The Border Patrol Agent opened up our trunk and said "Oh, my goodness" when she saw all our luggage and closed it right away. If we were transporting contraband, it sure wouldn't have been that easy.

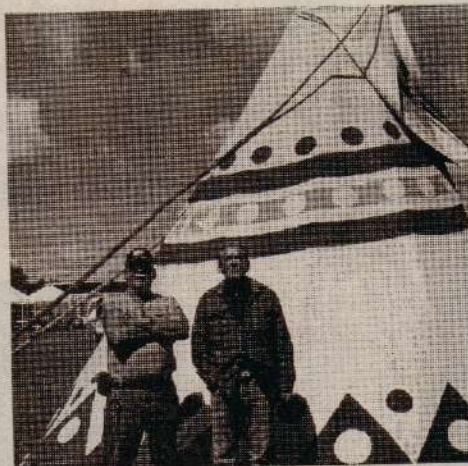
We went to get some gas when we got back into the U.S.A. and I talked to an Indian guy who was from Walpole Island and he exchanged my \$20 worth of Canadian money for U.S. dollars. It saved me a trip to look for an exchange place. We then set out for home. The drive through Detroit wasn't bad. After 240 miles, we stopped at the Four Winds Casino, owned by the Pokagon Band, and checked it out. Since I work in gaming, I like to see how other tribes casino's work and to ask about how their operations are run, both from an operational and regulatory standpoint. I also like to see how our casino compares to what others have. Newspaper accounts say the Pokagon make \$26 million a month. It is a top-notch casino. The casino has a good layout with shops and restaurants on the edge of the casino area. They have incorporated some of the Woodlands theme into their casino and it is impressive.

We drove to Chicago where it was a nightmare of traffic. From Michigan City to the south side of Chicago it took over two hours. There were only two lanes available due to construction, and sometimes the speeds only got up to 15 mph. Plus there was the tourist and weekend fishermen going home to Chicago which also led to the traffic problem. This was in sharp contrast to Detroit where there were no traffic problems, so maybe it has something to do with the local economies. One is vibrant, the other is not.

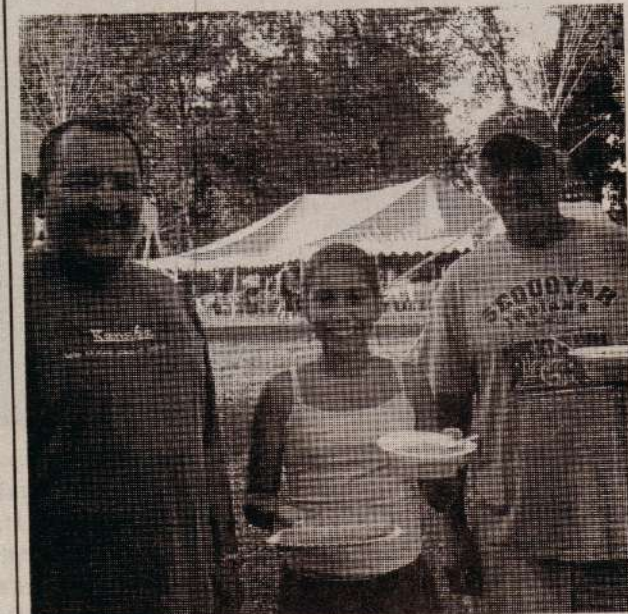
On Monday we left early and stopped in Bettendorf, Iowa where we wanted to see the river boat casino, in this case, Isle of Capri. The Isle of Capri is a nice place, has a good layout, gift shop, restaurant, coffee shop, but no place to keep kids occupied. After that, we drove home.

Next year, the Gathering will be held on our reservation. Many years back, we fixed up the park so it is ready to host any event. Now as host tribe, the planning needs to start right away, so we can do it right for all those visitors that come to our reservation. This Gathering showed that the Walpole Island Potawatomi did many things right. For one, having a large tent in place helped people stay dry and it probably saved a good outdoor event. They had a good activity schedule and showed generous amounts of hospitality. We can do that, too, next year!

Meeting notice to begin planning 2009 Potawatomi Gathering
Wed., October 8, 6:30 p.m., Bingo Hall
Contact LaVerne Hale, 966-0041 or email: laverneh@pbpnation.org



Special thanks to Hardy Eteeyan, Jackie Mitchell and Andy Mitchell for submitting the photos



Sydney VanZile reports on Language Conference at the Gathering

Boäho Nāshnabek

The Language Department attended the 2008 Language Conference and Gathering this year at Walpole Island First Nation. It was held August 5-7 and was organized by Chris Riley and their Anishnabeg Language Advisory Group.

The conference included many workshops during the day that were held in their tribal elementary school and they hosted musical entertainment night one evening and a banquet the second evening. Some of the workshops that were attended by the staff were Our Seven Grandmother/Grandfather Teachings; Immersion and Bilingual at Six Nations-Outcomes; Wijiwaadaa Nenaboozhoo-Walking/Talking with Nenaboozhoo; Animacy and Inanimacy by Jim Thunder; Simple Teaching Strategies; How Male and Female Voices Teach Families Together; AMO Language Commission of Oniatari'io; Technology in the Anishnaabemwin Classroom; Learning Through Songs; Awareness/Affirmation of Cultural Approaches-Personal Empowerment, Reaching the Family, Community and Nation. The workshops were very informative and the evening social with most of the music sung in the language was very enjoyable. During the banquet, their twelve-member tribal council signed a language proclamation that supported the efforts of the Anishnabeg Language Advisory Group and showed full support of their language revitalization efforts and the goals they had developed to this point. Overall, it was a great conference and since they still have speakers in the area it was wonderful to listen to the language on a day-to-day basis.

We want to thank all of those who supported us during our fundraisers and to our Tribal Council for their donation of money that enabled us to travel to this event.

Tii Migwett.



The Walpole Island Tribal Council seen holding the Anishnabeg Language Advisory Group Language Proclamation. Holding the document is Chief Joseph.

Special thanks to the Language Department for submitting these photos.



The Anishnabeg Language Advisory Group provided entertainment at the banquet.

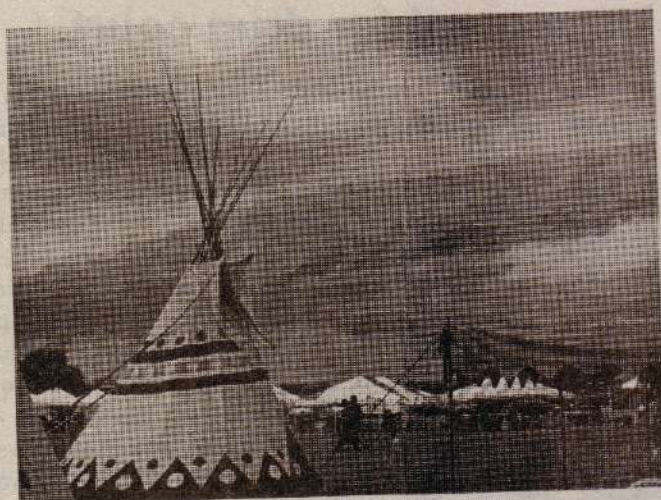


Above, left, is Patricia Osawamick with Martina Osawamick seen leading one of the workshops.

PBPN Language Department
•Sydney VanZile, Director
•LaVerne Haag, staff
•Billy Matchie, staff

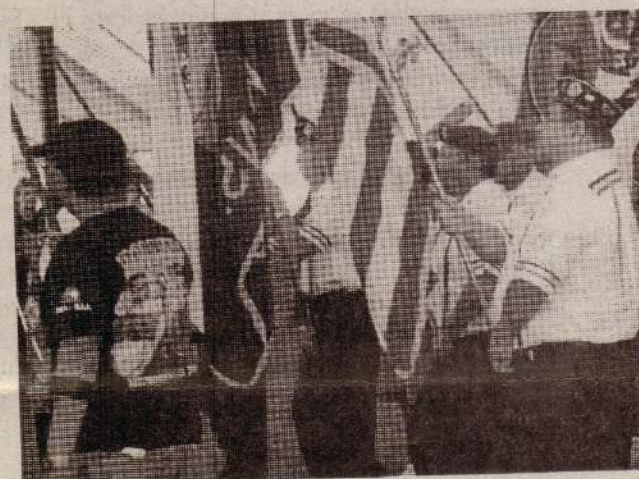


2008 Gathering Photo Gallery



Some items were left on the Gathering bus.

Call LaVerne Hale, 966.0041 to claim



Road trip: a story by LaVerne Hale

Submitted by LaVerne Hale

Once again our trip to the Potawatomi Gathering was a success. This year we traveled to Walpole Island, Ontario Canada. The host band was the Walpole Island First Nations. This was the first time this group hosted the Gathering and they did a very good job.

We took one bus and a large van. Ron Jessepe and Frank Parker drove the van and it was loaded down with chairs, gifts, water and anything else that would fit. Rose Jessepe, Ron's wife, also rode with them. Jay Mattwaoshshe, and Paula Hopkins drove their vehicles and followed along with the bus. That was our little caravan. We were all very thankful to have Ron Jessepe, Frank Parker and Jay Mattwaoshshe traveling with us. Once we reached the Gathering site Boney Pahmahmic, Bill Jim, and Charles Nez were there. Boney and his crew transported the buffalo meat up to the Gathering, a tradition we have shared at each Gathering. For me and the group we say "thank you" to these men. They were so helpful to all of us during our trip. They were there to help with the chairs, carry bags, and to transport us to and from the hotel. When the bus stopped Frank and Ron were always there to meet the elders at the door and to help them. And they did all this with smiles on their faces and with good humor for the elders.

We had a few bus problems in the beginning and had to change buses in Kearny, Missouri because the air conditioner broke. Luckily, we stopped and waited at a McDonalds and a nearby convenience store and it wasn't too hot while we waited. But we soon got on our way.

The waters up there are beautiful and clear...it was neat.
-LaVerne Hale

We had no problem getting across the border. Not everyone was able to get a passport in time for the trip so some of us went without them. We had birth certificates and other forms of identification which was sufficient this time. Crossing the border is a little scary once you actually get there because you think "what if they don't let me cross?"

The travelers were glad to have Steve Ortiz, Tribal Chairperson, riding the bus with them. It was nice to have a Tribal Council member along and a special thanks to Steve for all the meals he bought us.

On the way we watched some movies on the bus and could have played bingo but someone (who coordinated this trip?) forgot the bingo cards. So we just gave bus prizes with games we made up to pass the time. After two days travel we made it to our hotel in Chatham, Ontario. Everyone got a good night's rest before we headed into Walpole for some of the Gathering activities. The bus driver got lost but the group took it in stride and said they enjoyed the scenery until we finally got there.

On the Gathering grounds Boney and his crew had our

canopy set up and a table there for us. It was real nice. The grounds were nice and shady. There were also activities under a huge tent that seemed to be about a block long. There were many vendors selling beautiful handmade goods like many things made out of sweet grass, handmade quilts, beadwork, herbs and different natural medicines, artwork, and miniature pies. The pie stand was right next to our canopy, how lucky for us, and they were very good.

One of the activities was a fun walk which was a morning event and Bernadette Lewis and Frank Parker joined in but were attacked by mosquitoes. Mosquitoes were also a problem in the late evening and came out in swarms and actually attacked us. We hurried off to the bus and within minutes the area was cleared out. The mosquitoes chased everyone off.

There were many workshops offered. There was also a genealogy exhibit and booths about reflexology for diabetics, massage therapy and radio bingo. Youth activities were also offered. On Saturday afternoon they had an open-microphone jam session for singers and musicians. The talent was good. Some of us wished Francis Jensen would have brought his flute and serenaded the people. Additionally, there was a tour of the community that a lot of us attended. One stop on the tour was at a house where we all bought some frozen lye corn. After purchasing this frozen corn we became concerned about how we would keep it frozen and it was Boney who



In the photo, left, are some PBPB who took a ferry ride during the Gathering.

saved the day. He took the frozen corn and hauled it to the freezer where the buffalo meat was stored. He kept it safe until we got home and it was still frozen solid. Boney and the others really took care of us.

The community also had yard sales on Saturday and we packed the van to the point where four of us ended up sitting

on the floor in the back. Needless to say, we were real yard-sale die-hards. We also brought many "necessary" treasures home. It was fun. Some of us also took a ride on the ferry that is in Walpole Island. We stayed in Canada and rode on the water. That day they were having boat races and we got a great view of them. The waters up there are clear and a beautiful blue. Someone said it was because the water was so deep. Big ships would cross right in front of us and it was really

LaVerne Hale loading the bus in Mayetta. LaVerne now works at the Elder Center.



neat.

The evening pow-wow was good. We had quite a few of our own dancing. We were also happy to see our We-Ta-Se princess, Sierra Pahmahmic, there dancing and representing our people. They also had a baby contest during the pow-wow. There were many cute babies dressed in Indian outfits and they sang for them and their parents as they were paraded in the arena.

It was a good feeling to renew acquaintances from previous Gatherings. There were good feelings all around and I believe our people had a good time. The meals were good and everyone, as always, had plenty to eat. We were fortunate that our hotels served a complete hot breakfast every morning. I want to thank everyone that traveled on the bus for the gifts you brought and I hope you made a friend to give it to. We were offered beautiful gifts from the other bands.

Sunday came and one more time we all gathered back at the grounds to dance, share gifts and embrace the Potawatomi people at the home of the Walpole Island First Nations.

Next year it will our turn to host the Potawatomi Gathering as Chairperson, Steve Ortiz accepted the ashes from the fire and brought the staff home. We have a lot of work to do to host another Gathering.

We plan on having a meeting on September 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the old Bingo Hall. A second meeting is scheduled for October 8 at the same time and place. Until we get committees established I will be the contact person so call me with your ideas and suggestions, and if you want to volunteer to help. You can call me at 785-966-0041 or email me at laverneh@pbpnation.org.



Travelers getting on the bus that left August 6 for the Gathering. The trip took two days to get there.



Kansas American Indian Crime Victims Workshop held at casino



Left to right: Rebekah Jones, Tribal Police, Det. Michael Johnson, a nationally-known speaker, and Steve Ortiz, Tribal Chairperson at the crime victims workshop on August 28.

A two-day workshop that centered around child abuse/law enforcement issues in Indian Country was held on August 28-29 in the casino's convention center.

Det. Michael Johnson, an expert in child abuse issues and with the Plano, Texas Police Department, was the workshop

leader that drew participants from the Ioway Reservation and other communities in the area.

The workshop was free and supported by a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime in the U. S. Department of Justice.

Rebekah Jones coordinates the crime victims program.

Briefly

Dr. Jessica A. Rickert, Interlochen, Mich., attended the Society of American Indian Dentists Annual Conference in Phoenix in June. Jessica is the first female American Indian dentist in the world and you can learn more about her at: www.whptgn.com.

Sebe Masquat, R.N. and Steve Corbett, of the Potawatomi Health Clinic, are on the Kansas Diabetes Advisory Council that recently unveiled a statewide strategy for reducing diabetes in Kansas.

News about the Health Center is now available online.

Go to: www.pbpindiantribe.com and click on **More News** button and scroll to Health Center News

PBPN receives large grant for drug court

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) will receive a \$350,000 grant for a drug court from the U.S. Department of Justice.

The announcement came September 4 in a press release by U.S. Attorney Eric Melgren who said, "We want to assist the tribal government in its efforts to address the problem of substance abuse. This plan emphasizes a comprehensive approach to the healing of mind, body and spirit."

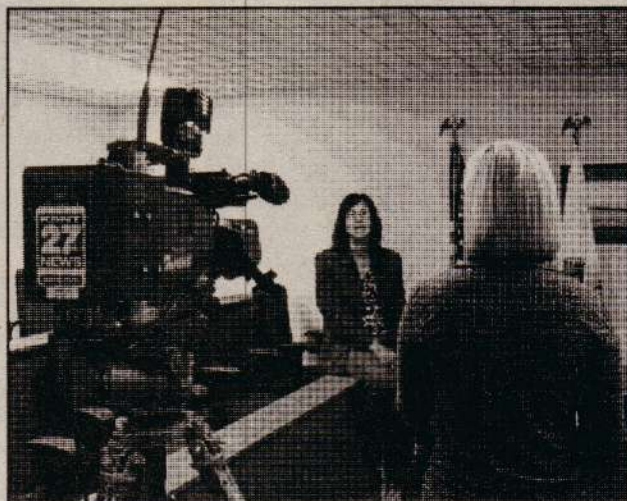
The grant, funded by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, will be spent to plan and implement a Healing to Wellness Court designed to provide an adult treatment program for non-violent substance abusers. Offenders will work through a series of four steps: Wapitigwe (white thunder) which begins with detoxification, Sewttigwe (yellow thunder) which focuses on stabilizing the offender's life,

Skepettigwe (green thunder) in which offenders put into practice the skills they have learned in treatment, and Kitettigwe (black thunder) which focuses on the preventing relapse.

The new alternative sentencing program that is scheduled to begin next month will be directed by Royetta Rodewald, Judicial Administrator of the PBPN Tribal Court.

The first phase of planning for a drug court on the PBPN reservation began in 2004 with the implementation of a PBPN Drug Court Planning Committee that was comprised of tribal members and PBPN government staff

through the tribe's grant office. Dawn LeClere, grant writer for the tribe who was instrumental in the four-year grant process, said that they are hoping that anywhere from 18 to 20 families can be helped by the new funding.



Above: Royetta Rodewald being interviewed in the Tribal Court room by a reporter from KSNT-27 TV, Topeka. Grant Writer, Dawn LeClere, and Steve Ortiz, Chair, also gave interviews that were aired on the station's evening newscasts September 4.

HEALTH CENTER UPDATES

Submitted by John Holtz, Director

Behavioral Health Services - The Clinic has received authorization to begin recruitment for a Behavioral Health Counselor who can perform a wide range of professional counseling, behavioral, family and group counseling services. Candidates must be a Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker with a master's degree in social work or a psychologist with a doctorate degree in psychology. Interested candidates should contact Sarah Price, secretary at the Clinic.

Benefit Specialist - Recently, the Health Board gave its approval for the Clinic to be more proactive in assisting patients with obtaining medical benefits such as Medicaid, Medicare and Workers Compensation. The new Benefits Specialist, Rubina Stockebrand, will meet with uninsured patients to assist with applications for medical benefits. Becoming eligible for Medicaid or Medicare is extremely beneficial for patients who seek or require medical services provided outside of our Clinic. Your eligibility for medical benefit programs can eliminate or reduce your out of pocket costs for medical

services you receive outside the Clinic. In addition, eligibility for our Contract Health Program which is intended to be utilized as a supplemental resource, requires our patients to apply for Medicaid/Medicare.

Medicaid is one of the highest sources of third party collections for the Clinic and an important revenue source to fund Clinic services. A recent change in Medicaid regulations will now allow our Clinic and other tribal and IHS clinics in Kansas to bill Medicaid for pharmacy services. Your cooperation in allowing us to assist you to enroll in alternative medical benefits programs will clearly benefit both you and your Clinic.

Caregiver Coordinator Job Opening - The Clinic has a full-time opening for a Caregiver Coordinator due to the promotion of Nancy Stegman to Contract Health Coordinator. The Caregiver Coordinator provides consultation assistance for individuals caring for an elder or grandparents and older individuals who act as the primary caregiver for children under the age of 19. The Caregiver Coordinator also provides respite care to enable caregivers to be temporarily relieved from

their care giving responsibilities. Job qualifications include high school diploma/GED and home health experience or Certified Nurse Assistant training is preferred. Interested candidates should contact Sarah Price, Secretary, at the Clinic.

Dental Missed Appointment Policy - The Health Board has recently approved a policy for missed appointments for the Dental Clinic due to the high number of patients who do not keep scheduled appointments. Approximately 33% of dental patients do not show for their scheduled appointments with the Dentist and the Hygienist. Some patients have missed as many as 8 consecutive appointments.

In the new Dental Missed Appointment Policy, patients are asked to provide at least one day notice for cancellation of a scheduled appointment. If you are charged with two missed or canceled appointments, you will not be eligible to schedule another appointment for a six-month period. You will be seen on an emergency basis only during the walk-in hour, which is 8a.m. to 9a.m. One of the reasons for implementing this new policy is because of the growing waiting list of patients who are seeking dental services.

Community Garden produces food

Squash, corn, pumpkins and cucumbers are some of the vegetables that were harvested by Dustin Francis and Randy Mitchell this summer.

The two men planted a garden behind the Public Works building that was funded by a community improvement grant and administered by the Department of Planning and Environmental Protection.

Dustin said that after the produce was ready, that members from the community came to the garden to harvest the produce and that he and Randy also took vegetables to the Fire Keepers Elder Center until it was gone.

Right: Dustin Francis sorting squash seeds to dry and store for next year's garden.



PBPN featured in Diabetic Living Magazine

Some students with the Royal Valley Native American Singers and Dancers and Steve Ortiz, Tribal Chairperson, appeared in photographs in an article by Chris Smith, the Diabetic Chef, in the fall issue of *Diabetic Living* Magazine.

Smith was a presenter at last year's Working Together for Balance Conference and wrote his article "Native American Flavors" after his visit to the PBPN reservation. He included some PBPN recipes in the article and wrote about diabetes and food.

Upcoming conference to focus on food addictions and diabetes

Submitted by Steve Corbett, PBP Health Center

The 3rd Annual Working Together for Balance conference on diabetes will be held at the Prairie Band Casino and Resort on Saturday October 25th, 2008. The purpose of the conference is to provide diabetic patients, those at risk for diabetes, and the general community with information on the prevention of diabetes and diabetic complications. This year's conference will start at 7:30 a.m. with a breakfast, and conclude at 5 p.m. with a Fun Run/Walk.

The 3rd annual conference will focus on women's and children's health and food addictions as these subjects relate to diabetes. Speakers include: Vanessa Short Bull (Ogalala Lakota), the first Native American to win the Miss South Dakota pageant, and spokesperson for the Nike AirNative N7 shoes; Bob Prue (Lakota), an expert on addictions and former researcher at KU Medical Center; Dr. Dec Ann DeRoin (Ioway), consultant in community and women's health and former Clinical Director at Haskell Indian Nations University Health

Center; Ali Mangan, hoop dance teacher from Hoop Mamas; Shelley Bointy from the Diabetes Based Science Education in Tribal Schools (DETS) program at Haskell; and Rocco Clark (Yakama), dance instructor for the Dance Away Diabetes program. The conference will be mediated by Gale Marshall (Choctaw), a consultant to the IHS Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention. Children are invited to attend the afternoon sessions as these will feature information and activities relevant for both kids and adults.

The Working Together for Balance diabetes conference is free and will include a free breakfast and lunch, and plenty of give-away items. Those interested in attending should register with Steve Corbett, the Diabetes Project Manager at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center. The health center received over \$20,000 in grants for the conference from the Kansas Health Foundation, the Office of Women's Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas.

3rd Annual



Conference

Saturday
October 25, 2008
Prairie Band Casino and
Resort Convention Center



Please reserve your spot by October 18, 2008
NO REGISTRATION FEE REQUIRED

This year's conference has a special focus on women and children. Children ages 5 and up will find the afternoon sessions engaging and educational and they are encouraged to join us starting at lunchtime.

3rd Annual Working Together for Balance Conference

Registration Form

Name _____ Age _____
Contact Phone Number _____
Email address (optional) _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Tribe _____
I will attend Breakfast _____ AM Session _____
Lunch _____ PM Session _____ Fun/Run Walk _____

Mail Registrations by October 18, 2008,

Steve Corbett
Prairie Band Potawatomi
Health Center

PO Box 249
11400 158th Road
Mayetta, KS 66509
Tel. # 785-966-8271

You may register on our website at:
http://www.pbpnation.org/clinic/Diabetes/DiabetesConference/registration_page.asp
or email to SCorbett@pbpnation.org



Bailee CreAnn Crawford Miss Junior Teen Northeast Kansas

Bailee Crawford, 16, has qualified to participate in this year's American Coed National Pageant to be held at Disney World in Orlando, Fla. this coming November.

She was recently crowned Miss Junior Teen Northeast Kansas and is also a Miss Junior Teen Northeast Kansas cheerleader.

Bailee is a sophomore at Shawnee Heights High School and is scheduled to appear as the school's first majorette this fall. She is also involved in the school's color guard and spirit club and enjoys dancing as a hobby.

Bailee's parents are Marcus Tuckwin and Brandy Crawford and her grandparents are "Num" Marilyn Hale-Wakolee and the late "Brub" Lyle Tuckwin and Karen Crawford and Bill Crawford.

Brittany Lake participates in national scholarship program

Brittany Lake, 17, was one of 65 teenagers selected for the Patty Iron Cloud National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) program. She is a student at Hope Street Academy in Topeka, Kan. and attended the nine-day program held in Washington, D. C. this summer. The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) sponsors the program to educate and encourage more Native American students into health professions.

Kishno Bell selected 2008-2009 Shawnee County Allied Tribes Princess



Kishno Bell was chosen as the 2008-2009 Shawnee County Allied Tribes Princess at their annual pow-wow held Labor Day weekend in Topeka, Kan.

(Photo submitted by Micki Martinez)

2008 Summer Youth Work Program employs 35 students

By Debra Matchie-Wakolee, Education Department Summer Youth Coordinator

The Summer Youth Work Program employed tribally enrolled youth to work during two five week session programs during June and July. Workers were between 14 and 18 years of age and had to be enrolled in school, a GED Program, or be a recent high school graduate.

Forty-five applications were received and all applicants went through the regular PBP Human Resources employment screening process that included filing applications, interviewing, being drug tested, and given an orienta-

tion. Out of 36 positions offered, only one worker did not accept employment. The workers who were hired were assigned a job site like working at the Potawatomi Health Center, Potawatomi Boys & Girls Club, Public Works, Maintenance, and Childcare departments.

Weekly workshops were also required. Three workshops were offered including one conducted by the Kaw Area Vo-Tech School, that brought in a caterpillar simulator, one taught by the Language Department, that focused on the future of the Potawatomi language, and another workshop offered by the Kansas National Guard that highlighted military careers.



Youth workers John Jim, left, and Nathan Levier, back to camera, worked in the Public Works Department with B. J. Darnall (in hat).

18 students
were hired for
Session 1
held
June 2-July 3
and
17 students
were hired
in
Session 2
held
June 30-Aug. 1



Workers in the Maintenance Department this summer were, from left to right, B. J. Jones, supervisor, Dakota Shopteese, Ian Cook, Albert Blair and Stevie Wahweotten.

Ona Knoxsah participates in University of Minnesota McNair Scholars display research project

Ona Knoxsah, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, recently presented her research project at the University of Minnesota's Summer 2008 McNair Scholars research poster presentation. The annual poster presentation showcased the work of 20 students who conducted research projects at the university for 10 weeks this summer under the guidance of faculty mentors.

Ona, a senior majoring in American Indian Studies at the University of Minnesota (U of M), conducted research titled "Structure of Ojibwe Personal Names from 1830-1920" under the guidance of U of M American Indian Studies professor John Nichols.

The McNair Scholars Program is named after Ronald McNair, the African American astronaut who died in the 1986 Challenger space shuttle explosion. It is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and operated by the TRIO Program in the university's General College. The goal of the program is to provide an experience for students, especially those from traditionally under-represented groups, to learn what university research is like and to encourage them to go on to graduate school. Besides conducting hands-on research, participants have been attending motivational workshops, Graduate Record Exam prep classes, and research writing workshops.



Kids have fun in summer sports

Baseball



ABOVE: The Lil' Thunders baseball team. On the front row, left to right, is Mikal Kitchkummie, Knowee Potts, Keesis Potts, Pak Hale and Zack (Note-Kno-kuk) Wahweotten. On the back row, left to right, is Zack Ross, Mikwas Knoxsah, Colby Ross, Kobe Jordon, Patch Potts and Joseph Walker. Team members not present when the photo was taken are Kobe Mills, Keegan Shopteese, Mason Spoonhunter and James Wilson.

(Photo submitted by Mario Kitchkummie)



Tennis



Some Boys & Girls Club members played in the National Indian Tennis Tournament in Topeka in May. On the front row, from left to right, is Sierra Pahmahmie, Mittina Hale and Pami Hubbard. On the back row, left to right, is Pequas Hernandez, Shaw-note Wense, and Nes Hubbard.

(Photo submitted by Mario Kitchkummie)

From the Education Dept.

Students wishing to enter college in the spring 2009 must submit a complete application to the department on or before November 1.

Golf



Golfers from the PBP Boys & Girls Club participated in the First Nations Golf Association's 2008 National Native Youth Golf championships held August 17-19 on the Chickasaw Nation reservation in Thackerville, Okla. Above, from left to right, are Sierra Pahmahmie who placed 3rd, Mittina Hale who took 2nd and Josie Stevens who placed 1st in their division. An article about the golfers is on page 12.

(Photo submitted by Mario Kitchkummie)



Ttiwenmo eginigyén (Happy day you were born)

Happy Birthday

Grandsons
Daimen Martinez, 4
August 27
Xavier Stanley, 5
Sept. 10

and
Brothers
Larry Wahweotten, Sept. 16
Edward Wahweotten, Sept. 20
Ronald Wahweotten, Dec. 26

and
Daughters
Nicole Martinez, August 10
C. Rose Martinez, Dec. 7

I love you all!
Grandma and sister,
Cheryl Walker and family



We
love
you!

All
your
grand-
kids



Happy Birthday Koya!!



Happy 15th Birthday, Kira
&
Happy 6-month Birthday, Amber

I love you two and am so proud
Mom



Happy Belated Birthday wishes
are sent out to Lily YoungBear
who turned 2 years old on July 31.

Love, Goko, Uncle Sean, and
your other grandmas, aunts, uncles
and cousins.



Happy
Birthday
Brenda
LaClair!
Turning the
BIG 40!
Love always,
Jill, Fran,
Denae &
Chris

Happy
Birthday
Dad and
Grandpa
George
LaClair.
Love always,
Jill, Fran,
Denae &
Chris



Happy Birthday
Roberta Guerrero
September 22

We hope your day is
as special as you are.
Lots of love,
Robin & Angelo & the
grandkids



Happy Birthday
Marsha Guerrero
August 30

We all love you so
much.
Your kids,
Kristi & Steve &
the grandkids



Happy Belated Birthday
June Barber!
July 29

From your seven kids
and countless grandkids
and great-grandkids.

Happy Birthday
Gina Gutierrez, who was
35 years old
on September 15

From Alan & Franie Minor

Ganiftek (those who are born)

Welcome
to
the
world!

Tallulah
Marie
Battese



Born: June 21, 2008
Weight: 7 lbs., 10 oz.
Length: 20 in.

Parents: Jeff and Amanda Battese
Grandparents: Mitch & Patty Battese
Todd & Tina Town



Congratulations
to Jeff & Tina YoungBear on the
birth of
Dasan Thunder Lipe YoungBear

Born: June 10, 2008
Weight: 8 lbs., 8 oz.
Length: 20 1/4 in.

Love from all the family

Happy Birthday LeRoy Mzhickteno



Left to right: Ona Lee, LeRoy and Elaine.

Happy 90th Birthday
Daddy!
From Ona Lee & Elaine

Happy Birthday Uncle LeRoy!
From Aurora, Clifford,
Deena and Budgie

From your sister,
Rosella & brother-in-law Willis

From your friend,
Marge Abney

Thank you messages

To:
Raphael Wahwassuck
Mario Kitchkumme
Shayla Hale
Brenda Pahmahmie
Rick Swogger
Mike Barbosa
Paul Juedes

My Mom and I want to thank everyone who helped me when I broke my arm this summer in the park. My arm hurt and I was really scared. You took good care of me and made me feel better. Both of the bones in my arm broke and I had to have surgery. My bones are still healing but my cast is off and I wear a brace now. If we forgot somebody, we are sorry. Mom and I were pretty worried and upset that day.

Thank you for helping me,
Willie and Pam Bowman



The St. Mary's Community Food Pantry
would like to thank the PBP for the Charitable
Contribution they received.

-Mary Pail

This is a short message to say THANK
YOU to all of the people who voted for me in the last
election. I am very humble and appreciative of the
confidence and support I received. The future of our
Nation is determined by people willing to work
together, people who will be accountable for their
actions, and people who are totally committed to
making the right decisions.

-Sincerely yours,
Francis T. Shopteese Jr.

We would like to
thank the PBP for
the bottled water that
was donated to the
Topeka Blazers track
and field club that
Montoy Perry, 13, par-
ticipated in. Montoy
and his team qualified
for the AAU Junior
Olympic Games held in
Detroit this summer.

-Mother: Tiffany Perry
-Grandmother: Emily Aitkens
-Great Grandmother: June Barber



Montoy Perry

Thank you!

To all the supporters and voters for the great honor of
being elected as your Tribal Council vice-chairper-
son for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. I look
forward to working for the Nation for the next four
years. I invite you to stop by the Government Center
for a visit or call me at work-785.966.4019; cell-
785.608.6078; home-785.273.8712. My email is:
joyceg@pbpnation.org.

-Joyce Kitchkumme Guerrero

The Boys & Girls Club says thanks!

Thank you to the employees of the PBP
who are donating weekly through payroll
deductions to the club.

Donations still being taken.
Contact Paula Hopkins
785.966.4032

Next issue of the Potawatomi News

News deadline
December 1

Published
Dec. 17



Thank you to all the friends and
relatives for the gifts at
Gibson's birthday party.

Mildred Gibson

Letters to the Editor

August 7, 2008

To the Editor:

Being from Topeka, I enjoy reading the PBP newspaper. I miss receiving it on a monthly basis. I do understand the cut had to be made though. However, I cannot understand a lot of other cuts made that directly affect our elders, especially the CSP that assisted in utility, propane and health care costs. I understand that the kids who worked over the summer were hair tested for drugs. Being a former probation officer, I have a good idea of the cost of this procedure. I have also worked at the Limited Actions Docket held at the Expo-Centre here in Topeka where I saw tribal members who owed hospital bills. I see another \$80,000.00 was donated to outside organizations. When I see money spent like this when our own aren't properly looked after, it makes me wonder what happened to our morals/values as Native Americans. It seems we have learned the "white man's ways" well. I imagine our elders are feeling like our ancestors must have felt under the "supervision" of the "Indian Agents" of their time. It seems the "powers be" today are attempting to punish us "bad Indians" who dared to vote for the passing of the increase in per cap payments. I also wonder if some tribal members have been convinced, like those old "Indian Agents", that we cannot make important decisions for ourselves. This was shown by the vote not to let parents receive the per caps of their children. It seems most believe "these parents" aren't capable of handling this big a responsibility. I, person-

ally, don't believe an 18 year old is capable of handling this big of a responsibility.

My mom was on the council years ago. She wasn't paid \$50,000.00 a year, she was given a stipend and probably 3 cents per mile. She didn't have a "company car", a gas card, or a secretary. Yet, this group was instrumental in developing our present Constitution. She, and those who served with her gave of their time simply due to their dedication and genuine desire to do something good for their fellow tribal members.

The clinic and administrative buildings are beautiful structures, but I wonder how much money could have been saved if they were made more energy efficient. I would like to see us all come back to earth, remember who we are, shake those dollar signs out of our thinking and work harder to impress each other rather than trying to impress the outside world. I would like to see every senior citizen with a nice home with attached garage and a reliable car. They shouldn't have to worry about getting their utility or health bills paid, lawns mowed, snow shoveled, gardens plowed and planted and provided for with the latest in appliances. If I was able, I would volunteer to do some of this, I used to mow for the mowing assistance program here in Topeka and feel we need more volunteer organizations on the rez. Maybe these organizations can get a donation comparable to the \$15,000.00 donated to a "rubber duck" race.

Kevin Aitkens
735 SE Ridgeview Dr.
Topeka, KS 666099

Boz zho,

As a member of this band, I'd like to share with the readers of this newspaper some thoughts of mine. I'll begin with the idea of this band going Nation. It's my understanding that a handful of people made this decision to go Nation. I even called and talked to a Council member after learning I was now a member of a Nation. Although I don't recall his name, I did ask why and his response was "Well, it sounds better, or it sounds cool." Words to that effect!

When our great-grandfathers were forced from their lands and settled in Kansas, I believe one of the questions that came about was, "How will we be recognized?" And, I believe the chiefs or elders at that time looked around and decided that we will be recognized as the Prairie Band of Potawatomi. A simple yet wise decision. Now we're living into another century and grandiose thinking has crept in!!

I think about other nations of Indian peoples to the North in the Dakota territories like the Sioux Nation. They are a Nation, too, because a long time ago they knew that there was strength in numbers. They all banded together to be of one voice. On the eastern shores of this land is another Nation. And they are the Iroquois Nation. They too realized that there was strength in numbers and all their bands banded together to be of one voice. Another Nation that's located on the eastern shores is called the United Nations. This is a Nation of peoples from all over this world that came together to be of one voice. We are one band of Potawatomi that has become a Nation. There are many Potawatomi communities across this land until we come together with all these communities of Potawatomi, only then can we claim Nation status. No one band should claim to be a Nation on its own.

Me-gwetch
Bernard Daubon.

Editor's Note: The term Potawatomi was not edited and kept as the author requested.



Kamboŋtēk (Those who died)

Randy Dean Cahoon

Randy Dean Cahoon, 55, of rural Mayetta, died Thursday, July 3, 2008 at his home on the Potawatomi Reservation.

He was born March 20, 1953 at Topeka, the son of Earl and Opal Steward Cahoon. He graduated from Highland Park High School in 1973.

Randy was a U.S. Air Force veteran. He worked in security while in the Air Force serving in Little Rock, Arkansas and Thailand.

He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the American Legion.

He was an officer with the Holton Police Department for nine years, and worked in security for Washburn University and Harrah's Prairie Band Casino. He retired about ten years ago due to health reasons.

He married Tami Higbee. They were divorced.

Survivors include a son, Houston Cahoon, Topeka; a daughter, Holland Cahoon, Topeka; his mother and step-father, Virgel & Opal Slocum, Hoyt; his step-mother, Merci Cahoon, San Antonio; a sister, Kathy Knight, Hoyt; and nieces and nephews.

Cremation is planned. Graveside services with military honors will be 10:00 a.m. Monday, July 7th in the Hoyt Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association or the American Diabetes Association, and may be sent in care of the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, P.O. Box 280, Hoyt, KS 66440. On-line condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com.

(Courtesy of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, Hoyt, Kan.)

Lynda Sue Hinojosa

LADY LAKE-Lynda Sue Hinojosa, 49, passed away on Thursday, May 29, 2008 at her home. A lifelong homemaker, she was born in Holton, Kan. and moved here 20 years ago from Ogden, Kan. Lynda was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Kansas and was active in Relay for Life for cancer survivors in Lady Lake. She is survived by her husband of 22 years, Bob Hinojosa of Lady Lake; daughters, Stephanie Mzhickteno and Cheryl Anderson, both of Ocala; sons, Anthony Hart and Mark Mzhickteno of Lake Lake; sister, Alice Dexter of Ocala; and grandchildren, Clara, Briana, Marquot, Curtis, Brandon and Angelica. Funeral services will be held on Monday, June 2 at 3 p.m. at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, Ocala, with interment following in Forest Lawn Memory Gardens. Friends will be received on Sunday, June 1 from 4 to 8 p.m.

(Courtesy of Forest Lawn Funeral Home, Ocala, Fla.)

James Wamego, Jr.

MAYETTA- James Wamego, Jr. "Ni-bwa-kwa", 66, of Mayetta, Kan., died Saturday, July 5, 2008 at Rossville Valley Manor nursing home. He was born November 23, 1941 in Holton, Kan. the son of James and Edith Thompson Wamego. He attended Rock Brook Country School and Rossville High School. He worked construction in the Rossville and Mayetta communities. He was a member of Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church and Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. He is survived by his sister, Dorothy VanDeWiele of Topeka, KS and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brother, Algernon Wamego. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 9, 2008 at Our Lady of the Snows. Burial will be in Shipshew Cemetery. A rosary will be recited at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday evening at Sister Therese Klepac Hall. A wake will follow the rosary at the hall. He will lie in state until 4:00 p.m. Tuesday at the Mercer Funeral Home in Holton.

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home, Holton, Kan.)

Bernadette Osage

MAYETTA- Bernadette (Wapskishikwe) Cecelia Osage, 86, of Mayetta, Kan. passed away Monday, July 21, 2008 at Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka, Kan. She was born January 6, 1922 on the Potawatomi Reservation in Mayetta, Kan. the daughter of Francis and Dora Nah qua bah Kitchkommie.

She graduated from St. Paul's Indian Mission in Marty, S.D. in 1941 and also attended Haskell in Lawrence, Kan. She had lived in Topeka working as a CNA at SBA Hospital, St. Francis Hospital and later retired from Santa Fe Hospital. She lived in Oklahoma working as a home caregiver for many years. She moved back to Mayetta from Pawhuska, Okla. in 2002.

Mrs. Osage was a member of Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church and Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. She was also a member of American Legion Auxiliary Post #198 in Pawhuska, Okla.

She married Cirildo Miranda in 1942, he passed away in 1971. She later married Carl Osage in 1973, he passed away in 1998. She was also preceded in death by a sister, Ernestine McClain and brothers, LeRoy, Joseph, and Jacob Kitchkommie.

Survivors include five daughters, Anna Marie Wooten of Eureka, Calif., Carmen M. Matney of Big Fort, Mont., Angela Miranda of Topeka, Kan., Rosalie Wayne of Mayetta, Kan. and Monica Joan Miranda of Kansas City, Kan.; two sons, Ernest Miranda of Topeka, Kan. and Robert Miranda of Kansas City, Kan.; two sisters, Vivian Gonzales of Mayetta, Kan. and Ellen "Osh" Harris of Pawhuska, Okla.; two half brothers, David Lake of Mayetta, Kan. and Robert Kitchkommie of Topeka, Kan.; an adopted brother, Emery Hale of Mayetta, Kan.; 13 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m. Friday, July 25, 2008 at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church west of Mayetta. Burial will be in Shipshew Cemetery. Rosary will be recited 7:00 p.m. Thursday at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton, Kan. To leave a special message for the family, visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home, Holton, Kan.)

View these obituaries online
along with other

2008 Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation obituaries
under News/Press-Gambottek
at

www.pbpindiantribe.com



Bruce A. Walker

Bruce Alan Walker of Cuba, Mo. was born Tuesday, September 29, 1942 at Claremore, Okla. to the union of Luther and Augustine (nee: Spitto) Walker and left from this life on Tuesday, June 24, 2008 at Sullivan, Mo. at the age of 65 years 8 months and 25 days.

Bruce served in the United States Marine Corps from 28 June 1960 until 30 December 1963. He was united in marriage to Dorothy Valley on August 12, 1966 at St. Louis, Mo. and to this union six children were born: Merry, Donald, Sonya, Jonathan, Marc and Matthew.

Bruce worked as a laborer most of his life. He started out working for Daisy BB Gun Company for a few years before going to Crane Company. He worked at Emerson Electric in Rogers, Ark. and he also drove a truck for Willy Shaw Company. He completed his career at Dana Brake Company, Cuba, Mo.

Bruce was a full blooded American Indian. His father came from the Sac & Fox Nation Tribe located in Stroud, Okla. and his mother came from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribe located in Mayetta, Kan. In his spare time he enjoyed following his family heritage by making Indian crafts, necklaces and dream catchers. He enjoyed fishing, working crossword puzzles, his toy poodle "Lady Bug" and playing baseball with his wife and kids when they were young.

Bruce is preceded in death by his parents Luther and Augustine Walker, three children: Merry Augustine, Donald Alan and Matthew Joseph Walker, one granddaughter Nicole Walker and other relatives and friends.

Those who left to treasure his memory and to celebrate his life is his loving wife Dorothy Walker of Cuba, three children; Sonya and husband Gregory Ford of Cuba, Jonathan Wayne Walker of Springfield, Mo., and Marc Alan Walker and special friend Jo Ann Fortney of Morgantown, W. Va., one sister Geraldine Casey of Coolidge, Texas, ten grandchildren: Andrea Meador, Kody, Michael and Erick Ford, Jessica Ross, Brittaney and Lakota Walker, Alexandra and Jonathan Walker, Jr. and Robert Garrett and a host of nieces, nephews, other family members and friends.

Visitation is Thursday, June 26 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Britton Funeral Home of Cuba. Military honors service will be held at 10:45 a.m., Friday, June 27 at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, Jefferson Barracks, Mo. Honored to be serving as pallbearers are Kody Ford, Nathan Bowen, Greg Ford, Roy Shroder, Carol Skaggs, Joey Curtis and Lindsey Collins.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Walker family in care of Britton Funeral Home.

Britton Funeral Home of Cuba is honored to be serving the Walker family.

(Courtesy of Britton Funeral Home, Cuba, Miss.)

A memorial brick was recently purchased
for the Great Overland Station
by some Potawatomi elders who had the
initials of their first name engraved in the
brick.

The brick reads

Potawatomi
9 JLDJCJPJBS

The 9 are:

J.-Judy Wabaunsnee
L.-Lois Wabaunsnee
D.-Delores Porter
C.-Carolyn Moore
J.-Jay Mattwaoshshe
P.-Pat Keesis
J.-Julia Lewis
B.-Bernadette Lewis
G.-Geneva Upton

There is no death.
Only a change of worlds.
-Chief Seattle



The family members of
Bernadette Osage extends their
sincere appreciation to all friends
and relatives for the thoughtfulness
and prayers given during the pass-
ing of our loved one.

We are very grateful to be a part of
a caring community.

May God's blessings be on each of
you for your kind condolences in
our time of sorrow.

With sincere love and respect,
Osage, Miranda
and Kitchkommie family
members.

Minnie Rose Lewis Baker "Mickey"

Minnie Rose Lewis Baker "Mickey" (Ten-O-Qua), 67, of Stockton, Calif. died Sunday, June 22, 2008. She was born June 10, 1941 on the Potawatomi Reservation in Mayetta, Kan. to David Paul Lewis, Sr., (Chea-Qua) and Minnie Rose LaClair Lewis (Ten-O-Qua). She was the youngest of seven children. Minnie Rose Lewis married Robert Baker and they divorced. She is survived by two daughters, Linda Diane Baker Schambra, Sacramento, Calif. and Susan Marie Baker, Las Vegas, Nev. and a son, Robert Baker, Stockton, Calif. Her grandchildren are Tiffany Refuerzo, Andrea Brown, Stephanie Brown and Harris Baker. She has two great-grandchildren. Minnie is also survived by a sister Julia Ann Lewis, Mayetta, Kan. and a brother Peter Joseph Lewis of Hollytree, Ala. She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, Bill Edward Lewis, Francis John Lewis, and David Paul Lewis, Jr. and a sister Mary Lee Lewis Stone Cell.

A private memorial will be held on July 15, 2008 in Stockton, Calif. Lodi All Faiths Cremation is making the arrangements and Minnie's ashes will be spread over the family's home place on the Potawatomi reservation where she grew up during a ceremony to be announced at a later date.

Minnie attended Marty Indian (boarding) School, in South Dakota and worked for Kelly Assistant Living for 12 years. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and of the Catholic faith. She loved listening to Potawatomi church hymns, the drum, peyote songs and contemporary music. She loved roses, long walks and was best known for her sense of humor. Minnie will be missed by all of her family and friends.

Virgilene D. Pierson

HOLTON: Virgilene D. Pierson, 70, of Holton, Kan. died Sunday, August 17, 2008 at the Holton Community Hospital.

She was born March 28, 1938 at San Bernardino, Calif., the daughter of Virgil Clay and Thelma Darling Cooper and graduated from San Bernardino High School.

Virgilene was a member of the Lakeview Faith Chapel in Holton and a former member of the Clinton Parkway Assembly of God Church in Lawrence, Kan.. She was also a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

She was an in-home day care provider for many years.

Virgilene married Francis D. Pierson on November 24, 1967 at Las Vegas, Nev.. He survives the home.

Other survivors include two sons, Michael Edward Shupe and wife Becky, Wichita, Kan. and Shawn Winfred Shupe, in California; one daughter, Victoria Renee Beguelin and husband Scott, Uvalde, Texas; two brothers, Louis Cooper and Virgil Clay Cooper, both of Hesperia, Calif.; one sister, Mary Simmers, Hesperia, Calif.; six grandchildren, James, David & Timothy Shupe, Crystal & Calvin Smith, & Brittany Mayhugh, two step-grandchildren, Danielle & Elise Beguelin, and two great grandchildren, Skylar & Mekina Shupe.

Funeral Services will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, August 23rd at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Holton. Cremation will follow the service. Virgilene will lie in state Friday at the funeral home where family and friends will meet from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association and may be sent in care of the funeral home, P.O. Box 1034, Holton, KS, 66436. On-line condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com.

(Courtesy of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home-Holton, Kan.)



Community Notices and News

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites you to the annual

Haskell Reunion 2008

Oct. 31-Nov. 2
Holiday Inn
6200 N. Robinson Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK

Hotel Phone: 405.843.5558 or
1.800.682.0049

For more information contact
reunion co-chairs
Loretta Bradford, 918.341.5532 or
Flo Spotted Bear, 918.948.2505

NOTICE TO TRIBALLY-OWNED CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

The PBPB Purchasing Department seeks to engage tribally-owned contractors and vendors to fulfill our contracts whenever feasible.

Several large projects are on the horizon, and we hope to find Native-owned firms to serve as contractors and sub-contractors.

We encourage you to register with the purchasing office by submitting the following information: Name, Address, City, State, ZIP, Telephone, Fax, Email, FEIN (or Social Security Number), and type of business.

If you have questions please contact us in the near future to discuss what you can offer to the Nation:

PBPB Purchasing Department
Government Center
16281 Q Road,
Mayetta, KS 66509-8970
Fax: 785-966-3958

Barbara Smelter, 785.966.3970
BarbaraS@PBPBNation.org

Joe Mendez, 785.966.4038
JoeM@PBPBNation.org

Walter E. Racker IV, 785.966.3938
Walt@PBPBNation.org

MAYETTA PIONEER DAY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2008 MAIN STREET OF MAYETTA, KANSAS CELEBRATING MAYETTA'S 122nd BIRTHDAY

Welcome to our Community Wide Celebration 9 A.M. To 4 P.M.

Grand Marshals: Charles and Colene Jewell
Senior Queen: Mary Joan Britt
Prairie Band Potawatomi Elder Queen: Cecelia "Meeks" Jackson
WE TA SE Post 410 Color Guard
Music By: Ed Thompson Band 1 pm to 3 pm
(Bring your lawn chairs)

7 am-10 am—Biscuits and Sausage Gravy (at Mayetta Methodist Church)
9 am—Sign up for all games and contests (at the City Hall Building)
9 am—Silent Auction Items on Display (in Gazebo in Park)
9 am-4 pm—Flea Market opens, Food concessions- Indian Taco & much more
9:30 am—Turtle Races—Children 15 & under (bring your own Turtle)
10 am—Horseshoe Tournament—Entry Fee \$5.00—Beginners and Advanced Classes (behind City Hall)
10 am—Banana Eating Contest— for Children, ages 1-5, 6-11, 12-17
10:30 am—Jalapeno Eating Contest—Adult 18 yrs & up
11 am—Apple Dessert Contest—(ALL Entries in City Hall by 11 am, limit 2)
11 am—Washer Toss— for children
11:30 am—Apple Dessert Contest—Winners announced (at City Hall)
11:30 am—Grocery Cart Race for Adults
12 noon—Apple Dessert Auction—(in front of City Hall)
Box Lunches Auction—following Apple Dessert Auction (Dessert first, then Box lunch)
1 pm—Ed Thompson Band
1 pm—M & M Race for children
3 pm—PARADE—line up at Royal Valley Elementary School at 2:15 pm
4 pm—SILENT AUCTION—Winner's announced (MUST BE PRESENT)

CLEAN RESTROOMS
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS

Sponsored by:
MAYETTA PIONEER DAY ASSOCIATION, INC.
PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION
JACKSON COUNTY TOURISM COUNCIL

Come see
Cecelia "Meeks" Jackson
2008 Prairie Band Potawatomi
Elder Queen



and
the
We-Ta-Se
Color Guard
in the



16th Annual Mayetta Pioneer Day's Parade Saturday, October 4, 3 p.m.

Apple dessert contest, 11 a.m. and other fun things to do.
For more information call Judy Darnell at 785.966.2710

Concession
stand
by
LaVerne
Hale

It's time for another Community Talent Show

Shows: November 6 & 7
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Rock (Community) Bldg.

\$3 per person each night

(must be 35 years or older, have a CDIB card, be
dependable, and have own equipment
to enter contest)

Call Julia Lewis, 785.966.2182 for details

Do you have a veteran whose name needs to be added to the Veterans Memorial Wall in Prairie Peoples Park?

Send veteran's discharge papers (DD214) and tribal enrollment number
by October 24, 2008 to the We-Ta-Se American Legion Post #410
Department, 15434 K Rd., Mayetta, KS 66509.

Veterans names to be added to the Memorial Wall for 2008

- Berry, Timothy G., Vietnam
- Eteeyan, Archie, WW II
- Stewart, Clyde E. WWII
- Johnson, Michael L., US Army

There are a total of 371 names on the wall.



We-Ta-Se Department Staff

Frank Shopteese, Senior Liaison
eml: Franciss@pbpnation.org
Jim Potts, Liaison
eml: JimD@pbpnation.org

Phone: 785.966.2580 Fax: 785.966.9853

Upcoming We-Ta-Se events

Oct. 4
Nov. 10-11
Nov. 15
Dec. 17

Pioneer Days, Mayetta, Kan.
Veterans Day Ceremony/Walmart, Bentonville, Ark.
11th Annual Veterans Day Pow-Wow, Holton, Kan.
We-Ta-Se Annual Awards Ceremony, Topeka, Kan.



Make your favorite apple dessert
and enter it on
Mayetta Pioneer Day, Oct. 4

•2 dessert limit per person
•entry deadline at 11 a.m. at Mayetta
City Hall
•winners announced at 11:30 a.m.
all desserts auctioned off at noon.
Call 785.966.2710 for details

Fresh produce for sale
at the
Jackson County
Farmer's Market

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Located south of Nation Station
in parking lot

(Market will be open until
the end of October)

Call 785.966.2127 for details

National young golf champions crowned

The First Nations Golf Association (FNGA) conducted the National Native Youth Golf and Open Championships at Winstar Golf Course in Thackerville, Okla. August 19-21, 2008.

The team from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation was successful as Josie Stevenson won the national championship in the Girl's 12 and under Thunderbird Division shooting a score of 88. Mittina Hale finished second in the same division with a score of 93 and Sierra Pahmahmie closely followed her in third place with a score of 96.

Alex McDonald, a junior at Topeka High, won the Boy's 15-16 Hawk Division by scoring 79. The tournament was a part of the national championship week conducted by the FNGA and hosted by the Chickasaw Nation. Rain hampered the first day of play as tee-times were pushed back to allow the maintenance crew enough time to prepare the golf course for play after the heavy rains.

The wet conditions did not stop the FNGA National Golf Career Fair and Junior Golf Clinic. Youth participants had the chance to learn about different opportunities that are available in the golf field. Booths were set up and business professionals from the Winstar Golf Resort, PGA of America,

Ha-Sho-Be Golf, LLC, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, the FNGA, and the Toro Golf Equipment Company were on hand to talk to the youth about possible careers in the golf industry.

Afterward, Prairie Band Potawatomi tribal member and 25-year PGA member Steve McDonald hosted the Youth Golf Clinic where youth participants learned about hitting straight driver and high iron shots. They also learned how to control the trajectory and distance when hitting their wedge shot approaches into the green.

The second and final round of play was cancelled due to the lightning and thunderstorms that were in the area. So the first round leaders we crowned National Champions at the awards luncheon. Mario Kitchkommie, Recreation Director for the Boys & Girls Club, took two of the golfers to Oklahoma and Chris and Joann Stevenson, and Steve McDonald also assisted the young golfing group.

A photo of the PBPB winners in the
Girl's 12 & under National
Championship is on page 9.

About the First Nations Golf Association and Steve McDonald

The FNGA is a non-profit 501 c-3 that promotes the game of golf to First Nations across North America. Besides raising money for their Foundation, which gives out higher education scholarships to tribal members, establishing golf handicaps for members and conducting youth golf clinics on reservations, the FNGA conducts a series of Professional Golf Tournaments. With over sixty members of the FNGA Professional Tour representing more than 70 tribes the FNGA Tour has established itself as a great developmental tour for Indian players to showcase their skills and hone their games. The FNGA Tour plays it's tournaments on tribal owned golf course across the United States. Steve McDonald, a PBPB member, has won four times on the Tour and recently won two tournaments in a row before playing in the FNGA Open at Winstar where he finished in a tie for second with a score of 3 under par 213 for 54 holes.

McDonald is also a partner in an all-Indian owned golf management company called Ha-Sho-Be Golf, LLC, an all-Indian-owned company that works mainly with tribes across the United States by conducting feasibility studies, market analysis, environmental studies and business plans. Ha-Sho-Be Golf, LLC assists tribes with golf course design/builds and has completed work for the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and is presently under contract with the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Entrepreneur Spotlight on

Greg and JoAnne
Shopteese
owners of
**G&J's Dragons
and Gifts**
2201 SW Gage Blvd.
Topeka, KS
785.273.0284
Open 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

By Suzanne Heck

Tribal member Greg Shopteese and his wife, JoAnne, have recently opened G&J's Dragons and Gifts in Topeka, Kan.

The store sells Native American artifacts, jewelry and curio gifts and also has dragon and fairy gifts. A large line of t-shirts are also available for sale.

The Shopteeses' moved to Kansas last year from Amarillo, Texas where the couple both worked for many years at Wal-mart. They had always wanted to open their own store and after moving to Kansas decided that now was the time.

Greg said that he had always been interested in Native American artifacts and jewelry and that most of the Indian items in the

store are from the Southwest.

Joanne, on the other hand, had always been interested in magic and dragons. "I've always been fascinated with dragons and fairies ever since I was a child," she said. "We have a variety of dragons to choose from."

She said that she is also selective about the vendors that the store does business with. For instance, she said that they sell only licensed fairy statues and products.

The store has proved to be a popular draw with teenagers who like to come in to see what latest dragons the store has on its shelves.

The store is also one of a handful in the area where authentic Indian jewelry can be purchased year round.



Above, are Joanne and Greg Shopteese who opened up G&J's Dragons and Gifts in June. The store has two rooms full of Native American and dragon gifts for sale and is located in Topeka, Kan.