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Prairie Band Potawatomi News

Summer 2008 EDITION

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center is top notch Awarded Joint Commission Accreditation

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center received the Gold Seal of Approval with full Ambulatory Care Accreditation from the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO) on May 30.

"It required a total team effort by our entire staff to achieve Joint Commission Accreditation," said John Holtz, Clinic Administrator. "We dedicated more than a year of preparation and training to focusing on meeting the rigorous accreditation standards." He thanked, on behalf of the clinic staff, all the members of the Health Board and Tribal Council for their encouragement and support throughout the Joint Commission process.

Holtz said that receiving Joint Commission Accreditation is a major

accomplishment and that the Prairie Band Potawatomi Clinic is one of the few tribal ambulatory programs in the country that has ever achieved the Joint Commission Accreditation status.

The accreditation award is valid for three years. During that time, the clinic will be required to maintain its standards of compliance to be ready for an unannounced follow-up visit from the Joint Commission staff who will conduct a comprehensive on-site survey sometime in the future.

JCAHO is a private, not-for-profit organization long recognized as the predominant accrediting body of health care organizations and programs in the United States.

Benefits of Joint Commission Accreditation

- Strengthening community confidence in the quality and safety of care, treatment and services
- Focusing on continuously helping the health care organization improve the safety and quality of care, which can reduce the risk of error
- Helping organize and strengthen patient safety efforts
- Providing education on good practices to improve business operations
- Providing professional advice and counsel and enhancing staff education
- Enhancing recruitment of personnel and also providing opportunities for staff to develop their skills and knowledge
- Assisting the organization in maintaining a high-level of quality and compliance with the latest standards

Tribal Council/Ethics Commission election coming up!

Fifteen people are vying for four seats on the Tribal Council and four others have filed for one of six seats available on the newly formed Ethics Commission to be voted on in the Tribal Council/Ethics Commission Election to be held Saturday, July 26.

Mail in ballots will be picked up from the Mayetta, Kan. Post Office at 9 a.m. and tabulated in an open meeting for the tribal membership at the Bingo Hall.

The Ethics Commission, designed to deal with the ethical responsibilities of officials, is part of a newly formed judicial process that was formed as a result of six amendment changes to the PBP Constitution voted in last November in a BIA Secretarial Election. Other changes are having candidates win by majority vote or a run-off election will be held, changing the election date to a Saturday, and having Tribal Council Person candidates declare their intent for a particular member seat.

Tribal Council positions open in this election are for Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Council Person #2, and Council Person #3. Individuals who have declared are: Vice-Chairperson- Joyce Guerrero, Jackie Mitchell, and Mamie Wahwassuck Rupnicki; Treasurer-Ryan Dyer;

Council Person #2-Rencie Eteeyan, Chago Hale, Peggy A. Nioce Houston, and Francis T. Shopteese, Jr., and Council Person #3-Ann DeCoteau, Dale Delg, Vernon L. Mzhickteno, Carrie O'Toole, Jona Rupnicki, James Wabaunsee (Nabby) and Josette Wahwasuck.

Ethics Commission positions open in this election are for Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Commissioner #1, Commissioner #2, and Commissioner #3. Members who have filed are: Chairperson-Shirley Trull; Vice-Chairperson-Trilby Wahwasuck; Secretary-Virginia LeClere, and Commissioner #1-Frank Tecumseh. There are no candidates for Commissioner #2 or Commissioner #3.

Ballots were mailed to registered voters Friday, June 13. All ballot distribution packages contain a pre-addressed return envelope for mailing ballots back to the Election Board.

If a Run-off Election is necessary, it will be held four weeks following the election.

For more information contact the Elections Board at 785.966.3910 or 3911 or toll free at 785.715.6789.

Voter Guide supplement inside!

Tribal Council/Ethics Commission candidate profiles and photos are listed with other important election information

or log on to the
new PBP website

www.pbpindiantribe.com

for candidate profiles and lots more
about the PBP

PBP receive national Federal Highway Administration award for pedestrian/bicycle trail

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBP) was honored with a national 2007 Exemplary Human Environment Initiatives Award from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on June 4 in Tribal Council chambers.

Tim Ramirez, Director of Public Works, was on hand, along with members of the Tribal Council, to accept the award from FHWA Kansas representative David LaRoche and Karen M. Gilbertson from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT).

LaRoche said that he was happy to present the award to the PBP which has produced a model pedestrian/bicycle trail that other tribes and state groups are replicating.

The project consists of a 2.1 mile asphalt trail that is now under construction by the PBP's Division of Road & Bridge. It is located ½ mile south of 158 & K Road to ½ mile south of 158 and M Road on the reservation. When finished, the trail will connect some of the housing clusters and the K-Road work complex and will offer a recreational transportation facility for the community.

The award falls under the FHWA category of "process improvements" that is designed to support and measure FHWA's environmental stewardship responsibilities and responsiveness to the needs of communities.



Tribal Council with Director of Public Works Tim Ramirez, third from left, and FHWA representative David LaRoche, fourth from left, and KDOT representative Karen M. Gilbertson, far right. Tribal Council members are James Wabaunsee, far left, and Jackie Mitchell who is next to James. Rey Kitchkumme is holding the award and Jim Potter is on Rey's right from the camera's view.

According to Deb Miller, Kansas Secretary of Transportation, the unique cooperative agreement between the PBP, KDOT and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has benefited all parties and is serving as a model on which other agreements can be written.

Much of the trail has already been completed between a couple of the housing clusters and Prairie Peoples Park.



Left: The new trail looking south along M Road from Prairie Peoples Park.

Soap Box Derby Pit Crew



PBP celebrated Earth Day on April 20 at Prairie Peoples Park and the children above were having fun hamming it up for the camera right before the soap box derby event took place.

Meet Dave Albrecht the new Prairie Band Casino & Resort General Manager



Dave Albrecht began his duties as General Manager of the Prairie Band Casino & Resort on April 2.

His previous work experience includes being Senior Vice President, General Manager of Ameristar Casinos in Missouri, Iowa and Nevada and he has over 20 years of corporate management experience including golf course operations.

He replaces Dan Kennedy who left his position last September.



Next
PBP
Election
Saturday, July 26
Bingo Hall

Learn what's new on the
Shab-eh-ney land project
at the next General Council meeting
scheduled for July 19

PBP Government Offices also closed on
Friday, July 4

Oral arguments heard by Kansas State Supreme Court on expanded gaming

Attorneys and some Tribal Council members from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBP) attended the oral arguments heard in front of the Kansas Supreme Court of May 14 regarding the state's plan to own and operate their own casinos.

The PBP is opposed to the state's plan and expects a decrease in the market share of the Prairie Band Casino & Resort should expanded gambling be allowed.

During the court session a primary argument voiced was how the terms "owned and operated" should be interpreted in regards to the Kansas Lottery, which is the gaming arm of the state. Opponents believe that the projected state-owned and operated casinos planned by the Legislature extend beyond the limits of the Kansas Lottery definition regarding gaming that has been in effect since 1994.

The State is looking into operat-

ing four destination casinos and slot machines at horse and dog tracks that are planned for Wyandotte, Sumner, Ford and Cherokee counties.

The expanded gaming bill was passed in April 2007 and shortly after that time Gov. Kathleen Sebelius asked the Kansas Attorney General's office to file a lawsuit to ensure a clear opinion on the constitutionality of the law. The lawsuit was filed in August and was thrown to Shawnee County District Court who ruled on February 1 that the law was constitutional. It was then appealed to the Kansas Supreme Court.

The PBP Tribal Council issued a public statement shortly after the District Court's ruling that the state would not really own or operate anything which was a statement also emphasized in the oral arguments.

The Court did not say when they would issue a ruling.



Message to the Nation from Steve Ortiz, Tribal Council chair

During the first and second quarter of 2008, Tribal Council has been busy working out the agreement between the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBP) and Dekalb County Commissioners on the economic development venture of a Class II Bingo Hall on the Shab-eh-nay land purchased in Illinois. This agreement was voted on and passed by the PBP General Council in the January 2008 meeting and voted on and passed by the Dekalb County Commissioners in their February 2008 meeting. Tribal Council is now finalizing a time line for completing all actions and agreements needed to start construction of a facility. The Township and Village of Shabbona and their sheriff are now seeking an agreement with the PBP concerning roads, water, and sewage for the facility and police protection. A further update on this project will be given at the July 19 PBP General Council meeting.

In other business:

- The Tribal Council has reviewed the current burial plan and has voted to increase burial plan from \$5,000 to \$6,000 effective March 1, 2008.
- Tribal Council has approved reviewing the Judicial System (Court System and Tribal Police operation). The newly created position of Tribal Public Defender for the Court system will be posted soon.
- The June 15, 2008 4 percent per capita payment was paid out back to vote count in February 2008 of Option 1 approval for the Revenue Allocation Plan. Future per capita payments will be based on 3-month period.
- Kansas expanded gaming efforts have been stalled by several months due to a lawsuit filed by the Kansas Attorney General concerning outside managers for the Kansas casinos and selection of casino operators for the four gaming facilities. Selection of operators will conclude in September of 2008. At this point it is still up in the air as to whether their will be slots at the dog tracks due to the new casinos taking away business from the dog tracks.
- Tribal Council and tribal government managers and employees have done an excellent job of managing their budgets and expenditures during the first and second quarters of 2008 to meet the expected pay out increase in per capita. Tribal employment remains at 200 plus jobs even after budget cuts. A call back policy has been developed by the Human Resources Department. Employees began in June 2008 contributing to their healthcare benefit coverage.
- Tribal Council approved travel for the chair to go to Washington, D.C. last January 30 and 31 to meet with Assistant Secretary Carl Artman and other tribal leaders concerning a project called Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Modernization. The Assistant Secretary of Interior is seeking input and involvement from all 562 federally recognized tribes to reorganize the BIA. The Assistant Secretary opened the meeting by stating he had no predetermined plan and was seeking input on functions provided by the BIA and placement of employees throughout the regions. Regional meetings with tribes concerning Modernization were held previously to the

Washington, D.C. meeting. Tribal leaders are concerned that this project will be difficult to complete by the end of the Bush administration. Further meetings will be held in the next quarter. Later, after a Modernization meeting held in Albuquerque, N.M. on April 24, an announcement was made that Assistant Secretary Carl Artman had resigned from his position and that his duties would be assigned to George Skibine, Head of the Office of Indian Gaming Management. In other travel I attended the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) meeting in San Diego from April 20-23 and expressed concerns about the National Indian Gaming Commission's (NIGC) intent to post regulations to revamp Class II Bingo machines. A resolution was passed opposing the changes and NIGA would express these concerns to the NIGC. On May 19-21 I traveled to Kansas City to meet with the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health officials to express concerns about Native American healthcare issues for those living on reservations and in urban areas. Lastly, Tribal Council held a town hall meeting with members living in Wisconsin and States around Wisconsin on May 31 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.

- Tribal Council has completed interviewing the individual recommended for the Casino General Manager position and David Albrecht was hired for the General Manager Prairie Band Casino. David was introduced at the April 19 General Council meeting.
- Tribal Council and General Council approved the completion of paving I-Road & 158th to the Our Lady of Snows parking lot. Work is now under way.
- Tribal Council has sworn in and approved the members of the Enrollment Committee and looks forward to working with them. Elections are under way for four Tribal Council positions that are vice-chair, treasurer, council person #2, and council person #3, and Ethics Commission (six positions) to be voted on in July. Two Ethics Commission positions remain open and unfilled. Expect a possible run-off vote. Candidates must win by 50 percent plus one vote of those voting.
- Lastly, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Health Center has achieved Accreditation from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. A lot of great effort and work by PBP health facility management and employees has gone into achieving this recognition and accreditation. The Tribal Council and PBP Health Board have been supportive of this effort. Congratulations to everyone.

Steve Ortiz (Mon-wah)

Tribal Chairman

New website showcases Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

A new Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBP) website full of colorful photographs and up-to-date information is now available for Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation members to enjoy.

For the past few months Jackie Mitchell, Tribal Council member, and other employees and members of the Nation have been collecting information for the site. Photographs and data about the PBP government, tribal departments and programs and lots of other information are now available online along with contemporary and historical photo galleries of Potawatomi people and events.

The website is divided into several sections including those on history and culture, government, housing, and education, to name a few. In addition, the website has been designed to keep members informed on current events with a News and Press section, Calendar of Events page and a listing of current job openings that are available through the PBP Human Resources Department.

Tribal members can also access the PBP Constitution, the PBP Nation's phone list and have questions answered through a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page or Contact Us page.

There is also a page dedicated to linking to tribal members' websites and the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

A second phase being planned for the new website will allow for the *Potawatomi News* to post photographs and have more sections of news coverage.

Log on to www.pbpindiantribe.com

PBP government news

Nancy Boyda holds "Congress on your Corner" meeting at PBP Bingo Hall

Nancy Boyda, Congresswoman in Kansas' Second District hosted a Jackson County "Congress on Your Corner" meeting at the Bingo Hall April 5.

Boyda met with approximately 15 people in an informal meeting that included Tribal Council Chair Steve Ortiz and Secretary Jim Potter.

Tribal members who attended the meeting asked Boyda what she knew about Indian issues and how she felt about health care.

Other issues discussed at the

meeting came from other Jackson County residents who were there and asked Rep. Boyda about immigration and veterans rights.

Boyda also said that she would be willing to speak at the Firekeepers Elder Center in the future and she concluded her meeting by requesting to her staff to set up a meeting soon.

The Jackson County meeting was one of 26 stops that Congresswoman Boyda made this year in the Second District as a way for her to visit one-on-one with constituents in the district.



LEFT: Congresswoman Nancy Boyda, third from left, posing with some PBP tribal members who attended the "Congress on your Corner" meeting. Left to right is Barbara Tims, Juanita Jessepe, Rep. Boyda, Steve Ortiz, Theresa Asselin and Linda Yazzie.



Farewell for David Hogner of IHS

David Hogner, the former Environmental Health Officer at the Indian Health Services (IHS) office in Holton, Kan. was feted with a farewell luncheon at the Bingo Hall March 28.

All four tribes in Kansas sent representatives to honor David with speeches and gifts at the luncheon.

PBP Chairman Steve Ortiz opened the ceremony by welcoming everyone and then present-

ing David with a Pendleton blanket as a thank you from the tribe. Other PBP Tribal Council members were also present at the ceremony.

David had worked in Holton since 1994 and was leaving that office to work in Okmulgee, Oklahoma where he was promoted to the regional IHS office. He was scheduled to begin his position in April.



LEFT: Steve Ortiz, PBP chairman, with David Hogner.



RIGHT: L to R: Ricky Harjo, David, Mary Belle Patterson and Barbara Tims who all worked together in the IHS Holton Office for several years.



LEFT: David Hogner in the center after receiving another Pendleton blanket from Kickapoo leaders Cheryl Simon, left, and Steve Cadue, right.



RIGHT: Evan Barr, who works for PARR House, played his flute to open the ceremony.

Walpole Island First Nations visits PBP to promote Gathering

RIGHT: Representatives from Walpole Island First Nations who are hosts of this year's Potawatomi Gathering in Canada, stopped by the reservation in May to meet the PBP. Tribal Council members gave them a tour and held a luncheon at the Bingo Hall where they visited with other PBP. The representatives were on tour to visit all the Potawatomi Bands to invite them to the Gathering which will take place in August. In the photo are members of the Tribal Council and Meeks Jackson, seventh from left, who exchanged speaking Potawatomi with one of the guests.



To contact the
PBP Tribal Government
log on to
www.pbpindiantribe.com
or write to
16281 Q Road
Mayetta, KS 66509
or call toll free
1.877.715.6789 or
1.785.966.4000



Congratulations to Alan "Boney" Pahmahmie who was named the 2008 Environmental Hero award by the Department of Planning & EPA at Earth Day.

K-State environmental land experts visit PBPB



Two professors from Kansas State University made a visit to the PBPB on April 11 and offered advice in a meeting with tribal leaders, employees and tribal members regarding the buffalo restoration program. In the photo above from left to right are Ryan Dyer, Jim Shane, Roy Ogden, Angie Wahweotten, Walter H. Fick, Associate Professor in Range Management at Kansas State University, Alan (Boney) Pahmahmie, Charles J. Barden, Associate Professor, Extension Forester at Kansas State University and Barb Cornelius. Earlier that day Professor Barden presented some red elm trees to members of the Tribal Council who watched as Public Works employees planted two of the trees near the Government Center.



Photo by Sharon Bosse

John Crites retires from Finance Department



John Crites cutting his farewell cake in Tribal Council chambers on his last day.

Former Director of Finance John Crites retired from the PBPB on March 28 and was feted with a department potluck luncheon followed by ice cream and cake in Tribal Council chambers. John began working for the PBPB in 1997 and was instrumental in developing a general ledger system and computerized accounting system. He also supervised the Finance Department while at the PBPB and had a staff of 23 that moni-

tored 100 budgets. He was a member of the Advisory Board of the Native American Finance Officers Association and appointed to the 2003 International Who's Who of Professionals. He is now president of Toby's Inc., a tailgating, outdoor, and backyard store in Topeka. Audrey Oliverius was named Controller of Finance.

News makers



Jim Potter was elected president of the Jackson County Development Corporation (JCDC) in February. Jim is also president of the Mayetta Business Association and secretary of the PBPB Tribal Council.



Arlene Wahwasuck was given an award by the Kansas Department Health and Environment Center for Health Disparities (KDHE) for her work in helping American Indians with health-related issues. She worked professionally in Indian health for over 20 years and has continued to stay active as a volunteer since her retirement.



Jim Potts was elected to the American Legion Department of Kansas First District Executive Committee last spring. The First District includes ten counties in northeast Kansas. Jim is a liaison in the We-Ta-Se Department and also serves as the We-Ta-Se Post #410 Commander.

This just in!

Prairie Band Casino & Resort will take over managing Nation Station Convenience Store on July 1, 2008

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation donates to 'The Reading'

As part of its 2nd quarter charitable contribution awards, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation gave a large donation to "The Reading" an event that called out the names of fallen veterans held in Topeka on June 14. In the photo from L to R: are Karon Cook and Reuben Sullivan who accepted the check on behalf of "The Reading" and Jim Potter, Steve Ortiz, Mary Carr, Wanda Treinen (next to check), Jim Potts, Francis Shopteese and Laveria Bell all from the PBPB.



Our Lady of the Snows holds historic event when Potawatomi members Archbishop Charles Chaput and Deacon Scott Aikens celebrate mass



It was a special day for Our Lady of the Snows church leaders when Archbishop Charles Chaput and Deacon Scott Aiken celebrated mass at the church on April 13.

Both Chaput and Aiken are PBPB members and came to celebrate mass that day with other regional clergy including Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann, Father Duane Reinert, and Father Richard Halvorson.

Chaput is originally from Concordia, Kan. and still has family residing on the reservation. Aiken is the son of Inez (Nioce) Aiken.

Chaput has been with the Archdiocese of Denver since 1997 and is one of three Native American bishops in the United States.

Aiken is from Vancouver, Washington and works in natural resource management. He is married with four children and has been preparing to become a Deacon in the church since 2003.

Several weeks of planning went into the historic event that involved a luncheon and presentation of gifts by members of the Tribal Council and others.

Our Lady of the Snows Church has been operating since 1915 and the roots of the Catholic Potawatomi goes back to the 1670s.

Special thanks to
Arlene Lingo
Delores Abrams
and
Roy Hale



Above, with his back to the camera, is Milt LeClair shaking hands with Archbishop Charles Chaput. Seated next to Milt are Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Tuckwin. Following the mass during a potluck dinner Cornelia Donahue recited the "Hail Mary" in Potawatomi. At that time she was also planning to recite the prayer again at a Global Living Rosary event at Kauffman Stadium to be held in Kansas City on May 25.



Left to right are Tribal Council Vice Chairman Rey Kitchkumme and Chairman Steve Ortiz after presenting Pendleton blankets as gifts to Archbishop Chaput and Deacon Scott Aiken on April 13 at Our Lady of the Snows Church.



Archbishop Charles Chaput, OFM Cap. with Arlene Lingo.

1st Quarter Charitable Contributions gives to Sertoma Club Duck Race



The Sertoma Club of Topeka Duck Race received \$15,000 as part of the PBPB 1st quarter charitable contributions donations in a brief ceremony held April 11 in the Government Center lobby. In the photo, left to right, is Wanda Treinen, Frank Tecumseh, and LaVera Bell who are on the Charitable Contributions Committee and Vice Chairman Rey Kitchkumme who is holding the check. The other check holder on the right is Bill Riphahn of the Sertoma Club and with him are two other unidentified representatives.

(photo submitted by Wanda Treinen)

1st Quarter 2008 Charitable Contributions

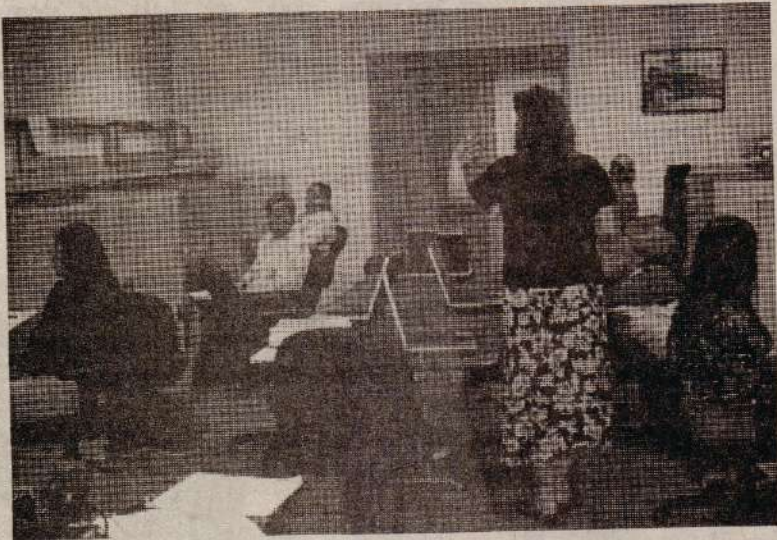
•Royal Valley High School (After Prom)	\$ 500
•Topeka Jazz Workshop Youth	2,500
•Family Service & Guidance Center	2,500
•Big Brothers Big Sisters	5,000
•Doorstep Inc	5,000
•Hiawatha USD 415	2,500
•Topeka Community Foundation	4,000
•Friends of the Kaw	5,000
•Delia Charter School	546
•Mayetta Area Business Assoc.	500
•Stormont Vail Foundation	10,000
•Kaw Area Technical School	2,000
•Our Lady of Snows	8,000
•Midland Hospice Care	5,000
•American Cancer (Relay for Life)	1,000
•Discovery School-Montessori Preschool	500
•Kah-Bay-Kah-Nong Inc	2,500
•NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health of Kansas)	3,500
•Project Kindle	2,000
•Sertoma Club Duck Race of Topeka	15,000
•Special Olympics Shawnee Co	2,000
•March of Dimes (Ladies for a Cause)	500
Total	\$80,046



People and Places



Above are some Kansas state firefighters who gave a standing ovation to the Royal Valley Singers & Dancers after the dancers performed as a kick off to the Kansas State Firefighters Association's 120th Annual Conference. The Conference was held April 23-26 at Prairie Band Casino & Resort and was hosted by the Potawatomi Fire Department.



Above is Paula Will, an instructor at Kaw Area Technical School, who taught a day-long training on Better Business Writing to employees and tribal members. The course was offered through the PBPB Education Department on April 30 and is one of several that they offer throughout the year as a means of helping employees and others improve their work.

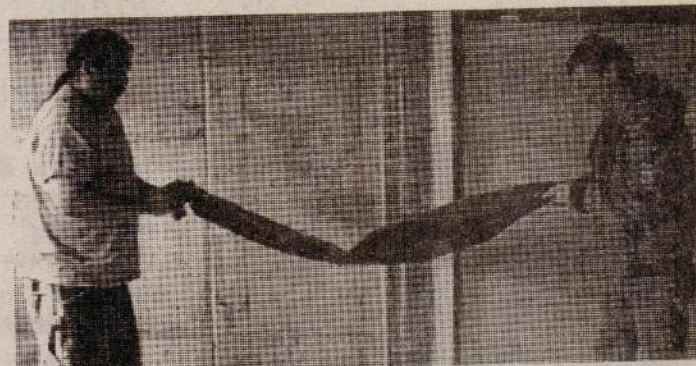


Sierra Pahmahmie is reigning this year as the 2008-2009 We-Ta-Se Princess.

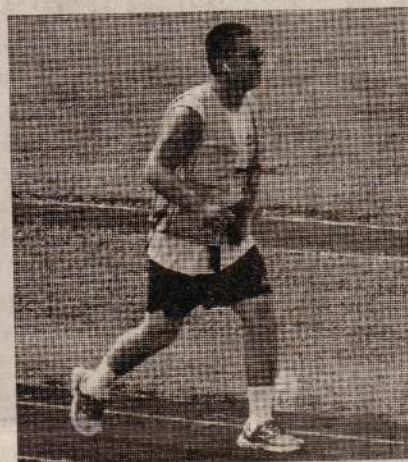


A Flag Retirement Ceremony was held on June 11 at Prairie Peoples Park. Seen above carrying flags are Glenn Levier, left, and Andy Mitchell, right. The ceremony is a military ritual that allows for flags to be disposed of properly. We-Ta-Se Post American Legion #410 conducts the annual ceremony that is usually scheduled on or near Flag Day.

Public Works employees complete wildlands training



ABOVE: Charles Nez and Ronnie Hester in one of the classes.
BELOW: Jonathon Melchoir during the final physical fitness test.



Nine tribal employees who work in Public Works successfully passed a Wildlands Fire Course (130) that was taught by Melvin Lewis of the Potawatomi Fire Department. The course taught the individuals to become basic wildland firefighters and involved 4 1/2 days of training and a physical fitness test.

(Special thanks to Micki Martinez)

For more PBPB photo galleries and images visit
www.pbpindiantribe.com



Above are Randy Mitchell, left, and Dustin Francis, right, who were at the Boys & Girls Club recently putting in some flower beds out front. The two men are working on a community improvement grant secured through the Department of Planning and Environmental Protection this summer. Plans call for developing a large community garden near the Lands Building on K Road if it ever stops raining.

Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Conference
hosted by
Potawatomi Tribal Police Department

April 20-22, 2008
Prairie Band
Casino & Resort



ABOVE: Chief of Police Sam Grant gave the introduction at the conference.
LEFT: Participants stand for the We-Ta-Se Color Guard entry.

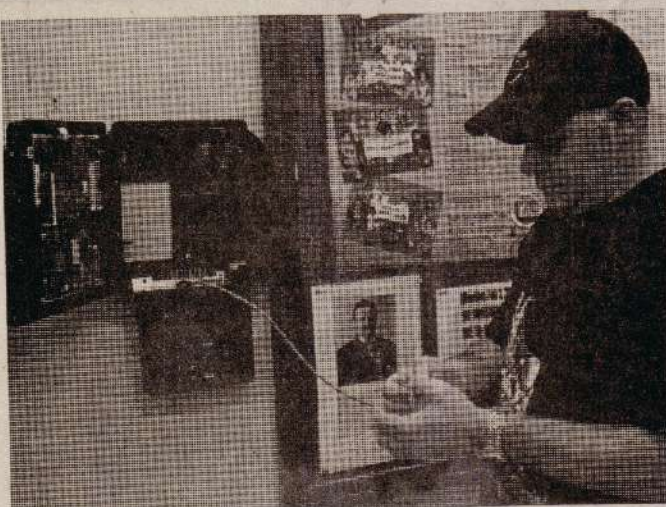


Commodities/Food Distribution Program staffed and ready to go



ABOVE: Left to right are Commodities staff members Tracy Rogers and Angie Hester putting some dry goods away in the store room that is located in the Commodities Building on K Road. Earlier that day a big truck load of foods from the United States Department of Agriculture had been delivered from Miami, Okla. Tracy's office is in the Commodities Building located at 15189 K Road. To learn more about the commodities program call Tracy at 785.966.2718.

Workin for a livin!



ABOVE: Ben Joslin, director of Information Technology (IT), installing an updated Kronos time clock in the We-Ta-Se building. Kronos is an automatic time system that monitors employee work time. The Human Resources and Finance Departments have been updating the Kronos system for the past few months and Maintenance and IT are now installing the clocks at various buildings on the reservation.



LEFT: Patrick Mills, Aquatics Coordinator, watches Nathan Hale, Assistant Director of the Boys & Girls Club, as he was unloading some chemicals for the indoor swimming pool on the day that this photo was taken.



ABOVE: Tom Jim of the Public Works Division seen shoveling dirt unearthed from a Ditch Witch rig. John Rupnicki (not in the photo) was driving the rig. The two men were working on repairs of the Boys & Girls Club when this photo was taken on April 14.

RIGHT: Charles Nez, a PBPB member and Maintenance employee acted as a judge when the Soap Box Derby race was held on PBPB's Earth Day in Prairie Peoples Park on April 20.



Start saving those recycled materials to build your soap box car for next year's derby being planned for Earth Day.



174 animals received rabies shots during the Annual Rabies Clinic held June 7 at the Tribal Police Dept.



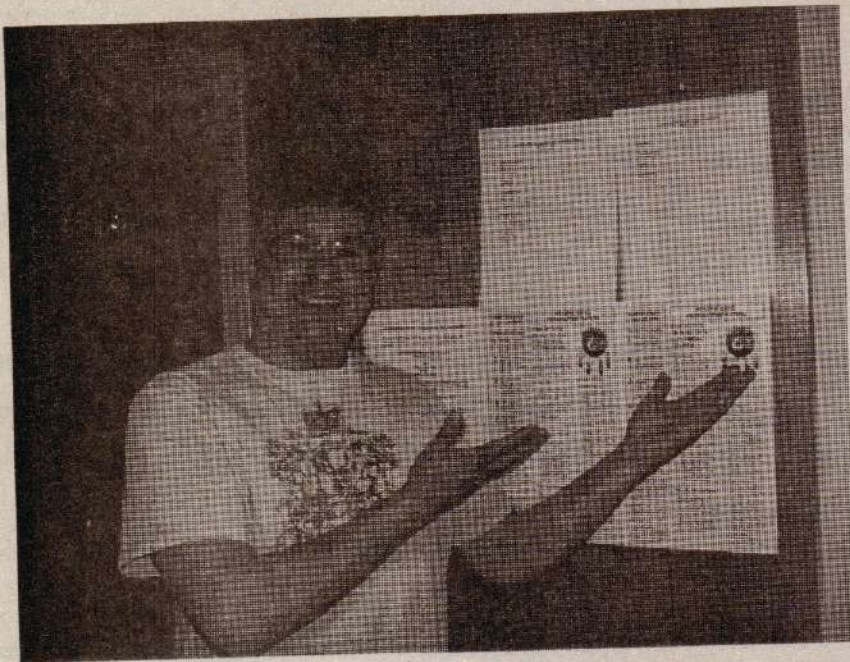
ABOVE: Chuck Jacobson testing out a riding lawn mower during Lowe's Customer Appreciation Day in Topeka on April 18. Chuck works in the Maintenance Division of Public Works.



ABOVE: John Levier working inside the Road & Bridge building located on K-Road.

BELOW: Mike Shobney and Robbie Griffith working on a car in the transportation bay of Public Works.

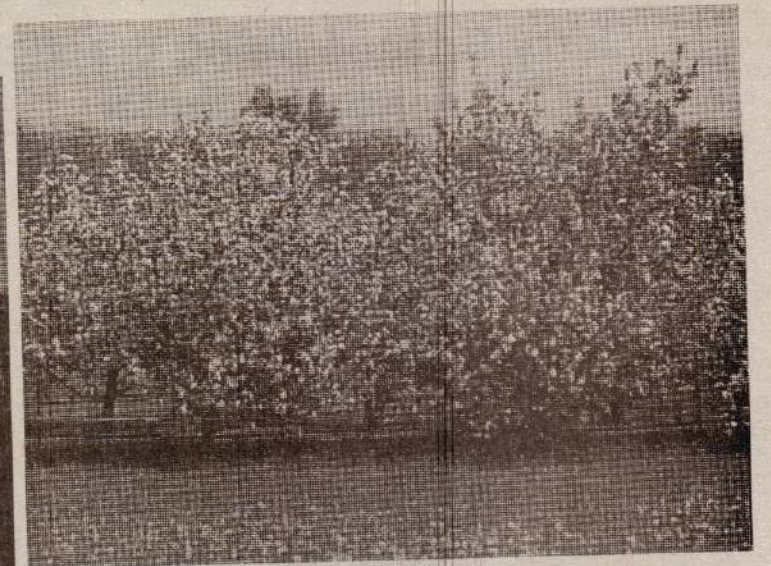




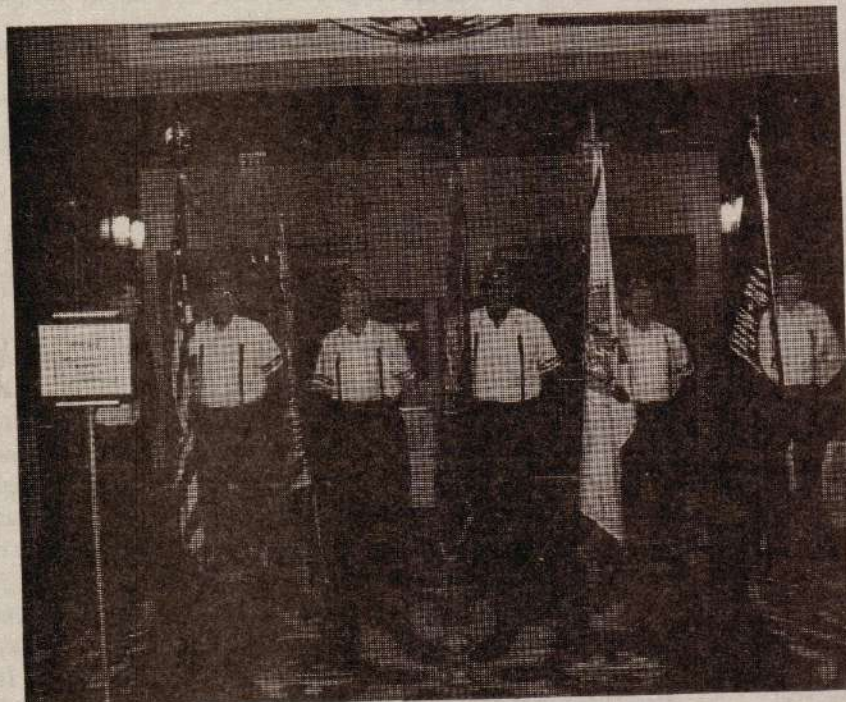
Rey Kitchkumme points to the final list of Tribal Council/Ethnic Commission candidates right after the deadline time for filing occurred on April 30. Nineteen candidates are running in the election.



L to R is Catherine Lewis and Phyllis Kaufholz who reside together in one of the duplexes in senior housing.



The apple trees located in the PBP Orchard on K Road were in full bloom this spring.



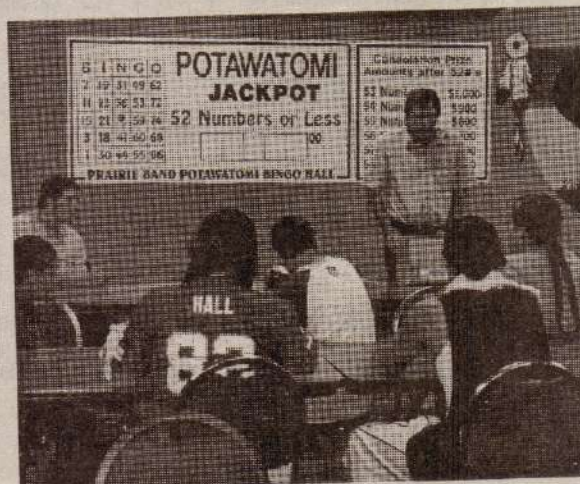
The We-Ta-Se Color Guard right before posting colors at the Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials (APSCO) spring conference hosted by the PBP Tribal Police Department. Over 150 people registered for the three-day conference held from April 20-22. Rebekah Jones of the Tribal Police Department helped make arrangements for the conference.



Left: Ann DeCoteau with her son Nathan at the Early Childhood Education Center powwow.



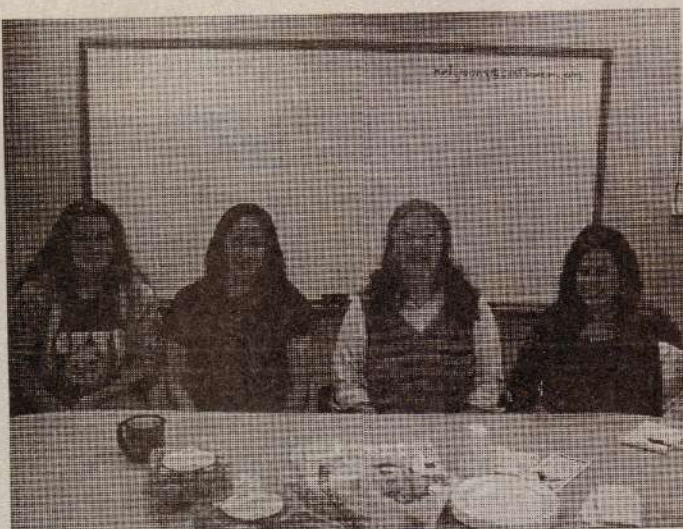
Right: Hope Adame, who is the director of the Early Childhood Education Center, spoke at the child-care powwow this year.



The Summer Youth Work Program is underway and part of the program includes educational workshops like the one seen above that was about driver safety. The program allows youth to work in various jobs on the reservation and is coordinated through the Education Department.



Maxine Begay was seen holding one of her little loved ones at the child-care powwow held on May 15 in Prairie Peoples Park.



The PBP Social Services Department held an information exchange meeting with representatives from the Native American Scholars Program in the School of Social Welfare at the University of Kansas (KU) who visited the department on March 28.

In the photo above from left to right is Abbie Estes, a KU student in the scholars program who is presently doing a practicum in the Social Services department, Loren Whitehorn, a KU graduate student, Elaine Mzhickteno-Barr, PBP Alcohol & Drug Counselor, and Michelle Levy who is director of the Native Scholar's program. In addition to Abby's practicum the PBP Social Services department has previously provided practicum opportunities and hired graduates from KU's School of Social Welfare in the past.

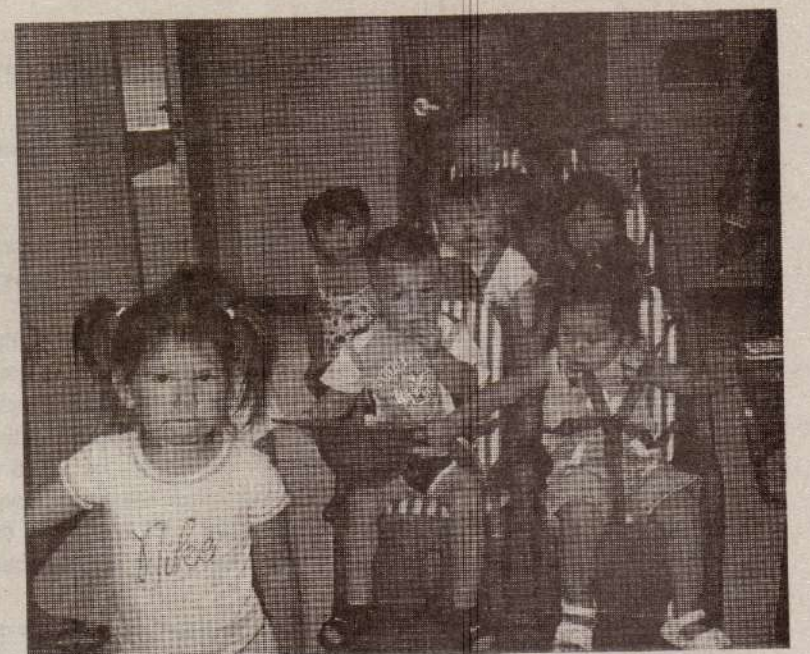
New Social Workers on board



KAREN KATS, LBSW is the new Adult Social Worker in Social Services. She graduated from Kansas State University and has experience in social work nursing home care.

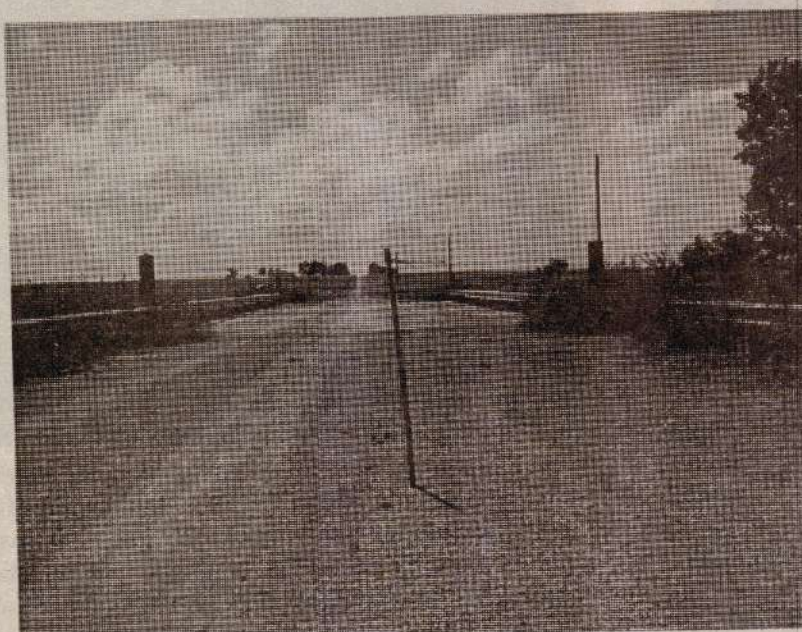


GEORGIA PLATT-SPARTA, LBSW is the new Foster Care Social Worker in Social Services. She graduated from Washburn University and has over 20 years in social service and advocacy work.



Children from the Early Childhood Education Center stopped by the We-Ta-Se building one day in their fancy red buggy after they had visited the Potawatomi Fire Station.

Roads to Snows Church getting paved



Left: The roads that lead to Our Lady of the Snows Church are in the process of getting paved. Hamm's Construction Company is doing the work on I Road and 166 Road. The PBP Road & Bridge crews also did a lot of prep work on the roads last spring. This photograph was taken facing west near the bridge that is located right off of I Road. In the background left is Snows church.



June Barber takes a breather in the Elections Department. June is on the Elections Board.



A Public Works crew was hard at work a couple of weeks ago when they poured a block of cement in front of the We-Ta-Se building for a World War II tanker display being planned at the site.

You can make a difference!



Cast your vote in the upcoming election



Jerry Briscoe doing practicum at Health Center



Tribal member Jerry Briscoe began a practicum at the Health Center on June 4 in partial completion for his master's degree in Public Health at the University of Kansas (KU). Jerry is shadowing Clinic Administrator John Holtz and will continue his work as a Research Associate in the American Indian Community Health program at KU. Jerry will work on some programs already being offered by KU Medical Center at the Potawatomi Health Center like the Smoking-Cessation program, for example. His office is located in the Center and he can be reached at 785.966.8302.



A Circles of Life Conference was held May 28 at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort that was sponsored by the Tribal Crime Victims Assistance Program and PBP Family Violence Prevention Program. Guest speakers at the conference were left to right Evie Hopkins, Verna Wahweotten, and Carol Shopteese, on the far right, who are all PBP members. Rebekah Jones, third from left, moderated the day-long workshop about violence against women. Dr. Venida Chenault, not pictured, was the featured speaker that day and discussed her research on violence and abuse against Indigenous women.

Diabetes Program and other Potawatomi Health Center news

By Steve Corbett, Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center Diabetes Prevention Program Coordinator

In April, the Diabetes Program at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center learned that it had received another year of grant funding from the Indian Health Service (IHS).

The U.S. Congress appropriates funds to the IHS to be distributed to Indian health centers throughout the country. Congress was lobbied to provide five year's worth of funding for these Special Diabetes Programs for Indians (SDPI), but only approved funding through March 2009. Tribal members will once again be asked to contact their congressional representatives and urge them to support a long-term renewal of the SDPI. Without the SDPI funding, the health center would be unable to provide many of the services currently available to diabetic patients.

Diabetes is 2.2 times as common among Indian people as among the general U.S. population. And deaths due to diabetes are 250 percent more prevalent among Indians, making it the fourth leading cause of death. Additionally, diabetes contributes to heart disease and strokes, the number 1 and number 6 killers of Indian people, respectively. Diabetes is also a leading cause of blindness and amputations. Thus, it is important that we proactively work to prevent diabetes and diabetic complications in our community.

Another round of Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) classes began in May at the health center. The DPP features a 16-week curriculum where participants attend weekly one hour classes. The classes present strategies for preventing diabetes through nutritional and activity modification. Participants receive gift incentives, healthy meals and recipes, diet and exercise instruction, and motivational support to achieve their goals. The DPP targets individuals with pre-diabetes in an attempt to prevent individuals from progressing to diabetes. Lifestyle modification has been shown effective in diabetes prevention and delay of complications. The Diabetes Prevention Program study demonstrated that diet and activity modifications are nearly twice as effective in preventing diabetes as are medicines, and that only modest changes in weight and activity are needed to prevent diabetes.

Health Management Service (HMS) appointments for diabetic patients also began in May. These special clinical appointments for diabetics are designed to prevent the complications that can arise from diabetes if the condition is uncontrolled. A new feature of the HMS appointments is the retinal imaging machine. This device



LEFT: A new machine available at the Health Center is the ultrasound imaging machine that can take pictures inside the body of soft tissues and organs. Demonstrating the machine to John Holtz, Clinic Administrator, is Janelle Kern, who runs the Radiology Laboratory at the Health Center.

Submitted by James Wabaunsee

At the April 19, 2008 General Council meeting, a few tribal members stated that our tribe should return to receiving our health care services directly from Indian Health Services (IHS). As you know, we entered into a Compact of Self-Governance between the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the United States of America, which became effective January 1, 2004.

The decision was made to change from receiving services directly from IHS for two primary reasons - we wanted to improve our health care services and we would like more control of what services are provided, how services are provided, when services are provided and where services are provided. I believe it would be a major mistake to turn the operation of the clinic back to IHS to receive direct services.

Under Self-Determination, tribes have three options for receiving their health care: (1) directly from IHS, (2) contracting with the IHS to have the administrative control, operation and funding for health programs transferred to tribal governments, or (3) the approach that we selected, compacting with the IHS and assuming even greater control and autonomy for providing our health care services.

As of December of 2007 there are 323 tribes, or 57 percent of the 562 federally recognized tribes, that are compacted with the United States through IHS to operate under self-governance authority. Each year, additional IHS programs are assumed by tribes under self-determination. Other tribes also believe they can operate their health services to more effectively and efficiently meet the needs of their community rather than relying on direct services provided by IHS.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation has a long history of working with IHS. Before January 1, 2004, IHS provided direct services to Native Americans in northeast Kansas for more than 50 years in Holton. I am confident it is fair to say that we were significantly underserved in the 50 year direct services era. We experienced:

- inadequate staff - normally there was just one doctor
- long patient waiting times to receive services
- worn out clinic building which was discovered to be filled with mold when we moved out
- funding shortages that would require some services like Contract Health to stop providing services when funding was depleted until the following fiscal year

Since January, 2004, there have been many major

improvements to our clinic and the health services that we provide. Some examples of our accomplishments include:

- completion of a state-of-the-art health center which houses the clinic as well as other health related and social service programs
- new services are now provided such as full time family dental program, imaging equipment including digital radiology, ultra sound and teleophthalmology, wellness center with exercise equipment
- staffing is significantly improved and now includes 3 physicians
- third-party reimbursement exceeded \$1,000,000 in 2007 which provides additional funding for services; contracts have been negotiated with outside specialty providers which has allowed the range of services in Contract Health to be expanded; our relationship with outside providers such as hospitals and specialty physicians has significantly improved due to our prompt payment of Contract Health bills
- completion of the Joint Commission Accreditation requirements

In summary, I believe that our people will best be served by relying on the wisdom of our Health Board, Tribal Council and tribal members. We have the ability to design the health services that are needed and desired by our community. Our operation of the clinic allows the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation to effectively utilize our sovereignty to meet our needs and provides valuable business experience which will be helpful in future business ventures. If we take a step backwards to receive direct services provided through the Oklahoma Area IHS office, we will lose control of clinic operations and have minimal input to address our health care needs. In addition, if clinic operations are returned to IHS, current clinic staff may need to re-apply for their job through IHS and employees would not be guaranteed to retain their jobs.

Order your Nike Air Native N7 sneakers now

The Nike Air Native N7 sneakers are now available to order through the Diabetes Program located at the health center.

The shoes were developed for Indian people and are designed to fit the typical (not all) Indian foot.

Any member of a federally recognized Indian tribe may

order the shoes that normally retail for \$80 for \$50 by calling Steve Corbett 785.966.8271 for an order form. Payment may be by check, cash, or money order, and must be received prior to an order being placed.

Caregiver support group



A caregiver support group has been developed through the PBP Health Center and meetings are being held monthly at the Firekeepers Elder Center. The meetings are open to caregivers who reside on the reservation and in surrounding counties. Nancy Stegman, above, on the far left, is the PBP Caregiver Coordinator and has an office located at the PBP Health Center. The purpose of the program is to provide resources and moral support to unpaid caregivers who provide care to elders and those with disabilities.

A picnic was held in honor of Older Americans Month on May 19 on the grounds of the Elder Center.

Farewell Mina!



Mina Neuberger, RN CHN, has resigned her position as the Potawatomi Health Center's Community Health Nurse and will leave at the end of this month. Above, she is seen giving Phoenix Toledo a check up at the Childcare Health Fair held on April 18 at the Childhood Education Center.



Save the Date!

The 3rd Annual Working Together for Balance Conference on Diabetes

Saturday, October 25th
Prairie Band
Casino & Resort



A Nation within a Nation!

Did you ever have one of those moments, when something you hear or read makes you literally fly off the couch or chair, or wherever you might be sitting? Well, I recently had one of those moments. It was when I heard that we were allowing our Tribal members to be tried in Jackson County for the same offenses that they were being tried for in our Tribal Court. Double jeopardy, that's what it is called.

It is now, and always has been a struggle to retain the rights that our ancestors fought and died for. We are a people indigenous to this land. We paid dearly for the right to govern ourselves, with our blood, and our land, and our innocence. We made Treaties. Although most native people know how little honor there was behind these agreements, nonetheless they have stood the test of time. Even though they wrote that it "seemed to border on the ludicrous, if not upon the ridiculous, to see the government of the United States gravely treating with a few half-naked, half-starved savages, as if they were a great nation..." the validity of those Treaties stand. In fact, it is written into the U.S. Constitution that Treaties made by the United States Government are to be recognized as the Supreme Law of the Land.

Kansas was accepted in the United States on condition that the rights of the Indians that were here remain UNIMPAIRED!

SOVEREIGNTY IS THE RIGHT TO GOVERN OURSELVES! Sovereignty is also a double-edged sword. It has greatly multiplied

the bureaucratic layers of every aspect of our lives. And yet, despite the hardships and deprivations, and in spite of the annihilation, relocation, and assimilation policies of the government, we've managed to keep our greatly diminished reservation and managed to keep our identities. To me, that means that we are "Keepers".

We are being told that a Supreme Court Ruling from another Tribe's case is authority enough for this double-jeopardy atrocity. I challenge that there are at least 30 laws to the contrary including cases where Jackson County Courts have themselves declared that they had no jurisdiction within our Reservation Boundaries.

We are the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, with our own Treaty, guaranteed as the SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND, by the U.S. CONSTITUTION, and fought for by our ancestors, as well as every Potawatomi veteran, serviceman, and servicewoman.

The \$50,000+ that we spent since the beginning of December until the end of May to imprison tribal members in Jackson County's jail could have been better spent to fix the flaws in our court. So please, spend our dollars to defend our rights. Fix the flaws in our system, but don't undermine our rights to govern our own land and people. Quit funding the very people who want to undermine us.

If you agree please send the following to your Council.

We, the People of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi, expect you, our elected Council to protect our Sovereign Rights. We expect you to fight any diminishing of those rights. That will require a Fair, Consistent and Impartial court system. We demand our rights to reasonable bonds, speedy trials, and effective counsel, and fair and consistent treatment to all, regardless of "political differences", and family names. We also demand the very basic right to be deemed innocent until proven guilty. These rights are already written into our laws. It is your responsibility to see that they are adhered to. We expect you to start spending at least as much money and energy to help us as you are currently spending to put us down. The people themselves are your main assets. Take care of those assets. Keep in mind that you all are not without faults.

It is unfair and unethical to expect Tribal members to reimburse the cost of their incarceration when it is the ineptitude of our own court system that stretches what would be an overnight stay to anyone across the highway into months and months of jail time for our own people!!

Thanks to any and all of you who support this cause.

Most Sincerely,

Laura Abeyta

Dear Editor,

It has been almost one year since I stepped down as our Nation's Chair. I will always have fond memories of my tenure serving our people and miss many of you.

Tribal election season is in full swing and it is outstanding that we have an updated website that was designed by an Indian-owned business in California (not mine) that was guided by Tribal Council. The site is great and it is wonderful to read about candidate goals for the Tribal Council election as they become posted on the site. I am thoroughly enjoying reading the vast array of ideas and styles that our people represent and learning about everyone's platform for those running in this election.

When I left office, we were moving forward at a fast pace. Our Casino transition was completed successfully and six months earlier than projected; the Shab-eh-nay project path was designed and the building design/layout was completed with the engineering scenarios for temporary sewer, water, trash, parking determined so we could move quickly once the Intergovernmental Agreement was signed; and we had many economic development irons in the fire.

Much to my dismay, it is now almost a year later and less the historic Intergovernmental Agreement with Dekalb County nothing on completing economic development projects have been accomplished. To me, the Shab-eh-nay bingo hall should be up and operational by now.

Yes, there are the proposed new National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) Facility Licensing Regulations that need to be addressed. However, in my professional opinion, Indian Gaming experts have suggested that these proposed regulations go against the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Therefore, these proposed regulations should not be the barrier to moving forward with our operation.

Also, with this letter I would like to offer my stance in defending some of the opinions from various members of the Tribal Council who have published on their blogs or the new website regarding projects that I was the lead on in economic development that I was involved in

when I was Chair.

There was one comment made that I "sat" on our economic development plans which is not true. When Tribal Council is guided in the proper strategic direction, projects can get planned and finished early but ever since I left approximately a year ago who can the Tribe blame for "sitting" on the projects? Where is our diversified revenue now?

Before I left office, we - Tribal Council, had a great vision for a development corridor at the 150/75 Interchange. The former General Manager was in charge of managing that project for Tribal Council oversight. I regularly checked in with the progress he was making with our paid consultants on the project. Unfortunately, due to the focus on the casino transition we did not have enough time to complete a detailed path - but a rough idea of what we were going to do was there - for that development before I left office. Tribal Council has had another year to work on the 150/75 project, that is critical to augment our existing casino profits against the onslaught of statewide gaming, with no solid results.

We (our then economic development staff and I) were also working, with the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development to rush through a tribal 8(a) application prior to a pending threat by Congress to the Tribal 8(a) program. The program was and still is in danger of being revised by the U.S. Government to lessen Tribal benefits. Our 8 (a) corporation application could have been submitted to the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Mayetta Oil corporate structure issue that we uncovered could have been attended to, but at least we would be in process of doing something to help diversify our revenues by using the 8(a) program to sell large amounts of propane gas to the government among other entities. The National Center did not charge the Tribe anything for this service; nor did I win an award because of hiring them (as someone on a blog site claimed). I have successfully partnered with the Center for over 15 years on American Indian economic development and was attempting to bring expertise to the Tribe to help us all.

Tribal Council has written about a Reverse Osmosis plant project. When we looked at this project before I left office, this plant would have cost us more to produce water than what we purchase it for now. Hmmm... how will this project, other than being an exercise of government, increase our revenues and help all those employees we had to lay off?

There have been discussions in Tribal Council and on the General Council floor about building a golf course adjacent to the casino. I love to golf. I know lots of tribal members love to golf. But a golf course has not proven to be a money-maker for most gaming tribes; especially those who like us, cannot operate year round due to inclement weather. So this will be another business that our Tribe will end up funding each year for the benefit of a few of us Tribal members who like to golf, but not for the greater good of us all. I wonder if Tribal Council would then completely eliminate our Potawatomi language program, just to fund another money-draining venture.

Now we have our next elections upon us and I find it disturbing to see some members who are running for office are those Tribal members who tend to sabotage the sovereign tribal electoral process continually through organized recalls, angry mob rules meetings and other negative efforts on the General Council floor when things don't go their way.

These negative behavior and ego-driven antics are harmful to the Tribe and in the long run will not assist us in any type of economic development. In that regard, I was honored to be in office and I understand it was my privilege to share the over two decades of American Indian economic development expertise I have - however, I leave you with the message that the Tribe is bigger than one person and I am hopeful that we can achieve what we need economically to do well for all of us Tribal members.

Sincerely,

Tracy Stanhoff

Potawatomi News schedule for remainder of 2008

Publish date

Fall issue-September 24

Winter issue-December 17

News deadline date

September 1

December 1

Out and about



LEFT: New gas pumps were installed this spring at Nation Station.

RIGHT: B.J. Darnall holds up some large Morel mushrooms he found one spring day. Morel mushrooms can be found on the reservation after the first few weeks of spring and are sought after for their delicious flavor and nutritional value. From all reports it was a bumper crop year for the wild edible food which was used in a variety of recipes or as a meal all their own.



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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.





Congratulations Graduates!

Special thanks to the families who submitted photographs through the PBPB Student Services Program in the Education Department and the News



Amber Bump
Holton High School
Holton, Kan.
(Iva Long & Ron Baldwin)



Anthony Paul Cadue
Park Hill High School
School
Kansas City, Mo.
(Phillip "Sonny" & Cynthis Cadue)



Forrest Cox
West Potomac High School
Alexandria, Va.
(Nedra Darling & Bowman Cox)



Kwake Hale
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kan.
(LaVerne Hale & Joe Hale, Sr.)



Christopher Ryan Hernandez
Highland Park High School
Topeka, Kan.
(Frank & Lisa Wood)



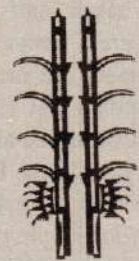
Jon Edward Jessepe
Riverside Indian School
Anadarko, Okla.
(Gaynell Jessepe)



Naomi Orcutt
Jefferson High School
Wisconsin
(Kris & Denele Orcutt)



Eric Ortero
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kan.
(Lisa Wamego)



Nolan Pahmahmie
Holton High School
(Jona Potts-Rupnicki & Alan Pahmahmie)



Daubon L. Pena
St. Francis High School
Milwaukee, Wis.
(Steven & Charlene Pena)



Joseph "Alex" Rupnick
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kan.
(Joseph "Zeke" & LeAnne Rupnick)



Jessica Renee Rupnick
Jackson Heights High School
Holton, Kan.
(Jesse & Geraldine Rupnick)



Tara Michelle Satawake
Earlsboro High School
Earlsboro, Okla.
(John & Debbie Satawake)



Joshua Dyami Tolsma
Wawasee High School
Syracuse, Ind.
(Beth & Greg Johnson & Brian Tolsma)



Zabrina Tye
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kan.
(Elizabeth Wabunsee Tye & Wayne Tye)

Special Achievements



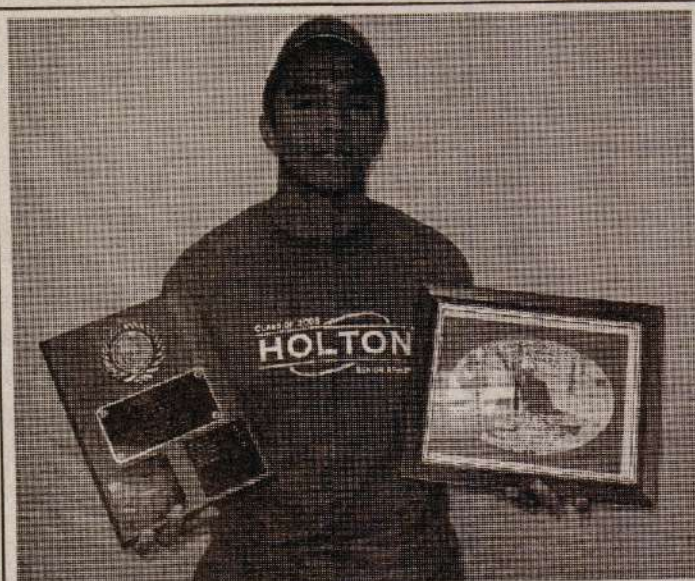
Congratulations to
Victor Ortero
2008 President's Education Award
for Outstanding Academic Excellence
in the Royal Valley School District

We're proud of you!
Love,
Mom & Dad
(Adriana Wahwasuck & Victor Ortero)



Kwake Hale, left, played on the men's team and Lan Danielson, right, played on the women's team during the 22nd annual Northeast Kansas All-Star Game held at Highland Community College March 30. Both players graduated from Royal Valley High School this spring.

Mario Kitchkommie submitted the photos.



Holton High School senior Nolan Pahmahmie received the Larry D. Williams Award by Holton High School for being an outstanding golfer. In 1996 tribal member David Noland was given the award.

Megan Hale plays flute in Kansas Lions State Band

Megan Hale was selected to play the flute in the Kansas Lions State Band held at Friends University in Wichita, Kan. from May 27-31.

Megan placed third out of 28 other flute players which allowed her to perform

in a quartet during the final concert performance.

Megan is a sophomore at Holton High School and the daughter of Martin and Donna Hale and granddaughter of Emery Hale.

She was sponsored by the Holton Lions Club.

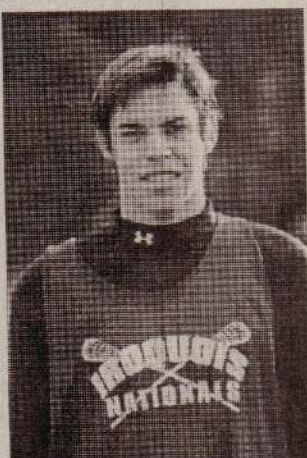
Forrest Cox selected for Iroquois Nationals U-19 International Lacrosse Championship Team

Forrest Cox of Alexandria, Va., has been selected to play for the Iroquois Nationals in the 2008 Under-19 Men's Lacrosse World Championships July 3-12 in Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada.

Forrest is one of 26 athletes chosen, and the first Potawatomi ever named to the team. He is a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe and belongs to the Thunder Clan. His Potawatomi name is Pechgo.

Forrest is a defenseman and captain of the West Potomac High School lacrosse team, where he is a graduating senior. Forrest will attend Phillips Andover Academy in Andover, Mass., as a post-graduate student next year.

Established in 1983, the Iroquois Nationals represent the Haudenosaunee, or "People of the



Longhouse," and all indigenous peoples in international lacrosse competition. The Haudenosaunee, more commonly referred to as the Iroquois or the Six Nations, have long been recognized as originators of the modern game of lacrosse.

To acknowledge this unique place in the game's history, the International Lacrosse Federation granted the Haudenosaunee full nation status in 1985. The Iroquois Nationals are the only athletic team to represent an indigenous peoples as a sovereign nation.

Eleven other nations will be competing, including the United States, Canada, Australia, England and Japan. For more information, tickets or the live pay-per-view webcast, visit <http://www.2008worldlax.com/>.

Education Update

Submitted by Kristen Aitkens

Congratulations to all of our graduates! For our high school graduates, the journey is just beginning. With the spring semester over the summer season is a great time to enjoy and the fall semester will be here before you know it.

Renewal applications for our current undergraduates were mailed out in April. If you haven't received your packet you may call and request one or visit our website. Packets can be downloaded, faxed, emailed or put in the mail box. Be sure to request your packet early as it does take some time to complete.

The application deadline is July 1 each year for students applying for fall funding. The policy has changed a bit to allow for late applications, but those applicants will not be eligible for full funding if, at all. The goal of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) Education Department is to fund as many students as allowable with our

budget, and those applicants who have all information submitted on or before July 1 will receive first priority. Any funds remaining, if any, will be distributed to late applications. This is a great way to meet our goals and to encourage students to apply early. The number of applications received each year continues to increase while our budgeted funds do not. It is always best to apply as early as possible and to look for other sources of funding. Our website lists a variety of scholarship websites for students to view.

In other education news, the Summer Youth Program has 40 positions this year and the first session began June 2. This year students are able to work five-week sessions as opposed to four. Students are placed in departments throughout the reservation to gain work experience and some extra spending money. We will be sure to include photos and comments in the next edition of the *Potawatomi News*.

Need an application or more information about the education programs the PBPB offers?
Visit the Education Department's website at www.pbpn.org/Education or call toll free 877-715-6789

Congratulations

Thurman "Dutch" Keo
on graduating from
Kickapoo Headstart
May 9

We are proud of you!
Mom, Dad,
Ashtyn and family

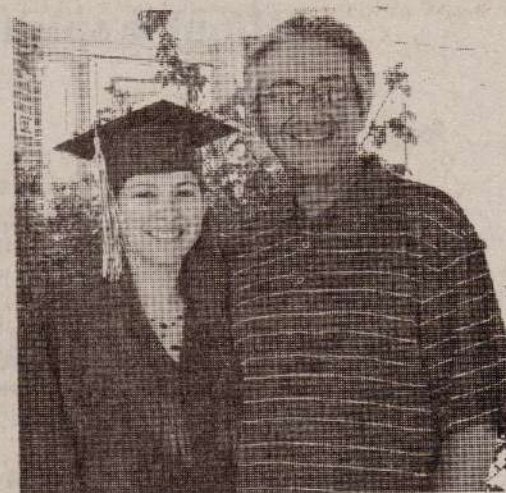




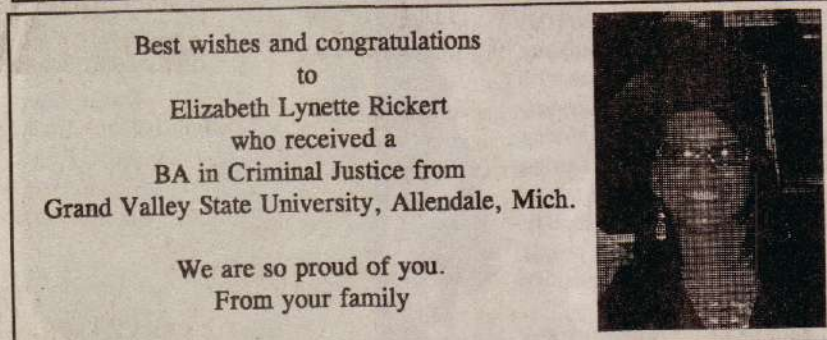
Congratulations to
Melissa (Aitkens) Goins
who received a BA in English
from
Oakland University
in
Detroit, Michigan
May 3, 2008
from
your proud old dad



Congratulations to
Maria Dean Satawake Rogers
(Ahp'eyah'to'moqu)
who received a BA in Accounting
from
University of Central Oklahoma
in
Edmond, Oklahoma
Parents: John & Debbie Satawake
Grandparents: John & Cathy Satawake

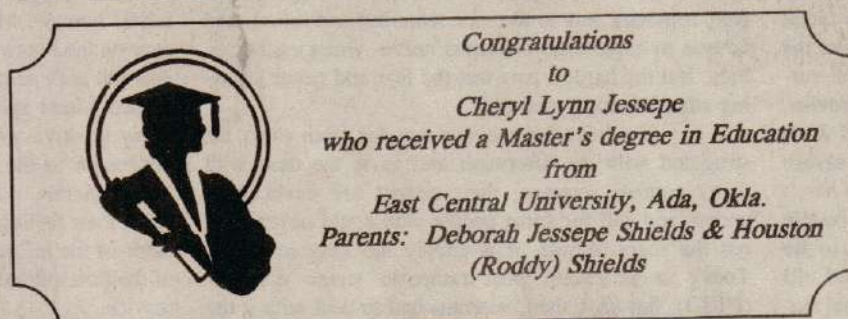


Brittney Pahmahmie and her dad, Alan
"Boney" Pahmahmie at Royal Valley High
School graduation.



Best wishes and congratulations
to
Elizabeth Lynette Rickert
who received a
BA in Criminal Justice from
Grand Valley State University, Allendale, Mich.

We are so proud of you.
From your family



Congratulations
to
Cheryl Lynn Jessepe
who received a Master's degree in Education
from
East Central University, Ada, Okla.
Parents: Deborah Jessepe Shields & Houston
(Roddy) Shields

Congratulations to all PBPB
graduates on a job well done.

2008 Student Recognition Night

This year's Student Recognition Night was at the Boys & Girls Club on April 23. A pot luck dinner and awards ceremony was held for families who have youth involved in Title VII-USD #337 and the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) programs, and the PBPB Boys & Girls Club. Before the ceremony Gary Mitchell gave an invocation which was followed by a Royal Valley Native American Team Dance Exhibition. Below are photographs of some of the award winners and others who were involved that night.



Tony, third from left, and Angie Wahweotten, far right, were named Outstanding Parents. With them are their children Zeke, far left, and Brenna, second from left, holding the award.



Quengo Fairman was all smiles
after receiving the Best All-Around
Student/Elementary award.



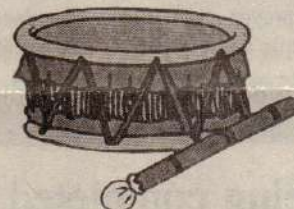
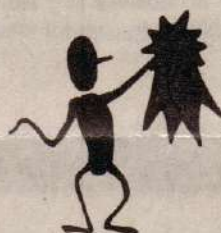
Anita Evans is the director
of the Title VII Indian
Education program and
was master of ceremonies
during the evening.



Ramona Nozhackum, far right, getting ready to shake hands
with Cheryl Hopkins, far left, who is the Boys & Girls Club
Education Coordinator. Ramona is a Royal Valley High
School graduating senior this year.



Some members of the Royal Valley Singers and Dancers
posing for the camera. They also danced in a special honor
song in memory of Yolanda Solis.



PBPB Early Education Childcare Center Health Fair held in April

Over 40 children and their families attended the Early Childhood Education Center Health Fair held April 18. Children received health care checks at the fair that ranged from dental to kindergarten physicals and were rewarded with prizes and refreshments. PBPB physicians, dentists and nurses were on hand as well as the childcare staff and parents who volunteered and accompanied their children.



LEFT: Phoenix Toledo shows off his Tonka reward after going through the physical. His Aunt Nez escorted Toledo to the various checks that included overall health, dental, speech and hearing.

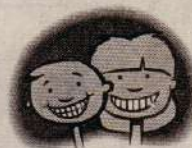


ABOVE: Roy Ogden with his grandson Calvin at the health fair.



LEFT: Jared Lewis participating in the speech and hearing assessment with his parents looking on.

The PBPB Childcare Center is accredited by the NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation



Photos from the 10th Annual Earth Day Be a Greenie! More Green! Less Screen!



April 20, 2008
Prairie Peoples Park
sponsored by the Division
of Planning &
Environmental
Protection



RIGHT: Parents and their children stocked up on informational resources on diabetes prevention or fire safety, for example, at the fair. Door prizes were also handed out throughout the day.





Humble spiritual leader and combat veteran Maynard Potts passes

By Gary Mitchell

As with most obituaries, most of a person's life is left out for reasons of space and cost, and this is true with the Maynard's Potts obituary. Here is an account of what could have been included if we lived in a perfect world.

He was part of what Tom Brokaw called the "greatest generation." Brokaw said they survived the Depression; served the country during World War II; and became involved in their communities as volunteers, elected officials or church leaders.

Maynard did exactly that. During the Great Depression, years of hardship had taught him and the people on the reservation to depend on important survival skills, such as an uncanny ability to improvise. Not to be overlooked were a few welcome federal work programs that became the key to managing in a severe economic period of this country.

How did Maynard and the Potawatomi people weather these hard times? They only had to look to the no-so-distant past and remember the removal period still fresh in the minds of many elders by virtue of tribal stories preserved by the oral history tradition. The lessons of the past would help the Potawatomi overcome adversity. Inner strength and character would help the people on the reservation cope with the trauma of the times. Yes, adversity has a way of building character, but it also prepared men like Maynard and many others who would serve in the upcoming war. Surviving the Great Depression was just one chapter in his life and it did a fair job of preparing him for the next huge event in his life.

His ascent into World War II started when he left the United States from San Francisco January 23, 1943, aboard the troop transport Nordom. As they passed under the Golden Gate Bridge, a man in the back of the boat shouted, "Golden Gate, Golden Gate, be back in '48." Of course, the war didn't last that long, but it seemed like an eternity for these young men. The troop transport traveled one month and one day to get to the war zone in New Guinea, a tropical island in the Pacific north of Australia. The unit aboard the 532nd Amphibian was attached to the Ninth Division of the Australian Army which had just returned from two to three years of combat in Africa. It was because of the bravery of the Australians on several occasions that Maynard was able to survive the war. They were ready to fight under any circumstances and showed no fear. In April 1943, the American unit went to Milne Bay, New Guinea. During the first two weeks of which they went through 118 bombings by the Japanese. The bombing started at 6 a.m. and ended 20 hours later at 2 a.m. Because of the lack of air support, many Americans died during those initial days.

After the allies finally wrested New Guinea from Japanese control in March 1944, Maynard boarded a boat to the Philippines in what was called "island

hopping," or seizing key islands in the southwest Pacific Ocean. With this strategy, the allies used each island as a springboard to attack the next island. The Philippines had been under Japanese control since May of 1942, and the allies hoped to recapture it, cut off Japan's lines of communication with its overseas bases, and set up bases from which to attack Japan.

While on this first "island hopping" boat ride, Maynard saw Japanese suicide planes take out three American ships one day and seven ships the next. Many Americans died there. It was hard to be at sea or on land because no place was safe. Throughout the war, Maynard was to see men wounded and killed, and he was to experience countless nerve-racking bombings. But the hardest part was the fear and never knowing what would happen next.

His life after the war was far from easy. He struggled with the aftermath and as is the case with many combat veterans, their actions are never fully understood and for some people who could never fathom the scars of war, it is simply too easy to judge. Today it is called post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), but back then, veterans had to deal with it the best they could.

For Maynard Potts, there are more accomplishments in his life, although being a combat veteran would have defined his life by itself; there is more to his life than that. Again those accomplishments never make an obituary.

Maynard and Coralene Keesis married October 2, 1942 and raised a large family in definitely hard times. To cope with those hard times and the nightmares of war, one of the constants in both their lives was their absolute dedication to the Indian religion of the Potawatomi. She cooked at home and at the services themselves. As she once said, "being a member of the religion involves more than sitting there looking pretty," and she was right. There is so much work to be done and it has to be shared by all to make any religion work.

For years, Maynard went over to the Drum Building and cleaned it up before the services or went out and cut wood. As a respected elder, he didn't have to do that but he did.

Both he and Coralene led a long life and will be remembered for their work to make the Potawatomi religious life better. Maynard had a gift and that was the ability to sing the songs of the religion; he worked tirelessly with younger members to learn the songs and to help others learn the Potawatomi language. Maynard once said that when he survived the war, he was going to dedicate his life to his mother's religion and he did.

Maynard made a point to attend every religious service he could on the reservation, rarely missing any until he became ill in the winter of 2007-2008. That is called dedication in any circle. He believed in the power of prayer and when he was close to leaving this life a couple of times during his hospital stay, his

family held a prayer service for him. He pulled through those two critical times. The power of prayer made it possible for him to stay with his family for a few more precious days.

He also had an extraordinary memory and told of events long ago and could remember so many Indian names. Many young people, and some not so young, would find their way to his door to seek out advice on religion, Indian names and maybe to hear the stories of old. Hopefully people will remember what he told them.

When he died in April of 2008, after surviving 92 winters, Maynard had one of the largest funerals ever on the Potawatomi reservation. The Drum Building was full with people paying their respects to a man who helped others aplenty in his life. During this service, many positive words were spoken about his life-long dedication to the religion and it was all true. During some funerals, it is rare for people to get up and talk to share their feelings, but not this time. This was an indicator of the influence Maynard Potts had on the people of the Potawatomi reservation. He deserved the positive service.

It wasn't all serious though. Maynard was remembered for his baseball abilities, being a number one fan of the local fast-pitch teams, and to see his granddaughter Tara play basketball in high school and in her first year in college. He enjoyed that a bunch.

Maynard was the Number One fan of Kansas University Basketball. He stayed home and watched every one of those game on t.v. When they weren't on, he watched baseball on ESPN. He often talked about the young Winnebago pitcher Joba Chamberlain of the Yankees and the Navajo infielder named Jacoby Ellsbury of the Boston Red Sox.

Maynard died a few days before KU beat Memphis 75-68 in the National Championship game. In fact, the wake occurred at the same time as the big game. The large crowd at the wake were huge KU fans too, but they went to the funeral instead of watching the game on t.v. This showed the deep respect Maynard had in this community. Of course, that didn't prevent people from checking their cell phones for updates when they went outside. He would want it that way and everybody knew he was keeping up on that score too.

All in all, Maynard and Coralene left a legacy that their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren can be proud of and an example to follow. For the rest of the people on the reservation neither will be forgotten.

About the author: Gary E. Mitchell is a member of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation in Kansas. He holds a bachelors degree in political science and a master's degree in history. He can be reached at shawnoh@yahoo.com for comments.



2008 Potawatomi Gathering plans being completed -- hosted by Walpole Island First Nations this year

By LaVerne Hale

Plans are being finalized for our journey to the 2008 Potawatomi Gathering. We have our bus and rooms reserved. We have a full bus load of Potawatomi elders who are signed up to go to Canada.

Paula Hopkins and I made a scouting trip up to Walpole Island the first part of May. It was a very worthwhile trip. We had to make some changes to a couple of the hotels I had reserved as they were not the right ones for us.

The Walpole Island First Nation people treated us very well. They visited with us about past Gatherings and hopefully it helped with the planning of theirs. They invited us to attend one of their Gathering committee meetings. Walpole Island is a beautiful place. We crossed over on the ferry and it was pretty neat. They are working hard to put together an exciting, welcoming time for the Potawatomi people to gather.

The trip plans are to leave on Wednesday, August 6 and return Tuesday, August 12. The Gathering is from August 8-10.

I am waiting on a packet of information regarding the Gathering that will hopefully include a good map of the area. I am planning to have this information available soon and if you would like any of it or have any other questions please give me a call or e-mail.

I also wanted to get the word out regarding our own

Gathering. It is not yet known when we will host the Gathering again but I think we should get started with some ideas. If you are interested in volunteering please send me your name and contact information and we might schedule a meeting in the next couple of months. I believe after this year's Gathering we should know when it will be our turn to host it. We should get started now.

One thing worth mentioning is that a lot of the tribal members that attend the Potawatomi Gatherings have said that handmade gift giveaways are important. Therefore it would be nice if some of our own talented tribal members would help us out there. So I hope to hear from you regarding that.

I'm anxious for the next Gathering trip!

For information about the Gathering
call LaVerne Hale at
877.715.6789 ext. 4014 or
e-mail laverneh@pbpnation.org,
or

Joy Yoshida or Nona Wahweotten at 785.966.0040
or 785.966.0041



Horseshoe Tournament held



It was a cool but lovely day when a horseshoe tournament was held outside the Elder Center on May 16. Seen above is Curtis Paul Masquat (seated) who helped organize the event going over some paper work with Thedi Uhl. People from the Kickapoo Senior Center came down for the tournament and lunch and joined in the fun. First place went to Heddy Noland and Mo Thomas, second place to Charlene Whitebird and Angie Cadue, and third place went to Delores Porter and Gary Buskirk.

Photo by Francis Shopteese

Visit the new website
Log on to
www.pbndiantribe.com



Kickapoo Pow-wow Days
July 18,19,20, 2008
Kickapoo Reservation
Horton, KS

\$50,000 in prizes

Contact: Verna Simon
785.486.2131
or visit
www.ktik-nsn.gov

PBPN Language Classes
being offered in the evening

Please call 785.966.2138 to sign up

Tuesday evenings for families
Wednesday evenings for adults
5:30-8:30 p.m.
Firekeepers Elder Center (basement)
15372 K Road
Mayetta, KS 66509
Email: svanzile@pbpnation.org

Notice of
Prairie Peoples Park
Regulation Change



Camping units are now restricted to a maximum of three (3) days stay at the park, except for the week of pow-wow days when campers and units are restricted to a maximum of seven (7) days.

(TC approved 5/22/2008)



Wahweotten Family Reunion

September 20, 2008
Banner Creek Reservoir, Holton, KS
Call Jim Potter for details: 785.966.4022
or email: jmpotter@pbpnation.org

Youth volunteers help with cleanup of Shipshee Cemetery

On May 10, 2008, Mucks Wahweotten and Boys & Girls Club volunteers, Kaitlyn Schribner and Pe-qwas Hernandez, helped with the annual cleanup of Shipshee Cemetery. We appreciate these young people from our community becoming involved and we thank them for their help.

Delores Nioce-Abrams
Our Lady of Snows Church





Kamboŋtēk (those who died)

Maynard Leo "Naw Kweh ki shek" Potts

MAYETTA-Maynard Leo "Naw Kweh ki shek" Potts, 92, of Mayetta, KS passed away April 3, 2008 at Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka, KS. He was born October 27, 1915 in Skunk Hill, WI, the son of Joseph William and Rosann Lasley Potts.

He has lived in the Mayetta/ Potawatomi Reservation community since 1919. He served in the United States Army during World War II. He worked construction and masonry work, was an avid sports lover and a great baseball player. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Drum "Way of life".

Mr. Potts married Coralene Keesis on October 2, 1942. She passed away November 24, 2001. He was also preceded in death by 2 sons Vernon and Norman Potts.

Survivors include 3 daughters, Barbara Tims of Mayetta, KS, Voncile Mitchell of Mayetta, KS and Doris Potts-Zyganuk of Parry Sound, Ontario; 2 sons, Eddie Potts of Mayetta, KS, Lloyd Potts of Oklahoma City, OK and their adopted mother, Venida Chenault of Lawrence, KS; an adopted son, Calvin Evans of Mayetta, KS; a sister, Cecelia "Meeks" Jackson of Mayetta, KS; 14 grandchildren, 41 great grandchildren and 3 great great grandchildren.

Drum service will be Monday evening, April 7, 2008 at the Dance Ground building. Burial will be Tuesday afternoon, April 8, 2008 at the Potts Cemetery. Mercer Funeral Home in Holton is in charge of arrangements. To leave a special message for the family visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home)

Ralph "Sonny" Martinez

Topeka-Ralph "Sonny" Martinez, 51, of Topeka, KS passed away April 10, 2008 at his home in Topeka. He was born November 9, 1956 in Topeka, KS the son of Logie R. and Zelda I. Mitchell Martinez.

He graduated from Topeka High School and had attended Haskell University. He was a nurses aide for KNI in Topeka and he worked for Prairie Band Casino in the laundry department. He attended Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Topeka, he was a member of Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church of Mayetta, KS and a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include his parents Logie and Zelda Martinez of Topeka, KS; 2 sisters, Laura Thackery and Shelia Fitzgerald both of Topeka, KS and a brother Manuel Martinez of Topeka, KS.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m., April 14, 2008 at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Mayetta, KS. Burial will be in the Shipshew Cemetery. Rosary will be recited 7:00 p.m. Sunday evening with visitation to follow at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton. In lieu of flowers, family requests memorials may be made to the Ralph Martinez Memorial Fund sent c/o Mercer Funeral Home P.O. Box 270, Holton, KS 66436. To leave a special message for the family visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home)

Michael Lovell Johnson



MAYETTA - Michael Lovell Johnson, 48, died Thursday, March 20, 2008 at his home surrounded by his family. He was born June 13, 1959 in Pasadena, TX, the son of Theron Lavell and Clarice Agnes Moore Johnson.

He had worked security for Prairie Band Casino. He was a veteran having served in the Army. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Michael married Judi I. Lee on April 7, 2003 in Elko, NV. She survives. He is also survived by his daughters, Dawn Hastly of Shelbyville, IN and Keri Daugherty of Tuscola, IL; step-sons, Jared Hall and Trae Hall both of the home; sisters, Jessie Mutteloke and her husband John of Shawnee, OK, Debra Stanfill and her husband Marlon of Vancouver, WA, and Elizabeth Prevett and her husband Walter of Tecumseh, OK; brothers, Arthur Johnson and his wife Mary of Santa Rosa, CA and John Johnson and his wife Davene of Sparks, NV; grandchildren, Derick Reed, Jr., Kayla Wright, Unique Johnson, and Gracie Johnson.

The graveside service will be at 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 24, 2008 at Shipshew Cemetery. He will lie in state at his home from Friday, March 21, 2008 until service time. Burial will be in the Shipshew Cemetery. www.mercerfuneralhomes.com

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home)

Rita A. Ock-Naw Youngbird

Rita A. Ock-naw Youngbird, 54, Topeka, Kan. died April 25, 2008 at her home. She was born September, 26 in Scott City, Kan. the daughter of Walter Cooper and Augustine Mitchell Cooper. She graduated from Chillico High School in Oklahoma and later received a bachelor's degree in English from Emporia State. She worked for the State of Kansas in Social Services, retiring in 2006. She married Arnold Youngbird, they later divorced. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Phil Cooper. She is survived by her companion of over 20 years, Paul Petonquot of Topeka; two daughters, Ashley Youngbird, Topeka, and Jessica Youngbird, Mayetta; an adopted son, Chant Brave, Lawrence; an adopted daughter, Robin Shield, Lawrence; three brothers, Gary Cooper, Ross Cooper and Jon Cooper, all of Topeka; two nieces, Melinda Williamson and Michelle Emmert; one grandson, Jaiden Cooper Wamego; a granddaughter, Jolona Shield and several adopted grandchildren. Rita was known for her Indian taco and fry bread booth at the Lake Shawnee pow-wow. Rita enjoyed sewing pow-wow regalia, listening to the Beatles, riding scooters, cooking, bowling, softball and cookouts at the cabin. Rosary will be prayed Monday, April 28 at 7 p.m. with family visitation following from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Davidson Funeral Home. Mass of Christian burial will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church west of Mayetta. Inurnment will follow at the Shipshew Cemetery.

2008 Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation obituaries are now online

Visit www.pbpbndiantribe.com
and go to news/press-Gambottek

Melvin Leroy "Anik-son" Lewis

Topeka-Melvin Leroy "Anik-son" Lewis, 63, of Topeka, passed away Friday, May 16, 2008 at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka. He was born July 26, 1944 in Manhattan, KS the son of Frank and Martha McKinney Lewis.

Melvin retired after many years in the construction business. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and had attended Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church.

Survivors include 2 sons Melvin Lewis II and Dana Lewis both of Mayetta, KS; 3 daughters Kelly Mills of Mayetta, KS, Gena Bennett of Blue Rapids, KS, Shawnee Lewis of Topeka, KS; 2 sisters Delphine Knoxsah of Topeka, KS Gillreath Aitkens of Anadarko, OK; 7 brothers Jerry Lewis, Louis Aitkens, Rogers Dale Lewis, Lymon Shipshew all of Mayetta, KS, Robert Jessepe and Kevin Aitkens both of Topeka, KS, Jeff Lewis of Virginia; an aunt Agnes McKinney of Topeka, KS; 18 grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and 2 brothers Frank Lewis, Jr. and Joseph Lewis. Wake will be Sunday evening, May 18, 2008 at the Danceground Building west of Mayetta, KS. Burial will be 10:00 a.m. Monday, May 19, 2008 in the Shipshew Cemetery. To leave a special message for the family visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home)

Michael L. Anderson

Michael L. Anderson, 48, Oskaloosa died Friday April, 18 at the Lawrence Memorial Hospital. He was born on January 28, 1960 the son of Ralph Eugene and Theresa Mary Pappan Anderson and was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Mike was a graduate of the Oskaloosa High School. He operated Anderson Trenching and Anderson Body Shop, and also worked for the Jefferson County Water District #7. He married Cynthia "Cindy" Doubrava Gerken, on April 14, 2001. She survives of the home. He is also survived by his mother, Theresa Anderson, Oskaloosa, a step-daughter Amanda and her husband Steven Radcliffe, Oskaloosa, One Step-Son Scott Vandiver, Amarillo, Tx., One sister Brenda Anderson, Omaha, NE. He was preceded in death by his Father in November of 1993. Funeral services will be 2:00 PM Monday at the Barnett-Chapel Oaks Funeral Home. Burial will be a the Pleasant View Cemetery, Oskaloosa. Visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 PM Sunday at the Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Foundation and sent in care of the Barnett - Chapel Oaks Funeral Home PO Box 416 Oskaloosa, KS 66066. Online condolences can be made at www.barnettchaploaks.com.

(Courtesy of Barnett Chapel Oaks Funeral Home)

Ttiwenmo eginigyèn (happy day you were born)



Happy Birthday
Catherine Lewis
who
was
95 years old
on
June 12, 2008

From your family and
friends



Kayla Gomez

Happy 14th Birthday
and
congratulations on graduating from
Dartmouth Middle School's 8th Grade

Love,

Leslie LaClair/Mom
&
Arlene Lingo /Grandmother



Farewell message

My family and I
are moving on and
would like to thank
everyone in the
Prairie Band
Potawatomi Nation
for all your support
while we were
here.

Doneka Eteeyan



Ganiftēk (those who are born)



Happy Birthday
Grandma
Judy Darnell
June 16
Hugs and kisses,
Love,
Sophie & Sadie
Bosse

You are
such a cool
Auntie.

Love,
Sharon,
Sophie &
Sadie



Welcome to this world Cloe and Zoey Learned



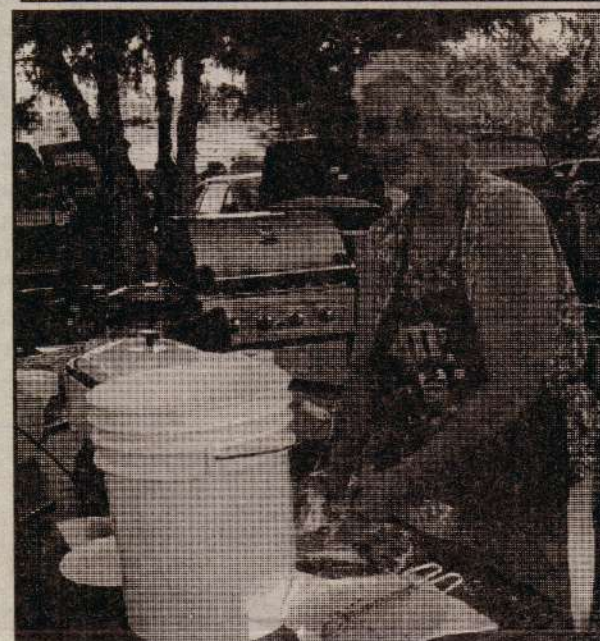
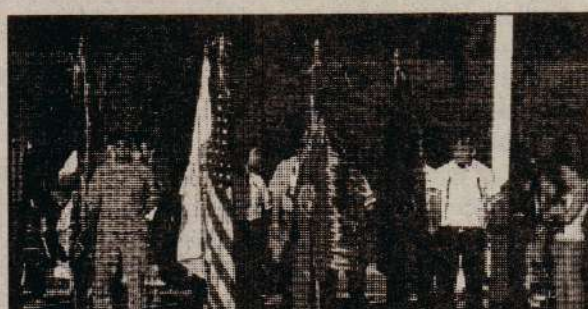
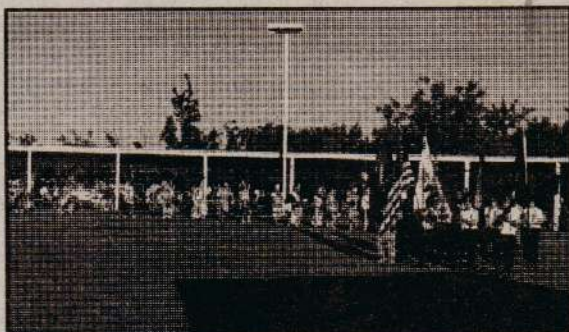
Born: December 2, 2007
Parents: Robby Emery Learned Jr.
& Jami Massey
Grandmother: Denise Roberts
Fairchild
Grandfather: Robert Learned, Sr.
Great Grandparent: Phyllis Fairchild
Kaufholz
Great-Great Grandparent:
Chatherine Lewis



Pow-wow Photo Gallery

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Pow-wow June 13, 14, 15, 2008 Prairie Peoples Park Mayetta, KS 66509



Voters Guide 2008 Tribal Council/Ethics Commission Election

This voter guide includes the photographs and profiles of candidates who are running in the Tribal Council/ Ethics Commission Election to be held on July 26, 2008. Four (4) members of the Tribal Council: Vice Chairperson (1), Treasurer (1), and Council Person #2 (1) and Council Person #3 (1) will be elected. The term of office for each position is for four (4) years. Four (4) members of the Ethics Commission: Chairperson (term 4 years), Vice Chairperson (term 3 years), Secretary (term 4 years) and one (1) Commissioners: #1 (3 years), will be elected. According to the Elections Board, since there were no candidates for Ethics Commissioner #2 (2 years) and Ethics Commissioner #3 (2 years), these positions are proposed to be posted for filing in the next Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation election. Candidates listed provided their own profile for the News.

Election Calendar

- May 23, 4 p.m. -Last day members 18 years of age or older could register to receive a ballot for this election
- June 13 -Ballots were mailed to registered voters only
- July 26, 9 a.m. -Last day for ballots to be received at Mayetta Post Office. Ballots will be tabulated in an open meeting for tribal members that will be held in the old Bingo Hall
- July 30, 4 p.m. -End of working day protest period

If needed, Run-Off Elections will take place for those not winning by majority vote four (4) weeks following the election.

Just so you know

- The Tribal Council/Ethics Commission Election day falls on a Saturday
- Candidates must win by a 50 percent plus 1 majority vote or a run-off election will be held
- Oath of Office of newly elected officials is scheduled by Tribal Council not later than 14 business days after announcement of election results

(Some changes in election rules have occurred due to recent passage of Constitutional Amendments)

Log onto www.pbpindiantribe.com for an online source of viewing the profiles of candidates

Ethics Commission Candidates

Shirley Trull

Candidate for Ethics Commission Chairperson



I am Shirley Trull (By-o-ke), the youngest daughter of Milton and Alvina LaClair. I grew up primarily in Topeka, Kan. and have traveled back and forth to the reservation. My home for the past 31 years has been in Kansas City, Mo.

I was born in Holton, Kan. and went to grade school in Topeka. I attended St. Paul's High School in Marty, S.D. for two years and graduated from Topeka High. Following high school, I acquired an associate's degree in home economics from Haskell Junior College and realizing I had a strong mathematical background went on to study electromechanical technology for two years at Haskell. My electronics background led me to Kansas City where I worked as an Electronics Performance Inspector for Bendix for a long time.

As an inspector, I tested electronic components for our country's weapons' systems. Bendix was renamed Allied Signal Aerospace and later Honeywell. During my work at Honeywell, I decided to study business administration to obtain a bachelor's degree.

In 2005 I received a BSBA from the University of Phoenix (Kansas City). After 27 years at Honeywell, I switched from a manufacturing career to interning at Harrah's Prairie Band Casino. After a year-long internship, I became supervisor/manager of housekeeping for two years at Harrah's/Prairie Band Casino and Resort. My management position in the Casino, along with my former position with Honeywell, has allowed me to observe a variety of departments and people in two diverse industries.

I also returned to school where I earned a master's degree in business graduating in May, 2008 from the University of Phoenix.

I believe one is never too old to learn. Life's experiences have brought me personal insight and the wisdom to change certain behaviors. I am currently searching for my 'niche' in society and the Ethics Committee Chairperson position presents an opportunity to facilitate and guide conflicts that may arise among our Potawatomi Nation.

My strengths are attention to detail, the ability to be objective, and the ability to listen. Objectivity means being fair and consistent in all matters that are brought to one's attention. I believe judgments should be based on facts, not hearsay and personal agendas. Thus, my main intent is to be, and remain, objective as the Ethics Chairperson.

My interests include researching (Internet), bowling, and playing bingo. Family is always important. My husband, Paul, and I have been married for 15 years. I have one son and three granddaughters. I enjoy visiting with relatives, making new friends, and renewing long-time acquaintances.

As the Ethics Chairperson, I pledge to be fair and consistent. I would appreciate your support and thank you.

Trilby Wahwasuck

Candidate for Ethics Commission Vice-Chairperson



No profile submitted.

Virginia LeClere

Candidate for Ethics Commission Secretary



My name is Virginia LeClere. I would like to serve as the Secretary for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBP) Ethics Commission. It would be a privilege to serve on a commission that is dedicated to ensuring and maintaining the integrity of Tribal Government. I look forward to contributing to the development and administration of a Tribal Code of Ethics.

I am a life-long resident of the PBP Reservation. I have been employed with the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection for nine years and currently serve as the Division Manager. I enjoy my job and am dedicated to the mission of improving environmental stewardship and individual responsibility as it relates to our Reservation lands.

I am a graduate of Baker University, with a Master of Science degree in management. My undergraduate studies were completed through Haskell Indian Nations University and Friends University. My educational endeavors were rewarding and beneficial, and I hope to continue learning through experience and from others.

Please consider electing me to serve on the Ethics Commission.



Frank Tecumseh

Candidate for Ethics Commissioner #1



Bozho,

My name is Frank Tecumseh (Mactahsah) and I'm running for Ethics Commissioner. Ethics has many definitions and I look forward to defining what our ethics will be for our tribe. I believe that our people should and will have input in this new endeavor.

I'm seeking a position on the Ethics Commission to be of assistance for our tribe. Our tribe has been instrumental in my success and has provided me with many educational and employment opportunities. In turn, I've volunteered my time to other tribal services: I'm currently the Chief Volunteer Officer for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Boys & Girls Club, the Vice Chairman for the Johnson O'Malley Program, Board Member for the Charitable Contributions Committee and a member of the Worker's Appeal Committee. I'm excited to be able to have the opportunity to serve our tribe in another capacity.

Presently I am the Director of Human Resources for Prairie Band Casino & Resort. I've been employed there for six years and while working, I earned an MBA from Baker University. Prior to my joining the Casino I lived in Phoenix, Ariz. where I worked as a Human Resources Representative for NCS Pearson and as a Benefits Specialist for Federal Communications Group. While in Phoenix, I obtained my bachelor's in business management from the University of Phoenix. I've been married for nine years to Melissa Tecumseh, whom I met while at Haskell Indian Nations University when I was obtaining my associate's degree in computer science. We have three wonderful children Rose, Hannah and Miles Tecumseh.

My father is Ralph Tecumseh and my mother is Paula VanTassel. I was born in Kansas and spent my childhood growing up in Missouri and here on the reservation.

Thank you for your consideration and please exercise your right to vote.

Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson (vote for one (1))



Joyce Guerrero



My name is Joyce Kitchkommie Guerrero. Sog-Mah-Quah is my Indian name. I am a candidate for vice-chairperson on the Tribal Council and I am asking for your vote. I am the daughter of Agnes Wabski and Joe Kitchkommie and my grandparents are Francis Kitchkommie and Dora Gokey and Mary Ship-She-Quah and Joe Wabski.

I have proudly and successfully served the Prairie Band Potawatomi as an elected tribal Gaming Commissioner since 2002. I also served two terms as a regulator monitoring the gaming businesses, ensuring compliance with all levels of federal, state and local regulations at our properties and also interacted with officials, management and staff at facilities, the Kansas State Gaming agency, National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) and others. I was elected treasurer of the Gaming Commission by my fellow commissioners during both terms in office and had the additional duties of overseeing the Finance Department and reporting to the commissioners about the state of the finances of the Gaming Commission.

I believe my experience and training as a Gaming Commissioner has given me a broad knowledge of gaming and the regulations needed to protect the Nation. We will need experienced capable responsible persons making decisions regarding local economic development and gaming endeavors here or elsewhere. In addition, also having an understanding of trust land issues is important and vital to any future negotiations the Tribal Council may have to take on.

When it comes to making decisions I am fair and responsible and will always put the Nation's interest before any personal gains, as I have done in the past for the Gaming Commission. After vacating my position last winter, I returned to the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad where I am currently employed in the payroll accounting department.

I was raised in Topeka with and around other Indian families that, like mine, came from the reservation. I know the background and history of our people. I don't believe there are any differences in us because of geography. Wherever you live, be it Mayetta, Wisconsin, Oklahoma,

Topeka or the Kickapoo reservation, anyplace your life has taken you, it remains that we are all Prairie Band Potawatomi and share common goals with an equal interest to our future. We must strive to work together successfully for our children and grandchildren. As a grandma, I am constantly reminded that it is what we do today that affects their future.

I attended Topeka schools except for a short stint at boarding school during high school. I attended Washburn University as a single mother while working full time. I was elected to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council in the early 1980s and also served on the Board of Directors of the Topeka Indian Center.

I run for this office knowing that the Nation is facing challenging times. We must work harder to compete in the field of gaming due to the State's plans. The Shab-eh-nay project may also need attention to legal land issues if we are going to succeed in opening a facility there. In this election we must seat a Tribal Council that will be responsive to concerns that have been voiced and are willing to get to work on matters that the council should be attending to.

I will strive to be a positive representative for the Prairie Band Potawatomi to serve our great Nation. I am committed to work as a team with Tribal Council and will make thoughtful decisions that will benefit all tribal members. I truly believe that if Tribal Council is fiscally responsible and cautious in making commitments on behalf of the Nation, that it is possible to provide good health care, housing, education, and the pursuit of economic development. Taking care of our elderly and making sure our families and youth live in safe environments and having decent paying jobs to work in is something that can be accomplished. Thank you for your vote.

Joyce Kitchkommie Guerrero

Exert your right to vote in the upcoming election!



Jackie Mitchell



Hello,

My name is Jackie Mitchell and I am requesting your vote for Vice-Chair of our great Nation. I have served the past eight years as Council Member and feel that I am very qualified to assume the responsibilities of the Vice-Chair position. My qualifications include honesty, integrity, commitment; hardworking ethics, education and experience, and I have family and community-orientated values and am a life-long reservation resident.

I feel that I can serve with the honesty and integrity that is required of any person who is running for tribal government. I feel that we have obligations in our lives, and right now I think it is my time to work for our tribal government and give 100 percent commitment. Two examples of that commitment have been in developing the housing program and website. The housing plan assisted tribal members in obtaining their housing goals from new homes on the reservation to home purchases and renovations off the reservation. The new website is a showcase for our Nation. I took the lead in both of these projects and feel they were both a complete success.

I have the work ethic and the educational background to succeed as Vice-Chair having worked my entire life. My work has been in the field of education which resulted in developing an Early Childhood Education Center on the reservation that is still recognized as a model program for Indian Country today. My educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts from Washburn University and a Master of Science from the University of Kansas. I am very proud of my educational degrees which I worked very hard to obtain.

During the past eight years as a Council Member, we have been able to do many things to improve the lives of our membership.

- Building a Boys and Girls Club that offers alternatives to our children
- Opening the Health Clinic that is projected to receive accreditation for providing high quality services

- Transitioning the casino to becoming tribally managed with the aid of highly qualified tribal member employees
- Developing an education program that assists members with the ability to meet their educational goals
- Providing beautiful senior housing in a community that meets the many needs of our elders
- Successfully signing a historic intergovernmental agreement between DeKalb County and the Nation in reclaiming our reservation in Illinois and completing plans to develop on that land

We are entering a new stage in our Nation; we are faced with the challenge of providing essential services with reduced allocations for these programs. It is the responsibility of the Tribal Council to prioritize and budget revenue that is coming into our Nation to meet the needs of our membership. In addition, with state wide gaming possibly coming, our revenue from the casino will be affected. It will be a challenge. The upcoming four years will be a critical time for the leadership of our tribe; it will be a time of many changes for our Nation. It will be a time of increased economic development for our Nation including development here and on our Shab-eh-nay reservation. I feel that I am the right person to work with the rest of the Council to meet these challenges. As Vice Chair, I will promise to do the best job in representing our Nation in a positive and respectful manner. I feel that I am the best person to step in and represent our Nation in the absence of our Chair. A vote for me will be appreciated and will insure continuity and continued growth in our Nation.

Thank you for your support.

Jackie Mitchell



Mamie Wahwassuck Rupnicki

I am seeking the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. I believe my experience and age makes me a good candidate. I was honored to serve our Nation once before and I would be honored to serve again. I believe I have much to offer. In my tenure in office I was able to meet with congressional people and discuss our many problems with them.

As the years pass, I have learned that we must create our own destiny and not wait for others to take the lead. Like the characteristics of our elders (who have passed on) I share their dedication, ability to communicate, and courage to face adversity. I am inspired by their accomplishments which guide my political way, by their example.

Looking back historically, I am inspired by the positive attitude that should prevail at all Prairie Band Potawatomi meetings. That attitude will lead us to successful consensus by which to achieve our goals. Sovereignty, survival, identity and culture are aspects of who we are and also define for whom we are working. The external success of the Prairie Band Potawatomi is in its ability to influence Congress, Statehouses, and the general public about how positive the Indian enterprise can be which will benefit our neighbors as well as ourselves.

I am inspired by the discipline that I observe that underlies our determination to survive as people. The discipline includes the ability to communicate about ideas rather than personalities. Criticism is easy because no one is perfect. Critique, on the other hand, requires discipline, observation, analysis and presenting optional strategies to any issue. I also learned at an

early age, that you need positive work ethics and to be accountable for the decisions you make. Hard work has never hurt anyone. I will not make promises that I cannot keep but I promise to do the best job I can and to be responsible for any decision I might make.

Over the course of my term as Prairie Band Potawatomi Chairwoman, the battles have been numerous and those years were not easy times. Yet in reflecting back, I can honestly say that with the support of our Nation we warded off every attack launched against us when it came to Indian gaming and tribal sovereignty.

Still, there is much important work that lies ahead of us. I will devote everything with in me to serve the Prairie Band Potawatomi and to protect our rights and sovereignty. I will dedicate my efforts to further strengthening our Nation in its effectiveness.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation has come a long way. While we will always value the support we receive from other communities and experts, the Nation must develop and educate its own experts from within. I'm proud to say I've personally experienced as well as witnessed this growth and internal development.

I graduated with a master's in business degree in May of 2006 and earned a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in business in 1992.

I would appreciate your vote.

Tribal Council Treasurer (vote for one (1))



Ryan Dyer



Bozho!

My name is Ryan Dyer and Wish-kuk-ke-ash-kuk is my Potawatomi name. I am a candidate for Treasurer of the Tribal Council for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. I am especially proud to currently serve as your Treasurer and am positive that I will continue to contribute to the success of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The Tribal Council Treasurer directly manages a staff of 15 people in the Finance Department and is the only Tribal Council position that has the responsibility for managing a department. The Finance Department is staffed with knowledgeable professionals, and I have dramatically increased the number of tribal members who work in the Finance Department. I have also created a department development plan that is establishing long-term succession planning and is providing rewarding careers for many of our members. My career experiences prior to serving on the Tribal Council have also allowed me to develop a stable and effective management style within this department.

The Treasurer position requires an in-depth understanding of economics, finance, and the complex investment and debt structure of the Nation. My educational and experiential skills in mathematics and finance have contributed to my ability to effectively manage our economic strategy. Throughout the years, I have developed a network of finance and banking professionals that can also assist the Nation in achieving our financial goals. Since I've been in office, the Nation has aggressively paid down our casino debt through a combination of refinancing, hedging, investment growth, and a comprehensive debt management strategy. I helped to create an Investment Policy and Debt Policy, as well as developed a culture of fiscal responsibility within the tribal government. In the future, I will continue to utilize the available resources to the Nation to position us for positive financial prospects.

The Nation incurred a substantial casino transition expense and, additionally, it has been financially difficult for the Nation the past four years as revenues have continued to decline. The Tribal Council and I collectively made necessary difficult decisions to maintain a balanced budget while minimizing impact on our membership. Nevertheless, I have never feared doing what is necessary to provide for the long-term success of the Nation. In my next

term in office, I will consider the overall impact to the Nation in all decisions that I make which is a continual long-term goal. We may go on to experience declining revenues in the future; however, the experience and knowledge that I have gained as Tribal Treasurer will be an invaluable asset throughout this period of time.

As a member of the Tribal Council, the Treasurer assists in seeking economic development opportunities and develops strategies to carry out options. As such, I was involved with the following major growth ventures for the Nation:

Helped with the purchase of Mayetta Oil Company, which has been a success story for the Nation, by providing jobs for our members and income to the Nation

Contributed to the development of the Section 17 Corporation that now manages our casino facility

Created a wind powered generator proposal that the Nation can use to find a development partner

Taken the lead on the Highway 75 & 150 Road development project

Perhaps equally as important as looking at projects undertaken by the Nation is to analyze projects that may not be feasible for the Nation. Many proposals are reviewed by the Treasurer's office and the Tribal Council that are not a good fit for the Nation. It is important to make sound judgment and stable and conservative decisions for the Nation regarding economic development. I will pledge to continue to do so, on your behalf.

I am honored to serve as your Tribal Council Treasurer. I humbly thank you for the opportunity and believe the future will be even more productive and successful for our Nation. I invite you to please visit my blog at www.pbnews.blogspot.com for more information about Ryan Dyer, including many of the Tribal Treasurer activities that I share with the people of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Election Board
P.O. Box 128
Mayetta, Kansas 66509



Election Board

Voncile Mitchell	785.966.3911
Julia Barber	785.966.3910
Arlene Lingo	785.966.3934
Toll free	785.715.6789

Tribal Council Person #2 (vote for one (1))



Rencie Eteeyan

Get your head out of your...Ego!

Over 6.5 billion people inhabit this earth. The United States of America has 300 million people with more people coming here from all parts of the world. The last I heard there are about one million Native Americans, American Indians, and Alaska Natives in the United States. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation has a little over 5000 members that include elders, children, and adults.

What does this all mean to us? To the rest of the planet we are an infinitesimal part of the overall picture but to us this is our world, this is our Nation. As a Nation we have rights and a responsibility to assertively guard those rights. Through exercising our right to choose who will represent us in this upcoming election, we say to the rest of the world that we are a people who have a right to exist, to be self-governing and to define ourselves as a Nation. In other words, **your vote is important** regardless if you vote for another candidate or me.

To the present Tribal Council and those who will be elected, Do your job! Listen to our people. That is what you are elected for. That is why you ran for office. Think, think, think! Think about our people. Think about our sovereignty. Think about our future as a Nation. Everyday put your egos in your back pocket, roll up your sleeves and get to work.

Rencie Eteeyan
Tribal Council Person #2 Candidate



Chago Hale

With your support in the upcoming July 26, 2008 election I hope to serve our Nation as a Tribal Council Member.

Greetings everyone,

I am Chago Hale, the proud husband to my beautiful wife Shayla, and the father of three wonderful children, Mittina, 11, Mshewe, 4, and Nagosqe, 2. My mother is LaVerne Hale and my father is Joseph Hale Sr. I am proud to be a true life long resident of the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation in Mayetta, Kan.

I have strong traditional and family values that were instilled in me at a young age. I am blessed with a family that teaches and regularly practices our traditional way of life. I am also fortunate to have the opportunity to learn from various elders and other community members. Our beliefs have life long lessons that show us how to live and how to take care of our people. Through this, I have learned that things can not be done alone; this is our Home, our Nation, and our Future.

My Vision of our Nation...

The mission of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Kansas is to uphold and retain its right to self-governance by protecting tribal sovereignty and assets. To preserve, protect, and enhance the quality of life for the tribe, the members including the elderly and children, and its community while preserving and embracing its Nishnabe culture, language, and traditions.

Promoting Justice and Advocacy...

I believe in leading by example, being fair, practicing teamwork, prioritizing, and making the best use of available resources. No individual person or tribal council member should take credit for a project; we are a Nation, we are all accountable, responsible, and we all contribute to the successes and failures of our people.

I believe that open communication is essential for cooperation within any organization. I will do my absolute best to listen to the questions and concerns of the general membership, clarify misunderstandings, and listen to different perspectives.

I can help further the interests of the Nation by enhancing the lives of our people through:

- Increasing educational opportunities
- Fair hiring practices
- Increasing employment opportunities
- Addressing the housing needs and concerns
- Ensuring adequate healthcare services

Conclusion

I am confident that I can contribute to dynamic leadership, aggressive advocacy, open communication, and the promotion of benefits and services to our membership. I am committed to addressing the needs of our membership and working towards effective solutions. I will consciously aid in making important decisions that affect each of us. And when change is necessary, I will be mindful to voice opinions that help shape the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation into a Nation that invites greater opportunity and builds strength.

Our Home, our Nation, and our Future



Peggy A. Nioce Houston

I am **Peggy Nioce Houston**, the daughter of Patricia Kahbeah Nioce and the late Edgar L. Nioce. My Indian name is **Commaquah**, which was given to me by my grandfather, Joseph Nioce. I am a life long resident of Kansas and have two children, Lindsey, 18, Birmingham, Ala. and Jake, 23, Topeka, Kan.

My professional experience includes having over 10 years of combined casino management experience at Downstream Casino Resort, the Prairie Band Casino, and Mystic Lake Casino Hotel located in Minnesota.

My experience with the Prairie Band began in employee relations where I was promoted within an 18-month period from career development to becoming the Director of Human Resources. After five years I transferred to the position of Director of Customer Service and in my last position there I was the Casino Transition Manager over Guest and Human Relations.

Prior to my positions in gaming, I worked for seven years as an Independent Living Coordinator in a Governor Finney-appointed position for the State of Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services. In addition I served seven years as a Mental Health Technician at the Menninger Foundation.

I graduated from Emporia State University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science, double major in Sociology and Anthropology with a minor in Rehabilitation Counseling. While I was working in an executive position I completed graduate school at Friends University, Wichita, Kan. where I received a Masters of Science in Management in May, 2005.

As a member of our growing successful Nation, I have a wealth of knowledge and experience to contribute to critical decisions, to improve our infrastructure and economic development which will lead to self-governance and, more importantly, self sufficiency. I have a commitment to building and supporting Native owned businesses and the education, health and welfare of our people.

While representing the people is first and foremost, I have the following targeted areas of interest:

- Collaboration of our resources
- Utilizing and supporting the development of Native American business resources
- Increasing resource availability to our people
- Open door policy

Success in these areas would result in the following benefits:

- Community and health services that promote work/ life balance
- Developing services that combat the rising costs of health care
- Providing education for the Nation from the Nation
- Protecting our sovereignty while utilizing it to our fullest potential, by working Nation to Nation with our Native partners
- Two way open communication with all tribal members, tribal enterprises, and service providers

Leadership success begins with your vote and your voice in promoting PBP values.



Francis T. Shopteese, Jr.

Bosho,

My name is Francis T. Shopteese Jr. {Pe-nos-wah} and I am pleased to announce my candidacy for a position on the Tribal Council. I am the proud father of 3 children and 6 grandchildren and I believe the future of our children depends on the decisions we make today.

The Nation is being faced with some very stiff obstacles in our path for the future and we must find ways to overcome them. The future of our gaming operations should depend on preparing a 3-5-10 year revenue plan to make sure we are competitive and to secure a financial share of the business. We need to move forward with new business opportunities and explore ways to establish future revenues for the tribe. We need to make sure our health care programs remain strong to continue taking care of our elders and nurturing our youth. I will be committed to getting involved with the directors of our programs and will listen to their concerns and needs to provide the necessary support for our tribal members and their families. We must continue to push for our sovereignty as a Nation, fight for what is ours as Indian people, and never lose sight of our traditional ways. I was taught to honor elders, honor veterans and to treat people the way you would like to be treated and never promise something you can not accomplish.

Stability, reliability and dedication determines how a person performs not only at their job, but also how they live their life. I was born in Kansas and raised in Texas where I

graduated from Amarillo High School and attended Amarillo Junior College. My work history includes eleven years with Westinghouse Corp as an Administrative Manager in Amarillo, Dallas-Ft Worth and Albuquerque, NM. I worked eighteen years as a Senior Sales Representative based out of Albuquerque, N.M. for the Nevada Philips Lighting Division and had the responsibility for product distribution in the State of New Mexico, Southern Colorado, Eastern Arizona and the Texas panhandle to El Paso. In 2000 I moved to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation reservation and was employed by the tribe as an Administrative Assistant to Jackie Mitchell until 2005. I am currently on the PARR Advisory Board, the Elder Center Advisory Board, the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club, the Workers Appeals Committee for the Prairie Band Casino & Resort and the All-Veterans Memorial Committee in Topeka Kan. Presently I am serving the Nation as the Senior Liaison Officer for the We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410 and am a proud Veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

In closing, I leave you with some simple rules I try to follow: be considerate, be fair, be trustworthy, be honest, never ask more of people than you can do yourself and be accountable for your actions and expect the same of others. I would like to encourage everyone to please vote and through teamwork comes success.

Igwien

Tribal Council Person #3 vote for one (1))



Ann DeCoteau

Hello - My name is **Ann DeCoteau** and I am running for Tribal Council Member Number 3 (as noted on upcoming ballot). I am the daughter of Mary Frost and the granddaughter of Lenora and William Simon. My husband, Chris, and I live in Mayetta where we successfully operate our own business. Our four beautiful children are Ella Marie (19), Ashli Ann (17), Anthony J. (14) and Nathan Lane (4).

I believe... •I am a strong, positive, capable Native woman •You must work hard for what you believe in...I believe in our Nation! •You must treat people, as you want to be treated, with fairness, respect and compassion. •Everyone makes mistakes and that mistakes are lessons to be learned from! •Communication that is done in a constructive manner will assist in overcoming any challenge we face!

I believe in creating and aggressively pursuing a strategic plan for continued Economic Development. Economic Development is a way we can secure a thriving future for our children. Through gaming, our Nation has grown and flourished over a decade. If we want continued growth and prosperity we must diversify our economic development interests to include other revenue generating opportunities. I will work closely with our Treasurer Ryan Dyer and other Council Members on the 150th and Highway 75 Interchange Project as well as other potential developments. I believe the Interchange Project Consultants presented some very good ideas for this site which would be beneficial to our community and attractive to retail owners and consumers alike. In addition, I also believe Tribal Council must consider the needs of our reservation residents in the planning. I will aggressively advocate making those desires a reality. If our community is in need of a grocery store at that location then there should be space made available for a grocery store... it's as simple as that! We must make every attempt to keep our spending dollars locally; this support will help grow economic stability. We shouldn't have to take hard earned money outside of our community.

I believe in affordable housing for all Prairie Band Potawatomi Members! During my two-year tenure as a Housing Board Member I have heard many of the issues which seem to

stem from inadequate funding. This needs to be changed so we can meet our most basic need, "homes for those who want to reside on the reservation." I will work closely with Tribal Council to secure more funding from our federal partners (HUD and NAHASDA). This additional funding could replace a portion of the Housing budget cuts that have drastically impacted this department over the past year. In future budget cycles, I will advocate making the Housing budget a priority and in addition, advocate for the reinstatement and expansion of the recently eliminated National Housing Programs.

I believe...

- We must be proud of who we are!
- We must honor the sacrifices and adversities our ancestors endured in order to make our very lives a reality!
- We must celebrate and take pride in the successes of our Nation today!
- We must look toward the future and endeavor to fulfill our promise to the next generation!

If you believe as I do...I would appreciate your vote in the upcoming election!

Thank you.
Ann DeCoteau
Land_chic@yahoo.com

Additional Qualifications & Honors:

- Successful start-up family business owner - 2 years
- Realty Administrator for the PBP - 7 years
- Pow Wow Committee - 6 years, 3 years as Vice-Chairperson
- Housing Board - 1 1/2 years
- Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors - 6 months
- Title VII Parent Committee - 2 1/2 years
- Land Management Committee - 7 1/2 years, 4 months as Secretary
- Employee of the Month Committee - 3 years