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# Prairie Band Potawatomi News

Summer 2009 EDITION

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

## Two Prairie Band Potawatomi inducted into American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame

Two Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) members, Warner A. "Tony" Coffin, Jr. (posthumously), and Gerald L. "Jerry" Tuckwin were inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame on May 2 at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

Two other American Indian athletes, Joseph T. "Joe" Hipp, Blackfeet, a professional boxer from Browning, Mon., and Melvin A. "Pete" Peterson, Eastern Band Cherokee, a professional world wide tennis player, were also inducted during the event.

Tony Coffin was a long time coach at Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) and was involved in several sports including football, basketball, baseball and boxing. The sports complex on the HINU campus was named in his honor and he was also well known for mentoring Indian athletes like famous track star Billy Mills who won a gold medal in the 1964 Olympic Games and also attended the event.

Tony was born October 10, 1916 to Warner and Margaret Coffin who resided in Mayetta, Kansas. Tony attended Mayetta High School and received his bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Kansas. He was also an officer in the U.S. Navy before taking his position at Haskell. He died September 25, 1966. His widow and children participated in the Hall of Fame ceremony along with other members of his family.

Jerry Tuckwin, a former student of Coffin's, worked for 32 years as the director of athletics at HINU and was also recognized for his contributions as a cross country track and field coach at HINU which was formerly known as Haskell Indian Junior College. Under Tuckwin's tutelage Haskell's team members earned National Junior College



Jerry Tuckwin (PBPB), left, with Wayne Post oak (Choctaw), a former Haskell basketball coach and athletics director, Barry Coffin (PBPB) artist and Tony Coffin's son, and Olympic star Billy Mills (Lakota) on the right.

Athletic Association All-American recognition 30 different times and also won the National Junior College Marathon Championships twice which was the first national championships ever won by Haskell. Tuckwin also received the Kansas Junior College Coach of the Year Award three times and the National Runner-up award once.

Jerry was born on February 14, 1942 to Lewis and Elizabeth Tuckwin who lived on the PBP reservation and in Mayetta, Kan. until they died tragically in a fire in 1949. After their deaths he was raised by his aunt and uncle, Mage and Jane Puckkee, on the reservation and from there graduated from Haskell when it was a high school, in the 1960s. Jerry continued his education at Wichita State University (formerly University of Wichita) where he received a track scholarship and was a three-year letterman and graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1964. He went on to receive a master's degree from the University of Arizona and following his education taught school in the Lawrence area for a couple of years. In 1966 he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served in Vietnam until 1970.

Several of Jerry's family were on hand for the event and were recognized by Jerry during his acceptance speech along with several other PBPB members.

The American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame was founded in 1972 with the purpose of recognizing great athletes of American Indian heritage and to serve as a model for Indian youth who aspire to physical greatness. The hall of fame is housed at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan. Among the 90-plus Indian athletes who are enshrined there are Jim Thorpe, John Levi, Moses Yellow Horse and Sonny Sixkiller.

## Notah Begay announces golf course at casino with PBPB

PGA golfer Notah Begay III (Dine) and Tribal Chairman Steve Ortiz officially announced the construction of the Nation's new Firekeeper Golf Course June 15 at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort before a large crowd of news reporters, tribal members and area citizens.

Before the announcement was made, Begay told the Potawatomi News that he came to look at the progress of the course and to go over the plans and designs on-site with Jeffrey D. Brauer, the course's architect, who also attended the official launch and is a partner with Begay's firm NB3 Consulting on the project.

The Firekeeper Golf Course will include 18-holes and sit across from the Prairie Band Casino & Resort on 240 acres. It will be the first Notah Begay III Signature golf course and is scheduled to open in the second half of 2010 weather permitting.

During the official announcement Begay said, "NB3 Consulting and its partners are extremely excited about the golf course project for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. This course is

the culmination of the hard work and vision of the Prairie Band leadership and will serve the community for generations to come."

Steve Ortiz, tribal council chairman, said, "With all the work that got us to this point and knowing of the tremendous possibilities for the future, I couldn't be prouder. It truly makes this a unique entertainment destination and is certain to become the jewel of the Midwest." Firekeeper will be the first and only casino, resort hotel and golf course in the region.

The course is designed to be one of the premier courses in the Midwest. Unlike many modern golf courses which are part of real estate developments, Firekeeper has no nearby housing. Consequently, it will have the look and feel of a more 'traditional' course. This enables players the option to walk, with a short distance from green to tees, but will still be designed to withstand modern golf equipment (the championship tees will be approximately 7,400 yards in length).

Please see Golf Course, Page 3



Notah Begay at the press conference June 15 showing the course. Steve Ortiz is right.

## Casino News

Three Tribal Council members made a trip to Washington, D.C. to visit with their legal team and consultants that included a meeting with George Skibine, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior on April 27. According to Steve Ortiz, Tribal Council chairperson, the group did discuss the land determination issue in Illinois but presently the decision still rests with the National Indian Gaming Commission and no timeframe has been established for when a decision will be made.

The Council also learned while they were in D.C. that any of the economic recovery stimulus monies given to the tribes would have to be backed by good accounting practices. Ortiz told PBPB managers at a meeting on May 6, that he knew accounting practices were sound with the PBPB and that this would not be a problem for the tribe.

In Kansas, only one casino in Dodge City

(Ford County) is presently being built and has a projected opening date for November. In addition, just this week the Kansas Lottery Commission received two applications from casino development companies who are bidding for the destination casino spot in Wyandotte County. There were also three bids for Summer County. The incoming applications are all pitching casinos on a smaller scale due to the economic downturn that took place last fall. The poor economy has also left the Kansas legislature wrestling with how to rework the gambling law in hopes of getting the casinos open soon as a way to generate needed revenue for the state.

In other news, Kathleen Sebelius resigned as Governor of Kansas to become the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Former lieutenant governor Mark Parkinson replaced Sebelius and is now the Governor.

## Larry Mzhickteno wins Gaming Commission seat

Larry Mzhickteno (with blanket) after being sworn in to office at the Bingo Hall on April 6. He is joined by other members of the Gaming Commission who are from left to right, Tami McClammy, Calvin Evans, Tom Tuckwin and Gary Mitchell.



Larry Mzhickteno was declared the winner of Gaming Commission position #2 by beating Jancita Warrington in a run-off election held March 31 at the Bingo Hall.

A total of 717 votes were counted that day with Mzhickteno receiving 368 votes (51.32%) to Warrington's 349 (48.68%) votes.

Both candidates were in attendance along with approximately 20 others. Those who assisted with the election were Tim Sanchez of Automated Election Service (AES), Albuquerque, Marty Hamlin, Election Judge, and Francis Shopteese, Martie Mitchell, Leslie Marshno, and Joe Mendez who served as clerks. Election board members Voncile Mitchell, Arlene Lingo and June Barber were also on hand along with Interim Chief of Tribal Police Mike Boswell who acted as the official observer.

On April 6 a swearing in ceremony was held for Mzhickteno with Steve Ortiz, tribal chairperson, conducting the oath of office at the Bingo Hall. Approximately 50 people including several members of the

Tribal Council and all the Gaming Commission members attended the swearing-in. After the oath of office was taken Mzhickteno received well-wishers which was followed by refreshments.

In recapping the Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission election, on March 6 a swearing in ceremony was held for Gary Mitchell at the Bingo Hall. He beat Anna Boswell for position #1 on February 25.

Other votes counted on February 25 for Gaming Commission position #2 besides Mzhickteno with 151 (17.36%) votes and Warrington's 168 (19.31%) votes were Paula Hopkins with 112 (12.87%), Roy T. Ogden with 114 (13.10%), Donald "Jim" Shane with 44 (5.06%), Raphael Wahwassuck with 131 (15.06%), and Jacob M. "Tug" Wamego with 150 (17.24%).

There was one protest of the vote count that was filed but after a recount the Elections Board reported that the count was correct.

## Introducing Sylvana Levier

## 2009 Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Princess

The pow-wow was held June 12-14, 2009



Other important dates

Register online for the Gathering August 6-8 in

Prairie Peoples Park

For more information go to [www.pbpindiantribe.com](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com)

July 3	Government Offices Closed
	Independence Day
July 18	General Council Annual Meeting
Aug. 6-8	Gathering
Sept. 7	Government Offices Closed
	Labor Day
Sept. 25	Government Offices Closed
	American Indian Day
Sept. 26	Veterans Pow-wow (Prairie Peoples Park)





## Message to the Nation from Steve Ortiz, Tribal Council Chairperson

During the second quarter of 2009 two meetings were held to work out an agreement between the PBPB and Shabbona Township concerning roads. Tribal Council will continue negotiations with Shabbona Township during the third quarter of 2009.

Tribal Council has decided not to continue planting corn on the Shab-ey-nay land and will return the land to native grass. Also, Tribal Council has decided to work with Lake Shabbona Park officials in their efforts to restore and rebuild the fish hatchery at Lake Shabbona. Some of the PBPB Road and Bridge department will travel to Lake Shabbona and handle the planting of native grass and the rebuilding of the hatchery ponds.

In other developments, the PBPB plans to file court proceedings in Illinois concerning the government center building that was manufactured and stored by Ruffalo Builders. At this point, storage costs for the government center building have exceeded the cost of the building and Ruffalo Builders does not want to return the manufactured building to the PBPB which we've already paid for. Other issues may arise as Tribal Council reviews the storage costs concerning the manufactured casino building which is also being stored in Texas, however, no legal action is planned at this time concerning the casino building.

In April Tribal Council went to Washington, D.C. to meet with Acting Assistant Secretary George Skibine to update him and his staff on agreements reached in Illinois to date and to have him pass this information on to the incoming Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Larry EchoHawk. As usual, there continues to be local support for the Shab-ey-nay project in the local Illinois area and Tribal Council plans to continue an informational campaign on our project and how it could positively affect the job market in the DeKalb region. Right now Tribal Council still remains concerned that the Illinois State Attorney General plans to file a lawsuit against the PBPB if any significant construction or rezoning occurs at the Shab-ey-nay property. Another concern is the possible violation of the Johnson Act which deals with interstate transportation of gaming devices for gaming purposes. Lastly, the Tribal Council con-

tinues to await an opinion requested by the DeKalb County Commissioners to the National Indian Gaming Commission as to whether or not the Shab-ey-nay land is eligible for gaming. The opinion has not yet been rendered.

### In other business

- The Tribal Council approved hosting and held the Region 7 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (H.H.S.) Tribal Consultations for Tribes in Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska in April. There are 10 agencies under the U.S. Dept. of H.H.S. umbrella and they have a combined budget of \$700 billion annually. Tribes were encouraged to apply for grant funding. Grant writing training was also held as part of the consultation. Overall, there were over 100 attendees at the meeting.

- During the second quarter Tribal Council approved hosting and held the Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board Quarterly Meeting at Prairie Band Casino & Resort. The meeting provided an opportunity for all four tribes in Kansas to meet the new Area Director Kevin Meeks and to discuss the economic stimulus plan and grant opportunities for the tribes. Also discussed was stimulus funding being allocated to the tribes through the budget formulation. It was emphasized that accounting of stimulus funds received by tribes would have to be accounted for separately from annual funding if received for healthcare and road maintenance. Currently the tribe has been awarded \$300,000 in stimulus funding for the Potawatomi Health Center.

- Tribal Chairman Steve Ortiz, Jerry Briscoe and Lily Hall attended a training called Tribal Self-governance for HealthCare 101 Training at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee, Okla. The training is in preparation of the PBPB taking over clinic operations on January 1, 2010.

- Engineering and construction has begun by Mar-Lan on the new courthouse which is being constructed next to the health facility.

- The golf course construction kick-off event was held on June 15 at the Prairie Band Casino and Resort. Notah Begay, owner of NB3 Consulting, was present to discuss details of the golf course to the media and general public attending the event. The golf course which has been named 'Fire Keeper' is scheduled to be completed in July of 2010.

- Tribal Council approved and held a train-

ing on June 11 and 12 for the volunteer Peacemakers. Training that was provided by Justice Stacy Leeds, Justice Eugene Whitefish and Justice Bill Rice.

- Kansas expanded gaming efforts still continue to take unexpected turns as usual. Only the Dodge City casino with a hotel is under construction and near completion. The new Kansas Governor Mark Parkinson is advocating re-opening the gaming bill that was passed by the Legislature and reducing the State's share of revenue for the casino operators benefit.

- Tribal Council continues to work with members of the Drum Religion to renovate the Dance Grounds and work is nearing completion.

- The 2009 Potawatomi Gathering Committee headed by Laverne Hale and Paula Hopkins have completed a tentative schedule of activities for the 2009 Gathering that will include sunrise services, an economic development meeting, language activities, pow-wow, give-away, registration, and youth activities. Information on the Gathering is posted on our website.

- The Tribal Council has scheduled a town hall meeting in Wisconsin for PBPB members on June 27 in Wisconsin Dells, Wis. The meeting will be from 9 a.m. to noon at the Ho-Chunk Convention Center.

- Lastly, Tribal Council approved Chairman Steve Ortiz to travel to the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Reservation to meet with Chairman Kevin Leecy who is also Vice Chairman for the National Indian Gaming Association to discuss the issue of Tribal Nations being treated the same as other government entities when it comes to unions. The issue is scheduled to be discussed at the mid-year meeting of the National Congress of American Indians.

Steve Ortiz (Mon-wah)  
Tribal Chairman

Please make a note that the News Office has moved from the We-Ta-Se building on K Road to the lower level of the Government Center. The office also has a new phone and fax number.

## Newspaper Information

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**Also visit the News section on**

**www.pbpindiantribe.com**

### Tribal Council members from the Four Tribes in Kansas meet



Steve Ortiz, tribal chair, traveled to the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska reservation on March 30 where the Iowas hosted Council members from the four Kansas tribes at the White Cloud Casino for a quarterly meeting. The group listened to presentations about the Veterans Administration, tribal records management, and renewable energy, and also participated in a conference call with the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs regarding recent funding opportunities under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In the photo, left to right, are Steve Ortiz, PBPB, Cheryl Simon, Kickapoo, Charley Switch, Kickapoo, Nina Merchant, Iowa, Alan Kelley, Iowa, Robbie Craig, Iowa, Twen Barton, Sac & Fox, Tim Rhodd, Iowa, Shatah Smith, Sac & Fox, Russ Bradley, Kickapoo, Arlan Whitebird, Kickapoo, and Ken Jessepe, Kickapoo.

### Tribal Council travel to Washington and meet with George Skibine Acting Assistant Secretary of Interior



Three Tribal Council officers were in Washington, D.C. on April 27 and were photographed with their legal consultants during a meeting. In the photo, sitting, is Tribal Chairperson Steve Ortiz and standing behind him, from left to right, is Jim Potter, Jennifer Hughes, Fran Ayers, Joyce Guerrero, Charles Hobbs and Michael Rossetti. In D.C. the group met with Acting Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs George Skibine and other legislators about tribal matters. Jim Potter is secretary of the Tribal Council and Joyce Guerrero is vice chairperson.

## PBPB selected for transportation enhancement funding



Tim Ramirez  
Public Works Director

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation was selected for one of 14 projects for inclusion as part of a Transportation Enhancement program for Federal Fiscal Years 2009-2010 given by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT).

According to Tim Ramirez, Public Works Director, the funds will be used on a Pedestrian/Bicycle trail on the PBPB reservation that runs from the second cluster to the Tribal Court building.

The project, which is being funded for \$272,880, is made possible through the economic stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Total cost for the selected projects was approximately \$11.4 million.

KDOT had received 101 applications from local units of government for funding consideration totaling more than \$110 million.

"The Transportation Enhancement program provides federal highway funds for projects that strengthen the cultural, aesthetic or environmental value of our transportation system," said KDOT Secretary Deb Miller. "This program has been very popular in the state and these improvements couldn't have happened without local partners and KDOT working together."

Transportation Enhancement projects under this federal program fall into three major program categories. They include Historic, Pedestrian/Bicycle and Scenic/Environmental projects.

**Right: The Dance Grounds got a new face lift this spring both inside and out. The Public Works Department made the improvements on the building and parking lot.**



### Prairie Band Potawatomi News

*An award winning Native American 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. Please submit items by email (as an attachment) or other electronic means (CD, flashdrive) 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, telephone number or email address where you can be contacted to verify information, if needed.

Photos submitted with news articles will be returned after publication or can be scanned if brought to the News office. If submitting by mail please include a stamped and self-addressed envelope with the photo.

#### 2009 Potawatomi News Quarterly Schedule

##### Spring

Deadline for News: March 1  
Publish Date: March 25

##### Summer

Deadline for News: June 1  
Publish Date: June 24

##### Fall

Deadline for News: September 1  
Publish Date: September 23

##### Winter

Deadline for News: December 1  
Publish Date: December 16

**The Potawatomi News is a member of the Native American Journalists Association**





## Golf course announcement: Notah Begay's NB3 Consulting designing the course

*Continued from Page 1*

Another aspect that is certain to make it a world-class golf course, developers say, is the length to which the environment is being preserved throughout the process. "Keeping with Potawatami traditions," explained Ortiz, "we are going above and beyond to retain all of the land's natural elements with minimal disruption." The course will use all of the original land features to an advantage such as native grasses and vegetation, rolling hills, wind considerations, natural water features and rock formations, and panoramic views.

In fact, golf course architect Jeffrey D. Brauer is considered a pioneer in the environmental preservation of modern golf courses and has written the book *Environmental Principles of Golf*. "Our goal is to develop a sustainable and environmentally friendly property," he said. "We're utilizing multiple methods of environmental preservation such as erosion control, rainwater irrigation and limiting water runoff."

Furthermore, Brauer explained that only about 100,000-125,000 cubic yards of dirt are expected to be moved in creating the golf course. He noted that the median amount of dirt that is usually moved to build a

golf course is close to 250,000 cubic yards; some projects move as much as a million cubic yards.

Landscapes Unlimited is based in Lincoln, Neb., and is one of the premier golf course development firms in the world with more than a thousand golf course development projects to its name. Of the 15 collective projects the NB3/Landscapes Unlimited team has worked on for Native American communities, all have received national recognition.

Begay also told the *News* that he believes there are a lot of capable and hardworking PBPB out there who are going to benefit from working at the Firekeeper Golf Course in the future and that NB3 Consulting has already benefited from the knowledge coming from PBPB employees who've offered advice about constructing the course.

When asked if he had a message to carry back to the Prairie Band people, Begay said, "Get out and play some golf, especially you young people. Native American people seem to have a lot more hurdles to overcome than most people and getting involved in golf can help. It's been a dream come true for me being the only Native American professional on the circuit, and it can be yours too."



A job fair was held on May 8 at the Public Works building where individuals applied for work with Landscapes Unlimited, the development firm that is constructing the course as a partner with NB3 Consulting.

Photo by Micki Martinez

*Notah Begay is the only full-blooded Native American on the PGA Tour and has won four PGA tournaments. He's also the third player ever in the history of professional golf to shoot 59 in a professional event.*

## Breaking ground



The PBPB Public Works Department is busy at work on the golf course.

that is located north of the Prairie Band Casino & Resort



## FIREKEEPER



## GOLF COURSE

### Some facts and frequently asked questions about the new golf course

#### Fact Sheet

**WHAT:** •Firekeeper will be the first and only casino, hotel resort and golf course in the multi-state region, further establishing the Prairie Band Casino & Resort as a premier destination resort in the Midwest.

•The course will have a complete practice facility (with amenities such as a driving range, pitching/chipping area and putting green) to work on all aspects of the game.

•The clubhouse will be approximately 6,000 square feet and include a food-service area, a cart barn and 80-90 parking spots.

•Firekeeper won't have any housing around the course, giving it the look and feel of a very "traditional" golf course making it even more enjoyable from both a playability and aesthetics standpoint. (Many modern golf courses are part of real estate developments, and are very spread out and consequently difficult to walk.)

**WHERE:** •The Firekeeper golf course is located immediately north of Prairie Band Casino & Resort (12305 150th Road; Mayetta, KS 66509).  
•It is approximately 15 minutes north of Topeka in northeast Kansas.

**WHO:** •When finished, Firekeeper will be open to the public.  
•Firekeeper is being built by a world-class design team consisting of:  
*NB3 Consulting*-owned by Notah Begay, a four-time PGA Tour winner and the only full-blooded Native American on the PGA Tour.  
*Landscapes Unlimited*-the premier golf course construction firm in the world, completing more than a thousand projects world wide.  
*Jeff Brauer*- an award-winning golf course architect is working in conjunction with *NB3 Consulting* on the course design; he is a pioneer in the environmental preservation of modern golf courses and authored *Environmental Principles of Golf*.  
•Once open, Firekeeper will create approximately 20-30 new jobs.

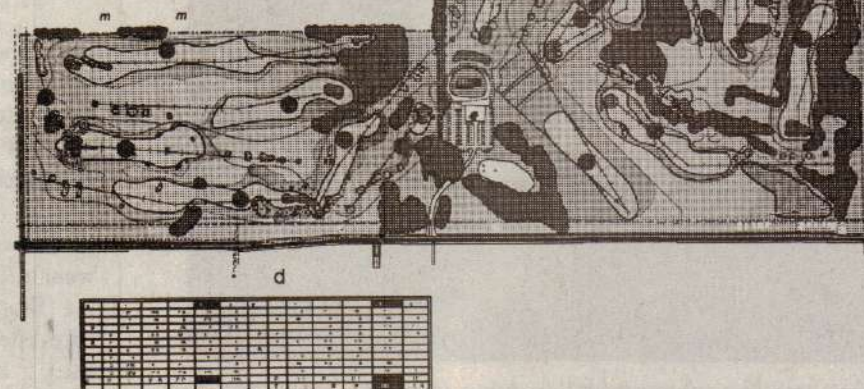
**WHEN:** •Construction began in May 2009.  
•The anticipated completion date is summer 2010.

**HOW:** •Extreme care is being taken to preserve the area's natural topography with minimal disruption. This allows for a golf course that uses all of the original land features to an advantage such as native grasses and vegetation, rolling hills, wind considerations, natural water features and spectacular views.  
•Multiple methods of environmental preservation are being utilized such as erosion control, rainwater irrigation and limiting water runoff all with the goal of developing a sustainable and environmentally friendly property.  
•Only about 100,000-125,000 cubic yards of dirt are expected to be moved in creating the golf course. The median amount of dirt that is usually moved to build a golf course is close to 250,000 cubic yards. Some projects move as much as a million cubic yards of dirt.

## FIREKEEPER



## GOLF COURSE



Routing plan for the 18-hole course that will span 240 acres

#### Frequently Asked Questions

##### How will the golf course enhance the Nation's offerings?

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is building the golf course to further establish the Prairie Band Casino & Resort as a premier destination resort in the Midwest. The golf course will be an amenity to the resort and will stimulate additional economic activity from the customer base. The golf course will also serve the Prairie Band community in the form of job opportunities and provide programs for community youth.

##### Who is building the golf course?

NB3 Consulting, a Native American-owned consulting firm, will be building the golf course in conjunction with Landscapes Unlimited, NB3's development partner. NB3 Consulting is owned by Notah Begay III, a four time PGA TOUR winner and a graduate of Stanford University. He is the only full-blooded Native American on the PGA TOUR. Landscapes Unlimited is the premier golf course construction firm in the world and has completed more than a thousand projects world wide. Begay also will be working with Jeff Brauer, a renowned golf course architect, on the design of the golf course.

##### When will the project be completed?

Weather permitting, the golf course will be completed and scheduled to open by mid-summer 2010. Usually, golf courses take longer than this to complete but NB3 Consulting and Landscapes Unlimited will try to finish the project by summer of 2010 for the Nation.

##### Are there any jobs available during construction?

The Nation's construction department will be assisting in various phases. There may be job opportunities during the "grow-in" phase of the golf course that will take place later in the construction process.

##### How can we track the progress of the project?

A Web site currently is being created for the new golf course. Communication will follow as soon as the Web site is functional, allowing individuals to follow the progress of the project.





## Departments and Programs

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

### PBPN hosts area tribes at Health and Human Services Region 7 meeting

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) hosted a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Consultation with the Region 7 Native American Tribal Nations April 8-9 at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

The meeting opened with the posting of colors by We-Ta-Se Color Guard, a prayer by Gary Mitchell, drum songs by Little Soldier Singers and taps played by We-Ta-Se member Ben Joslin. Following the ceremony, introductory remarks were given by John Babb, HHS Acting Regional 7 Director, and Steve Ortiz, PBPN chairperson.

Tribal representatives from the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas, Northern Ponca Tribe in Nebraska, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas, Sac & Fox Nation of Mississippi of Oklahoma, and Santee Sioux Nation participated in group discussions about Indian health issues and attended grant writing and technical assistance workshops taught by



Chris Buchanan, Indian Health Services at Haskell Indian Nations University, and Jerry Briscoe, Director of Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center, both attended the Region 7 meeting.

professionals.

National and regional directors from Indian Health and Human Services agencies led the meetings. Some of the presenters included Randy Grinnell, Dep. Director, Management Operations, Indian Health Services (IHS), Thomas Pack, HHS Intergovernmental Affairs, Dennis Romero, Dep. Director, Office of Program Services, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, Kevin Meeks, Area Director of Oklahoma Area IHS, and Charlene Red Thunder, Area Director of Aberdeen IHS.

A presentation called a Prairie Band Potawatomi cultural experience ended the first day and featured some tribal elders and youth who danced and displayed their traditional regalia. Little Soldier Singers also performed.



Attendees at the conference were called forth by PBPN Chairman Ortiz to participate in a dance during the cultural experience presentation and seemed to be something that attendees really enjoyed.

### Mike Boswell named Tribal Chief of Police



Mike Boswell was recently named the new chief of police for the PBPN and is seen here with his daughters Taryn and Madison on Earth Day.

### Retirements



Joe Mendez (center) retired on May 30 from the PBPN and is pictured with Ryan Dyer, tribal treasurer (left), and Steve Ortiz, tribal chairman (right). Joe worked in finance for nine years as a purchasing officer and is a tribal member. Members of the Finance Department feted Joe with a party on his last day and stated that they appreciated all of Joe's hard work and dedication through the years.

(Photo submitted by Finance Department)



Julia "June" Barber retired on April 30 and was presented with a plaque to thank her for her many years of service by Vice Chairperson Joyce Guerrero at the All-Employee meeting April 24. June, a PBPN member, has worked in the Elections Department since 1997 and lives on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation. She was also given a surprise potluck luncheon at the Bingo Hall on April 28.

### Human Resources News



ABOVE: A two-day management training was held on May 6-7 with Glenn McKee, far right, who was the seminar leader. In the photo he is visiting with members of the Fire Department during one of the interactive sessions. The training was based on how to become an effective manager and was held at the Bingo Hall.



LEFT is Lisa Toyns from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas explaining the PBPN health insurance plan that the PBPN offers to employees on May 12 during a meeting.

### First quarter charitable contributions awards ceremony held

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) awarded \$75,600 in charitable contributions for its first quarter 2009 donations during a ceremony at the Three Fires Steakhouse at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort on April 9.

Steve Ortiz, chairperson of the Tribal Council and the Charitable Contributions Committee were on hand to pass out the awards to organization recipients.

The largest awards given were for \$10,000 each that went to Topeka groups including the Stormont-Vail Foundation care-line program, Doorstep, Inc., and Midland Care Connection, Inc.

Other Topeka-based groups that received \$5,000 donations were the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Family Service & Guidance Center, and Big Brothers & Sisters. In addition, Meals on Wheels of Shawnee: Jefferson Counties received \$4,500, the Sertoma Great Topeka Duck Race received \$3,500, Ronald McDonald House Charities received \$2,500 and the Alzheimer's Association received \$1,000.

Other organizations near the Potawatomi community

receiving donations included the Royal Valley Recreation Association for \$9,000, Royal Valley After-Prom Committee for \$500 and the Mayetta Business Association that received \$500.



The Charitable Contributions event was held at Three Fires Steakhouse April 9 and representatives from several organizations were there. In the photo, from left to right, is John Tuckwin, Marvin Nioce, Frank Tecumseh, Steve Ortiz, Wanda Treinen, Mary Carr and Lavera Bell. Nioce is from the North American Indian Tennis Association while Ortiz, serves as Tribal Chair. Tuckwin, Tecumseh, Treinen, Carr and Bell are all members of the Charitable Contributions Committee along with Betty Rice who did not attend the event.

Native American groups who received a check were the Students of Haskell Indian Nations for \$1,500, Stories N/ Motion Film Club for \$1,500, North American Indian Tennis Association, \$300, National Indian Child Welfare Association, \$1,000, Catching the Dream, \$1,500, Gathering of Nations Limited, \$1,000 and the First Nations Student Association that received an \$800 award.

Other organizations receiving awards were the Rose Hill Baseball organization for \$1,000 and the Mental Health Association of Southeast Kansas for \$500.

The second quarter awards ceremony is scheduled for July 9 at the Three Fires Steak house.

### We-Ta-Se Happenings



ABOVE is Lawrence Pahmahmie who was selected as the quarterly employee on April 24 at the All-Employee Meeting held at the Bingo Hall. Lawrence works in the Road & Bridge Division of Public Works.



We-Ta-Se members who are in the fatigues and saluting are Charles Wakolee(l) and Robert Jackson (r) who will report for a tour of duty to Egypt on June 27. Both men were recognized during this year's pow-wow and are seen above with the We-Ta-Se Color Guard during the Grand Entry on June 13.



The We-Ta-Se building and the Boys & Girls Club were turned into the First District Convention Headquarters of the American Legion the first weekend of April when We-Ta-Se and the auxiliary hosted the event. Steve Ortiz, Tribal Chairman, and U.S. Rep. Lynn Jenkins spoke at the convention on April 4.



The photo at left shows We-Ta-Se members preparing for the convention. Above are members of the the Post 410 auxiliary who served as chefs and also held meetings.





## Tribal Court building under construction

The ground has been broken and the new PBPN Tribal Court Building is presently being constructed.

MarLan Construction and Sabatini Architects, both Lawrence firms, are completing the work of the 4,800 square foot building that will sit east of the Potawatomi Health Center on 158 Road.

A completion date of November 2010 is scheduled for the one floor building that will house the Tribal Court chambers and offices.

Tribal Court has been operating out of a building on K Road that sits behind the Potawatomi Fire Department for several years.

The Public Works Department is also assisting with the construction of the new building and Carl Matousek, who is the director of Construction Maintenance Division, has been the Nation's liaison on the project.



Rendering courtesy of  
©sabatini architects inc.

## Peacemakers Circle sworn in June 11



Members of the Peacemakers Circle, who are a new tribal body formed out a change in the PBPN Constitution, were sworn in by Tribal Chairman Steve Ortiz at the Rock Building on June 11. In this photo they are seen with the Tribal Council members who attended the swearing in that day. On the front row, left to right, is Marilyn Brewer, Angie Wahweotten, Chuck Jacobson, Mike Jensen, Josette Wahwasuck, Carrie O'Toole, Joyce Guerrero, and Judge Stacy Leeds. On the back row, left to right, is Mary Shoptese, Mike Shobney, Melvin Lewis, Steve Ortiz, Ryan Dyer, and Chago Hale.

Following the ceremony members participated in a two-day training that included speakers Eugene Whitefish, G. William Rice, and Dianne Barker-Harold who are experts in the peacemaking area of tribal legislation.

## Healing to Wellness Court now taking clients

Submitted by Keirsten Hale

Tribal Court would like to announce that they have received a Tribal Courts Assistance Program (TCAP) grant in the amount of \$150,000. The TCAP grant was awarded in September of 2008 and will be effective until September of 2010. Tribal Court has also received a Drug Court Discretionary Grant: Program Implementation in the amount of \$350,000. The Drug Court Discretionary Grant was awarded on September of 2008 and will be effective until September of 2011. Tribal Court will use both grants to start a Healing to Wellness Court.

The Healing to Wellness Court was begun by an advisory team which includes Judge Stacy Leeds, Mike Boswell, law enforcement officer, Elaine Mzhickteno, alcohol/drug counselor, Brian Jones, licensed social worker, Mary LeClere, tribal elder, Benny Potts, traditional advisor, Nathan Hale, adult youth representative, Juanita Jessepe, community member, Vivien Olsen, tribal attorney, Chago Hale, Tribal Council representative, Royetta Rodewald, judicial administrator, Kent Miller, court services officer, and Keirsten Hale, Healing to Wellness Court coordinator. This advisory team worked on and completed the policies and procedures for the Healing to Wellness Court and are now ready to accept clients.

The Healing to Wellness Court is a program for people with a substance abuse problem, and the program is a minimum of 15 months long. Healing to Wellness Court combines the coercive power of the Court with other tribal programs. One of the goals of the Court is to incorporate culture and tradition from the Prairie Band Potawatomi and one of the ways it is doing this is by working with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Language Department. Another major goal of the program is to help the participant heal socially, emotionally, mentally, and physically.

Healing to Wellness Court is broken into four different phases.

- Phase I - Saottikwe** (Yellow Thunder 3-4 months) is focused on stabilization
- Phase II Ktettikwe** (Black Thunder 4-5 months), is focused on learning and cultural awareness
- Phase III - Wabtikwe** (White Thunder 4-5 months) is focused on maintenance with community support
- Phase IV - Sképittikwe** (Green Thunder 4 months) is focused on health - overcoming the addiction and leading to a healthy lifestyle

A person may enter the program through court order, diversion agreement, or voluntary consent to be a participant. To be accepted into the program you must have a substance abuse problem, and not be a violent offender as defined in 42 U.S.C. 3797 u-2.

Healing to Wellness Court consists of Pemaknegetek Washewebek (the one's making decisions on what will happen). Pemaknegetek Washewebek includes Judge Stacy Leeds, Mike Boswell, Elaine Mzhickteno, Brian Jones, Mary LeClere, Benny Potts, Nathan Hale, and Juanita Jessepe.

Healing to Wellness Court will be held once a week on Wednesday mornings. The Pemaknegetek Washewebek will conduct a "pre-court conference" each Wednesday concerning cases scheduled for Healing to Wellness Court.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Keirsten Hale at (785) 966-2242.



## Photo snaps



Above is an aerial shot of the Boys & Girls Club that shows the new solar paneled roofing that was recently placed to heat the swimming pool section of the club. Special thanks to Greg Hunseker of McElroys for submitting the photograph.



Pam Pahmahmie, Notah Begay, and Marilyn Wakole-Hale at the golf course launch on June 15 at the casino.



Deb Matchie Wakolee and Billy Matchie with baby Onzawah at the pow-wow.



The 2009 Pow-Wow Committee: Front row: Jessica Youngbird, Anna Boswell, Ruth Vega-Harjo and Josie Pahmahmie. Back row: Coleen Thomas, Jim Potter, Michelle Simon, B.J. Darnall, Junior Wahweotten and Richelle Pahmahmie. Committee member Jim Garcia is not pictured.

**Congratulations to  
LaVera "Babe" Bell (Shop to sah)  
for being selected  
Honored Elder  
&  
Emery Hale,  
Honored Veteran  
at the 2009 PBP Pow-wow**



Carol DeWitt and Julia Lewis are seen displaying some of the arts and craft items that will be sold at the Gathering this summer. The two women were at the Firekeepers Elder Center working in the Activities Room when this photo was taken.



Joyce Guerrero, right, was a judge in the Mayetta Business Association's BBQ cookoff held June 13. In the photo above, taken last fall, Joyce can be seen judging apple desserts during the Mayetta Pioneer Day event. The PBPN is a big supporter of the Mayetta community and has helped sponsor several activities and events through the years. Tribal Council Secretary Jim Potter is also a leader in Mayetta community activities.



Former Tribal Chair Tracy Stanhoff (left) got to meet President Barack Obama (right) after being selected as one of the elite group of successful American Indian business owners during a launch of the Small Business Administration's Economic Recovery Stimulus package at the White House. The woman in the center is unidentified.

Send your good news to the Potawatomi News!





## Congratulations to tribal member and family graduates



Evan T. Evans  
Sequoyah High School  
(Mando & Anita Evans)



Cherie Louise Jim  
Royal Valley High School  
(Sandi Jim)



Sonny Rae Kessis Parker  
Riverside Indian School  
(Franklin Kessis Parker &  
Nora A. Pemma Parker)



Anthony Sandoval  
Sherman Indian  
High School  
(late Michelle Begay)  
(Maxine & Wesley Begay)



Erin E. Pahmahmie  
Royal Valley High School  
(Henry & Joan  
Pahmahmie)



Kendra Dawn  
Wabaunsee  
Frenchtown High  
School, Montana  
(Ken & Jill Wabaunsee)



Matthew "Waskah"  
Littleaxe  
Kickapoo Nation  
School  
(Joanna Mitchell &  
Dennis Littleaxe)



Ryan "Matneya"  
Kingfisher  
Anadarko High School  
(Gil Aitkens & Ray  
Kingfisher)

Special thanks to the  
PBPN Student Services  
and tribal members for  
submitting these  
photos to the News



Jerrod Wayne Palmer  
Lamar High School  
(Patricia West &  
Gerald Palmer)



Jaime Farias  
Royal Valley  
High School  
(Kevin & Marlena  
Jordan)



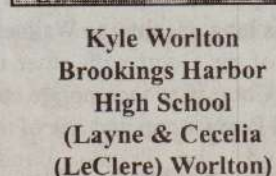
Samantha Wahwassuck  
Royal Valley  
High School  
(Josette Wahwassuck-  
Whitlock)



Zach Wamego  
Royal Valley  
High School  
(Rachel & late Michael  
Wamego)



Theresa Ann Belair  
Rossville High School  
(Virgil "Wamp" Shoptese Jr.  
& Sharon Belair)



Kyle Worlton  
Brookings Harbor  
High School  
(Layne & Cecelia  
(LeClere) Worlton)



Kara Throssell  
Royal Valley  
High School  
(Kevin & Maureen  
Throssell)



Manuel "Buvy" Gracia  
Royal Valley  
High School  
(Edie Wamego & Manuel  
Gracia Sr.)



Bradley Raye  
Wetmore High School  
(Donna & Jonathan  
Raye)



Ethan Scott Young  
Sabetha High School  
(Roger & Janice Young)



Samantha Lambrecht  
Royal Valley  
High School  
(Donnie & Gayle  
Lambrecht)



Rachael Louise  
Anderson  
Burden High School  
(Vicki Anderson)



Sydney Jessepe  
Royal Valley  
High School  
(John & Jackie Levier)

### Student Award Recognition Night



Three seniors, who are dressed in regalia above, were honored for their leadership in the Royal Valley Singers and Dancers at the Student Award Recognition event held in Prairie Peoples Park on April 22. The event is held to honor graduating 8th graders and seniors and to recognize students for their special achievements. In the photo, the seniors are flanked by cosponsors Connie Peters, left, and Anita Evans, right, who are also teachers at Royal Valley. Next to Peters is Sydney Jessepe, Erin Pahmahmie and Samantha Wahwassuck. The Singers & Dancers perform at several events throughout the year and are based out of the Royal Valley School District that also has a Native American Club.

### Here are more graduates



Suzy Jim  
8th grade-Royal Valley  
(Sandi Jim)



Three 8th grade Royal Valley graduates:  
Luis Ortiz, Sylvana Levier and Kek  
Mitchell.

(Photo submitted by  
by Voncile Mitchell)



Nickolasa A. Price  
Baker University  
(Sandra K. Mitchell &  
Brad Rice & late  
Larry Fairman)







## Department of Education News

It's time to prepare for the future for those who want to further their education with the help of the Education Department.

Kristen Aitkens, Education Department Director, said the department is accepting undergraduate applications for the 2009-2010 school year. Application packets with all required materials are due no later than July 1 and can be accessed on this website at <http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/education.aspx>. For first time students they need to download the Undergraduate application packet, while returning students need to access the Renewal undergraduate application packet.

The Department would also like to stress to DON'T WAIT TOO LATE!! Completing the application for the PBP funding can be time consuming. It is each student's

responsibility to ensure their application packet is received and complete. It is recommended that students stay in touch with the department and with the college they plan to attend. It only takes one missing item or one day to be considered incomplete and late.

In addition, the department stresses to READ MATERIALS CAREFULLY! It is imperative that applications are read thoroughly and completely. All applications have a cover sheet that provides specific instructions for completion. Failure to review instructions can cause an application to be incomplete and late. This can be the difference between an application being approved or denied. The Education Department is always available to provide assistance in the application process.

**Hurry! Don't wait!**  
**2009-2010**  
**undergraduate and renewal applications**  
**are due July 1 to the Education Department.**  
**go to**  
**[www.pbpindiantribe.com/education.aspx](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/education.aspx)**

## Summer Youth Program

The Summer Youth Work program is being held again this summer where the PBP government employs youth workers in various departments and programs.

The first session began June 1 and will end July 2 and the second session will run from June 29-July 31.

The Department of Education sponsors the program that is coordinated by Debra Matchie-Wakolee, JOM Coordinator.

## Fire Department and Boys & Girls Club celebrate EMS Week and end-of year fun

Submitted by Paul Juedes, Potawatomi Fire Department

The Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department (PTFD) along with the PBP Boys and Girls Club held a celebration on May 21, 2009 to celebrate the end of the 2008-2009 school year and to reward students for all their hard work throughout the school year. The PTFD also celebrated EMS Week that night.

EMS Week is designed to bring together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line."

No other group of individuals understand the "front line" any better than the men and women of the Kansas Army National Guard. A flight crew from the 1st Battalion, 108th Aviation and Detachment 1, Company C, 171st Medevac Unit arrived in a UH-60 Black Hawk Medevac Helicopter to help celebrate EMS Week. These pilots and crew members had each spent at least one tour

if not two in Afghanistan, Iraq or supporting the war effort on a deployment.

The fire department and Boys & Girls Club staff cooked hot dogs and buffalo burgers for the kids and community.

Agencies participating were the Potawatomi Tribal Police, Jackson County EMS, Hoyt Fire Department, Sgt. Tim McCool with the Kansas Highway Patrol, Topeka Lifestar Air Ambulance and the Kansas Army National Guard. The department also had on display its new 2009 3000 gallon tanker, unit 671 which was built in Smyrna, Georgia and a 2009 Ford F-450 wildland/brush truck, unit 663 built in Missoula, Montana. Approximately 200 people attended the event.

The department also provided public safety educational materials to the public and the children of PBP Headstart. Headstart children had a special private tour and demonstration Thursday morning at the fire station.



ABOVE: Last winter Travis Miller and Sydney Jessepe were crowned king and queen of courts at Royal Valley High School. Sydney lives on the PBP reservation and is the daughter of John and Jackie Levier. Her grandparents are Joe and Mary Jessepe, Dolly and Richard Pahmahmie and Ron and Rosanna Jessepe. Sydney graduated this spring and plans to go to Haskell Indian Nations University this fall.

RIGHT: Megan Hale in her band uniform while attending the state Lions Band camp at Friends University in Wichita from May 26-30.

Megan ranked 3rd out of 32 flutists and this was the second year that she has attended the camp. She is the daughter of Martin and Donna Hale and granddaughter of Emery Hale.



LEFT: Genasa Richey who is active in the American Indian Studies Association at the University of Oklahoma where she is a student. She is from Tulsa and was at the pow-wow with her mother, Sherree, center, and grandmother Marcella Post oak. They came to the pow-wow this year to celebrate with Emery Hale who was Honored Veteran.



A couple of children having fun sitting inside the helicopter that was part of the celebration during EMS Week at the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department.

## Venida Chenault selected 2009 Outstanding Alumni by National Haskell Alumni Association

Venida Chenault, Prairie Band Potawatomi and Kickapoo, was named the Outstanding Haskell Alumni of the Year at the graduation ceremony held at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan. on May 8.

Nominations for the award were submitted by alumni chapters and voted on by membership.

Chenault is only the 9th woman selected out of 80 recipients in the past who have received the prestigious Haskell Alumni Award. She was selected from the nominations based on her dedication to higher education for tribal people.

She attended Haskell in 1975 and 1984 before transferring to the University of Kansas (KU) where she completed her degrees.

During the graduation ceremony, Chenault dedicated the special occasion to her son, Derrick White, who also graduated this spring with a Bachelor's in American Indian Studies (AIS) at Haskell and to a long line of close family members who attended and are also graduates from Haskell, including her son Josh Arce, mother, uncles, sisters and nephews. She expressed pride that her son and other students in American Indian Studies had chosen to major in a degree "dedicated to advancing tribal governments, changing the politics of colonization, and advancing the sovereignty of Indian Nations". It should be noted that the AIS degree has been recently criticized at Haskell and Chenault commented that the degree should be "com-

mended rather than condemned". She also said, "he, like many of your sons and daughters follow the footsteps of our grandmothers, grandfathers, fathers, mothers, and other relatives who stood up against all odds to ensure our cultures and homelands, our fishing and hunting rights and the right to determine our futures on our terms would be protected".

Chenault is currently serving a one-year visiting scholars appointment at the University of Kansas, School of Social Welfare and plans to return to her position as Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Haskell in October.

Chenault has been employed at Haskell since 1991 when she was hired to rebuild the Social Work program at Haskell. She was a faculty member in Social Work and the Social Sciences for 13 years before being selected as the Vice-President for Academic Affairs.

Her research as a visiting scholar at KU is focusing on scholarship on violence and abuse against Indigenous women (see article below) and she is also writing a book on the same topic which is from her dissertation.

**Venida Chenault has been with Haskell Indian Nations University since 1991**



Venida Chenault, third from left, met with Tribal Council and the University of Kansas (KU) School of Social Welfare last January to discuss expanding the internship program in the PBP Social Services Department. PBP Health Center staff also attended the meeting. Venida is a visiting scholar this year at KU and also Vice President for Academic Affairs at Haskell Indian Nations University. Venida is also a member of the newly organized Peacemakers Circle which is now part of the tribe's judicial process.

## Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation participates in landmark study

In May of 2009, enrolled adult women were invited to participate in landmark research study on violence and abuse against Indian women.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is the first tribe in the United States to exercise self-determination in research by surveying its membership on the level of violence tribal women have experienced and to examine the effects of such experiences on the power of tribal women. Information collected from this study will be used to improve practices and services that respond to violence and abuse and scholarship on this issue for the tribe and tribal colleges participating in this study.

Numerous national studies from federal agencies have reported high levels of violence and abuse against Indigenous women but no tribe has undertaken its own study on this growing problem. Many tribes, including the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, have pursued grant opportunities to address violence and abuse against Indian

women. These grants funds are used to improve responses of tribal courts and law enforcement and offering programs like the Prairie Band Potawatomi Family Violence Prevention Project. Findings from this study may also be used to pursue additional grant opportunities and to determine next steps for the tribe on this issue.

Tribal programs throughout the United States often take a culturally based approach in addressing violence and abuse. These programs use the cultural teachings to challenge and change behavior that encourages or accepts violence against women. Origin and creation stories, as well as cultural teachings are used to instruct and remind tribal members of the instructions we have been given about the respect and roles of women in our survival as Indian peoples.

Today, tribal members across the United States are challenged to think about where we learned that it's okay to engage in violence and abuse towards women, our children, our partners or our elders so that

we can change the behaviors that weaken our families and our tribal nations. Tribal approaches often focus on helping men who want to change their behavior, by having healthy tribal men work with tribal men who are ready to change this destructive behavior.

A June 4, 2009 return date for the completed surveys was identified in the mailout but completed surveys were accepted until June 15, 2009. Women who have experienced violence and abuse AND women who have not experienced violence and abuse are needed to participate in this study.

The primary investigator for this study is tribal member, Venida Chenault, who is a visiting scholar at the University of Kansas, School of Social Work. Chenault will return to her position as Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Haskell Indian Nations University in October of 2009.





## Departments and Programs

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

### Region 7 EPA Public Affairs Department-Kansas City makes video about PBP Recycling Center



1. Chago Hale, Tribal Council member, was a spokesperson for a video that is being produced by Region 7 of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) about tribal waste management programs. Footage for the video was shot in the PBP Recycling Center on April 23. 2. With the camera is Kris Lancaster and behind him is Stanley Holder both from EPA Region 7. 3. Some of the PBP EPA staff demonstrating the waste management process for the video. 4. Virginia LeClere, Director of the PBP EPA Department, was also a spokesperson in the video and is on Chago's right. 5. Bags of trash were picked up on April 22 during a Rez Roadside Clean Up and are seen on a truck behind PBP EPA employees. From left to right, is Kumos Hubbard, Virginia LeClere, Jayme Randall and Vincent Hernandez. The clean up was conducted by PBP employees who helped clean 21 miles of trash weighing 980 lbs. in one morning. 6. Toni Castro, another videographer from Region 7, came to the Earth Day celebration to shoot more film about the PBP and is seen with Stan Holder.



LEFT: The three-mile bike ride drew participants of all ages at Earth Day.

### 11th Annual Earth Day

The threatening skies didn't keep people from coming to Earth Day on April 26. Participants raced in runs and bike rides and several walks throughout the day.

In addition, there was a soap box derby with

cars made out of recycled materials along with lots of good food and door prizes.

The day also included a Youth Council discussion about environmental issues that was followed by an awards ceremony.

RIGHT: Thamor Morris and Kitty Shoppeese were volunteer workers in the registration area.



ABOVE: Kids were having fun in the peanut gallery and showed off their winning ribbons and medals for the camera.



RIGHT: Lori Wahwassuck coming in from the 3-mile run. Lori is a We-Ta-Se member and works in the Maintenance Department.



ABOVE: A Youth Indigenous Council consisting of mostly 6th graders was organized this year where they discussed environmental issues based on a United Nations model.

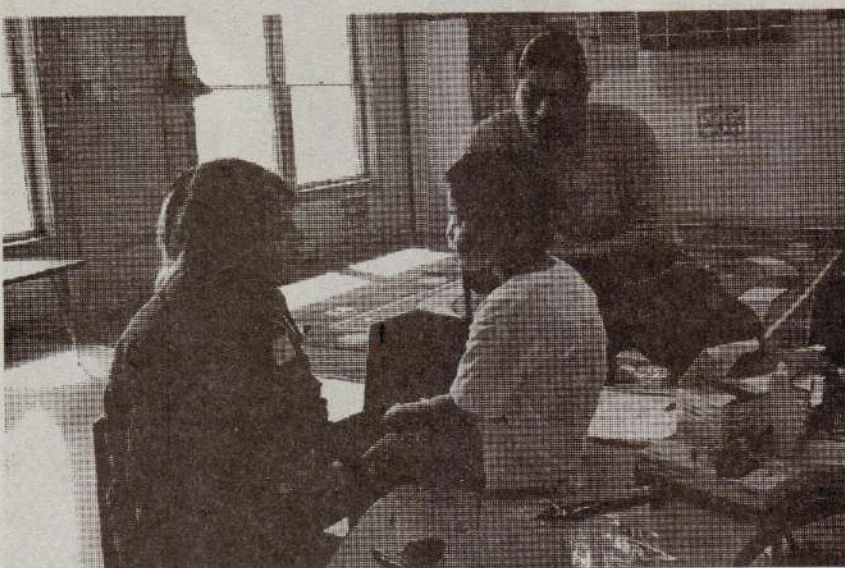


RIGHT: Families gathered together for the 3-mile-1/2 mile walk during Earth Day. All registrants and volunteers received an Earth Day t-shirt and goodie bag.



ABOVE: The Muratta family having a lot of fun during Earth Day.

### Health Fair



A spring health fair was held at the Early Childhood Education Center on April 17 for children ages 3-5 years old that included screenings for dental, speech and language, hearing, developmental, vision, and nutrition. Seen above is Aven Mitchell, 4, with his dad Sam Mitchell looking on while Amy Hallauer from the Jackson County Health Department conducts a health assessment on Aven.

### Easter doll



Khristiana Wabaunsee enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt that was held at the childcare center on April 9. Due to the cold weather the youngest children hunted for eggs inside the center's training room that day.

The Early Childhood Education Center is nationally accredited by the Education of Young Children

### Ben-no-tteh Wigwam celebrate end of the year

The Ben-no-tteh Wigwam Prairie Band Potawatomi Early Childhood Education Center held graduation exercises for its students and also celebrated its 25th year as an early education center on May 14 in Prairie Peoples Park.



A proud David Daubon shows off his certificate after receiving his diploma. He is the son of David and Karen Daubon.

Jackie Mitchell, a life long reservation resident who was on the Tribal Council for several years, and Rose Sigmund, director of NEK-CAP (Northeast Kansas Community Action Program), were recognized during the event as the founding members of the center that began on the PBP reservation in 1984.

Graduation exercises were also held for infants, toddlers, and various Head Start classes and other parents and teachers were also recognized for their work.

Today the Early Childhood Education Center has its own modern building and serves over 100 children with a staff of 35.

Hope Adame is the director of the center and Anna Boswell is president of the Policy Council. The Center is located at 15380 K Road, Mayetta, Kan.



Jackie Mitchell and Rose Sigmund were recognized for beginning the Early Childhood Education Center 25 years ago.



Saleena Masquat and Alex Lancaster were also recognized for their hard work



Seleena Masquat, left, and Alex Lancaster, right, were named mother and father of the Year at the Pow-wow.



### Social Services gives to foster/ICWA children

The photo, right, shows the Social Services staff who organized a gift drive of Easter goodies that were given to children who are in the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and foster care program. From left to right is Brian Jones, Robin Guerrero, Georgia Platt-Sparta, and Verna Wahweotten who prepared the sacks for distribution. The employees gave money out of their own pockets for the drive that reached over 20 children who are scattered throughout the service region.



### Boys & Girls Club cuties



These two unidentified Boys & Girls Club members were caught enjoying a spring afternoon outside the Club.





## Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center

11400 158<sup>th</sup> Road  
P O Box 249  
Mayetta, KS 66509

Phone: 785-966-8200  
Toll Free: 866-694-6728

Fax: 785-966-8393  
Pharmacy: 866-727-633

Bosho Prairie Band Potawatomi Community:

I am humbled as I write this letter to you, for having the opportunity to serve you, in my role as administrator for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center, your health center. As we embark upon this new journey with our health center, it is our commitment to provide to you, our community and our patients, the excellence and quality of services that will make a difference to the quality of life for you and for our future generations.

As we walk this path together, I want to acknowledge my commitment, as administrator, to you, the community, and our patients, that it is my desire and intent to continue to build upon the foundation that has been laid by our ancestors, to continue to build upon our foundation as a Nation, and the foundation of our Health Center, so we may sustain our ability to provide health services and care to you for our generations that will follow. It is our responsibility, it is our duty, and it is my purpose.

There are many health initiatives and goals that we need to accomplish as we embark upon this transition to 100% tribal management of our health center. By doing so, we continue to address the health concerns, and health challenges our Nation faces so these same health issues will not be as challenging for our future generations and to our continued sustainability as a prospering, healthy Nation. There are present health issues and challenges we continue to face and are addressing in our quest to enhance the quality of lives we serve. In doing so, I must encourage you, collectively, as well as individually to make the decision to become as proactive in your health decisions that affect you and our community. Become an active voice in the health decisions and choices that affect the quality of your life and the quality of living for our community. You have that choice – you have that right – it is our responsibility.

We, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center, are here to serve and assist you in those health decisions. We are here to assist in your health needs, and working together with you. Your contribution to the health process, having an active voice in your health decisions, empowers you, and empowers our community. We must feed our sense of responsibility to ourselves and to our community, not only for ourselves, but more importantly, for our younger generation that is looking for our guidance and instruction. They expect that from us, whether we choose to accept that responsibility or not. There is no choice. They follow our lead – let us lead them into a healthy future where they will inspire and believe there is hope and opportunities that abound for them.

Please, I encourage you to read these words carefully, while keeping in mind that we are the hope for our future generations – for a healthy future we must begin to accept our responsibilities to ourselves and our young. I welcome your voice. We will pave the path for our health and the health of our future generations beginning today.

Let's begin this new journey working together, working as one community.

Jerry Briscoe (Wabski/Simon), Administrator

**Reminder to parents!**  
Get your children's school immunizations  
and sports physicals before doctor schedules fill up for fall.

For details on Kansas immunizations go to  
[www.kdheks.gov/immunize/download/KCI\\_Form.pdf](http://www.kdheks.gov/immunize/download/KCI_Form.pdf)

## Caregiver Program now housed at Firekeepers Elder Center

Submitted by Janis Simon, Caregiver Coordinator

The Caregiver Coordinator has relocated from the Health Center to an office in the Firekeepers Elder Center on K Road. Janis Simon's office number is 785-966-2103; fax 785-966-0052; cell phone 785-554-4136. Please feel free to call her if you have any questions or want to make a referral or just drop by for a visit. As you know, the Caregiver program works closely with the Social Services Department and the Community Health Nurse and other agencies regarding clients and their family members.

The purpose of the program is to provide services that help caregivers share information on resources from tribal, state and/or federal programs that might benefit them. The program also provides assistance in accessing serv-

ices and resources; offering individual counseling, caregiver training, or forming support groups when possible. Additionally, respite care (up to 4 hours per week) or helping with supplemental services on a limited basis are also possible through collaborating with other tribal programs including transportation and elder services.

In order to become eligible for the caregiver program the following criteria must be met: 1) Be an adult family member or another individual caring for a person 55 years of age or older, who is frail or has a chronic illness or disability; 2) Be a grandparent or other person 55 years or older, who is the primary caregiver residing with a child (age 18 or under), and has legal custody of the child they are raising; 3) Be a Prairie Band Potawatomi who resides in Jackson, Shawnee, Brown and Douglas counties of northeast Kansas.

## Meet the Language Department



The Language Department. Sitting, left to right, is Cindy LeClere, Cecilia "Meeks" Jackson, and Laverne Haag. On the back row, left to right, is Billy Matchie, Leo Nadeau, and Larry Berryhill.

## Community Gardening project coming along

Submitted by Mike Jensen

A wet and cold spring slowed the progress of the community gardening project, but to date seven different plots have been completed that includes two separate plots of corn that will become available for community members to harvest later this summer.

Steve Corbett, Diabetes Prevention Program Coordinator for the Health Center, is leading the community garden team that includes Sebe Masquat (PBP), the Diabetes Nurse Case Manager, and project coordinators who are Randy Mitchell and Mike Jensen (PBP).

The project, which is under the umbrella of a program called Return to a Healthy Past, is being funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its primary goals are to prevent diabetes by encouraging exercise through gardening, promoting the consumption of healthy and fresh garden vegetables, and educating people regarding the healthy benefits of eating and working with traditional foods.

The Return to a Healthy Past program also provided funding for building a greenhouse that helped grow seedlings and other cold season plants.

The program is also allowing the PBP Language Department the opportunity to plant an educational garden that is being utilized as a tool

for teaching Potawatomi words and traditional cooking methods and giving the Boys & Girls Club a garden plot that is being tended by the TRAILS program youth with assistance from the Diabetes Prevention Program's Lifestyle Coach, Roy Spoonhunter.

Other departments involved with the garden project include the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection, Commodities, Division of Land Maintenance, and the Firekeepers Elder Center. These departments have formed gardening clubs or are establishing their own plots for future use. The Division of Land Maintenance has provided equipment, machinery and their farm crews that have planted large areas of land with corn.

In addition, the gardening coordinators have tilled a number of small private gardens and been active in distributing seeds and potted plants to various residents throughout the reservation.

Several tribal members have already come forth to offer information, resources, and their expertise surrounding the project and project coordinators are still extending an invitation to the rest of the community to become involved. For more information contact Steve Corbett at 966-8271 or by email at [scorbett@pbpnation.org](mailto:scorbett@pbpnation.org) or Mike Jensen at 966-8243 or email at [mjensen@pbpnation.org](mailto:mjensen@pbpnation.org).



On May 16 a walking tour was held that identified wild edible plants and their medicinal uses as part of the Reclaiming a Healthy Past program. On the walk, Associate Scientist for the KU Biological Survey Kelly Kindscher provided information about the plants, as well as knowledgeable tribal members who are also familiar with traditional uses. Another tour is being scheduled for later in the year.

The program is part of the PBP Health Center and is being funded by a Using Traditional Foods and Sustainable Ecological Approaches to Prevent Diabetes in AI/AN Communities grant from the CDC.

Notice  
to  
working  
people!

The  
Health Center  
is open for  
appointments  
until 6 p.m.  
Thursdays

Please call  
for  
appointments  
in advance  
at  
785.966.8200

## Language Department news

Submitted by Cindy LeClere

LaVerne Haag and I traveled to Washington, D.C. on May 11 to attend the National Native Language Revitalization Summit.

The keynote speaker was Darrell Kipp who is a co-founder of the Nizipuhwahsin Center, a Blackfeet/Piluni language immersion school for grades K-8 that has become a model school. During his speech he said that no matter how gallant the efforts are, there is no way that one can restore the pristine language of our ancestors. He further stated that tribal people must focus on the mission of getting the language down and stop bickering about dialects and other aspects of the language that may not be that important.

The theme of the conference was "From Code Talkers to Immersion" and participants had the honor of meeting two code talkers named Samuel N. Tso (Navajo) and Barney Old Coyote (Crow). They were recognized during a special ceremony that honored all code talkers both living and deceased.

In other news, the Language Department has finished the third set of an 8-week session of Family and Adult classes. In that session there were eight families including 13 adults that participated. A lot of our attendees are returning students and most of the comments about the classes have been positive. The fourth set of classes is now in progress.

In addition, the Language Department now has its own house that is being called the Chaney Hill house and is being furnished. The purpose of the house is to use it as a home where people can come and work on the language with fluent Potawatomi speaker Meeks Jackson. Classes are also being held there.

Larry Berryhill has also joined the staff and we are all hoping to provide language programs to the Boys & Girls Club programs this summer.

Lastly, don't forget the Potawatomi Language Conference at the Gathering in August and we hope to see you there.



Two members of the Language Department attended the National Native Language Revitalization Summit in Washington D.C. recently and are pictured with two code talkers who were honored at the conference. Left to right is Barney Old Coyote (Crow), Laverne Haag, Cindy LeClere and Samuel N. Tso (Navajo). (Photo submitted by Laverne Haag)





## Ttiwenmo eginigyèn (happy day you were born)



On July 22 a Happy 17th Birthday goes to  
Brandon LaClair

"I am proud of the young man you've turned out to be, with a good head on you shoulders and a big heart full of love and respect...  
I love you Brandon with all my heart."  
Love,  
Mom and Joey



Wishing June  
Happy Birthdays  
to my family

•Shirley Jacobson June 26  
•Sharon Bosse June 28  
•Vicki Anderson June 20

With love,  
Judy & Eldon

Send your loved one a  
congratulatory message through the  
*Potawatomi News*.

Next issue deadline: September 1



Happy 13th  
to  
Lily Jackson

Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Hannah,  
and Isabella



Happy Birthday  
Aron, Alonzo & Raymond

Love always,  
Grandma

Kiana Rose Barber



Happy 1st Birthday "Rosie"  
on  
June 22  
Love you always,  
Mom,  
Dad  
& Brother Tyler



Lorraine Ava

Happy 11th Birthday

Thank you for the love and joy  
you bring into our lives.  
You are such a blessing to us all.

Stephanie, Elijah & Michelle



Happy Birthday  
to  
Martin and Megan Hale

Martin on June 24  
and  
Megan on June 26

Love,  
Donna



## Congratulation messages



Congratulations  
to  
**Tsianina Whitetree**  
on her state run.

She placed 7th in the 3200 (2 mile) and 5th in the 1600 (1 mile). Her parents, Roman and Ruth Vega Harjo, are very proud of her and her accomplishments not only in track, but also in cross country.

Congratulations  
to  
**Marcus Oliveira**  
who is on his way to becoming  
one of the top Light Heavyweights in the Midwest.  
Marcus is 19-0 and has 15 KO's.

For more information go to [ubcboxing.com](http://ubcboxing.com)

The Wahweotten family is proud of Marcus!

Congratulations  
to  
**Albert Belair**  
on  
making it to the national  
Family, Career & Community Leaders of  
America Recycle & Redesign competition.  
Albert makes bean bag chairs and oven mitts  
out of recycled jeans, plastic bags and  
packing peanuts.  
He is the son of "Wamp" Shopteese Jr.

Congratulations  
to  
**David & Sue Rodriguez**  
on  
a ribbon cutting ceremony  
held  
at their store  
**4-1-9 Designs**  
in Westridge Mall-Topeka



Handyman  
for  
Home repair  
&  
building  
maintenance

Call Terry Fox  
at  
785.966.2628

Blue Earth Recovery, Inc.  
Alcohol & Drug Counseling Services

3300 S.W. 29th St.,  
Topeka, Kansas 66614.  
Phone Number: 785.215.8360

Hours:  
Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Saturday- 9 a.m. to Noon

E-mail: [blueearthrecovery@live.com](mailto:blueearthrecovery@live.com)  
web-site: [www.blueearthrecovery.com](http://www.blueearthrecovery.com)

Call Julia Lewis  
at  
785.966.2812  
for details

Got talent?  
Get ready for another Community Talent Show  
October 8-9  
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Rock Community Building  
Must be 35 yrs or older, have a CDIB card,  
be dependable, and have own equipment.

Concessions  
at the shows  
by  
LaVerne Hale &  
family

### Flea-Market-Bake Sale & Crafts



September 18 & 19  
Bingo Hall  
8a.m. - 7 p.m.

\$5 per table (one time charge for both days)  
To reserve space call Sherri Landis at 785.966.2855  
(Set up on Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.)



Joy Matchie  
invites her friends and  
relatives to come to the  
Walmart on Wanamaker for  
an ndn style cut or color  
or more.  
M, T, F: 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Sat: noon to 8 p.m.  
Sun: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### Notice of Veterans pow-wow date change!

The 12th Annual  
Veterans Pow-wow has been moved to  
September 26  
and will be held in  
Prairie Peoples Park  
For more information  
go to [www.pbpiandiantribe.com/veterans.aspx](http://www.pbpiandiantribe.com/veterans.aspx)

Marty Catholic Indian Mission  
Boarding School Reunion

June 26-28, 2009  
Marty, South Dakota  
Call Loretta Bad Heart Bull: 701.226.0252  
For details visit: [www.martysd.com](http://www.martysd.com)

### National Native Youth Golf Championships

The First Nations Golf Association (FNGA) is happy to introduce the National Native Youth Golf Championships, August 4-6, at the beautiful Winstar Golf Course in Thackerville, Okla., owned by the Chickasaw Nation.

The goal of the FNGA is to promote the game of golf to Indians or Natives, especially youth, throughout the United States and Canada. FNGA is committed to making social and economic contributions to Indian and Native Communities by exemplifying the rewards, honor, and integrity of golf.

The mission of the First Nations Golf Association Charitable Contributions Foundation exists to enhance leadership, health, educational and athletic opportunities within American Indian communities. The foundation strives to teach American Indian youth through athletics, the inherent values of respect, honor, integrity, self-esteem, civic responsibility, knowledge, confidence and physical fitness to broaden their skills and create lasting, satisfying lifestyles.

Tribal member Steve McDonald, who is a 25-year member of the PGA of America is an active board member of the FNGA and is the tournament director for the National Native Youth Championships. McDonald, who is considered one of the most decorated Native golfers in Indian Country, has won over 30 sanctioned PGA section professional golf tournaments and most recently won the FNGA "2008 Player of

the Year" an honor he also earned in 2006. His victories on the FNGA Tour are the 2006 FNGA All-Indian Tour Championship, the 2006 FNGA Open Championship, the 2007 Ft. McDowell Orem Dam Victory Days Championship, the 2008 FNGA Coast Salish Championship, the 2008 FNGA Oneida Warrior Open Championship, the 2008 FNGA Senior Open Championship and the 2009 Soboba Springs Desert Classic Senior Championship.

McDonald is also a member of Ha-Sho-Be Golf, a golf management company that specializes in design, construction, training and management of golf courses in Indian Country. Ha-Sho-Be Golf has completed work for the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and the Squaxin Island Tribe.

This summer McDonald is giving free golf lessons to PBPN youth at Lake Shawnee Golf Course. Youth ages 11-15 who are interested in learning golf and playing in the National Youth Golf Championships are welcome to attend. The lessons are on Wednesdays from 5 to 6:30 p.m. the dates are: June 10, June 17, June 24, July 8, July 15 and July 22.

Need more information?  
[www.fnga.net](http://www.fnga.net)  
[www.winstargolfcourse.com](http://www.winstargolfcourse.com)

Liquor Store for Sale  
108 E. Main  
Mayetta, KS 66509

Asking price: \$79,000



Downtown location. Street parking  
Can also be used as a restaurant  
approximately 1400 sq ft, usable shelf,  
cooler and office space.

PBPN member is the seller.  
Call Kellerman Real Estate-Holton, Kan.  
phone: 785.364-2000





## Kamboŋt̄ek (those who died)

In Loving Memory of



Marguerite Bell Wells

### Marguerite Bell Wells

Marguerite Bell Wells, 101, died February 6, 2009 at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Marguerite was born on July 13, 1907 in Holton, Kansas on the Potawatomi Indian reservation to Frank Russell and Alma Barnes Shepard. She was raised there until the age of 12 when she moved with her family by train to Wendell, Idaho. She married Ira Lagrand Wells on October 15, 1924 at Twin Falls, Idaho. Together they had three children. In 1946 they moved to Stanley and lived there until 1976. Upon retirement, they moved back to Hagerman. When her husband had to move into a nursing home, she moved to Twin Falls to be close to her daughter living there until the spring of 2008. She then went to live at Snake River Rehabilitation Center in Buhl where she had many friends.

Marguerite is survived by her children, Ilene (Butch) Burr of Twin Falls, Neil (June) Wells of Sagel, Idaho; her grandchildren, Iris (Randy) Boyd of Filer, Richard (Paula) Achenbach of Orofino, Idaho, Ralene Ford of Kimberly, Bob Wells of Twin Falls and many great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Sarah, who lived to be 114, her parents, husband, four brothers, and a son, Dale Wells.

Funeral services were held February 9, 2009 at the In His Name Christian Fellowship with funeral arrangements by Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls, Idaho.

(Submitted by the family)

### Jon F. Cooper

Jon "Sha mog gin" Cooper, 44, passed away Saturday, March 28, 2009 at his home.

He was born September 10, 1964 at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka, the son of the late Walter E. and Augustine (Mitchell) Cooper. Survivors include two brothers, Gary and Ross Cooper both of Topeka; aunts, Catherine Cooper Simon, Topeka, Phyllis Mitchell Flores, El Paso, TX; nieces Ashley and Jessica YoungBird, Melinda Cooper Williamson and Michelle Cooper Emmert. He was preceded in death by a brother, Phil Cooper and sister, Rita Cooper YoungBird.

Jon was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and proudly served six years in the Marines. He worked for Rolling Hills Retirement Community and the Topeka VA Hospital. He also served in various contract labor positions.

He started playing guitar at the age of three. He also played drums and bass guitar. Jon and his brother Gary formed a rock/blues band "Blue Feather". They performed regularly in the NE Kansas area. He will be missed by his 4 great-nephews, Jaiden, Preston, Ian and Eli and great-niece, Halina.

The family will receive friends from 6-7 p.m., Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at the Penwell-Gabel Parker-Price Chapel, 245 NW Independence, Topeka where a rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. A memorial mass will be held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at Our Lady of Snow Church, Mayetta, KS. Inurnment of remains will follow at Ship-Shee Cemetery.

(Courtesy of Penwell-Gabel-Parker-Price Chapel-Topeka, Kan.)

### Sharon (Na-Ga-Quah) Ann Niccum

Sharon (Na-Ga-Quah) Ann Niccum, 62, of Salina, died Friday, March 27, 2009. She had worked at the Salina Sale Barn Cafe and Scotty's Restaurant.

Sharon (Na-Ga-Quah) Ann Zibell was born in Holton, on June 12, 1946, the daughter of the late Clarence and Gladys (Mattwaoshshe) Zibell. Sharon graduated from Topeka High School and was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. She was married to Dave Niccum on June 3, 1986 in Salina.

Survivors include her husband of the home; children Theresa Hicks, Kelly (Jeff) Mason, and Richard Hicks, Jr. all of Topeka, a stepdaughter, Tammy (Brian) Corley of Hillsboro, MO; grandchildren, James Hicks, Joseph Mason, Lace' Corley and Heather Corley. She was preceded in death by a daughter Brandi Hicks, and a sister Eileen Patch.

Visitation will be Thursday from 9-8, with the family receiving friends from 6-7 at Carlson-Geisendorf Funeral Home. A graveside service will be held at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Dance Grounds Cemetery, Mayetta, KS, at 2:00 pm on Friday, April 3rd.

Memorials may be sent to the Kaye Pogue Hospice, 730 Holly Ln, Salina.

(Courtesy of Carlson Funeral Home-Salina, Kan.)



### Roberta L. (Shak Neb Ko Kwe) Jackson

Roberta L. Jackson, Shak Neb Ko Kwe, 43, of Mayetta, died Saturday, March 21, 2009 at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka.

She was born June 26, 1965 at Topeka, the daughter of Robert and Lorene Alexander Jackson. She was a member of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation and the Drum Religion.

Survivors include a son and daughter, Elijah and Lorraine Ragsdale, both of the home; two brothers, James Jackson, Mayetta and Mike Jackson, Topeka; five sisters, Evelyn Seymour and Lucy Jackson, both of Topeka, Linda Jackson, San Jose, CA, and Janice Jackson and Beverly Goslin, both of Mayetta; and numerous nieces and nephews, including Stephanie and Sharon Belair and Jimmy Jurey.

Roberta will lie in state until 3:00 p.m. Tuesday at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt where family and friends will meet from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday. Drum services will be Tuesday evening at the Dance Ground west of Mayetta. Burial will be Wednesday afternoon in the Matwe-Shobney Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to benefit Elijah and Lorraine Ragsdale and may be sent in care of the funeral home, P.O. Box 280, 66440. On-line condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com.

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

PBPN obituaries are now online

go to

[www.pbpindiantribe.com](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com) under news and press

and click

Gamboŋt̄ek

### Teresa Kay (Num Ko Quah) Jessepe

Teresa Kay Jessepe (Num Ko Quah), 54, of Horton, Kansas, passed away unexpectedly on May 9, 2009 at her home.

She was born on March 11, 1955 in Horton, Kansas the daughter of Paul & Julie Puckee Mijissepe. Teresa Kay graduated from Chilocco Indian School in 1974 in Chilocco, Oklahoma and then attended Haskell Indian Junior College in Lawrence, Kansas. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Native American Church, St. Leo's Catholic Church and enjoyed the fellowship of many denominations.

Survivors include a son, Solon Jessepe of the home, Horton, Kansas; daughter, Verinna Mitchell of Horton, Kansas; brothers, Irvin and James Jessepe both of Horton, Kansas; adopted brother, Lester Sumner of Mayetta, Kansas; sisters, Adeline Horn of Parkville, Missouri, Nancy Smartlowit of Toppennish, Washington, Bertha Hale of Hiawatha, Kansas, Ruthanne Ramirez of Mayetta, Kansas and Lois Thomas of Horton, Kansas and numerous nieces and nephews.

Teresa Kay was a beloved mother, sister, aunt and friend. She will be greatly missed. Native American Church Services will be at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 14, 2009 at the Wayne Jessepe's home, 165 K-20 on the Kickapoo Reservation. Burial will be at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, May 15, 2009 at the Swah-Kah-Ah family cemetery on the Kickapoo Reservation. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.dishon-maple-chaney.com](http://www.dishon-maple-chaney.com).

(Courtesy of Dishon-Maple-Chaney Mortuary)

### Denice (P-quo-tah) Hernandez Savage

Denice (P-quo-tah) Hernandez Savage, 56, of Kansas City, Missouri died May 16, 2009 at White Oak Manor.

Denice was born January 1, 1953. She accomplished many things in her life but none more great than her children and grandchildren with whom she was very proud. She was a student and a teacher of life and proud of her Native American heritage. If you were ever down you could always count on her to make you laugh and raise your spirits. "Aunt Niece" as she was so affectionately known by all those who surrounded her, will be dearly missed for she touched so many hearts in her life.

Denice was preceded in death by her father, Joseph Hernandez, several aunts and uncles and her paternal and maternal grandparents. She is survived by her mother Ellen Osh Harris and step-father Floyd Harris; her children Cecily Romero and Daniel Walker (Margo); her grandchildren Isaiah and Juanito (ito) Concha, Sophie Ryhs Walker and Alex Miller; her siblings Chris, James, Joseph, Steven, Cheryl, Patrick, Tina and Michael; several nieces and nephews and her Aunt Vivian Gonzales and Uncle Paul Hernandez.

A Rosary and a viewing were held at D.W. Newcomer's Sons Stine & McClure Funeral Home, Kansas City, Missouri May 20, 2009. A Memorial Mass will be held at a later date At Our Lady of Snows Church on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation. Denice's son Danny wrote that Denice was a woman with a well and strong heart. Even in her darkest time she would always be there to help a stranger from falling apart. She had a passion for life and kindness so bright, she fought daily sickness to stay in our sight. Although it was time to get on the Lord's ship, her laughter, love and smile shall never be forgotten.

(Submitted by the family)

## Ganiŋt̄ek (those who are born)

### Announcing

**Virgil Paul Sanchez**

Born: May 15, 2009

Weight: 7 lbs., 11 oz.

Parents: Randy & Venessa  
Grandparents: Laury Shoptee &  
Paul Hernandez Sr.



### Hello to Avery Isaiah Jones



Born: May 1, 2009  
Weight: 7 lbs., 9 oz.  
Length: 20 1/2 in.

Parent:: Kala Marie Jones  
Grandparents: Burton S.  
Jones Jr. & Tina Ritz



### Welcome

**Geneva Josephine Winsea**

(Now-Eum-Go-Quah)

Born: January 17, 2009

Weight: 2 lbs., 13 oz.

Length: 15 1/4 in

Parents: Pam-saht & Sheena  
Winsea



### And 6 months later



Happy Belated Birthday  
& 1st Father's Day  
Daddy!  
Love,  
your girls  
Geneva & Sheena

## Kanibw̄t̄ek (those who stood up together)



Jennie Whitepigeon Wicker  
and Carl Wicker  
celebrated their  
50th wedding anniversary  
April 19, 2009

Best wishes and much love  
from your family.



