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# Prairie Band Potawatomi News

Winter 2008 EDITION

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

## Three down and one left: State of Kansas casino bids dwindle -Harrah's pulls out

What looked like a major threat to the markets of Indian casinos in Kansas when the Kansas Legislature voted in state gaming last year is not looking so threatening now.

In less than a year the Kansas Lottery has gone through the process of selecting four gaming corporations to build their state-owned destination casinos, but since the economic downturn of the financial markets in the past few months, three out of the four have dropped out.

One of those was Sumner Gaming Joint Venture that includes Harrah's Entertainment Inc. who withdrew its application on November 17 to build a destination casino in Sumner County.

That was good news to the Prairie Band who filed a lawsuit against Harrah's on August 18 over a non-compete agreement that was signed when they parted ways in 2007. After a hearing and ruling that favored the PBPB's position on September 5, a Judge in the District Court of Shawnee County ordered the two groups into mediation for 30 days. However, as of this writing, the two groups are unresolved and are still in litigation for now. And, even though Harrah's has dropped out of building a casino, it appears likely that they might re-apply to the State in the future if the economy picks up so tribal leaders are remaining cautiously optimistic.

The latest group to withdraw a

bid with the State was the Kansas Speedway and the Cordish Company who planned to build a casino near the NASCAR racetrack in Wyandotte County. They pulled out on December 5 citing a poor economy as well.

Penn National Gaming Inc. was the first group to withdraw last fall. They were the only bidder for a casino in Cherokee County that is located in southeastern Kansas. They said heavy competition from a new Indian casino (Quapaw) that opened nearby on the state line of Kansas/Oklahoma was the reason they wanted out.

Presently the only group remaining is Butler National Service Corp. who is still planning to build a casino in Ford County which is in western Kansas.

Kansas legislators passed the expanded gambling law last year and were hoping to see revenues amounting to \$200 million a year. They were also hoping that slot machines at three race tracks would also add to the booty but those gaming ventures have also fallen through.

Dave Albrecht, General Manager of the Prairie Band Casino & Resort told the News that he didn't think the State's plan was a good one to begin with and he wasn't at all surprised by the recent turn of events. He said that the Prairie Band Casino & Resort was doing well despite the economy.

## Eleven candidates running for Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission election

Nine candidates have filed for two seats on the Gaming Commission and two candidates have filed to become members of the Ethics Commission.

Anna Boswell and Gary Mitchell will vie against each other for Gaming Commission position #1 and Paula Hopkins, Larry Mzhickteno, Roy T. Ogden, Donald "Jim" Shane, Raphael Wahwassuck, Jacob. M. "Tug" Wamego and Jancita C. Warrington are competing for Gaming Commission position #2.

Only two candidates filed for Ethics Commission seats and are running unopposed: Rencie Eteeyan filed for Ethics Commission position #2 and Ruth Vega-Harjo filed for Ethics Commission position #3.

Candidates filed for the positions in November. Profiles and photos of the candidates are listed on pages 3-5 in this issue of the News and they will be posted on the Potawatomi website [www.pbpindiantribe.com](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com) soon.

Tribal members who are 18 years or older may register by filling out a registration form and have until January 5, 2009 if they have not already done so. Individuals who have previously registered do not need to re-register.

Ballots will be mailed out on January 14 and must be received in the pre-addressed return envelope that will come in a distribution package you will receive if you are already registered. Ballots must be returned by 9 a.m. on the day of the election which is February 25. Please allow one to two weeks for mailing back your ballot.

If no candidate wins by a majority vote plus one, there will be a run-off election that will follow four weeks after the election. Due to a change in the Tribal Constitution, the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes in the first election will face each other in a run-off election in order to determine a winner.

Ballots will be tabulated in an open meeting for the tribal membership that will be conducted by the Election Board at the Bingo Hall. Votes will be tabulated electronically.

The Election Board shall issue the unofficial election results immediately after the conclusion of the tabulation and any protests must be filed within three business days following the election.

The official certified election results will be posted at appropriate tribal offices and distributed to appropriate media at the conclusion of the election process.

The Elections Board has merged with the Enrollment and Per Capita offices to form the Member Services Department. They are now housed together in the Government Center. For more information about the new department see page 6 inside this issue.

For more information about the election contact Vencie Mitchell at 785.966.3911 or call toll free at 877.715.6789 and ask for the Member Services Department.

Gaming Commission and Ethics Commission photos and profiles  
inside on pages 3-5 or  
visit

[www.pbpindiantribe.com](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com)  
a great way to learn about the Nation

## Gaming floor and buffet at Prairie Band Casino & Resort to be remodeled soon

The Prairie Band Casino & Resort (PBC&R) is planning to remodel the gaming floor and Village Garden buffet beginning January 5.

Nothing will close and it will be business as usual and the casino management is hoping customers won't be inconvenienced for too long.

A temporary buffet will be set up in one of the rooms at the Convention Center and they are planning to reshuffle a few of the gaming machines around but none will be leaving the floor.

Dave Albrecht, General Manager of the PBC&R, said that change was needed and that Tribal Council and the Entertainment Board had approved the remodeling effort.

In a nutshell here's what's planned:

### Gaming floor:

- around 75 slot machines will be added

- new carpet will be installed
- wider aisles in a more centralized location/more handicapped accessible.
- one longer bar instead of two

### Buffet area:

- fireplace and better lighting
- more modern furnishings
- interior decor with stone accents, earthen tones and more in keeping with the Woodlands/Potawatomi motif presently found in the hotel and convention center.

Albrecht said that he had been doing research on the history of the Prairie Band Potawatomi people and using resources that were provided by the PBPB Language Department. He said he had been passing the information on to H2B Architects from Fairway,

Kansas who was selected for the remodel design.

Much of the area that is going to be remodeled is part of the original casino that was built back in 1998 on the casino grounds. Although the casino floor and buffet did get some cosmetic changes back in 2004, when the hotel and convention wings were added, designs that were based on Potawatomi traditions were only slightly used. Albrecht said that he thought it was important for the casino to stay up-to-date and compatible with the rest of the casino spaces that will hopefully keep customers satisfied with their gaming experience.



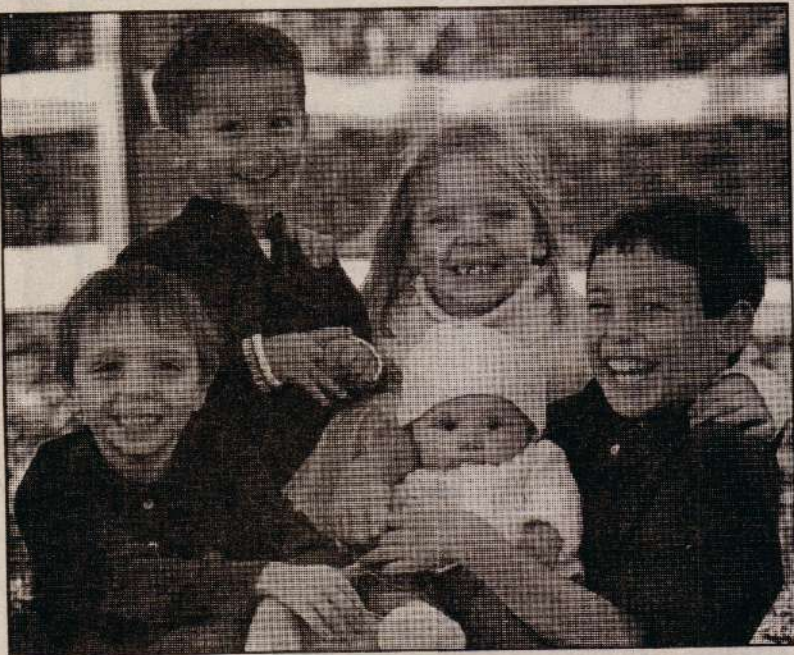
## Budget meeting scheduled and per capita checks on the way

At press time the Member Services Department was busy getting ready to distribute the 4th quarter per capita checks on December 15 to tribal members and was just finishing up background checks of election candidates.

In addition, Treasurer Ryan Dyer and the Finance Department (who also have a big hand in the per

capita distribution process) were preparing for a Budget Meeting that was scheduled for December 13 at the Bingo Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to go over the 2009 government program budgets with tribal members. In addition, Tribal Council was also planning to host a special informational meeting that day.

Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year



This group of happy grandchildren belong to PBPB member, Aaron Hale and his wife, Joyce, who reside on the reservation. From left to right is Isaac (MoenKa), Aedon (Wahp), Tayen (Kiso), baby Lauren (Kache), and Devon (Shobney).

(Photo by Jennifer Hale)

## Liana Onnen named PBPB General Manager



Liana Onnen was named the new General Manager for the PBPB and began her duties last month.

She is a tribal member and has been working for the Nation for six years. She first began working as an assistant in the Housing Department and then transferred to the Human Resources Department. She also spent time as an administrative assistant for former Tribal Council person, Rey Kitchkumme and following that position returned to the Housing Department where she eventually became director.

She is presently working on a B.A. degree in English at Washburn University that she hopes to complete this year.

When asked how she felt about her new position she said, "I am grateful to have been selected as General Manager and I want people to know that my door is always open."

## Mark your calendar

December 24-26	Government Offices Closed Christmas
December 31	Government Offices Closed New Year's Eve
January 1, 2, 09	Government Offices Closed New Year's Day & Employee Appreciation Day
January 17	General Council Meeting
January 19	Government Offices Closed Martin Luther King Day
February 16	Government Offices Closed President's Day
February 25	Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission Election





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

During the third quarter of 2008 Tribal Council has been busy working out the agreement between the PBPB and Dekalb County Sheriff Department on law enforcement. An agreement has been drafted and forwarded to the sheriff for approval. The Tribal Council is awaiting a response or approval of the sheriff agreement. On December 15, 2008 the Tribal Council has a meeting with U.S. House Representative William Foster who represents the DeKalb area. A discussion will be held on the status of the Class II gaming facility. At this point Tribal Council has been made aware that the Illinois State Attorney General plans to file a lawsuit against the PBPB if any significant construction or rezoning occurs at the Shab-eh-nay property. There continues to be local support for the Shab-ey-nay project but at the Illinois State House level Tribal Council needs to pursue an information campaign on our project to let others know how it could positively affect the job market in the DeKalb area. Also, Tribal Council is awaiting the 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 been rendered yet and the PBPB may have to wait until President-elect Barack Obama appoints a new Secretary of Interior for the opinion to be made. Also in the loop at the National Indian Gaming Commission is replacement of the Commissioners themselves by President-elect Obama. At this point Tribal Council is choosing to wait until appointments are made at the Department of Interior.

### In other business:

- During the first quarter of 2009 Tribal Council members plan to travel to Washington, D.C. to meet with new congressional members and attend the Inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama.
- Tribal Council has approved and will make a presentation on the 2009 budgets at the Bingo Hall on Saturday December 13, 2008. The Casino continues to be the main support of funding of tribal government. Fifty-two (52) Percent of net gaming revenue goes to tribal government and forty-eight (48) percent to per capita.
- The Tribal Council has voted to replace the existing Tribal Court House. Project plans and relocation of the court house are now being considered by Tribal Council.

Kansas' expanded gaming effort has taken an unexpected turn. Kansas gaming has recently seen Harrah's (Sumner County) and the Hard Rock (Wyandotte County) drop their proposals and ask for their \$25 million bid fee back. In addition, slots at the race tracks has also been dropped and the only casino scheduled to open currently is in Dodge City, Kansas (Ford County). The State of Kansas plans to reopen bids to build a casino in the three remaining areas. Economic conditions and low return on investment has been given as reasons for the drop of gaming facility bids. Tribal Council has extended the contract with CR Associates to manage the Health Center for another three months. Tribal Council wants to further review the implications and issues of taking over the Health Center completely. Tribal Council will be making changes in the Tribal Attorney's Office at year's end. In other legal issues at this point, the lawsuit between Harrah's and the PBPB is back in the hands of the Judge in Shawnee County after a mediation period resulted in no resolution between Harrah's and PBPB. Tribal Council is working with members of the Drum Religion to resolve the water drainage issue at the Dance Grounds. Possible solutions have been prepared and are being reviewed. The 2009 Potawatomi Gathering Committee has been formed and LaVerne Hale is the coordinator. Plans are underway for sunrise services, economic development meeting, language activities, powwow, give-away, registration and youth activities. Contact LaVerne for more information. Plans are also underway for the annual powwow to be held on a different date than the Potawatomi Gathering. During the third quarter I traveled with the PBPB American Legion Post 410 We-Ta-Se to Bentonville, Ark. where We-Ta-Se was requested by Wal-mart to be the Honor Guard at their Veteran's Day celebration. The celebration was simulcast to all Wal-mart stores nationwide. Wal-mart recognized and thanked We-Ta-Se for their professional appearance and posting of colors. Lastly, the Tribal Council wishes everyone a Happy Holidays and safe travel during the holidays.

## Indian Day celebration last fall



Left: These two little dancers were engrossed with each other during the potato dance that took place at the Indian Day celebration on September 27. Games and other contests were played at the day long event that also had a lot of good singing and dancing and food on hand.

Photo by Joyce Guerrero

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

## Message to the Nation from Joyce Guerrero, Tribal Council Vice-chairperson



My first few months as Tribal Council Vice-chairperson has been busy with Tribal Council meetings, assignments to conferences, more meetings and gaining new information as we go along. With three of us being new to Tribal Council, I appreciate the patience of the other members and staff in getting us updated on issues and projects already in development.

Last month we went through a week long process of reviewing the 2009 budgets for approval. As a new council member I was apprehensive knowing what a challenge it can be and Tribal Council did not want to reduce staff or services. Thankfully this year, after reviewing everyone's budget requests, it appears that no major cut-backs are on the horizon for the upcoming year. Everybody presented carefully thought-out budgets for their departments. It is also important to note that a lot of our budget depends on the success of our business here with the Prairie Band Casino & Resort. They are doing a great job.

The General Council approved a golf

course and those plans are progressing along with interested parties. The Highway 75 and 150 Road project may need some more discussion. Initially, a bingo/ Class II facility was considered as part of the plans, and that's not possible, so that project is on hold.

One special activity that is coming up this year is the 2009 Gathering that we plan to host here for all Potawatomi Bands coming together this August. More on this will be put in the newspaper as time draws near. A planning Gathering Committee has been formed and is meeting regularly. It looks like we are going to have a fantastic Gathering right here this summer! I am looking forward to it. Try to make it if you can.

The Shab-eh-nay project in Illinois is still a goal. After several meetings with consultants and attorneys who have been on board many years with the tribe's endeavors on this, it appears it might be best to wait until the new administration takes office to see who will be in the key positions that we will have to deal with on our land in Illinois.

I have attended several meetings of the health board and have heard from tribal members about serious issues regarding medical care. On the federal level the government must step up and honor their obligation for adequate funding to

Indians where medical care is concerned. Although we have a good committed staff at our facility, the fact is that some of the processes are frustrating many people. We have to work on improving services so that people don't go without treatment or surgery because of not qualifying under some level system.

I was also given the opportunity to work with the General Manager's office temporarily which helped me see the daily operations of how the government operates.

As of this writing, this past week was Thanksgiving week and there were many delicious meals served by different departments. The Fire keeper's Elder Center cooked their wonderful tasty annual dinner to guests that was served by the Prairie Band Casino & Resort staff; it was enjoyed by many.

I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving. Please stop by if you have any questions or just to visit or call. If I am out of the office please leave me a message with your phone number and I will be happy to get back to you.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## Tribal Court sponsors Introduction to Tribal Court Practice program at Casino



A program called Introduction to Tribal Court Practice was held at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort on Oct. 3 that was sponsored by the PBPB Tribal Court and Washburn Law School. In the photo above, from left to right, are Royetta Rodewald and Steve Ortiz from the PBPB and Aliza Organick, Tonya Kowalski, and John J. Francis who are law professors at Washburn University. Tribal Chairman Ortiz welcomed participants to the conference and the rest of those pictured were the principal organizers of the conference. Royetta is the Judicial Administrator for the PBPB Tribal Court.



Tribal Council and the PBPB staff wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

### Tribal Council

- Steve Ortiz, Chairperson
- Joyce Guerrero Vice Chairperson
- Jim Potter, Secretary
- Ryan Dyer, Treasurer
- Junior Wahweotten
- Carrie O'Toole
- Chago Hale

## Tribal Council attends National Congress of the American Indian annual conference



During the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) annual conference held in Phoenix last fall, PBPB Tribal Council members had their picture taken with Secretary of the Department of Interior (DOI) Dirk Kempthorne and Nedra Darling who is DOI Director of Public Affairs and also a PBPB member. In the photo from left to right is Joyce Guerrero, Chago Hale, Kempthorne, Carrie O'Toole and Darling. Guerrero, Hale, and O'Toole are on the PBPB Tribal Council. (Photo submitted)

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Also visit the News section

on

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## 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





## 2009 Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission Election

*Below are the photographs and profiles of candidates who are running in the Gaming Commission/ Ethics Commission Election to be held on February 25, 2009. Two (2) members of the Gaming Commission will be elected. The term of office for each position is for four (4) years. Two (2) members of the Ethics Commission: one (1) Commissioner #2 and one (1) Commissioner #3 will be elected. The term of office for each position is for (2) years. Candidates listed provided their own profile for the News.*

### Election Calendar

Jan. 5 , 4 p.m. -Last day members 18 years of age or older can register to receive a ballot for this election

Jan. 14 -Ballots mailed to registered voters only

Feb. 25, 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

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 Wednesday
  - 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](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com) and look under News & Press/Election News for an online source of viewing the profiles and photos of candidates

## Gaming Commission #1 (vote for one (1))



Anna Boswell

### Anna Boswell

My Name is Anna (Wahwassuck) Boswell and I am running for Gaming Commissioner and am asking for your support and vote in the upcoming Gaming Commission election. I am the daughter of Merriell "Meatball" and Belva Wahwassuck, and the granddaughter of Jon Paul & Josette (Nahgonbe) Wahwassuck. I am also the mother of five wonderful children who range in age from 3 to 15 years and I have been happily married to Michael Boswell for 15 years. I was born in Holton, Kansas and spent part of my childhood in Phoenix, Ariz. graduating from Buckeye Union High School, in Buckeye, Ariz.

My employment background is diverse and each area of work has given me the tools and experience to be successful in my career.

Briefly, my employment history includes working at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station where I managed workers compensation, and I have also been a Compliance Officer for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Gaming Commission. These positions both required a high degree of confidentiality, professionalism, knowledge of rules and regulations, and attention to detail. Presently I am employed at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort as a Database Analyst and have been with the casino for 10 years in departments such as Marketing and Human Resources. I believe my on-hands

work experience in dealing with the internal regulatory requirements, casino processes and operating policies makes me a qualified and ideal Gaming Commission candidate.

In community affairs I am very involved with my children's activities. Most notable are my children's involvement as members of the Royal Valley Singers & Dancers, of which I am very proud. I am also active in other community activities including the following: serving on the pow-wow committee for the last two years; serving as the President of the Head Start Policy Council for the last two out of three years, and previously serving on the Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors for two years. As you know, each of these activities requires an immense amount of time but I have been committed to doing my part not only for family but our community as well.

Lastly, after the arrival of our first child, I set aside my educational goals to help support our family. However, thanks to the generous support of the PBPB Education Department, I am currently working on completing a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration at Baker University and plan to complete it in 2010.

Thank you for consideration and your vote.



Gary Mitchell

### Gary Mitchell

I ask for your vote in this gaming commission election. I have applied myself diligently to my job and want to tell you that I did and will continue to go to work every day. I will also be fair, and will interpret and enforce the gaming laws as written. I think no matter what field you work in, results are more important than rhetoric.

A gaming commissioner is not a politician. Yet, it is good that we have elections for these positions. In some tribes where there are appointments, a commissioner can be fired over anything and that's not good for regulation or stability and elections tend to nullify that kind of nonsense. Most people don't like to be regulated, but it is necessary to show the public that we have a fair game at our casino. Although the gaming commission has little respect, because of the nature of regulation, it is nonetheless federal law and part of our Tribal-State Compact, so, it won't go away anytime soon. The day regulation stops is the day the casino stops, so it is necessary.

I think with over 18 years of elective experience and a bachelor's degree in political science from Washburn University, and a master's degree in history that I can honestly say that I fully understand the laws and regulations we have to deal with on a daily basis. Also, it is important to know the parameters of regulation and management and I believe I know these boundaries.

It has been a positive experience to be part of the economic growth of this tribe. It is well-deserved and overdue for our people and I will do everything I can, in the regulatory sense, to see that it continues. I have deep roots to this reservation and I believe in our people, our religion, and the future of our children. It has been an honor to serve this tribe for many years and I want to continue to do so, which is why I'm asking for your vote.



# Exert your right to vote in the upcoming election!







## Election

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

### Gaming Commissioner #2 (vote for one (1))



Paula Hopkins



#### Paula Hopkins

My name is Paula Hopkins and I am pleased to announce my candidacy for Gaming Commissioner #2 with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) Gaming Commission.

##### A little about me and my family...

I am proud to be the daughter of Evelyn Hopkins and the late William Hopkins. My maternal grandparents are Garnett Potts and Lillian Kelty. I have five children: Josh, 26, who works as a dealer at the Sac and Fox Casino; Stephanie, 24, a head-start teacher at the PBPB Childcare Center and a student at Highland Community College; Shawna, 22, Jamie, 20, and Shanna, 18, who are all preparing for college careers. Recreationally, I enjoy playing softball, volleyball, bowling and walking.

##### My experience, education, and community involvement...

I am the Executive Assistant in the Tribal Attorney's office, a position I've held for 11 years. Before that, I worked for 15 years in various positions in PBPB bingo operations and have also worked part time at the Prairie Band Casino and Resort for two years. My educational background includes possessing 90 college credit hours in social work and business management that I have attained at Washburn University and Haskell Indian Nations University.

I am, and have been active in our Prairie Band Potawatomi community for

many years particularly with our youth. Examples of my commitment to working with youth include: having served on the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Committee for five years; being on the PBPB Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors from 2001 to 2008 and serving as secretary for five years; being a principal coordinator of the annual golf tournament for the Boys & Girls Club that has raised more than \$200,000 in the last six years.

In addition, I have also volunteered to coach baseball, volleyball, chaperone events, and to help with fundraisers. I have also assisted in the planning and organizing of Potawatomi Gathering trips for the elders and most recently was nominated to be the secretary/treasurer for the 2009 Potawatomi Gathering Committee. Keep in mind that the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation will be hosting the Annual Potawatomi Gathering on August 6 - 9 2009. If you would like to volunteer please contact me.

**I would greatly appreciate your vote in the Gaming Commission Election on February 25, 2009....**

My dedication and experience makes me the best candidate for the position. In addition to the knowledge of the tribal government operations, the history of our people, and the legal aspects of the laws that govern our people, I am familiar with the operations of our casino. I am committed to open communication and cooperation between all organizations. It is essential that our enterprise operates in a manner that promotes and functions as efficiently as possible. Important decisions must be made which affect all members of our Nation. I will be mindful of the responsibility that the position of Gaming Commissioner encompasses. You have my commitment, experience, and dedication.



Larry Mzhickteno



#### Larry Mzhickteno

My name is Larry Mzhickteno and I am a candidate for the upcoming Gaming Commission. I have worked the past five years as a Gaming Inspector for the Gaming Commission at our casino. This has been an interesting and rewarding experience. I have reached a point where I would like to serve our Nation in a higher capacity, that of a Gaming Commissioner.

Ten years prior to my position with the Gaming Commission, I worked for Famous Brands, a wholesale liquor distributor. During that time I worked myself up from a stocker/forklift driver to becoming the manager of warehouse delivery, and was a maintenance and supervisor of 25 to 30 employees. I also oversaw an inventory that reached several million dollars at various times of the year. Eventually the company was sold, however, and the new owners closed the Topeka operation and moved it to Wichita. Not wanting to relocate I ended my position with the company.

I have been married to Marguerite for 22 years. We do not live on the reservation but in Jackson County. Our daughter, Rachel, is a junior at the University of Kansas and majoring in Speech Pathology. Our son, Aaron, is a sophomore at Emporia State University and seeking a business degree. He also works part time at our casino as a Players Club representative.

The purpose of the Gaming Commission is strictly regulatory in nature. The duties of a Gaming Commissioner are to ensure that our gaming operation remains in check within the standards set by National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) rules, our gaming compact with the State of Kansas, our own Title 12, and the MICS and ICS. A gaming commissioner should also have the skills to handle human resource issues as well as the ability to maintain a good working relationship with the Tribal Council, the Board of Directors, and also casino management. I believe I have those skills. We are entering uncertain times with the possible expansion of gaming within our State. We may be expanding our own gaming ventures depending on how things turn out in Illinois. I encourage all tribal members to get to know your candidates! The people you elect will be in office for four years. We need knowledgeable people in these positions who will show up for work. Once you have studied your candidates and can make an educated decision, VOTE!

I am "old school" in that I believe in an honest days work for an honest day's pay. I would be proud to serve you as a Gaming Commissioner. I thank you for your time and consideration.



Roy T. Ogden

#### Roy T. Ogden

My name is Roy Ogden and I proudly announce my candidacy for Gaming Commissioner.

I have lived on the reservation all my life and have seen the great changes that have occurred here because of the revenue from the casino enterprise. My number one priority is to protect tribal assets to allow for the continuance of prosperity for the Tribe and its members. The casino must thrive in order to continue our programs and per capita.

I have been married to Shirley for 44 years. We have six children who are all enrolled members of the Tribe and we have 19 grandchildren. My first experience off this reservation was serving two years in the Army Combat Engineers Division where I was stationed at Darmstadt, Germany. I retired from Dupont after 27 years of service. For five of those years I served on the safety committee. I then worked for the Jackson County Road and Bridge Department for nine years. I also farmed and raised cattle during that time.

While working for the County, I decided to help serve the community and ran a successful campaign for County Commissioner in the Third District. After this governing experience, I was privileged to serve a term on the Tribal Council. I currently serve on the Tribal Farm Committee.

I have been involved in community youth activities for 35 years. This also includes serving six years as a USD #337 school board member.

The purpose of the Gaming Commission is to be a regulatory body but not managerial. The Commission must assure that the gaming operation meets and follows the regulations put forth by the National Indian Gaming Commission, the requirements of the State Compact, Potawatomi Title 12 and Federal Title 31. We must not allow any practices which would jeopardize our right to operate the casino. All of my experience has made me ready to serve as a Gaming Commissioner and I am asking for your support.



Donald Jim Shane

#### Donald "Jim" Shane

My name is Donald James Shane and most people know me as Jim Shane. I have lived on the reservation since August 2003 and have worked for the tribal government since moving here.

I have a Bachelor of Science degree from South Dakota State University. I began working for the tribal government as a construction manager contract worker, then moved into the Construction Manager position permanently. I then progressed into becoming the Assistant General Manager of Tribal Operations and lastly was placed as the Interim General Manager of Tribal Operations.

As you can see, I seek and take on challenges with confidence and do the best

that I can. I believe that I am a dedicated and hard worker. Now, with your vote, I can be an arm of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation as a member of the Gaming Commission for the purpose of regulating and monitoring gaming.



Raphael Wahwassuck

#### Raphael Wahwassuck

My name is Raphael Wahwassuck. I am running for Gaming Commissioner seat #2. I am privileged to have lived most of my life on the reservation and have witnessed and participated in many of the great things that our Tribe has accomplished in recent years.

I have worked for 16 years in several different capacities in our tribal government, and helped various departments like the Boys & Girls Club and Finance to develop programs from ideas to implementation. I also have experience working in the gaming industry. Although my time there was brief, the time that I spent at the casino was invaluable to me because it gave me a chance to acquire a better understanding of the inner workings of our gaming operations.

The role of Gaming Commissioner should be taken seriously. I understand the great responsibilities that these elected officials have. It is crucial to ensure that we have the right people in the right positions at the casino because they are the ones that make our gaming operation the best in the area. I believe that I can be effective in this

capacity, due to my educational background which includes a bachelor's of science degree in organizational management from Friends University. I also believe that due to the fact that I am currently not working in the gaming area, but for the PBPB government, that I will bring a new energy to the position and to the commission as a whole. With your support I can take the next step to ensuring our commission will continue to be a successful one.

I am looking forward to the opportunity to bring my ideas and knowledge to the commission to help with our continued success and future endeavors. With this being said, it would be an honor to have your consideration in the upcoming election for Gaming Commission.

Thank You.





Jacob "Tug"  
Wamego



## Jacob M. Wamego (Tug)

I am Jacob "Tug" Wamego and am seeking your vote to become a member of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Tribal Gaming Commission.

I am the proud father of two sons. My wife, Kristen Aitkens, is the Director of Education for the Tribe and we reside on the Potawatomi reservation and are raising our family here. I am very proud of our reservation and all that our Tribe has accomplished. We have come a long way but still have further to go.

I graduated Magna Cum Laude from Washburn University in Topeka with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. It was always my goal to achieve a degree and work for the Potawatomi people. I achieved that goal and now wish to move forward by serving as your Gaming Commissioner.

I have been in the gaming business for almost four years. I began my career on the front line as a casino cashier and then began working in the surveillance department. It was in the surveillance department where I developed a desire to get involved with gaming regulation. Working in surveillance taught me the overall process of how the casino operates. The surveillance department is the eyes for casino management that reports to the Gaming Commission. The PBPB has a state-of-the-art surveillance room that is well staffed and works closely with the Gaming Commission to ensure the protection of our assets.

Currently I am the Investigator for the Gaming Commission and answer directly to that regulatory body. Some former investigations that I have dealt with include employee theft, table game cheats, slot cheats, procedure violations, and regulatory violations. I have come to develop a good rapport with casino management and to work closely with them to ensure that violations are corrected and disciplinary action

is taken, if needed. It's important to identify potential areas of weakness and to work together to develop a plan of action to correct the problem.

Effective and necessary oversight must be given to our casino. Regulation that does not waste time, energy, and money has always been my philosophy. We have to ensure that the assets are protected but also allow the casino management the ability to do their job well. The casino is our best economic venture to date and we must ensure its protection.

We have all enjoyed benefits from the casino revenue. Those benefits include housing, education, employment, per capita payments, and many others too numerous to mention. We also have to keep our gaming operation honest and to let the public know that we run a fair and honest casino. There has to be somebody to stand behind our games to let the public know that they have a chance of winning and, if they feel they have been cheated, they also need to know that there is a regulatory body willing to hear their complaint. This will help ensure that our business will flourish for years to come.

I am extremely qualified for the position of PBPB Gaming Commissioner. My criminal justice degree coupled with my years of direct experience in dealing with the challenges that the Gaming Commission faces everyday has allowed me to gain valuable insight into what is required to handle this position. I feel that I would be ready to tackle the continual issues facing the Gaming Commission from day one. I am willing and able to hit the ground running to help ensure the continued success of the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.



Jancita Warrington

## Jancita C. Warrington

My name is Jancita "Socjewehquaw" Warrington. I am a single mom of an 8-year-old son, Shou. My parents are Becky (Young) and the late Royal E. Warrington from Keshena, Wis. My grandparents are Dorothy and the late Frank Young of Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.

I obtained my Associates of Arts and Bachelor of Arts Degrees from Haskell Indian Nations University. More recently I graduated with Honors from the University of Kansas(KU) with my Master's Degree in Global Indigenous Nations Studies with an emphasis in Tribal Law and Policy.

While in the Master's Program at KU I took several law classes and obtained specific experience in the area of tribal gaming. I believe my education has thoroughly prepared me to take on the responsibility of a tribal gaming commissioner. I have a par-

ticular interest in the regulatory aspect of the position and feel my education with an emphasis in tribal law and policy has provided me the tools to succeed in this position. An important investment our Nation is committed to is supporting the educational endeavors of our people. I am deeply grateful for the support the Nation has invested in my education and feel a great sense of responsibility to give back by contributing to the tribe. Each of us has a place and something valuable to offer our Nation. I have completed my education and am now prepared to contribute to the success of the Nation. If elected to the gaming commission, I will utilize my education and experience to ensure a stable and progressive future for the Nation.

I am humbly asking for your support on election day. Happy Holidays to each family that collectively makes our great Nation.

**Election results are now posted online the day of the election  
go to [www.pbpindiantribe.com](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com) to get the latest news**

## Ethics Commission Candidate #2



Rencie Eteeyan

## Rencie Eteeyan

No profile submitted.

**Make a difference and cast your vote for the next Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission election!**

## Ethics Commission Candidate #3



Ruth Vega Harjo

## Ruth Vega-Harjo

My name is Ruth Vega Harjo and it is with great honor that I'm running for a seat with the Ethics Commission.

My grandparents were Annie and Charles Nozhackum; my father and mother were Ralph and Phyllis Vega. My husband, Roman Harjo, and I have three children, Matthias, 18, Tsianina, 17, and Roman III, 10.

Currently, I am employed as the Planning & Analysis Manager at Prairie Band Casino & Resort. I have worked in varying capacities there for the past five years. Prior to working at the casino, I was elected and proudly served a 4-year term on the Tribal Gaming Commission from 2000-2003. I have also served on the pow-wow committee for the past five years.

My education includes an Associates Degree in Liberal Arts from Haskell Indian Junior College; a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Sociology from Washburn University; and a Master's in Business Administration from Baker University.

I would appreciate your support in the upcoming election. Please exercise your right to vote.

### Election Board

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



**Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation  
Election Board  
P.O. Box 213  
Mayetta, Kansas 66509**





## Newly organized Member Services Department combines Enrollment, Elections, and Per Capita offices into one

Tribal members should find it a lot easier to process their membership information now that three Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPn) departments have merged their offices into one centralized area. Members can now go to one office instead of three to make changes to their information.

The Enrollment, Elections and Per Capita offices are now located in the southwest corner of the Government Center on the upper level. The Enrollment office has been located in that space for some time but the Elections office and the Per Capita office have been scattered in the Government Center.

Member Services was recently derived under a new PBPn government organizational structure developed last year. Arlene Lingo, Director of Enrollment, was named the Member Services Director and now oversees Jim Garcia, Per Capita and Voncile Mitchell and Julia (June) Barber from the Elections office.

Arlene said that by developing one central office it is allowing a more efficient workforce and space. For example, the staff is cross-training so that they can learn each others jobs and they are also centralizing some files in hopes of better serving the membership with a one-stop office location.

Another benefit on the horizon is a planned computerized central membership database. The database will keep mem-

ber address and records up to date and merge lists that are now separated by the three departments.

Arlene said she has already seen some positive changes particularly with her office since the move. For instance, she said she was sometimes overwhelmed by the increase in the tribal membership and record-keeping but by having more staff together in the office now it has been a great help in handling the daily inquiries and transactions that come in.

"Moving the departments together has allowed us to better coordinate our files which sometimes had unnecessary duplications and it is really working out well," she said.

**Member Services  
Office Hours  
Monday through Friday  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**Toll free: 877.715.6789**

*New PBPn identification cards that  
have tribal member's photos on them are in the works!*



The new Member Services team in their new office suite which is located next to Tribal Council chambers. From left to right are Arlene Lingo, Jim Garcia, Voncile Mitchell and June Barber.

## Briefly about each of the services

### Enrollment



Arlene Lingo

Arlene Lingo oversees the 4,885 tribal member files and takes applications for enrollment during office hours. Enrollment services works with a tribal Enrollment Review Committee that determines eligibility.

For details call Enrollment at 785.966.3934.

### Elections



Voncile Mitchell



June Barber

Voncile Mitchell and June Barber are responsible for the day-to-day operations in conducting orderly elections in accordance with the provisions of the Election Ordinance. The Election Board requires 75 working days to prepare for a national election. They are in charge of the scheduling for each election and handling voter registration.

For election details call 785.966.3910 or 3911.

### Per Capita



Jim Garcia

Jim Garcia is in charge of the Per Capita Office and deals with enrolled tribal members who are qualified to receive a share of casino revenues quarterly through a per capita distribution.

For per capita questions call 785.966.3993.

## 2009 Potawatomi Gathering Update

Submitted by LaVerne Hale

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation will be hosting this year's Gathering. We have had several meetings and our people are working hard to get things started.

At a meeting on November 3, I was elected to serve as the Committee Chair and Paula Hopkins was elected Secretary/Treasurer. Next, we have a budget approved by Tribal Council. Meetings have been ranging from 24 to 38 people. At this time we are voting as a group on most decisions but as smaller groups get formed individuals in those groups will make decisions on specific activities. Progress reports will be expected from the smaller groups so that we can all be apprised of the Gathering events. This worked in 2002 and hopefully will work again.

Decisions were made to use the same Gathering logo used in 2002 and for all future Gatherings we host. In addition, the same slogan, "Who We Are" will also be used.

It was also agreed to be as environmentally friendly as much as possible. We are making 3,000 dish bags which will include a dish with lid, cup and a spoon. These will be given to our visitors to use when dining during their visit. This way we will not be using a lot of plastic and foam. We are working on ways to set up for cleaning these dishes. We will also be encouraging ways to keep our grounds clean. No cigarette butts and recycling whenever we can. If you would like to help make dish bags contact us.

Another suggestion is for us to help everyone mingle and to meet people.

Other activities listed here are things people suggested at the meetings. If you see something listed and would like to help, contact us and we will give you the name of the person working on the activity. Activities include: **cultural activities** like children's stories and games, traditional games, flute demonstration, yarn belt class, and talking circles; **buffalo demonstration** of how from beginning to end we process the buffalo that we have provided all these years at each of the Gatherings; **beadwork, and appliqué classes or demonstrations**, and other traditional activities to share. A **youth seminar** is also being planned and we plan to have our **pow-wow**. Additional activities in the works include planning a **pool tournament, ball tournaments, and a golf tournament**. There will also be a **princess contest, a fashion show, rez tours, and Elder activities**.

We also decided to cater in the meals and offer **one traditional meal**. The traditional meal will be done as follows: we are looking for families to volunteer to cook specific foods. One family will make corn soup, one family will make pork gravy, one family will make fry bread and so on. Money to purchase foods will be provided but we need families to volunteer to prepare these foods. Please contact us to volunteer.

We have had wonderful response from many in our community when it was time to dry pumpkin. A group got together and purchased pumpkins and learned to can them. Some froze the pumpkin for next year's meal. We had some canned apples from our orchard. I believe we will have more people gathering these foods from our area when they are in season to prepare for our traditional meal. We thank those that are doing this.

In order to get a jump on things we are requesting **handmade gifts** be given out during the Gathering. We ask all Prairie Band to provide a gift and giving a handmade one would be wonderful.

There are many other events and activities that I have not mentioned at this time. In the next issue of the *Potawatomi News* we will have a program (draft) which will list all the activities. The website will also be used to keep you updated on the progress, information and registration.

## 2009 POTAWATOMI GATHERING HOSTED BY PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION

### "WHO WE ARE"

**August 6, 7, 8 & 9, 2009** The Gathering is in its fourteenth year and

is a four-day celebration of fellowship and learning that brings the nine bands of Potawatomi people together. Prairie People's Park is located on M Road on the reservation and is near Mayetta and approximately 20 miles north of Topeka.

### PBPn Prairie Peoples Park

15400 M ROAD  
MAYETTA, KS 66509



#### Host Hotel information:

- **Holidome** - (785) 272-8040  
605 Fairlawn  
Topeka, KS 66606
- **Best Western Inn & Suites** - (785) 228-2223  
700 Fairlawn  
Topeka, KS 66606
- **Sleep Inn & Suites** - (785) 228-2500  
1024 SW Wanamaker Rd.  
Topeka, KS 66604
- **Days Inn** - (785) 272-8538  
1510 SW Wanamaker  
Topeka, KS 66604

\*\*More hotel information will be added

\*\*Tentative Preliminary Information Flyer\*\*

Contact persons: LaVerne Hale or Paula Hopkins

Contact Info: Office: (785) 966-0041/LaVerne  
(877) 715-6789 ext 4032/Paula  
email: [laverneh@pbpnation.org](mailto:laverneh@pbpnation.org)  
or [phopkins@pbpnation.org](mailto:phopkins@pbpnation.org)

PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION: 16821 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509 (785) 966-4000 [info@pbpnation.org](mailto:info@pbpnation.org) [www.pbpdiantribe.com](http://www.pbpdiantribe.com)

Next Gathering Planning Meeting in January  
visit [www.pbpdiantribe.com](http://www.pbpdiantribe.com) for date and time  
For more information or to volunteer call LaVerne Hale at 785-966-0041 or e-mail [laverneh@pbpnation.org](mailto:laverneh@pbpnation.org)  
or Paula Hopkins at 877-715-6789 ext. 4032 or e-mail [PHopkins@pbpnation.org](mailto:PHopkins@pbpnation.org)





## Prairie Band continue to give donations to the needy



ABOVE are Tribal Council and Charitable Contributions members who presented a check for \$20,000 to Let's Help, an agency from Topeka, that provides assistance to low-income families. The donation will provide rent assistance, holiday food boxes, and scholarships to students enrolled in the Adult Education/GED program. Holding the check on its left is Craig Snyder, Executive Director, and Karen Taylor, Development Director, to his left, of Let's Help next to him who came to the PBPB Government Center to receive the check. The Charitable Contributions Committee is comprised of five tribal members, who along with the Tribal Council, selected 16 organizations to receive the 3rd quarter distribution that totaled \$67,500.

### 2008 3rd Quarter Charitable Contributions

•United Way of Jackson Co Ks, Inc.	\$ 2,000
•Lawrence Arts Center	5,000
•Sheltered Living Inc.	2,500
•Let's Help, Inc.	20,000
•Stormont Vail-Children's Endowment	500
•35th Infantry Division Assoc	1,000
•Topeka Latch-Keyboard Project	1,000
•Unity Council of Topeka	1,000
•USD 473 School Fund (Chapman)	5,000
•Rose Hill Senior Citizens Club, Inc	2,000
•WE-TA-SE Am Legion Post 410	4,500
•Living the Dream Inc	5,000
•Lawrence Community Shelter Inc	5,000
•St Matthew Catholic Church	2,500
•Royal Valley High School (Cheerleading)	500
•Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$67,500</b>

### 2008 4th Quarter Charitable Contributions

- St. Francis Health Center Foundation  
Topeka, KS  
\$10,000
- Lawrence High School Native  
American Club  
Lawrence, KS  
\$5,000
- Ms. Wheelchair of Kansas  
Topeka, KS  
\$1,500
- Washburn Endowment Assoc.  
Topeka, KS  
\$5,000
- TARC, Inc.  
Topeka, KS  
\$5,500
- KETCH  
Wichita, KS  
\$5,000
- Three Rivers  
Wamego, KS  
\$5,000
- Total \$37,500**

(At press time list not completed)



### St. Francis Community Services building Challenge Course on rural facility with 2005 Charitable Contribution award from the PBPB

Steve Ortiz, Tribal Chairman, was the guest of honor December 2 at a luncheon held in Atchison, Kan. hosted by leaders of the St. Francis Community Services who are headquartered in Salina, Kan.

The purpose of the luncheon was to thank the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) for a 2005 Charitable Contribution donation that is now being used to construct a Challenge Course on the grounds of the Lodge, one of the St. Francis' facilities located in Atchison.

Before the luncheon, Fr. Edward W. Fellhauer, President, CEO and Dean of Saint Francis, presented a plaque to Chairman Ortiz that read, "In recognition of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation for your dedication to children, education and nature." Following the pres-



Fr. Edward W. Fellhauer, President, CEO and Dean of Saint Francis, presenting a plaque to Tribal Chairman Steve Ortiz for donating to the child welfare ministry.

entation, Chairman Ortiz was taken on a tour of the facility.

The Lodge sits on 188 acres south of the city of Atchison and is a place where community groups can gather to participate in adventure-based activities like hiking and fishing. It is also a place where meetings or retreats are held and is often used by St. Francis as a space for their outreach programs which are geared to at-risk adolescents and their families.

St. Francis Community Services is a donor-supported child welfare ministry. It has been in operation since 1945 and administers foster care programs, alcohol and drug treatments for adolescents and other social service-based programs concerning at-risk youth.



The Lodge is a retreat facility owned by Saint Francis and located outside of Atchison. Money donated by the PBPB is being used to build an outdoor Challenge Course.



### We-Ta-Se busy with activities and events



The new American Legion National Commander took a tour of posts around the United States and stopped at We-Ta-Se on October 19. In the photo from left to right are Tom Gregg, Kansas Department Commander, David Rehbein, National Commander, Dave Thomas, Kansas Department Vice-Commander, and National Executive Committee member, Dave Warnken. Not shown but traveling with the group was Milton Heifner, Rehbein's aid.

Submitted photo



Above is Samuel T. Holiday, a WWII Navajo Code Talker, who paid a visit to the We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410 last month. He is seen autographing a magazine about code talkers that is on display in the We-Ta-Se building.



Joe Jessepe was the honored veteran at this year's 11th Annual Veterans Pow-wow

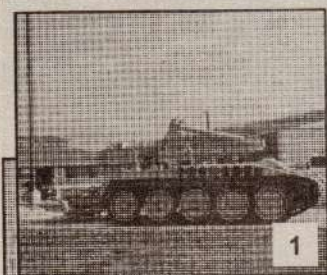


Above: The We-Ta-Se Color Guard was invited to participate in Wal-mart's home office celebration called "Service, Sacrifice, & Overcoming Adversity" on Nov. 10-11 in Bentonville, Ark. Seen with some Wal-mart staff on the back row are, Steve Ortiz, Frank Shoppeese, B.J. Darnall, Joe Jessepe, Jim Potts, Ralph Lundin, and Emery Hale. Photo courtesy of Wal-mart

At right is Steve Ortiz, left, with Andy Mitchell carrying a wreath that was used to honor Potawatomi veterans during a ceremony held November 13 at Prairie People's Park.



### Road & Bridge bring Howitzer military cannon to Kansas; special event recognizes cannon's place in history



A special event to recognize a Howitzer military cannon that is now permanently displayed in front of the We-Ta-Se building was held October 20. The cannon was brought to the PBPB from Warren, Mich. and on the day of the event was accompanied by an entourage of American Legion Riders, local emergency services personnel, and We-Ta-Se American Legion members. In the photos are: 1. The Howitzer military cannon now on display; 2. The Road & Bridge crew who worked on the display. From left to right are Brad Rice, Scott Eteeyan, Mike Shobney, Robbie Griffith and Ronny Hester; 3. Hardy Eteeyan, Road & Bridge supervisor; 4. We-Ta-Se raising the flag during the ceremony; 5. Tim Ramirez, Public Works Director and a We-Ta-Se veteran, being interviewed by KTKA-TV, Topeka for their evening newscast. 6. We-Ta-Se veteran Ralph Lundin who rode with the American Legion Riders. Ralph is from Rossville and has been an active member of We-Ta-Se for many years.





## Departments and Programs

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

### Tribal Police Department celebrates 10 year anniversary

The Potawatomi Tribal Police Department celebrated their 10-year anniversary during the last week in October with presentations at the Firekeepers Elder Center and hosting an open house at the station.

At the open house held October 29 Chief of Police Sam Grant welcomed attendees and introduced the rest of his staff. Russell Whiteside was the master of ceremonies.

Several tribal members and PBPB employees attended along with area law enforcement officers who were on hand for the celebration. Former tribal police chief Terry Scott was a guest and gave a speech about his career with the department from 2002-2006.

The first police office was housed where the present Tribal Court Building is on K Road in 1998. A few months later a Department of Justice grant allowed for the hiring of several more staff and officers and the station was moved to its present location on Q Road. Since that time it has been remodeled.

In 2004 Senate Bill #9 was passed giving tribal police officers the ability to enforce state laws against non-Indians on the reservation. More recently, the police received a grant for a new communications system.

**Tribal Police are once again sponsoring their annual gift drive for Potawatomi Fosterchildren this year.**



Potawatomi Tribal Police Department staff and years of service

AT LEFT, are Micki Martinez, Rebekah Jones and Michael Boswell who are three of the original employees hired to work at the Police Department in 1998. They still work for the Nation and got together for this photo taken at the open house. Micki now works in Transit for Public Works, located on K Road, and Rebekah is the Office Manager/Victims Assistance Program Coordinator. Michael is a Tribal Police Officer and he and Rebekah both have offices at the Police Station, 16344 Q Road, Mayetta, Kan.

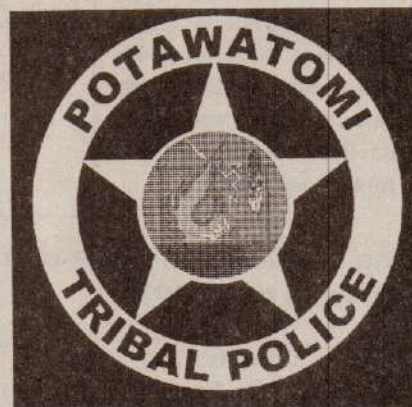


ABOVE is Terry Scott, former Chief of Police, with Sam Grant who has been Police Chief since 2006. Terry was chief from 2002-2006.

**Officers**  
Sam Grant, Chief (2000)  
Wade Schneider (2000)  
Russell Whiteside (2000)  
Michael Boswell (1998)  
John Hurla (2001)  
Steven Cook (2006)  
Ryan Bauer (2008)  
Dave Lanning (2008)

**Animal Control**  
Rick Burns (2000)

**Records**  
Michele Houk (2004)



Dispatch emergency number:  
785.966.3024

**Administration/Victims Assistance**  
Rebekah Jones (1998)

**Maintenance & Repair Tech**  
Herbert Nance (1999)

**Communications/Dispatch**  
Fredonia Harris (2005)  
Jayne Wooton (2003)  
Martin Hale (2004)  
Lesli Grage (2007)

**Drug Dog**  
Bowie (2007)



LEFT: Herb Nance, who works in the Tribal Police Department, taught a Defensive Driving course on September 29-30 for PBPB employees and tribal members. Herb also teaches a Hunters Safety Course and has been with the Tribal Police Department since 1999.

**Notice:**  
There is a change in Title 22 - 4 of the Law & Order Code Book. Contact the Tribal Attorney's Office at 785.966.4032 or 1.877.715.6789 or check the PBPB website for details.



### Social Services Department News



ABOVE, left, are a couple of Royal Valley American Singers and Dancers waiting to perform, as in the photo above right, at the Medicalodge in Holton on Oct. 20. The performance was arranged through the PBPB Social Services Department.  
(Photo submitted by Jackson County Medicalodge)

Mary Sands has been named Director of Social Services recently.



The Social Services Department held an open house that had a Halloween theme on October 30 that was well attended. The Department is located in the east wing of the Health Center.

### Boys & Girls Club and Childcare Center update



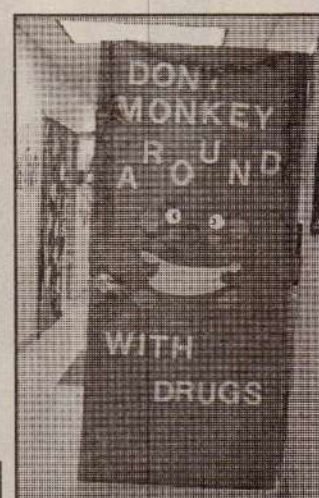
LEFT TO RIGHT: Kikto Green, Tamo Green, Bi-shiwe Noriega and Shobwas Ceja having fun at the Boys & Girls Club on October 17. The Boys & Girls Club is often open on days when school is let out for holiday breaks and parent/teacher conferences. Coleen Thomas is Director the Boys & Girls Club and Nathan Hale is Assistant Director.



Trick or Treaters were having fun parading in front of the Boys & Girls Club on October 30.

**Mail in your vote for the Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission election by February 25**

### Red Ribbon Week



LEFT: Doors were decorated with anti-drug messages at the Child Care Center during Red Ribbon Week held in October. ABOVE: A couple of curious toddlers offered a nice pose for the camera at the Childcare Center on a recent visit there.

### Potawatomi Fire Department News



ABOVE: Students from St. Mary's School District (in the background) took a tour of the reservation on October 17. They looked at the buffalo, played at the Boys & Girls Club and ended up at the Fire Department where they lunched and listened to a drum performance by Galen Thompson (in the hoodie) Doug Green (center) and Anwahbe Thomas. The students also learned about the buffalo at a presentation given by Road & Bridge and learned about careers as a firefighter/paramedic that was sponsored by the Fire Station that day.

The Fire Department gave fire-safety presentations at area schools during Fire Prevention Week October 5 -11



ABOVE: "Wa" Elliott Masquat answers questions for one of the students. Chris DeCoteau is in the background. Both men work with the buffalo program in the Land Management Division.



**The Early Childhood Education Center held a health fair on November 14**



It was a nice fall day when David Noland, bus driver for the Early Child Care Education Center, decided to do some repair work on the bus. David has worked for the PBPB for nine years.

### Stephanie Jim and Reina Rodriguez-Higine receive childcare credentials

Stephanie Jim and Reina Rodriguez-Higine, of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Early Childhood Education Center were awarded a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential in recognition of outstanding work with young children. The credential was awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C. which represents the early childhood education profession.

CDA is the only major national effort

to improve early childhood education and care through evaluating and recognizing the skills of individuals providing care.

Every candidate for the CDA Credential is observed working with young children or families by an early childhood professional. In addition, the candidate must demonstrate the ability to work with families to develop children's physical and intellectual capabilities in a safe and healthy learning environment.





## A report from Tim Ramirez on Public Works

By Director Tim Ramirez

- National Tribal Transportation Conference; 11th annual, held in Oklahoma City was well attended by PBPB, equipment rodeo trophies were again garnered except for me being the Public Works Director (new job) I haven't been operating for 14 months, it showed. But the following operators did place: Supervisor Division, Mike Shobney, Skid Steer 2nd, Hardy Etteyan, Grader 1st, Skid Steer 3rd, Backhoe 3rd, Operator Division, Billy Jim, Grader 1st, Skid Steer 1st, Chris Decoteau, Backhoe, 1st, Skid Steer, 2nd. We are all good buddies with the main competitors every year who are Bad River Chippewa, Isleta Pueblo, Salt River Pima, Modoc (Calif), Apache, Cherokee and Kickapoo. A lot of others get in there but don't place. The Navajo got one this year, I'd say it was their first. I won the Grader the last two years but this year's Grader was a new Cat 120M with no steering wheel, two multifunction joy sticks. Gila River and Navajo Nation took delivery of 9 of them. Threw the old style off.
- IRRHPQ Road; Indian Reservation Roads High Priority Project, was submitted to the Southern Plains Regional BIA office for possible funding and construction of Q Road from 150 to 158. \$844,000 with PBPB 7.9% match. Right of Way is 100%
- Priority # 1 Q Road in Albuquerque; Tribal Council approved the Resolution to make this road the top priority, the old number one was done in late 2007, the Overlay of 158, US 75 to K Rd and 1.2 miles south past all the programs on K Rd.
- Briefed to Tribal Council on priority (overlays); it has gotten to the point that the maintenance to improve the lifetime of the asphalt road system may be funded by 25% of the BIA IRR allocation. Updated the infrastructure report to current, 29 BIA & 25 Tribal Bridges, PBPB maintains 67% of the Reservation roads, 34.5 asphalt, 66 gravel, 21 dirt and a 9,208 bike & pedestrian trail.
- Provided a snapshot to Tribal Council in a meeting; Reservation of our people and lands are; 77,400 acres within the boundary, 11 by 11 square miles. Tribal trust and recent purchases 14,518, BIA USA Trust individual allotments 19,745, total of 34,263 acres, 44.25%
- Road & Bridge had three trucks ready for the first measurable snow that didn't fall. In the 2009 budget process two new dump trucks were approved, bidding got down to Macks with new snow plows, the sand and salt spreaders were replaced last year. These two units replace the 2000 model Internationals, purchased when the general revenue was first benefited by Class III Gaming. Road & Bridge are ready for winter, the problem of obtaining road salt has been solved, and three loads were picked up in Kanopolis, Kan. mixed with Kansas River sand and stored.
- EPA 2300 gallon, sludge truck, Vs tractor & 1500 gallon tank; 2009 budget process approved a new 2300 gallon tank, on a used 2005 KW T-300 Chassis, 57K miles, sludge Trk, for the EPA Department for their operations pertaining to the sewer treatment plant on K Rd and the package plant at the Government Center. This will replace the Farm tractor & 1500 gallon tank that required

high maintenance, and frequently needed tires, axle's that was under sized.

- Buffalo corral; The contract workers which are the old FEMA Cleanup Crew have been busy constructing a buffalo corral capture facility east of the Big Red Machine Field (old ball park). Several big poles are set and compacted and the job is taking shape. This system, when in operation, will allow live capture to transport the animals to harvest; this allows the meat to obtain the USDA approval status. The Nation has been harvesting for years but the meat cannot be used publicly without the USDA stamp.
- The Chairman signed letters to the two Kansas Senators and four congressman in Washington to include Tribes in any Infrastructure Stimulus Bill made by the new President, and to reinstate BIA Road Maintenance back to the 26 million dollars, it was effected by Federal Highway present CR (continuing resolution) Tribes lost 70% in some cases. Not all programs felt this big impact, but the tribes did.
- IRRPPC; (Indian Reservation Roads Policy Coordinating Committee). As a member of the committee's PCC Road Maintenance Task Force I attended a testimony in Oneida, N. Y. to the BIA/Tribal Budget Advisory Council. The Assistant Sec. of the BIA set this up, in the OMB budget to the President for the Interior Dept. where Tribes receive funding; Road Maintenance (R.M.) was to receive a 50% reduction. Our task was to persuade the Council to reinstate it to 26 million, I think the three of us and help from our BIA-DOT did it. The goal was to speak to the seven regions that use 88% of the funds to persuade the other five regions to give R. M. a higher priority in the Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA). In other meetings we as the whole committee worked on issues as CTC criteria.
- On December 5 a USACE meeting a meeting was held with the Army Corps of Engineers Northwestern Territory, Kansas City Office. Their mission of ecosystem, flood protection, water supply, emergency operations, military operations, regulatory, navigation and recreation were explained. The chairman has ties with Col. Wilson who is the head of the Kansas City District and he had them come out. The ACE has a Section 203 Tribal Partnership Projects the Nation can qualify for. The BIA Route 0925 (H Rd) has a .8 mile section in the Big Soldier flood plain that is impassable with high water, this project of raising the elevation and allowing the bottom ground to flood and reseed was presented for funding.
- Last year I was involved in Miles of my Journey, Bridges to the Future; I was selected to partake in a writers group by Colorado State Indian LTAP called the Four Corners. Ten were chosen to write stories on why we worked and stayed in Indian Transportation. My 6,973 word essay (7,500 limit) was one of three chosen to present on Jan. 15 to the Transportation Research Board (TRB) in Washington, D. C. along with tribal members from the Pine Ridge and Cherokee.
- Harvest is about done and lands crop counts about finished; another successful year of crop harvest, wheat, corn, soybeans, hay, native and broom. The small acreage left are waiting for

the ground to freeze because the soybeans are in historically wet spots. Biggest count was corn at 40,159 bushels, other RC in are 8,986 on soybeans and 2026 on wheat.

- In San Antonio, Texas at the BIA 4 Regions I attended a training on BIA reality issues, it was very useful information you can't get anywhere else. IBIA, FTT Application, Admin/Legal Transfers, Cobell, Southern Plains FTT, S. P. Fee to Trust, FTT-Off Reservation Gaming, Gaming, Code of federal Regulations, 25 USC. 2201-2221, Environmental Regs, DOI/Title Standards.
- BIA Bridge Rating Reports; The BIA completed the Structure Inventory IRR Bridge Management system report. Of the 29 BIA Bridges, only one received a low sufficiency rating, 057.5, structurally deficient, BIA B# 208, ¼ mi east of 142 & L, built in 1938 it qualifies for re-hab but not replacement.
- Environmental Assessments (E.A.) on the 22 Fee to Trust; Environmental Assessments are being done on the 22 applications close to being put into Tribal USA Trust status. This report is a requirement by the government for liability protection; the E. A. must be signed by a Certified Licensed Geologist as per 312.10 40 CFR. PBPB EPA has been instrumental in their site visits and cleanup, and Housing where houses are located.
- Into 2009 Federal Fiscal Year, IRR inventory updated; Submittals for update of the Tribal IRR inventory for the most part were official on the RIFDS BIA Data system in Albuquerque. The 2009 Allocation should see an increase, due to CTC. Traffic Counts need to be completed rather than taking the default numbers; some routes carry more traffic than the default according to the class. The IRR formula is 50% CTC (cost to construct) 30% VMT (vehicle miles traveled) 20% Population.
- Weather Station PT-2; The BIA has installed a Weather Station that is part of a National Network that assists the BIA Fire crews in monitoring dry hot winds for Range Index conditions. This site can be viewed on the internet at <http://www.raws.dri.edu/cgi-bin/rawMAIN.pl?ndKPOT>
- Barn Burn, House; The old house, building and barn west of the Health Clinic were burned by the Fire Department as training, and cleaned up by Road & Bridge. This was done to clean up the reservation. A prior resident said when the buildings were part of the Peyote American Church that he had seen coons, ground hogs, foxes, opossums, cats, rats, owls, snakes and all kinds of critters in the barn. Two more sites will be demolished this winter.
- The Rural Safety Innovation Program award from the Federal Highway group is well into the planning stage and there was discussion of the final product held at the Government Center. A change in the plan was to gear the system at 158 & 166 Roads at US 75 to alert with message boards N&S of the 150 Interchange will be similar to those seen north of Soldier Creek on 75.
- T Link; PBPB was invited to the local KDOT stakeholders consultation held in Topeka; we have benefited by these programs such as the 150/75 Interchange and the Pedestrian & Bike Trail.

### Division of Motor Vehicle/Transit

By Micki Martinez

Our Transit Department has received two new mini vans, one is an 8-passenger mini van and the other one is a handicap accessible mini van with a lift and when not using the lift the van sits 8. These vans were purchased through a 5311 grant through KDOT with the Nation submitting 20% of the purchases.

On November 6th we had our on site visit with two KDOT representatives and three FTA representatives. This was an annual FTA audit on KDOT and we were chosen by FTA to have an on site visit to ensure KDOT was monitoring the entire transit providers throughout the state.



Lester "Corky" Sumner in front of the new handicap accessible mini van that the Transit Department recently received. Corky is one of the tribe's transit drivers. (Photo submitted by Micki Martinez)

PBPB staff sat in on the interviews which went very well; at the end of the meeting they asked if we had anything to say. I said that KDOT and our Transit Department have a great working relationship and had even encouraged us to apply for the tribal transit grant when the notice came out. I also stated that when we went to Omaha for a conference I was amazed at how many states didn't work with other tribal nations.

FTA said that this is what they wanted to hear regarding our relationship and that our program should be a role model for other transit providers.

Stacey Cowan, Program Coordinator for KDOT, sent an email that said, "I just wanted to say a big THANK YOU to you and your staff. Because of all of your good work and efforts you really made KDOT look good in the eyes of the FTA Auditors. I really appreciate all you guys do. Keep up the good work!!!"

Our General Manager Liana Onnen sent an email saying she was "proud of our department and to keep up the good work".

For scheduling rides:  
Toll Free 877-727-7643 (1-877-PBPB-RIDE) Tribal Police Dispatch will relay message to Transit office  
Direct Number: 785-966-2995 or 785-966-2737  
Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM - Closed Federal holidays - During inclement weather services may be limited due to hazardous conditions

Fares: Local area - within the PBPB Reservation and within the town of Mayetta  
\$.50 cents each way for ages 6 to 59  
\$.30 cents each way for ages 60 and over

Out of area - Holton, Hoyt, Topeka  
\$1.00 each way for ages 6 to 59  
\$.60 cents each way for ages 60 and over

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation General Public Transportation is partially funded in part by State of Kansas Department of Transportation

### Division of Planning & Environmental Protection

By Virginia LeClere

The Division is in the process of negotiating a funding agreement with IHS and the US EPA to support development of a tribal-ly owned and operated waste disposal service and curbside recycling service. Planning and feasibility phase will be in 009 and then the implementation phase in 2010. Community input and support will be crucial throughout the entire development process and we will do our best to inform and involve the community as the project moves forward.



Above is a photo of attendees at the Solid & Hazardous Waste and Pollution Prevention Workshop held Nov. 4 and 5 at the Rock Building that was sponsored by the Dept of Planning.

### Division of Road & Bridge

By Hardy Etteyan

Winter is a natural part of the seasons. As all the seasons have their finer points, each also has a down side. The down side to winter is that it can cause dangerous road conditions due to the cold temperatures, blowing winds, snow and ice. The Road & Bridge crew's main priority during the winter months is to keep the roads clear to ensure safe driving for everyone.

Road & Bridge monitors the weather closely and will get the equipment out to clear the roads as soon as unfavorable conditions arise. When the roads are bad it is best for everyone if you can stay off of them until they have been cleared. If you cannot wait, please exercise caution and drive carefully.

At right are some workers from Road & Bridge repairing the parking lot at the Government Center.



### Division of Land Maintenance

By Chris DeCoteau

The fall harvesting is all but complete, and grains are in storage waiting to be sold. Work on the buffalo corral is well underway with the very appreciated help from all the staff and the contract workers (Sandy, Thomas, Eric, Russell, Schamaga, Sock).

*We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.*  
-Franklin Delano Roosevelt

### Division of Construction Maintenance

By Carl Matousek

Building Maintenance is working short staffed due to injury and vacancies. Wood cutting and delivery for Elders is ongoing by the wood crew. Interior crews are painting and cleaning carpets. HVAC crews are performing winter maintenance and repair. Plumbing staff is responding to work order requests. Janitorial is spread thin but keeping up.

Construction crew is repairing a leak at one facility and rebuilding bathroom infrastructure. Concrete pours are ongoing for tribal properties.

Construction Management is planning a court building, assisting in golf course design, doing major HVAC improvement for the Boys & Girls Club, remodeling one home, negotiating service contracts, installing rural water lines to three housing units, replacing four septic systems to tribal units, and assisting in year-end planning and maintenance forecasting. Numerous small other projects are ongoing.





## Diabetes Prevention Program briefs

The Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center will begin a new series of classes after the New Year. On tap are 16 one-hour classes to be presented once a week.

The classes will focus on weight-loss through healthy eating and exercise, and preventing diabetes as an overarching goal. To qualify for the program, participants must be diagnosed with pre-diabetes which is defined as having a fasting blood sugar between 100 and 125, and/or a 2-hour glucose-tolerance result between 140 and 199. Pre-diabetics are 10 times more likely to develop diabetes than people with normal blood sugar levels. Studies have shown that weight-loss through diet and exercise is an effective way to prevent diabetes.

The DPP at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center is a part of a 3-site consortium that also includes Haskell Health Center and the Kickapoo Nation Health Center. The Kansas Consortium is one of 36 DPP programs across the country being funded by the Indian Health Services (IHS) Special Diabetes Program for Indians. The Kansas Consortium is the top-ranked program out of the 36 and is tied with one other DPP site for completing targeted goals.

The Kansas Consortium and the Urban Native Diabetes Prevention Consortium (UNDPC) have partnered to produce a cookbook that will focus on contemporary and traditional cooking with Native foods. The UNDPDC consists of DPP sites at Hunter Health Clinic in Wichita, the Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest in Portland, Ore., and the Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley, in San Jose, Calif. The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has agreed to fund the cookbook. Each DPP site will collect recipes from their respective communities, and once compiled the cookbooks will be distributed throughout the participating sites to individuals in the communities at risk for diabetes.

The DPP at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center is looking for individuals from the community who are interested in contributing a recipe or recipes for the cookbook. We particularly want recipes that are healthy or adapted to be low-fat, low-sugar, and/or low-salt. Anyone willing to contribute recipes can send them to Steve Corbett at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center. For further information on the Diabetes Prevention Program, contact Sebe Masquat (966-8273) or Steve Corbett (966-8271).

## What the H.....!



**LEFT:** This summer Roy Hale painted an H (seen in background) on the helipad located just west of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center. Roy took the initiative to paint the emergency symbol and said it was something he thought was important for the reservation community. He used his own money and asked permission first from Health Center Administrator John Holtz.



The 3rd Annual Working Together for Balance Conference was held at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort October 25. Approximately 95 people attended the conference and listened to six presenters who spoke on diabetes issues focusing on women and children. Children were able to attend the afternoon sessions like the one in the photo above. Other activities for the children included a Dance-Away-Diabetes program and a Fun/Run/Walk that concluded the day. The conference was sponsored by the Special Diabetes Program of Indians (SDPI), Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas, Office of Women's Health/Department of Health and Human Services, and the Kansas Health Foundation.

(Photo submitted by Steve Corbett)

## Two new faces at Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center

Jeanette Little Sun, a Prairie Band Potawatomi member, has been hired as the new Community Health Nurse and Janis Simon, Kickapoo, has been hired as the Caregiver Coordinator.

Jeanette was the Nursing Manager for the Haskell Health Center for 25 years and has also worked for the Pawnee Indian Health Center in Oklahoma. In her role as Community Health Nurse, Jeanette will address public health issues, provide home health services including post hospitalization care and also supervise the Caregiver

Coordinator Program.

Janis has worked in a variety of roles. As the Caregiver Coordinator she will provide a variety of educational and support services to assist caregivers in the community emphasizing respite care for caregivers who need to take a brief break from their care giving responsibilities.

According to John Holtz, director of the Health Center, both women have a rich history and strong track record of serving Native Americans and Northeast Kansas.

## Royal Valley School District to participate in Diabetes Education Program

Royal Valley schools are planning to participate in a Diabetes-based Science Education in Tribal Schools curriculum that will educate students about diabetes and the importance of nutrition and physical activity in practicing good health.

The curriculum will provide culturally-tailored materials and lesson plans

that will be designed to change perceptions about diabetes and to empower young people to healthier lifestyles.

Royal Valley is the closest public school to the reservation and has a large Indian population. At press time the program was going to be directed through Haskell Indian Nations University.

## New "Returning to a Healthy Past" Community Food Grant awarded to Prairie Band Health Center

**RIGHT:** Dustin Francis and Randy Mitchell, who worked in last year's community garden, gave out jars of canned squash and pumpkin as favors at the Firekeepers Thanksgiving feast. The two men canned the food, along with Kitty Shopteese, who is one of the Elder Center's more active members. A new grant recently acquired will provide funds to expand the garden project next year and will help the Nation learn more about traditional healthy eating.



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has awarded the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center a grant called, "Using Traditional Foods and Sustainable Ecological Approaches for Health Promotion and Diabetes Prevention in American Indian Communities."

The grant was awarded for five years and provides approximately \$90,000 - \$100,000 per year for project activities. The Prairie Band Nation is one of only 10 other sites around the country awarded this grant. The project will expand the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Community Garden Project that began this past spring. The new project is called "Return to a Healthy Past", and will utilize garden produce and traditional foods to promote a healthy lifestyle aimed at preventing diabetes and diabetic complications.

## Check out these activities offered at the Wellness Center and Boys & Girls Club

The Wellness Center at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center coordinates a number of activities to promote physical fitness. The Wellness Center facility features treadmills, recumbent bikes, elliptical machines, weight machine, and free-weight dumbbells.

New items at the Wellness Center are the Wii and Wii Fit. Wii is a video game system that requires players to be active as they play the games. Wii Fit is an accessory to the Wii that features activities that promote personal goals of better health and fitness. Wellness Center hours are 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Community activities sponsored by the Wellness Center include a volleyball league, and open volleyball and basketball play at the Boys & Girls (B&G) Club. Open volleyball play is scheduled for Sundays 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Mondays 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Open basketball play is scheduled for Sundays 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Tuesdays 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. A 12-week Fitness Challenge is being coordinated by the Wellness Center in which participants record and submit weekly diet and activity logs, and record body fat and

In addition to promoting a healthier lifestyle, the project will be an opportunity for the Nation to establish as a community a means by which knowledge regarding time-honored food practices may be passed to younger generations. The project planners would like to elicit participation from members of the community regarding all aspects of the program, including gardening techniques, plants to be cultivated, wild foods, food preparation and preservation, appropriate use of foods, and information on foods used in the past. Anyone willing to contribute to the program can contact Steve Corbett at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center, 966-8271 [scorbett@pbpnation.org](mailto:scorbett@pbpnation.org); or Sebe Masquat at 966-8273 [sebe@pbpnation.org](mailto:sebe@pbpnation.org).

weight measures. The individual and team that demonstrates the most improvement will win prizes. The next Fitness Challenge session will begin around January 5, 2009.

Another fitness activity currently in progress is Step Aerobics that is held in the Health Center conference room at 4:45 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. Anyone is welcome to join these classes that are video instructed.

The Wellness Center has partnered with the Boys & Girls Club to offer access to their swimming pool and fitness center. An approved membership is required for using the Boys & Girls Club facilities. The pool is available for lap swimming on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The B&G Club fitness center is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For additional information on upcoming activities contact Roy Spoonhunter at 966-8270 or email [RoySpoonhunter@pbpnation.org](mailto:RoySpoonhunter@pbpnation.org).

## Tribal members entitled to vision insurance plan Here's how to apply

Submitted by Priscilla Martin, Human Resources Department

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is proud to announce the vision insurance plan is still available to each of our enrolled tribal members.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is pleased to offer tribal members opportunities to help with their financial security by offering this very important benefit.

### Participation Rules:

- An eligible participant must be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.
- You may enroll at any time, however; your vision insurance will not take effect until the first day of the following month.
- The eligible participant must complete a vision insurance enrollment form. This form must be turned into the Human Resources Department.
- Enrollment can be done over the phone as long as you have the necessary information for the person(s) being enrolled, to include: tribal enrollment number, date-of-birth, social security number, mailing address, daytime phone number, and emergency contact information.

Plan Design: VSP enrolled members will be entitled to a standard eye exam once every 12 months from the last date of service, spectacle lenses once every 12 months from the last date of service, and a frame once every 24 months from the last date of service. There is NO co-payment for tribal members enrolled under this plan.

Eye Exam: Tests check everything from visual clarity to eye focus and coordination. Not only are these tests important for fitting eyewear but they can also allow for early detection and referral for diseases such as glaucoma or diabetes.

Frame: Members receive an allowance toward frames once every 24 months.

Lenses: VSP covers single vision, bifocal, trifocal or other more complex lenses when necessary for the patient's visual welfare once every 12 months.

Options: This plan is designed to cover the patient's visual needs rather than cosmetic materials. If the patient selects any special features that are not medically necessary but sometimes chosen for cosmetic reasons, they will be responsible for the additional charge. Optional items may include (but are not limited to): Blended lenses; Contact lenses (except as noted elsewhere); Oversize lenses; Progressive (no-line) multi-focal lenses; Photo chromic or tinted lenses; Coated or laminated lenses; A frame that exceeds the plan allowance; Certain limitations on low vision care; Cosmetic lenses; Optional cosmetic processes; UV protected lenses

Contact Lenses: Contacts are covered in full up to \$105.00 when medically necessary. Contact lenses are instead of complete pairs of prescription glasses. Lenses and frames furnished under this program, which are lost or broken, will not be replaced except at the normal intervals when services are otherwise available

The following items will NOT be covered under the Plan: Orthotics or vision training and any associated supplemental testing; Plano lenses; Two pair of glasses in lieu of bifocals; Medical or surgical treatment of the eyes; Any eye examination, or any corrective eyewear, required by an employer as a condition of employment; Corrective vision services, treatments, and materials of an exceptional nature

### Procedures to Access VSP's Services:

1. When members are ready to use the plan, they simply call a VSP doctor. Members can call VSP at 1-800-877-7195 for help in finding a VSP participating doctor. They can also use the VSP website ([www.vsp.com](http://www.vsp.com)) to find a nearby doctor for general information about their vision coverage.
  2. When making an appointment, the patient tells the doctor's office that he or she is a VSP member, provides their identification number (Social Security number), and the name of the organization that has contracted with VSP for vision benefits (Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation). The doctor then obtains an authorization to provide services and materials from VSP.
  3. At the appointment, the VSP doctor provides an eye exam and, if necessary, orders eyewear form a VSP contract laboratory. Tribal members do not have a co-payment. The patient will pay any additional costs resulting from cosmetic options or a non-covered service. VSP will pay the participating doctor directly for covered services and materials.
  4. Services obtained through non-participating doctors are subject to the same limitations as services through VSP participating doctors. (The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation will not be responsible for these claims. It is the member's responsibility.)
- If a member receives services from a non-participating doctor, they must pay the full amount of the bill.
  - Request a copy of the bill that shows a detailed list of the services received including amount of the eye examination, lens type and frame.
  - The itemized bill must be sent to VSP along with the member's name and mailing address, social security number, and date of birth. This information must be mailed to Vision Service Plan, Attn: Non-Member Doctor Claims, P.O. Box 997105, Sacramento, CA 95899-7105.
  - Claims must be filed with VSP within 6 months after seeing the doctor.

For questions call Priscilla Martin, Vision Service Agent, Toll Free 1-866-694-3937 or local at (785) 966-3964.



## Judy Wabaunsee and Lester "Corky" Sumner 2008 honored elders



Judy "Cees-Que" Wabaunsee



Lester "Corky" Sumner

The Firekeepers Elder Center selected Judy "Cees-Que" Wabaunsee and Lester "Corky" Sumner as honored elders for 2008. The two were feted at a ceremony and dinner held at the Elder Center on October 15.

Lester has worked for the PBPN in various positions for the last 20 years and is presently working as a transit driver for the Motor Vehicle Division. He has also held positions as the former director of

the Alcohol & Drug Program, been manager of the tribal farm, and been a supervisor of the PBPN RV Park that was previously located south of Mayetta.

Judy retired from working as a registered nurse at the former Indian Health Clinic in Holton in 2005, a position she held for 21 years.

Family members of both honorees attended the dinner along with several other tribal elders.



Marge Abney and LeRoy Mzhickteno attended the annual Thanksgiving dinner held at the Firekeepers Elder Center on November 20. Prairie Band Casino & Resort employees were servers at the dinner which was open to the community and staff.

The Firekeepers Elder Center wants to thank Randy Mitchell and Dustin Francis for all the pumpkin and garden work done on behalf of the elders. Thanks for the pumpkin gifts and your help to the people.

The Center also wants to thank everyone who did the pumpkin work for the Gathering next year. Another thank you for the person, who wants to remain anonymous, for the Indian Dice Game donated to the Center. We are planning to play many games this winter.

## Jim McKinney's name on National Museum of the American Indian Memorial Wall



Family members of Jim McKinney made a visit to the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. last September and found Jim's name listed as a Prairie Band Potawatomi on the Memorial Wall that is featured in the museum. From left to right are Leah Douglas and Darlene Young, who are Jim's daughters, and Agnes McKinney, his wife. Jim was active in the Language program and We-Ta-Se and lived on the reservation until his death three years ago.

The National Museum of the American Indian opened in 2005.

Photo submitted by Darlene Young

## The terror of Pesky Red at Prairie Village: A tale by Julia Lewis

For over a week this fall a red rooster ran rampant in the senior complexes in Prairie Village. Crowing at 5 a.m. the bird would disturb everyone's sleep and leave his droppings on window sills and side walks. A couple of us who live in Prairie Village decided that we'd had enough and set out to stop that bird.

Wanting to do the right thing, we hunted for its owner. We asked Oscar Green, a caregiver for Orville Mahkuk, if the rooster was his but he cried foul (no pun intended) and said that anyone catching the rooster could just as well have it.

So Delores Porter and I decided that we would try and catch the bird. First of all, we made a long wire hook to eventually hook around the rooster's leg and upon our first sighting Delores made for the snag. The rooster got away, however, but we were not to be undone.

After lunch one day I called Rick Burns of PBPN animal control, and he and his partner came out to look for the rooster but to no avail. Later that evening when I was at my kitchen table and fixing some leather chaps, I looked up and saw that rooster peering at me through the back door. I quickly made a call to tell Delores, grabbed my camera and fish net, and made a beeline to the back yard hoping to catch the bird from behind. He saw me though and flew over the



Left to right: Delores Porter, B.J. Jones, and Julia Lewis after capturing Pesky Red, a rooster who got loose in the Prairie Village neighborhood.

fence and into the next yard. By then Delores had arrived and we continued our hunt throughout the neighborhood.

A short time later, I spotted a red item on the ground that

looked like a piece of cloth. "Here," I said softly to Delores while pointing at it but she didn't hear me the first time. "Here," I shouted louder repeating my message, pretty sure that Red would bolt but he did not move.

Both heaving sighs of relief and ready to finish up the job, Delores placed the fish net over the red mass and we were ready to say last rites. However, in maneuvering the net for the final scoop up, Delores had turned it inside out and Pesky Red rose up and flew away. We watched him run across the street and go in to the entryway of a neighbor's house. Delores marched after it and was getting ready to pounce when all of a sudden B.J. Jones came out of the front door. Delores told him to grab the bird's legs which B.J. did and I quickly ran to Clairice Jensen's who gave us some twine so we could tie the rooster up.

As luck would have it, Tribal Police Officer Dave Lanning was driving by and we flagged him down and asked what we should do with the rooster. He said that we should take him to the animal shelter which we did, and we all have been sleeping peacefully ever since.

## Road trip to Genoa Indian School was a moving and emotional experience

By LaVerne Hale

On September 30, 2008 Andy Mitchell, Vivian Gonzales and Delores Abrams and I traveled to Genoa Indian School, in Genoa Nebraska. The year before Andy had made the trip to the school's annual reunion and he wanted to go back again.

We made contact with The Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation to make plans for our visit. This Foundation was established in 1980 for the purpose of preserving the history of what used to be one of the largest Federal Boarding Schools in the United States.

This non-profit Foundation cares for the Manual Training Building (designated a National Historic Site in 1978) and its historical contents. The Foundation promotes and hosts annual U.S. Indian school reunions plus historical and educational programs. Presently there are 11 original buildings remaining. We toured two of them, one being the Manual Training Building which now houses the museum. We saw Indian school memorabilia, a



Left to right: Delores Abrams, Andy Mitchell, LaVerne Hale and Vivian Gonzales on their trip.

model of the campus, and equipment and tools that were used by the students. There were many pictures displayed, some showing before and after pictures of the Indian children after their arrival at the school.

This Indian Industrial School existed from 1884 to 1934. Among the Foundation's preserved history was a list that showed in 1932 twenty different Tribes representing the enrollment of 533 students, 51 that were Potawatomi. We were able to look through school records which listed student names, ages, degree of Indian blood and the date and grade that they were in when they entered and the trade they were learning. One of the pages from a paper called *The Indian News* showed a list of students for 1931-1932 who had an average grade of "B" or above 86. These students constituted the Educational Honor Roll for that year. According to the list I counted, nine were Potawatomi and one of the nine was my mother Agnes Wamengo.

Another building Andy was anxious to see was the dairy barn. Of course it is no longer a dairy but the building still stands. Andy wanted to see the upper part of the barn where names of students who had worked there are etched in the walls and pillars. We saw names way up high and were told that as the student workers filled the barn with hay they would climb higher and higher on the hay until it filled up and that's how the names ended up there.

To be there and to see some of the original things students used and left behind was a very moving experience for me. To be in a place where my mother spent a part of her childhood filled my heart with emotion particularly when I got to thinking about the things my mother had told me about Genoa. We, as Indian people, go through many emotions when the old Indian Boarding Schools are mentioned and I was thankful to have gone on this journey and to have experienced that place.

The picture to the right shows the arch where the Indian children entered the school campus when they arrived. To the right of the arch are train tracks and I could envision seeing the Indian children

coming from far away by train. History shows that the United States tried to take children from as far away as Arizona with the mindset that if they were far from home they wouldn't run away. Another deterrent to their leaving was a fence that surrounded the campus that connected at the arch. Part of that original fence is also still in tact.

A reunion marking the 125th anniversary of the opening of Genoa Indian Industrial School is planned for July 2009. The Foundation is seeking information about students that attended Genoa and would like any pictures or history about past students.

The arch to the school was where Indian children first entered after coming from their tribal homes by train.



Andy Mitchell attended Genoa in 1934 during the last year it was open and he is very excited about this reunion and all the information we gathered.

If you would like to send information for this reunion or to learn more about the school you may contact? Genoa U.S.

Indian School Foundation, P.O. Box 382, Genoa, NE 68640. You may also contact me LaVerne Hale, 785-966-0041 or e-mail laverneh@pbpnation.org as we are planning to return to the reunion in July.

## A side trip on our Genoa journey to pay respects to Chief Wabonse

On our way to Genoa we stopped in Glenwood, Iowa, just south of Council Bluffs and went to the Mills County Museum in Glenwood. This museum has artifacts of Chief Wabonse. According to the history, a speech was given by Albert Wabaunsee at this historical museum named in honor of Chief Wa Bon Se, in Glenwood, Iowa August 29 1959. Delores Abrams made arrangements for us to have a private showing of the museum. The guide took us out to the site of where Chief Wabonse is buried. There is a rock with a plaque that reads "Waubonsie" Pottawattamie Chief Buried East of Marker Here in Field Marked by Shenandoah DAR. Oct 1952. This rock lies in the yard of a house and the guide explained to us that the actual burial site was just east of where we were standing across a stream and out in the field. This was very interesting. We got back in the van and continued on our journey.

## Annual Community Talent Show a hit

The second annual Community Talent Show was held Nov. 6-7 at the Rock Building.

First place went to the Roaring Twenties consisting of Hedy Noland, Tutti Kern and Myra Matchie and second place went to the Hilos, consisting of Rose Hale, Judy Wabaunsee and Maxine Begay. The third place winner was Carol Dewitt who did a lip sync of Sam Cooke.

Chago Hale was the master of ceremonies and concessions were provided by LaVerne Hale

and Mittina Hale.

Julia Lewis was the primary sponsor of the show and donors for the show included Clairice Jensen, Chago Hale, Council and some others who wish to remain anonymous.

Money generated from ticket sales for the show were used as the prize money for the finalists.

Other performers this year included Doris Cochran, Julia Lewis, Laura Abeyta, Thedi Uhl, and Tim Mendez.

## News from the Language Department

By Billy D. Matchie

The PBPN Language Department was awarded an Administration for Native Americans (A. N. A.) grant and we are offering classes in the evening.

Classes are held at the following times: Family Night: Tuesdays, 5:30-8:30 p.m. (may be shortened to 8 p.m.) Adult/Couples Night: Thursdays, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

We are trying to bring in members of the community to help us with the classes and have them talk a little bit about what they can about the culture. Since we are in the fall season, we have been asking them to talk about the things that our people historically did to get ready for the coming season.

Since this is our first year we are trying

to focus on seasonal activities of our people. Each season brings something new to our lives. Each one of us has a little bit to offer and also a lot to learn.

It is good to see a lot of people in class. We had to move to the senior citizens workout area nearby to make room for the students who showed up. We are trying to make the classes and seating arrangements as comfortable as possible.

We would also like to say thank you to Nona Wahweotten, Director of the Firekeepers Center, for allowing us to use part of the workout area to have our classes.

A big thank you to all who are, or have been, involved in our efforts to carry on the best that we can.

We will post the times and dates of Session Two of the grant soon.



## Notice about Higher Education funding from the PBPB Department of Education

Students who are currently receiving funding for the fall 2008 semester MUST turn in an OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT no later than January 31, 2009 to receive funding for the spring 2009 semester. Once our office receives an official transcript we will verify that the minimum criteria have been met and automatically release spring 2009 awards. **Students who have not requested transcripts sent to the Education Department will not receive funding for the spring semester.**

All students must reapply for the fall 2009 semester. Students are encouraged to apply for Federal Student Aid as soon as possible after January 1. Students can visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for information and to check state deadlines. Renewal applications will be mailed in March to current students, or visit <http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/education.aspx> to download an application.

## Tara Mitchell and Ramona Nozhackum play on Haskell Indian Nations University Women's Basketball Team

Right: Tara Mitchell and Ramona Nozhackum, front row, far right respectively are playing for the HINU's Women's Basketball Team this year. In the photo they are with some of their teammates at a HINU men's basketball game in Lawrence December 1. Tara is the daughter of Joanna Mitchell and Ramona is the daughter of Beatty Ramirez.



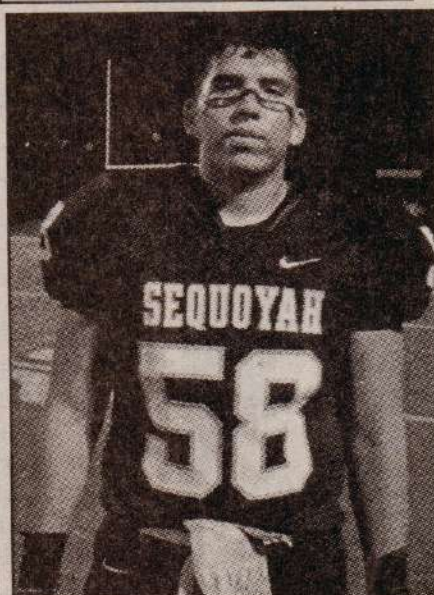
Send your senior's graduation photo this spring to  
Education Department  
Student Services  
16281 Q Road  
Mayetta, KS 66509

## Megan Hale ranks high in flute performance



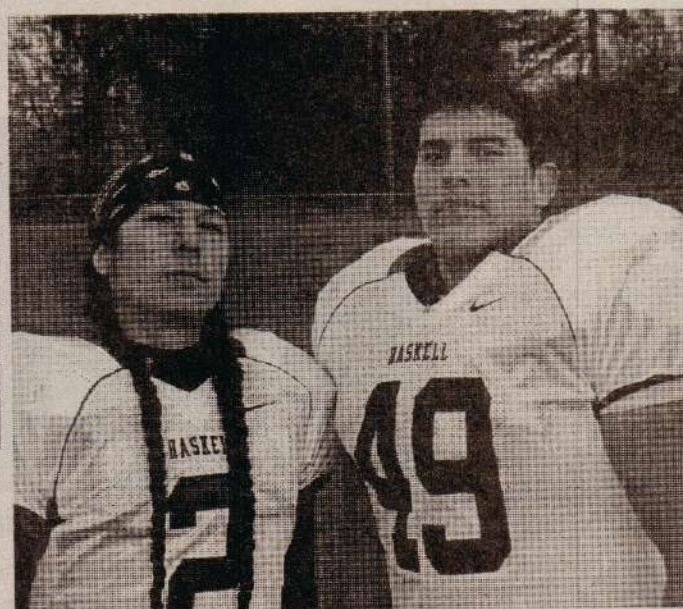
Megan Hale, 15, a sophomore at Holton High School (HHS), competed for the District Honor Band in Baldwin on November 8, 2008. She competed against 40 other flutists and placed 3rd chair. She will perform in the District concert scheduled for December 6, at Blue Valley in Stilwell, Kansas. Also this month, Megan will perform at the Festival of Trees in Topeka.

Megan is eligible to compete for the State Honor Band in January. She also plays the piccolo for the HHS marching band and is on the Girls JV basketball team. Megan is the daughter of Martin and Donna Hale and the granddaughter of Lawrence E. Hale, the late Barbara (Marshno) Hale, Buna Taylor and the late Wayne Jimboy.

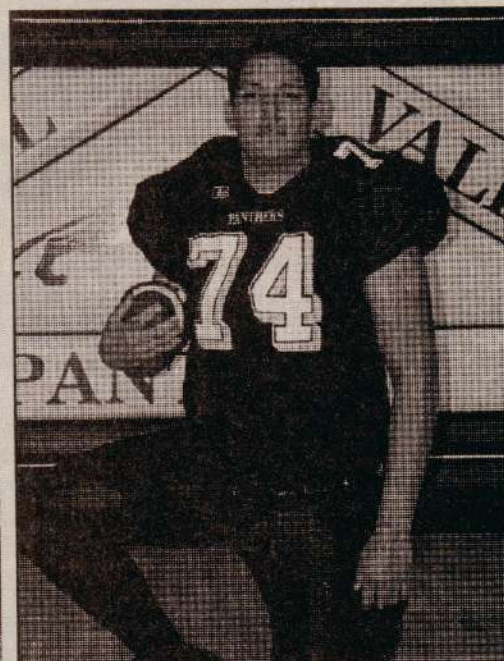


Evan T. Evans, a senior at Sequoyah High School, Tahlequah, Okla., played football and made the 1st Team All District Offensive Line (Center), 1st Team All District Defensive Line (Defensive End), All Conference Team, All State Nominee, and was also a homecoming candidate. Evan is the son of Mando and Anita Evans.

## Young Prairie Band Potawatomi men play football



Above left is Jacob Kent and William Evans who played football for Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) this year. Jacob is the son of Nadine Masquat and DeRoin Kent and William is the son of Mando and Anita Evans.



Zach Wamego, a senior at Royal Valley High School, Mayetta, Kan., made All League in football as an offensive guard and defensive tackle. He is also a Shrine Bowl Nominee and was a homecoming candidate last fall. Zach is the son of Rachel and the late Mike Wamego.

## Congratulations Tsianina Whitetree, 16 years old

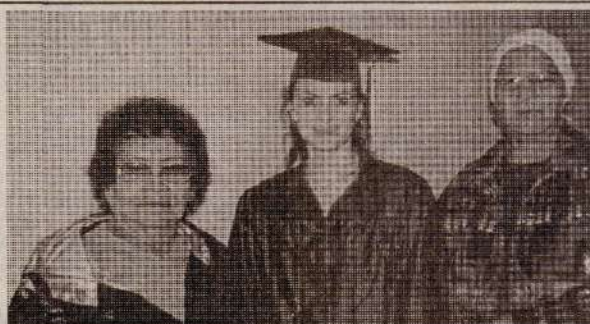
- 2nd Year All-State/Regional and City Cross Country Runner
- Junior at Topeka West High School
- PBPB/Seneca-Cayuga
- Daughter of Ruth (Vega) and Roman Harjo and granddaughter of Linda Yazzie

We love you and are so proud of you!

Love,  
Mom, Roman, Matthias, (Little) Roman, Granny and Dundo

## Congratulations Graduates!

### Congratulations to Brandi J. Cadue on graduating from Bryan College on Nov. 14, 2008



L to R: Marjorie Pahmahmie, Brandi Cadue, and Janell Cadue.

Special thanks to tribal members for submitting items like these to the News



### Congratulations Denise Doty on graduating from Bryan College Nov. 14, 2008

Bozho nikan,

I am Adriana Wahwasuck a student at Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU). In the spring of 2008 I graduated from HINU with a para-professional degree in Education. I was then accepted into HINU-School of Education Program which is directed by Dr. Russell Blackbird, a member of the Omaha tribe of Nebraska. Being at Haskell has been a very rewarding experience and Dr. Blackbird provides a wonderful program that offers full accreditation from the Kansas Board of Education and is also in compliance with the Federal Title II reporting guidelines.

I would first like to take this opportunity to thank, my husband Victor Ortero, my parents Badger and Karen Wahwasuck, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Gaming Commission, both past and present for all their support.

Next, I would like to mention that you have a unique opportunity to become a friend-of-Haskell with a monetary contribution to the School of Education, which will go towards enhancing Native Americans who have chosen a career in Education. You can specify where you would like your contribution to go in the following:

- Assistance with student fees (testing, field experience, student teaching)
- Text Books
- Student State and National Education Conferences
- Instructional Materials
- Technology
- Student Activities or Other

Please contact Dr. Russell Blackbird at (785)749-8436 or write to:  
School of Education-  
Haskell Indian Nations University  
155 Indian Avenue, Box 5014  
Lawrence, Kansas 66046

Iwgiwin



### Congratulations to Tammy Gamino on graduating from Kansas State University

last spring (2008)  
Better late than never!

From: Lupe & Carol

## PBP brothers graduate with college degrees

By LaVonne Chenault-Goslin

Robert Goslin Jr., (Jacquiss), 27, oldest son of Robert and LaVonne (Chenault) Goslin, Bayfield, Wis. and great-grandson of Lillian Shopteese Thomas, Mayetta, has graduated with his Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from St. Mary's University in Minneapolis, Minn. Robert Jr. graduated October 2007 with a 4.0 gradepoint average.

For his final master's project, Robert Jr. and five other business graduate students traveled to Greece in 2007 to work with a small winery business for three weeks. Their final written project was to complete a group business analysis of the winery's current financial projections and to recommend a new marketing and financial strategy for the business that would improve its net worth.

Robert Jr. is currently working for Potawatomi Bingo & Casino in Milwaukee, Wis. as a Financial Analyst. His job entails daily calculations of all the table/slot machines revenue and he analyzes profit or loss in various areas of the casino. Robert Jr. was selected to work there because he is the youngest member of their financial team with fresh, new ideas, is highly educated, and he studied with the most innovative computer programs and technology for finances in his graduate studies.

Dustin Goslin, (Pam-Mbwit-M'ko), 24, second oldest son of Robert and LaVonne graduated in May 2008. He graduated from St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minn. with a Bachelor's of Applied Science degree in Geography (with a tourism emphasis) and a business minor. Dustin was on the Dean's list with a 4.0 during his senior year. Dustin is currently employed as General Manager at the

Dustin Goslin

Riverside Inn & Resort in Cold Springs, Minn. Dustin interned at this inn during his senior year of college and the owner was so impressed with his management style and innovative public relations knowledge that he offered him a position immediately upon graduation. Dustin is in charge of the daily operations of the 22-room hotel resort and its employees. Dustin is implementing many new business ideas for improvement of operations, marketing strategies, fiscal & computer system upgrades as well as initiating an online room reservation system. In August he was also selected to serve as one of the commissioners on the City of Waite Park (Minn.) Planning Commission.



Robert Goslin Jr.

Thank you to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe and Education Department for all of your financial assistance and support during both sons' college endeavors. Neither one of them could have accomplished this major educational goal and had the opportunity to prove that they could attain their goals without your assistance. They are both proud members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe and will represent our tribe with integrity and professionalism.

-LaVonne Chenault-Goslin, proud & happy mom

## Congratulations to Kristen Aitkens on graduating with a Master's in Liberal Arts/Management from Baker University





Messages, opinions and more

A message from Jackie Mitchell

I would like to personally thank our tribal membership for all the support given to me during the last eight years of serving on the Tribal Council. The years of service to the Nation was a very good time for me and for our membership. It is a wonderful opportunity for those of us that are fortunate enough to be able to do this for our Nation. Thanks to all of you that personally thanked me for my work on the Council, many times it is a thankless job, but your words meant so much to me. I would like to offer encouragement to the present Council and I know it is a difficult job but I have complete faith that all of you will do your very best.

As part of our preparation for the Gathering next year, we are asking our membership to help by making 20 dish bags each. We will give our guests a dish bag with a dish, spoon and cup in it to reduce the use of paper products during the Gathering. We want to promote being green. The dish bags can be 14-inch square with a handle. We want to make 3,000. The dish, spoon and cup will be purchased so we just need help with the dish bags. If you have any questions about the dish bags, please call me at 785 966 2262.

Have a Wonderful Holiday Season

Jackie



Happy Holidays to my family!  
Love all of you---

Nes, Mjekno, Pami, Sauzwah,  
Shobwas, Kitti, Mononkwe,  
Bemwetek, Aptageeshko and  
Naokwegeeshko

Love,  
Mom/Auntie Kumos

New book  
called  
*First Fires*  
highlights  
Prairie Band  
Potawatomi  
values  
and  
ways



Laura Lightner is the author of *First Fires*.

Last October marked the release date for *First Fires*, a cross-generational picture book aimed at engaging children and adults in Native values. Written by Laura Lightner, Cherokee descent and adopted daughter of Prairie Band Potawatomi member Joe Lewis (deceased), *First Fires* features thirty years of values from her beloved grandparents, who were ardent storytellers.

"I deeply appreciate the way these values shaped my life, and I hope they will bless others also," said Lightner, a hospice chaplain living in Texas. She remembers and still cherishes the memories of her Oklahoma relations speaking the Cherokee language and telling the funny and sometimes poignant stories of the Cherokee people.

Lightner, a member of Shawnee County Allied Tribes, wrote the book for herself and her three sons so they would always remember the values of her family. Her father and adopted grandfather, PBPB member Jim McKinney (deceased), were enthusiasts for the book, and encouraged her to get it published.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I last wrote a letter to the editor in June, challenging our Tribal Council to complete the economic development projects that were in the planning stages before I left office in July 2007.

Another winter is now upon both our reservations, our home base in Kansas and our recently re-purchased land up in Illinois, and once again our Tribe is left without substantial new economic development to augment our existing sole revenue generator - our Prairie Band Casino.

As you know, as the winter weather hits we cannot build until the spring thaw. Again, this causes a delay of months - if not years (as Tribal Council seems to focus their efforts elsewhere when there is no eminent construction starting point during the winter delaying the work needed to finish these projects); costing the Tribe millions in potential lost revenue and continued legal/professional fees.

We have had some economic wins though. With smart legal maneuvering, the Tribe has successfully delayed the start of state gaming in Wichita (where a significant portion of our casino patrons reside) by stopping Harrah's Entertainment's efforts to operate a state owned casino in Wichita, thereby "dodging a potentially lethal economic bullet."

However, after my experience in dealing with Harrah's during our casino transition, you can bet that they will be back in action somewhere in Kansas after the non-compete time period between our Tribe and Harrah's has elapsed.

I argue that now is the time to push forward and get all the arrangements finished and ready to launch the Shab-eh-nay Bingo Hall. I have been to the Chicago area recently and have seen firsthand that the people there are ready to have our business and sovereign presence re-established. And, no I did not visit as a tribal official, nor have I interfered in any way in our business - as I experienced as tribal chair - by those of our misguided tribal members who went to the officials up in Illinois to complain without tribal authority nor factual merit - hindering our then work and stopping our project which could have gone up much earlier. I just traveled as an individual tribal member who wanted to again visit our land.

I also had about a year ago, a brief visit with our next First Lady of the United States, Michelle Obama, who thought it would be wonderful if the Tribe were to re-establish in Illinois.

Furthermore, our Chair, Steve Ortiz, had this Shab-eh-nay project as a priority in his campaign write-up in our newspaper and on web blogs. Chairman, please be accountable to your campaign!

Therefore, I ask Tribal Council to prioritize the Shab-eh-nay development. There is never a better time with our new federal administration to re-establish our jurisdiction over our lost reservation or a cheaper time with the economic downturn to start up this business.

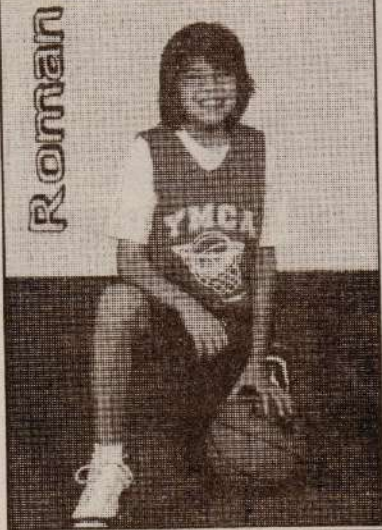
Sincerely,

Tracy Stanhoff

Potawatomi Health Clinic  
Holiday Schedule

December 23	Clinic closed at 2 pm
December 24	Clinic closed at noon
December 25	Clinic closed all day
December 30	Pharmacy closed for annual inventory
December 31	Clinic closed at noon
January 1	Clinic closed

Roman



Roman Harjo III  
Happy 10th Birthday  
We are so proud of you!

With love,  
Your family,  
Mom, Dad, Matthias,  
Tsianina, Granny, Uncle  
Chris, Uncle Paul, & Uncle  
Bert

Congratulations  
to  
Logan Boswell  
on receiving a varsity letter  
during his freshman year in Royal Valley  
football.

"We are very proud of you and all that you have  
accomplished!  
Love,  
Mom, Dad, Kacie, Taryn,  
Madison & Wyatt



Congratulations  
Bahozhoni White

on being selected  
the new  
Miss Indian Youth of Lawrence

Bahozhoni is in the ninth grade at Lawrence (Kan.) Central Junior High School and was chosen at a pageant co-hosted by Lawrence High School's Native American Student Club and USD 497's Native American Student Services.



Caleb and Arlene Wahwasuck



Jonathan Melchoir and Robbie Lange decorating tree.



Mitchells at a pow-wow last summer.

Christmas in Mayetta



The Mayetta Business Association sponsored a Christmas Open House December 6 where Santa Claus passed out toys to the children. Above are some tribal children after receiving their gifts and, right, is Santa (a tribal member) holding a goat. The Association also plans to take fruit baskets to elders soon and is also sponsoring a Christmas lighting contest.  
(Photo by Jim Potter)



Above is Cecelia "Meeks" Jackson who reigned as the elder queen at this year's Mayetta Pioneer Day's parade held Oct. 4. At right is Mary Brown, left, and Inez Dodds who also attended the Pioneer Day festivities

Submitted photos



Potawatomi have fun at  
Mayetta Pioneer Day





## Ttiwenmo eginigyèn (Happy day you were born)

Happy 7th Birthday  
Tabitha Jo "O-Nah-Sha-Qua"  
October 1

Love you  
to the world,  
Mom & Dad



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

•Melissa Goins, 33 Nov. 3  
•Crystal Jones, 34 Dec. 1  
•Drake Jones, 5 Dec. 1  
•"J" Goins, 13 Jan. 10

From: Kevin Aitkens



Happy  
1st  
Birthday  
to  
the  
Lewis  
kids

From Dad, Mom  
and Sisters



Zizia



Wataki

Happy Birthday

to  
Orville Rice Jr. (ON-WA-SAH), October 18  
and  
Mary Alice Brown, November 3

I really appreciate your both being the way  
you are and love you very much! I hope to  
have you around for many  
more years to come.

Happy Birthday to daughter  
Cissy Rose Martinez, 24, Dec. 7

Love always,  
Cheryl Walker & family

Happy Birthday  
Rory (Ka-kak-muk) Lange  
13 years old  
on  
December 14

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Robbie & Ryan



Happy 1st Birthday to my beautiful baby  
Ki-Bo-We-Kwe (Aiyanna)  
on Dec. 27

Love,  
Mama,  
Grandma,  
Grandpa,  
Aunt Kara,  
Aunt Michelle,  
Cousins Desiree &  
Angelina &  
the little cat



Mama loves you so much  
sweetheart.



Much love,  
Grandma,  
Grandpa, BabyDoll,  
Kara,  
Ang, and Connie.



Happy Belated Birthday to Alexis Rae Smith, 3 years old,  
November 5, 2008



"We love you, honey!!"  
All our love,  
Daddy, "Gamma",  
Cheri-Micol & Gerald.



Alexis is the  
granddaughter  
of Connie Smith,  
tribal member,  
and  
daughter of  
Lieutenant/EMT Randy  
Smith,  
Potawatomi  
Fire Department.



Happy 3rd Birthday  
Angelina  
January 13

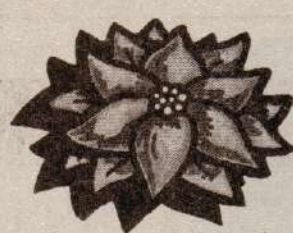


Love,  
your Sister Desiree,  
Grandma, Grandpa, Aunt  
Kara, Aunt Kris, and Cousin  
Aiyanna



Happy 1st Birthday, Aiyanna  
We love you very much!

Aiyanna is the granddaughter  
of tribal member, Maureen  
Throssell and the daughter of  
Kristina Lynn Throssell.



Happy Birthday  
to  
Nis Wilbur,  
Dec. 18  
and  
Verna Wahweotten,  
Dec. 20

Wahpmimi Najera  
had a birthday  
November 20  
and is in the terrible 2s.

Grandma loves you!



Happy Birthday  
to  
Alvina LaClair  
who will be  
86 years young  
on  
December 21



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

Next issue  
Deadline: March 1  
Published: March 25



Happy Birthday  
Leigh Ann  
on  
Dec. 21

Love,  
Your Family

Andrea Guerrero  
December 1

To our sweet lil' sister, mother, cousin  
May your birthday be as  
wonderful as you are.  
Happy Birthday

Love,  
The Guerrero family



Kristi Kelly  
December 12

Happy Birthday cousin Kristi  
Many hugs and kisses from  
your loving family

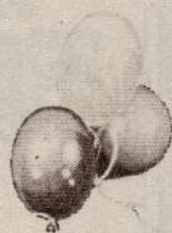
The Guerreros and Kellys



Burton Jones  
December 11

Happy Birthday uncle, brother  
May your birthday be as bright as you  
have made our lives.

Lots of love,  
The Guerrero family



Wishing Belated  
Happy Birthdays  
to

•Ramona Nozhackum Nov. 5  
•Brenda Nozhackum Nov. 25  
•Nelson Tecumseh Dec. 10  
•Star Pelcher Dec. 10

and...  
especially to the old tart  
Ralph Tecumseh  
on Dec. 5  
(Oh, no! the Big 70)

Hope you all had a good one!

Love ya!  
From your family



Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy 4th  
Birthday

Tiffany Lynn

Love, Grammy







## Ganiitk (those who are born)

### Welcome to the world! Harper Melissa Jones



Born: Sept. 16, 2008  
Parents: Crystal &  
Henry Jones  
Misho: Kevin Aitkens



### Welcome little Marley Mae Mills!

Born: Sept. 15, 2008  
Parents: Kelly & Pat Mills



### Isaac (MoneKa Hale would like to introduce his new sister Lauren (Kache) Elizabeth Hale



Born: July 19, 2008  
Weight: 7 lbs, 2 oz.  
Parents: Nathan & Jennifer Hale  
Grandparents: Aaron & Joyce Hale



### Welcome Ke'San "Pooter" Christopher Whayne



Born: October 1, 2008  
Weight: 6lbs., 7oz.  
Length: 20 in.

Grandparents: Sal-vonnia McMillian and Brian  
Whayne  
Great-Grandparents: Elvon-Mae Belair  
Rosie Whayne

Congratulations Bri'Yonnia Ne'Shaye-Marie Whayne

Merry Christmas  
and Peace on  
Earth  
from  
the  
Potawatomi  
News



The Great Spirit is in  
all things; he is the  
air we breathe. The  
Great Spirit is our  
Father; but the earth  
is our mother. She  
nourishes us; that  
which we put into the  
ground she returns to  
us...

-Big Thunder (Bedagi)  
(late 19th century  
Wabanaki Algonquin)

### In memory Obituaries listed in previous issues of the Potawatomi News for 2007

- Kevin Rice (January)
- Lester L. Jessepe (January)
- John Harold Lewis (January)
- Cody Alan Baker (February)
- Joyce Kay Ross-Peay (March)
- Erick A. (Swede) Lundin (March)
- Janice N. Levier (March)
- Glen "Tiny" Place (April)
- Joseph Orin "Pe-way" Fitzsimmons (April)
- Bernice Cartwright (April)
- Anthony Felix Delg (May)
- Eli S. Wabnum (June)
- Aaron Grinnell (June)
- Jarrett Carl Finch (June)
- Verna Marie "Nim-Ni-Quah" Shegonee-Rodriguez (June)
- Carol Snowball "not-no-Kwe" (June)
- Paul W. Slatery (June)
- Garold W. Salisbury (June)
- Wesley "Wab sia" Wishkeno (July)
- Warren L. "Jackie Matt" Mattwaoshe (Sept.)
- Marsha Wabaunsee Ferrari (Sept.)
- LaVina Mae Leach (Oct.)
- Toka Jean Forster (Oct.)
- Martin Leon Burns (Nov.)
- Larry Roy Mitchell (Nov.)
- Linda Zephier (Shopteese) Kitch-kumee-Quah (Dec.)

## Enibowat (Weddings)



### Congratulations

John & Dona Wahwassuck  
on your marriage  
September 18, 2008

## Kamboitk (Those who died)

### Robert "Bobby" Kitchkommie

Robert "Bobby" Kitchkommie, 62, of Topeka, died November 12, 2008 at his home. He was born in Topeka, Kansas on March 18, 1946 the son of Francis and Minnie (Puckee) Kitchkommie. Bobby lived in Topeka all his life. He attended Assumption grade school and Topeka High School. He worked for the Topeka Presbyterian Manor for many years in maintenance and painting. He was a member of the Assumption Church and a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Bobby married Susan Carrick and later divorced. Bobby is survived by a son, Robert Anthony Kitchkommie of Topeka, a brother David Lake of Mayetta and a sister Vivian Gonzales of Mayetta, Kansas. Numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, Francis and Minnie. Brothers, Leroy, Joseph and Jacob Kitchkommie. Sisters, Ernestine McClain and Bernadette Osage. Funeral services were held on Thursday November 30th at Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home. Interment in Mt. Calvary Cemetery.

(Courtesy of Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home, Topeka, Kan.)

### Adelaide Delores (Dill) Aitkens

SAN DIEGO, CA: Adelaide Delores (Dill) Aitkens, 66, passed away Saturday, September 27, 2008 in San Diego, California. Delores was born June 30, 1942 in Holton, KS. She was the daughter of Josephine (Jo) Keesis Aitkens and Laverne (Spud) Aitkens. Maternal grandparents were Susan (Moore) Keesis and Bernard Keesis. Delores was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. She attended Holton High School before moving to Fairfield, California where she graduated from Armijo High School in 1960. Delores enjoyed returning to Holton and attending class reunions with her Holton High classmates and spending time with friends and family. While in California Delores worked for AT&T in San Francisco and San Diego. She retired this year from AT&T after 46 years of service.

Delores enjoyed spending her free time with her sons and working on arts and crafts. She was an accomplished doll maker and also had an extensive Snoopy collection. As a long time season ticket holder for the San Diego Chargers, Delores was considered by her sons to be the Chargers' biggest fan.

Survivors include two sons, Kenneth Leland Aitkens and Michael Dean Aitkens. Delores was a beloved daughter, mother, niece and friend. Her smile, humor, wit and caring will be missed.

A rosary will be said at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Holton on Monday, October 20, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Mass will be at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church on the Potawatomi reservation at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 21, 2008. Burial will be in the Shipshew Cemetery. On-line condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com.

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

### Harold L. Simon, Sr.

MAYETTA - Harold L. Simon, Sr., 73 of Mayetta formerly of Topeka died Friday, October 24, 2008 at Midland Hospice House in Topeka. He was born on December 10, 1934 in Topeka, KS. He was the son of Willie and Lenore Wabski Simon.

He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. He was retired from Volume Shoe in Topeka.

Harold is survived by a son, Harold Simon, Jr. of Mayetta, KS; a sister, Mary Frost of Mayetta, KS; and a grandson.

Harold was cremated. The family will greet friends from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Tuesday evening October 28, 2008 at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton. www.mercerfuneralhomes.com

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

### Roberta (Keltner) Sug-Wi Asselin

HOYT - Roberta (Keltner) Asselin, Sug-Wi, 51, of Topeka, was found Sunday, November 16, 2008 at her home.

She was born July 19, 1957 at Newport News, Virginia, the daughter of Robert and Theresa "Osh" Wabnum Asselin.

Roberta worked for the State of Kansas as a data entry operator. She had attended Washburn University for a degree in drug and alcohol counseling.

She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and attended Assumption Catholic Church in Topeka.

Roberta married Ray Keltner. They were divorced.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Anthony Asselin.

Survivors include two sons, Curtis J. Keltner, Ft. Bragg, N.C., and Michael M. Keltner, Mayetta; her father and step-mother, Robert Asselin & Janice Asselin, Topeka; her mother, Theresa "Osh" Asselin, Mayetta; one brother, Peter Asselin, Concord, N.C.; two sisters, Sandra Quintana and Melanie Asselin, both of Topeka; an adopted grandmother, Voncile Mitchell, Mayetta; an adopted brother, Kabot Hale, Horton, and four grandchildren, Zachary, Kyle and Leilani Keltner, and Dustin Keltner.

A rosary and prayer service will be held at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 20th at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt. Cremation will follow. Inurnment will be Saturday in the Matwe-Shobney Cemetery on the Potawatomi Reservation. Roberta will lie in state after 9:00 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home. There will be a supper at the Dance Ground west of Mayetta on Wednesday evening. On-line condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

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

### In memory

Obituaries listed in previous issues of the  
Potawatomi News for 2008

#### 2008

- Donald G. Nocktonick (Jan.)
- Vestina Mae "Nee-ba-wee" Nonken (Jan.)
- Laura Mae Ortiz (Jan.)
- Vernon "Namen" Shopteese, Jr. (Jan.)
- Francis "Bug" Wishteyah, Jr. (Jan.)
- Michael Levi (Ksa-kee) Aitkens (Feb.)
- Dewey James Jessepe (Feb.)
- Yolanda Solis (Kett-Kut-Kwe) (Feb.)
- Michael Lovell Johnson (March)
- Johnnie P. Wahwassuck, Jr. (March)
- Ralph "Sonny" Martinez (April)
- Rita A. Ock-Naw Youngbird (April)
- Maynard Leo "Naw Kweh kishek" Potts (April)
- Lynda Sue Hinojosa (May)
- Minne Rose Baker (June)
- Bruce A. Walker (June)
- Randy Dean Cahoon (July)
- Bernadette Osage (July)
- James Wamego, Jr. (July)
- Virgiline D. Pierson (August)

Obituaries are now posted online.  
Visit  
www.pbpindiantribe.com  
and  
go to news/press-Gambottek





## Community Notices

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

### NOTICE TO TRIBALLY-OWNED CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

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

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

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

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

PBPB Purchasing Department  
Government Center  
16281 Q Road,  
Mayetta, KS 66509-8970  
Telephone: 785.966.4038, 785.966.3970 or 785.966.3938  
Fax: 785-966-3958

### Call for artists!

The New Prairie Band  
Potawatomi Healing to  
Wellness Drug Court is seeking  
artists to submit drawings for  
the program handbook.  
Drawing should reflect  
traditional health and wellness  
of the mind and spirit.

Deadline: January 5, 2009

Call Brian Jones in Social  
Services at 785.966.8325  
for details

### Call to WWII Veterans

The Dole Institute of Politics located  
in Lawrence, Kansas  
has a kiosk that will recognize any  
WW II veteran who may have lived in  
Kansas and served in the US Armed  
Forces during WW II

For more information call the  
We-Ta-Se Office at 785.966.2580

The Native American Heritage Museum, a  
branch of the Kansas State Historical Society,  
in Highland, Kansas will be closing due to  
budget cuts.

### It's tax time again!

Free income tax assistance site  
available at the  
Firekeepers Elder Center  
for families with  
low to moderate incomes

When: January 26, 2009  
Times: Mondays: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Thursdays: noon to 4 p.m.  
Where: Firekeepers Elder Center  
15372 K Road  
Mayetta, KS 66509

Appointments preferred!

Please call 785.966.4000 to make  
appointments and  
for more information



### Free Income Tax Assistance for Individuals and Families with Low - Moderate Incomes



2009  
Shawnee County Sites  
Open January 26<sup>th</sup> - April 15<sup>th</sup>

Bring Last Year's Tax Return!  
See the checklist & come prepared.

Returns that are e-filed will have  
their full refund as soon as 8 days  
with a direct deposit to a bank  
account (or as soon as 15 days by  
mail).

### Bring this Tax Information to complete your Income Tax Forms:

1. A copy of your 2007 tax return, if you have one.
2. Birth dates and social security cards for the taxpayer, spouse and any children in the household born before Dec. 31, 2008 are needed to claim the EIC.
3. W-2 forms from all 2008 jobs.
4. 1099-G form, if you received unemployment insurance benefits or a state refund in 2008.
5. 1099-INT, if you received bank interest in 2008.
6. All other 1098 and 1099 forms.
7. Any statements received from a mortgage company for 2008.
8. Any notices sent to the worker by the IRS in 2008.
9. Workers with Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs) should bring the ITIN card sent to them by the IRS. Workers need either an ITIN or a SSN for the Child Tax Credit.
10. W-2 G Gambling Income
11. 2008 Property Tax Form, name of landlord, address and phone number if claiming the Homestead Credit.
12. Voided check or savings account number where a refund will be direct deposited.

Amended returns and past years' returns will be completed in March only.

### Do I need to file a tax return?

Even if you are not required to file a return, you may wish to in order to claim tax credits or refunds due to you. If your income is below \$30,000, you may be eligible for the Food Sales Tax Credit and/or Homestead Credit. Ask your preparer.

### Is this service really free?

Yes. We do not charge any fees, saving taxpayers an average of \$80-\$300.

For more information contact:  
Cindy M. Evans, County Extension Agent  
K-State Research & Extension -  
Shawnee County  
1740 SW Western Ave  
Topeka, KS 66604, 785-232-0062  
Download this brochure at  
[www.shawnee.ksu.edu](http://www.shawnee.ksu.edu)

### NOTICE

Volunteer tax assistants prepare  
Federal Income Tax Returns and state  
returns (including the Food Sales Tax  
Credit and Homestead Credit.)

Volunteers will NOT prepare:  
Schedule C (Profit or Loss from Business with gross receipts in excess of \$5000)  
Complicated & Advanced Schedule D (Capital Gains & Losses)  
Schedule E (Rents and Royalties)  
Form SS-5 (Requests for Social Security Number)  
Form 2106 (Employee Business Expenses)  
Form 3903 (Moving)  
Form 8615 (Minor's Investment Income)



These young dancers were a part of this year's Veterans Pow-wow held November 15 in Holton. Overall, there were 101 youth dancers and 64 adult dancers, 51 veterans, and five drums including one youth drum.

### 2008 11th Annual Veterans Pow-wow Raffle Winners

Gift basket donated by Linda Tecumseh in memory of Tom Ramirez and 'Sonny' Nozhackum Winner: Kathy Beem	Large smoker Winner: Verna Simon
First Pendleton blanket Winner: Chuck Jacobson	50 gallons of gas Winner: Joe Mendez
Second Pendleton blanket Winner: Charlene Whitebird	100 gallons of gas Winner: Camellia Chennault
	\$1000 cash prize Winner: Note Thomas

At right: Tony  
Wahweotten was the  
Head Man Dancer  
at this year's  
Veterans Pow-wow.  
This photo of him  
was taken at the  
Sac & Fox pow-wow  
last summer.

Photo submitted by  
Laveda Wahweotten

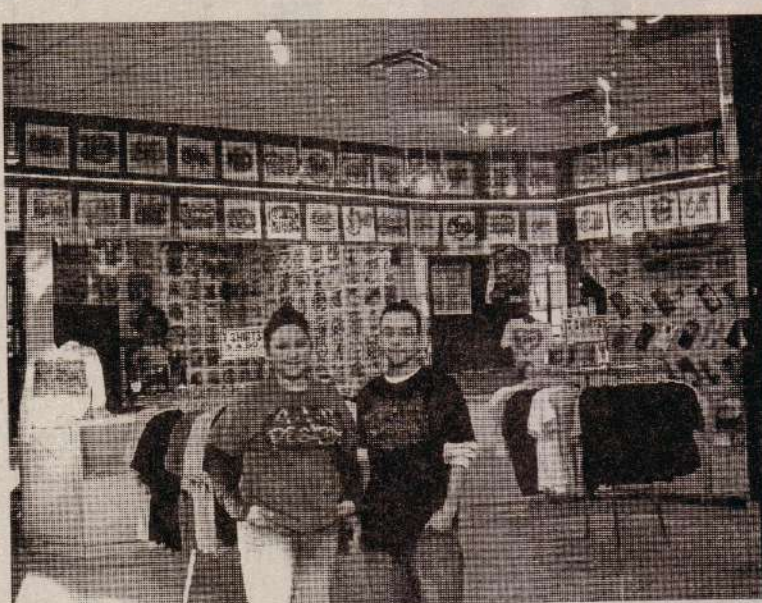


### Entrepreneur spotlight on:

## 4-1-9 Designs Custom Airbrush & Body Art

By Suzanne Heck

If you're needing a personalized Christmas gift this season you might want to check out 4-1-9 Designs, a custom airbrush and body art shop, located on the second floor of Westridge Mall in Topeka.



Sue and David Rodriguez, a tribal member, in front of their custom airbrush store called 4-1-9 Designs located in Westridge Mall in Topeka.

The store belongs to tribal member David Rodriguez, who is the artist, and his wife, Sue, who manages the business.

The couple began 4-1-9 Designs a few years ago out of a tent and began selling their wares around Topeka. They did pretty well and progressed next to selling in vendor booths and then purchased a small trailer that they took from place to place. You may have seen 4-1-9 Designs at a past PBPB pow-wow or two as they have sold their T-shirts and license plates there for a few years.

David and Sue both said that they like their mobile business because the weather is good but for the past two winters they've leased a storefront in the mall. This year they are located

near the Food Court on the second floor and plan to be there until May.

David is a self-taught artist and said that he's been interested in art ever since he was a kid. He was raised in Topeka and graduated from Kickapoo Nation Indian School in 1996. Shortly after that time he met Sue, got married, and the couple has two children. Their permanent home is in Topeka.

David began his professional art career as a tattoo artist and then decided to try his hand at the airbrush business a couple of years ago. He said that it was Sue who urged him to give airbrush a try and that he wishes he had gotten into it earlier because business has been good.

David does his work right in the store and will individualize any design to suit customer needs.

When asked where he came up with his designs he said, "Our customers give us most of our inspiration. A lot of times they will come in and tell us what they want. They've brought in helmets, shoes, leather jackets or anything else you can think of and if it is legal or copyright free, I can design it and put it on," he said.

The store also has a lot of stock items available and if you are a last-minute Christmas shopper you can purchase a shirt or license plate right off the rack.

They are planning to take to the road again this spring but this time in a larger trailer. They also plan to be one of the vendors at this summer's PBPB pow-wow.

Until then you can find them at the Mall or just give them a call and they'll help you out.

David is the son of Renee Soto who lives on the reservation.



David Rodriguez using the airbrush tool to design T-shirts and other items that he and his wife, Sue, sell in their store.

### Happy Holidays and come see us!

4-1-9 Designs  
Custom Airbrush & Body Art  
Westridge Mall  
Topeka, KS  
phone: 785.215.9148