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

Eleven candidates running for Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission election


What looked like a major threat to the growth of Indian casinos in Kansas when the Kansas Legislature voted in new gaming law last year is now looking to be the freeing force.

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 five months, only three of the four have dropped out.

One of those was Summer Gaming Joint Venture that includes Harrah’s Entertainment Inc. who withdrew its application on November 17 to build a destination casino in Kansas City.

That was good news to the Prairie Band who had feared a lawsuit against Harrah’s on August 15 over a non-compete agreement that was signed when they parted ways in 2007. After a hearing and ruling that favored the PBPG’s position on September 7, a judge in the District Court of Shawnee County ordered the two groups into confidentiality 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 had dropped out of the casino, a appeal likely that they might re-enter to the scene if the economy pulls up as tribal leaders are remaining cautiously optimistic.

The latest group to withdraw, a

but with the State was the Kansas Lottery and the Cordish Company who planned to build a casino near the NASCAR racetrack in Winfield County. They pulled out on December 5 citing a poor economy as the cause.

Prairie 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 southern Kansas. They said heavy competition from a new Indian casino (Quapaw) that opened nearby on the state line of Arkansas/Oklahoma was the reason they wanted out.

Recently the only group remain-

ing in Butler National Service Corp, who is still planning to build a casino in Ford County which is in northwestern Kansas.

Kansas legislators passed the expanded gambling law last year and were hoping to see a revenue stream amounting to $200 million a year. They were also hoping that slot machines at these new tracks would also add to the booties but those gaming venues have also fallen through.

Dave Albrecht, General Manager of the Prairie Band Casino & Resort told the Paper that he does not think the State’s play was a good one to begin with and he isn’t all surprised by the recent lack of events. He said that the Prairie Band Casino & Resort was doing well despite the closures.

If no candidate wins by a majority vote plus two, then there will be a runoff election that will follow the same election procedures.

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

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This official certification election results will be post-ed at appropriate tribal offices and distributed to appropri-ate media at the conclusion of the election process.

The Election 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 we can call 785.564.6000.

For more information about the elections contact Indian Bingo 785.564.3011 or call toll free at 877.715.8399 and ask for the Member Services Department.

Gaming Commission and Ethics Commission meetings and profiles

Inside pages 3-5 or visit www.pbpgtribandie.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 (PBPG) is planning to remodel the gaming floor and Village Cafeteria buffet beginning in January.

Nothing will close and it will be business as usual at tribal and casino management is expecting no inconvenience for guests.

A temporary buffet will be set up in the meeting rooms at the Convention Center. PBPG general manager Liana Osen explained that this was being done in order to ensure that the guests who visit the casino during this period will not see an empty restaurant.

"Our guests have been used to buffet service and we don't want them to be disappointed," said Osen.

A buffet area will be closed and a new buffet area will be added.

New carpet will be installed

-wider aisles in a more centralized location/more hand-
capped accessible

- more chairs but instead of two

Buffet area:

-Collier and better lighting

-more menu selections

-neutral colors with more subtle accents, earth tones and more in keeping with the Woodlands/Potawatomi motif.

-remodeled 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 PBPG’s Language Department. He said that he has been passing the information on to HR & Archives from Fairway.

This group of happy grandchildren belong to PBPG member, Aaron Hibu and his wife, Joyce, who reside on the reservation. From left to right are Tiffany, Averie, Mekhi, Aidan, Enver, Kasey, baby Lauren (Kasey), and Devon (Shonby).

(Liana Osen) was named the new General Manager for the PBPG 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, Ray E. Moorman, and has served in the Hosing Department in two different capacities.

She is presently working in a B.A. degree in English as a Wabash College that she expects to complete this year.

"When asked how she felt about her new position and being selected as General Manager I want people to know that no one is always open," said Osen.

Kansas was selected for the remodel.

Much of the area that is going to be remodeled is part of the original casino that was built back in 1993 on the casino grounds. Although the gaming floor and buffet did get some cosmetic changes back in 2004, when the area was expanded, designs that were based on Potawatomi traditions were only slightly used. Albrecht said that it was important for the casino to stay up-to-date and competitive with the rest of the casino spaces that will hopefully keep customers satisfied with their gaming expen-

Budget meeting scheduled and per capita checks on the way

At press time the Member Services Department was busy getting ready to distribute the fourth 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 Fiduciary Department (who also have a big hand in the per capita distribution process) were preparing for a Budget Meeting that was scheduled for December 12 at the Bingo Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to go over the 2009 government programs budget with tribal members. In addition, Tribal Council was also planning to host a special informational meeting that day.

Mark your calendar

December 24-26
Government Offices Closed Christmas

December 21
Government Offices Closed New Year's Day

January 1, 2, 3, 4
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

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Indian Day celebration last fall

My first few months as Tribal Council Vice-chairperson has been busy with Tribal Council meetings, assignments to conferences, new meetings and information we are getting along. With this in mind, I would like to thank all members and staff as we get updated on issues and projects.

Last month we went through a week long process of reviewing the 2008 budgets for approval. As a new council member I was apprehensive knowing what a challenge it can be and Tribal Council did not have much staff support. Thankfully this year, after reviewing everyone’s budget request, it appears that current cuts are not on the horizon for the upcoming year.

I am enjoying my time as a new council member and I look forward to working with all council members.

Left: These two little diners were seated with each other during the parade that took place for the Indian Day celebration on September 27. Games and other contests were played all day long and there was a lot of good singing and dancing in the food court.

Please make a note that the Newsroom will be in 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.

Prairie Bird Potawatomi News
An award winning Native American newspaper

The Prairie Bird Potawatomi News is a quarterly newspaper of the Potawatomi People. Opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Government Office, Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Potawatomi Nation. Comments or letters will be edited for length, grammar and spelling.

The Prairie Bird Potawatomi News encourages letters and editorials. Articles and photos from our readers. This publication reserves the right to reject, edit or condense items submitted. Please submit item by email as an attachment or other electronic format (CD, flash drive) or drop by the News Office with your information.

Deadline for News: March 1
Deadline for Photos: March 25
Deadline for Letters: April 1
Deadline for Letters: September 1
Deadline for News: December 1
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 this 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.pbpinlandtribe.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

My name is Anna (Wahkunwits) 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 Merrell "Mudhead" and Blenda Wahkunwits, and the granddaughter of Jim Paul & Joanne (Nelgato) Wahkunwits. I am also the mother of five wonderful children. Above age from 1 to 12 years and I have been happily married to Michael Boswell for 15 years. I was born in Helena, Kansas and spent part of my childhood in Phoenix, Arizona gradu- ing from Backus Union High School, in Backus, Ariz.

My employment background is diverse and each area of work has given me the tools and experiences to be successful in my career. Briefly, my employment history includes working at Palos Verdes Nuclear Generating Station, where I managed worker compensation, and I have also been a Compliance Officer for the Pinyon 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 Pinyon 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-hand work experience in dealing with the internal regulations requirements, casino processes and operating policies makes me a qualified and ideal Gaming Commission candidate.

In community affairs I am very involved with my child'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 peer review committee for the last two years, serving as the President of the Head Start Policy Council for the last two out of these 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 took my educational goals to help support our family. However, thanks to the generous support of the FRPN Education Department, I am currently working on completing a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration at Idaho University and plan to complete it in 2010.

Thank you for considering and your vote.

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 it matters what type of work you work in, results are more important than domestic.

A gaming commissioner is not a politician. Yet, it is good that we have elec- tions for these positions. In some tribes where there are appointments, a commissioner can be first over anything and that’s not good for regulation or stability and elections tend to add credibility to that board. Most people don’t like to be regulated, but it is nec- essary to show the public that we have a fair game at our casinos. Although the gaming commisson has little control because of the nature of regulation, it is nonetheless fed- eral law and part of our Tribal-State Compact, so it won’t go away anytime soon. The day regulation starts is the day the casino stops, so it is necessary.

I think with over 15 years of elective experience and a Bachelor’s degree in political science from Washington 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 regu- latory 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 am asking for your vote.

Exert your right to vote in the upcoming election!
Gaming Commissioner #2 (vote for one (1))

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 (PBPN) Gaming Commission.

A little about me and my family:

I am proud to be the daughter of Evelin Hopkins and the late William Hopkins. My parents were Quapaw and Pottawatomie and my great-great-grandparents were George Potts and Elizabeth Kelly. I have five children: Josh, 26, who works as a driver at the Soc on Fox Casino, Stephanie, 24, a lead booker at the PBPN Childcare Center and a student at Haskell Indian University and Eastern Illinois University; Shanna, 22, Jarred, 20, and Shanna, 18, who are all preparing for the college career. Recreationally, I enjoy playing softball, volleyball, bowling and walking.

Larry Mzhckteno

My name is Larry Mzhckteno and I am a candidate for the upcoming Gaming Commission. I have worked for the past five years as a Gaming Inspector for the Gaming Commission in our nation. This has been an interesting and rewarding experience. I have reached a point in my life where I would like to see 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 stock clerk/full time driver to becoming the manager of warehouse delivery, and was a maintenance and supervisor of 25 to 30 employees. I also oversee an inventory that reaches over 1,000 items and worth millions of dollars each year. I ended my position with the company.

I have been married to Margaret for 23 years. We do not live on the reservation but live in Kansas County. Our daughter Rachel, is a junior at the University of Kansas and majoring in Speech/Phonology. Our son, Amin, is a sophomore at Emporia State University and working a business degree. He also works part-time at our cousin’s as a Player Club representative.

Roy T. Ogden

My name is Roy Ogden and I proudly announce my candidacy for Gaming Commissioner #2. 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 continued prosperity for the Tribe and its members. The casino must thrive in order to continue our programs and projects.

Donald “Jim” Shane

My name is Donald 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 Dakota State University, began working for the tribal government as a construction manager contractor 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 Tribal 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 dedicated and hard worker. Now, with your vote, I can be an ear of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation as a member of the Gaming Commission for the purpose of regulating and monitoring gaming.

Raphael Wahwassuck

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

I have worked for 16 years in several different capacities in our tribal government, and helped various departments like the Boys & Girls Clubs and Finance to develop programs from ideas to implementation. I also have experience working in the gaming side, 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.

I am running for this position because it was taken seriously. I understand the great responsibilities that these elected officials have. It is crucial to ensure that we have everyone working together to make gaming operations 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 degree in information 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 PBPN 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 ensure 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 and make our business better. If you support my being said, it would be an honor to have your consideration in the upcoming election for Gaming Commissioner.

Thank You.
Jacob M. Wamego (Tug)

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

I am the proud father of two sons. My wife, Kellie Allinash, is the Director of Education for the Tribe and we reside on the Potawatomi reservation and raise our family there. I am very proud of our reservation and all that our Tribe has accomplished. We have come a long way but we 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 industry for almost four years. I began my career on the floor 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 PBPG 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 Investigative for the Gaming Commission and answer directly to that regulatory body. Some former investigations that I have dealt with include employee theft, theft game cheat, slot cheat, 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 casinos. Regulations that do not waste time, energy, and money have 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 casinos are one our best economic ventures to date and we must ensure its protection. We have been enjoyed benefits from the casino revenue. These benefits include housing, education, employment, and capital payments, and many others too numerous to mention. We also have to keep our gaming operation honest and 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 PBPG Gaming Commissioner. My criminal justice degree combined 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 monumental issues facing the Gaming Commission from day one. I am willing and able to do the general meaning to help ensure the continued success of the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

Jancita C. Warrington

My name is Jancita "Blackberry" Warrington. I am a single mom of an 8-year-old son, Shon. My parents are Becky (Young) and the late Revel L. Warrington from Kansas City, Mo. My grandparents are Dorothy and the late Frank Young of Wisconsin Rapids, Wi.

I have been my own worst enemy. I attended my Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Arts degrees from Haskell Indian Nations University. Most 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 responsibilities of a tribal gaming commissioner. I have a particular 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 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 to 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 asking for your support on election day. Happy Holidays to each family that collectively makes our great Nation.

Jancita Warrington

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

Ethics Commission Candidate #2

Rennie Eeteyan

No profile submitted.

Rennie Eteeyan

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

Ethics Commission Candidate #3

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 Anna and Charles Niakaniam; my father and mother were Ralph and Phyllis Vega. My husband, Roman Harjo, and I have three children, Nathan, Joshua, (his twin, J&A), and Roman (III).

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 2000-2008. I have also served on the powwow committee for the past five years.

Ruth Vega Harjo

My education includes an Associate 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.

Ruth Vega Harjo

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

Election Board

Voncie 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

Make a difference and cast your vote for the next Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission election!
Newly organized Member Services Department combines Enrollment, Elections, and Per Capita offices into one

Member Services and Gathering

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

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November 2008

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

Briefly about each of the services

Enrollment

Vesnile Mitchell

Vesnile Mitchell and June Barber are responsible for the day-to-day operations in conducting monthly elections in accordance with the provisions of the Election Ordinance. The Election Board receives 70 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 785.966.3915 or 785.966.3913.

Elections

June Barber

Per Capita

Jen Garcia

Jen Garcia is in charge of the Per Cap Office and deals with certified tribal members who are qualified to receive a share of casino income quarterly through a per capita distribution.

For per cap questions call 785.966.3915.

The new Member Services team in their new office suite which is located next to Tribal Council Chambers. From left to right are Artie Lingo, Jen Garcia-Vesnile Mitchell and June Barber.

2009 Potawatomi Gathering Update

Submitted by LeVan 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 moving.

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 20 to 50 people. At this time we are working as a group to make decisions but as smaller groups get formed individual ideas in those groups will make decisions on specific activities. Progress reports will be expected from the smaller groups so we can all be apprised of the Gathering events. This was 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 have. In addition, the same slogan, "The Web That" will also be used.

It was also agreed to be as environmentally friendly as much as possible. We are making 1,000 dish dishes which will include a dish with left, eat and a spoon. These will be given to our vendors to see what items they are using as to get them started. We will also be encouraging ways to keep our grounds clean. No cigarette butts and recycling rainbow we can. If you would like to help make dish pans contact us.

Another suggestion is for us to help everyone rent and to reuse.

Other activities here are dress up people suggested as the message. If you see some talent band 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, dance, storytelling, drum circle and talking circles. Band demonstrations of how to become to end we put the activity that we will be involved all these activities at each of the Gatherings: Band, no event, and storytelling demonstrations, and other traditional activities to share. A special event will be also planned and we plan to have our pow-wow. Additional activities in the works include planning a powwow, ball tournaments, and a golf tournament.

There will also be a prince contest, a fashion show, tee tours, and other 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 one meal and prepare the meal, one family will provide the fry bread and one. Money to purchase foods will be provided but we need to get 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 purchase the good for the powwow and purchased pumpkins and lentil curry to eat some from the pumpkin for the next meal. We had some concerns about our orange. I believe we will have more people gather their foods from our area.
St. Francis Community Services building in Topeka, KS.

Prairie Band continue to give donations to the needy

St. Francis Community Services building in Topeka, KS.

The new American Legion National Commander took a bus tour and boarded the USS Iowa in San Francisco, then rode the train to Seattle, WA, and opened the 2018 Men's Homecoming Luncheon.

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

We-Ta-Se busy with activities and events

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

A special event to recognize a Holweritz military cannon that is now permanently displayed in front of the We-Ta-Se building, was held October 28. The cannon was brought to the WPB from Wayne, Mich., on the day of the event was accompanied by an ejection of American Legion Riders, local emergency services personnel, and We-Ta-Se American Legion members. In the photos are: 1. Hildahl handing over the cannon, 2. The Road & Bridge crew working on the display, 3. Hildahl raising the flag during the ceremony, 4. Tim Rozelle of Public Works Director and a We-Ta-Se veteran, being interviewed by KTQA-AM, Topeka for the evening newscast, 5. We-Ta-Se veteran Ralph Lindor who rode with the American Legion Riders. Ralph is from Rossville and has been an active member of We-Ta-Se for many years.

A special event to recognize a Holweritz military cannon that is now permanently displayed in front of the We-Ta-Se building, was held October 28. The cannon was brought to the WPB from Wayne, Mich., on the day of the event was accompanied by an ejection of American Legion Riders, local emergency services personnel, and We-Ta-Se American Legion members. In the photos are: 1. Hildahl handing over the cannon, 2. The Road & Bridge crew working on the display, 3. Hildahl raising the flag during the ceremony, 4. Tim Rozelle of Public Works Director and a We-Ta-Se veteran, being interviewed by KTQA-AM, Topeka for the evening newscast, 5. We-Ta-Se veteran Ralph Lindor who rode with the American Legion Riders. Ralph is from Rossville and has been an active member of We-Ta-Se for many years.
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 Pineywoods Public Safety and Training Center, and events throughout the month.

At the open house held October 29, Chief of Police Sam Grant welcomed attendees and introduced the rest of the staff. Russell Whitman was the master of ceremonies. Several tribal members and FRPS employees attended along with state and local 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.

LEFT: Herb Narou, who works in the Tribal Police Department, taught a defensive tactics course on September 28-30 for FRPS employees and tribal members. Herb also teaches a Hunter’s Safety course and has been with the Tribal Police Department since 1999.

ABOVE: left, are a couple of Royal Valley American Singers and Dancers waiting to perform, as in the photo above right, at the Multicultural in Walthan on Oct. 28. The performance was arranged through the FRPS Social Services Department.

Notice: There is a change in Title 22 -4 of the Law & Order Code Book. Contact the Tribal Attorney’s Office at 765.968.4032 or 1.877.715.0783 or check the FPWS website for details.

Boys & Girls Club and Childcare Center update

LEFT TO RIGHT: Kilot Green, Tammy Green, Robklok Sertiga and Shawn Cela having fun at the Boys & Girls Club on October 17. The Boys & Girls Club is open seven days a week and offers a variety of programs for kids in the community.

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

Red Ribbon Week

LEFT: Dais 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 side pose for the camera at the Childcare Center on a recent visit there.

Potawatomi Fire Department News

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

ABOVE: Students from St. Mary’s School Division (the background) took a tour of the reserve on October 17. They looked at the buffalo, placed at the Boys & Girls Club and ended up at the Fire Department where they learned and listened to a drum performance by Galeson Thompson (front) and Andrew 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.

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

CDA is the only national certification to improve early childhood education and care through thorough recognition of the skills of individuals providing care.

Every candidate for the CDA Credential is observed working with young children at facilities by an early childhood professional. In addition, the candidate must demonstrate skills in the following areas that develop children’s physical and mental capabilities as a safe and healthy learning environment.

It was a nice fall day when David Nolans, bus driver for the Early Child Care Education Center, decided to do some repair work on the bus. David has worked for FRPS since 2002.
By Director Tim Ramirez

National Tribal Transportation Conference: 11th annual, held in Oklahoma City was well attended by PHRA, equipment vendors, tribal leaders and others. The Tribal Public Works Director for the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Mr. Bruce Strickland, was an important keynote speaker. The conference included a variety of sessions, including discussions on Tribal Highway Ordinances, Tribal Transportation Planning, and Tribal Public Works.

BBFMA’s Annual Conference: The BBFMA, the Black Bear Fleet Managers Association, held its annual conference in Rapid City, SD, last month. The conference included sessions on fleet management, safety, and technology.

Foothills: The Foothills, a tribal newspaper, published a story on the proposed construction of a new bridge over the Missouri River near Bismarck, ND. The $90 million project is expected to be completed by 2022.

Division of Motor Vehicle/Tranant

By Michel Marcy

Our Tribal Department has received two new service vans, one is a high-capacity van and the other is a smaller van. These vans will be used for transportation needs.

Division of Planning & Environmental Protection

By Virginia Lanier

The Division is currently working on a comprehensive plan for the reservation. The plan will be developed in conjunction with the local community and will include input from all stakeholders.

Luster “Cory” Summer in front of the new handicap accessible van that the Tribal Department recently purchased. Cory is one of the tribal’s first van drivers.

District of Land Management

By Chris DeCesare

The Department of Natural Resources is continuing to work on improvements to the reservation’s infrastructure. The department is focusing on improving road conditions and increasing transportation options.

Construction

By Carl Maitzen

Building Maintenance is working on several projects to improve the reservation. Projects include upgrading electrical systems and improving access to remote areas.

Department of Environmental Protection

By Todd Fichter

The Tribe is developing a comprehensive plan for waste management on the reservation. The plan will include strategies for reducing waste, recycling, and improving waste disposal facilities.

Pocono Road Preservation Trust

By State of Kansas Department of Transportation

The Pocono Road Preservation Trust has been awarded a grant to improve road conditions on the reservation. The grant will be used to repair and maintain roads throughout the reservation.

By Sarah Smith

The latest issue of the Pocono Road Preservation Trust newsletter includes information on upcoming projects, funding opportunities, and news from the tribe.

The newsletter is available online at poconoroadpreservationtrust.com.
Diabetes Prevention Program briefs

The Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) at Prairiefire Health and Wellness Center will begin a new series of classes after the New Year. On tap are two-hour classes to be offered once a week. The classes will focus on weight-loss through healthy eating, and exercise, and preventing diabetes as an over-riding goal. To qualify for the program, participants must be diagnosed with prediabetes which is defined as having a fasting blood sugar between 100 and 125, and a 2-hour plasma-glucose reading under 200 (which is a marker of glucose intolerance). Those with prediabetes are 10 times more likely to develop diabetes than people with normal blood sugar levels. Studies have shown that weight-loss and diet exercise can be an effective way to prevent diabetes.

The DPP at the Prairiefire Health and Wellness Center is a part of a 3-state consortium that also includes Haskell Health Center and the Kickapoo Nation Health Center. The Kansas Consortium is one of 60 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 in the state of Kansas, and with one other DPP site are for completing targeted goals.

What the H!...!

LEFT: This summer they produced a new line of blueberries (seen in background) on the facilities’ property. The site is part of the Prairiefire Health and Wellness Center. The center is taking the initiative to paint the exterior blueberries to symbolize the new blueberry season and available for purchase. All proceeds will benefit the reservation community. We need some money and assistance to get a new development, the center said.

The 3rd Annual Working Together for Balance Conference was held at the Prairiefire Band & Resort October 25. Approximately 90 people attended the conference and listened to the presentations. Speakers included topics on Project Diabetes, which is focused on women and physical activity in promoting good health.

The Kansas Consortium and the Urban Native Diabetes Education Program (UNDEP) have partnered to produce a cookbook that will feature contemporary and traditional cooking with Native foods. The UNDEP is located at the Quapaw Health Clinic in Wichita, the Native American Physicians Association of Kansas, the Kansas Department of Health and Environmental Services and the National Diabetes Clever Cookbook. Each DPP site will collect recipes from their participants, and the recipes will be compiled into the cookbook, which will distribute throughout the participating sites to inform participants in the concept of diabetes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has awarded the Prairiefire Health and Wellness Center a grant called, “Using Traditional Foods and Sustainable Ecological Approaches to Prevent Diabetes,” which is to be implemented in American Indian communities.

The project will be awarded for five years and provides approximately $900,000 to $100,000 per year for project activities. The Prairiefire Health and Wellness Center is one of only 24 stories around the country awarded this grant. The project will expand the Prairiefire Health and Wellness Center Community Garden Project that began this past spring. The new project is called “Return to a Healthy Past,” and will utilize gardens produce and traditional foods to promote a healthy lifestyle, whilst attending to preventing diabetes and diabetic complications.

In addition to promoting a healthier lifestyle, the project will provide an opportunity for the Native community to establish a community by which knows about regardingime ingestion and exercise in younger generations. The project will promote the diet and physical activity to the communities regarding all aspects of the program, including gardening techniques, plants to cultivate, soil and seed, food preparation and preservation, appropriate use of foods, and information on foods used in the past. Anyone willing to contribute to the project can contact Prairiefire Band & Resort Services at 567-6373 or sefat@prairiefireband.com.

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

The Wellness Center at the Prairiefire Health and Wellness Center contains a fair share of activities and programs for men, women, and children. The Fittness Challenge will begin around January 5, 2009. Another fitness activity currently in progress is Deep States that is held in the Health Center conference room on Wednesdays. Anyone is welcome to run their classes that are video instructed. Project Diabetes project has an activity program for boys and girls to access their own weight loss and physical activity. An annual spring fishing trip, a volleyball game and a dance is required for boys and girls to reach their weight loss. The Boys & Girls Club 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 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The B&G Club Fitness Center is available from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For additional information on upcoming activities contact Tripy Slope at 567-6290 or email R.Slope@prairiefireband.com.

Tribe members entitled to vision insurance plan

Here’s how to apply

Submitted by Patricia Moore, Human Resources Department
The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is proud to announce the vision insurance plan is available to 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.

Eligibility includes:
1. As eligible participant must be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.
2. You may enroll at any time, however, your vision insurance will not take effect until the first of the following month. The eligible participant must complete a vision insurance enrollment form. The form must be turned into the Human Resources Department.
3. Enrollment date for the plan is any time the person has necessary for the period of coverage that has at least 180 calendar days, has not been a member, has not been a dependent of a member, and has not been a dependent of a member.

Contact: Benefits Coordinators:
In Kansas City, contact: Charles Elkins at 913-786-8330.
Outside Kansas City, contact: Teresa Hamilton at 913-786-8337.

Options:
1. Option B covers vision costs only. Coverage for the cost of glasses and lenses, not including the cost of glasses or lenses.

Procedure to Access VSP Services
1. If you are ready to apply for vision coverage, they simply mail a VSP card. Members may call VSP at 1-800-477-7199 for help in finding a vision participating doctor. They can also visit the VSP website (www.vsp.com) to find a doctor near you for general information about vision services.
2. When making an appointment, the patient tells the doctor that he or she is a VSP member, provides their identification number (Special Vision Service number), and/or the member number that has a current VSP benefit for that doctor. These doctor numbers can be found on the VSP card provided in the VSP Member Kit. The doctor will contact VSP if the member is eligible for services.
3. Vision services offered through non-Participating doctors are subject to the same limitations as services through VSP Participating doctors. Any questions about vision services, call 1-800-477-7199.

The following list will not be used under the Plan Outdoors of vision training and any additional non-reimbursed testing plans:
2. Vision care claims submitted after the last day of the service year. Claims are out of pocket for any services rendered after the end of the service year.
3. VSP Members will be required to have a VSP card on file for emergency purposes.

The VSP Member Kit can be obtained from your employer, or any authorized agent by an employee in the department:

Consumer oriented services, treatments, and materials of an exceptional nature.

Procedures to Access VSP Services
1. When ready to apply for this vision plan, they simply mail a VSP Card. Members may call VSP at 1-800-477-7199 for help in finding the vision participating doctor. They can also visit the VSP website (www.vsp.com) to find a doctor near you for general information about vision services.
2. When making an appointment, the patient tells the doctor that he or she is a VSP member, provides their identification number (Special Vision Service number), and/or the member number that has a current VSP benefit for that doctor. These doctor numbers can be found on the VSP card provided in the VSP Member Kit. The doctor will contact VSP if the member is eligible for services.

The following list will not be used under the Plan Outdoors of vision training and any additional non-reimbursed testing plans:
2. Vision care claims submitted after the last day of the service year. Services of an Exceptional Nature.
3. When making an appointment, the patient tells the doctor that he or she is a VSP member, provides their identification number (Special Vision Service number), and/or the member number that has a current VSP benefit for that doctor. These doctor numbers can be found on the VSP card provided in the VSP Member Kit. The doctor will contact VSP if the member is eligible for services.

"When a client sends an invoice for a participating doctor, they do not have to pay the full amount of the bill. "When a non-participating doctor sends an invoice for a service not covered by their vision insurance, common sense and the law hold that the client pays the fee." The client also needs to mail a copy of the Vision Service Plan, such as your Blue Cross Blue Shield or VSP plan, showing that you are covered for vision.

Claims must be filed with VSP within 90 days of the doctor's visit.

For questions call Patricia Moore, Vision Services Agent, Toll Free 1-866-498-3997 or local at (785) 586-3804.
The terror of Pesky Red at Prairie Village: A tale by Julia Lewis

For over a week this fall a noen and his friend were rampant in the school community in Prairie Village. Growing at 5 a.m. the two would awaken everyone's sleep and leave his droppings on windows sills and side walks. A couple of goons in a year in Prairie Village decided that they would rough up and out of that club.

Wanted to do the right thing, we hunted for his owner. We asked Bruce, a cousin of our friend Walden. The owner was hot but he could smell (no pun intended) and said that anyone catching the culprits would be given a reward by the police. So Delores Potter and I decided that we would try and catch the fiend. First of all, we made a long hunt about the corner and got a first glimpse of Delores making the way. The monster got away, but, we were not sure.

After beds were let (not 1) called back, Brown of Pesky Red's animal control and said the monster's puter's phone number. No luck for the monster but to no avail. Later when everyone was in my kitchen and frilly, he said he would try and catch the pesky red. I could hear the monster going into the back door. Quickly made a call to in Delores, grabbed my camera and took off, and made a boat in the back yard and try to catch the pesky red. He saw me and flew over the fence.

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

By Leanne Hite

On September 15, 2005, Andy Mitchell, Vivian Gonzales and Dolora Reynolds traveled to Genoa Indian School, in Genoa Nebraska. The reason for their trip was to meet the people and learn about their culture. They made contact with the Genoa Indian School Foundation to make plans for their visit. The Foundation was established in 1980 for the purpose of preserving the history of what used to be one of the largest Federal Boarding Schools.

This non-profit foundation cares for the Manual Training Building (formerly a National Historic Landmark) and various cultural and educational programs. The Foundation provides educational and cultural programs, an Indian school museum plus a gift shop and educational programs. The Foundation is housed in the Manual Training Building which was a part of the school.

The Indian school was operated from 1854 to 1955 by the United States government for the purpose of assimilating Indian children into white culture. The school was closed in 1955.

News from the Language Department

By Billy J. Matche

The PBNP Language Department was awarded an Administrative Honor Award for the Native American (A. N. A) grant and we are offering classes in the evening.

Classes are held on the following times: Family Circle, Tuesday, 5:15-8:15. (Note: this is shortened to 5-8 p.m.) Adults/Children. Night, Monday, 5-7 p.m.

We are trying to bring in members of the community to help us out. So we would love to have them tell us a little bit about what they see the culture. Since we are in the fall season, we have only been talking to this about the things that our people historically did to get ready to study for the winter.

Since this is our first year we are trying to focus on activities of our people. Each season brings a little more to our lives, each one of us has a little more to do and also a little more to learn. It is good to see a lot of people in class.

Annual Community Talent Show a hit

The second annual Community Talent Show was held on November 27 at the Washington Center. First place went to the Rotary Twentie's band consisting of Holy Nalda, Tim McCarty and Brian Notz. They all played together most of the winter while in our areas to have a concert. A big thank you to all of you that have been, and continue to come out to enjoy the concert.

We will post the times and dates of upcoming events. Thank you for your support.

Elders

Paper Trail Postcard News

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 at Washington, D.C. last September and found Jim's name on the National Museum of the American Indian Memorial Wall that is featured in the museum. Priscilla and Darlene Young, who are Jim's daughters, and Agnes McKinney, his wife, were active in the Language program and We-Ta-Cie and lived on the reservation until his death three years ago.


Photo submitted by Darlene Young
Notice about Higher Education funding from the PBPN Department of Education

Students who are currently receiving funding for the fall 2008 semester, MUST turn in an OFFICIAL TRANSFER on or before January 31 to continue to receive funding for the spring 2009 semester. Since our office receives an official transcript from your school by January 1, students who have not submitted transcripts 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.finaid.gov for information and to check loan deadlines. Renewal applications will be mailed in March to current students, or visit http://www.pbpnidaho.org/education.aspx to download an application.

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

Right: Tara Mitchell and Ramona Nozakhamm, front row, far right respectively are playing for the HINU 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 Barry Rosiny.

Congratulations Tianna Whisttree, 16 years old

`2nd Year All-District and City Cross Country Runner`
`PBPN/senora-Cayuga`
`Daughter of Ruby Osgood and Roman Harjo and granddaughter of Linda Yazzie`

We love you and are so proud of you!

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

Megan Hale ranks high in flute performance

Megan Hale, a sophomore at Idaho High School (IBHS), competed for the District Honor Band in Idaho on November 8, 2008. She competed against 40 other students and placed 3rd chair. She will perform in the District Concert scheduled for December 4, at Bliss Valley in Sunnyside, Kansas. Also this month, Megan will perform at the Festival of Bins in Topsyka. Megan is eligible to compete for the State Honor Band and will also play the soloists for the HSUs marching band and is on the Girls JV Basketball team. Megan is the daughter of Martin and Donna Hale and the granddaughter of Laurel and Elva (Lastname) Hale. Dina Taylor and the late Wayne Jemery.

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

L. E. S. Marjorie Passawatomi, Brandi Cadee, and Jolin Cadee.

Megan Hale, 13, a sophomore at Idaho High School (IBHS), competed for the District Honor Band in Idaho on November 8, 2008. She competed against 40 other students and placed 3rd chair. She will perform in the District Concert scheduled for December 4, at Bliss Valley in Sunnyside, Kansas. Also this month, Megan will perform at the Festival of Bins in Topsyka. Megan is eligible to compete for the State Honor Band and will also play the soloists for the HSUs marching band and is on the Girls JV Basketball team. Megan is the daughter of Martin and Donna Hale and the granddaughter of Laurel and Elva (Lastname) Hale. Dina Taylor and the late Wayne Jemery.

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Messages, opinions and more

A message from Jackie Mitchell

I would like to personally thank our tribal mem-
bership for all the support given me during the last eight
years of serving on the Tribal Council. The years of serv-
vice 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 mean 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 25
dish bags each. We will give our guests a dish bag with a
dish, spoon and cup to reduce the use of paper prod-
ucts during the Gathering. We want to prevent binging
problems. The dish bags can be 14-inch square with a hand
. 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
285 906-2262.

Jackie

A wonderful holiday season

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

Laura Lightner is the author of Fire Pies.

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

Nes, Mjekno, Pami, Sauzwha, Shobwas, Kitt, Mononkwe, Bemwetek, Aptageeshko and Naawegweeshko

Love,
Mom/Auntie Kumos

New book called Fire Pies highlights Prairie Band Potawatomi values and ways

Last October marked the release date for Fire
Pies, a cross-generational picture book aimed at educating
children and adults in Native values. Written by Laura
Lightner, Cherokee descendant and adopted daughter of Prairie
Band Potawatomi member Lee Lawhon (Chemehuevi), Fire
Pies features thirty years of values from her beloved
grandparents, who were adept storytellers.

"I deeply appreciate the way these values speak
directly to me, and I hope they will bless others as well,"
Lightner, a Hopkins Chapel living in Texas. She recog-
nized and still cherishes the memories of her Oklahoma rela-
tives speaking the Cherokee language and telling the story
and sometimes-primitive songs of the Cherokee people.

Lightner, a member of Shawnee Country, Arikara, and
Cherokee, Tribes, wrote the book for herself and her three
sons so they would always remember the values of their family.

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

We are very proud of you and all that you have accomplished.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Katie, Taryn, Madison and Wyatt

Christmas in Mayetta

Christmas in Mayetta

Happy 10th Birthday.

We are so proud of you!

With love,
Your family,
Mom, Dad, Mattias,
Timmons, Gracie, Uncle
Chris, Uncle Paul, and Uncle
Bert

Congratulations to
Jonathan Malcho and Robbin
Lang decorating tree.

Mitchells at a post-new year's last summer.

Potawatomi have fun at
Mayetta Pioneer Day

Christmas in Mayetta

The Mayetta Business Association sponsored a
Christmas Open House at the City of
Mayetta home. Over 100 people came out to
taste the delicious food and browse the many
things on display. There was music by the
City of Mayetta band and also a face painting
and balloon twisting show. A favorite among
crowd was the miniature reindeer. The Mayetta
Business Association also plans to have future
open houses and is also sponsoring a Christmas
lighting.

(Photo by Jim Potter)

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I just wrote a letter to the editor in June, challenging our Tribal Council
to complete the economic development projects that were in the planning stages.
I left office in July 2007. Another woman is now atop 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 exist-
ing wage and revenue generators, our Prairie Bands Casino.

As you know, the winter weather has been brutal and the spring
now appears a delay of months. For years past our Tribal Council seemed
to focus their efforts elsewhere when there was no imminent construction starting
point. During the winter delays the work was finished; few projects, many
of the Tribe members, potential lost revenue and continued legal/financial problems.

We have had some economic wins though. With start legal maneuvering,
the Tribe has successfully delayed the start of gaming in Wisconsin where a significant portion of our casino patrons modeled by stopping Chicago's entertainment offers to operate a state-owned casino in Wisconsin, thereby "digging a
strategically valuable economic footer".

However, after my experience in dealing with Hamiluy's during our casi-
onic inversion, you can bet that they will be back in action somewhere in Kansas
after the non-compliant trip period between our Tribe and Hamiluy's has elapsed.

I logged this new in the time to pivot toward and get all the arrangements
financed and ready to launch the Shawnee-Cree-Kiowa 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 power renounced. And so, I did not visit as a tribal official, but I met in any way in our business - as it experi-
enced tribal chief - by those of our neogentilied tribe members who went to the
officials up in Wisconsin to complain without tribal authority our federal legal move-
ment of 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 a year ago a date, a brief visit with our next First Lady of the
United States, Michelle Obama, who thought it would be wonderful if our Tribal
was to re-establish in Illinois.

Furthermore, our Chair, Steve Otter, had this Shawnee project on his
priority in his campaign write-up in our newspapers and on our website. Chairman,
please be accessible to your community!

Therefore, I ask Tribal Council to prioritize the Shawnee-Cree-Kiowa
Development. There is never a better time with our new federal administration to re-stab-
lish our relations with our last oversight or a cheaper time with the econom-
ic downturn to start this business.

Sincerely,

Tracy Starnes
Happy 7th Birthday
Tabitha Jr. "Onah-Sha-Qua" October 1
Love you
Mom & Dad

Happy Birthday
• Melissa Goin, 33 Nov. 3
• Crystal Jones, 34 Dec. 1
• Darla Jones, 5 Dec. 1
• "J" Goin, 13 Jan. 10
From: Kevin Allkens

Happy Birthday to
Orville Rice Jr. (On-Ah-Sihan), 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
Cassy Rose Martinez, 24, Dec. 7
Love always,
Cheryl Walker & family

Happy Belated Birthday to
Alicia Rae Smith, 3 years old,
November 5, 2008.
"We love you, honey!"
All our love,
Dadie, "Cammie",
Cheri-Maxx & Gerald.
Alicia is the granddaughter
of Connie Smith,
tribal member,
and daughter of
Lieutenant/D.H. Randy
Smith,
Patuxent
Fire Department.

Happy 3rd Birthday
Angelina January 13
Love,
your Sister Donna,
Grandma, Grandpa, Aunt
Karen, Aunt Kris, and Cousin
Alyanna

Wahpmimi Najera had a birthday November 20
and is in the terrible 2s.
Grandma loves you!

Happy 1st Birthday to my beautiful baby
Ki-Bo-We-Kwe (Alyanna) on Dec. 27
Mama loves you so much sweetheart.

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

Happy Birthday to
Krisi Kelly
December 12
Happy Birthday cousin Krisi
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 Nowackham Nov. 5
• Brenda Nunrackham 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

Happy Birthday to
Leigh Ann
on
Dec. 21
Love,
Your Family

Happy Birthday to
Alivia LaCure
who will be
86 years young
on
December 21

Send your loved one a congratulatory message through the Patuxent News.
Next issue Deadline: March 1 Published: March 25

Happy Christmas &
Happy 4th Birthday
Tiffany Lynn
Love, Grammy
NOTICE TO TRIBALLY-OWNED CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

The PRPN 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 tribally-owned firms to serve as subcontractors 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, FBE (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.

PRPN Purchasing Department
Government Center
12621 G Road
Manteca, KS 65509-9970
Telephone: 765-655-4303, 765-965-3976 or 765-995-3303
Fax: 765-655-3003

Call to WWI Veterans

The Dale Institute of Politics located in Lawrence, Kansas, has a house that will recognize any WW II veteran who may have lived in and served in the United States during WW II.

For more information call the
We-To-Se Office at 765.966.2300

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 1572 K Road
Manteca, KS 65509
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 Income

2009
Shawnee Corn Stalks Open January 26th - April 15th

Bring Last Year's Tax Return!
For the checklist & some prepared.

4-19 Designs
Custom Airbrush & Body Art

By Suzanne Hick

If you're needing a personalized Christmas gift this season you might want to check out 4-19 Designs, a custom airbrush and body art shop, located on the second floor of Westside Mall in Topeka.

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

The couple began 4-19 Designs a few years ago out of a need and began selling their wares around Topeka. They did very well and began renting space in vending booths and than purchased a small trailer that they took to local events and shows.

They have been very successful and have won awards for their art work.

David and Sue both said that the more they do it, the better they get.

Happy Holidays and come see us!

4-19 Designs
Custom Airbrush & Body Art
Westside Mall
Topeka, KS
phone: 785.215.9148

Free e-file (Registration is Required)

Free Income Tax Assistance

For individuals and families with low - moderate income.

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2008 11th Annual Veterans
Pan-american Raffle Winners

Large Smoker Winner: Verna Simon
50 gallons of gas Winner: Joni Monde
100 gallons of gas Winner: Camillia Chunnell
$1000 cash prize Winner: Nene Thomas

These young dancers were a part of this year's Veteran Pan-american held November 15th in Hinton. Overall, there were 182 youth dancers and 64 adult dancers, 51 veterans, and five drum including one youth drum.

Entrepreneur spotlight on:

4-19 Designs
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David and Sue both said that the more they do it, the better they get.

Some customers said that they refer other customers to 4-19 Designs because the artists take pride in their work and want to make sure that their customers are satisfied.

4-19 Designs also offers a variety of designs that are suitable for different occasions, such as birthdays, anniversaries, and weddings.

Sue Rodriguez said, "Our customers are very pleased with our work and we strive to make sure that they are satisfied with their final product."