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Prairie Band Potawatomi News

Winter 2009 EDITION

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Ortiz attends Tribal Nations Conference in D.C.

Steve Ortiz, Tribal Chairman, traveled to Washington, D.C. the first week in November to attend several meetings with tribal leaders and the Obama Administration. He also got to shake hands with President Obama during a Tribal Nations Conference at the White House.

He began the week on Nov. 3 by joining other tribal representatives from all corners of Indian Country and members of Congress to officially open the National Congress of American Indian (NCAI) Embassy of Tribal Nations in Washington, D.C. Also that day, he and other tribal leaders met with Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius in a roundtable discussion.

On Nov. 4 he attended a tribal leader session with Hilda Solis, U.S. Department of Labor Secretary, during the day, and later that evening attended a reception at the National Museum of the American Indian.

On Nov. 5, Ortiz sat near the podium where President Obama spoke at the White House Tribal Nations Conference. Over 400 tribal leaders were in the audience for President Obama's ques-

tion and answer session. Other high-level officials were also there including Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Education Secretary Arne Duncan, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, Deputy Attorney General David Ogden, HUD Deputy Secretary Ronald Sims, DHS Deputy Secretary Jane Lute, Associate Attorney General Tom Perrelli, and Indian Health Service Director Dr. Yvette Robideaux.

In related news, the White House announced that President Obama declared the month of November as National Native American Heritage Month through a proclamation that was issued on October 30. In it Obama stated that November 27 should be commemorated as Native American Heritage Day and that all Americans should celebrate with appropriate programs and activities on that day and throughout the month of November in honor of Native Americans.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation celebrated the grand opening of its new Judicial Center on Tuesday, December 8 at 10 a.m. with an open house.

Tribal members, the public, and news media came to the event. We-Ta-Se Color Guard posted colors and the Honorable John Wabaunsee, Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals, was the keynote speaker. In addition, members of the Judicial Council and Tribal Council were on hand to answer questions.

"The new Judicial Center is a tribute to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation people. It is proof that we have taken care of ourselves," said Tribal Chair Steve Ortiz. "Since 1993 we have established laws and regulations around a broad range of governmental activities and look how far we have come."

The 4,800 square foot building includes a court room, a large jury waiting room, judges' chambers, administrative offices, and three small conference rooms. In addition, the building also has state-of-the-art equipment including a technologically advanced audio visual system and a geothermal heating and cooling system. The design of the building is in keeping

with the woodlands/Potawatomi motif and some furnishings are accented with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation seal.

an open house the same day as the Judicial Center.



The new Prairie Band Judicial Center is now officially open for business. The building was completed in less than a year and sits northeast of the Potawatomi Health Center at 11444 158 Road.

The construction cost of the Tribal Court was approximately \$800,000. All of the funding was provided by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Contractors on the project were Sabatini Architects and MarLan Construction, both of Lawrence.

The new building sits next to the Prairie Band Health Center and the two organizations will share a parking lot located on the Health Center's east side. The Social Services Department, which is housed in the center's east wing, also held

The PBPB Tribal Court was established in 1993 through the PBPB Constitution. The court was expanded in 1998 and its administrative offices and court operated in a building located at 15498 K Road until now. A judicial administrator is responsible for scheduling all of the court's activities and supervises a staff of three.

The Judicial Council is comprised of a judge of the District Court, and the justices of the Court of Appeals. Through Constitutional Amendment changes approved by the General Council in 2008, five magistrates of an Employment Disputes Tribunal

have been added along with a separate mediating branch called the Peacemakers Circle. A U.S. Department of Justice grant was also awarded last year that is providing funding for a Healing to Wellness Court that was established.

More photos of the Judicial Center on page 4

Kansas casino update

The state of Kansas is still wrestling with getting gaming enterprises into the major population areas of the state and at present two proposals are on the table.

The Kansas Lottery Gaming Facility Review Board has received a proposal for a casino to be located outside of Mulvane near Wichita by representatives of Chisolm Creek, and another proposal at the Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kan. by Penn National Gaming Inc. and International Speedway Corp. The board met October 26 to hear the Chisolm Creek proposal and is expected to make a final vote on both proposals sometime this month.

In the meantime, the Boot Hill Casino & Resort is nearly complete and is scheduled to open its first phase of development on December 15 in Dodge City, Kan. Phase 2, that will add a hotel and other resort facilities, is planned for construction in 2011. Dodge City is in Ford

County in western Kansas.

The economic downturn has caused a lot of reshuffling of proposed bids and withdrawals at the Kansas Lottery Board over the past year. The Kansas Legislature has also been torn on how to rework the gambling law that was passed in 2007 which was designed to have begun generating revenue for the State by 2010.

At the national level, the Obama administration is reviewing relaxing the policy toward allowing Indian tribes to build casinos away from their reservations. Presently, the policy states that off-reservation casino sites must be within a commuting distance of the reservation.

According to the Wall Street Journal (September 21, 2009) around 300 tribes have developed casinos since the Supreme Court loosened restrictions in 1988. The Prairie Band began their casino gaming enterprise in 1998.

Per capita debit cards to replace checks

The PBPB Member Services Department would like to remind you that beginning with the March 2010 per capita distribution that those receiving checks will be issued a PBPB debit card. This card should arrive to you in the mail sometime in mid-February.

Once you receive your card you will need to call the toll free number that appears on the sticker to activate your card and set up your personal identification number (PIN). It is important that you keep this card in a safe place as your per capita will be loaded on to this card each quarter. It is also very important that you call the toll free number provided with your card if you should lose or have your card stolen.

If you do not wish to be issued a debit card you can set up your per capita to be directly deposited into your personal checking or savings account. To do this you must turn in a direct deposit form no later than Monday January 18, 2010. You can download

this form at www.pbpbndiantribe.com or come by the PBPB Member Services office and pick up a form.

We would also like to remind you that it is very important for all members to keep their addresses and phone numbers up to date with our office so you don't miss out on any information coming out of our office. Address change forms can also be downloaded from the website mentioned above or by contacting our office. Please remember that all address changes MUST be in writing and will not be accepted over the phone.

Also, if you have yet to get your photo CDIB card please stop by the office soon. If you are unable to go to the office and want a card please contact them for details on how you can get your card.

If you have any questions please contact the PBPB Member Services office at 1-877-715-6789 or 785-966-3910 any time Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time.

CDIB cards still being issued

The PBPB Member Services Department wants to remind tribal members that it is continuing to issue new Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) identification cards with photographs and Indian names (optional) on them.

Members are urged to go to the Member Services Department in person to have their photograph taken for their new card that they will have processed for them right there. Members are asked to bring in their old card and to know the correct spelling of their Indian name if they want their Indian name included on the new card.

Members who cannot make it to the Member Services offices can submit a quality passport photo in lieu of having one taken by Member Services and should also send in their signature in black ink on either a white sheet of paper or 3x5 index card. In addition, they should submit their Indian name if they want it included on the card. Send the information by mail to the department. They can also email their information to arlenel@pbpbndiantribe.com.

The new cards are good for ten years and are free. However, a \$10 fee will be charged if the card is lost or stolen and must be replaced.

The Member Service Department office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They are located in the southwest corner on the upper level of the Government Center at 16281 Q Road, Mayetta, Kan. 66509. For more information call (877)715-6789 and ask for the Member Services Department.

Social Security numbers originally on the old cards are not included on the new cards. Other than that, the information will remain the same including the name of the tribal member, date of birth, enrollment number, and total degree of Potawatomi and other Indian blood. Minors (who are under the age of 18) will not receive new cards until they turn 18.

Moving?
Please keep your street address up to date with Member Services



Important Dates

December 24, 25
Christmas holidays
Government offices closed

December 31, January 1
New Year's holidays
Government offices closed

January 16
General Council Meeting

January 18
Martin Luther King Day
Government offices closed

February 15
Presidents Day
Government offices closed

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



The Rock Building on Q Road has served the Prairie Band Potawatomi people for many years as a place to gather and conduct business. This photograph was taken in 2006 shortly after a snow storm which makes for a pretty Christmas scene.



Message to the Nation from Steve Ortiz, Tribal Council Chairperson

When Governor Quinn of Illinois signed the Illinois Video Gaming Act on July 13, 2009 it was the State's expectation that communities would welcome the video machines at licensed retail establishments where alcoholic liquors are served for consumption, licensed fraternal establishments, licensed veterans establishments, and truck stops. However, to date, our sources and newspaper reports have informed us that more than 25 communities have banned the video machines and more communities are to follow. Tribal Council's initial information was that as many as 35,000 plus video gaming devices could be operational in the State of Illinois but it appears that will be reduced. The village of Shabbona has decided not to allow the video games in their area which will benefit the Shab-ey-nay project.

On September 20 to 22 I travelled to Dekalb County and Shabbona to meet and discuss with county and village officials about the status of the request to the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) on the Shab-ey-nay land becoming eligible for gaming. The County has made inquiry as to when NIGC will make a decision but has received no official decision yet.

On October 7 I attended a Listening Conference with Assistant Secretary Larry Echo Hawk at the Pawnee Nation College and expressed concern that it has been over two years since the request was made by the State of Illinois Attorney General's Office as to whether or not the Shab-ey-nay land is eligible for gaming. In attendance at this meeting, was the new NIGC Chairman George Skibine and he stated that he will be looking into several gaming issues since he has been appointed for a 7-month term.

Gwen Shunatona (PBPB), who is also a member of the Pawnee Nation College Board of Trustees, was a facilitator for the three Kansas Tribes (PB Potawatomi, Kickapoo, Iowa) on issues of taxation, water rights and gaming issues. The three tribes thank

Gwen for her professionalism as a facilitator.

From November 3-6 I travelled to Washington, D.C. to meet with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) General Assembly, to attend the grand opening of the NCAI Embassy of Tribal Nations and to meet with government officials from the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor. I also attended the White House Tribal Nations Conference hosted by the Department of Interior. The conference highlight was a meeting with President Barack Obama in the Sidney Yates Auditorium of the Interior Department. President Obama received a standing ovation from tribal leaders and responded to questions randomly from the audience. President Obama explained he understood many of the issues facing Indian Country and that he would begin addressing the issues by signing an executive memo to all his Cabinet Secretary's that they are to develop a Nation to Nation Tribal Consultation Policy in 90 Days from November 5.

During the conference an elder tribal leader went to the podium and stated that President Obama had brought us from the point of the acronym of B.I.A. formerly standing for "Bossing Indians Around" to now "Bringing Indians Altogether" and the elder's comments received a standing ovation.

From December 7-9 Leonard Harjo, Principal Chief of the Seminole Nation, and I were selected along with 22 other tribal leaders from Indian Health Service areas across the United States and Alaska to meet with Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, Indian Health Service Director in Washington, D.C., to develop a Nation to Nation Consultation Policy for the Indian Health Service. The meeting focused on five factors (a) Critical Event, (b) Announcement: Dear Tribal Leader Letter, Federal Register Announcement, (c) Gather Input, (d) Decision, and (e) Reporting. Dr. Yvette Roubideaux said that much was accomplished but another meeting may be needed in the near future with the attendees to finish the consultation discussion and process. We are looking forward to hearing from her.

In other activities:

The PBPB Road and Bridge department have

completed the rebuilding of the fish hatchery pond at Lake Shabbona. The Illinois Park and Recreation Department expressed their thanks to the PBPB for facilitating and completing the restoration project.

On October 2 Tribal Council hosted a We-Ta-Se meeting with the American Legion District 1 Commander and his staff to discuss veterans issues and the taxation of active duty personnel pay.

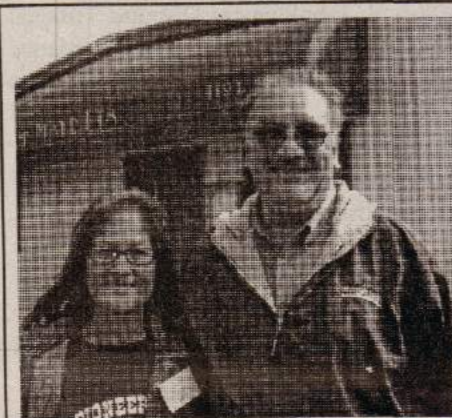
The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Judicial Center was completed and an open house was held on December 8.

The PBPB Firekeeper Golf Course continues on track for completion in late July 2010. Golf cottages are going to be added to encourage weekend stays at the golf course. Construction has ceased on the greens course for the winter.

Kansas expanded gaming effort still continues to take unexpected turns as usual. The Dodge City casino with a hotel is scheduled to open on December 15, 2009. In other news, a new player in the casino arena has surfaced in Kansas and it is the Wyandotte Tribe in Oklahoma. They are planning to open a class 2 casino in Park City outside of Wichita, Kan. The Wyandotte Tribe made application to the Interior Department to open the class 2 casino in the mid-1990s.

Tribal Council is continuing to review the option of changing the Boys and Girls Club to the PBPB Youth to Elder Wellness Center. Youth activities will continue as before but the facility will be improved to allow tribal members to use the facility during the day. More activities for senior's health wellness would be added as well as programs for diabetes programs and monitoring. Currently the PBPB provides 90 percent of the funding for the Boys and Girls Club. The option is being discussed with the Boys and Girls Club Board members. Examples of this newly proposed type of wellness center can be seen at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Ho-Chunk Nation in Wisconsin. No decision has been made at this time but there will be more discussion during the 4th quarter.

Lastly, the Tribal Council wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Wishing you a Merry Christmas from Mayetta

At left is Judy Darnell (PBPB) and Tribal Council Secretary Jim Potter who led the 4th annual lighting of the big Christmas tree in Mayetta Dec. 5. A live nativity was also held and Santa Claus gave gifts to 63 children that were donated by Judy and Eldon Darnell who own the Native Essence Trad'n Post in Mayetta. Jim and the Darnells are both active in the Mayetta Business Association.



Tribal Chair at IHS meeting in D.C.

At left, from left to right, are Steve Ortiz, PBPB Chair, Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, I.H.S. Director, Leonard Harjo, Principle Chief Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, and Cmdr. Kevin Meeks, OKC Area I.H.S. Director, in Washington D.C.

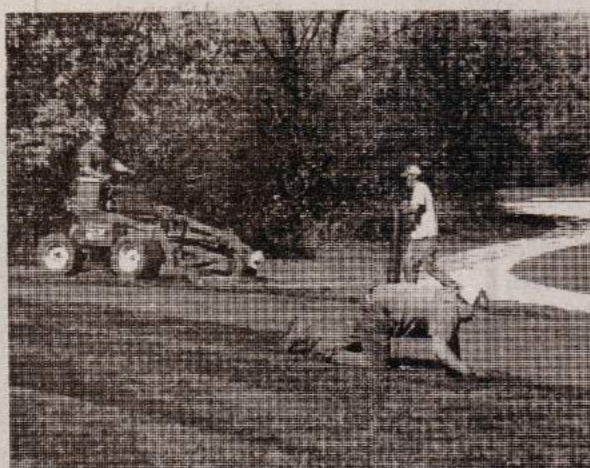
FIREKEEPER



GOLF COURSE

The photograph, right, was taken on the new course in October from the tee box on number 9. The 18-hole course will be Notah Begay's first signature course and is being designed by Jeff Brauer, a well-known environmental landscape architect.

According to Brauer, Begay has dubbed this hole "The Augusta 18." Notice the golf cart path in the foreground of the photo and the sandbunkers that are to the left on the horizon.



Workers laying sod on the course last fall. To the right is the paved golf cart path. This winter workers will build the clubhouse and help clear brush. Landscapes Unlimited is constructing the course and has hired several local citizens and PBPB as laborers.



Jeff Brauer, landscape architect, showing Junior Wahweotten (PBPB Tribal Council member), left, and Johnny Kane, right, some of the course's highlights last October. Kane is a sports anchor for KSNT-27 News in Topeka and did a news story after his visit. He is also planning to provide updates in the future.

Learn more at
www.firekeepergolf.com

Golf course update



The entry road to the course has been moved east from the casino's entry road off of 150 Road. In the photo, the first leg of the course road can be seen running right. This photo was taken facing west on 150 Road looking toward the casino.



The seeding of all the holes has been completed and the course is on schedule for opening in mid-summer 2010.

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Also visit the News section

on

www.pbpindiantribe.com

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.

2010 Potawatomi News Quarterly Schedule

Spring

Deadline for News: March 1
Publish Date: March 24

Summer

Deadline for News: June 1
Publish Date: June 23

Fall

Deadline for News: September 1
Publish Date: September 23

Winter

Deadline for News: December 1
Publish Date: December 15

TORNADO? FLOODING? ICE STORM - WINTER STORM?

In the event of severe weather, emergency shelter will be available to residents during extended power outages or other events where residents need to take shelter or to relocate if necessary. Community members should report to the PBPB Boys and Girls Club for shelter needs and Elder community members (50 and older) should report to the Elder Center. Please bring items you will need such as toiletries, bedding, medications, etc.

For more details contact the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department at

785-966-2164

PBPB Tribal Emergency Response Committee (TERC) number
785-966-3024 or 911

FIRE KEEPER'S ART MARKET

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2010 • 8:00AM - 5:00PM

PRAIRIE BAND CASINO AND RESORT

12305 150th Road • Mayetta, Kansas • North of Topeka on Highway 75

Native American artists will have on sale: beadwork, art work, turquoise and silver jewelry, Pendleton accessories, handmade crafts, and many more handmade items.

11:00AM... HAND DRUM SINGING
1:00PM... FASHION SHOW
(NATIVE TRADITIONAL DRESS)
3:00PM... NATIVE FLUTE MUSIC

For vendor application visit: www.pbpcasinoandresort.com or call 785-966-0041

This is a FIRE KEEPER'S ELDER CENTER SPONSORED ACTIVITY

All child-restricted by an adult at all times. Must be 21 years of age or older to gamble. Owned by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.



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2009 Year in Review

January

- Nine Gaming Commission candidates and two Ethics Commission candidates file for Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission Election
- General Council approves construction of a new Tribal Court building
- Tribal Council travels to Washington, D.C. for Presidential Inauguration
- Royal Valley Native American Singers & Dancers place first in Battle of the Plains in Bartlesville, Okla.

February

- Gary Mitchell wins Gaming Commission seat, Rencie Eteeyan and Ruth Vega-Harjo win Ethics Commission seats at Gaming Commission/Ethics Commission Election. Run-off election between Larry Mzhickteno and Jancita Warrington
- Tribal Council travels to Shabbona/DeKalb, Ill. for community goodwill outreach tour
- Tribal Court swears in new Judicial Council members
- Prairie Band Casino & Resort renames and remodels buffet as Longhouse Buffet and renovates casino gaming floor

March

- Larry Mzhickteno wins Gaming Commission seat in run-off election
- Steve Ortiz attends Four-Tribes Quarterly Meeting in White Cloud, Kan.
- Marie Clement wins 2009 Ms. Wheelchair Kansas

April

- 11th Annual Earth Day held at Prairie Peoples Park
- We-Ta-Se hosts 1st District Convention on reservation
- Student Awards Recognition Night
- 1st quarter charitable contributions awards \$75,600

May

- Construction begins on Firekeeper Golf Course
- Jerry Tuckwin and Warner "Tony" Coffin (posthumously) inducted into the American Indian Hall of Fame at casino
- Jackie Mitchell and Rose Sigmund honored as founders of Ben-no-tteh Wigwam Early Childhood Education Center at year-end childcare center pow-wow in Prairie Peoples Park

June

- Prairie Band Potawatomi pow-wow held
- Firekeeper Golf Course press conference held at casino with Notah Begay III
- Public Works crews plant native grasses at Shabbona, Ill.
- Tribal Council and employees conduct Town Hall Meeting in Wisconsin Dells, Wis.

July

- 2nd quarter charitable contributions awards \$82,925

August

- PBPB host 2009 Gathering
- Steve Ortiz and Entertainment Board attend NB3 Challenge Golf Fundraiser in New York
- Steve Ortiz and Joyce Guerrero attend Tribal Listening Session in Washington, D.C.
- Rose Hale appointed member of Enrollment Committee

September

- Veterans pow-wow and Indian Day celebration

October

- Public Works employees travel to Shabbona to build fish hatchery pond with state of Illinois
- Boys & Girls Club Golf Tournament
- Youth Health Initiative holds kick-off event

November

- Steve Ortiz attends second Tribal Nations Conference in Washington, D.C.
- Veterans Day Memorial commemoration

December

- Tribal Court holds open house for new building
- 3rd quarter charitable contributions awards \$89,400

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation - Shab-eh-nay Reservation update

Public Works helps develop a fish hatchery at Shabbona



Six members of the PBPB Public Works Department traveled to Shabbona, Illinois the second week of October to help the Illinois Department of Natural Resources develop a 5-acre fish-rearing pond that sits next to Shabbona Lake State Park.

According to an article in the DeKalb Daily Chronicle (October 7, 2009), the Potawatomi teamed up with the state because the tribe has a special interest in the community and wants to continue building positive government relations in the area.

PBPB's Tim Ramirez, Hardy Eteeyan, Bill Jim, Billy Price, Tom Jim and Ron Bone drove and hauled earth-moving equipment from the PBPB reservation to Illinois on October 4. After journeying the 500-plus-mile route, they spent the rest of the week working on the project with the assistance of two Shabbona Lake State Park officials.

The PBPB and state of Illinois shared costs for the project that involved deepening an already existing pond that will allow smallmouth bass to hatch for eventual release into Shabbona Lake. The 318 acre lake, formed in 1975, is considered one of the best fishing lakes in Illinois. The park also has day-use facilities, a restaurant and bait and tackle shop.

Shabbona Lake is a part of a 1,550 acre state park that is located west of Chicago and is open year-round. The park is part of the land that was originally reserved by the 1829 Treaty of Prairie du Chien for Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band. In 2006 the PBPB purchased 128 acres of land near the park and the community of Shabbona and plans to build an electronic bingo hall there. The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) is currently reviewing the status of the land at the request of DeKalb County. The Nation is confident that the reservation, established in 1829, remains intact and that a positive determination from the NIGC is forthcoming.

Last spring public works employees restored 125 acres of the tribe's land near Shabbona from farm land into native grasses. The purpose of the planting was to reduce the amount of sediment washing into a nearby lake and also to produce a habitat for wildlife from the forest preserve.

Historical Background

- Article III of the 1829 Treaty of Prairie du Chien reserved 1,280 acres of lands for Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band. These lands were historically occupied by the Band in the State of Illinois.
- Between 1835 and 1837, following the 1833 Treaty of Chicago cessions and prevailing Federal policy of removing Indian tribes from their traditional homelands and relocating them to areas west of the Mississippi River, Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band voluntarily joined six other Illinois Potawatomi Bands, who subsequently merged into one government referred to by several names, one of which was the "United Bands." The 1833 Treaty did not cede the Shab-eh-nay Reservation to the United States or grant fee simple title to the Reservation to the Chief.
- By the Treaty of 1846, the Bands ceded their lands in Iowa and were once again removed - this time to a reservation in Kansas. In this treaty the United States officially referred to the United Bands as the Potawatomi of the Prairie, and specifically affirmed that the reservation made for Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band by the 1829 Treaty was unaffected.
- No later treaty or act of Congress affected the status of the Shab-eh-nay Reservation in Illinois.
- Until his death in 1859, Chief Shab-eh-nay and Band members continued to return to their treaty reserved reservation homeland in Illinois.
- The Band engaged in efforts to re-acquire the land after Chief Shab-eh-nay and the Band were wrongfully dispossessed of it in 1849.

Contemporary Circumstances

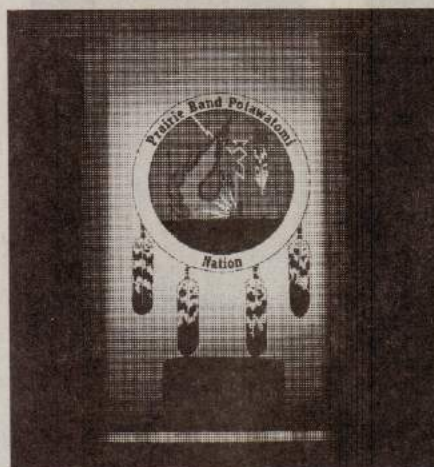
- In 2006, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (Nation) re-acquired 128 acres of its original, historic 1,280-acre Shab-eh-nay Reservation.
- Based on an extensive administrative record, the Solicitor of the U.S. Department of the Interior issued a Solicitor's Opinion in 2001 concluding that: (1) the Nation's 1829 Treaty lands are still reservation lands and that the Nation's reservation still exists; (2) the Nation is the legal successor-in-interest to the Shab-eh-nay Band with a credible claim to the reservation lands; and (3) the United States continues to bear a trust responsibility to the Prairie Band for these lands.
- In 2006, the Interior Department confirmed the 2001 Solicitor's Opinion that the Nation has a credible claim based on the unextinguished title the Nation holds as successor-in-interest to the Shab-eh-nay lands.
- The National Indian Gaming Commission, at the request of the County, is currently working on an opinion to determine whether the Shab-eh-nay Reservation lands are "Indian lands" within the meaning of the definition in the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. An Indian lands opinion is not required by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. The Tribe submitted volumes of legal and historic materials in support of the status of the land as a reservation, something the Department of the Interior had already determined in 2001.
- Since the reacquisition of the 128 acres, the Nation has engaged in discussions with the surrounding local governments and community members about its plans for a tribal government center and a modest bingo hall on the 128 acres. The Nation has entered into several agreements with these local governments to assure that the presence of the government center and hall will not impose a burden on their resources or infrastructure.
- On February 20, 2008, the DeKalb County Board approved an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Nation and DeKalb County by a vote of 16 to 7. The Agreement is comprehensive in scope, addressing a variety of issues of mutual concern, including payments in lieu of taxes, the Nation's planned use of its lands, impacts on County infrastructure, and jurisdictional matters. It also provides for a share of the revenue to the County from the Nation's bingo hall.
- On March 5, 2009, the Nation and the DeKalb County Sheriff entered an agreement pursuant to which the Nation will contract the Sheriff to provide police protection for the Nation within its lands.
- On September 2, 2008, the Nation and the Village of Shabbona entered into a Water and Wastewater Services Agreement. The Nation and Village had previously entered a Water and Sewer Pre-Design and Design Agreement on June 22, 2007, to determine whether connecting to the Village's water and sewer infrastructure for water and sewer services was a viable option for the Nation's lands.
- On May 8, 2007, the Nation and the Shabbona Community Fire Protection District entered an agreement to ensure adequate fire response and EMS rescue for the Shab-eh-nay Reservation lands.
- The Nation also seeks to work with the Township of Shabbona on traffic flow and road maintenance matters.



Glimpses of the new Judicial Center Building

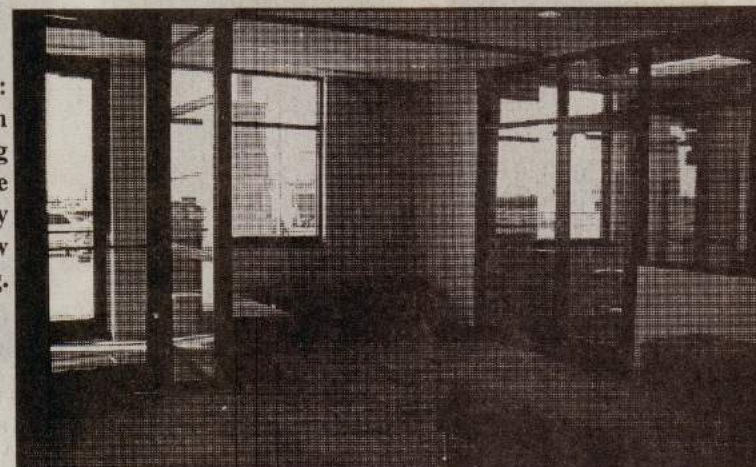


Left: Royetta Rodewald, judicial administrator, stands in front of the entrance to the new judicial center.

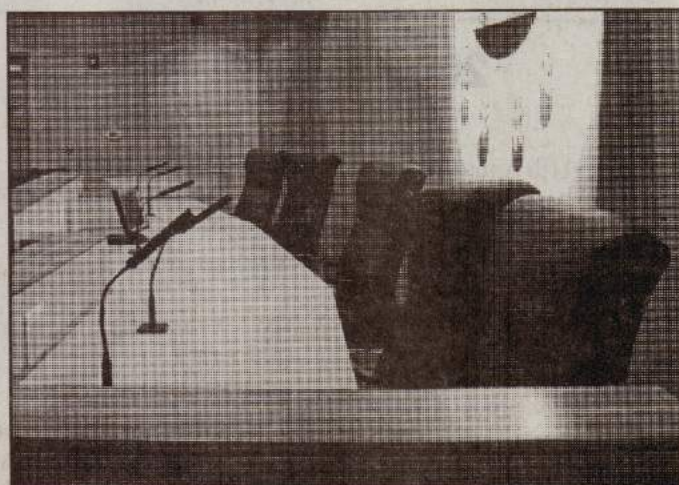


The PBPB seal is lit and hangs behind the court bench.

Right: Photo taken looking south in the front lobby of the new building.

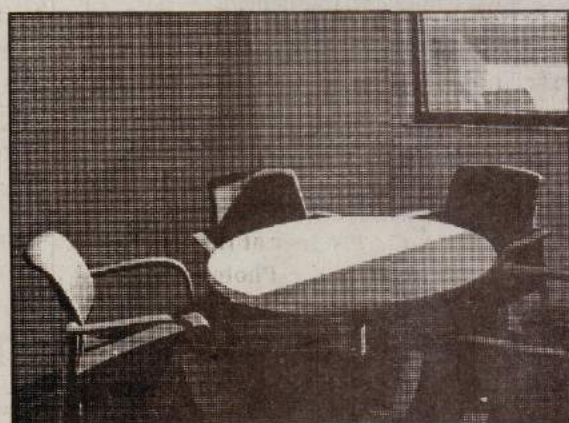
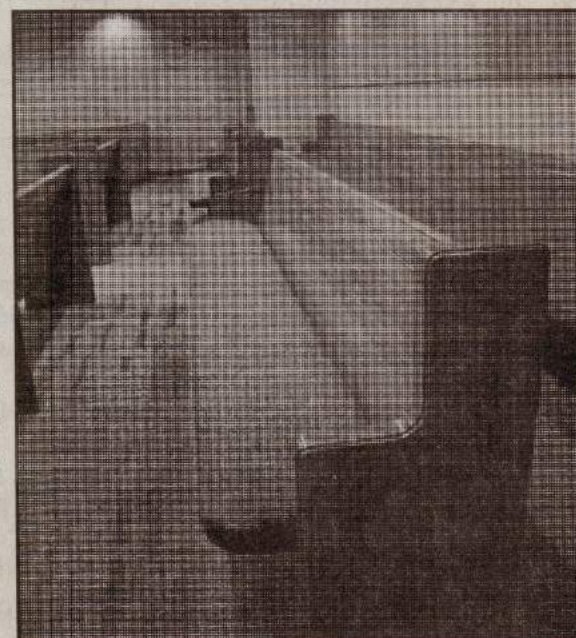


Right: The center has installed a state-of-the-art technology and audio system. This view is taken from where the judicial administrator will sit on the west side of the court room.

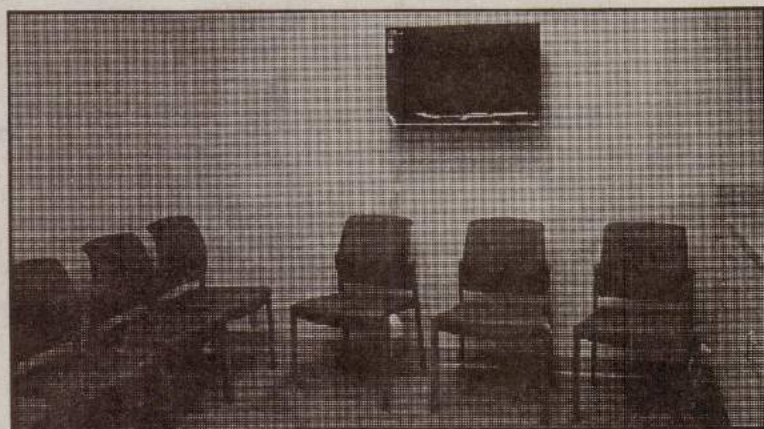


Judges bench that shows PBPB seal behind.

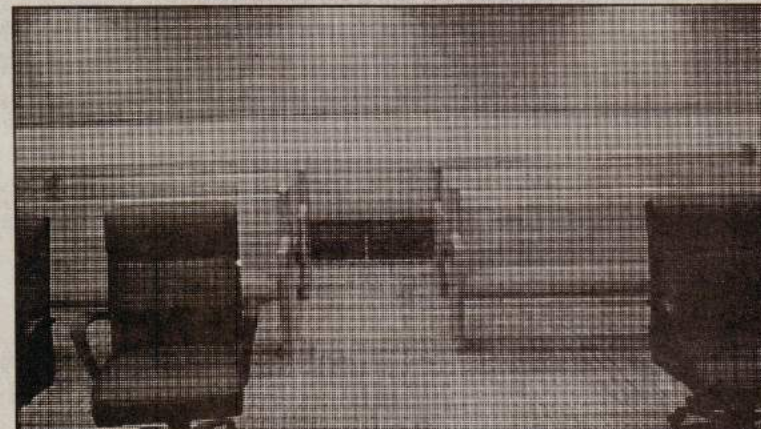
Right: The benches in the court chambers. The Prairie Band Potawatomi seal is etched on each side of the benches.



Front lobby conference room.



Jury waiting room.



The court room as seen from the judges' bench.

Field Day of Fun

A former Olympic Gold Medal winner and recent inductee into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame teach youth how to live healthier lives



Olympian Barbara Jones Slater, left, and Jerry Tuckwin, American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, were noted speakers at the Field Day of Fun that was held October 3 in Prairie Peoples Park.

Teaching healthy lifestyles and having fun at the same time was the focus of a Field Day of Fun for Native youth held October 3 in Prairie Peoples Park on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation.

The event marked the kick off of a Youth Initiative Program that has been designed to help young people fight obesity through exercise and healthy eating. According to a recent Indian Health Clinic study, 49 percent of Native American children (ages 6-11) have been categorized as overweight or obese showing a need to teach healthier lifestyles to young Native people.

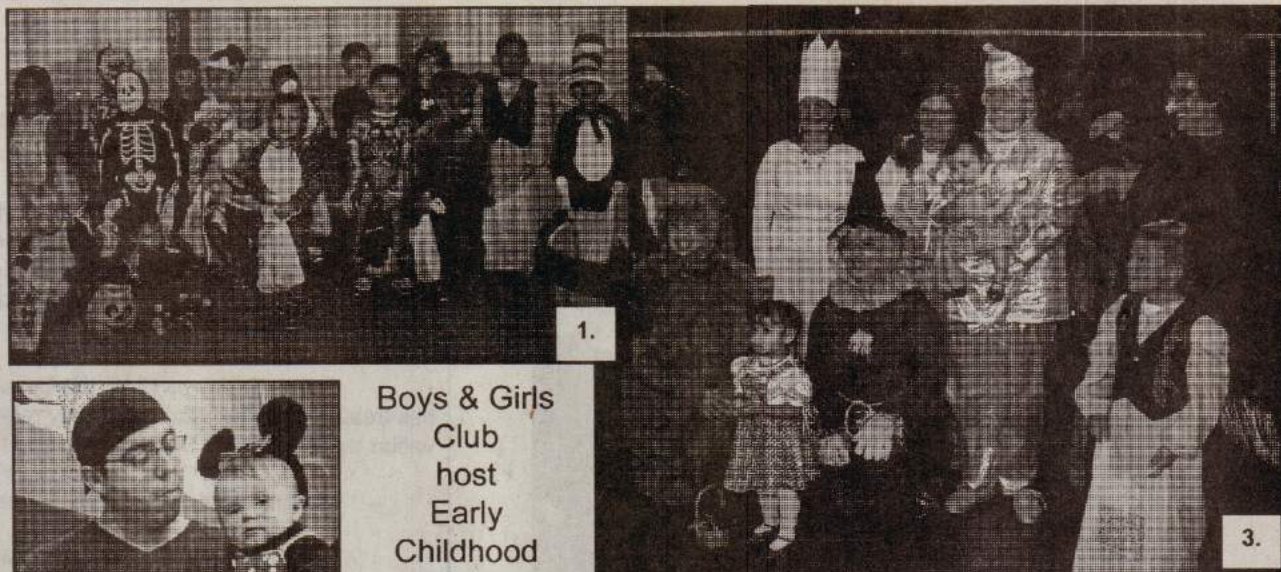
The day included visits by Barbara Jones Slater, a former Gold Medal Olympian in Track and Field (1952 and 1960), and Jerry Tuckwin (Prairie

Band Potawatomi), a recent inductee into the American Indian Sports Hall of Fame. In addition, Native children in grades K-12 participated in a series of activities including sports physical screenings, participating in individual sport competitions like basketball and soccer, and eating a nutritious lunch, and receiving free gifts and prizes.

The Youth Initiative Program is a collaborative effort between the four tribes in Kansas and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Center for Health Disparities and Department of Health and Human Services/Office of Public Health and Science, Region VII. Other community and school groups from the northeast Kansas region are also involved in the project.



Mae Joslin tries for a basket with Kristen Aitkens, far left, who can be seen encouraging her from the sidelines during one of the events.



Boys & Girls Club host Early Childhood Education Center Halloween October 29

**Boys & Girls Club
New Community Hours**
Monday- Friday
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Weekends
10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
For more information go to
www.pbpindiantribe.com

*during community hours children 8th grade and under must be supervised
*background checks required during regular hours



Student nurses from William Jewell College helped with the physical screenings at the Field Day of Fun. On the front row, left to right, is Karen Badva and Jessica Jones from William Jewell. Back row, left to right, is Brenda Catron, PBPB nursing supervisor, Dr. Terry Harter, PBPB physician, Holly Raynor, and Kim Mawhy from William Jewell.

Traditional foods demonstration and meal held at Language House

Jancita Warrington, Coordinator for the Community Garden Project, gave a traditional foods demonstration on September 29 at the Language House located on 158 Road. Approximately 25 people attended the event. The demonstration was held as part of the PBPB Language/Cultural classes and was also open to the public.



More classes are being planned that will teach how to prepare and store traditional foods



Departments and Programs

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

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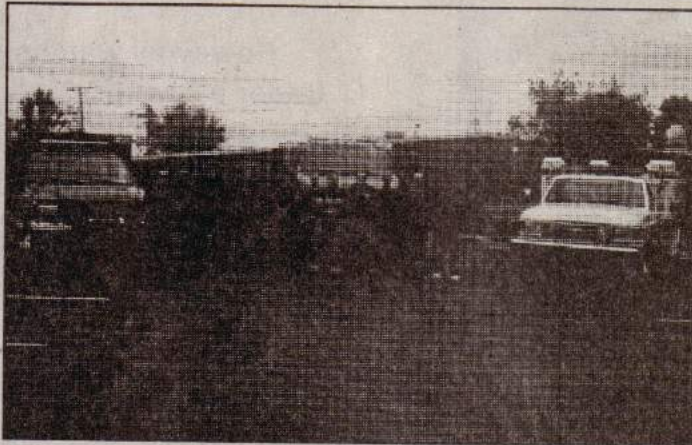
Winter 2009



Above: A two-day training seminar that taught fire/rescue officers skills how to extricate someone from a vehicle was held October 16 and 17 at the PBP Bingo Hall. The first day of classes involved in-class training and the second day involved mock exercises outside. The training was so valuable to the squads that more trainings are planned.

Tribal Fire Department attends Vehicle Extrication training with Hoyt and Mayetta

Special thanks to Mat Conger



Linda Yazzie named Employee of the Quarter



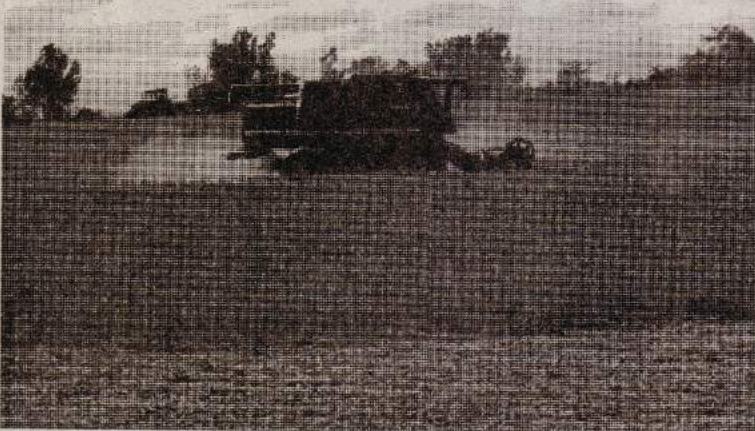
Linda Yazzie was selected Employee of the Quarter at the All-Employee meeting on October 23. Linda works as the administrative assistant in the Tribal Chairman's office and was nominated by Paula Hopkins who wanted to recognize Linda for her hard work during the Gathering.

Sexual Harrassment training held

PBPN employees and Tribal Council attended a sexual harrassment training in October at the Bingo Hall.

Jeremy Deckard, Public Information Officer for the Kansas Human Rights Commission gave the hour-long presentation that was sponsored by the PBPN Human Resources Department.

Public Works



Members of the Lands crew were busy in early October harvesting soy beans near the Chaney Hill area on 158 Road that is located west of K Road. Duane Daugherty, Russell Jim and Chris DeCoteau were working in the fields on the day this photo was taken.



The parking lot in front of the Public Works building got some improvements that were made possible by a grant from the Federal Transit Authority. Instead of hiring outside contractors to do the work the PBPN Construction Maintenance and Road & Bridge crews tackled the job. In the photo, left to right, are Tom Jim, Gary Buskirk, Ronnie Hester, Billy Jim and John Rupnicki.



Chris DeCoteau, second from left, was given a certificate of appreciation by the 35th Infantry Division Association/Santa Fe Division for a buffalo and reservation tour he gave to the group on September 24. In the photo above, presenting the award to Chris, is Jim Potts, We-Ta-Se Post Commander. To Chris's left is Frank Shopteese, B.J. Darnall, and Russell Jim. The photo was taken in October at the Lands Office.

(Photo by Micki Martinez)

Reward for information on arson fires!

The Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department is joining the crusade to put arsonists out of business. If you have information about a suspicious fire call 1-800-KS-CRIME. Your information will remain confidential and may lead to a \$5,000 reward for arrests or convictions of arsonists.

Prairie Band Potawatomi General Public Transit Program on the reservation and outside the local area (Topeka, Holton, Horton)

To schedule call 785.966.3024, M-F

Child car seats now required for children ages 7 and under

Funded by PBPN, KDOT 5311, FTA Tribal Transit 5311(c)

October was a busy month for remembering and helping others

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Human Resources raised \$390 through a bake sale and drawings promoting the cause



Left to right: Michelle Torres, Cherie Jim, Brandi Davis, Priscilla Martin and Donna Valdivia-Wofford sold baked goods on October 2 in the lobby of the Government Center. Shayla Hale, who also works in the Human Resources Department, is not pictured.



A balloon release was held in honor of those affected by breast cancer in the Government Center parking lot on October 2.

Human Resources also sponsored a Time Management Training November 19 at the Bingo Hall for employees

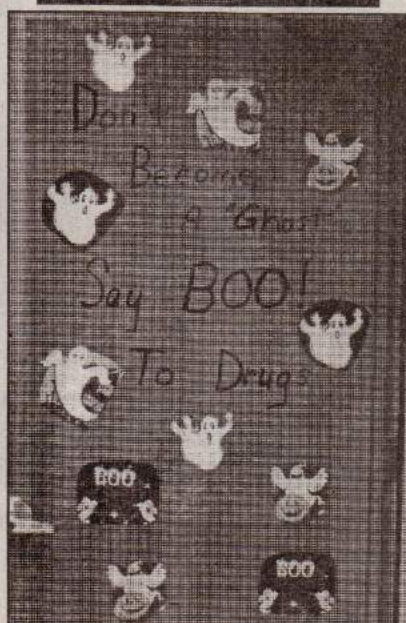


Volunteers from the Topeka Race Against Breast Cancer, left, gave a presentation at the All-Employee meeting on October 23 at the Bingo Hall. They also sold promotional items after the presentation was given.

Childhood Education Center celebrates Red Ribbon Week October 19-23



Above is Terry Slater, left, and Lisa Potts from the Early Childhood Education Center who were creating a billboard with a drug-free message for Red Ribbon Week at the Potawatomi Health Center when this photo was taken. The photo, right, was part of a decorate-your door contest that was made by the staff in the General Manager's office. The photo, above, far right, is of an unidentified child.



October was Domestic Violence Awareness month

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Family Violence Prevention Program and the Tribal Victims Assistance Program in the Police Department co-sponsored a Walk a Mile in Their Mocs event that was held at the Boys & Girls Club on October 10. T-shirts were handed out, bingo and other youth activities played, and a community meal offered to round out the evening.

The PBPN Family Violence Prevention Program placed baskets of purple ribbon pins in government buildings as a way of honoring domestic violence victims and survivors.



Sylvanna Levier, left, and Kek Mitchell are both members of the Gen S Youth Council.

The PBP Tribal Victims Assistance Program helped promote A Relationship Ready seminar about teen dating on October 21 at Royal Valley High School. The event was for parents and/or teens who came together to participate in Dating Dangers Bingo (a chance to identify and talk about dating abuse warning signs and healthy relationships), Risk Reduction Round-Up (learning the best ways to reduce risk for sexual assault) and STI TMI Jeopardy, a team exercise that tested participant knowledge of birth control, sexually transmitted infections and more. Free pizza was also provided. The event was cosponsored by the YWCA Center for Safety and Empowerment in Holton, Kan.

Warmth for Winter clothing drive held

The Social Services Department teamed up the the Gen S Youth Council to sponsor a winter clothing drive that was held on October 24 at the Rock Building.

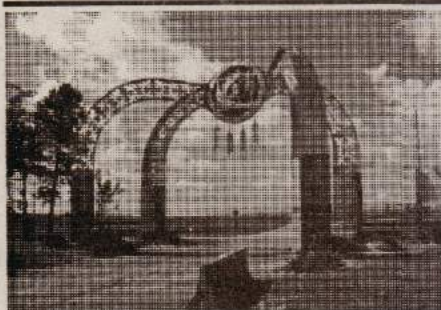
Clothing was donated by PBPN employees and other members of the community and then distributed to needy families.

The Friday before, a luncheon was provided by members of Social Services at the Bingo Hall to thank those for donating items and also as a free-will donation so that more warm clothing could be purchased for the needy.



We-Ta-Se Veterans

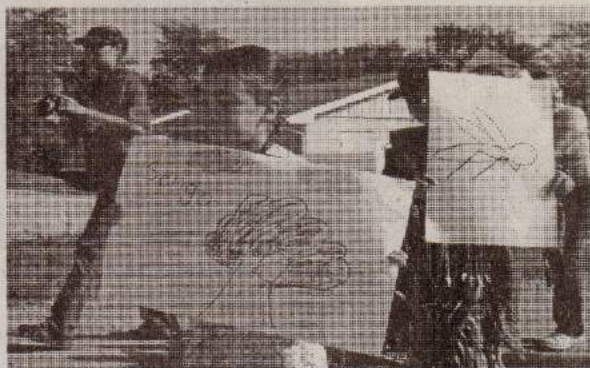
Prairie Band Potawatomi News



New Native Pride parade added this year



ABOVE: The day began with a Native Pride Parade that was sponsored by the Gen S Club, a youth group from the Boys & Girls Club.



ABOVE: Children holding signs they made in the PBPN language classes as they marched in the parade.

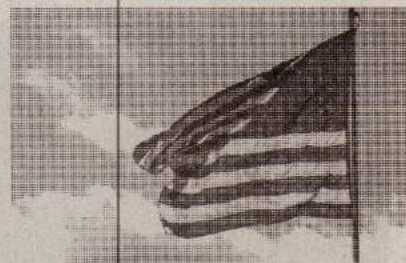


ABOVE: Counting candy.

Pow-wow was held under a beautiful fall sky



ABOVE: Benny Potts, left, and Steve Ortiz, right, were honored veterans.



ABOVE: Hannah Wahwassuck was named the new We-Ta-Se Princess.



ABOVE: Nuk-Pen-Wass youth drum group performed.



LEFT: The Native American Church sold Indian Tacos and Frito Pies for lunch.



ABOVE: Visitors from Thurman, Iowa came to the pow-wow.



ABOVE: Fancy dancer.

WE-TA-SE RECAP Submitted by Frank Shopteese

7 - DRUMS

LITTLE SOLDIER
THE AGENCY
WHISTLING WIND
NUK-PEN-WASS
SOUTHERN RAIN
MA-HUSH-KA BOYS
TAMA SINGERS

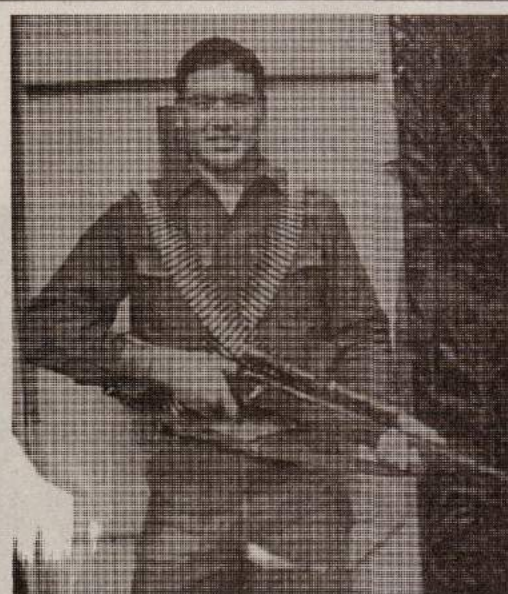


59 - VETERANS

71 - YOUTH DANCERS
69 - ADULT DANCERS

ATTENDANCE WAS ESTIMATED BETWEEN 700-800 PEOPLE

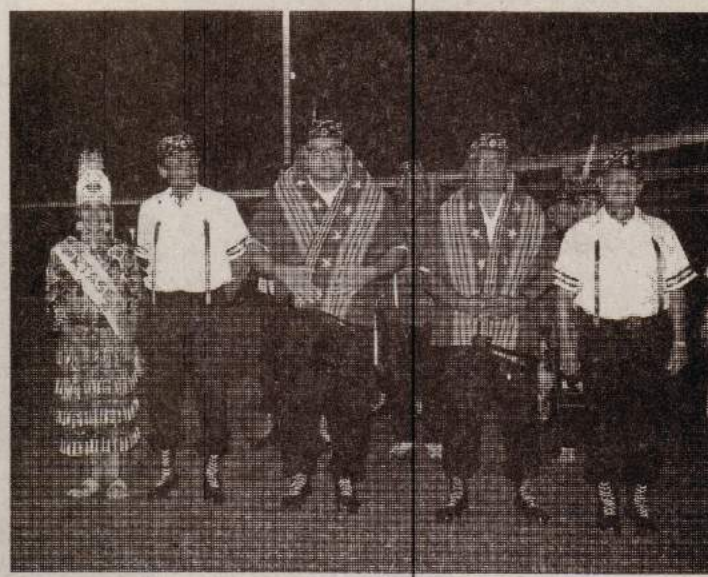
THE EVENING MEAL WAS COOKED BY THE NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH AND TOTALED OVER 500 MEALS



ABOVE: Steve Ortiz, left, and Benny Potts, right, as young soldiers. These photos were taken when they were in the Marines in the early 1970s.



ABOVE: Roy Hale helped Linda Tecumseh paint a sign for her booth where she sold T-shirts.



ABOVE: Leading the veterans dance were, left to right, Sierra Pahlmahmie, outgoing We-Ta-Se princess, Jim Potts, Post Commander, Steve Ortiz, Honored Veteran, Benny Potts, Honored Veteran, and Francis Shopteese, Finance Officer for We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410.

RIGHT: Elder women dancers line up in front of the arena.



ABOVE: A chicken dancer also drummed with a group called The Agency.



ABOVE: Richard Brewer, far right, sold arts and crafts at his family's vendor stand at the pow-wow.



ABOVE: On the far right is Roger Lewis, Arena Director, who was acknowledged for his work during the pow-wow.



ABOVE: A tiny dancer in her jingle dress.



ABOVE: Facing the camera is Elaine Frank, Potawatomi Gathering Princess, who is seen with other princesses at the pow-wow.

WE-TA-SE RAFFLE WINNERS - 2008

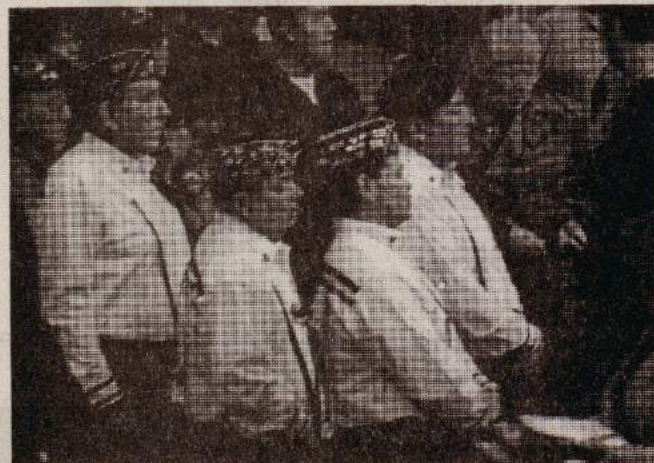
Pendleton blanket	Luis Ortiz
Pendleton blanket	Adrian 'Gubba' Hale
100 gallons gas	Brenda Potts
50 gallons gas	Jim Potter
\$1000 cash	Robbie Griffith



Four Potawatomi veterans added to the wall



Left to right, Ralph Lundin, Francis Jensen, and Jim Potts at the veterans wall ceremony in Prairie Peoples Park.



In uniform, left to right, are Joe Jessepe, Ralph Lundin, Frank Shopteese and Tim Ramirez, who were waiting to be honored at the Haskell Indian Nations University veterans ceremony held November 6. Veterans were each given a medal and a blanket during a group ceremony.

2009 Potawatomi Veterans

Lucius Darling
Ronald E. Jacobson
Edwin Jessepe
Grant Magnauck

WWII
Korea
Korea-Vietnam
WWI-WWII

The We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410 participated in several events during the second week of November that honored veterans.

The group began their activities on November 6 when part of the We-Ta-Se Color Guard posted colors at the opening of the American Indian Art Galleries at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Arts in Kansas City. That same evening other Prairie Band veterans were each honored by receiving a medal and blanket during a ceremony by the Haskell Veterans Club at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence.

On November 9 We-Ta-Se was involved in a veterans commemoration at Royal Valley High School (Hoyt, Kan.) and the following day participated in the Annual American Native American Symposium located at the University of Missouri Kansas City. On Veterans Day they marched in a parade in Leavenworth, Kan. and the next day interacted with Everest (Kan.) Middle School children. To end the week they honored four Potawatomi veterans by laying

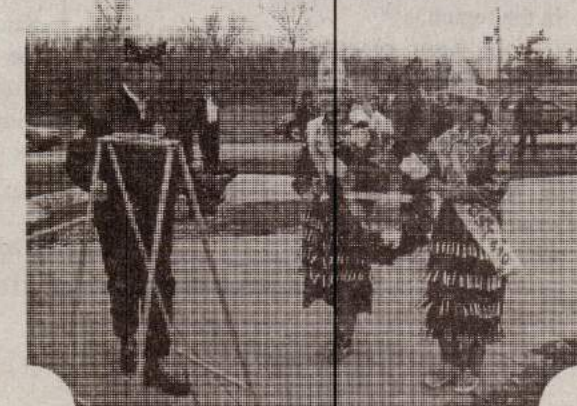
a wreath at the PBPV Veterans Memorial Wall in Prairie Peoples Park.

The We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410 began in 1985 and is one of the oldest Native American Legion Posts in the United States. The Post is located in a building called We-Ta-Se at 15434 K Road, Mayetta, KS 66509 which houses offices, a conference room and a museum of Potawatomi veteran memorabilia. Two full-time staff are available for providing transportation services and other assistance for Prairie Band Potawatomi veterans. The group meets regularly and appears at local pow-wows, groundbreaking ceremonies, funerals, Potawatomi Gatherings and parades. Post 410 also plays an active role in the community and is particularly supportive of activities for youth and elders.

We-Ta-Se has an extensive website located on www.pbpindiantribe.com that includes a list of veterans' names on the wall, photographs of recent events, a calendar of events, and other contact information.



Families honoring and remembering their loved ones. There are now 375 names on the wall.



We-Ta-Se princesses Hannah Wahwassuck, left, and Sierra Pahmahmie, right, laying the wreath at the PBPV veterans ceremony. The man in the photo is Francis Jensen who gave the invocation that day.

A salute to more Potawatomi veterans



Sonny Shopteese



Lorrie Wahwasuck



Thamor Williams



Milton LaClair



Curtis Masquat and Andy Mitchell

Other We-Ta-Se happenings



ABOVE: Officers from the 1st District American Legion paid a visit to the We-Ta-Se Post 410 on October 2. They began their day with a breakfast at the casino which was followed by a tour of the We-Ta-Se post headquarters and reservation. On the front row, left to right, is 1st District Vice President Lynn Wichman, American Legion Service Officer (Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Administration Medical Center) Dan Bartlett, 1st District Commander Rick Edwards, 1st District Vice President Ladies Auxiliary Micki Martinez, and 1st District Ladies Auxiliary President Dottie Timmons. On the back row, left to right, representing We-Ta-Se, are Benny Potts, Steve Ortiz, Francis Jensen, and Emery Hale. Next to Hale is Jim Timmons, past 1st District Commander.



ABOVE: We-Ta-Se color guard and princesses marched in the Mayetta Pioneer Day parade on October 3. ABOVE TOP RIGHT, We-Ta-Se members Glenn Levier (driver) and Roy Hale rode in Emery Hale's antique truck during the parade. Emery, not pictured, is also a We-Ta-Se member.



RIGHT: Ralph Tecumseh at the veterans's pow-wow. Ralph is a Vietnam veteran and member of We-Ta-Se.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 410 OFFICERS 2009-2010

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| •POST COMMANDER | JIM POTTS |
| •VICE COMMANDER | LAWRENCE HALE |
| •ADJUTANT | ROY HALE |
| •FINANCE OFFICER | FRANCIS SHOPTEESE |
| •CHAPLAIN | FRANCIS JENSEN |
| •SERVICE OFFICER | RALPH LUNDIN |
| •HISTORIAN | BENNY POTTS |
| •SGT AT ARMS | B.J. DARNALL |



ABOVE: Galen Hubbard dancing at the veterans pow-wow. He is a We-Ta-Se member and is the former Superintendent of the BIA-Horton Agency.



The We-Ta-Se color guard at the opening events of the American Indian Art Galleries at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. Gary Mitchell gave the invocation.



Newsmakers

Kern Marketing awarded agency of record for new Biosciences Center

Kern Marketing was recently selected as the advertising agency of record for a new Bioscience and Technology Business Center that is planned for construction on the University of Kansas' west campus.

Mark Kern (PBPB) is the firm's president and is headquartered in Lawrence, Kan.

The Lawrence-Douglas County Biosciences Authority, whose mission is to stimulate developing a local life sciences industry and technology center in Lawrence, chose Kern's group from several other firms in the region.

Kern received his degree from Kansas State University and has worked in media relations for over 10 years. He is also on the Entertainment Board of Directors for the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

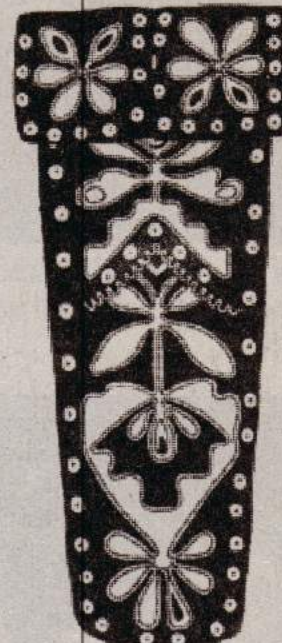
Jim Shane receives new position with IHS



Jim Shane (PBPB) has been hired as the new Sanitation Facilities Construction Division Engineer in the field office of the Indian Health Services (IHS) in Holton. Jim works with Jamison Honeycutt and Barbara Tims, who is also a PBPB member in the field office.

3rd Quarter Charitable Contributions

•Sheltered Living	\$ 2,500
•Jackson Co. Kids Closet	\$ 1,000
•Florence Crittenton Service, Inc.	\$ 5,000
•Topeka Correctional Facility	\$ 2,000
•Kansas Children's Service League	\$ 5,000
•Inter-Faith Ministries	\$ 1,050
•Leisure Land Playground Complex	\$ 1,000
•Washburn Endowment	\$ 5,000
•Stormont Vail Foundation	\$ 2,000
•Kansas Children Discovery Center	\$20,000
•St. Dominic Catholic Church	\$ 7,500
•Junior League of Topeka	\$ 4,000
•Topeka Shawnee Special Olympics	\$ 1,500
•Topeka Latch-Key Project	\$ 1,000
•Morning Star, Inc.	\$ 2,120
•JOM/Title VII Indian Education Parent	\$ 1,500
•Friends of Fair Pavilion	\$ 500
•USD #337-Royal Valley	\$14,280
•St. Matthews Catholic Church	\$ 2,500
•USD #501	\$ 5,000
•Topeka North Outreach, Inc	\$ 5,000
Total	\$89,400



Mitch Battese a featured artist at National Museum of the American Indian Holiday Art Market

Submitted by Patty Battese

Prairie Band Potawatomi artist Mitch Battese was one of three fine arts painters selected to show at the National Museum of the American Indian's (NMAI) annual art market that was held in Washington, D.C. on December 5-6. The opportunity to show at the museum's annual event was highly competitive and was open to indigenous artists from North and South America. Each year the museum selects painters, jewelers, textile designers, potters, and other crafts persons to participate in the annual event.

Battese, son of deceased tribal member William Vincent Battese and Pearlline Sealy Foraker (Chickasaw), began his artistic career early by competing in local shows and competitions in Oklahoma.

His education consisted of attending boarding school at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M. and graduating from Pine Ridge (South Dakota) High School. Following that, he majored in fine arts at Bacone College in Oklahoma and studied under noted Native artist "Chief" Terry Saul, a former leader in the Choctaw tribe of Oklahoma. He

later received his bachelor of arts degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla.

Battese has shown and entered art competitions in the Annual National Parks Service Art Competition, the Santa Fe Indian Art Market, and the wholesale Indian Art Market in Mesa, Ariz. which is sponsored by the Indian Arts and Crafts Association. He has also had his work exhibited at the Crazy Horse Monument in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

In 2008 Battese provided the art work for the Annual Indian Health Service Elders Conference in Oklahoma City.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian draws thousands of individuals during its annual holiday art market in Washington, D.C.

The National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C., is located on the National Mall between the Smithsonian's National Air & Space Museum and the U.S. Capitol Building.

The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) has one of the most extensive collections of Native American arts and artifacts in the world.

PBPB visit Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

New
American Indian art
wing now open

For more
information
www.nelson.atkins.org



A group of Potawatomi toured the new American Indian art wing that opened on November 15 at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. In the photo above, from left to right, is Kelly Henderson, from the museum, who is with Ryan Dyer, Patty Potter, and Jim Potter. Dyer arranged the tour that included around 20 people who ate lunch and saw the art. The inset photo, left, is Carol Dewitt, who works for the Fire Keepers Elder Center and helped bring some elders along that day in the elder center's van.



Jacob Kent Haskell Indian Nations University 2009-2010 homecoming king

Jacob Kent (PBPB) was elected Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) homecoming king last fall. He is seen in the photo modeling a Potawatomi men's fashion at the Gathering last August. Jacob is also active in Haskell's Thunderbird Theater and recently performed in a play called *Baby Blues*. Two other PBPB members, that attend HINU, were also involved in the play. Michael Allen was an actor and Nick Wilder helped design the set. The play ran the weekend of November 20-21 on the HINU campus.

Firekeeper Elder Center news

An Honor the Elders (Ettanan tak so wat kek yattek) dinner was held at the Fire Keepers Elder Center on October 14 with Julia Lewis and Joe Hale selected as this year's honorees (see more below).

Other activities at the center have included beading classes, playing penny and nickel Pokeno, bingo, pool and enjoying the meals that are provided each day by the cooks.

Elders have also attended presentations about fire prevention, nutrition and eating healthy.

They have also made road trips to Kansas City, Mo. to see K.C. Royals baseball

games and the Nelson-Atkins Art Gallery and went on an overnight trip to Hutchinson, Kan. to attend the Kansas State Fair. In addition, Elders have traveled to the Kickapoo Elders Center for bingo and lunch and also attended the NEK Health Expo in Hiawatha, Kan.

Upcoming activities scheduled include seeing the Christmas lights at Lake Shawnee and hosting the Elders Community Christmas dinner on December 17. An Art/Craft sale is being planned for April 10 at the casino and to learn more about it see the ad on page 2. For more information call LaVerne Hale at 785.966.0041.

Joe Hale



On the far left, in the baseball hat, is Joe Hale drumming with the Little Soldier Creek Singers at the Veterans Pow-wow. Joe has been drumming with the group since it began in 1972 and is also passing on the tradition to his children and grandchildren. He is a Vietnam veteran and member of We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410.

Julia Lewis



Julia Lewis is an active volunteer at the Fire Keepers Elder Center. In the group of women above, she is on the far left. The photo was taken at the Veterans Pow-wow this fall that was held in Prairie Peoples Park.



Third annual Community Talent Show a hit

The third annual Community Talent Show held in the Rock/Community Building on October 8-9 was another good time and loaded with laughs. The shows were well attended both nights and proceeds generated from the admission price went to the top three finalists.

First prize went to the group Leader of the Pack that featured Debbie Garcia, Linda McCoy and Wanda Trukillo. Second place went to the Rez Blues Brothers who were Linda and Ralph Tecumseh, and third place went to Hedy & the Hoolets comprised of Hedy Noland, Tootie Kern and Myra Matchie.

Other talent acts included were Tim Mindez who sang karaoke songs, and Julia Lewis, Doris Cochran, Delores Porter and Cindy McFarland who dressed in monkey costumes and sang some Monkee songs.

Julia Lewis sponsored the show and said it was designed for no other purpose than to have a good time. Chago Hale was the master of ceremonies and LaVerne Hale and members of her family provided concessions throughout the evening.

Right: Ralph and Linda Tecumseh in costume for their Rez Blues Brothers performance. The couple took second place at this year's community talent show.



Above, from left to right, are Wanda Trukillo, Linda McCoy, and Debbie Garcia who took first place with their rendition of Leader of the Pack.

Right: Hedy & the Hoolets took third place. The sister trio has performed every year since the show began and always gets a big laugh from the crowd.



Special thanks to the following
for their contributions

-Judy Darnell
-Construction/Maintenance crew
-Marilyn Brewer
-Chago Hale
-LaVerne Hale
-Joyce, Lance & Marissa Bridegroom
-Delores Porter
-General Council
-Tribal Fire & EMS crews



A message of thanks from Helen Slattery, director of P.A.R.R. House

The P.A.R.R. House Department would like to thank everyone for attending the fun-time Halloween dance and party on October 31 at the Bingo Hall.

Michael Jackson made an appearance and sang with a group of young teen idols. Michael also periodically demonstrated his famous "Moon Walk." In addition, the Pillsbury Dough Boy, popular "Chicken Man", and many other characters were there.

The adult-costume contest winner was the H1N1 flu virus and, just so you know, all the tables and concession area were disinfected with clorox wipes while cleaning up. A terrorist was also present, but tragically he was scared out by all the freaky people around him.

Lots of young children, teens and adults enjoyed a perfect-weather night and shared in a lot of fun and laughter together. Everyone seemed to enjoy the cake walks and the winners won prizes that included a homemade Halloween sour cream chocolate cake, a large pineapple up-side down cake, a very berry New York style cheese cake and an autumn date nut cake. There were also many drawings for door prizes that varied from bird seed and bird houses to a snuggly body pillow.

Thanks to all those who volunteered to make the event a successful fun night for the community and special thanks to the judges of the contests and to those who helped clean up of the hall.



P.A.R.R. House provides a temporary safe residence for recovering alcoholics and provides a program that is a "stepping stone" to a productive life free from addiction. In addition to AA meetings, the program encourages participants to heal through involvement in cultural events such as sweats, church services, pow-wows, drum doings and arts and crafts.

Ms. Wheelchair Kansas Program is searching for contestants/sponsors

Ms. Wheelchair Kansas is not a beauty contest and selects a woman of achievement to serve as a role model and spokesperson for people with disabilities.

Interested participants need to submit an application by:
January 7, 2010
to Carrie Greenwood, State Coordinator

For more information go to
www.mswheelchairkansas.org

Marie Clement (PBPB)
won the

Ms. Wheelchair of
Kansas contest last year
and was sponsored by
the PBPB



Hospice volunteers



Five PBPB members were trained as hospice volunteers with other members of the Jackson County community recently. From left to right, front row, is Micki Martinez (PBPB), Laverla Bell (PBPB), and Dee Karliskint. Second row, left to right, is Mary LeClere (PBPB), Rachael Masquatt (PBPB), and Dick Lake. Third row, left to right, is Kathy Scheid, Mary Lundin, Julie Bahret and Margaret Rupert. Not pictured is Jeanette Little Sun (PBPB). Hospice volunteers provide special comfort to people in the last days of their lives.

Hiking

on
the
rez
for
fun
and
good health



The Division of Planning and Environmental Protection and PBPB Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) sponsored two hiking events on Nov. 1 and 8 on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation. Hikes were led by Mary and Don Don LeClere. Hikers rallied at the Boys & Girls Club where routes and schedules were discussed and then were driven to the trail's starting point.

From 20 to 30 youth and adults participated in the four to six mile hikes that traversed through the northwest part of the Reservation near Crow Creek. The land hiked was through wetlands, creek banks, crossings, and timber areas. Along the way, adults



pointed out various plants, (including one particular traditional plant) to the youth and eagles were spotted as well. Everyone broke for a communal lunch that provided a great opportunity for visiting, sharing healthy snacks, and rest for the legs.

The hikes served two purposes: For the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection, the goal was to inspire an appreciation for the outdoors and nature, and for the DPP the aim was to encourage exercise and a healthy lifestyle.

A winter December hike is being planned. For more information call 785-966-2946.

This and that

Attention Parents! tiny-k Early Intervention Services

now offered by the Potawatomi Infant Toddler Services at
the Early Childhood Education Center
15380 K Road, Mayetta, KS 66509
For information contact
Lisa Potts, tiny-k coordinator,
phone: 785.966.2707
email: lpotts@pbpnation.org

tiny-k is a statewide system that provides early intervention services to children up to age 3 and their families at no cost. Children with developmental delays or disabilities are urged to apply.

Nishnabemwën Ewitonakîemgo (we are going to follow our Indian ways)



Session 7
PBPB Language/Cultural Classes
will begin Jan. 4-Feb. 23

Monday evenings -adults 17 and up
Tuesday evening-families
Classes held from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Please call 785.966.2138 to sign up

for complete schedule go to
www.pbpdiantribe.com/language

Happy Holidays from the Division of Planning & Environmental Protection



Front row, left to right, Sharon Bosse, Virginia LeClere, and Vincent Hernandez. Middle row, left to right, Kumos Hubbard, Myron Shield, and Craig Wahwassuck. Top row, left to right, Bill Wilbur and Andrew Pahmahmie.

Large crowd attends Thanksgiving dinner at the Elder Center



Over 200 people came to this year's Thanksgiving feast held at the Elder Center on Nov. 19. Employees from the Prairie Band Casino & Resort, Potawatomi Fire Department, and Public Works Division all volunteered to help with this year's dinner along with the regular Firekeepers Elder Center staff. The center provided the main meal while others brought a variety of desserts.

New Tribal Police Officers

- Chad Kleppin
- Matt Johnson
- Brandon Patrick

For more information about the tribal police department
visit www.pbpdiantribe.com

The 7th Annual Boys & Girls Club Golf Tournament held Oct. 2 at Shawnee Country Club in Topeka raised \$26,650.00 for the club. There were 27 teams.

Higher Education Notice!

Students who are receiving funding for the Fall 2009 semester MUST turn in an OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT by January 31, 2010 to receive funding for the Spring 2010 semester.

All students must reapply for the Fall 2010 semester. Students are encouraged to apply for Federal Student Aid as soon as possible after January 1.

Students can visit www.fafsa.ed.gov for information and deadlines. Renewal applications will be mailed in March to current students, or visit www.pbpdiantribe.com/education.aspx to download an application.



The Shawnee County Allied Tribes (SCAT) gave a \$500 donation to the PBPB Social Services Department to help purchase holiday dinners. From left to right is Roger Lewis (PBPB), Vice President of SCAT, Mary Sands, Director of Social Services, and Dawn Masquatt (PBPB) who is also a member of SCAT.

The Education Department is staying busy through offering educational courses for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) and in researching scholarship opportunities.

Last November the department, along with the Prairie Band Casino & Resort (PBCR), sponsored a 45-hour Directions in Organizational Leadership course that was taught by Washburn University. Students were enrolled in five day and half class sessions, and received a professional certificate from Washburn after completing the course. Another collaborative course called Management & Leadership Skills was offered as well and taught by a trainer from National Seminars through Rockhurst University's Continuing Education Center. The courses were taught in the PBPB Government Center training room and at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort Convention Center.

Both courses were advertised on the PBPB email system and filled up fast. Kristen Aitkens, Director of Education for the PBPB, said that the department was really pleased to see the high response. "It shows that there are a lot of people that want

to advance their careers in to management positions and these courses are offering an avenue where workers don't have to quit their jobs to go to school full time."

Other computer workshops were also recently offered by the Education Department in Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Access and were taught by instructors from Kaw Area Technical School of Topeka.

Aitkens also wanted to point out that the department is posting new educational opportunities on their webpage that can be found under scholarship and resources on www.pbpdiantribe.com.

Overall, the Education Department manages six programs designed to meet the educational needs of all tribal members including Adult Education, Adult Vocational Training, Higher Education Undergraduate, Higher Education Graduate, Student Services (K-12), and Johnson O'Malley. The department is located on the lower level of the Government Center and provides a computer lab for the PBPB that is available from 8 a.m. to 4: 30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

35 years
&
older

Fresh Air Dance/Potluck
March 26, 2010, 4 p.m.- midnight
Bingo Hall
D.J. Carol Dewitt til?

Call
Julia Lewis
785.966.2182



Christmas is a time for remembering loved ones



Leslie and Juanita Jessepe and
(Lester Jessepe)



(Yolanda Solis)



Deceased tribal mem-
bers are identified by
parenthesis
in the photos



Far left, (Maxine Ramirez) and family members



(Caleb) and Arlene Wahwasuck



(Vestina Nonken)



(Charles Jacobson)



(Tony Mahkuk)



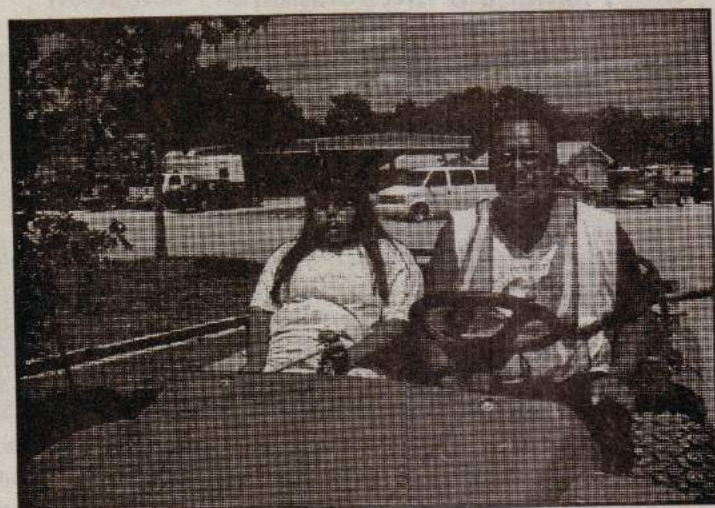
(Marjorie Wells) and Janice Owensby



Left to right, Eddie Joe, Gary, and (Larry) Mitchell



(Maynard Potts) and Meeks Jackson



(Liza Belair Wajchkee) and Virgil "Wamp" Shopteese



A Christmas Blessing

During this Christmas season,
May you be blessed
With the spirit of the season,
which is peace,
The gladness of the season,
which is hope,
And the heart of the season,
which is love.

Somehow, not only for Christmas
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others
Is the joy that comes back to you.
And the more you spend in blessing
The poor and lonely and sad,
The more of your heart's possessing
Returns to you glad.

John Greenleaf Whittier



(Robert Shuckahosee)



(Jim McKinney), Agnes, and Smokey.

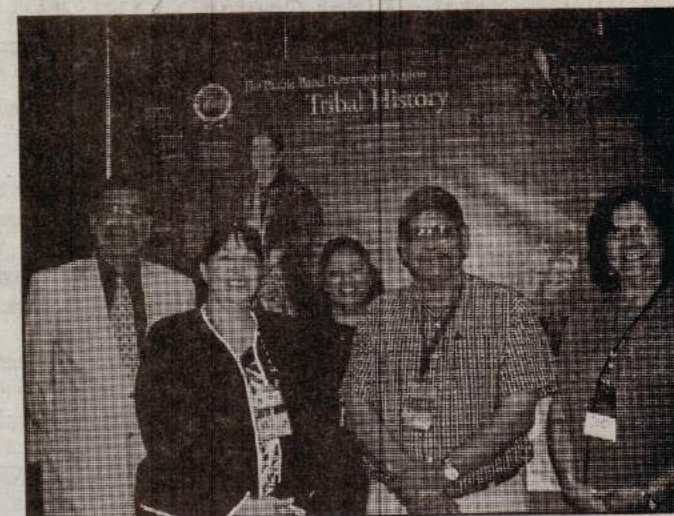


(Wendy James)

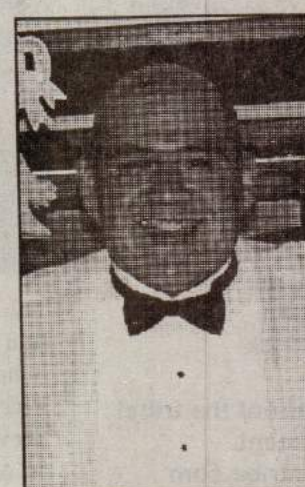


(Tim Wahweotten)

In memory of all Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation tribal members
who have walked on from this earth



Far left, (Mike Jackson) with fellow tribal members
and coworkers.



(Vernon Shopteese)



(Laura Mae Ortiz)



Member news

Congratulations Megan Hale



Congratulations to Megan Hale on her recent musical accomplishments.

In November she performed with the Topeka (Kan.) Flute Orchestra at Washburn University and placed as the only piccolo chair with the Kansas District Honor Band in Baldwin City, Kan. On December 5, she played in the district concert in Kansas City, Mo. In January she will compete for State Honor Band in Salina, Kan. Megan's parents are Martin and Donna Hale.

Congratulations Rachael Louise Anderson



on receiving a CNA license.

We're proud of you for all your hard work!

Love you,
Grandma Judy and Grandpa Eldon Darnell

Congratulations to Jessica Rickert (PBPB) on being inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. She is the first female American Indian dentist and has a practice in Interlochen, Michigan. She is also an active member of the Society of American Indian Dentists and is dedicated to helping American Indian youth who want to pursue a career in dentistry.



From left to right are Alan L. Balaran, Judge Royce C. Lamberth, and Thomas Wabnum (PBPB) who were recently together at a social event in Washington, D. C. According to Wabnum, both Balaran and Judge Lamberth were instrumental in investigating the Cobell case on behalf of Indian people and Wabnum wanted to share this photograph with members of the PBPB and others in Indian Country as a means of thanking the two men for their service.

Kamboŕŕek (those who died)

Clifford (Cliff) Schneiderwendt

Clifford D. Schneiderwendt of Oconomowoc, Wis. found eternal peace on July 30, 2009. Cliff was born on March 6, 1956 in Appleton, Wis. He is survived by his mother, Margaret Schneiderwendt, sister's Colleen and Tina, brother Aaron and daughter Mandy. Cliff will forever be missed, fondly remembered and passionately loved by his best friend, soul mate and wife of 28 years, Pamela Schneiderwendt.

Cliff was a wonderful, strong, and charismatic father, friend and hero to his daughter, Melissa (Dave) Schneiderwendt. His warmth, love, support and friendship lifted up Pam and Melissa throughout their entire lives. Cliff greatly loved his three granddaughters, Molly Jean (Littlest Love), Elizabeth Helen (Ellie B), and Catherine Danielle ('il CDS). They brought great laughter and smiles to his days and his love lifted their worlds. Cliff's beautiful blue eyes were always a source of comfort for all of those who knew him; and his contagious laugh would brighten the darkest situations. Cliff was a man with a strong soul and personality, matched with strong hands. With those hands, Cliff spent many years restoring muscle cars, working on motorcycles, completing projects around the house, and providing loving hugs to his family. In his younger days, Cliff enjoyed drag racing at Great Lakes Dragway and riding motorcycles. He constantly loved to learn new things and enjoyed reading science fiction novels and learning about history. Cliff's quick wit, incredible knowledge, and strong sense of humor allowed him to enjoy stimulating conversation for hours with his wife, Pam, and daughter, Melissa. For 13 years, Cliff was incredibly proud to be employed at CJ & Associates in New Berlin, Wis. He was greatly respected by his co-workers and clients, and created many life-long friendships; loving to share good laughs with everyone he encountered. There are no words strong enough to explain the depths of which Cliff will be missed by his family and friends. A special thank you to Dr. Yash Panna and the staff for their incredible care of Cliff over the past year and for making his final days comfortable.

A Memorial Gathering for Cliff will be held Friday, August 7 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Cliff's honor to the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.

(Courtesy of Becker-Ritter Funeral Home, Brookfield, Wis.)



PBPB obituaries
are now online
go to
www.pbpindiantribe.com
under
news and press
and
click
Kamboŕŕek

Deloris J. Marshno Mansfield



Deloris J. Marshno Mansfield, 77, of Mayetta, KS passed away September 21, 2009 at the VA Hospital in Topeka, KS. She was born March 30, 1932 in Mayetta, KS the daughter of Francis Nug and Lillian Marie Wilmot Marshno. She graduated from Mayetta High School in 1950, after graduation she served in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. She was also a supervisor at Wichita Car Wash, a nurse's aide in Manhattan and worked in Kimball, NE as a post office clerk. Deloris was a member of Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church, a member of We-Ta-Se Post #410 and a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Survivors include a son, Francis Phillips of Bloomington, NE; 3 daughters, Michele Martinez and Wanita Phillips both of Dallas, TX and Jody Marie Phillips of Redding, CA; an adopted daughter, Susan McKibben of Mayetta, KS; a sister, Patricia Phillips of Dallas, TX; 22 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Richard Duane Phillips and a brother, Winfred Marshno. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m. Friday, September 25, 2009 at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Mayetta, KS. Interment will be in the Shipshewer Cemetery. Rosary will be recited 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening at the church with visitation to follow. She will lie in state beginning Wednesday morning until 5:00 p.m. Thursday evening at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton.

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

Janell Louise Cadue

(February 26, 1955 - October 2, 2009)

Janell "Wa-be-no-quah" Louise Cadue, 54, of Horton, Kansas passed away on Friday, October 2, 2009 at her home. She was born on February 26, 1955 in Holton, Kansas the daughter of John & Marjorie Keesis Pahmahmie. Janell worked as a secretary for the Kickapoo Tribe and was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe. On September 3, 1984 she married Wesley Cadue in Horton, Kansas. He survives of the home. Other survivors include two daughters, Thomasine Pahmahmie-Artaga of Topeka, Kansas and Brandi Cadue of Raleigh, North Carolina; two sons, Timothy Pahmahmie & Travis Cadue both of Horton, Kansas; mother, Marjorie Pahmahmie of Horton, Kansas, two sisters, Darlene Shuckahosee of Mayetta, Kansas and Henrietta Brown of Tama, Iowa; one brother, James Pahmahmie of Horton, Kansas; four grandchildren; four adopted sisters, Nancy Smartlowit of Yakima, Washington, Ashlyn Conklin, Kira Conklin and Kizzie Conklin all of Horton, Kansas; one adopted brother, Rudy Keo of Horton, Kansas. She was preceded in death by her father, a brother, Timothy Pahmahmie and adopted father, Thomas Conklin Jr. Drum Services will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Sunday, October 4, 2009 at Kickapoo Community Building. Burial will be on Monday, October 5, 2009 after dinner around 2:00 P.M. at the Mason Cemetery. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.dishon-maple-chaney.com

(Courtesy of Dishon-Maple-Chaney Funeral Home, Horton, Kan.)

Jesse "Komo" Keesis 1935-2009

Jesse "Komo" Keesis was born Jan. 13, 1935 on the Kickapoo Indian Reservation at Horton, Kan., the son of Jesse and Dora (Williams) Keesis. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. He passed away suddenly on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2009 at the Shenandoah Medical Center at the age of 74 years, 6 months and 22 days.

Jesse, known to everyone as Komo, his Indian name, attended school on the reservation through the eighth grade. During his teenage years he lived in the Imogene area and has spent the last 50 years in Shenandoah.

On Feb. 7, 1959, Komo was united in marriage to Mary Etta Hall in Nebraska City, Neb. This union was blessed with four children.

Komo was employed many years at Mt. Arbor Nurseries. Later he worked for Farmaster, Eaton Corporation and Lisle Corporation.

After his retirement, Komo and Mary were self-employed with Keesis Lawn Service.

Komo enjoyed sports. He coached little league baseball and played a lot of basketball. He also started the Elkettes girls' softball team in Shenandoah.

Whenever he had the chance, Komo would go see the Harlem Globetrotters. He often got out on the floor and threw some balls with them, as well as the Harlem Magicians.

But most of all, Komo enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. You would often see him sitting in his driveway on a hot summer day.

His parents; five sisters, Sophie, Shane, Nettie, Wishkeno, Florence Gibson, Corolene Potts, Franceline Masqua; an infant brother; and an infant granddaughter preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Etta Keesis of Shenandoah; his children, Jesse Wayne Keesis of Winner, S.D., Tamara Kay Gage and her husband Kerry of Clarinda, Rodney Lee Keesis of Shenandoah, Larry Dean Keesis and his wife Erin of La Place, La; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and a sister Marjorie Pahmahmie of Horton, Kan.; along with many other relatives and friends.

Visitation with the family took place on Aug. 7 at the Kirsch Funeral Chapel in Shenandoah.

A Drum Ceremony was held Sunday, Aug. 9 at the Kickapoo Community Building in Horton, Kan. Burial was in the Mason Cemetery at Horton, Kan.

Memorials are suggested to the Shenandoah Parks and Recreation Sports Programs.

The Kirsch Funeral Chapel in Shenandoah and the Mercer Funeral Home in Holton, Kan. assisted the family with arrangements.

(Courtesy of Kirsch Funeral Chapel, Shenandoah, Iowa)



Henry Duane "Wah-wak-sum" Pahmahmie



Henry Duane "Wah-wak-sum" Pahmahmie, 59, of Mayetta, KS passed away Sunday, December 6, 2009 at his home. He was born August 10, 1950 in Holton, KS the son of Richard "Dick" and Josie Wamego Pahmahmie. He graduated from Mayetta High School in 1968.

Henry served in the U.S. Army for 2 years during the Vietnam War. He worked for Goodyear Tire in Topeka for several years and was currently working for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Road and Bridge Department. He had worked for Road and Bridge for over 20 years.

Henry was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the Drum Religion. Henry loved sports and playing softball. He played for the Big Red Machine softball team for many years. He also enjoyed hunting, gardening, playing horseshoes and cards.

He was married to Joan Adame on July 4, 1981 in Mayetta, KS. She survives of the home. Other survivors include his sons, Willie Potts and Andrew Pahmahmie both of Mayetta, KS; his daughters, Josie and Erin Pahmahmie also of Mayetta, KS; his sisters, Phyllis Dunn of Matamoras, PA and Dolly Richard and Anita Evans both of Mayetta, KS; his brothers, Richard Pahmahmie, Jr., Lawrence Pahmahmie and Alan Pahmahmie all of Mayetta, KS and his grandchildren, Rusty, Hunter, Tesla, Kuo Wee, Patch, KJ, Jordan and Mason. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Merle (1995), Roy (2001) and Albert (2009).

Drum services will be Thursday evening and Friday at the Danceground Building west of Mayetta. Burial will be in Wah-wak-sum Cemetery. The family will greet friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday evening at the Mercer Funeral Home in Holton. To leave a special message for the family, visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

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

Ttiwenmo eginigyén (happy day you were born)

Ganiñtēk (those who are born)

Please welcome

Riley Hayden James
Born: September 20, 2009

Parents: Kenda & Chuck James
Grandparents: Kevin & Linda
Dizmang



Introducing
Annabelle Marie Kearney

Born: November 12, 2009
Height: 19 inches
Weight: 7 lbs., 6 oz.

Parents: Ashely McClammy & David
Kearney
Grandparents: Will & Tami McClammy



Engagement



Vanessa Pahmahmie and Brandon Fincham

Mr. and Mrs. Alan "Boney" Pahmahmie of Mayetta, Kan. announce the engagement of their daughter Vanessa Elizabeth to Brandon Jay Fincham, son of Donald Fincham, Topeka, Kan. and Niki Fincham, Ottawa, Kan.

The couple are graduates of Royal Valley High School. Vanessa graduated from Highland Community College and is presently attending Washburn University while she is employed with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Brandon works for the city of Topeka where they currently reside.

Vanessa's grandparents are the late Richard "Dick" Pahmahmie, Sr. and the late Josie (Wamego) Pahmahmie and the late Gilbert Graner Sr. and Brenda Graner of New Jersey. Brandon's grandparents are the late James Fincham and Marilyn Fincham, Topeka, Kan. and Judy Cogswell, Topeka, Kan.

An August wedding is planned.



Happy 11th Birthday
on January 10
Shobwasnokwe!!

Good job during your
basketball season.

Love you!
Mom



Happy 9th Birthday
on February 21
Bemwetek!!

Congratulations on
your undefeated
football season.

Love you Gwisah!
Mom

Happy Birthday
Mom
(Pom Hubbard)!!

From
your
Girls



Happy Birthday
on January 2
Menonkwe!

Love,
Mom, Koyas, Auntie,
Bro's and Sis's



Happy Birthday
on January 4
Sauzwah!

Love,
Mom, Koyas, Auntie,
Bro's and Sis's



Happy Birthday Dad!

From your Girls and
Grand Kids



Happy Birthday
on January 4
Kitti!

From all your Sisters,
Aunties, Koyas and
Cousins.
We all love you!

Happy Birthday
to
Cissy Rose Martinez
who will be a
quarter of a century old
or
25 years
on
December 7

Love always,
Mom and your Family



Happy Birthday
to
Alvina LaClair
who will be 87 years old
on
December 21



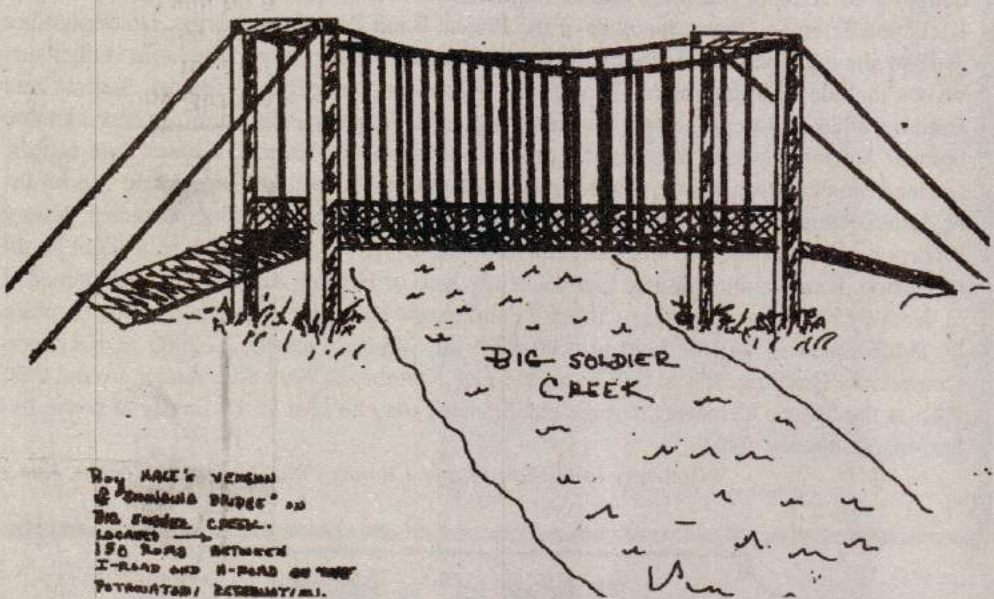
Happy 14th Birthday
Taylor (Meh Meh) Potts
December 23

Love you so very much!

From, Momma, Grandma Lou, Auntie
Allison, Uncle Chris, Arial and Cassie

Some Potawatomi Reservation history

Old Swinging Bridge on Soldier Creek



The sketch above is of an old swinging bridge that Roy Hale, 80, remembers crossing as a boy that was located between I Road and H Road near 150th Road where Big Soldier Creek is located.

Roy drew the sketch from memory and wrote a short narrative on a piece of paper that he has been distributing to other members of the community in hopes that a photograph or other information about the bridge will surface.

Roy wrote that he believes the bridge was built in the late 1920s and that it was destroyed by the 1951 flood.

"I walked across the swinging bridge many times in my youth," Roy said. "There was a large swimming hole just a short distance north of the bridge and a rocky ford crossing where vehicles could travel when the water was low. There was also a nice fishing, hunting and trapping area near Big Soldier Creek."

Roy also remembers hearing stories about how horseback riders would blindfold their horses before they crossed the bridge as a means of getting them across.

Roy was born on October 19, 1929 in his grandmother Pi-Tis (Saw) Blandin's house that was located about 1/2 mile north of where the swinging bridge was located.

Roy attended grade school at the Blandin School House which is still standing and he is pictured in the 1942 class photo, to the

right of this article.

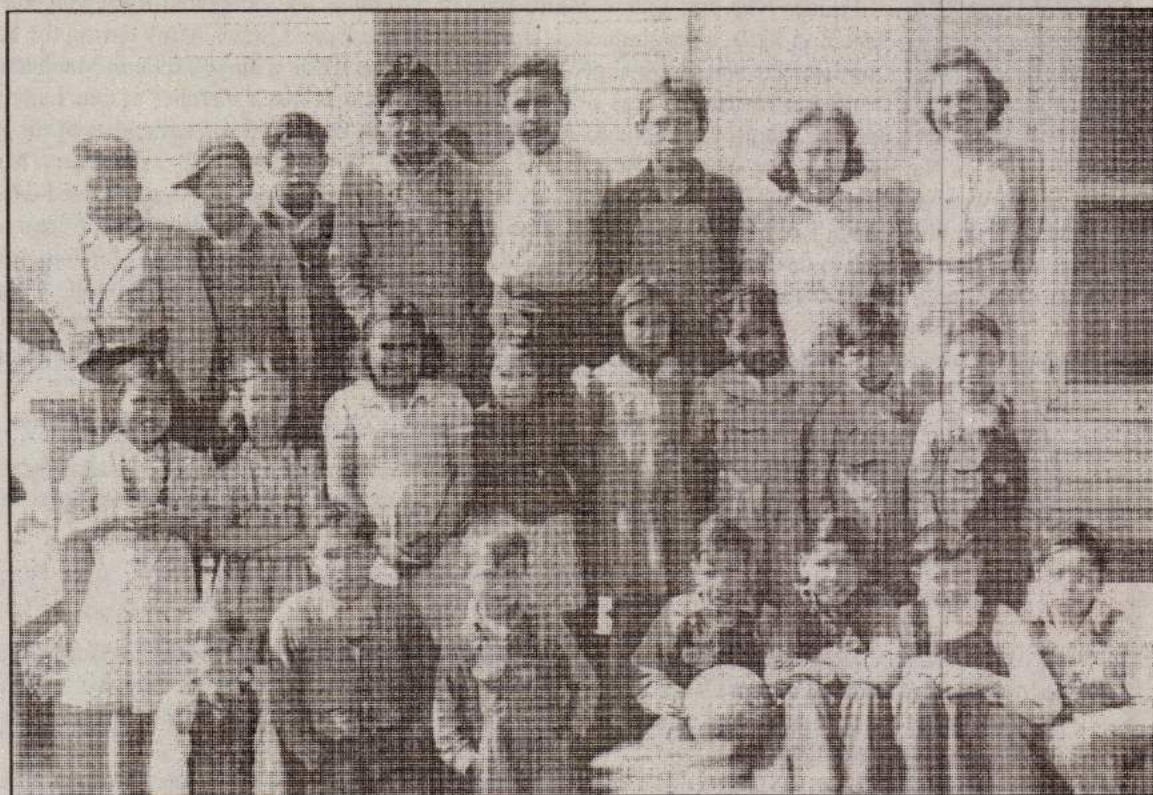
Roy still lives on the reservation and worked for several years as the Director of the We-Ta-Se American Legion Post #410 Department retiring in 2006. He is still active with We-Ta-Se and looks after the Shipshee Cemetery which is at the intersection of K Road and 150 Road.

Lester Arnold (PBPB), another artist and We-Ta-Se member, has also painted a rendering of the swinging bridge that can be seen at a shop called Native Essence Tradin Post in Mayetta, Kan. Eldon Darnell works at the store and is also seeking information about the bridge. He can be contacted at 785.966.3015.



Roy Hale drew the sketch above of the old swinging bridge from memory.

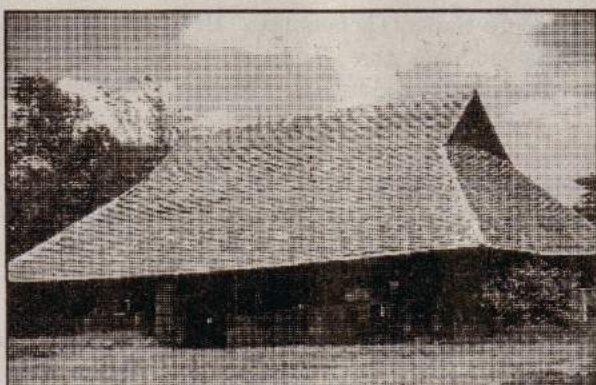
1942 Blandin School Class



Front row, left to right: Irvin Mulanax, Lewis Tuckwin, Lyle Tuckwin, Maurice Pahmahmie, Chris Puckee, Bill Mulanax, and Emery Hale.

Second row, left to right: Augustine Naegno, Ruby Hards, Wilma Jean Tuckwin, Betty Emmett, Christine Emmett, Mary Ange Puckee, Bill Harrison, and Eddie Pahmahmie.

Back row, left to right: James Cadue, Roy Hale, Charles Harrison, Ted Puckee, Alvin Cadue, Paul Tuckwin, Lorraine Chaney, and Lucille Khlar, teacher.



Another structure that held a lot of memories was the old dance ground building that sat west of 142 Road. Leroy Mzhickteno got a photograph of this building before it collapsed sometime in the 1960s.

Alvina (Wamego) LaClair also attended Blandin School and contributed the photo of the class above. Alvina was recently honored as the Mayetta Pioneer Day elder queen and is seen, right, in the parade that was held on October 3. She lives on the reservation.

