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Prairie Band Potawatomi News

FEBRUARY 2001 EDITION

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

“Columbine Style” Attack Averted at Royal Valley High School



Steve Rupert, chief detective with the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, pointed to a modified Chinese SKS assault rifle which was part of several items confiscated in a sheriff's search Friday. The search was conducted at two homes in Hoyt and Mayetta in conjunction with the arrest of three Royal Valley High School students who allegedly were planning an attack on the school. Other items confiscated in-

cluded bomb-making materials, a hand-drawn floor plan of the high school with “strategic locations” marked for placement of explosives, ammunition, knives, white supremacist and Nazi drawings and handbooks for manufacturing and deploying explosives.

Photo courtesy of The Holton Recorder

Confiscated items

Some of the items confiscated by authorities

- Bomb-making materials
- Hand-drawn floor plans of Royal Valley High School with marked locations for explosives.
- A Chinese-made SKS modified assault rifle with bayonet.
- Ammunition.
- White Supremacist and Nazi drawings.
- Confederate flags.
- Fireworks.
- Three black trench coats.
- Camouflage clothing.
- Knives.
- “The Anarchist Cookbook,” a guide to weapons, bomb-making and similar subjects.
- The book “Poor Man's James Bond 2.”
- A bow.
- A bobcat skull with swastikas drawn on it.

By Gary E. Mitchell

The unsettling news of a planned Columbine-style assault on Royal Valley has brought a mixture of responses from the surrounding community—one that includes the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

First, a recap of the events, with excerpts from The Capital Journal and Holton Recorder, that brought national attention to a small community in Northeast Kansas:

The Jackson County Sheriff's department arrested three individuals on charges of conspiracy to commit murder and conspiracy to criminally use explosives. One juvenile was also charged with aggravated intimidation of a witness. These charges were later amended to conspiracy to commit aggravated arson and one youth immediately posted a \$10,000 bond.

Evidently these three students had circulated pictures of the arsenal they had accumulated and another student informed the school hotline of this alleged plan.

On the following day, Friday, February 2, the Jackson County Sheriff's department carried out search warrants on two of the students homes. Seized items included modified assault rifle, a hand-drawn floor plan of the high school including “strategic locations,” recipes and deployment instructions for explosive materials, trench coats and some white supremacist paraphernalia such as Confederate flags and “anarchist” publications.

According to Chief Detective Steve Rupert of the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, the students had planned to “kill everybody in the school...like Columbine, and planned their attack to possibly coincide with a major school event, such as a dance.”

In a newscast on Monday, February 5, the sheriff's department said despite all the white supremacist material, the plot “was not racially motivated.”

These comments sent the wrong message to parents of over 180 Indian children who attend the school system.

Over 75 concerned parents and community members of the Potawatomi reservation were in attendance at the Old Community Building. Members of the tribal police, fire department, the USD 337 Superintendent and one school board member were also present.

The people present expressed fear and a real concern for the safety of all the children at the school.

“Our children and grandchildren go to this school” said one tribal member. “If there are white supremacists and they're going to shoot somebody, they're not going to shoot white kids. The only ones left out there are the Indian kids, and that really concerns me.”

Marceta Reilly, school superintendent, who attended the meeting said later, “They were scared and angry. There was a lot of venting. When it is characterized as “Columbine-style,” you get a real visceral, emotional response.”

Another tribal member told Mrs. Reilly, “We have respect for you

Marceta, we aren't attacking you, we appreciate your concern and we just want our children to be safe.”

Other questions were about how many were involved and who supplied the guns to the children and how the Potawatomi community is right in the middle of this but weren't given the courtesy of being told about this serious situation.

However, Reilly summarized how the district has taken measures to prevent another incident similar to the 1999 attack at Littleton, Colorado.

Reilly said parents in previous community conversations had said, “We don't want our schools to be armed camps. We're a little school.”

Instead of armed police and metal detectors, present security measures included limiting access to buildings, setting up a hotline for school violence tips, hiring a school resource officer and updating the crisis plan.

After the Monday night meeting, Reilly asked the Kansas Highway Patrol to search the high school using bomb-sniffing dogs.

In addition, the school increased its dress-code requirements. Reilly said students wearing long trench coats or clothing with racially motivated writing or symbols will face disciplinary action.

“I heard what (the parents) said, and I took some specific steps to address concerns that they had,” Reilly said. “We did a bomb search so I can look people in the eye and tell them with certainty that there are no bombs or bomb-making materials in the building. We found nothing.”

An editorial of the Capital Journal on February 11, stated:

“Supporters of the three suspects insist it wasn't real and that the incident is being blown out of proportion. Oh? How is that possible? How is it possible to overreact to talk of planning an assault on a school? Law enforcement officers and the public, have an obligation to take such threats seriously.

The only area in which this case has been mishandled was the delay between the arrest of the suspects on Feb. 2 and notification of school officials and parents in the district, which didn't occur until Monday.

Both school officials and parents had a right to know what was going on as soon as the arrests were made. Only then could they make reasonable judgments about whether school should take place, and whether students would be allowed to attend.

As for whether to send students to school on Monday, that's a decision for each parent to make—but they, too, were denied the information necessary to make an informed judgment. The Jackson County Sheriff's Office had made that decision for them, and that isn't right.”

Questions in the Potawatomi community center on why the Tribal police weren't notified since two of the youth lived in the middle of the reservation and why there wasn't any federal charges and Federal Bureau of Investigation involvement.

Solutions are out there, though, as indicated by a tribal members

letter to the editor: “The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation has worked over the past few years to come to an agreement with Jackson County to promote cross-deputization. This agreement would allow officers from both groups to work together in times of need and in secure times. Now is the time to get past the political roadblocks and think of the good of all of the community. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Jackson County need to let the leadership of the county and state know that we need cross-deputization to assure that our reservation and county will remain safe for our children. This is what is most important—that every child and member of this community remain safe.”

The cross-deputization agreement would promote more cooperation between the tribal and county police, but talks have stalled despite intervention on the part of the Office of the United States Attorney in Wichita, Kansas.

Meanwhile, Senate Bill 74 winds through the Kansas Legislature. If passed this bill would allow a tribal police officer who is requested to assist a state, county or city law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer of such an agency, to be considered to be a law enforcement officer of that body and to have the same powers, duties and immunities of that body during the time they are providing assistance.

SB 74 is a better arrangement, for the tribe, only from the standpoint that it can be implemented without an agreement and it applies to any law enforcement agency and not just the Sheriff. In addition, SB74 codifies an existing informal practice of area law enforcement who infrequently request assistance from tribal police.

Quite simply, pooling resources makes sense; especially in light of this recent crisis. But, until that day comes to the reservation, the tribal government has instructed the tribal police to step up their presence on the reservation, especially along bus routes.

Badger Wahwasuck, tribal chairman, summed it up best: “Lets not just protect our Indian children, lets protect all our children.”

Follow-up meeting

On Wednesday afternoon, February 14, 2001, representatives from Royal Valley USD 337, Jackson County Attorney's Office, Jackson County Board of Commissioners, Jackson County Sheriff's Office and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council met to do an after action review regarding the alleged incident involving the Royal Valley High School students who were arrested and charged on allegations of conspiracy to commit aggravated arson. Each agency discussed the need for establishing criteria for communication in critical incidents. They also discussed possible cooperative training activities such as crisis planning, as well as protocols for information release.

Congratulations Milton & Carrie, New Gaming Commissioners
(See Page 2 for Election Stats & Story)

Press release by Tribal Attorneys: Columbine threat

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation February 6, 2001

Along with the rest of the nation, members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation were shocked to learn that local youth had been arrested in connection with a planned "Columbine High School-style assault" in the Hoyt School System. The "White Supremacy" materials and other items seized by the Jackson County Sheriff's Department indicate that the assault plan could have been racially motivated and intended to bring tragic consequences to our community members. While the Potawatomi Nation is relieved that the County Sheriff's Department effected these arrests, triggered by a fortuitous report of the threat through the school system, the Nation is concerned whether the scope of the incident has been fully discovered. What other individuals were involved in this plan, and who supplied these youth with their weapons of destruction? Community members are also concerned whether all appropriate measures have been taken by law enforcement and the school system to protect the safety of our children. A search of the school for bomb materials was not conducted until last night after the Nation raised the issue and offered its support to that critical action. Community members are concerned that the school officials and the Sheriff are trying to return to normal conditions without adequately addressing the problem. Parents and children expressed their fear over children attending school under this cloud of confusion on whether measures have been taken to protect

their safety.

The Potawatomi Nation has attempted to work out a cooperative relationship with the local County Sheriff's Department for several years. The Nation has highly trained police officers and other resources that could be utilized by the Sheriff to support comprehensive, efficient law enforcement services on or near the reservation. Yet, even though some of this drama unfolded within the reservation boundaries, the Sheriff did not make any attempt to contact tribal police to warn them of this potentially dangerous situation or to advise them on action taken. On a broader scale, the Sheriff has for some time refused to enter into a cross deputization agreement with the Nation or to support state legislation that would authorize tribal police to assist county officers in enforcing state law. The Sheriff's concerns about her liability for the acts of tribal law enforcement officers can be met by the Nation's offer to agree to a limited waiver of sovereign immunity and to provide insurance coverage. The County also recently objected to any law enforcement arrangement on the grounds that the arrangement could lend support to the Nation's efforts to reclaim its lands. The County's approach to these issues makes one wonder if the County places a higher value on the taxes collected on that land than our children's lives. The Nation refuses to put money ahead of our community's safety. The Potawatomi Nation will continue to offer its full support and cooperation in providing the best law and order services on the reservation. The Nation's Tribal Council will contact others who have a mutual interest in this issue and solicit their support. The Tribal Council hopes that the County will set aside its narrow political agendas and join with the tribe in providing for the safety of all reservation residents.

Casino management negotiation Update

By Rey Kitchkumme, Tribal Council Member Ryan Ross, Casino Management Committee Member

There have been several significant developments at Harrah's Prairie Band Casino during the past few months. Some of the major issues under consideration include the Tribe's pursuit of a new Management Agreement, the approval of the Year 2001 Budget, and the completion of the casino's financial audit for Fiscal Year 2000.

The Tribal Council, Management Committee Tribal Representatives, and Tribal Attorneys have taken action to secure a new Management Agreement beginning in January 2003, when the current Management Agreement expires. In February 2001, the Tribe submitted a proposed 120-page Management Agreement to Harrah's. Some of the highlights of this new Management Agreement include the following features: a significantly lower management fee; minimum threshold requirements regarding Tribal Employment, and Tribal supervisory, managerial, and directorial positions; a capitalization

policy for fixed assets; and increased contribution for Tribal Gaming Commission regulatory costs; marketing and advertising requirements; non-compete mandates; a higher minimum monthly payment; and budgetary limitations. The Tribal Council intends to provide an update to the General Council in April 2001 regarding these ongoing negotiations and developments.

The Tribal Council also recently approved the Fiscal Year 2001 Budget and Capital Plan. With regard to performance results, unfortunately the casino's gross revenues were 2.2% below the budget plan, and net income was 3.3% below budget. These results reflect budgeted and actual amounts including the 250-machine expansion which was completed in March 2000. On a more positive note, actual net income increased approximately 15% from 1999 to 2000.

The Tribal Council has maintained communication with the Tribal Gaming Commission, Management Committee Representatives, and Tribal Attorneys regarding issues concerning the casino. The Tribal Council hopes to keep the General Council up-to-date regarding any new material developments, and is working proactively to ensure the General Council's best interests.

B^Pwa Kik (Skunk Hill) - Wood County, Wisconsin Looking back in recent times.

By Rey Kitchkumme Council Member & Land Officer

1837 Potawatomis lived in the scattered bands throughout Wood County
1838
1860's Historic records reveal a continuous Potawatomi presence on Skunk Hill
1914 Potawatomis purchase portions of the land on the hill creating a small village
1930's Potawatomi lose land ownership due to not meeting tax levies
Dec 1999 Wood County announced its plans to cut trees on Skunk Hill
Jan 2000 Wood County Parks & Forestry Committee opened bids for a select cut of Skunk Hill trees
Feb 2000 Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation elected officials (Kansas) are notified of the Skunk Hill - Powers Bluff County Park Select Timber Sale
Apr 2000 Native American Action Committee (NAAC) formed to stop the select timber sale. Committee members represented the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Ho Chunk Nation, and Forrest County Potawatomis
Aug 2000 The Wood County Parks & Forestry Officials unanimously approved canceling the proposed select timber cut
Sep 2000 The NAAC members agree to disband having achieved its goal of stopping the select timber cut
Oct 2000 Descendents of Powers Bluff (local Indian grassroots committee) forms and joins new ad hoc "Long Range Planning Committee". The committee has representation from Wisconsin State Historical Society, Friends of Powers Bluff, Concerned Citizens for Powers Bluff, and Wood County Parks & Forestry County Officials. The Planning committee goals are to:

- Maintain existing and develop new day-use areas
- Preserve and expand winter sports opportunities
- Protect archeological and culturally significant sites
- Preserve and protect natural areas
- Find alternative funding sources

As stated by two Descendents of Powers Bluff (DPB) members Wood County Officials are promoting a timber cut on the north side of Skunk Hill to expand a tubing run. They say the current single tubing toll line is unable to accommodate the foot traffic returning to the top of the hill. Changing the single toll rope to a double rope can alleviate the overcrowding safety concerns. It continues to be an uphill battle and the DPB prefer no cutting at all but understands they may have to a compromise. Although, all Indians desire not disturbing the sacred grounds through out the Skunk Hill area. The Parks & Forestry Officials have asked Mr. Brian Snowball - Ho Chunk and DPB member to select trees that could be cut. Mr. Snowball does not want to do this. He feels this could divide him from the Indian community. He wishes that they just leave Skunk Hill alone.

Having Been the Chairperson of the Native American Action Committee I understand the complex issues and adversity the Descendents of Powers Bluff are faced with. I know their success may be measured on being steadfast in what they want as local Indian community members. There are many Wood County citizens and groups that have and will help gain public respect for these sacred grounds as well as the rare tree and plant life that encompasses the hill.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is prepared to send me back to Wisconsin to help our tribal members in the protection of our sacred grounds if they choose to go this route again. The Nation was please that the NAAC was able to stop the first select cut and has allowed the local Indian grass roots committee to continue working out their desires of how they want the direction of the negotiations to go.

If the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is asked to return to Wisconsin its Tribal Council will honor the request by only representing its own Nation. It is not unusual to experience a lack of funding in these types of endeavors. The Native American Action Committee was not an exception to that rule. The PBPN funded a great deal of the administrative cost when the group was active in the year 2000. As a result, our Nation is willing to "foot the bill" but on their terms if involved in the future. Of course PBPN prefers that all Indian Nations be involve financially, but this still remains to be seen.

Landslide Win for Milton; Carrie Sweats to the End

By Doris A. Potts

"And the winner is _____." Yeah! Right. Sure, Election staff wishes it were all so simple—to just give the official announcement of all tabulating. But what really happens is one long day of observing, ensuring that they've tended to all the little details involved in Election Day. It was actually a day of nerves and a lot of chow, as tribal members and invited guests indulged in eating from 9 a.m. right up to 6 p.m. Everyone maximally enjoyed the availability of this food on this festive day.

This day is so important because "you, the people" have exercised your power; you've cast your vote. That is power because you have "the power to put people in office and you have the power to take them out." In view of that thought, you have struggled with this vote, ensuring that you checked your ballot for the best candidate for office. Because you are paying their salary and you want your money's worth.

Milton LaClair came through with flying colors as proven with his numbers. He ran away early on and didn't look back, succeeding the win with 347 votes (22% of all official votes cast). The rest of the candidates experienced anxiety as the count went back and forth for several of the them. But in the end, Carrie O'Toole came ahead with the win, finishing with 196 votes (12% of all official votes cast).

The finale of all of this day's flurry came on March 1st with the Swearing In Ceremony. They are officially new Gaming Commissioners for the next 4 years with a major job ahead of them as they oversee the regulation of our Nation's dynamic enterprise, Harrah's Prairie Band Casino. There's a lot of legalities involved in that position as all Gaming Commissioners can vouch. We, at the Government Center, extend our sincere best to Carrie and Milton.

Official Gaming Commissioner Election Results

Dennis Degand.....163
Joyce Guerrero.....157
Chago Hale.....160
Ronald Jessepe.....83
Milton LaClair.....347
Bernadette Lewis.....94
Mickey Martinez.....92
Roland Matchie.....110
Tom Ogden.....51
Carrie O'Toole.....192
Galen Steward.....94

Election Board Tallies Gaming Commissioner Votes

A reminder from the Election Board, the Enrollment and Per Capita staff to all Tribal Members: send in the necessary paperwork should your name change because of marriage, remarriage, divorce or you take your maiden name back. We encountered a few problems with names in this election. The Enrollment office needs to be notified when there has been a change in residence, a legal name change or when a death has occurred. Contact the Enrollment office first with your legal documentation because this is where you enroll as a Tribal Member. The Enrollment office will then notify the Election Board and Per Capita Office to update their records. Each office strives to maintain a current record of all tribal members and we need your assistance to help us out. Thank you.

Of the 2,035 registered voters, 811 votes counted were valid.

DISQUALIFIED VOTES:

- 12 No voter's certificates with ballot
1 Ballot who voted for 3 candidates
2 Ballots were blank
2 Voter Certificates only, no ballots were sent
6 Ballots were not in Ballot Envelope
4 Ballots ineligible - 2 ballots and 2 voter certificates in same envelope
4 Return mail, incorrect address of registered voter
1 Blank Voter Certificate - No Signature
32 Total Disqualified to Vote
- 8 Ballots received in mail Feb. 26, 2001 - TOO LATE

Past Gaming Commission Elections:
1998 - 614 Voted
2000 - 891 Voted

MILTON & CARRIE

Up-to-the minute Reporter, Mary Young, captured the two winning Gaming Commissioners moments after the unofficial announcement of their win, inquiring "How do you feel about the win?" Carrie responded with "Excited and nervous. I didn't campaign much cause I didn't want to make promises I couldn't keep. I appreciate all of the votes." On the more confident and humorous note, Milton responded with "Thanks to the ballot box stuffers. It's a joke. Thanks for having confidence in me." (Milton added the joke part because Mary was madly capturing every little word without realizing what Milton had just said.) Of course, it hit Mary and she burst into laughter.

enough. I will strive to work smarter to better meet the needs of a Commissioner. I will do these things to see that the money earned by our gaming operations goes to our Tribal business needs and to you."

Milton's work experience includes police work as a dispatcher, worked for the federal government in areas one might describe as social work. Currently working as Gaming Commissioner, Milton feels he has a grasp on both politics and bureaucracy problems.

Summarizing up Carrie's past work experience. She has worked for the tribe at Head Start as Nutrition Aide, Tribal Bingo in several different positions, Housing Authority as Occupancy Specialist, served under Chairwoman Mamie Rupnicki as Administrative Assistant, and currently serves as Tribal Government Center Receptionist. She also works part-time at the Casino.

Carrie is married with 4 children. As a mother, she stressed that she sees a great need in educating our members for future leadership roles within the Nation.

Just to recap a little about both incoming Commissioners, Milton has been serving as an appointed Gaming Commissioner for the past 3 years. Milton says "Working hard is not always



Milton LeClair and Carrie O'Toole prior to the Gaming Commissioner swearing in ceremony on March 1, 2001.

NEWSPAPER INFORMATION

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General Council Meeting Summary January 2001

By Doris A. Potts

Newly appointed Chair Badger Wahwasuck opened meeting followed immediately with invocation by Smokey McKinney.

Chair Wahwasuck briefed General Council on the Shab-eh-nay land claim status. This has been an ongoing research land claim process which began in 1997. This land claim is property consisting of 1,280 acres located in Dekalb County approximately sixty miles southwest of Chicago, Illinois, formerly assigned by the Government to the Shab-eh-nay Band.

Chair Wahwasuck announced that Tribal Council had just received an opinion from the Office of the Solicitor, US Department of Interior, the Associate Solicitor-Indian Affairs concluding *"that the land reserved for the Shab-eh-nay Band by the 1829 Treaty of Prairie du Chien constitute a treaty reservation and that the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is the sole successor in the interest to the rights of the Shab-eh-nay Band under that treaty."*

Further, *"When the Shab-eh-nay Band merged politically, governmentally, with the Prairie Band Potawatomi at Council Bluffs, it conveyed to the Prairie Band any treaty rights the Shab-eh-nay Band held at the time. Treaty rights are held by tribes, political entities and only those rights. Although individuals may descend from Chief Shab-eh-nay, they hold no rights as individuals based on descendency. Individual descendants who are members of other tribes hold no rights. Indeed Chief Shab-eh-nay has descendants not only members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, but also of other Potawatomi and some Ottawa tribes. It is as members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation that the Shab-eh-nay descendants and all other members of the Prairie Band legally enjoy the tribal benefits of the Treaty of Prairie du Chien. Thus, the Prairie Band is the rightful beneficiary of the lands originally reserved for Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band under the 1829 Treaty of Prairie du Chien."*

Chairman Wahwasuck concluded that they have exces-

sive work ahead of them with the state of Illinois attorneys and Washington, DC attorneys. *"A major factor in obtaining the Interior Department's support has been the firm position of the Council in all its dealings that although it is exploring options for the ultimate use of the reservation, the first priority is establishment of the Tribe's right to the land established."*

Note: The written report prepared by Morisset, Schlosser, Ayer & Joswaik Law Office was available for general council membership. Quotes above are taken directly from that report.

Later in day, Jim Potter stresses to the General Membership that this Shobney land issue is for our information only. *"the council is considering dealing with a media relations group in trying to make sure that this whole picture is cast in the right light. So I'm not telling you not to talk about it, but it's information that is provided to you as members of this nation. And it's just basically for you."*

Most of the entire meeting was information sharing as there was only **two motions** that were successfully passed during the entire day. **The first was to insert the Constitution Report immediately after the Treasurer's Report.**

Next was the Treasurer's Report presented by Jim Potter. Per lengthy discussion that followed the Treasurer's Report, the general consensus among PB Nation members was that this was the best report given to date from the Finance Office. John Crites, Comptroller, and Jon Boursaw, Executive Director, was available for technical assistance questioning.

Next, Larry Cook, CFE, gave an account of what their offices, McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, were proposing to do in the 3 year audit for the PB Potawatomi Nation. The 2 firms, McGladrey & Pulley and Clarence M. Kelley & Associates have partnered to work on this project. It was apparent that this project was requiring 2 areas of expertise--1) accounting and internal control review and 2) investigation & fraud examination to pursue whatever allegations have been raised up to this date and to investigate any possible fraudulent act or misconduct that comes up.

They will be conducting a needs assessment which was described as going out and looking at the available information, talking to people, looking at records and determining where their efforts are needed,

where they need to follow up on certain allegations. This needs assessment will determine the scope, priority and specific area to be examined during the subsequent fraud investigation and internal control review.

Once this needs assessment is completed, Tribal Council will determine when the next phase will begin, the internal control review.

Thomas Wabnum gave a report on what he proposes to do for the Nation. He explained his background, Bureau of Indian Affairs for 20 years as Budget Analyst, assisting tribes in budget format development that is customized for their specific needs, enabling them to control spending and assures prudent spending. Further, he is not really going to do a budget for the Tribal Council, but to show them a format of the budgeting so we can do a lot of budget planning. We would always be ahead in our budget planning as he proposed to format it after the federal government, 3-years span. We would always be 2 years ahead of actual spending.

The General Council would always have their input on these budgets because it would be ahead of schedule. The people would always have time to question these expenditures before they are made; that would eliminate a lot of mistrust. This is a planning tool

Chair Wahwasuck supported integrating this method into the Nation's system. Treasurer Potter explained that we have to *"find a method to integrate the accounting software that the tribe used, which we just recently implemented a new form of software referred to as MIP. We have to integrate that with the Excel spreadsheet so we can transfer the data from one system to this budget tracking system."*

Small discussion ensued of Thomas Wabnum's pay rate. He clarified that this time is was minimal due to him coming this way anyway. In the initial General Council, it was stated that his services would cost nothing. Next, there was discussion of \$19,000. Tom explained that the PBPN would be responsible for only half of his incurred charges.

After Tom's closing statements, Badger stated that "we're going to be taking all the vehicles out of individual programs and putting them under one department which will be fleet management. And that way, each program as they need a car will either sign it out on a daily basis or if they have it—if they use it in their program for the entire time, they will still have to sign car out a let fleet management know where that car is at all times and implement a better record system in there."

Venida Chenault, Constitution Chair, gave a detailed Constitution Update at the General Council Meeting. She also gives a written update in this newspaper. Her presentation won't be detailed herein as a more in-depth written report can be read in this edition.

Roy Ogden reported on his Committee which fell apart for numerous reasons. He pleaded for help, requesting people to sign up for the Judicial Review Committee. If you have an interest, please contact Roy Ogden or Lysette Morris, Roy's secretary.

Next, Jackie Mitchell, Council Member, gave her report on Tribal Council Wage Comparison. Summarizing up that report, we are right in line with the going rate. There are many factors to consider when comparing salaries which she emphasized. If you are interested in this segment, please contact Jackie and she will provide you with that report as that report does contain other tribe's figures which will not be publicly displayed.

Following this report and much discussion, there was a fruitless attempt at lifting the Tribal Council's salary freeze. This was a lengthy discussion that lead to very little resolution.

Angie Wahweotten had a concern for what Administrative Leave is and who is allowed to give that or declare it. It is felt that we have had way too many days off of work which is costly to the Nation as whole.

Through research, I am providing an answer to that question. This is taken directly from the Personnel Policies of the Nation.

Page 26, L. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES, 2 Administrative leave may be taken to attend Traditional functions when such is approved by the Program Director and Tribal Council.

There have been many shut downs due the weather conditions and the following policy addresses that. Page 27., M. INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY, 1. In the event of inclement weather, you should watch and/or listen to the t.v. for announcements about the possible closing of local school and road conditions. It is the position of the Prairie Band Potawatomi employment system that your safety, to and from work be in safe conditions. If the employee decides it is too dangerous for their safety to travel to work, the employee shall call the Community Fire Department to ask the dispatcher (designee will be from Road and Bridge Dept.) if a close-down day has been announced. The Chair or Vice-Chair will call for a close-down day. In that event, the employee will re-

ceive administrative pay for that day. But if the designee hasn't called for close-down day, then employees must use annual leave or leave without pay if the employee feels it is not safe to come to work that day. Employees of Headstart program should refer to their own weather policy.

Brenda Nozackum went into a lengthy discussion of a personal problem she has been having with Housing Authority, requesting Tribal Council action/support. Tribal Council and General Council listened and advised her to bring her issue to Tribal Council and they would set up a meeting between involved parties.

At the end of the day, Ryan Dyer discussed investments. Paraphrasing sections, "I think what we need to do is we need to come up with a general investment plan such as what risks are we willing to take, how much money would we like to invest in, you know, risk ventures (based on past performance). I think that if we had multiple investments with different companies, that it will also involve separate management fees that would tax our funds, our investment funds that we have available to us. I know right now I think we are at five and a half percent average interest that we make on our investments. And I know that in the past year the average investor is making 14 percent. This is millions of dollars that we're losing by not investing smart. I think that the key thing—another key—two key things that we need to look at when we're looking at investing is we need to ask questions before they even come in here. Are they socially responsible in their investments, do we want to invest our money in companies that are detrimental to other tribes or detrimental to the environment? What I'd like to see is a research and good general investment plan presented by the General—by the tribal council to the general council at the April meeting, something concrete that we can look at and, you know, a proposal that we would be presented to us of the risks that we would be willing to take, the companies that we would be willing to invest in and things like this. So I would like to make a motion to have the tribal council present us at the April meeting with a general investment plan."

Badger clarified motion, "I want to make sure everyone understands. This motion is to have tribal council present an investment plan at the April meeting, tribal council to determine the risk factor and the amount to go with high risk, to low

risk." "All in favor? All opposed? Five opposed. Motion carries".

It was then determined by Chair Wahwasuck that the quorum had been lost; meeting adjourned.

Notice: Effective 06-08-2000, Human Resources implemented additional Administrative Leave clarifications. Stop by there for clarifications or phone Rubina Eeteyan at 785-966-3962.



Chair Badger Wahwasuck presents \$200,000.00 check to Superintendent Marceta Reilly, USD #337. Council members in background - Steve Ortiz, Jackie Mitchell, Gary Mitchell, Jim Potter, and Roy Ogden. (See article for details)

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Tribal Council recently announced its plans to make a monetary contribution of \$200,000 to the Royal Valley School District. Realized after months of discussion between the Nation and the school district, the funding project will help serve the district's 913 students from the Hoyt/Mayetta area; 180 of these are Native American.

Council chairperson Badger Wahwasuck says the offering to USD 337 is characteristic of the Nation's continued involvement in the education of local youth. Both the Nation's vision statement and value statement emphasize education as one of the elements essential for healthy development and personal success. "Education," Wahwasuck states, "forms the cornerstone of our values. We are doing what we can to ensure every student has the opportunity to reach his or her educational goals."

The Tribal Council believes quality education and child safety go hand-in-hand. In light of current safety concerns, the Nation asserts that it is willing to make assets available to ensure safety for all children, regardless of their background. "We will do whatever it takes to create a secure learning environment," said Wahwasuck. "And that means a cooperative effort between the Nation and local government. It's essential now that we pool our resources and work together."

The Nation's contribution is timely given the district's current financial situation. Although able to make "strategic cuts" in this year's budget, District Superintendent Marceta Reilly couldn't extend the cuts into the 2001-2002 budget. An additional \$200,000 will be required for ongoing funding to maintain district buses and vehicles, technology systems, and maintenance.

As a sovereign nation with a tribal government, the PBP Nation has a unique government-to-government relationship with federal, state, and local governments. The PBP Nation provides over \$10 million of government services to the reservation and surrounding area. Funding for these services is available in part from gaming revenue generated by the Nation's casino. Some of these services include law enforcement, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Nation also funds child care, education, environmental protection projects, road and bridge construction and maintenance, a youth program and many other tribal government services.

The PBP Nation currently resides on 121 square miles in Jackson County, Kansas. The tribal membership totals nearly 5,000 with over 500 living on the reservation. Harrah's Prairie Band Casino, owned by the Nation, was constructed on the reservation in 1997 and employs approximately 1,041 people in an area with traditionally high unemployment rates. Close to 40 percent of the casino workforce are Jackson County residents. Experts estimate the income impact of the casino on Jackson and Shawnee Counties, and, to a lesser extent, all of Kansas, is \$39,000,000. Direct payment to employee households reaches \$25,000,000.



Tribal Council during opening remarks at the General Council on January 20, 2001. L to R: Roy Ogden (Council member), Jackie Mitchell (Council member), Gary Mitchell (Vice-Chair), Badger Wahwasuck (Chair), Steve Ortiz (Sec.), Jim Potter (Trea.), Rey Kitchkumme (Council member).

The following list of Resolutions are from August 15, 2000 to February 16, 2001. For further information regarding resolutions and minutes of either General Council Meetings or Tribal Council Meetings contact the Secretary's Office at 785/966-4014.

This list of Resolutions is intended only for Tribal Members use and not to be published on the Internet or any other publications without written consent from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council.

PBP-2000-162	Great Plains Indian Gaming Res#00-2/Concurring	8/15/2000
PBP-2000-163	Great Plains Indian Gaming Res#00-2/Support of	8/15/2000
PBP-2000-164	Enrollment/Approval 9 eligible names	8/15/2000
PBP-2000-165	Contract/A.H.R.S. Construction/Fire Station	8/15/2000
PBP-2000-165A	Contract amendment/A.H.R.S. Const./Fire Station	8/24/2000
PBP-2000-166	Attorney Contract/Frieden, Haynes, Forbes/Election	8/22/2000
PBP-2000-167	Adoption Case #001-2000	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-168	Appointment to IHS Board/Arlene Wahwasuck	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-169	Elder Duplexes	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-170	Bartlett & West 2000 Rd. Surfacing Project	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-171	Ks Health Foundation/Breast/Cervical Cancer Proj.	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-172	Child Care Construction Contract	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-173	Electrical R.O.W. Easement/142 nd Housing Proj.	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-174	BIA Branch of Wildland Fire Mgmt./Agreement	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-175	Rescinds Resoulution PBP-2000-129	9/12/2000
PBP-2000-176	Land Purchase/Goodrich Property/62 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-177	Land Purchase/Miller Property/80 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-178	Land Purchase/Reamer Property/80 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-179	Land Purchase/Aubert Property/160 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-180	Land Purchase/Slattery Property/160 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-181	Land Purchase/Zibel Property/40 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-182	Land Purchase/Zibel Property/40 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-183	Land Purchase/Ramage Property/40 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-184	Land Purchase/Elmer Property/70 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-185	Land Purchase/Sudbeck Property/80 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-186	Land Purchase/Kemper Property/40 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-187	Amendment to Title 4, Section 4-9-6	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-189	Attorney Contract/Extension/Robert B. Porter	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-190	Resignation acceptance of Mamie Rupnicki	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-191	Land Purchase/Zibel A/40 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-192	Land Purchase/Zibel B/80 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-193	Land Purchase/Zibel A/80 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-194	Land Purchase/Zibel B/80 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-195	Land Purchase/Zibel C/80 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-196	Land Purchase/Zibel/160 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-197	Land Purchase/Nocktonick/ 80 acres	9/27/2000
PBP-2000-198	Bingo MICS	10/12/2000
PBP-2000-199	Contract/Dorsey & Whitney, LLP/for Housing Plan	10/17/2000
PBP-2000-200	B&W Engineering Contract	10/17/2000
PBP-2000-201	BRB Construction Contract	10/17/2000
PBP-2000-202	10/4/2000 Tribal Code Supplements	10/17/2000
PBP-2000-203	Delegate to NCAI/Jim Potter, Treasurer	10/26/2000
PBP-2000-204	Delegate to NCAI/Alternate Roy Ogden, Member	10/26/2000
PBP-2000-205	Membership due to NCAI	11/07/2000
PBP-2000-206	Appointments to Potawatomi Planning Commission	11/07/2000
PBP-2000-207	No Resolution assigned to this number	
PBP-2000-208	No Resolution assigned to this number	
PBP-2000-209	Law & Order Code -Amending Sec. 1—6-4	11/21/2000

Reforming Our Constitution: Why Should We?

(Submitted by Venida Chenault) vchenault@rossl.cc.haskell.edu

In October 1999, a resolution was passed at the General Council meeting, to form a committee to study the constitution and to make recommendations for change. Seven members of the tribe were appointed to serve on the Constitution Committee and have been working since that time studying our tribal constitution, researching the role and importance of constitutions in tribes across the nation and identifying ways the constitution could strengthen the government of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Constitutional reform is often not an issue most people are concerned about. We often don't realize how important our constitution is until a crisis occurs in our government. For any government, tribal or otherwise, the constitution provides a framework for the form of government that will be used and the rules that will be used in that government and the decisions made. Constitutions create governments.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, like many other tribes, adopted their original constitution as the result of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. Although modifications were made to strengthen our constitution in the 1970's, much of our existing constitution is very similar to the original IRA constitutions. It has been argued the intent of IRA constitutions was to consolidate the decision-making powers of tribes into the hands of a small group of people. The "tribal council" form of government in IRA constitutions was the way in which power was shifted from the people to tribal councils. This allowed outside parties who wanted to "negotiate" with tribes for our resources to get approval from a tribal council instead of going to the people of the nation. It's much easier to get a majority vote from seven than a majority of 1,200.

Some argue the IRA form of government and constitutions has served tribal people well and should be left as is. Others point out the growing number of cases across the nation in which elected tribal officials have misused their power and authority and

ripped tribes off. Many tribes recognize the lack of accountability and effectiveness of these IRA governments is the source of the problem. Often times, tribal people deal with the problem by recalling and ousting elected officials who overstep their boundaries. Too often, we fail to realize that the real problem is in the structure of our government, or the way our government is organized.

Approximately 200 tribes continue using the IRA constitutions, however about a dozen tribes across

the nation are engaged in reforming their constitutions. Tired of ongoing problems in their tribal governments that prevent them from developing, these tribes are engaged in serious review of their constitutions to protect tribes from problems of the past, as well as to protect tribes from future threats. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation has joined in these reforms efforts.

In January 2001, the Constitution Committee released a *Proposed New Constitution*, to be reviewed by all voting members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. This proposed constitution attempts to address the following: 1) redistributing power to three branches of government (executive, judicial and legislative) instead of one branch (tribal council), 2) promoting accountability and effectiveness in government 3) increasing opportunities for public participation in the government 4) strengthening the election process and 5) removing the Department of Interior from decision-making roles in tribal government.

The *Proposed New Constitution* is a draft constitution that has been proposed to address the issues identified above. Through a series of educational meetings and distribution of the constitution to eligible voters, the Constitution Committee is seeking comments from tribal members on the constitution. The comments that are provided will be used to revise the proposed new constitution so that our constitution is one that the tribal members support. Once the review and drafting process is completed, the document will be sent to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for a Secretarial Election. At this time, a vote will be held on adopting or rejecting the proposed new constitution.

Tribal members are encouraged to attend an educational session and to ask questions about this constitution. Remember, the tribal constitution determines what kind of government we're going to have and how it will operate, and so it is an important issue. It

is important that people take time to understand this document and the work that has gone into it so that when it comes time to cast your vote on whether we should reform our constitution; you will be ready to vote. In an effort to respond to some of the questions raised, we will use the tribal paper to respond to some of the more commonly asked questions.

Commonly Asked Questions About the Proposed Constitution:

Q: Are you making a bigger government?

A: The size of the government may increase and some positions will be shifted but it's hard to say what the final picture will look like until we get feedback from tribal members on what they want in a new constitution. Positions for the existing tribal council and key administrative positions would be divided between the executive branch and legislative branch. New positions would be included for the legislative branch but the numbers and compensation

PBP-2000-210	Tribal Council appointment-Badger Wahwasuck-Chair	12/04/2000
PBP-2000-211	IHS Board appointment/Steve Ortiz, Secretary	12/05/2000
PBP-2000-212	IHS Steering Committee appointment/Steve Ortiz & Arlene Wahwasuck	12/05/2000
PBP-2000-213	Attorney contract/Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse	12/05/2000
PBP-2000-214	Delegate to MNI-SOSE/Gary Mitchell, Vice-Chair	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-215	Delegate Alternate/MNI-SOSE/Roy Ogden, Member	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-216	Delegate to NIGA/Badger Wahwasuck, Chairperson	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-217	Employee leasing agreement w/Harrah's for Bingo	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-218	Land Lease #2920 - PTT 30	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-219	Land Lease #2947 - PTT 1	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-220	Land Lease #2950 - PTT 18	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-221	Land Lease #2951 - PTT 25	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-222	Land Lease #2952 - PTT 20	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-223	Land Lease #2953 - PTT 30	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-224	Land Purchase, Jungman Property	12/19/2000
PBP-2000-225	Agreement Termination/Mathis Group, Inc.	12/28/2000

End of Resolutions for 2000

Resolutions 2001

PBP-2001-001	Contract increase/Attorney's Frieden, Haynes	01/09/2001
PBP-2001-002	Insurance Premium/First Americans/Casino	01/09/2001
PBP-2001-003	Land into U.S. Trust/Hall Land	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-004	Land into U.S. Trust/Bailey (2000)	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-005	Land into U.S. Trust/Neilson Land	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-006	Gaming Contract/Konami Rider	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-007	Land purchase/J.Jacobson/80 acres	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-008	Land purchase/L.Daugherty/120 acres	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-009	Land purchase/R. Bausch/160 acres	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-010	Land purchase/K. Green/76 acres	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-011	Land purchase/H. Klein/80 acres	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-012	Land purchase/622 acres	01/23/2001
PBP-2001-013	Pending Approval	
PBP-2001-014	Pending Approval	
PBP-2001-015	Judges, Police, & Fire Chief/no Tribal Employment w/Felony	02/01/2001
PBP-2001-016	Pending Approval	
PBP-2001-017	Pending Approval	
PBP-2001-018	Pending Approval	
PBP-2001-019	Pending Approval	
PBP-2001-020	Concurring Resolution/MICS changes	02/14/2001
PBP-2001-021	Support Intertribal/GIS Council	02/14/2001
PBP-2001-022	Land to Trust	02/16/2001
PBP-2001-023	Cromaglass Corporation Settlement	02/16/2001

DAN DYER, CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE MEMBER—

My name is Daniel Dyer. I just want to make a general observation that a lot of the concerns that the general council has brought up today is that there are mechanisms and procedures in the proposed new constitution that would eliminate a lot of this political backbiting and infighting. I just wanted to make the observation that the proposed constitution could adequately deal with all of the problems that we face today. Thank you."

are flexible. For example, we've recommended that tribal members have access to an attorney also. This attorney or People's Advocate could be hired on either a full-time or part-time basis.

Q: Will the changes in the size and structure cost more?

A: It's also hard to measure the cost at this time because again, we need input from the members on the concept or ideas we're proposing. There may be an increase in cost of the government because the responsibilities and work are going to be distributed across the branches of government. In thinking about cost, it's also important to ask how much does inefficiency cost in the existing government and will it be worth it to have a government that is more efficient.

Q: I heard that senior citizens will no longer have a vote in this government. Is that true?

A: Senior citizens will have more of a voice in the new government. We've recommended that three seats in the Legislative Council be set aside for seniors in the tribe so that they have a voice in decisions being made about issues. In addition, we wanted to make sure that the voice and wisdom of our seniors is a part of the way our government operates. Senior citizens will vote for their own representatives to the Legislative Council to make sure they have representatives who they support and who will speak on their behalf.

Q: I thought constitutions were better if they were simple to read. The new constitution is longer and hard to read.

A: The new constitution is different in many ways from our existing constitution, but you'll notice as you go through it, that we have pulled from our existing constitution as needed. The language is based on legal principles in many ways, so it can be hard to read at times. While simple constitutions are sometimes easier to read, they often don't give us enough direction when a crisis occurs. When this happens, our constitution is subject to interpretation by others, which weakens us, as well as our sovereignty. We want a constitution that will fit for our tribe, but one that will be able to withstand the legal challenges and threats that are 100 years down the road. We encourage you to continue reading it and to attend the education meetings where we can explain the pieces you have questions about.

Q: Why is this constitution needed?

A: There are many answers to this question. The one that comes to mind immediately is that the existing constitution no longer fits who we have become. It's like growing out of our clothes and needing something that will fit us now, and that will allow some room for growth or shrinkage. Our existing constitution has problems that we believe interfere with the operation of our government. Our government is charged with caring for all our resources and in many ways, our constitution sets up our government up to fail. In the past ten years, we have grown tremendously in our population and the resources we have available to us, yet we are relying on a form of government and a constitution that created this government, that no longer has the ability to handle these changes. Our clothes no longer fit us.

tion that would eliminate a lot of this political backbiting and infighting. I just wanted to make the observation that the proposed constitution could adequately deal with all of the problems that we face today. Thank you."

Q: I agree with some of the changes but not others. Who do I tell?

A: In the briefing book for the proposed new constitution, there is a comment form that can be used to let us know what you agree with and what you don't agree with. We encourage you to use this form and to add on additional sheets of paper if the comment form isn't long enough. We will compile all the comments and identify what the major concerns and recommendations are so that we can revise and include your feedback into the proposed new constitution. In the next six months to one year, we'll distribute a final draft that will then be sent into the BIA so that a tribal vote can be taken.

If you are an enrolled tribal member and would like to request a copy of the Proposed New Constitution, please contact: Doris Potts, Prairie Band Potawatomi Government Center, PO Box 116, Mayetta, KS 66509.

TRIBAL MEMBER ATTORNEY SUPPORTS TIME FOR CHANGE OF CONSTITUTION

The following words are taken directly from General Council Meeting transcript:

"My name is John Wabaunsee. I live in Wisconsin and the snow is deep up there right now. And hopefully it will be melted by June. I guess I wanted to say that the constitution that the tribe is currently operating on was drafted in 1979, and I was involved. I was an attorney then—I'm still an attorney, but I was an attorney that was involved in drafting the 1979 constitution. And it was the result of the tribal politics of the '70's when basically we had to tribal government for almost six years, five years. The tribe was deadlocked because we were using an old 1940 constitution. But that 1979 constitution that we're now operating under was designed for a tribe that did not have a huge casino, that did not have large numbers of enterprises; that was basically for tribes before they became major economic institutions within their communities. I think that we had a budget of \$50,000/\$100,00 because that's all the money the tribe had. We had no ability to acquire property. So I think it is time to change the constitution. And there are some good things in there, and I've been reading through it. There's things like legislation that I'm going to be writing to the committee. But I do believe that it's time to draft a constitution for a tribe that has the kind of budget that we've been talking about earlier today."

From the desk of...

Council Member, Rey Kitchkumme

My congratulations to Carrie O'Toole - newly elected Prairie Band Potawatomi Gaming Commissioner and Milton LeClair for winning a second term as an elected Gaming Commissioner. Keep up the good work Milton and may you and the other commissioners continue to regulate our gaming endeavors to bring equitable over-site, fairness, and prosperity to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The next election will be held in July 2002, for positions of Tribal Council Chairperson, Secretary, and (1) Council Member.

Land Management Department (LMD)

The following is a brief summary of tribal land acquisitions and revenues for year 2000. 8,470.35 acres have been purchased, Revenues generated from land leases is \$70,292.81, the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) rental payments produced \$34,576.29, and Farm Program Payments brought in \$5,819.00. The LMD has implemented other revenue generating projects. Our annual report will elaborate on each project and revenue numbers will have accumulated by then and hard numbers can be shared with the Nation.

Property Loan Program

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is coming up on the one-year mark of offering its Property Loan Program to interested tribal members wanting to purchase real estate in the Jackson County area. To date twelve loans have been approved. The loans have ranged from \$35,000. to \$114,000. After reaching the program's anniversary date in early May 2001, it will be reassessed and modified. The changes may include adding other counties and changes to the annual interest rate, to mention a few. Look for these changes in the next edition of the Prairie Band Potawatomi News.

If you have questions regarding the current loan program please do not hesitate to call me at (785) 966-4020. Or call Denison State Bank at (785) 364-3131 and ask for Don Fate. Don will be more than happy to assist you in the loan application process.

Fraud Examination and Internal Control Review

As requested by General Council, on January 24,

2000 the initial needs assessment began by Clarence M. Kelly & Associates Inc. and McGladrey & Pullen, LLP. It included interviewing over thirty-five individuals and reviewing approximately five thousand documents. Their findings and recommendations are as follows: twenty allegations can most likely be resolved through additional investigation; two allegations can be addressed with updated guidelines and policies; and four allegations are difficult to substantiate and unlikely to produce results.

Although in recent years there has been significant progress to develop and initiate policies, procedures and internal controls, there is still a lack of knowledge and confidence that the system is complete and operating effectively. There were specific concerns expressed regarding the acquisition and safeguarding of assets, cash disbursements including travel expenditures, and questionable operational efficiencies. Tribal Council will continue to update you on this matter throughout the process.

Recommendations include a review of our overall internal control system, identification of current policies and procedures, assessment of efficiency of current system, and recommendations for our current system.

On February 20, 2001, Tribal Council approved a security review of our Tribal Administration building and surrounding area. Also, a forensic examination proposal was accepted to review several laptop computers, computer hard drives, and the Government Centers server. This process began with a system configuration examination of each hard drive, its size, number of files, and operating system.

The second phase of the project data will be copied from each computer to "sterile" hard drives. Throughout this process no files will be copied or modified. According to Kelly these procedures follow court-recognized guidelines for acquiring data from computers.

Kansas Legislative Update

Saturday, February 24th, was the last day for bills to be passed out of the House of origin. If any bills were not passed by this date they become "dead" for the Session of 2001 unless they were introduced or referred to an exempt committee. Any bill that is listed as "dead" can resurface at the start of the

2002 session. Keep in mind too, that although a bill may be dead, its contents can be amended into other bills at anytime.

HB 2038 - Lottery Extension

HB 2038 would extend the sunset date for the Kansas Lottery to July 1, 2012. As amended by the Senate Committee of the Whole, HB 2038 would continue the Kansas Lottery in existence until July 1, 2004. Under current law, the Kansas Lottery is scheduled for abolition on July 1, 2002.

The Senate Committee of the Whole amended HB 2038 to: reduce the Lottery extension period from 2008 to 2004; and require that the Executive Director of the Kansas Lottery not to agree to any renewal or extension of a major procurement contract unless such renewal or extension is awarded in the manner provided in the Lottery Act.

The Senate Committee on Federal and State amended the provisions of SB 34 into HB 2038. Sb34 concerns security audits of the Kansas Lottery. The bill would amend existing statutes to: require a security audit of the Kansas Lottery at least once every three years; and place the Security audits under the Legislative Post Audit Act. Current law requires that the Executive Director of the Kansas Lottery arrange for a periodic study and evaluation of all aspects of security in the operation of the lottery. Under SB 34, Legislative Post Audit would become responsible for engaging a firm to conduct the security audits at least once every three years.

The House Committee of the Whole added two amendments to HB 2038 during floor debate. The first amendment would have created a new Airport Services Improvement Fund to be financed by \$4.0 million in gaming revenue annually. The second amendment would have placed a number of limitations, restrictions, and prohibitions on the operation of the Kansas Lottery. The Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs removed these two provisions.

SB 74 - Law Enforcement

SB 74 allows tribal law enforcement agencies and officers, when asked to assist state, county, or city law enforcement agencies and officers, to be considered to be part of the officer or agency being assisted. The tribal agency or officer would have the same powers, duties, and immunities of the state,

Human Resources 2001

By Dale Delg

Your Human Resource staff has been busy with planning this years training goals and trying to keep up with the daily routine of answering insurance questions, employment openings, interview dates, new job postings, as well as on going projects to better our work standards, such as the new classifications system, revisions to the personnel policies as they will always be under some kind of changes.

Speaking of training, the HR office hosted a special training for supervisors just last week and again Julie Johnson and Liz Throgmorton were selected to hold this months training. Both trainers are Indian women, Julie Johnson is from the Lummi Nation out of Washington State, and Liz Throgmorton is Choctaw from Texas. We choose Julie Johnson, Inc., consulting services because she has over 21 years experience working for Indian Tribes and Organizations in the areas of setting policy and in the implementation of direct services. Not only does she provide specialized training in different fields of personnel techniques and policy but also college credits to ones that take our training; another way for our people to better themselves and gain a hold on higher education with college credits.

You may be asking how much money does this training cost the Nation, well after checking with Mr. Dwayne Cheshire our Tribal Travel Agent & Insurance coordinator, he knows the cost of air fare, hotel, per diem, workshop registration fees. On an average it cost \$1,200 to send one employee out of state to attend a three-day training sessions.

Finney fighting cancer

By Rey Kitchkumme
Tribal Council Member

Former Governor Joan Finney, who turned 76 on February 12th, was diagnosed in November with a tumor in her liver. Initially the growth was diagnosed benign, but later the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston detected cancer. Finney is under the care of an oncologist and will be returning home Monday, February 26, 2001, as her husband Spencer stated in a telephone call earlier today.

Finney was the first woman to hold the state's highest office by being elected Governor in 1990. At 65, she was the oldest elected governor. Previous to winning this successful election Finney served as state treasurer for 14 years.

It was told many times that Finney was on the side of the angels as she always wanted to do the right thing for the Kansas tribes. Finney is idealistic and humanistic with a live and let live approach when it came to state and tribal relations. Finney tried to defend the Kansas Indian reservations from the imposition of state taxes 1992 through 1994 when holding the governor seat. Finney was also responsible for signing a proclamation recognizing tribal sovereignty of the Iowa, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, and Sac & Fox Nations in Kansas. Finney's predecessor Gov. Bill Graves signed (1995) what is now the State Gaming Compact between Kansas and the four Indian Nations.

In 1996, the Kickapoo tribe dedicated their new 550-seat entertainment center to Joan Finney by naming it **Wah-no-ko-quah** or "White Morning Star Woman" after her given Indian name. Kickapoo Tribal Chairperson - Nancy Bear stated that Wah-no-ko-quah is highly respected by Neshnabe because of her personal connection to the Indian nations. She always kept in communications with us and frequently came back to visit our tribal councils and reservation businesses. *Our prayers are with you Joan as you walk down the path Creator has laid before you.*

EARTH DAY LOGO CONTEST

Theme: **"Don't Just Stand There—Do Something"**

Grand Prize Awarded

For details, phone Michelle Simon at 785-966-3961

Resolution to name new state office building after Charles Curtis

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5021

By Representatives Gordon, Mays, Aday, Aldritt, Ballard, Ballou, Barnes, Benlon, Bethell, Boston, Burroughs, Campbell, Compton, Cook, Cox, Crow, Dahl, DeCastro, DiVita, Dreher, Edmonds, Faber, Findley, Flaherty, Flora, Gatewood, Gilbert, Glasscock, Grant, Hayzlett, Henderson, Hermes, Horst, Howell, Huebert, Huff, Humerickhouse, Hutchins, Huy, Johnson, Kauffman, Kirk, Kuether, Landwehr, Lane, Light, Lloyd, Loganhill, M. Long, P. Long, Loyd, Mason, Mayans, McClure, McCreary, McKinney, McLeland, Merrick, Miller, Minor, Jim Morrison, Judy, Morrison, Myers, Neufeld, Newton, Nichols, Novascone, O'Brien, O'Neal, Osborne, Ostmeyer, Palmer, Patterson, Pauls, E. Peterson, J. Peterson, Phelps, L. Powell, T. Powell, Powers, Pyle, Reardon, Ruff, Schwartz, Sharp, Showalter, Shultz, Stone, Storm, Tafanelli, Tanner, Thimesch, Toelkes, Toplikar, Vickrey, Wells, Welshimer, Wilk, D. Williams, J. Williams, and Winn.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION proposing to name the new state office building the Charles Curtis State Office Building.

WHEREAS, The state has nearly completed construction of a new office building on the southwest corner of the junction of Kansas Avenue and 10th Street in Topeka, and it is appropriate that this building be named after former Vice-President Charles Curtis; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis was born January 25, 1860, in North Topeka; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis was the great-great-grandson of Chief White Plume, a chief of the Kansas/Kaw tribe. After his mother died he was sent to live with his maternal grandmother, Julie Conville Pappan, on the Kansa/Kaw Indian reservation in Morris County. He lived in a tipi on the reservation for eight years, and although he attended a mission school, didn't learn to read or write until he was nine years old; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis read law in Topeka and was admitted to the Kansas bar at age 21. He was elected County Attorney for Shawnee County at age 24, earning a reputation as a tough and impartial prosecutor often quoted as saying "If you don't want the laws enforced, don't vote for me"; and

WHEREAS, Subsequently Charles Curtis served in the United States House of Representatives from 1893-1907, and in the United States Senate from

1907-1913 and again from 1915-1929; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis served as Majority Leader of the United States Senate from 1925-1929; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his Congressional career, Charles Curtis sought to advance the causes of Native Americans, farmers and women's rights, playing an influential role in the passage of the 19th amendment to the United State Constitution granting women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis is credited with preventing the closing of Ft. Riley and Ft. Leavenworth following the end of World War I; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis ran for President of the United States in 1928, losing his party's nominations to Herbert Hoover at the Republican National Convention held in Kansas City; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis was subsequently nominated and served as the 31st Vice-President of the United States from 1929-1933; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis, having held public office for 38 years, is the highest elected native Kansan, and the only person of Native American descent, to hold the office of Vice-President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Charles Curtis died in Washington, D.C. on February 8, 1936, and was honored by his state with the only funeral service ever held in the Kansas statehouse. A plaque dedicated to his memory is located on the south steps of the capitol; and

WHEREAS, It is entirely fitting to name our new office building after Charles Curtis. He was our first statesman with Native American ancestry. He represented the state with great distinction for many years in Washington, and locally his home and law office are within sight of the new office building. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the new state office building should be named and designated as the Charles Curtis State Office Building; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the Governor and the Secretary of Administration.

See also: *Mixed-Bloods and Tribal Dissolution: Charles Curtis and the Quest for Indian Identity* by William E. Unrau.

5 Year Vocational Rehab Grant Awarded to PBP Nation

By James (Nabby) Wabaunsee

During the past year, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Education for five years to provide vocational rehabilitation services to American Indians with disabilities on or near the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program was established to prepare clients for entering the workforce, retaining a current job, or returning to suitable employment, consistent with the individual's strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests, and informed choice.

To be eligible for the VR program, a person must be a member of a recognized Indian tribe, have a physical or mental impairment that results in a substantial impediment to employment, and can benefit from services. Individuals receiving Social Security benefits, either SSDI or SSI, are presumed to be eligible, unless there is convincing evidence that they cannot benefit from services. Furthermore, the individual must reside on or near the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation. Currently, the boundaries for services are Jackson and Shawnee counties.

Application for services can be completed at the Social Services Department at the We-Ta-Se building or a VR counselor can meet with an individual at their home to complete an application. A counselor will meet with the individual to collect information, such as employment, medical, and school history, to determine eligibility. The counselor may also require other diagnostic tests or assessments to help determine an individual's eligibility.

Child Welfare

We are continuing to build a larger and better array of services for Tribal members not only on the reservation and nearby community but also across the United States. Carol Wahwasuck has joined the office staff in the position as the Indian Child Welfare worker. She will monitor the case of PBP youth in out of home placement across the county. She works with the family and Social Workers to ensure that first the child is safe and in a good environment. She then coordinates to make sure that the family has a clear understanding of the problems to correct so that their child can be returned. We have found that the extra support can really make a difference in these parents' lives. Additionally, Carol will be completing her bachelors degree in Social Work this spring. She is planning to apply for her Masters degree in the fall at Washburn University.

There has been a good response to the requests for foster homes. We can always use more homes. We have gotten a little behind in our training as Jackie Kern has taken a position in Topeka. We really appreciated the *hard* work she did for us over the past year. We wish her will. By the time this is mailed we hope to have interviewed for filling her position and getting back on track.

Free toll number for Tribal District Court

Tribal Court is pleased to announce our toll free number: **1-866-966-2242**. Our hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Traffic Court is held every Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Civil docket is held on every fourth Friday of each month. You can also e-mail the Court at pbpcourt@holtonks.net.

Tribal Resource Directory Update

A final draft of the Tribal Resource Directory was presented to Tribal Council Vice Gary Mitchell. There will be slight changes but it is looking most impressive. These will be available for Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation members soon. They are of keepsake quality.

If the individual is found to be eligible for services, then the client and the counselor will work together to develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE). The IPE outlines the client's vocational goals and the services they shall receive to help the individual achieve their goal for employment and independence. The counselor will give the client information to allow them to make the best plan for themselves. Length and type of services will vary, depending on each individual's situation.

When services have been completed and the client is ready to find a job, the counselor can guide and assist them. The counselor can teach the client about looking for job opportunities, how to fill out an application, and job interview skills. However, it is the responsibility of the client to find a job.

The VR program provides many services to clients. Some of the services include vocational assessment, vocational counseling and guidance, physical and mental restoration services including physical therapy and psychotherapy, rehabilitation technology, and job placement services. Also, the VR program can assist students with disabilities prepare for employment.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi VR program consists of a VR coordinator and a VR counselor, and soon will hire a VR aide/job developer. James Wabaunsee (Nabby) has been hired as the VR coordinator and is responsible for the administration part of the program, as well as providing services to clients. Edie Wamego-Martinez has just started as the VR counselor and will be responsible for the majority of the client caseload. The VR aide will assist the coordinator and counselor, as well as develop jobs and employment opportunities within the community.

If you have any question, concerns, or want to apply for services, contact Edie or Nabby at the Social Services Department, (785) 966 - 2932.

We want to extend our thanks to the families that have offered their homes to care for children who cannot live with their families. They are to be honored in the community because they are raising the children of the future. Without tribal foster parents, these at risk youth would be in grave danger of being lost forever. It is never to late to become involved in the life of a child. If you would like to help please contact our office at 1 (888) 966-293

One kind word

By Mary Young

While reading a magazine one afternoon, I came across this quote: "One kind word can warm three winter months. -Japanese Proverb." In our present economy with the high cost of fuel and scarcity of electrical power, what would this mean if everyone, everywhere said one kind word to each other? Would these high costs go down because greed would not be an issue? Or would each individual just feel good inside and be warmed because they made a difference in someone's life because winter would not change and the cold weather would still be around and most likely, costly electric and heating bills would continue to arrive on time.



Anne M. Dunne, Ojibway storyteller.
(Photo by PBP Staff)



Erma Pequano, Tribal elder, celebrates 88-years-young at Community Conversation.
(PBP Newspaper staff)

Wraparound Project

Bozho, My name is Shirley Rice and I am the Project Coordinator of the Wraparound Project. It is a new venture under the Social Services Program. The Wraparound Project was funded in October 2000 by a grant through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Our project is one of sixteen being funded nationally to develop new strategies to assist youth at risk. Potentially the model that we develop could be used throughout Native country to assist other Native youth. We are one of only four Native American projects, including the Navajo Nation.

The goal of our project is to develop a definable philosophy of care for our young people who have been identified as being at risk. These young people may be experiencing problems with substance abuse, truancy, problems in the home or just having difficulties with life in general. These are often the cries for help by our young people. As a Tribal Nation how do we respond to those cries?

The wraparound initiative hopes to develop a plan that will join the family, the tribal community, and service providers to respond to those cries. In reality what we are hoping to accomplish is nothing new, but a return to our traditional ways of caring and support. In days past our families and tribal community would gather around that individual or family who was experiencing difficulties. The tribe had a vested interest in that individual or family for they knew the survival of the tribe depended on that inter-support of one another. Unfortunately for many of our families and young people, of today, those supports no longer exist.

We talk of our children being our future. If they do not have the resources and necessary supports to have a healthy and productive life, there will be no future for them or our Nation. It is time that we do more than talk. Chief Joseph said, "Good words do not last long until they amount to something." Please join us in our quest to develop a community voice to respond to those cries. We will be holding meetings within the community where you can offer your input. We are planning our first community meeting. Dinner and childcare will be provided. Look for further details.

If you have questions about the project, I can be reached at 1-(888)-966-2932.



Lance Wishkeno, PBP Nation Fire Fighter and Public Relations.
PBP Staff

Human Services Coalition Heads Up 1st Community Conversation

By Doris A. Potts

Sunday evening, February 4th kicked off the 1st Community Conversation here on the Rez. That was a result of two months of planning by the Human Services Coalition and it showed as crowd enthusiastically responded to educational presenters. The event began with a chicken supper, followed by opening remarks by the Coalition's major sponsor, Juanita Jessepe. The evening's finale was a performance by female native folksinger Annie Humphrey, Ojibway, and her mother Anne Dunne, storyteller and author of three books.

Per Juanita, Human Service Coalition's view is that when working with children, we have to view the whole child when we are confronting a situation involving them. Therefore, we have to empower our community, making our community as resourceful as possible so that the children have vast amounts of opportunities available to them when they have to make life decisions. This coalition is all about providing the community information about services available to all tribal members.

General theme of presenters were as such:

Gary Mitchell (Tribal Council Vice Chairperson) spoke of his educational experiences as he was growing up. Much of his young life, he spent in a boarding school. Deciding he wanted to be a hard worker like his stepfather, he pursued a laborious career in manual labor jobs. Later in life, he realized that his high school football injuries weren't going to allow him to stay in the labor market much longer. He went back to school to get a bachelor degree in po-

WE-TA-SE Post 410 Wins All Time High: they keep going, going, going

By Roy Hale

Post 410, WE-TA-SE, won the 100% membership goal, which we have won the past four years in a row. Also, this year we won the ALL TIME HIGH for KS. Thanks to our proud Legion members for renewal on your membership cards.

Julia Kabance, St. Marys, KS, one of our faithful Legionnaires donated a fine wheelchair to the WE-TA-SE, Post 410. We certainly can use this chair and very grateful for her contribution, and many thanks.

Just a reminder for American Legion members, you can save as much as 20% or more on your prescriptions by showing your membership card to most participating pharmacies in KS.

Since Memorial Day is only a few short months away, again, I will mention it takes about 2 to 3 months for shipment arrival of a tombstone or marker after submitting necessary paperwork. Contact 966-2580, Post 410, WE-TA-SE necessary application forms in obtaining tombstone or marker for eligible veterans.

Post 410, WE-TA-SE now has 61 active members and is still growing. Thanks a lot, troops.

Tentative Schedule for 2001 Post 410, WE-TA-SE Color Guard

The following is a tentative schedule for Post 410, WE-TA-SE, Color Guard attending this year's events:

April 21

Education/Youth Conference, POW-WOW, Holiday Inn West, Topeka, KS

May 19, 20

Armed Forces Parade/American Legion State Convention, Topeka, KS

June 8, 9 & 10

Potawatomi Prairie Band POW-WOW, Prairie Park, Mayetta, KS

June 16 & 17

WAH-SHUN-GAH DAYS Inter-Tribal POW-WOW, Council Grove, KS

DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED:

July

Potawatomi Gathering--Canada

July

KICKAPOO POW-WOW, Horton, KS

July

SAC/FOX POW-WOW, Powhattan, KS

July

WHITE CLOUD POW-WOW, Rulo, KS

Sept. 28

AMERICAN INDIAN DAY POW-WOW, Prairie Park, Mayetta, KS

Oct. 6

Pioneer Days Parade, Mayetta, KS

Nov. 17

Post 410, WE-TA-SE, Veterans POW-WOW

litical science and a master degree in history that today empowers him today in his Tribal Council position. He ends with the statement that "Education will be a major emphasis for us (Tribal Council)."

Venida Chenault (Social Work Department Head, Haskell Indian Nations University) talked about the importance of the Tribe's planning for meeting the educational goals of our children. The Tribe has to have strategic plans for education. What is the community plan for improving our educational process? In that planning process, we can't forget to include cultural knowledge being as important as formal education. Potawatomi are very rich, not only in money, but in "our ways." We must include a cultural educational at the PhD level, also.

Steve Ortiz (Tribal Council Secretary) spoke on the chronological age process that all children go through and what to expect as a parent throughout those ages from our children. His parenting trail has been one of very high success and hoped his trail will help other families along their trails.

Betty Rice (Social Worker) spoke about the importance of finishing your education. But, if you have kids, enjoy those babies first because we only have those few precious years with those babies once. She talked about how fortunate we are to have such an expanded social service program and gave an overview of the programs.

Shirley Rice spoke briefly about the Wrap-Around Program, a complete family support program. This program attempts to bring everyone together to make things workable for the family.

Lastly, **Lance Wishkeno**, came firing out in a state of exuberance about the fire department and all the projects they are involved in—many of which are directed toward the youth.

Juanita Jessepe is gathering ideas for future Community Conversations. Let her know what you want to discuss in these community conversations!

In partnership with student, family and school: Johnson O'Malley Program

By Juanita Jessepe, JOM Coordinator

II. JOM PURPOSE STATEMENT

In the past, the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Program was funded to provide operational support. Public schools were able to use these funds for General School operations and many schools built buildings, bought buses, and school equipment using these funds. However, JOM is no longer funded for operational support and was redesigned to be a supplementary program instead of a basic support program. JOM funds are not to take the place of federal, state or local funds.

The Johnson O'Malley Act passed in 1934 has been amended several times, but its main objective has remained the same: To ensure that Indian children receive the educational opportunities that might not otherwise be provided. The purpose of JOM has also remained the same: To provide supplementary financial assistance to meet the unique and specialized needs of Indian students attending public schools.

ELIGIBILITY

Indian students who are enrolled in preschool or public school who meet the following eligibility criteria may be served by JOM:

Are 3 years of age (by Dec. 31) through grade 12
"Are members of, or at least a one-fourth degree Indian blood of an Indian tribe eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States through the BIA Indians because of their status as Indians.

Student must show certified proof of their degree of Indian blood (CDIB) to be eligible for JOM services.

There are two main requirements under the Johnson O'Malley Act to assure parent participation and control: Establishment of the Indian Education Committee (IEC), and the Education Plan.

INDIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE (IEC)

The Indian Education Committee (or parent committee) members are elected from the parents of eligible Indian students, and work with the JOM Coordinator in developing programs submitted in the education plan, and approves all programs and budgets funded under Johnson O'Malley. Committee members are elected from among parents or legal guardians of children who are certified for JOM services. The current list of IEC members and the

By-Laws under which they operate are included in another section of the article.

EDUCATION PLAN

The Education Plan is the written document that outlines the plan for the provision and development of programs that meet the unique and specialized educational needs of Indian students. It identifies the needs of students; goals and objectives to be accomplished; procedures to be followed; methods to be used in evaluating the program and proposed budgets. Individualized education planning can be developed between student and the JOM coordinator if necessary at the request of either the parent or student. The overall Education Plan is submitted as part of the contract between the BIA and the Tribe and is available at the JOM office.

III. EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Tutoring & Counseling Services:

The Title IX Tutoring Program is contracted by the Royal Valley Public School District and offers tutoring classes to Indian students every 1st & 3rd Tues. and Thurs. of every month until May 17, 2001, from 6-8 p.m. at the PBP Housing Authority Building. For more information call Connie Peters, Tutor at (785) 986-6251.

The JOM Coordinator offers one-on-one and family counseling to individuals and families seeking help with issues affecting the student's environment in his or her home and/or at school.

Reimbursement for Parental Costs:

Educational Support is defined as items that are required for students to participate in a class that a parent is required to pay (listed below) and are reimbursable in the amounts indicated:
Shop Supplies, \$50 per school year; Home Economics, \$50 per school year; Lab fees/Science Project, \$50 per school year; P.E. Apparel (Required P.E.), \$20; shoes/shorts/shirt; Graduation Gowns, Minimum Price; Textbook Fees, School Club Fees/Dues, Minimum Price; Testing Fees/Dues Correspondence Courses, Courses and continuing education classes required for Graduation are reimbursed upon Completion/passing the class; Band Instrument Rental, Parent is responsible for easing instrument. A signed agreement between parent & JOM will assure that band instrument(s) remain the property of JOM after it is paid in full; Sports Activities, Middle School/High School athletic shoes; football/softball/volleyball/basketball/wrestling/cross country track & spikes and cheerleading, \$40; Middle School/High School sport apparel: warm up tights, ball gloves, jersey, \$20; Book Orders/Educational materials/scholastic magazines, No

limit of books ordered within the max of \$5 per student. Books must be ordered by classroom teacher. No cassettes/CD's/posters.

GUIDELINES FOR REIMBURSEMENT

The Indian Education Committee (IEC) determines which items are reimbursable (in part or all) back to the parents to help defray costs associated with keeping students in school. Provided below is the procedure for receiving reimbursement for the educational support items listed above:

All bills must be presented to the JOM Coordinator on or before monthly committee meetings, which are held every 2nd Wed. of the month.

Documented evidence must be presented to receive reimbursement such as, store receipts, itemized bills, or other proof of purchase with a business heading on it.

Required deposits are not reimbursable.

To receive reimbursement for athletic shoes/apparel, a verification from the coach that the student has successfully completed the sports activity must be submitted PRIOR to receiving a reimbursement.

All personal educational support items become the property of the student for whom they were purchased. The only exception is band instruments which shall remain the property of JOM after they are paid in full.

BASIC SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The JOM Program distributes basic school supplies usually during the first week in Aug., but are available to JOB eligible students throughout the school year at no cost to the parent: Wide rule notebook filler paper, college rule notebook filler paper, wide rule spiral notebooks, college rule spiral notebooks, pocket folders, pens (red, blue, black), pencils #2, erasures, small scissors, colored markers, colored pencils, highlighters, rulers, protractors, Elmer's glue, glue sticks, crayons.

No Trapper Keepers, ring binders, plastic baggies, Kleenex or other items not listed will be available for distribution.

List is subject to change.

IV. SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Young Eagles Reading Lab: Youth leadership tutoring project.

100 Books Club: Reading incentive project.

Natural Helpers Project: "Shisha & Zuck-wees" Menor Society.

Upward Bound Extension Project: Haskell Indians Nations University.

V. COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The following individuals were elected to the

JOM Indian Education Committee (IEC) in 2000:

Mary Mitchell, Chairperson
Carrie O'Toole, Secretary
Paula Hopkins, Member
Joanna Mitchell, Member
Angela Masquat, Member
Elizabeth Tye, Member

For more information regarding "Special Projects" or the JOM Program, contact Juanita Jessepe, JOM, (785) 966-3041. For those residing outside of Jackson County, contact your local JOM office.

Student on Washburn Dean's Honor Roll

Mary L. Young has been named to the 2000 fall semester Dean's Honor Roll at Washburn University in Topeka.

Students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours for the semester and earn a grade point average between 3.4 and 3.99 to be eligible for the Dean's Honor Roll.

Knowledge that is not used is abused. (Cree)

Education Dept. announces deadline for financial aid

By Sharon McClane

During January and February, the Education Department has been busy processing scholarships for this spring semester. For some reason, transcripts have been real slow in making it to our office, and as of today, February 19th, we're still waiting to receive 11 of them. We are unable to process spring semester renewal awards until we have an official transcript showing fall semester grades. In addition to the scholarships for continuing students, the Education Committee approved 12 new applications for spring semester funding. We fund approximately 70 students each semester for college. These students attend colleges not only in Kansas, but also across the United States.

Reminder - complete your Application for Federal Student Aid as soon as possible. This application is available at any high school counselor's office or Financial Aid Office at the colleges/universities. You may also process this application on the Internet @ fafsa.ed.gov.

Applications for our scholarship programs (Fall Semester 2001 and Spring Semester 2002) are now available. **Deadline for completed applications is July 1st.**

Our department has a state-of-the-art computer lab (12 computers). Classes now offered include Basic computer skills, Keyboarding, MS Word, Web Graphics, Excel. For Tribal members who do not live near our Reservation and are unable to take advantage of our computer lab, we can pay for computer classes, such as those listed, through our Adult Education program.

Write us at 16281 Q Road, Mayetta, Kansas 66509. Telephone numbers: Sharon McClane, Education Administrator - (785) 966-2960; Frances Wabaunsee, Job Skills Coordinator - (785) 966-2884. Fax number: (785) 966-2956. **Please note our new e-mail addresses:** sharonm@pbpnation.org; fwabaunsee@pbpnation.org

I.H.S. Referrals

Submitted by Angie Wahweotten

I.H.S. officials from Oklahoma wanted to be sure that our tribal members are well informed of our rights and responsibilities. In that light comes the following tidbit from them. When you go to an appointment (any appointment, 1st or follow-up), you need to have a referral in your hand. This is your proof that I.H.S. is respon-

sible for payment. If you go to an appointment scheduled after you took a referral to the place of assessment or treatment you need to get another referral first. Otherwise you may be responsible for payment. If you have any questions about this information, you may contact Peggy Hankerson, Health Systems Operator/Business Office Manager or Ruta Mendez, Contract Health Medical Assistant @ the Holton Clinic. The phone number is (785) 364-2176.

A Special invitation

Proudly presented by the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in conjunction with
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Join Rick Thomas, co-founder of the Red Road Approach, in this intensive two-day course, as he guides you through a culturally-relevant healing concept by utilizing traditional beliefs for therapeutic benefit.

- Gain understanding in areas of sexual/physical abuse, adoption, domestic violence, adult children of alcoholics, rejection & abandonment issues and relationships.
- Training will include insight into: psychological suicide, fears, uncomfortable situations, cognitive affective development, "psychological imprints," "escape" and "impact."
- This seminar is geared toward: mental health workers, social workers, alcoholism counselors, clergy and individuals in search of healing through traditional and contemporary way of life.

March 28th & 29th at Mayetta, Kansas from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Everyone is invited & Attendance is free & Lunch is provided

YES! I would like to attend this valuable no-cost seminar!

No, not right now, but keep me in mind for future offers.

Name

Address

City State Zip Phone

Fax E-Mail

Number Attending

Rira Bahr Sac and Fox Administrative Office
Reserve, Kansas 66434
(785) 742-7471 * FAX (785) 742-3785

From the Desk of Amy Dowd, Harrah's...

Harrah's Prairie Band Casino is now hiring! Come work for the Company voted Best Place Work in Northeast Kansas! We not only offer great benefits and competitive wages, we also have a wide variety of benefits for you to take advantage of including a new and improved quarterly bonus program. Visit us online at www.harrahs.com to apply or call (785) 966-7663. I'm no expert in creating ads, so if you have anything to add to spruce it up I would appreciate it. I will have an ad designed for next time. Thanks! Amy

2 New Classes Being Offered to Tribal Members/Employees

On February 15th, the Haskell Indian Nation University's Academic Approval Policies Committee approved two classes being offered on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation for accreditation. The classes are Potawatomi History which will be instructed by Jim McKinney, holder of dual Master Degrees. Fundamentals of Tribal Sovereignty will be taught by Rob Porter, the Nation's Constitution lawyer & Kansas University professor.

Over a month ago, we asked for interested people to sign up. To date, we have 13 signed up. That is a good size class but we still have room for a couple more students. You can get 1 hour college credit from HINU or take it on audit basis, receiving continuing education hours. No charge to you—only your commitment of well-invested time.

Look all around Native Country, everyone is stressing to learn all that you can about your tribal history. And, we will always continue to have our sovereignty questioned. This class will give you insight into those issues.

If interested, contact Doris A. Potts at 785-966-4047.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Education department and Human Resource department are compiling a list of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation college graduates. If you have received a college degree, we ask that you complete this questionnaire and promptly return it to us. In addition to updating our Education department statistics, this information may be utilized for future employment opportunities with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation as they become available.

In a future edition of this newspaper, we would like to honor our college graduates, and would list only names and degrees.

Ms _____
Mrs _____
Mr _____ (Maiden name) _____
(Last name) (M.I.) (First name)
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
E-mail _____
Telephone number (Daytime) _____ (Evening) _____
Enrollment No. _____
Degree: _____
Associates _____ Major _____
Date received _____ University _____
Bachelor's _____ Major _____
Date received _____ University _____
Master's _____ Major _____
Date received _____ Univesity _____
PhD _____ Major _____
Date received _____ University _____

Please return to:
Sharon McClane, Education Administrator
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
16281 Q Road
Mayetta, Kansas 66509

RVHS NATIVE AMERICAN CLUB POW WOW.....

The Royal Valley High School Native American Club hosted its 4th Annual Pow Wow on January 13 & 14, 2001. The pow wow was held at the gym at RVHS. There were 10 drum groups present and 95 registered dancers for the contest. Overall, there were over 100 dancers participating.

Many tribes from other states were represented at the pow wow. Besides Kansas, dancers came from Oklahoma, Missouri, Idaho, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. Drum groups included: Buffalo Spirit -Kansas City, MO; Thunder Horse - Stillwater, OK; Rez Boyz - Mayetta, KS; Whistling Wind - Horton, KS; Red Buffalo - OK; The Tribe - Lawrence, KS; Big Soldier Creek - Holton, KS; Indian Avenue - Lawrence, KS; (Host Drum): Little Soldier Singers - Potawatomi Nation; and, (Invited Drum): The Boys-Twin Cities, MN.

The Native American Club, sponsored by Anita Evans has been busy preparing for this pow wow since August. The Club has participated in many fund-raising events to assist in the financial aspects of the contest pow wow. Over \$12,000 was awarded as prize money at the contest pow wow.

Leaders for the Native American Club are:

President: Richele Pahmahmie
Vice-President: Hattie Mitchell
Secretary: Saleena Masquat
Student Council Representative: Josie Pahmahmie

The Native American Club would like to thank sponsors for the pow wow. Without outside donations, events such as this would not take place. Special thanks goes to: Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Haskell Indian Nations University, Johnson O'Malley Program, Title IX Indian Education Program, Royal Valley High School, Harrah's Prairie Band Casino/Gift Shop/Hotel, Prairie Band Potawatomi Youth Program, Potawatomi Road and Bridge Crew, and to all the businesses who purchased program advertisements.

Pow Wow Club Officers would like to share a letter of thanks that was extended to Anita Evans and Royal Valley Pow Wow Committee—from Manny King, Master of Ceremonies.

I just wanted to congratulate you and the students on a fantastic pow-wow! The pow-wow exceeded my expectations of a local celebration sponsored primarily by high school students. I've had the opportunity to serve as the masters of ceremonies for numerous pow-wows throughout Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska, North Dakota and even Arizona. This one was special. It had the support of the spectators, the high school personnel, the singers, dancers and especially the parents. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and supported each other. I've never seen so many smiles, handshakes, hugs and pats on the back.

It was nice to see Richele address the crowd and encourage her fellow peers. She spoke clearly, with confidence and was not intimidated by the spectators. The pow-wow committee was always around and not distracted by their peers in the stands. They hung together and supported one another. When I looked around they were always there and occasionally stopped by and checked on us (Jim McKinney, Perk and myself). It was refreshing to have such a supportive group who were energetic and committed to the success of their pow-wow.

The audience was fantastic. When it came time to honor the Elder, Head Junior Staff and Anita, the support was overwhelming. You have something very special in your school, community and sponsors and I hope it continues on. Keep up the good work and the Creator will look after you. I'm sure there were many prayers said for you and it showed.

Thank you so much for allowing me to be part of your celebration. I was honored and humbled by the support of the students and sponsors. I seldom if ever write to thank a pow-wow committee for asking me to be a part of the pow-wow. I just wanted to express my gratitude and encourage you to keep up the great work. You did an awesome job and your parents and sponsors should be very proud of you, as I am sure they are. Take care and may the Creator bless you and be with you in your future endeavors.

Get any/all announcements of youth's accomplishments into newspaper staff, so we can share them with our PBP Nation members.

chased program advertisements.

Special thanks goes to Mrs. Connie Peters who put the program together and headed the tabulation table along with Sharon McClane and Laurel King at the pow wow. Mrs. Peters has sacrificed a lot of her time to assist with the pow for the past four years. Without the help from the members of the Native American Club, administration, janitors, parents, and community members, the pow would be impossible to host.

Special thanks for head staff for the event that included:

Master of Ceremonies: Manny King - N. Cheyenne/Arapaho
Arena Director: Perkins Whitetail - Cheyenne/Arapaho
Head Man Dancer: Gregory Suke - Prairie Band Potawatomi
Head lady Dancer: Shelley Eagleman Bointy - Dakota/Ottawa
Head Jr. Dancer: Keith Buskirk - Prairie Band Potawatomi
Head Jr. Dancer: Sydney Jessepe - Prairie Band Potawatomi/Cheyenne
Head Cook: Cheryl Hopkins
Color Guard: We-ta-se Post
#410, Mayetta, KS

PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI "CHAMPS OF THE DANCE CIRCLE"

Royal Valley Native American Club Pow Wow Results

Jr. Boys Traditional
2nd Place - Keith Wahweotten

Jr. Boys Grass
2nd Place - Wa-skeh Littleaxe

Teen Boys Grass
3rd Place - William Evans

Mens Traditional
2nd Place - Trilby Wahwasuck

Jr. Girls Traditional
1st Place - Sydney Jessepe

Jr. Girls Jingle
3rd Place - Ramona Jackson

Jr. Girls Fancy
1st Place - Krista Catron

Teen Girls Jingle
3rd Place - Tara Mitchell

Teen Girls Fancy
2nd Place - Amber Tecumseh

Womens Fancy
1st Place - Josette Wahwasuck

Golden Age Women
2nd Place - Velma Wahwasuck Harjo

More Positive Experiences At Royal Valley

By Diane Hamersky

Congratulations to four students: Megan Kennedy, Tara Mitchell, Kala Marston, and Katelyn Spielman. These students were selected to participate in the Northeast District 5-6 Honor Choir at Shawnee Mission Northwest, Saturday, January 6, 2001. The students had the opportunity to work with clinician Pam Kelly. Later in the day, students performed in a concert for parents and friends. They even got to see John Nottingham receive his award. The day proved to be a positive experience for all.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Awarded Youth Program Grant

By Veronica N. Zerrer, Grant Writer

The Prairie Band Potawatomi are one of thirty-eight tribes nationwide that have received a grant to help prevent and control youth violence and substance abuse. The \$ 100,000 grant is for a three year effort designed to strengthen families, provide additional programs for youth such as a 4H club on the Reservation, strengthening family bonds, prevention of drug abuse and conducting a mock court.

While Native Americans comprise less than 1% of the total state of Kansas population they comprise 2% of the prison population according to State of Kansas Department of Corrections data. The grant is designed to change behavior in juveniles in order to reduce the likelihood that they will join local gangs.

The Project design revolves around family strengthening with emphasis placed upon the effect traditional mentoring practices of the extended family and village had on the youth (the Shish-sha and Zuck-wee's project). Additional emphasis will be placed upon programmatic alternatives available to Tribal youth. The mentorship program will be combined with a parent support group in order to provide parents with the support they will need to provide "positive parenting" of their children. A three-year temporary Project administrator will be hired to oversee and coordinate these programs and to coordinate a reservation 4-H club, a mock court, and positive graffiti parties. A pre-and post project assessment will be conducted by the Tribal Social Services Department in an effort to target what parents want in the form of support for effective parenting and to identify best practices that will be worthy of reinforcement upon the project's completion.

The Tribe competed with 84 other tribes, and organizations for the grant offered through the United States Department of Justice. Thirty-eight organizations were chosen to receive funding. Individual awards made range from \$ 73,352 to \$ 498,475 depending upon the tribal populations served. Mr. John J. Wilson, who is the acting head of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) said that the grants "illustrate our [the OJJDP] continued commitment to address youth violence in Indian Country." The Tribal Youth Program was created through the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act for 1999 Public Law (PL) 105-277. II.

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Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Boys & Girls Club

By Sleepyeye LaFromboise

Bo sho, Tia yek! This letter is to inform you of the transition of the Youth Program into the Boys & Girls Club of the Potawatomi Nation. As you may know, the Youth program was established approximately two years ago by a group of parents that were concerned about the youth in the community. Since that time this group known as the Parent Advisory Committee proposed to transform the Youth Program into a Boys & Girls Club that is affiliated with the national organization (the Boys & Girls Club of America). In the spring of 2000 the Tribal Council passed a resolution to move forward with the establishment of a Boys & Girls Club for the community. The tribe later received a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance to hire a director for the new Club. The director was hired in August 2000 and the Boys & Girls Club of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation met all membership requirements to and became affiliated with the national organization on November 27, 2000. Then on February 7, 2001 the Board of Directors for the new organization was formed and adopted the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for the Club. (For more information on the National organization and what benefits we have for becoming a club please call or stop by the O-ketcheshow-o-now center.)

Currently we have approximately 70 members that come to club on a regular basis. Our program is currently made of two youth groups, a Junior youth group that meets on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 4-

7pm and a Senior Youth that meets Mondays & Wednesdays from 4-7pm. During most weekends some type of activity is also offered. We have offered the following opportunities for the youth: to play a variety of sports in a league system, pool league/training, UNITY council, craft classes, youth conferences/trainings, educational/entertaining/recreational outings, language classes, drum group singing, and a girls scouts program. Currently we are in the process of establishing more structure based programs, such as the Cub scouts/Venturing program, B&GC programs, and a 4-H program.

With the number of club members growing we need more assistance with the supervision and execution of events for the youth. There have been many parents and caring individuals that have donated much of their time and effort to providing a brighter future for our youth and we, as staff, commend each of them. We also hope for continued and growing support of volunteers because they provide the support needed to be effective to the youth. We have the ability to hire two part time workers and possible one full time position (all without benefits). We may contract out the positions because we need to hire immediately, so please call if you enjoy working with youth and are interested. These contract positions will be hired on a first come basis. If there are any questions, comments, or concerns please contact me at 785)966-3031 or email at sleepyeyel@hotmail.com. Igwien.

The following is a list of our staff with their current titles:

Sleepy Eye LaFromboise Joanna Mitchell
CPO/Executive Director Youth Assistant

Cheryl Hopkins, Youth Coordinator

Rapheal Wahwasuck, Youth Assistant

National Children's Dental Health Month

The Annual observance of Children's Dental Health began as a one-day event in Cleveland, OH on Feb. 3, 1941. In 1981, the program was extended to a month long celebration known today as National Children's Dental Health Month. Since, 1941, the observance has grown from a two-city event into nation wide program. Native Americans celebrate National Children's Dental Health Month. If your child needs a dental appointment, contact Holton Indian Health Clinic (785) 364-2716. Chester Hubbard was selected in a drawing as the representative of Haskell Dental Clinic for National Children's Dental Health Month.

**Prairie Band Potawatomi
Nation
Boys & Girls Club
Seek
Community Support
Be A Volunteer!**

Chester Galen Hubbard (Paw-teese) of Wellsville, KS is four-years-old. He is an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe of KS. His other tribes are Choctaw and Seneca-Cayuga. Paw-teese's interests are pokeman, baseball, football, playing with his friends, and brushing his teeth. He attends preschool at Wellsville Elementary School.

Chester's parents are Sean and Stefanie Hubbard of Wellsville, KS and he has one sister, Cassidy (Ke-wen-ki). His paternal grandparents are Galen and Sue Hubbard of Topeka, KS. The maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Gulick of Lenexa, KS and Christine Rellier of Olathe, KS. The great-grandparents are Mary-Hubbard, Jeanne Gulick, Ursula Stein, Floyd and Marie Lytle.



PBPN Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors: Front row: Lavern Hale, Secretary. Left to right: Don Fate, Treasurer; Gary Mitchell, Chairman; Jim McKinney and Steve McDonald, Vice-Chairs.

(Photo by PBP staff)



Chester (Paw-teese) Hubbard

TRIBE RECEIVES CANCER PREVENTION GRANT

My name is Arlene Shipshee Wahwasuck. I am a Registered Nurse (RN) working part time for the tribe as a Health Educator. I retired from the Indian Health Service in January 1999 after 30 years of nursing service to Native Americans throughout the US. I am a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe. Although I don't live on the Potawatomi reservation, I have strong ties to the reservation. My grandfather donated the land for what is now known as Shipshee Cemetery. My mother's grandfather was Shobeney. I was born and reared on the Kickapoo reservation, where I now reside with my husband of 36 years.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation was awarded a grant to provide cancer prevention education to Native American women in Kansas. My goal is to reach at least 750 women in Kansas this year to inform them of the risk factors related to cancer of the breast and cervix. I am also teaching women to conduct self breast examination (SBE) and encouraging women to avail themselves to a mammogram if they are over 40 years of age and a Pap Smear if 18 years of age or more. These two screening tests find cancer early when it is most likely to be treated successfully or cured.

If you would like for me to talk with you or a group of women, please call me at 785-966-3926. Leave a message if I'm not there and I will return your call. Please join me in the reaching my goal, but more importantly, keeping women healthy and finding cancer early.

Carol Wahwasuck Awarded Vernon Yazzie Scholarship Fall 2000-Spring 2001

Carol Wahwasuck, tribal member, was awarded the Vernon Yazzie Scholarship for the Fall 2000-Spring 2001 Semesters at Washburn University in Topeka, KS. The Yazzie Scholarship is awarded to Native American bachelor's level Social Work students who maintain a 3.0 semester GPA. Ms. Wahwasuck was placed on the Dean's Honor Roll for Fall Semester 1999 and the Spring Semester 2000.

Ms. Wahwasuck graduated with an Associate Degree in Social Work from Haskell Indian Nations University in December 1995. She enrolled at Washburn part-time in August 1999 and plans to graduate with her BSW in May 2001. She was thankful to be accepted for field placement at the Prairie Band Social Services offices this fall and will complete her degree requirements with the Potawatomi Nation. She looks forward to working with the Potawatomi people.

Ms. Wahwasuck credits her parents, Francis and Arlene Wahwasuck, for her accomplishments as well as the support she receives from her family and employer. She is married to Kenneth Shon Jessepe. They reside on the Kickapoo Reservation with their 3 children: Charissa, Shannon, and Cordell. Ms. Wahwasuck is employed as an ICWA Worker with Potawatomi Social Services and continues to work part-time for the Kickapoo Gaming Commission.

Lou Wabaunsee, A Living Legend in Drywall Business

By Doris A. Potts

All hats off to this drywall legend! When asked if I could interview 76-year old Lou Wabaunsee, he responds with a definite and quick, "No." This is a humble man, requiring additional coaxing, persuading, or, hopefully, careful and gentle words. I tell him that I have often heard that he is a well-respected man in his line of work, the drywall business. In reality, he isn't supposed to be able to work in that line of business for so long, because it is a very strenuous job.

He eventually agrees to interview, but says "No pictures." Daughter, Marsha, reports that she has pictures of him that she will show me, maybe, I could use one of those. She pulls out one of his lucky 7s picture taken in Vegas. That is another passion Lou enjoys, gambling. Although, you may see him quite often at the Casino, we gamblers know, it won't be with the lucky babes, the 7s, too often.

Knowing several former sheetrock workers, they report that due to the strain of the drywall work on one's body, the normal person begins to move out of that line of work at around age 35-early 40s. But, not Lou! He is like the energizer Rabbit as he just keeps going and going. He has been hanging drywall since 1950; that's 51 years!

Daughter, Frances, says she doesn't know how her dad did it. He always had such a large family around with his own children along with grandchildren. After losing wife, alone, he continued to cater to family matters.

In absolute awe of this man, I question him about how he is able to continue this work at the age of 76. He says he just likes the work. Does he have to ex-



ercise daily to keep going? "My doctor says, this work is what probably keeps me going with all of the physical moving. Once in awhile, I get a little sore." He says he retired once but when his wife died in '86, he got bored and decided to pick back up and go to work. Today, he still puts in 30-40 hours per week.

Asked if he had any advice for upcoming business ventures. He said, "If they want to start their own business, do something else besides drywall. It's a lot of hard hours to run your own business. I wouldn't do it again." Of course, Lou was running his drywall business and he also had the Delia Tavern, a well-patronized bar way out in the boonies, in full swing concurrently. That's a lot of managing.

In closing, I tell Lou about the picture that Marsha has passed my way, expressing that I'd love to use it, provided, he is in agreement with that request. Nonchalantly, he responds, "Well, if she gave it to you, I guess it's okay...just return it." And, he shuffles along to begin another day of hard work!

"SPRING IMPRESSIONS"

Spring Fashion Show & Fundraiser for the Potawatomi Boys & Girls Club

Lunch & Show

Date: March 21, 2001 Location: Bingo Hall
Lunch: 11:00 am—1 pm Showtime: 12 noon
Lunch Menu: Indian Tacos & Drink (\$5.00)

Dinner & Show

Dinner: 6:00 pm Showtime: 7:00 pm
Dinner Menu: Hearty Soup, Salad, Dessert & Drink (\$5.00)

Spring Fashion-Club Wear-Formal Wear & Regalia

Come Support our Youth

CECELIA FIRE THUNDER

(POSITIVE-
THINKING WOMAN)

By Doris A. Potts

On February 16th, the PB Potawatomi Nation was proud to host internationally known motivational speaker, Cecelia Fire Thunder. Her presentation was so captivating that you postponed leaving the room for even a restroom break because you were afraid of missing out on those intense words of wisdom and moments of laughter.

She was so powerfully full of life experiences which she utilized as her teaching tools. She said there are no problems in Indian Country - just challenges. You have to add compassion as part of your commitment to those issues.

She opened her presentation by asking the women if they often ponder the question, "Who am I?" She stressed that we as native women have a big responsibility to educate ourselves to become stronger. There is a difference between being smart (intuitive) and being educated (books). It's important that we as native put smart first in dealing with our life. Know that "changes" are a

definite throughout life. Be sincere in that search for that answer.

Gossip is a #1 form of violence; try hard to refrain from it - pray daily to stay away from it.

She talked about "internalized oppression." This is like the turmoil that we hold within ourselves due to our history as natives. We've been, throughout history, battling with assimilation issues. Instead of talking about those issues and getting them out, we turn them within. But, those internalizations eventually surface and it has been toward those closest to us—our own native people. It is that oppression that has been done to natives for the past 200 years. We have to learn to bring out those feelings (invoke those emotions) to get the truths out. We have to get rid of this anger, so we can move ahead with our life with clarity.

She said we must learn our history. We must learn our language because it is the original gift from the Creator. In knowing your history, you can begin to deal with today's life. We must understand that we are products of our history. In 1800s, we didn't have sugars; we were meat eaters. During the 1800-1850, we were put on reservations and given rations of flour and sugar, two major contributors to native's #1 disease, diabetes. We survived through Pratt's, "Kill the Indian. Save the Man." era in history. Know these historical

facts (truths) to begin that healing process.

There are two important things that we must be grateful for everyday because without these, you can't have anything else. That is life and health. Be grateful everyday for those. When a person is grateful for those two things everyday, they begin to live and practice the importance of both. You have to be healthy to be happy. Take care of your body and be aware of the food's good or bad influence.

In search for answers, you will begin to see the importance of honoring your ancestors. It has always been the native's resiliency that got us all here today. We have been challenged through oppressions and forced assimilation, yet we continue to survive. In answering, "Who am I?", you will find you have to care for yourself in all aspects of your life (mind, body, spirit, and emotion). Disregarding any of them will create an imbalance to complete happiness and well-being.

This is only a brief synopsis of Cecelia's life-learning wisdom. Amazingly, her lesson is so simple, yet we complicate life because we're conditioned to make life complex. It's all about daily prayer, living that prayer, and truly loving yourself. Because, you can't truly love anyone until you've made that peace with yourself and love yourself first.

Healing Through Feeling: Red Road Approach Workshop: March 28-29, 2001

The Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri, in conjunction with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, will be sponsoring our Second Annual Wellness Workshop. The Workshop will be March 28 and 29, 2001 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Mayetta, Kansas at St. Francis Xavier Church hall. We are delighted to invite any interested parties to attend.

Mr. Rick Thomas, co-founder of the Red Road Approach, will be the facilitator for the "Red Road Approach to Holistic Healing: Healing through Feeling" Workshop. Mr. Thomas is an enrolled

member of the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska.

The Red Road Approach concept of healing is closely associated with nature, which is essential for Native Americans in a clinical setting or learning environment. The acquisition of these skills, and understanding of traditional Native American values, is essential to living a healthful life.

While this workshop is open to all professionals and any other interested individuals, we do ask that you please RSVP, since seating may be limited. Continuing Education Credits are available.

There is no enrollment fee for the workshop, and lunch will be served.

For further information, please contact Rita or Karla at (785) 742-7471 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Or, feel free to fax us at (785) 742-3785.

MAKE A

DIFFERENCE

By giving of yourself, you can help others. Volunteers are needed at the Lansing Correctional Facility to work with the Native American Culture Group.

Outside sponsors are needed to work with minimum, medium, and maximum security units at L.C.F. Activities include craft classes, lining up speakers, and providing support to the Native American Culture Group.

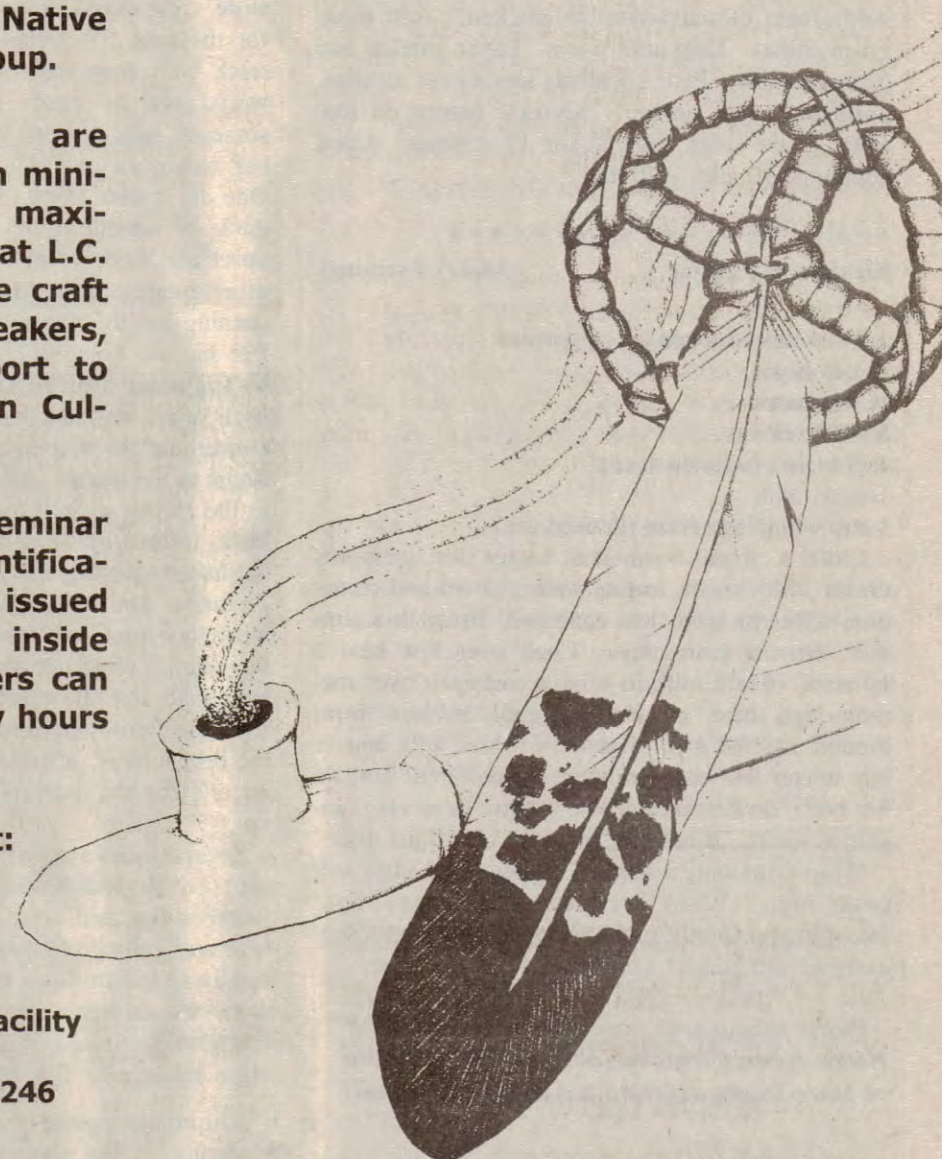
A one day training seminar is required. An identification card is then issued that allows access inside the walls. Volunteers can then devote as many hours as they are able to.

If interested, contact:

Marti Resch
Volunteer Services
Coordinator
Lansing Correctional Facility
Lansing, KS 66043
(913) 727-3235, ext. 7246

Outside guests are also invited to attend the pow-wow at the L.C.F. on March 10th. It will be from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

Let our brothers behind the walls know we still care for all of our people. The personal satisfaction derived from volunteer work is reward in itself. If you think you don't have the time, make the time. You will never regret it.



Native American Culture Group
Logo

Harrah's to build events center

MAYETTA - Harrah's Prairie Band Casino will add an 11,518-square-foot events center to its entertainment complex. The center will allow the casino to host special events, player parties, and live entertainment as well as rent the facility for wedding receptions, private parties, and reunions.

Construction is set to begin as soon as weather permits. The events center will be open in spring 2001.

"This events center will provide a first-class experience for our customers and will allow us to reward our Total Reward Card players," said Patrick Browne, senior vice president and general manager of Harrah's Prairie Band Casino.

The events center is an 89- by 130-foot Sprung Instant Structure, able to seat 600 theater style. The structure will have a full kitchen for catering events, and a 220-square-foot removable stage for live entertainment. The semi-permanent structure will be adjacent to the casino floor, with guests able to enter the structure from the casino floor or directly from the parking lot. The center will be a year-round, climate-controlled facility.

The Sprung Structure is a stressed membrane structure consisting of a series of aluminum arched ribs integrally connected by modular architectural membrane panels. A sprung Structure has been used by NASA to protect the Space Shuttle and by the Daimler-Chrysler Corporation to cover an automotive test track. It has also been used for exhibition pavilions, manufacturing distribution centers, and gaming facilities.

For more information contact Harrah's Prairie Band Sales Department at 1-86-966-7770.

Harrah's Prairie Band Casino opened Jan. 12, 1998. The casino entertainment complex encompasses 63,000 square feet featuring over 95- slot machines, 35 table games (blackjack, poker, roulette, craps, Let-It-Ride, and Caribbean Stud), Fresh Market Square Buffet, Prairie Pub, gift shop, and 100-room hotel. The Casino has attracted over four million visitors since opening.

Founded more than 60 years ago, Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. (NYSE:HET), is the most recognized and respected name in the casino entertainment industry, operating 22 casinos in 18 markets nationwide under the Harrah's, Showboat, Rio and Players brand names. It's newest casino, Rincon, located near San Diego, Calif.

With a combined database of more than 19 million players, Harrah's is focused on building loyalty and value with its targeted customers through a unique combination of great service, excellent products, unsurpassed distribution, operational excellence and technology leadership. For more information about Harrah's entertainment visit our website at harrahs.com.

Recipe Corner

By Mary Young

In response to the many requests from the community, we are introducing the "recipe corner." The following recipes have been tried and are delicious and my favorite.

Green Chicken Enchiladas Oven 400 degrees

- 1 can green roasted chilies (Ortegass)
- 1 chopped onion
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar/Monterey Jack cheese
- 3 cubed chicken breasts
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 clove garlic
- 2-3 dozen corn tortillas cubed or cut into strips

Cook cubed chicken until brown with garlic. Add cream of mushroom to chicken. Add diced green chilies. Heat until warm. Layer tortillas into casserole dish. Pour enchilada sauce over tortillas. Sprinkle cheese on top. Sprinkle onions on top. Cook in the oven covered for 15 minutes. Cook additional 30 min. - 40 min.

Mexican hot cocoa Makes 4 servings

- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup water
- 8 whole cloves
- 4 (3-inch) cinnamon sticks
- 1-quart milk
- 1 cup whipping cream (divided use)

Chill a small bowl and beater for whipping cream. Mix cocoa, sugar, water, cloves and cinnamon sticks in a medium saucepan. Bring to a simmer, stirring constantly. Cook over low heat 3 minutes. Scald milk in a large saucepan over medium-high heat by heating until bubbles form around edge of pan. Gradually whisk milk and 1/2 cup cream into cocoa mixture. Cook until hot; do not boil. Strain mixture into a bowl, reserving cinnamon sticks. Rinse cinnamon sticks and pat dry.

Whip remaining cream in chilled bowl until soft peaks form. Whisk hot cocoa until frothy. Pour into 4 mugs. Gently spoon whipped cream on top of each serving and set a cinnamon stick in center.

Please submit your favorite recipes to the PBPN Nation Newspaper to the attention of Doris Potts or Mary Young. If there is a duplicate, we will

print the first one that arrived. Include your telephone number and/or address in case there are any questions.



Members of the 2001 Jackson County Leadership class include, from row, from left: Steve McDonald, Matt Taylor, Bill Brown, Lois Pelton, Rosalie Lassiter and Tammy Wamsley. Back row: Doug Campbell, Con Olson, Rudy Ebeling, Leesa Harshaw, Linda Miller and Karen Beightel. Not pictured, but also part of this year's leadership class, are David Lanning and Sue Woltje.

[photo by Brian Sanders]

Mother nature is always There to watch and care for her own.



Congratulations! Vernon Potts bags deer during hunting season.

A bear named Note-no-quah

This is a true story of a pet bear called "Note-no-quah." The storyteller was a tribal member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Native American tribe. Her name was Edna Wahweatten. Note-no-quah means "The Wind."

Once upon a time my aunt's husband went to hunt and he brought a baby bear home. My aunt named it Note-no-quah. She raised it and it became fat, but it was a very good bear. After it was about six months old she began training it to be an errand girl. She taught it to haul water from the well to the house, to pick up sticks from the yard for the kitchen stove, and to pick green beans in the garden when they were ripe. In the summertime, the bear would help my aunt pick berries, but the bear would eat more berries than she would put in the basket. When my aunt and uncle would go to the store they would always bring home some candy for the bear. It would count the candy and keep track of it from day to day to make sure no one would steal its' candy. One day the bear thought someone took a piece of her candy, so she threw her candy all over the room to show her anger. One day a man came to the house and accused my uncle of something he didn't do and my aunt got upset and said, "No! No!" The bear was in the other room and heard my aunt's cry. She came running into the room where the man was and acted like she was going to chase the man. The man was so frightened that he ran away very fast. So the bear saved my aunt and uncle. Another incident concerning the bear involved my aunt mopping the floors in the house. After she mopped she went out to the garden to wait for the house to dry. But the bear, instead of being outside somewhere, was in the house mopping the very floors my aunt had just cleaned. She was making a very big mess, and when my aunt found her, she became very mad. She said, "What are you doing?" This made the bear mad and she threw the rest of the water all over the floor. Because my aunt had to clean up the bear's mess, it took her a long time to lose her anger. But she did forgive the bear and they made up.

Several times a zoo tried to buy the bear from my aunt, but she didn't want to part with the bear. Her father-in-law told her to sell the bear because the bear was getting old enough now that it would soon run away to hunt for a mate. So when the zoo man came around again, my aunt sold her bear. The first time she visited the bear in the zoo she was eating a lemon pie. She spoke to it in Indian and told

it to bring her a piece of pie. My aunt said the bear was stingy. The second time my aunt visited the bear and called to it, it came to her. It also said it would like to get out of the zoo. This was the last time my aunt saw the bear because it made her lonesome to see the bear.

Gambottek

(Those who died)

HOYT - Nanette "Ka-Nab-Kos" Sumner, 62, Hoyt, died Monday, Jan. 15, 2001, at a Topeka hospital.

Mrs. Sumner was a licensed practical nurse for various nursing homes in the area and later for the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. in Topeka.

She was born Nov. 2, 1938, on the Potawatomi Reservation in Jackson County, the daughter of William Tyner and Mary Emily Pappan. She graduated from Hoyt High School and she attended nursing school in New Mexico and Topeka. She lived most her life in Hoyt.

Mrs. Sumner was a member of Prairie Band of Potawatomi Tribe and Native American Church.

She married Lester Leroy Sumner on Sept. 9, 1961, in Topeka. He survives.

Other survivors include a daughter, Susan Sumner, Hoyt, and two granddaughters.

An infant daughter, Margaret Mary Sumner, preceded Mrs. Sumner in death in 1968.

Native American Services will be Friday evening at Native American Church three miles west of Mayetta. Burial will be at the Sumner's home place Saturday afternoon. Mrs. Sumner will lie in state today and Thursday at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton, where visitation will be from 7 to 8:30 p. m. Thursday. She also will lie in state after 4 p. m. Friday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Diabetes Association, sent in care of the funeral home.

Dion A. James, 22, the beloved son of Richard and Faith Klatt, Irma, WI passed on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2001 in Wausau, WI. Dion grew up in the Wausau-Antigo-Merrill areas of WI. He was employed at Mara Tech International in Wausau, WI. He was a member of the Christ Gospel Church of Antigo, WI. He enjoyed listening to his music (especially "blues" music), playing video games, shooting pool, visiting with family and friends, and playing by his niece Che-quess Starr Lashua. He was also a big wrestling fan.

He is survived by his parents, one brother, Jarett, Merrill, WI; one sister Marissa Lashua (Daniel) and niece Che-quess Starr Lashua, Merrill, WI; 2 stepbrothers Rick (Beth) Klatt and Kelly Klatt, Edgar, WI; one stepsister Katrina Witucki (Mark), Marathon, WI; grandmother Marion Young Perrote, Irma, WI; special aunt Rhonda Cadotte, Richland Center, WI; special uncle Frank Swerdlin, Mansfield, TX; special niece Faith Copeland, Wausau, WI; and many other relatives and friends.

Dion was a very outgoing and friendly person. He had the ability to make anyone into a friend. Everyone knew that you could always count on him. It was our pleasure to have had him as a part of our family and lives for these few short years. Funeral services were held in Merrill, WI on Friday, Jan. 26, 2001 at the Waid Chapel, Waid Funeral Home. Burial was in a local cemetery. Rev. Kent Prell of Antigo officiated. His cousin Rebecca Perrote, LaCrosse, WI and his uncle, Frank Swerdlin, Mansfield, TX, performed special music. His uncle, Frank sang a "blues" song especially dedicated to Dion. His mother, Faith Klatt, gave the Eulogy.

Dion will always be in our hearts and minds. We will miss him forever.



In memory of Dion A. James.

McKinney

Leonard J. McKinney (Pateese), 81, of McLouth, formerly of Lawrence, died Tuesday, Jan. 30, at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Lawrence. He was born Dec. 6, 1919 near Mayetta, the son of James N. and Gladys Pannucknuck McKinney. Mr. McKinney was a retired truck driver. He was a member of the Native American Church, Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians, and the Wichita Inter-tribal Warrior Society. He was a veteran of the U. S. Army, serving in the European Theatre and Korean War.

He was married to Melvina Jessepe. They were divorced. Survivors include a son, Gerald McKinney, Topeka; daughters Carol Yazzie, Topeka, and Jennifer Veerkamp, McLouth; brothers, Marvin L. McKinney, Americus, and James N. McKinney, Jr., Holton; 13 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren. 3 sons, Joe McKinney, Norris McKinney, and Larry McKinney preceded him in death.

Native American Church Services will be held 6:00 p.m., Sat., Feb. 3 at the Jerry Lewis home, 7820 198 Rd., Mayetta. Burial will be Sun. afternoon at the Dance ground Cemetery on the Potawatomi Indian Reservation west of Mayetta. A visitation will be held Friday evening 7-8:30 p.m. at the Mercer Funeral Home in Holton. Memorial contributions may be given to the Leonard McKinney Memorial Fund, sent in care of the funeral home.

Johnny Jackson

MAYETTA- Johnny A. "Jack" Jackson, Ni-gan-kwe-ek, 58, Mayetta, died Saturday, Feb. 24, 2001, at a Topeka hospital.

Mr. Jackson worked in building maintenance for the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation.

He was born Feb. 18, 1943, in Holton, the son of Robert and Cecelia Potts Jackson. He graduated from Mayetta High School and attended Haskell Institute. He was a lifelong resident of the Potawatomi Reservation.

Mr. Jackson was a member of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation and the Indian Drum Religion.

He married Shirley Wakole on April 4, 1983. She survives.

Other survivors include his mother, Cecelia Potts Jackson, Mayetta; a son, Wab-mi-mi Jackson, Mayetta; a daughter, Shaw-not Jackson, Mayetta; two stepsons, Pam-saht Winsea and Wett-ke-te Jackson, both of Mayetta; two stepdaughters, Lola Fish, Browning, Mont., and Wahban Fish, Topeka; seven sisters, Jan Hubbard, Lecompton, Evelyn Jackson, Topeka, Lucy Jackson, Kansas City, Linda Jackson, San Jose, Calif., Janice Jackson, Lawrence, and Beverly Goslin and Roberta Jackson, both of Mayetta; two brothers, James Jackson, Mayetta, and Mike Jackson, Topeka; and two step-grandsons.

A wake service will be Tuesday evening at the Danceground west of Mayetta. Drum Services will be Wednesday afternoon at the Danceground building. Burial will be in Potts Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Jackson Children's Fund and sent in care of Mercer Funeral Home in Holton.

Jack McKinney

SOLDIER - Arrangements are pending at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton for Jack B. Walter "Amma-se" McKinney, 34, Soldier, who drowned Saturday in rain-swollen Soldier Creek about 10 miles west of Mayetta.

Area churches prepare for Easter

By Mary Young

Mardis Gras or Carnival kicks off the advent of Lent but here in Mayetta Our Lady of Snows parish will have Mass at 7:00 p.m. on Tues., Feb. 27 for Ash Wednesday. Father Duane Reinert has agreed to have Mass on April 15th at 9:00 a.m., Easter Sunday. Laura Thackery will be supplying more details in the coming weeks.

In preparation for the spring bazaar in June, contact Laura and the church council regarding your contributions and donations toward this event because raffle tickets will soon be printed. Laura also suggests that you look for items that will be used as bingo gifts.

March offers speakers from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Committee to speak about program offers and breast cancer following Mass and the potluck.

A revival will precede Easter service at the Potawatomi Pentecostal Church on 134 Rd. The revival will start April 12-15, 2001 at 7 p.m.; refreshments will be served following every service. Evangelist Danny Rogers of Clinton, OK will be the guest speaker. Danny was the guest speaker and used mightily during the revival held in Jan.; each night was different with a powerful message.

Reverend Vernon Potts will be the guest speaker on Sat., Mar. 10 at the Kickapoo Senior Citizens building for a revival starting Mar. 9-10, 2001, at 7 p.m. Greg Foster, Topeka, will speak Fri. evening.

A potluck will follow services on Mar. 4, 2001.

Sunday school hours at the Potawatomi Pentecostal Church begins at 10 a.m., morning service at 10:45 a.m. and evening services at 7 p.m.

If you have any questions, contact Rev. Potts at (785) 966-2885.

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." - Acts 4:12

Blood Quantum: A Relic of Racism and Termination?

Jack D. Forbes
Native American Studies
University of California, Davis

This column's focus:
BLOOD QUANTUM: A RELIC OF RACISM
AND TERMINATION

Many Native People have gotten so used to the idea of "blood quantum" (degree of "blood") that sometimes the origin of this racist concept is forgotten. It's use started in 1705 when the colony of Virginia adopted a series of laws which denied civil rights to any "Negro, mulatto, or Indian" and which defined the above terms by stating that "the child of an Indian, and the child, grandchild, or great grandchild of a Negro shall be deemed accounted, held, and taken to be a mulatto." Thus both a person of American race and a person of half-American race (a "half-blood" in other words) were treated as legally inferior persons. Colony after colony and state after state followed Virginia's example in using blood quantum as a way of determining who could have the privileges accorded to white persons. For example, Alabama's code stated that "all Negroes, mulattoes, Indians and all persons of mixed blood, to the third generation inclusive though one ancestor of each generation may have been a white person, whether bond or free; shall be taken, and deemed incapable in law, to be witnesses.... except for or against each other." North Carolina possessed a code which prohibited marriages between white persons and "an Indian, Negro, Mustee, or Mulatto.... Or any person of Mixed Blood to the Third Generation." Such laws meant that a part-Indian of one-eighth American ancestry and seven-eighth European ancestry would not have acquired sufficient European "blood" to be accorded the legal privileges of whiteness.

The racist use of blood quantum continued without a break. In 1866 Virginia decreed that "Every person having one-fourth or more Negro blood shall be deemed a colored person, and every person not a colored person having one-fourth or more Indian blood shall be deemed an Indian." (This is perhaps where the one-quarter blood concept used by the Bureau of Indian Affairs originated). In the 20th century Virginia broadened the term "colored" to include all Indians with any trace of African ancestry, if living off-reservation, and with more than

1/32 African ancestry, if living on either the Pamunkey or Mattaponi reservations. The Federal government began to also use "degree of blood" in the latter part of the nineteenth-century, especially in relation to the enrollment of persons before the Dawes allotment commission. The use of "full," "one-half" etc. at that time was both an extension of the previous racist system and also a step in terminating Native Americans. Persons with greater amounts of white ancestry were assumed to be more competent than persons with lesser amounts. In other words, the degree of white blood was much more important than the degree of American ancestry. The white blood entitled an Indian Citizen to greater privileges, including being able to have "wardship" restrictions removed, being able to sell property, acquire the right to vote in state and federal elections, and so on. Thus it may be that many persons chose to exaggerate their amount of white ancestry when enrolling. Persons without white ancestry were restricted persons, with the Bureau controlling their financial lives. It was also expected that when a person became "competent" (white enough) he would no longer be an Indian and that process would eventually terminate a tribe's existence.

Thus the recording of blood quantum is both a product of white racism and of white social science theories of a racist nature, and also a product of a plan wherein Native nations are expected to vanish when the white blood quantum reaches a certain level (above three-fourths, for example). For this latter reason alone, the use of blood quantum is exceedingly dangerous for Native Nations today, although the Bureau and some eastern Oklahoma Indians don't seem to care about this danger. Recently, Kevin Gover issued proposed changes in the way the BIA calculates and invalidates a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood (CDIB). The changes were developed by a very small group of Bureau employees and a few tribal representatives, all in eastern Oklahoma. The changes may seem insignificant to some Oklahoma tribes, however, they should have been carefully reviewed by Indian Country because of their perpetuation of the racist blood quantum ideology, their ignoring of ratified treaties with tribes, and because of the role that they will play in Indians terminating themselves. First, Indian ancestry is to be computed only from so-called Federally-recognized tribes (in spite of the ambiguous status of some tribes at this time). The changes specifically limit "Indian blood" to ancestry from a Federally-recognized tribe and define the latter as one listed in the Federal Register as a tribe recognized by the Secretary of the Interior. This means that one's degree of Indian blood cannot include American Indian or Eskimo-Inuit ancestry derived from a terminated tribe, from an administratively-deleted tribe, from a Canadian, Greenlandic, Mexican or other non-US group, or from any state-recognized tribe (as along the east coast), or perhaps from any newly-recognized tribe. Thus a person who is 1/2 Inuit from Alaska and 1/2 Inuit from Canada or Greenland can only be counted as 1/2.

The possibility exists that numerous persons of full American indigenous racial ancestry will be counted as mixed-bloods and that, gradually, American Indians will be eliminated as a people as they marry non-Indians or currently non-Federally-recognized Natives. This is a form of self-termination. If you are concerned about these issues contact Kevin Gover at the Department of the Interior and also Karen Ketcher, BIA, 101 North 5th Street, Muskogee, OK 74401 or Karen Ketcher@bia.gov. Refer to "1076-AD98." This topic will be explored in a subsequent column also.

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Professor Jack D. Forbes, Powhatan-Delaware, is the author of *Africans and Native Americans, Only Approved Indians, Red Blood, and other books.*

www.cougar.ucdavis.edu/nas/faculty
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U.S. Census Report 2000

By Mary Young

Release dates for the 2000 census statistics should happen between May and Sept. 2001 and as late as July 2002 depending on the variety of data needs. In reviewing the 1990 article, "The American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut Population" by Edna L. Paisano, she stated that "in the last two decades, the American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut population grew rapidly." The following are the census statistics for 1990: 1,878,285 (American Indians), 57,152 (Eskimos), and 23,797 (Aleuts) with a projection of 4.3 million by the year 2050.

Factors causing the higher 1990 count includes improvement of "questions on race; the way the Census Bureau counted people on reservations, on trust lands, and in Alaska Native villages; continued use of self-identification to obtain information on race; a greater propensity in 1990 than in earlier censuses for individuals (especially those of mixed Indian and non-Indian parentage) to report themselves as American Indian; and improved outreach programs and promotion campaigns."

Times have changed. Many of you readers may recall when the American Indian fell under the term "other" and the "neshnabe" count so small one would imagine the American Indian was truly extinct. No more. The census questions are continually being improved and the importance of these statistics can only indicate to the rest of the population that the "neshnabe" is alive and well.

Stand up and be counted on the next go-around.

Mama's Cafe

Located in HEART of
Topeka, KS
at
1422 Lane Street

Visit Native-Owned Business -
Indulge in A Meal Prepared by
Prof. Culinary Chef, Dion Quintana

Run across the street to
Sandra's Flea Market
after eating

Menus Changes
on Weekly Basis

Catering Services
Available—
can prepare any
nationality of food

Whole Pies
Sold—
24 advance
notice

10%
Senior
Citizen
Discount

55+

Hours of Operation: Open 7 days a week (MON-SAT) 7am-4pm (SUN)

Wardrobe Reigns

By Mary Young

Several years ago, Clarissa P. Estes wrote a profound book entitled "Women Who Run with the Wolves: Myths and Stories of the Wild Woman Archetype." "According to Estes, wolves and women share a psychic bond in their fierceness, grace and devotion to mate and community." She reminds the reader that the stories in the book "are not necessarily about wolves." As in Estes's book, this story is not about wolves even though a member of the pack shared the story that a prominent sign placed over their department door once read, "Wardrobe Wolf Pack."

Stores, restaurants, homes and casinos have grand openings and Harrah's Prairie Band Casino is no different. Just recently, they hosted a gala celebration event on January 20, 2001. But prior to the Grand Opening on January 12, 1998, Vivian Gonzales and Joetta F. Walrod began to work for Harrah's Wardrobe Dept. at White Lakes Mall located on 37th and Topeka Blvd. in Topeka, KS on Dec. 8, 1997. At this rental site, they unloaded and unpacked boxes of pants and sized them prior to hanging them up. Harrah's more experienced employees came from other properties to help out with the new property. Although Joetta and Vivian "had to learn on their own," Joetta learned how to cut and both learned how to fit people for the sleeve and arm movement; it took two weeks to fit everyone except they could not touch the beverage uniforms. They both worked long hours, sometimes until midnight to 2 a.m. to finish on schedule. One night Vivian and Joetta stayed in a motel because of sleet, they had worked too late to return home.

Today, Wardrobe boasts six staff members and they are Joetta, Supervisor; two seamstresses, Connie Henderson and Kate Fiedler; and three clerks, Gayle Schultz, Roxie Barton and Vivian.

Wardrobe is also responsible for assigning lock-

ers. The ideal procedure was that after all of the uniforms were sized, bar coded and assigned to the employee, the uniform would be picked up and an available and appropriate locker would be assigned. Ideally, the restroom area lockers were to be designated for employees that need to change from street clothes to uniform such as hard/soft count and beverage servers but at the time, Wardrobe did not know what numbers would be assigned and where they would be located. As employees leave, the situation is being remedied.

Changes have occurred such as Kate handling the beverage uniforms; a bar coding system is in place; Kathy no longer does the engraving now that Gayle is on board. The big change is that the wardrobe area is no longer used for general storage and the seamstresses are no longer working out of the Training Center at 190 but are now located in 1/3 of a trailer behind the casino. This creates a problem for the new employee expecting their uniform if they start on weekends, clothing will not be ready.

What has not changed is the fact that Wardrobe is scattered. The in-house is for employees to pick up and drop off their uniform at the counter. As the casino expands, more employees will be hired requiring more uniforms; Wardrobe needs more space but in one centrally located vicinity. In a wheel, they are part of the hub and crucial to the whole. This reminds me of a library, everyone sees the books on the shelf with a call number and label, but no one sees how this happens. You have just viewed a small portion of what goes on behind the scenes of a casino wardrobe.

All of the Wardrobe staff agreed that they work as a team; they have good staff, and strong leadership. Everyone gets along and is able to air their complaints and they enjoy coming to work. Strong points include their humor, laughter and willingness to help in any situation such as fixing a desperate dealer's eyeglasses with tape that lasts.

Keep up the great work!



Sandra Quintana, poses in front of her store in Topeka. One "customer" seems to be camera shy. (photo taken by PBPN staff)

USDA Rural Development Loans and Grants

Rural areas and small rural towns can benefit from a variety of USDA rural housing programs. The USDA Rural Development local office in Lawrence services the following counties: Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Douglas, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Leavenworth, Nemaha, Osage and Shawnee. Qualifying applicants can receive assistance to make necessary repairs to their home or to purchase a home.

Repair loans, known as 504 loans, can be used for roof repair, furnace replacement, septic repair and other essential repairs. The loans are at one-percent interest and require repayment of approximately five dollars per month, per thousand dollars borrowed. To be eligible, applicants must have qualifying income, occupy the dwelling and have an acceptable ownership interest in the home. Some applicants over age 62 may be eligible for a grant.

The agency also makes 502 loans for home purchase. Applicants must not currently own adequate housing and must meet income limitations. These loans require no down payment and are typically made for thirty-three-years at a fixed rate of interest. Most applicants initially qualify for interest subsidy. The dwelling can be new or existing, but in either case it should be modest.

Aside from making loans, the USDA also guarantees many housing loans in rural areas. Approved commercial lenders can make 100 percent loans with the benefit of a USDA guarantee. These loans are made at fixed rates over thirty years to those with qualifying income. Borrowers pay closing costs and a two-percent guarantee fee.

For more information on any of these programs, please contact the Lawrence Rural Development office at (785) 843-4260 ext. 4.



Joetta F. Walrod and Vivian Gonzales (AKA "leaders of the wolf pack") attend General Council meeting.

(Photo taken by PBPN)

Prairie Band Potawatomi Vocational Rehabilitation

Established to assist American Indians
With disabilities become or remain
employed

You may be eligible for the VR program:
If you are a member of an Indian tribe
And reside on or near the Potawatomi Indian
Reservation

Have a physical or mental impairment that
limits your ability to find or keep
employment

If you have any questions or you want to
apply for the program, come by the Social
Services Department at the
We Ta Se Building or,

Call us at (785) 966-2932

PUBLIC NOTICE

Interested Applicants for Volunteer Service
On the
Prairie Band Potawatomi Planning Commission

To fill unexpired term of Tribal Member.
Requirement to live on the Reservation.
Available to meet monthly for evening meetings.
If interested call: 966-2946

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Planning Commission consists of 7 members, 4 tribal members and 3 non-tribal members, that live on the Reservation or within 1-2 miles. Current members include Tony Wahweotten, Warren Pugh, Mary McClere, Marjean Shenk, Barbara Walder-Hittle, Paul Slattery and 1 vacancy at present. The Tribal Council makes appointments by resolution for 3 year terms to serve on the Planning Commission. The Commission meets regularly each month on the 3rd Monday evening. They review all Special Use Permits (which include manufactured housing use); any variances for building permits, re-zoning or lot split applications; and make recommendations for updates to the Land Use Plan and Zoning Regulations for the Potawatomi Reservation. Recommendations from the Planning Commission are forwarded to the Tribal Council for consideration and decisions. The Planning Director, Latane Donelin, serves as staff for the Planning Commission. Planning Commission members are working to develop a brochure or guide about the permitting process for the Tribe and community.

**Earth Day 2001
Notice**

Mark your calendars!
"Don't just stand there...do something!"
is our Earth Day message, this
year.
Plan to join the community
on
Sat., April 14, 2001
at Prairie Peoples Park.

Ginigittek (Those who are born)



Welcome Mikal Layton Kitchkommie. Mikal was born January 12, 2001, weighed in at 7 lbs. 7 oz. and 21 in. tall. Mikal's proud parents are Mario and Andrea Kitchkommie.

(Photo submitted)

Prairie Band Potawatomi Bingo

A guaranteed jackpot daily!

Monday through Saturday
(CLOSED Wednesdays)
Doors open 5:00 p.m.
Mini session 6:30 p.m.
Regular session 7:30 p.m.

Sunday
Doors open 10 a.m.
Mini session 12:30 p.m.
Regular session 1:30 p.m.

Concessions available

For more information call Toll Free
1-866 862-4646
Located on Hwy. 75, Road 162

MUST BE 18 TO PLAY

REZ BOYS RACING

Please allow us to introduce ourselves...we are the *Rez boys Racing Team*, owner and driver Willie Potts and crew chief Dennis "Festus" Eakin.

As it is almost time for racing season to begin, it has become imperative to step up our search for car sponsors.

Rez Boys Racing offers to all sponsors the opportunity to have their business, etc. advertised on our car in exchange for sponsorship contributions. We prefer installments made throughout the season. However, one-time sponsorships are also wonderful.

At the end of the 2000 racing season, the team was faced with many financial constraints due to being a new crew. Over the past year, we have built confidence and are more aware than ever what it will take for us to be successful, which translates into your sponsorship.

Please, consider sponsoring the Rez Boys Racing Team. Feel free to give us a call with questions, etc., Willie or Tracy 785/771-0112 or Festus at 785/771-2141.

Looking for pen-pals

I am looking for pen pals; I am a 37-year-old Potawatomi male, 5'7" and 150 lbs. I am a sergeant in the U.S. army stationed in Colorado. Age unimportant. I do look forward to hearing from you. I want to get to know people from the KS area. You can write or e-mail me. I am a good man looking to make friends.

Sgt (P) Roy W. Matsapto
P.O. Box 13516
Colorado Springs, CO 80913-3516

E-mail: MAT1963@AOL.COM

POTAWATOMI GATHERINGS

During the October 2000 General Council Meeting, a 2002 Gathering Committee was nominated, consisting of the following people: Tim Ramirez, Mike Shobney, Joy Yoshida, Camilla Chouteau, Mickey Martinez, Trilby Wahwasuck, LaVerne Hale, Dale Delg, Melvin Lewis, Marilyn Brewer, Linda & Ralph Tecumseh.

This committee had one meeting, with another scheduled for March 9th @ 11:30 a.m. at the Bingo Hall. At the first meeting, officers were elected and committees were formed. Officers for the 2002 Gathering Committee are: Chairperson, LaVerne Hale; Secretary, Mickey Martinez; and Treasurer, Linda Tecumseh.

Excitement filled the meeting's atmosphere as new ideas burst forward—faster than writing permitted. A list of the various committees will be posted at a later date so you can see what committee you would like to volunteer for. We want our Gathering 2002 to be "the one to remember." We will keep you updated on the plans. Please express all refreshing ideas to committee members. Also, be ready to volunteer!

However, we have one more Gathering trip to take before our hard and fun work starts here on our Rez.

JIM THORPE HONOR DAY

The Jim Thorpe family and the Sac and Fox Nation will co-sponsor *JIM THORPE HONOR DAY* with a family reunion and a traditional pow wow on Saturday, May 26, 2001 at the Sac and Fox Nation Community Center located 5 miles south of Stroud, OK. The Honor Day is in recognition of Jim Thorpe being declared *ABC's Wide World of Sports Athlete of the Century*.

Activities will start at 9:00 a.m. with the showing of documentaries and the movie, "Jim Thorpe, All-American" with Burt Lancaster. A Thorpe family genealogical tree will be formulated while scrap books, memorabilia, including Thorpe's pre-Olympic and Olympic medals will be displayed. Family, friends, and fans are encouraged to bring their own Thorpe and family memorabilia. At noon, a pot luck luncheon will be served. The pow wow sponsored by the Sac and Fox Nation will begin with gourd dancing at 3:00 p.m., a traditional Sac and Fox supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. with the pow wow of traditional and contemporary dances starting at 7:30 p.m.

The Jim Thorpe Honor Day also recognizes and invites the people of Sac and Fox, Potawatomi, Kickapoo, and Menominee Nations who are of Thorpe family ancestry. The public is invited. For information, call Dagmar Thorpe, Coordinator, at (405) 567-3679 or write 2213 West 8th Street, Prague, OK 74864.

The Potawatomi Gathering 2001 will be held at Parry Island, Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada on August 2-5, 2001, hosted by the Potawatomi Nation in Canada, Wasauksing First Nation.

In November 2000, we were invited to attend a planning meeting with the Potawatomi Nation in Canada. Tribal Council sent LaVerne Hale on this "worthwhile trip." Laverne was able to reserve only 47 rooms at 2 different hotels. Camping will be encouraged. The gathering site is a beautiful place to camp, fish, & swim. A grand tour was taken of the Reserve. Plans were discussed about the upcoming gathering. In preparation of entering the Canadian boarder, be prepared to have your proper identification.

Tentative Gathering dates:

Leave : July 31
Return : August 6 or 7

An official sign-up sheet has not been posted. There will be a definite cut-off date this year for "when to stop accepting names." Rules have not been set forth by the Tribal Council yet. Coordinators for the Canada Gathering are LaVerne Hale, Dale Delg, and Melvin Lewis. More information and plans will be given at the April General Council Meeting. For information or ideas about either Gathering, you can call LaVerne Hale @ 785/966-4014, or e-mail <laverne_hale@hotmail.com> or any other members listed above.

When you are in the vicinity of
Harrah's
Stop by the

Nation Station

For numerous sundries and
convenience items

Such as
Diesel and regular fuel
Showers

Great menu items include break-
fast & lunch
Biscuits & gravy, salad bar,
soups...

Hours of Operation:
Sunday through Thursday:
6:30 a.m.—10:30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday:
6:30 a.m.—11:30 p.m.

Located at 12285—150th Road
off Hwy. 75

While at Harrah's Prairie Band

Casino, drop by the

GIFT SHOP

featuring:
Numerous gift ideas
made by local artists,
Convenience items such as
snacks & smokes

Hours of Operation:
8:30 a.m.—12 Midnight
Seven (7) days a week

Special Orders by Request; Inquire
Within

Prairie Band Potawatomi
Tribal Member