

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

March 2004 EDITION

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Tribe's Fire Department responds quickly to fire at Harrah's Casino Expansion Site

-first on scene to put fire out

by: Suzanne Heck

A fire broke out in the early morning of February 24 at the Harrah's expansion site and the Tribe's Fire Department was there within nine minutes to extinguish the fire.

Following close behind was the Mayetta, Hoyt, and Holton fire departments who arrived shortly after Harrah's security had placed an emergency dispatch call out in the region. No one was injured in the blaze but hotel guests were evacuated as a safety precaution.



Above are the remains of a fire that was contained to a utility room of the new expansion site on February 24. The State's Fire Marshall's Office determined that the fire was electrical in nature.

According to Rick Swogger, PBPB Fire Captain, the fire started around 3 a.m. in a utility room located on the expansion site's first floor. The fire did extensive damage to that room, but crews were able to contain it. They knocked out the west wall of the room to let heavy smoke escape.

Later that day the State Fire Marshall's Department determined that the cause of the fire was electrical and had been caused by some outside power lines that had arced.

Chuck Montgomery, Senior Project Manager for the expansion said that one of the reasons there had been little damage was that the construction site was clean. He inspected the damage at the site that day

along with PBPB's Steve Duryea, Field Inspector for the EPA Department, Jon Boursaw, Executive Director, and Patrick Feltman Construction Manager who were all on hand to inspect the damage.

Feltman said that the fire department did a great job of putting out the fire and said that it

would not affect the timeline for the expansion's completion date, which is scheduled for August 15.

Eight PBPB fire crew were called to the scene and they had a firetruck, ambulance, and 3,000 gallon tanker available to help if needed.

The grand opening of the new expansion area that will include new hotel suites and rooms, gift shop, a conference center and steakhouse is scheduled for Labor Day weekend.

Evans and Rupnicki win gaming commission seats Both per capita ordinances pass

by: Suzanne Heck and Mary Young



Jona Potts-Rupnicki



Calvin Evans

Turn to the back page for more on the election coverage and swearing in ceremony

Calvin Evans and Jona Potts-Rupnicki were elected to the Gaming Commission and the two per capita questions that were also on the ballot passed

Mail-in ballots were counted on February 25 at the Community Building in front of approximately fifty people who had gathered by the election's end. The unofficial count was 1,356 votes.

Evans won with 484 votes and Rupnicki followed with 335. Evans has been on the Gaming Commission since 1994 and this is Rupnicki's first term on the Commission. Joe Jessepe placed third with 275 votes and Vernon Mzhickteno took fourth with 249 votes.

The first per capita questions involved increasing distributions to tribal members from 24 percent to 30 percent and taking that 6 percent from economic development. The second question involved increasing the per capita distributions from two to four times per year. The first question concerning the distribution increase passed by 87 percent but the second question regarding increasing the distributions to a quarterly basis garnered a 59 percent tally.

Immediately following the election results Jona Rupnicki was on her cell phone to tell her parents about her win.

"I wasn't nervous until it was over," she said, "and now I'm shaking like a leaf."

Evans, who was standing nearby Rupnicki, appeared pleased about the win and immediately went over to congratulate Rupnicki on her win.

Those assisting with the election voting count were Tim Sanchez of Automated Election Service (AES), Albuquerque, Marty Hamlin, who served as the Election Judge, Joe Mendez who acted as the Election Clerk and Sam Grant from the Tribal Police Department who served as the Official Observer. Also assisting were Voncile Mitchell, June Barber and Ruta Mendez from the Election Board and Arlene Lingo from the Enrollment Department.

During the election, lunch was served by the Gaming Commission staff and most of the eleven candidates were on hand to witness the count. Other members of the Gaming Commission include Milton LaClair, Joyce Guerrero, and Carrie O'Toole.

The Swearing-in ceremony was held on March 2 at the Bingo Hall where the two newly elected members were officially sworn into office. Lunch was provided to all PBPB employees that day in the Bingo Hall by the Gaming Commission.

Quarterly per capita payments pending DOI approval

submitted by: Jim Potter

It will be awhile before tribal members receive their increased per capita payments due to some red tape that the Nation has to follow to meet Department of Interior (DOI) requirements and trying to figure out how the Nation will deal with the increased workload and equipment upgrades of distributing the quarterly payments.

Below is a little history on how the per capita ordinances came about and what all is entailed in the revenue allocation process:

- The General Council voted at a quarterly meeting in favor of amending the Per Capita Ordinance to increase the per capita percentage and increase the payment frequency to quarterly.

- The Tribal Council on October 2, 2003 passed a resolution authorizing a General Council Referendum to vote on the proposed changes to the Per Capita Ordinance.

- The General Council referendum election was

held and amended the Ordinance, subject to Department of Interior approval.

- The Tribal Council has ratified the amendments (March 5, 2004) and will prepare a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Interior to approve the amended Ordinance under 25 U.S.C. 2710 and 25 CFR 290.24.

- The Interior Department is required to review and approve or disapprove the amendments within 60 days of receiving them under 25 CGFR 290.19.

- Under Per Capita Ordinance Article VI, Sec. 1, the amendments will become effective when approved by the Secretary of Interior.

If the Secretary of the Interior approves the amended Ordinance additional personnel will need to be hired and any necessary equipment upgrades to handle the upcoming increase in mailing of documents and checks will be put into place.



Reservation resident Raphael Wahwassuck was the first recipient of the new PBPB tribal tags issued in February. With Raphael is Michael Boswell, a corporal with the tribal police department. See story inside this issue about tribal tags
photo by: Micki Martinez



PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION
GAMING COMMISSION
AND REFERENDUM ISSUE ELECTION
February 25, 2004
OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

GAMING COMMISSION	MACHINE	HAND TALLY	TOTAL	%
LAURA (HARRISON) ABEYTA	210	11	221	8.63%
CALVIN EVANS	472	12	484	18.91%
SCOTT E. HOPKINS	125	5	130	5.08%
JOSEPH JESSEPE	266	9	275	10.74%
SILVIA K. MOSS	108	3	111	4.34%
VERNON MZHICKTENNO	244	5	249	9.73%
TOM OGDEN	145	5	150	5.86%
DOLLY POTTS	197	8	205	8.01%
JONA L. POTTS-RUPNICKI	321	14	335	13.09%
SHAWNNA WABAUNSEE	202	3	205	8.01%
LAVEDA THOMAS WAHWEOTTEN	193	2	195	7.62%
FIRST QUESTION				
YES	1116	37	1153	87.02%
NO	167	5	172	12.98%
SECOND QUESTION				
YES	761	30	791	59.25%
NO	531	13	544	40.75%

What a turnout!

There were 1,369 ballots turned into the election board but 11 were unsigned and rejected. Two ballots also didn't count because they were included with two other ballots and also rejected. The official count came to 1,356 votes which is the highest voting count ever in the history of the PBPB.





Shab-eh-nay land claim revisited

an open letter to the tribal membership from the Tribal Council

March 19, 2004

Letter to Membership from Tribal Council

Dear Tribal Members,

As most of you know, our Tribe is now nearing the end of a long road that began almost 150 years ago – a heartfelt quest to reclaim a small plot of our original tribal homelands located in Illinois.

That land, about 1,200 acres in DeKalb County, was illegally seized in the nineteenth century and sold by land swindlers without the slightest concern for the law or the Tribe's rights.

Nearly seven years ago, our Tribal Council enlisted the help of historians, scientists and legal experts to examine our claim and compile a case to present to the Department of Interior. The federal government has studied the evidence and formally agreed with the finding that the land has always belonged to the Tribe. As was reported in our newspaper three years ago, Interior officials sent notice to the Governor of Illinois and the head of the state's congressional delegation to affirm and explain their decision.

Our goal, first and foremost, has always been to restore our Tribe's rights to the land that were originally guaranteed in the Treaty of Prairie du Chien. At that time, we were forced to give up more than 5 million acres of land in return for permanent establishment of our land in Kansas and Illinois. That treaty, signed by Chief Shab-eh-nay in 1829, is a legacy that belongs to all of us. It should be a source of pride for all the members of our Tribe that we now have a singular opportunity to correct this historic injustice.

The two previous chairs of the Tribe, as well as all the Council members who have served in recent years deserve enormous credit for all their diligent work on this effort. Claims of this kind must be meticulously researched and the fact that this process has progressed so steadily is a testament to all who have served in tribal leadership in recent years.

And although it has been a complex process, we have tried to keep you, the tribal membership, informed about the milestones we have passed along the way. The work has been discussed at numerous public sessions and various aspects have been detailed in our newspaper. Some of you may even recall a story we helped develop that appeared in the Washington Post a few years ago.

Obviously, there are a number of casinos in the state of Illinois already. The Tribe would have the right to develop one as well but, by our thinking, any development would be better served by a project more like a destination resort. A casino can provide the economic base but building other elements around it – such as a golf course, conference center, restaurants or even a water park – simply makes better financial sense. Final decisions will be made as we move through the proposed planning stage. Most importantly, the reclamation of our ancestral lands is at the forefront of this project.

Important developments still lie ahead, however, and we would like to try to do an even better job of informing you. We also want your feedback, and to be open and available to answer your questions and hear your concerns.

In that spirit, we will be taking a number of steps to communicate with tribal members about the specifics of the land claim and the Tribe's plans. Here are some of those steps:

- At our next Quarterly Meeting, on April 17th we will present a full briefing on where the project stands along with a forecast of what's ahead. We will field any and all questions that tribal members may have and are welcome to make any suggestions as well.
- We will establish an 800-number "answer line" at tribal offices so that members can call at any time and learn the latest developments and have their questions or concerns addressed.
- We will be giving a regular, monthly update briefing to provide an ongoing report on what's taking place. The briefing will be published in this newspaper.
- We will create a report that details all the legal background on the project, including a timeline of every step in the process, all contractual arrangements, interaction with federal and state officials, memos to tribal leadership (past and present) from our legal team, as well as a thorough "frequently asked questions" section. That report will be made available to all tribal members.
- We will create a section on our website devoted to displaying all the relevant information about the process, as it happens.

Last, and perhaps most importantly, we will be available to you on a personal one-on-one basis to hear any thoughts you have on our progress. The main reason we have come so far in this effort is by working together – let's continue that dialogue. We want to hear from you.

Allow us to close with some good news. As was reported a few weeks ago, the Tribe has purchased a home with a small piece of property on our land in Illinois. Although it was a small step, the significance is great. It represents the first physical return our Tribe has made to our ancestral land in Illinois in more than 150 years. We want to make that home a place where any tribal member can visit for a first-hand look at the one-acre property and tour our rich history in the town of Shabbona, DeKalb County, Illinois.

In a broader sense, we want the impact of our renewed presence in Illinois to be a source of benefit and inspiration for everyone who lives in the community. The history of tribes in this region has had some dark chapters but the legacy of accomplishment has always come when our community works together. That's why we are counting on your help and your input.

Respectfully,

PBPN Tribal Council

Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe purchases home on Shab-eh-nay Reservation

Shabbona, IL – February 18, 2004 – The Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe has purchased a home in the Indian Oaks Estates subdivision on its Shabehnay Reservation lands near Shabbona, Illinois. The purchase of the five-bedroom house on approximately one acre of property represents the first formal reclamation of tribal land since the Department of Interior affirmed the Tribe's existing reservation rights in 2001.

The Tribe intends to maintain the house as a residential dwelling, initially for intermittent use by visiting tribal members. The Tribe was first approached about the sale by the homeowner and the purchase price of the property was at fair market value.

"It is enormously heartening to take these first steps toward rebuilding our presence as neighbors in the Shabbona area," said Tribal Chairman Zach Pahmahmie. "The Prairie Band has worked for generations to reach this small milestone and we are looking forward to making a positive contribution to the community."

For decades, the Tribe has sought to reclaim treaty lands that were illegally seized and sold in the 19th century. Extensive legal and historical research led the Department of Interior to affirm the Tribe's rights to the land, a 1,280 acre plot located near the town of Shabbona in DeKalb County.

A stop at Lake Shabbona on our journey to the 2003 Hannahville Gathering reconnects us with the land



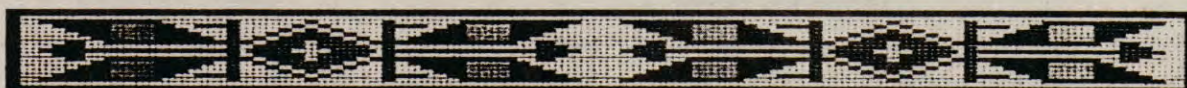
Photos by Micki Martinez



continued on pages 3 and 13



The October 19, 2002 report below was previously printed in the February, 2003 edition of the Potawatomi News on page 4 under the heading "Status Report on Shab-eh-nay Land Claim From January 2003 General Council Meeting". Both reports on this page were printed at the request of the Tribal Council and provided by Ralph Simon, PBPB attorney.



STATUS REPORT ON SHAB-EH-NAY LAND CLAIM

October 19, 2002 General Council Meeting

CONFIDENTIAL

The Nature of the Claim.

On July 29, 1829, through the Treaty of Prairie du Chien, between the United States and the United Nations of Chippewa, Ottawa and Potawatomi, the United States reserved two sections of land in northern Illinois for the Illinois River Potawatomi Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band. Although the subsequent 1832 Treaty of Chicago moving Potawatomi of northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin west did not affect the Shab-eh-nay Band's reservation, in late 1826 the Band was ordered to remove, eventually relocating to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where the Band merged, politically and culturally, with the other Potawatomi bands which had removed west and soon became known as the Prairie Band Potawatomi. Through that merger, the Prairie Band Potawatomi became the sole successor in interest to the Shab-eh-nay Band.

This coalition, including the Shab-eh-nay Band proper, relocated to a new reservation in Kansas after the Treaty of 1846. In 1849, the United States General Land Office illegally sold the Shab-eh-nay Reservation. Because the sale was not then and has never been authorized by a treaty or an Act of Congress, the treaty-reserved title to the Shab-eh-nay Band Reservation has never been extinguished. When the Shab-eh-nay Band merged with the Prairie Band Potawatomi, all tribal rights to the Reservation which the Shab-eh-nay Band held at the time were conveyed to the Prairie Band. Therefore, the Prairie Band is the rightful and sole beneficiary of the lands originally reserved for Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band under the Treaty of Prairie du Chien of 1829. No other Potawatomi Band and no Potawatomi tribal members of any Band hold the treaty rights under the Treaty of Prairie du Chien.

The Individuals or Companies Involved in Supporting the Nations' Claim.

Financial support for the establishment of the Nation's claim was first provided by Skyline Group, Inc., a Minnesota corporation owned by Bob Sheets and Mary West. The Nation signed an agreement with Skyline on April 13, 1998. Skyline agreed to pay up to two million dollars for the establishment of Nation's claim, and in addition to transfer to the Nation an option it held on the 128 acres within the boundaries of the 1280 acre Shab-eh-nay reservation and then to pay for the 128 acres. Skyline also agreed to develop adjacent off-reservation land on which it held options in a manner

compatible with any tribal reservation development (with the Prairie Band to receive a 20% share of the profits from Skyline's off reservation development). The Skyline funding was not a loan, but under the agreement, Skyline was to receive 15 % of the net profit from any commercial operations on the Illinois reservation for seven years once substantial operations began. The agreement specifically provides that the Nation has no obligation to commercially develop the reservation land. Skyline ran out of money. On April 13, 2000, Skyline and the Nation signed an agreement assigning the rights and responsibilities to a newly formed company, Liberty Alliances, LLC. At the time of signing the agreement, the members of Liberty included Robert H. Book of MB Asia Capital Corporation and Richard I. Solomon, through Double R Capital Partners, LLC, and Advent Communications and Entertainment Company. The two million dollar cap on investment funding was removed in that agreement. In a February 11, 2000, agreement, Liberty agreed to issue to Skyline 10 % of the outstanding interests in Liberty as of the date of their agreement. Liberty has advised the Nation that it has sold noncontrolling membership interests to other individuals in the amount of two million dollars.

In exchange for its 15 % interest, Liberty's funding obligation under the agreement includes paying for legal, lobbying and consultant services, such as those listed in numbers 2-4 below.

Shesky and Froelich is a Chicago law firm which has been retained to represent the Nation and Liberty in the state of Illinois to assist politically with the establishment of the Nation's land claim and any commercial development the Nation may decide to pursue.

Ayer & Hughes is a D.C. law firm comprised of M. Frances Ayer & Jennifer P. Hughes. Ms. Ayer has directed the legal work to establish the claim and has performed overall management of the legal, historical and political aspects of the claim. Ayer & Hughes has affiliated with Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker, a D.C. - based law firm, with the intent of merging with that firm. Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker has approximately 30 attorneys and practices Indian law, celebrating their 20th anniversary in December.

Experts used to assist Ms. Ayer in her work have been Dr. James Clifton, the most renowned Potawatomi expert and author of *The Prairie People*. Dr. James McClurken, expert witness in the *Voight* case in which the Supreme Court affirmed the off-reservation treaty hunting and fishing rights of Minnesota tribes, and a Potawatomi and Ottawa expert anthropologist and ethnohistorian, Mr. James Dowd, author of *Built Like a Bear*, and Dr. James Edmonds, Potawatomi expert and currently a professor of American History at the University of Texas at Dallas. Dr. Clifton, Dr.

McClurken and Dr. Edmonds are authors of innumerable publications on Ottawa, Chippewa and Potawatomi Indians. Presently, only Dr. McClurken and Dr. Edmonds are alive and still able to assist with the Nation's claim; however, valuable affidavits have already been received from all of the experts.

Steps Taken To Date to prove the Claim.

In early 1997, Ms. Ayer was requested to do legal research and analysis on the Nation's claim. She undertook and directed historical and genealogical research and analysis, using documents collected by the Tribe, her firm and the experts discussed above.

That work included research and analysis of the following: historical and title status of the reservation land; the political and genealogical ties of the historic Shab-eh-nay Band to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation; the legal status of the reservation as an existing treaty reservation to which the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is the only successor in interest. Affidavits from elderly tribal members were also obtained.

In January 1998, the Tribe's claim and supporting documentation were presented to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Tribe's submission contained five large volumes of material. In March of 1998, Assistant Secretary Kevin Gover concluded that the claim appeared to have merit and should be reviewed by the Department. In May of 1998, the Office of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior concluded that the claim seemed to have merit and should be reviewed by the Solicitor's office in Washington, D.C.

In June of 2000, two lengthy internal opinions were prepared by the Solicitor's office, which concluded that the Shab-eh-nay Reservation exists and that the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is the successor in interest to the treaty claims under the 1829 Treaty of Prairie du Chien. Both opinions are scholarly, but have not been released to the public. The Solicitor of the Department of the Interior on January 18, 2001, sent a letter opinion to the Governor of Illinois and the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives advising them of the claim and that it had merit.

That opinion noted that the Indian Nonintercourse Act, 25 U.S.C. section 177, makes void any conveyance of Indian title without the consent of Congress and that the Solicitor's research did not reveal any subsequent treaty or Act of Congress which authorized the conveyance of the treaty lands. The opinion stated, "Our research has also led us to the conclusion that the Prairie Band is the lawful successor in interest to Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band. . . . [W]e believe the U.S. continues to bear a trust responsibility to the Prairie Band for these lands."

This Congress, bills were introduced in the House and the Senate to extinguish any claims of the Prairie Band, the Ottawa Band of Oklahoma and the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to lands in Illinois. The bill was generated by the Miami suit against landowners in Illinois for millions of acres. Much work was done to prepare a May hearing on the House bill. Vice Chairman Mitchell testified on behalf of the Nation. The Miami Tribe filed a motion to dismiss its Illinois suit without prejudice, and it is probable that the bill will die when this Congress adjourns at the end of the lame-duck session following the national elections.

Communication with the state of Illinois and its attorneys and with Speaker Hastert's office took place during 2000-2001. The state of Illinois took the Nation's claim seriously, but communication waned following the 2000 presidential election, the heating up of the Miami Tribe's suit and the introduction of the bill to extinguish the land claims in Illinois, and the national attention focused on the 9-11-01 terrorist attacks. Speaker Hastert has been cordial to the Nation, has commended the Nation on its conduct in the pursuit of its claim and on the quality of the preparation of its claim. Efforts to renew that communication in an effective manner will be undertaken after the upcoming November elections.

Tribal attorneys David Prager and Ralph Simon have worked with Ms. Ayer throughout this process.

Steps to be taken.

A detailed plan of action has been approved by the Tribal Council for approaching the state of Illinois, the Congress, the Interior Department, the County of Dekalb in Illinois where the reservation is located and the residents of that county. The plan is not set in stone and will change as circumstances warrant. The first objective is to have the state recognize the Nation's claim, to try to develop a settlement which returns as much of the 1,280 acre reservation land as possible to the Nation and allows whatever development the Nation chooses to take place. Any such settlement would have to be confirmed in an Act of Congress.

The success of the Nation's efforts cannot be foretold with certainty. Much careful, discrete, timely and expert negotiation, public relations and media work remains to be done. The Nation has assembled an excellent team, which is demonstrating its ability to take the proper steps to try to establish the Nation's claim. Many legal and political obstacles will be encountered and dealt with. Should the Nation elect to undertake economic development on the Illinois land, the economic crisis in Illinois is believed by the team to be a major positive factor in support of establishing the Nation's land claim.

took the Nation's claim seriously, but communication waned following the presidential election in 2001, the heating up of the Miami Tribe's suit and the introduction of the bill to extinguish the land claims in Illinois. The first year of the new Republican Administration in Washington, with a Republican governor in Illinois, slowed the Nation's dealing with the State. Speaker Hastert, in whose district the Shab-eh-nay Reservation is located, has been cordial to the Nation, has commended the Nation on its conduct in the pursuit of its claim and on the quality of the preparation of its claim.

Next steps to be taken:

The first objective is to have the state recognize the Nation's claim, to try to develop a settlement which returns as much reservation land as possible to the Nation and allows whatever development the Nation chooses to take place. Any such settlement would have to be confirmed in an Act of Congress.

As reported to the last General Council Meeting, the Nation has assembled an excellent team of professionals which team is working with the Tribal Council to take the proper steps to establish the Nation's claim. The team prepared a detailed plan of action that has been approved by the Tribal Council.

The success of the Nation's efforts cannot be foretold with certainty. Much careful, discrete, timely and expert negotiation, public relations and media work is entailed both at the state and federal levels. The election of the new Democratic Governor Blagojevich, with whom some on the Nation's team have excellent relations, is a positive change. After waiting for the Governor to fill the senior positions in his administration, the team is now making discrete, initial contacts with the State to explore settlement possibilities.

STATUS REPORT TO GENERAL COUNCIL
April 26, 2003

STATUS REPORT ON SHAB-EH-NAY LAND CLAIM

April 26, 2003 General Council Meeting

Background:

On July 29, 1829, through the Treaty of Prairie du Chien, between the United States and the United Nations of Chippewa, Ottawa and Potawatomi, the United States reserved two sections of land in northern Illinois for the Illinois River Potawatomi Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band. Although the subsequent 1832 Treaty of Chicago moving Potawatomi of northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin west did not affect the Shab-eh-nay Band's reservation, in late 1826 the Band was ordered to remove, eventually relocating to Council Bluffs, Iowa. There the Band merged, politically and culturally, with the other Potawatomi bands which had removed west and soon became known as the Prairie Band Potawatomi. Through that merger, the Prairie Band Potawatomi became the sole successor in interest to the Shab-eh-nay Band.

This coalition, including the Shab-eh-nay Band proper, relocated to a new reservation in Kansas after the Treaty of 1846. In 1849, the United States General Land Office illegally sold the Shab-eh-nay Reservation. Because the sale was not then and has never been authorized by a treaty or an Act of Congress, the treaty-reserved title to the Shab-eh-nay Band Reservation has never been extinguished. When the Shab-eh-nay Band merged with the Prairie Band Potawatomi, all tribal rights to the Reservation which the Shab-eh-nay Band held at the time were conveyed to the Prairie Band. Therefore, the Prairie Band is the rightful and sole beneficiary of the lands originally reserved for Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band under the Treaty of Prairie du Chien of 1829. No other Potawatomi Band and no Potawatomi tribal members of any Band hold the treaty rights under the Treaty of Prairie du Chien.

Steps taken to date to prove the claim:

In early 1997, legal research and analysis was begun on the Nation's claim. Historical and genealogical research and analysis, using documents collected by the Nation, its attorneys and several noted ethnohistorians was undertaken in depth.

On January 18, 2001, the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior sent a letter opinion to the Governor of Illinois and the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives advising them that the Nation's claim is meritorious and should be settled. That opinion noted that the Indian Nonintercourse Act, 25 U.S.C. Section 177, makes void any conveyance of Indian title without the consent of Congress and that the Solicitor's research did not reveal any subsequent treaty or Act of Congress which authorized the conveyance of the treaty lands. The opinion stated, "Our research has also led us to the conclusion that the Prairie Band is the lawful successor in interest to Chief Shab-eh-nay and his Band. . . . [W]e believe the U.S. continues to bear a trust responsibility to the Prairie Band for these lands."

Last Congress, bills were introduced in the House and the Senate to extinguish any claims of the Prairie Band, the Ottawa Band of Oklahoma and the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to lands in Illinois. The bill was generated by the Miami Tribe's suit against landowners in Illinois for millions of acres. Much work was done for a hearing on the House bill, which was held in May. Vice Chairman Mitchell testified on behalf of the Nation. The Miami Tribe's motion to dismiss its suit without prejudice was granted. No further actions were taken on the bills and they died when the 107th Congress adjourned last year. Barring some politically dangerous action by the Miami Tribe, or some other tribe, no such legislation is anticipated in the 108th Congress.

In the past Illinois Administration, even with a Republican governor, the State of Illinois

**The
April 26, 2003
Status
Report
on
the
right
provides an
update from the
October, 2002
report seen
above**



Government and Departments

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

2004 Notice of Election for Tribal Council

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation are hereby notified that an election will be held on July 21, 2004 for the purpose of electing four (4) members of the Tribal Council; Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer and (2) Council Persons. The term of office for each position is four (4) years.

Qualified Candidate:

A qualified candidate must:

- A) Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- B) Be 25 years of age or older as of the date of the election for Vice-Chairman and Treasurer
- C) Be 21 years of age or older as of the date of the election for Council person position
- D) Agree to criminal background investigation conducted by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation/US Investigations for record clearance
- E) If elected, agree to the Drug-Free Workplace Policy and consent to drug testing
- F) Submit a Declaration of Candidacy form to the Election Board Office no later than Friday, April 2, 2004 by 4:00 p.m.
- G) Submit the \$150.00 non-refundable filing fee to the Election Board Office no later than April 2, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. The Filing Fee must accompany the Declaration of Candidacy Form and must be paid by Cashier's Check or Money Order made payable to:

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Cash or personal checks **will not** be accepted.

Election Board

Voncile Mitchell.....(785) 966-3911
Julia Barber..... (785) 966-3910
Ruta Mendez.....(785) 966-3912
Fax Number.....(785) 966-3913
Toll free.....(877) 7 15-6789

Qualified Voters

To cast a ballot in this election you must:

- A) Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- B) Be 18 years of age or older by June 7, 2004
- C) Have a voter registration form on file with the Election Board no later than June 7, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. A voter registration form is enclosed to indicate you are not a registered voter.
Note: Registered voters **will not** receive a voter registration form. Only those who have not registered before will receive the forms.

About Tribal Council candidate submissions to the PBP News

- The News will publish a photo and a declaration of candidacy provided by candidates in the April, May and June issues. The first submission will be the only one used in all issues of the paper and no changes will be accepted after the first publication.
- Biographies and photos must be submitted by April 15 to the News Office. Electronic submissions in microsoft word are preferred and can be sent by email to maryy@pbpnation.org or suzanneh@pbpnation.org. We will return photographs.
- Candidates will be listed in alphabetical order and in the same format as the others.
- No political advertisements will be accepted.

The News staff will take photographs of candidates, if needed. Call (785) 966-2461 to make an appointment.

Ballot Distribution

Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters no later than June 14th, 2004. All ballot distribution packages will contain a preaddressed return envelope for mailing ballots back to the Election Board. All ballots must be received in the Election Board Post Office Box in Mayetta, Kansas no later than 9:00 a.m. on the date of the election, July 21,

Election Results

Ballots will be tabulated in an open meeting for Tribal Members conducted by the Election Board beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Election day at the old stone community building. Tabulation of ballots will continue until all ballots have been tabulated and the results of that tabulation have been recorded.

The Election Board shall issue the Preliminary Election Results immediately after the conclusion of the tabulation. Protests of the election results may be filed up until July 26, 2004, 4:00 p.m.

Certified election results will be posted at the appropriate Tribal offices, as well as, being released to all appropriate media at the conclusion of the election.



Election Highlights

1. **Candidate Filing Date**
March 16 - April 2, 2004
Declaration of Candidacy forms must be returned by this date
2. **Candidate Withdrawal Date**
April 30, 2004 at 4:00 p.m.
Last date for candidates to withdraw their names from the election
3. **Voter Registration Deadline**
June 7, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. Last day for members 18 years of age or older to register to receive a ballot for this election
4. **Ballot Mailing Date**
June 14, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. Last day for ballots to be received at Mayetta Post Office, 9:00 a.m.

Prairie Band
Potawatomi Nation
Election Board
P.O. Box 128
Mayetta, Kansas
66509

Reservation residents: Tribal tags are now in

by: Micki Martinez and David Prager

Good news from the Registrar's office, our tribal tags are in. We ask that all tribal members living on the reservation please support this important expression of tribal sovereignty. The Nation has fought with the State of Kansas for several years in federal court to win the right to issue these tribal tags. We should be proud of the historical efforts of our ancestors to fight for our sovereign rights. They are the reason the Nation is still here and is able to earn gaming revenue as a sovereign Indian Tribe. Displaying your tribal tags honors their memory and proudly shows the tribal seal of the Nation wherever you go.

All vehicles owned or co-owned by a Prairie Band Potawatomi tribal member who resides on the reservation must have a tribal tag, registration and title. No other vehicles are eligible for tribal tags. We have been first issuing tribal tags to our tribal members who live on the PBP Nation reservation whose state tags have expired or who have purchased new vehicles. Everyone else is encouraged to obtain a tribal tag in the near future. We will no longer issue affidavits to PBP Tribal members. In order for you to receive a tribal tag you must:

- Live on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Reservation.
- Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.
- Bring proof of insurance.
- Bring your original title.
If it is a new vehicle bring the bill of sale and manufacturer's certificate of origin.
- Bring a valid drivers license.
- Remove expired tag from vehicle and return to Registrar's office.
- Have the vehicle inspected by Tribal police, for which there is no charge.
- Pay \$25.00 tribal registration and title fee.

No registration or vehicle tag will be issued if the above criteria's are not met.

If you have bought a vehicle and the 30-day tag has expired you need to tribally register your vehicle.

Below is the registration schedule for your vehicle:

FIRST LETTER OF LAST NAME REGISTRATION MONTH

A
February

B
March

C, D
April

E, F, G
May

H, I
June

J, K, L
July

M, N, O
August

P, Q, R
September

S
October

T, V, W
November

U, X, Y, Z
December

We will have Veterans tags, motorcycle tags, handicap plates, and personalized plates available. Personalized plates will be \$50.00 and will take 3-4 weeks for delivery all other plates will be \$25.00 with the exception of the motorcycle plates which will be \$15.00.

If you have any questions please call the Motor Vehicle Department at 785-966-2995.

A word from tribal member, Helen Sumner the new Economic Development Specialist

by: Helen Sumner

I am originally from this reservation and I am graduate of Washburn University. I held two federal employments positions at the Veterans Administration and the U. S. Public Health Service, Indian Health Service.

Recently, while employed as the U.S. Public Health Service - Bemidji Area Indian Health Service, over the past ten and one-half years, I worked at two locations. The first position was with the Bemidji Area Office, Bemidji, MN as the Public Health Advisor and the second was at Red Lake Hospital, Red Lake, MN. While employed at the Bemidji Area Office, I was responsible for assisting the Bemidji Area Indian Health Service, Urban and Tribal Health programs throughout the states of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin with their prevention and control of communicable diseases. Other duties performed were budget management, implemented and monitored disease surveillance, facilitated training, and



Helen Sumner

was a part of the Bemidji Area Health Program management team that facilitated health care services for Native Americans throughout the three Northern states. During the time I worked at Red Lake Hospital, I performed various duties in departmental and staff management and facilitated staff education.

On a more local level, I previously worked as a volunteer American Indian parent along with other parents to implement the Shawnee County Indian Education Program that is better known as the Johnson O'Malley Title IV Indian Education Program for 280 American Indian students. It was during this volunteer work experience, that I co-authored a federal grant, developed a budget, designed an educational program and wrote the Johnson O'Malley office policies and procedures.

I have two sons Charles and David Cornelius and a daughter Carrie Cornelius and two grandchildren, Sage and Tyra. Since I have been out of state for several years, I am most pleased to be home again so that I can be near family and friends.

PBPN Government Offices closed
April 9, Good Friday
May 31, Memorial Day

PBPN/Sac and Fox Wellness Clinic closed
May 31, Memorial Day



Governor's gaming bill in Kansas Senate

By Randy Conroy

Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius recently introduced her "Kansas Expanded Gaming Opportunity Act" into the Kansas Senate. Officially titled Senate Bill 499, the proposed legislation authorizes the following:

- 7-member Destination Casino Commission
- Five Destination Casinos strategically located throughout the state authorized by the Destination Gaming Commission
- 2,500 video lottery terminals at the recognized Kansas racetracks
- 5 video lottery terminals placed at each eligible fraternal organization throughout state

Destination Casinos

Governor Sebelius' stated purpose in authorizing destination style casinos is to bring out-of-state dollars into Kansas. A "destination casino" would have hotel rooms, conference facilities, restaurants, and other amenities to attract a wide array of patrons ultimately to the casino floor. The State of Kansas would "own and operate" the casinos, a requirement of the state's constitution. However, private contractors would manage the actual day-to-day business. The state would receive a minimum of 22 percent of the gross gaming revenues.

The most likely location for the first destination casino is Kansas City, Kansas near the new Kansas Speedway. A large number of Kansans cross the Missouri River and gamble at the four riverboats in Kansas City, Missouri. Sebelius' plan would create a casino that would hopefully retain Kansans' discretionary gambling income in the Kansas economy, and not send it to Missouri riverboats.

Destination casino "certificates of authority" would be issued by the Destination Casino Commission under a competitive bid process. The certificate of authority would be issued for 10 years and renewable if both the state and the manager agree. Feasibility studies, paid by the prospective manager, would be conducted to ensure the casino location is suitable.

Video Lottery Terminals

Up to a maximum of 2,500 Video Lottery Terminals (VLTs) would be authorized in the Governor's bill at the Kansas based racetracks. "VLTs" look and play like slot machines. Currently racing takes place in Kansas City, KS (Woodlands), Wichita (Wichita Greyhound Park), and seasonally in Anthony and Eureka. A closed facility in Pittsburg is also eligible for the VLTs. The Kansas Lottery would administer the gaming operation through a centralized computer system linking all machines.



VLTs at Fraternal

Sebelius' bill allows five VLTs to be placed at the recognized fraternal organizations throughout the state. Conceivably, over 200 fraternal affiliated locations exist in Kansas.

Kickapoo/Sac & Fox Proposal

As has been reported previously in the *Prairie Band Potawatomi News*, the Kickapoo and Sac & Fox Nations have combined efforts in an attempt to open a new casino near the Kansas Speedway. They have proposed a \$175 million destination style casino and resort with the goal of effectively competing against the Missouri riverboats. The Sebelius bill gives the Kickapoo and Sac & Fox a 2 year/50-mile buffer around their casino if the tribes are victorious in obtaining Department of Interior land-in-trust for gaming approval and a new tribal-state compact is signed.

Implications to Harrah's Prairie Band Casino

Governor Sebelius' proposed legislation endangers the success Harrah's Prairie Band Casino has enjoyed since opening in 1999. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation has vigorously opposed any new gaming competition in Kansas during the past five years in an effort to protect its market share. The Nation's lobbyists and strategists will not only attempt to block expanded gaming legislation this year, but also explore ways to create a permanent solution to this annual threat.

Prairie Band Potawatomi News

The *Prairie Band Potawatomi News* is a monthly newspaper of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Prairie Band Potawatomi News staff, the Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Nation.

The *Prairie Band Potawatomi News* encourages and welcomes letters, editorials, articles and photos from its readers. This publication reserves the right to reject, edit or condense items submitted. We request your submissions by the 15th of each month. Submit items by email or disk in Microsoft Word or stop by the News office with your information.

Anonymous letters will NOT be printed in the paper.

Please include your name, address, and telephone number where we can contact you should we need to verify information.

Photos submitted with news article will be returned after publication. Please print name on back of photo to ensure accuracy. Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope with the photo.



Gift shop kiosk to open on Casino floor

While the gift shop at Harrah's Casino is getting a new look there will be a kiosk of gift shop items and cigarettes for sale that will be located near the Casino's hotel front-desk area. At press time, the kiosk was scheduled to open on March 11.

will open at the same time as the new expansion which is scheduled for August 15 and will be located between the hotel and casino. He said that the new gift shop will include similar items that were sold in the old gift shop but it will be larger and have a different look.

According to Randy Conroy, the hours of operation for the kiosk will be the same as was with the Prairie Band Gift Shop and the remaining staff from the Gift Shop will man the kiosk operation.

John Schilling, who is in charge of economic development for the PBPB said the Council has named the new gift shop Prairie Village in keeping with naming the new casino's spaces after PBPB cultural aspects.

Conroy also said that the new gift shop

Karen Thomas and Joy Yoshida honored at Prairie Band Gift Shop reception



A farewell reception for Joy Yoshida and Karen Thomas, both on the front row far right respectively, was held on February 27 at Harrah's Casino. It was the last day of operation for the Prairie Band Gift Shop and in the afternoon many of the Nation's community gathered to bid farewell to all of the employees who worked in the shop and to thank them for all their years of service. Others in the photo are left to right Cindy LeClere, Tom Hernandez, Anna Padilla, Brenda McClure and Gina Wahweotten. Photo submitted by Priscilla Martin.

We're looking for someone as unique as you.



Harrah's Prairie Band Casino is currently under expansion! We are adding 196 hotel rooms, an upscale steakhouse and a conference center to be completed by August 2004. We are seeking customer-focused individuals with good attitudes to join our team!

**Room Attendants • Bell Staff • Laundry Attendants • Cooks
Sous Chefs • Steakhouse Servers • Banquet Servers**

We offer great benefits such as (full-time positions only):

- Medical, Dental, Vision, & Life Insurance
- 401K
- Educational Assistance
- Comprehensive Training

Please apply online at www.harrahs.com or in person at Harrah's Prairie Band Casino, Human Resource Department, 12305 150th Road, Mayetta, KS 66509. For questions, please call 785.966.7663.

Equal Opportunity Employer.

Harrah's
PRAIRIE BAND
CASINO



Our past year 2003 was a great year and everyone contributed and worked hard to accomplish several projects. I want to thank the Tribal Council and all the rest of the Departments in their efforts in making the Potawatomi Reservation a better place to live, visit, work or retire.

Lets all help to keep these surroundings beautiful and for future generations to enjoy. Our new Veterans Memorial, additional new bridges and highways, and also the new housing developments is a dream come true.

Our Potawatomi Reservation is located in the beautiful N.E. Kansas rolling hills, and we can view the wild life game and our own buffalo herds that makes this area a tourist attraction to all who wants to visit.

Thanks, Again and Again,

Roy A. Hale
ROY A. HALE
Post 410, WE-TA-SE
Director

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15434 K ROAD
MAYETTA, KS 66509

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PBPN putting in new water lines

If you've seen a lot of big white piping sitting along the reservation's roadways and a lot of construction workers digging big trenches nearby, what they are doing is installing a bigger and better water line system for the Nation. Below is an article written by Patrick Feltman, PBPN's Construction Manager, who has written an article to explain the project he is overseeing.



Scope of water project:

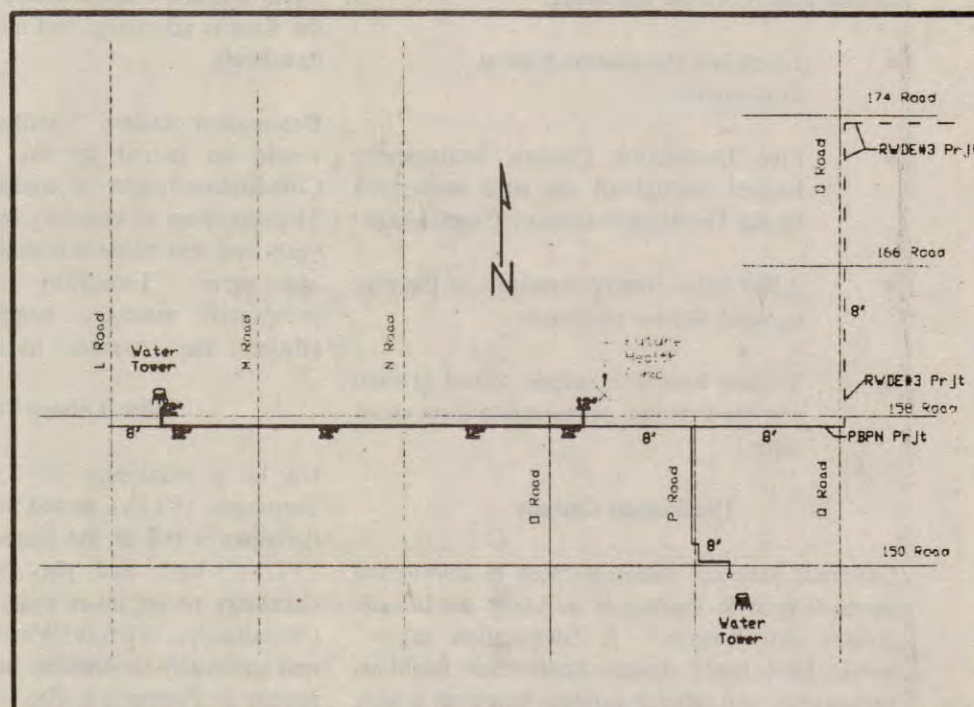
The Nation is having 8 and 12-inch water pipe installed to replace smaller size water pipe. Originally the contract was assigned to use 8-inch pipe with unit price options for 10- and 12-inch pipe. After the contract award, a portion of the project was changed to utilize 12-inch pipe to allow sufficient water supply to be provided to the new health clinic site so the health clinic did not need to build a separate pump station and underground water reservoir for its fire protection. This change saved money over the cost of building the pump station and reservoir for the health clinic. The 12-inch pipe will go from the new water tower to be located just east of L & 158 Roads to the eastern edge of the property where the new health clinic site will be located which is to be located east of O Road. An 8-inch pipe will go from the new water tower to the west to L Road and will also go from where the 12-inch pipe stops east of O Road to 158 & Q and also go along P Road and then 150 Road to the casino. In addition, fire hydrants are being installed every mile along the route of the PBPN pipeline project to provide better access to water for the Fire Department tanker truck in order to shorten fill up time to fight fires in adjacent areas.

Concerning the water tower project mentioned above, that will be located east of L & 158 near the present blue one by the housing project, a new tower will be constructed that will support a 300,000 gallon elevated water storage tank. The existing blue tower has a much smaller capacity (approx. 70,000 gallon) standpipe and it belongs to RWD#3. Service will be disconnected to the standpipe after the new water tank project is in use, and the existing standpipe will be left in place until the RWD#3 decides what to do with it.

In addition, RWD#3 water plans to build a pump station and a larger 8-inch water line from Highway 75

The photo at left shows workers from BRB Contractor, Inc. who are putting in the waterline. This photo was taken at 150 Rd and P Rd that is located just west of the casino.

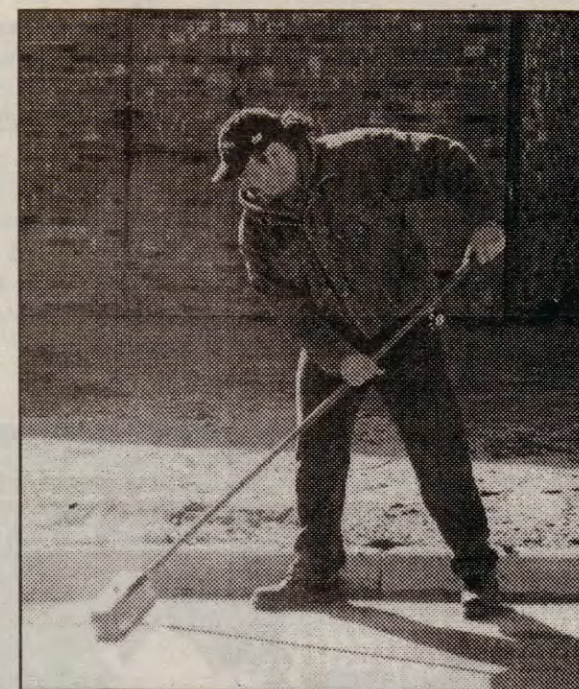
The graphic at right is a map of the waterline project that was prepared by Feltman. Design engineers on the project are Bartlett & West Engineers, Topeka.



Kicking up some dust



It was all in a day's work for tribal member Jim Shane who is seen here sweeping the We-ta-se Building parking lot before the lot was white-stripe painted for cars. Jim, who oversees the construction of some of the new buildings being placed on the reservation, can also be counted on to pitch in whenever needed to get the job done as these photographs show.



Attention

**Tribal Construction Contractors
&
Individuals interested in
construction work**

Please provide your:

- 1) company name or your name if you are an individual interested in construction work
- 2) telephone, fax and cell phone numbers
- 3) address
- 4) whether you are a Tribal Member or other Native American Tribal Member
- 5) type of work you are interested in performing so we can identify potential work opportunities for your company or yourself for PBPN construction projects.

A list will be kept by this department and shared with other PBPN departments and given to firms bidding PBPN construction projects to promote Tribal Member participation in PBPN construction projects.

Please send your responses to:

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Patrick Feltman, Construction Manager
Government Center, Lower Level
16281 Q Road
Mayetta, Kansas 66509
Tel.: (785) 966-3901 Fax: (785) 966-3990
Email: patrickf@pbpnation.org



PBPN Road and Bridge attends 6th Annual National Tribal Transportation Conference

by: Tim Ramirez

There were 300 plus in attendance to hear and learn from some great speakers and teachers at the 6th Annual National Tribal Transportation Conference held February 29, 2004 to March 3, 2004 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The opening speaker was J. Richard Capka, Deputy Administrator for the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) in Washington, D.C. and a retired Brigadier General, West Point graduate. The FHA is where the BIA receives its dollars for Indian Reservation Roads and Bridges (IRR) which amounts to 275 million a year for all tribes.

Capka said he visited Standing Rock Sioux Reservation and the Chairman told him "We had a visit before from a One Star General West Point man. We didn't like him too much; It wasn't that he thought it had to do with the Corps of Engineers flooding Indian Land with reservoirs, it was Custer."

The conference was hosted by the Six Indian TTAP Centers (Tribal Technical Assistance Program): Alaska, California and Nevada, Colorado State, Michigan, Northern Plains, Northwest, Oklahoma State, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Federal Highway Administration. There were American Association of State Highway and Transportation (AASHTO) officials, that backed Tribes in Congress for additional funding.

The Senate Bill passed for reauthorization, the Safe Accounting, Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA) has increased from 375 to 550 million a year over the six-year act, up from the TEA-21 Act of 275.

Leroy Gishi, Chief Division of Transportation BIA Washington D.C., my buddy, was there. People were shaking their fingers at him and asked, "Why won't you return my calls?" I shook his hand and said, "Leroy I don't have any

pressing matters, I just want to say hi."

The BIA Funding is doled out by formula and our share is about \$600,000.

The Federal Government employees like the BIA or Federal Highway groups cannot lobby Congress for Tribal needs for better roads or road maintenance. It is up to the Tribes. PBPN Road & Bridge sent letters through our Chairman to the House and Senate Subcommittees to request assistance.

During the conference, a good mixture of training was available in the breakout sessions. Between the six PBPN employees who attended, Hardy, Big Mike, Banjo, Charlie, Bill Jim, and I learned what we could. For example, we were instructed on planning, inventory, traffic counting, shop and excavation, safety, equipment operations and safety, sign management, pedestrian safety, transit, and riparian environments and reauthorization funding.

The Equipment Rodeo was a big thing for us especially in the competition for the grader, wheel loader, and backhoe. Sixty men competed and I got two seconds and a third in supervisors, Hardy won 3 firsts in this division. I was the only one in the grader to run a perfect score all day on the course, but the penalties were only two seconds thus Hardy beat me. Billy Jim got third in the backhoe in the operators and Big Mike was close from the top three on the loader.

The awards dinner speaker was Charlie Hill, a nationally known comedian. wW invited Thomas Wabnum (Hoppy) who works in the Albuquerque BIA to be our guest. He and his wife enjoyed some Kansas company.

It was a long flight home due to bad weather and we didn't get home until 3 a.m., but, yeah, it was a good conference.



Environmental Protection Agency Department

**Come to the
Earth Day Celebration
April 18, 2004, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Prairie People's Park
Mayetta, Kansas**



- Run/Walk/Bike Ride
- T-shirts for participants/volunteers
- Community Clean-ups
- Concessions
- Bike Safety Check/Car Seat Safety
- Elder's Activities
- Environmental Activities
- Information Booths
- Youth Activities
- Trees, Shrubs, Bulbs
- Bike Rodeo

*Donations and your participation are encouraged. Please call the number below.
Coordinated by the Earth Day Planning Committee and the
PBPN Department of Planning and Environmental Protection, 966-2946*

Here are a few scenes from past Earth Day celebrations:

Come join in the fun this year and make your community a better place to live



Seen here are Mary Lewis, Joe Jessepe, and Juanita Jessepe who are all a part of the Trashbusters, a clean-up team who picked up trash along Q Road from 158 to 162. Mary Young, was the leader of the team and is absent from the photo because she took the picture.



Hedy Noland "hoofin it" in the Predictor Walk which is one of the many contests held on Earth Day.

***Has your team
completed its 2003
Earth Day
Clean-Up Project?
Plaques to be
awarded at this
year's event***

Solid Waste Division Recycling Program having successful year

by: Dave Barr

The Solid Waste Staff recovered over 46,000 pounds of corrugated cardboard from our departments and reservation residents in the past 17 months.

As the program coordinator, I trained the staff on the safety, operation and maintenance of the EXCEL Baler, and the Solid Waste staff now makes marketable bales that the paper industry buys from our program. Each bale weighs approximately 1,100 pounds and is easily stored in our 50 ft by 100 ft recycling building. These bails are stacked four high and three deep and when we have 40 bales stored we have a full truckload. The next step is for me to follow the markets and sell when the markets are high. Fortunately, we didn't have to wait long to market our first shipment of cardboard.

It took the entire reservation community recycling with our tribal program to make this possible. The

Solid Waste Division thanks all of our departments and reservation residents for making this a success.

I want to thank Roy Hoss, Bruce Weber, and Bill Wilbur from our staff for all their hard work recovering and baling the paper we now market.

The Solid Waste staff and myself are looking forward to serving the Nation in the years to come by expanding, diversifying and refining our solid waste service to you.

The Solid Waste Division's Environmental Management Center is located at 9835 142 Road and our business phone is 966-2773. We are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you have any questions about recycling or other solid waste concerns please give us a call.

In right photo standing before a load of bales of corrugated cardboard is the Solid Waste staff



PBPN expands GPS/GIS capabilities

By: Steve Duryea

PBPN's Planning and Environmental Protection Department has made some significant improvements in its mapping capabilities. They have made some major upgrades and the new technology is put to use every day.

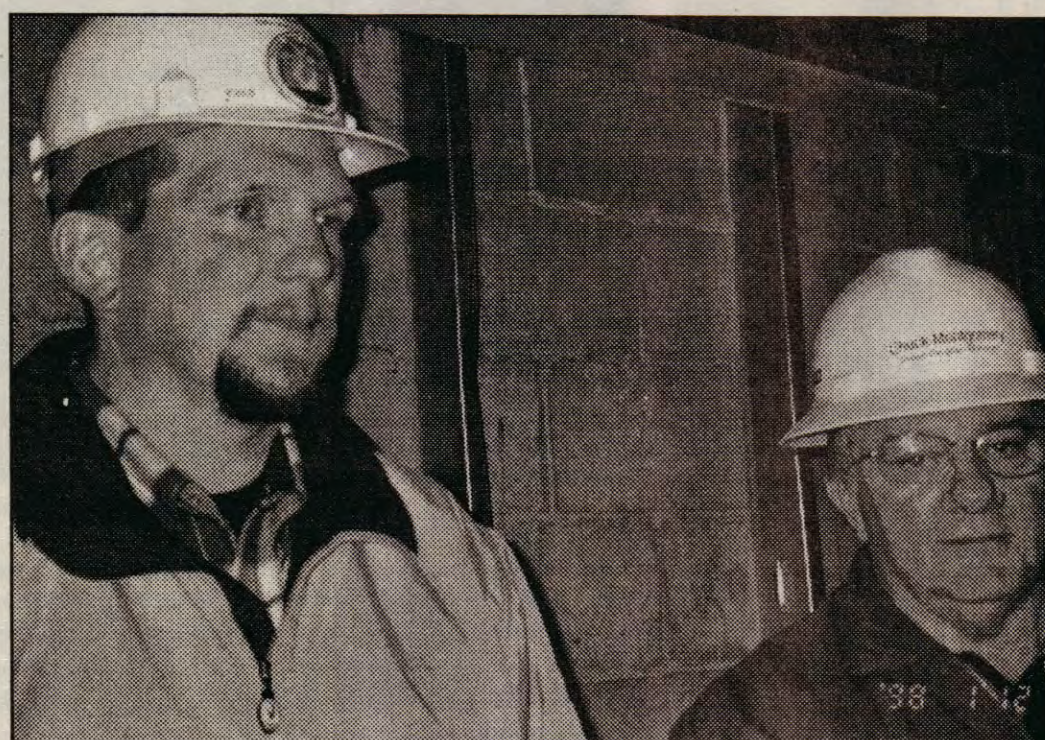
The field collection equipment used is called a Global Positioning System (GPS) and its processing software is called a Geographic Information System (GIS). GPS is a group of 24 satellites that orbit the earth at an altitude of 12,500 miles. They are used much as the sailors of old used the stars to find their location. Where the sailors used sextants to determine bearings to stars and several bearings to triangulate their location, a GPS receiver reads individual signals from several satellites to determine the distance or range to the satellite and several ranges to determine a position.

This technology allows any person with a GPS receiver to locate their position on the earth. GPS can be used to mark favorite fishing holes, locate a campsite, and create a route to a destination. GPS can also be used to mark locations for a pipeline, locate fiber optic cable junctions, and create the quickest

route to an emergency location.

Recently, Steve Duryea, the GPS/GIS Technician, field collected locations of all the bridges of the PBPN reservation. The bridge information will be combined with road and tube location information to create a transportation map for the PBPN Road and Bridge Department. The new map will illustrate bridge, road, and tube locations and indicate classes of responsibility; tribal, BIA, or county.

The department has many different sources of information available for use in its Geographic Information System. Similar to any other type of information, except that it is linked to a coordinate system. This trait allows a person to generate accurate measurements from the information, such as acreage of parcels, length of roads, and distance between sewer manholes. Some of the components of the GIS system are high-resolution aerial photography from 2002, tribal parcel data, USGS topography, USDA soils data and tribal zoning categories. Each of these sources can be used separately or combined to illustrate a desired characteristic.



Steve Duryea on the left has recently joined the EPA staff and is seen here with Chuck Montgomery, Harrah's Project Site Supervisor. Duryea works as a field inspector for the EPA Department and the two men were inspecting the fire damage at the casino's expansion site the day this photo was taken.



Tribal Emergency Services News

When the Fire and Emergency Services crews aren't out fighting fires or answering emergency calls, they keep busy with training and learning about new products or services on the market as these photos show.

At top right is Chuck Hatfield, a Technical Sales Representative from Hazard Control Technologies, Inc. out of Georgia, who taught an evening fire crew about a new fire suppression agent his company is promoting called the F-500.

The bottom right photo shows crew members actually using the product on an old car that was intentionally burned for the demonstration. The demonstration also allowed the PBPB crew to

conduct a routine fire training in addition to learning about the product.

In the photo below Scott Price, is teaching a CPR course that was offered at the Early Childhood Education Center on March 5. With him is Merry Burke, a Headstart teacher. Four teachers in the Early Childhood Special Education Room and one bus driver received training on that day. All Headstart instructors are required to be certified in CPR and most of their training is provided by the Tribe's Emergency Services staff.

The Tribe's EMS staff also provides training in several other life-saving areas.



Your invited to help celebrate
National EMS Week

May 16 - 22

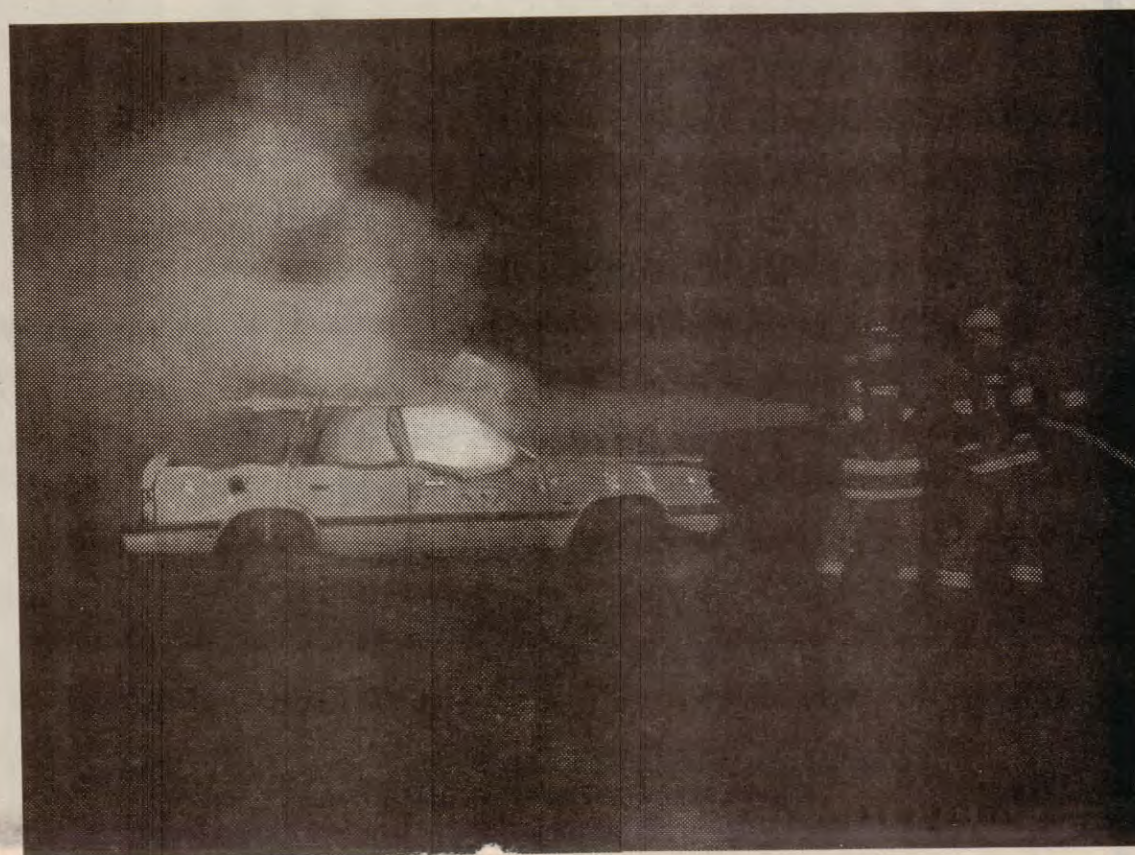
Tribal Emergency Services open house

•food

•fun activities

•demonstrations

•tours



Boys and Girls Club donates new clothes to Early Childhood Education Center



The Boys and Girls Club recently donated some new Carter's Clothing to the Early Childhood Education Center as part of a national Boys and Girl's Club campaign. The PBPB's Boys and Girls Club was selected to participate because they are a Native American club that has a Head Start program nearby. The goal of the effort was to foster outreach for Club membership and to develop community health partners.

Seen here on the front row left are Yvette Washington, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club, and Carrie Hastings, and Cecily Wabaunsee who are both with the Early Childhood Education Center staff. In the background are some of the Childhood Education Center children and staff who are holding up some of the new clothes.

Boys and Girls Club news briefs

Boys & Girls Club grand opening postponed -sneak preview open house scheduled for April 10

by: Nathan Hale

There has been a change in plans to have the Grand Opening on April 10th. Due to the planned renovation of the old building beginning later than expected the Grand Opening will be moved to sometime following the completion of all construction. It is hoped that this will be around the beginning of June. We hope to have a better idea of an exact date posted in the April newspaper. We are however planning a sneak peek scheduled for Saturday April 10th from noon to 2pm.

Baby Jay visits rez KU Health Fair a big success



photo submitted by Nathan Hale

On Thursday March 11th nursing students from KU Medical Center put on a health fair for the kids. The kids were split up into three groups and rotated through three stations. One station demonstrated the dangers of smoking. The second station showed several different healthy snacks with fruits and vegetables. They discussed the importance of eating right and trying new foods. The third station dealt with physical fitness. Our kids had a great time and even played basketball with them afterwards.

Thanks to all the tribal members and employees who worked the last Indian Taco Sale at the Club on March 11

ART CONTEST

The Family Violence Prevention Program, Boys & Girls Club, and Child Protective Services are teaming up to bring awareness to sexual assault by sponsoring an art contest. The themes are as follows:

Ages 0-7: A Pre-Chosen Coloring Form*

Ages 8-12: Respect Me, Respect My Body

Ages 13-18: Flirt, Don't Hurt!

*if you need a coloring form, please call Nis at 966-2932 and she'll get you one.

The deadline is **4:30 Thursday April 8th**. All entries need to be in submitted to the Old Community Building at 16322 Q Road, Mayetta KS, 66509 by that time.

We do want to mention that art is *not* just pictures. Art is photographs, poetry, skits, dioramas, and mobiles. It's also a lot more, so be creative!

Winners will be announced no later than April 16th, 2004 and prizes will be given.

Note: All art will be on display at the Old Community Building until May 3rd. Entries can be returned to applicants. Please be sure to include name, age, and a way we can get in touch with you.



\$16 MILLION IN INDIAN EDUCATION GRANTS AVAILABLE FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Provided by the U.S. Department of Education
Office of Public Affairs, News Branch
400 Maryland Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Contact: Elaine Quesinberry at (202) 401-1576

On March 10, 2004, the U.S. Department of Education announced they are inviting Indian tribes, state and local agencies serving Indian children and young adults and schools to apply for approximately \$16 million in grants to improve education opportunities for Indian students. A notice inviting applications for these grant programs is posted in the Federal Register.

"The U.S. Department of Education is renewing its commitment to educational opportunity and achievement for Indian students," Secretary Paige said. "The overall goal of President Bush's No Child Left Behind education reform is that every child, including Indian children, will have high-quality education and become proficient in reading and math."

The Office of Indian Education will award over \$4 million in competitive grants for pre school and kindergarten readiness and college preparation under the Demonstration Grants for Indian Children program -- on the Web at www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/2004-1/030204a.html -- and nearly \$7 million for the Professional Development program-on the Web at www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/2004-1/030204b.html.

The department will also award \$5 million for vocational rehabilitation services to American Indians with disabilities who reside on or near federal or state reservations to prepare them for gainful employment. This program is on the Web at www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/2004-1/030304f.html.

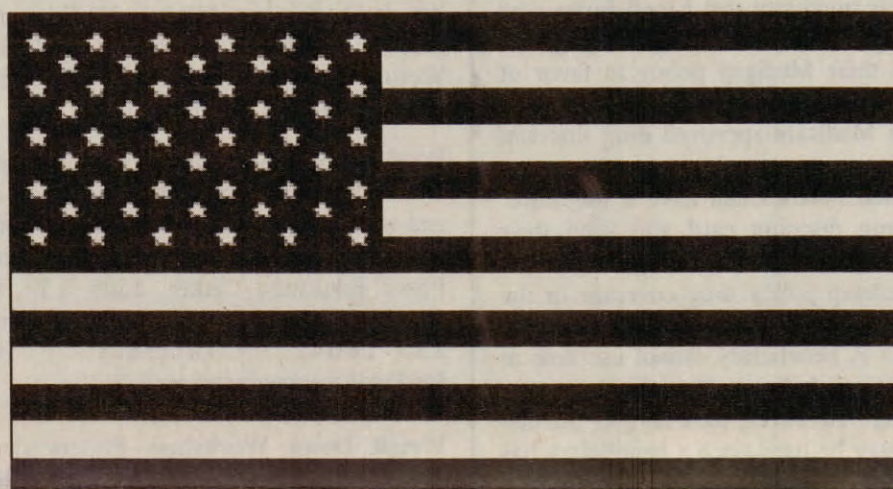
Activities funded by the grants administered by the Office of Indian Education may include services to students from preschool to high school in areas such as the following:

- Family-based preschool;
- Partnerships between schools and universities to assist and encourage students in transitioning from high school to college;
- Enrichment programs to increase Indian children's achievement in one or more core academic subjects;
- Programs to increase the rate of secondary school graduation;
- Programs that preserve and teach the native language and culture; and
- Programs to increase the number of new, highly qualified Indian individuals in professions that serve Indian people.

Individuals who receive training under the Professional Development Program are required to perform work that is related to the training received and that benefits Indian people, or else they are required to repay all or a prorated part of the assistance received.

Additional information about ED funding opportunities, including discretionary grant application packages, is available at <http://www.ed.gov/fund/landing.jhtml/>.

More information about Indian education grants is available from the Office of Indian Education at http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/om/fs_po/ous/indian.html/.



We-Ta-Se Post 410 invited to represent American Indians at Kansas Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission press conference in Kansas City

-will present PBPB flag to Kansas Governor

We-Ta-Se Post 410 has been invited to participate as part of a press conference announcing a partnership between the Kansas Lewis and Clark Commission and the Great Wolf Lodge in Kansas City, Kansas on March 31.

We-Ta-Se will represent all American Indian veterans during a ceremonial unveiling of 29 Indian flags that will hang in the Great Wolf Lodge lobby during the commemoration activities until July. The 29 tribes selected were either encountered by Lewis and Clark during their exploration or were affected by the expedition in some way. For example, even though the Potawatomi were not in Kansas from 1804-1806 the tribe was eventually placed there and one of the commemoration's goals is to recognize all tribes who were then or now placed on or near the trail.

We-Ta-Se Post 410 is the first American Indian color guard selected to participate in this opening Kansas Lewis and Clark Bicentennial event. We-Ta-Se Post 410 will present a PBPB flag to Kansas Governor Sebelius during the press conference. Jim McKinney is also scheduled to present the invocation.

We-Ta-Se Post 410, and other Kansas tribes have been invited to participate in the three signature events that will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, Leavenworth and Atchison, Kansas during Independence Day weekend. In each of those cities a variety of activities are planned including parades, traveling exhibits, fireworks displays, air shows, reenactments and food booths and feasts.

The Kansas Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission was established in 2000 by former Governor Bill Graves. The commission has been preparing for the four-year Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration, with projects in the areas of trail development and interpretation, educational programming, Native cultural awareness, and marketing.

Great Wolf Lodge is a waterpark located near I-70 and I-435. It includes an indoor waterpark, on-site family restaurant, spas, a conference area, and is oriented to children and family fun.

A Native American Subcommittee was established as part of the Kansas Lewis and Clark Commission to provide cultural technical assistance in ensuring protocol in the interpretation and communication surrounding Native Americans during the commemoration. Chris Howell, deputy director for the Kansas Arts Commission, is chair of the subcommittee and is also a board member of the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial and is a member of the National Council's Circle of Tribal Advisors.

"We are attempting to act as a clearinghouse for all communication and interpretation about American Indians during the commemoration," Howell said. "We're trying to ensure that there isn't any misrepresentation of American Indian life both past and present. This is a good opportunity for Indian tribes to tell their own story to a national audience and in their own way. One of the goals of the Commission is to educate Americans to the fact that there were many voices in American history besides just one."

Roy Ogden is the Prairie Band Potawatomi representative on the Native American Subcommittee and PBPB employees Joannie Rebar and Suzanne Heck are also on the subcommittee.

For more information about the upcoming signature events in Kansas visit www.journey4th.org or www.lewisandclarkinkansas.com and for the national events visit www.lewisandclark200.org.



Election of Officers Scheduled for April 2004: We-Ta-Se Post 410 and Auxiliary Unit 410

A reminder to all members of the We-Ta-Se Post 410 and the Auxiliary Unit 410, election time is nearing. The election schedule will be held during the monthly meeting(s), see the following dates:

**April 5, 2004
Post 410**

**April 12, 2004
Unit 410**

Make your vote count! Attend the meeting, nominate, and cast your ballot!



Look for
the
We-Ta-Se Post # 410
15th Anniversary
Celebration
to be held
at this year's
Powwow in June

1989-2004



Call for Veterans

On November 26th, 2003 the Prairie Band Potawatomi Veterans Memorial Wall was dedicated. There were 309 names of Veterans who had served in the United States Military from WWI through Desert Storm inscribed on the wall.

In our continued effort to acknowledge all Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal members who may have served in the Armed Forces of America we ask that you forward a copy of their discharge papers to the WE-TA-SE office for verification and future inscriptions to be added on to the Memorial wall.

Send information to our office:

We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410
15434 Q Road
Mayetta, KS 66509

Or contact us directly by calling 1-785-966-2580. E-mail: bozoh@pbpnation.org or jimd@pbpnation.org. Fax: 1-785-966-9853.



MAKING MEDICARE MAKE SENSE

Answers To Some of The Most Commonly Asked Medicare Questions

Q: What is Medigap insurance?

A: Medigap is the term used for Medicare supplemental insurance, which is sold by private insurers. Medigap insurance was designed to cover some of the "gaps" in coverage, for beneficiaries enrolled in the Original fee-for-service Medicare program. For example, Medigap policies may pay for deductibles, coinsurance and may even pay for some services that the Original Medicare program does not, such as prescription drugs.

In most states, your choices for Medigap insurance consists of ten options labeled Plans A - J. Each plan must cover a basic set of core benefits, but may also provide for coverage of extra benefits like prescription drugs or in-home care. The benefits for each of these ten plans are standard across all companies who sell Medigap insurance, so it makes it very easy to compare different companies. For example, the only difference between one company's plan C and another's is the price and how the price might increase from year to year. Beneficiaries should shop around and find a policy with an insurance company that best fits their needs at the best price.

The best time to purchase a Medigap policy is during the Medigap open enrollment period. This timeframe lasts for six months and begins on the first day of the month Medicare Part B begins for a beneficiary. In this region, this also includes beneficiaries who live in Kansas and Missouri who are under the age of 65 and are eligible for Medicare Part B due to a disability. During this six-month open enrollment an insurance company cannot turn down a beneficiary for coverage, place conditions on a policy, or change the price based on any past or present health problems. Beneficiaries are guaranteed these rights. Generally, once the six-month open enrollment timeframe has passed, beneficiaries are not guaranteed the

right to purchase a Medigap policy and may not be able to get the plan they want or they may have to pay more.

However, during special circumstances beneficiaries still have guaranteed rights to purchase Medigap policies. Some of these special circumstances include, if a beneficiary is enrolled in a Medicare managed care plan, or another type of Medicare Advantage plan or an employer retirement plan and these types of plans decide to no longer provide insurance, through no fault of the beneficiaries. Another special circumstance would be if a beneficiary moves out of the service area of their Medicare, managed care plan, or another type of Medicare Advantage plan and the beneficiary will now enroll in Original Medicare. In these situations, beneficiaries will be guaranteed the right to enroll in certain Medigap policies.

Also, It is important to note that if a beneficiary is past the age of 65 and covered under an active employer health plan based on current employment with an organization that employs 20 or more persons, or are covered under a spouse's active employee health insurance, a beneficiary can delay their enrollment in Medicare Part B. This will save their six-month open enrollment for Medigap until such time as they need it.

Q: What effects will the new Medicare Modernization Act have on Medigap insurance?

A: The new Medicare legislation signed into law on December 8, 2003 provided for a Medicare-approved drug discount card program, which will be available in June 2004, and a full drug benefit, which will begin in January 2006. The Medicare-approved drug discount card program will provide some savings on certain drugs, but it is important that beneficiaries who have a Medigap policy with drug coverage not hastily drop their Medigap policy in favor of one of the discount cards. Beneficiaries can compare the Medicare-approved drug discount card program on www.medicare.gov beginning in April. Beneficiaries can have a Medicare-approved drug discount card and keep their Medigap policy with drug coverage; however, only the Medigap policy drug coverage or the Medicare-approved discount card could apply at one time. A beneficiary cannot use both at the same time to help pay for the same prescription drug. However, for example, the discount card may be used once a beneficiary has reached the maximum drug benefit coverage of

their Medigap policy.

Finally, it is important for beneficiaries to know that when the actual drug benefit goes into effect in January 2006, beneficiaries who are enrolled in a Medigap plan that includes prescription drug coverage will have a choice to make as to how they wish to receive their prescription drug benefits. A Medicare Q & A will be dedicated to the topic of the drug benefit closer to its implementation date.

For more information on Medigap, please call 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227), or visit our award-winning website at: www.medicare.gov.

Support Groups

Topeka Area

AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) - For people who have a desire to stop drinking. For meeting schedule and times in the Topeka area: 354-3888

Native American AA Meeting - 8:00 p.m. Friday, SW 135 Buchanan.

Recovering Women's Group - 5:30 p.m. Monday, 725 Buchanan ring bell. Non smoking, closed.

Cancer Support Group - For people with cancer and their families; caregivers are encouraged to attend. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday at Pozez Education Center, 1505 S.W. 8th. Free. Information: 354-5225.

Gamblers Anonymous - For people seeking help for problem gambling, 7 p.m. Wednesday at St. Francis Hospital, 1700 S.W. 7th, 2nd floor, meeting room 6: 862-6666; 7 p.m. Friday at St. Francis Hospital, 2nd floor, meeting room 9: 862-6666; and 7 p.m. Wednesdays at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1275 S.W. Boswell: (785) 339-3583.

Food Addicts Anonymous - For people who feel addicted to certain foods, such as sweets, and who want to abstain from eating them; uses a 12-step program, 3 p.m. each Sunday at Pozez Education Center, 1505 S.W. 8th, in Centennial Room D. Information: Michele at 233-1604. Internet: www.foodaddictsanonymous.org.

Weigh Down Workshop—Experience God's deliverance from dieting and overweightness.

Jay Nurse at Health Promotion Fair



Collaboration between the Elder Center and the University of Kansas Nursing students held a health promotion fair on March 11, 2004. The agenda topics included: heart disease, stroke, respiratory cancer, arthritis, diabetes, nutrition and exercise, stress busters and aerobics for the mind.

"Jay Nurse" is a derivative from the KU "Jayhawk" mascot.

Free orientation at 12:30 pm Thursday, White Lakes Plaza Apartments clubhouse, 3730 SW Plaza Drive. Call Elizabeth, 266-7318,

Mayetta Area

Open AA Meeting at Judy's Café, 104 E. Main Street, Mayetta, KS on Tuesday's at 6 pm.

Open AA Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m. to ??, We Te Sa Building, 15434 K Road

Alanon/Alateen Unheard Voices, Thursday, 7 pm at the We Te Sa Building, 15434 K Road

AA Meeting at St. Francis Xavier Church bsmt, 7:30 p.m. every Thursday and Sunday.

PARR Ranch—Open meeting, Monday at 7:00 pm, 18367—182 Rd.

Women's Voices—Thursday from 6-7 pm, at the We-Ta-Se building, 15434 K Road. Toll free 1-866-966-0173.

Kickapoo AA meeting—at the Kickapoo Senior Citizen Building at Friday at 8:00 p.m.

Holton AA Meeting — at First Christian Church, 5th & Wisconsin, Thursday at 7:00 p.m. 966-2178, 364-4479.

Holton AA Meeting—at EUM Church (1 block south of post office—enter south door), Wednesday at 7:00 pm.

Lawrence Area

Circle of Hope AA Meeting every Wednesday at 7 pm, Haskell Campus, Winnemucca Hall (south of the campus)

Recipe Corner

By Mary Young

This month is dedicated to breakfast meals. Yesteryear breakfasts were hardy and meant to last. The saying goes that breakfast is the largest meal, lunch was not as heavy and supper made of a lighter fare because it was too hard on the stomach. *Recipe Corner* would like to thank all those who have offered to share their recipes.

Breakfast Casserole

Submitted by Suzi Heck

8 slightly beaten eggs 2 c milk
6 sls of bread cubed 1 c grated cheese
1 tsp salt 1 tsp mustard
1 lb sausage, cooked and crumbled

Put in greased 9 x 13 pan and refrigerate overnight. Bake 35 minutes at 350°.

Homemade Pancake

Submitted by Zennie McClintock

In a bowl and using a wire whisk, mix the following ingredients:

1 c flour 1 c milk
1 egg dash of salt
2 tsp baking powder

Cook in a slightly greased pan until done. Serve with butter, syrup or favorite topping. (I usually double the recipe, cook the pancakes and put them in the freezer. Reheat in the microwave using the medium setting.)

Make-Ahead Breakfast

Submitted by Monica & Eric Sanderson

Mix 1 lb browned sausage & 18 scrambled eggs. Add 2 cans cream of mushroom soup and top with grated cheese. Bake at 350° until warm throughout.

May store in refrigerator overnight if needed.

Granola

Submitted by Monica and Eric Sanderson

Toast 18 oz. old fashioned oats in large cake pan. Add 1 C flaked coconut and 3T oil. Mix and toast. Add 1/3 C sesame seeds, 1/2 C slivered almonds, and 1/2 C soy granules. Mix in and toast until light brown. Bake at 350° about

1 hour total. While warm, stir in 1/2 C brown sugar. Store in airtight container. You may add raisins or dates.

Oh, So Good Breakfast Muffins!!!

Submitted by Zennie McClintock

In a large bowl, mix the following ingredients:
1 C flour 1/2 tsp salt
1 C rolled oats 2 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp baking powder 2 tsp baking soda
Add 1 C brown sugar and set aside

In another bowl, mix the following and add to the dry ingredients:
1 1/2 C carrots, finely shredded
2 large apples, peeled, cored, shredded or chopped
1/2 cup raisins

1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
Stir well. Make a well in the center and add:
1/4 C vegetable oil
1/2 C milk
2 eggs, slightly beaten
1 tsp vanilla
Stir until moistened.
Place 1/4 C in each muffin pan.
Bake for 15-20 mins. At 375°.

"Finger Food" Cinnamon Rolls

Submitted by Dawn Masqua

1 or 2 cans of refrigerated cinnamon roll biscuits. Cut the cinnamon biscuits into bite size pieces before baking. Bake as directed on the can. When baking is completed, sprinkle the frosting on the cinnamon roll pieces and enjoy!

Sausage Pinwheels

Submitted by Monica & Eric Sanderson

Bisquick roll out recipe rolled thin. Cover with (Jimmy Dean regular) raw sausage. Roll up in pinwheel. Wrap in saran wrap and foil. Freeze solid. Slice. Bake at 375° until golden.

Please submit your favorite recipes to the PBPB Newspaper. Be sure to include your name, telephone number and/or address in case we have any questions. Until next issue, Recipe Corner would like to say wis-ne-men!



Dr. Richard Pruiksma and tribal member Vestina Nonken were on hand for the PBPB/Sac and Fox Health and Wellness Clinic open house that took place on February 24. The Clinic, formerly known as the Indian Health Center, came under the direction of the PBPB and Sac and Fox in January.

Ask the Dentist

By Jessica A. Rickert, DDS

Dear Dr. Rickert,
My friend has bad breath. What can I - uh- she do?
Little Flower

Dear Little Flower,

Usually, the bacteria in plaque and tartar cause bad breath.

Have your teeth professionally cleaned at least twice a year. Brush for 3 minutes in little circles at the gumline. Do this twice a day, and floss once a day.

Rinse 1, 2, 3 or 4 times per day with an anti-septic mouthrinse such as Peridex, Peroxyl, Listerine, BreathRx or Oxyfresh. Use the Listerine square gels which melt on your tongue when a mouthrinse is not available. I do not recommend breath mints, because they usually have sugar in them. Sugarless gum is another idea.

Brush your tongue thoroughly and entirely twice a day. There are tongue scrapers available to cleanse the tongue, if you cannot tolerate brushing your tongue.

Avoid malodor-causing foods, which include garlic and onion as well as peppery spices and hot sauces such as Tabasco.

Alcohol also causes a lingering bad breath, because it dehydrates all the oral tissues. Do not smoke or use chewing tobacco.

Drink lots of water, because the more saliva you have, the better.

If you do all the above for two weeks, and bad breath is still noticeable, see a medical doctor. There are several health conditions which cause persistent bad breath. Untreated diabetes is one. Some prescribed medications can contribute to bad breath, especially if the medication dries the saliva glands.





Lifeline Care Partner Telephone Received Well by the Elders

Submitted by Glenda Stenger, Coordinator of Caregivers Resident Care Service

For over twenty years, Lifeline has been North America's leading provider of personal response services, helping subscribers enhance their independence and quality of life. The Prairie Band Potawatomi currently uses the Lifeline Care Partner Telephone system to help improve the quality of care for our Elders.

The Care Partner Telephone is equipped with features that enhance daily communication, such as speakerphone for hands-free conversation and volume controls for the handset, speakerphone and ringer. Also, the keypad is lighted for nighttime use, and has large, high-contrast pushbuttons for easy dialing.

The enumerated dialing feature announces each number as it is pressed to ensure correct dialing. There are four memory dial keys for quick and convenient dialing, which may be programmed for local or long distance numbers.

The Care Partner Telephone system is outfitted with several methods of alerting the Prairie Band Potawatomi Police Dispatch that assistance is required. Each subscriber receives a personal help button, that when pressed, signals the Care Partner Telephone to call for help. This button can even be worn while bathing or showering. The bathroom pull cord alerts the Care Partner Telephone that help is needed. On the side of the telephone there is a red help button, that when pressed, also transmits a help signal. If a resident cannot speak, the alarm will alert emergency vehicles.

Alarms will be handled within 30 seconds. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Police Dispatch will alert the tribal ambulance, fire truck or tribal police, depending on the emergency. The telephone has a yellow reset button that signals help has arrived when pressed by a responder.

In the event of a power failure, a 24-hour rechargeable back-up battery ensures protection.

Before using the Resident Care Application to monitor the residents, a number of administrative tasks must be accomplished. All data entry tasks are performed throughout this application. Bathroom pull cords, and personal help buttons are programmed to each individual Care Partner Telephone, and signals will always sound an alert from that phone.

However, if the subscriber relocates, the Care Partner Telephone System must stay with the tribal member's home. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe purchased these telephones for each home or duplex to ensure a safe and more secure environment, and they are the property of the P.B.P.N.

These Lifeline units have been very well received by the residents of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. One resident says, "This is one of the most thoughtful things the Prairie Band Potawatomi has ever done for us." Another resident remarks, "I can hear on this phone! I sure like it."

For questions, contact Jon Boursaw, Barbara Smelter, or Glenda Stenger at (785) 966-4000 or (785) 966-0040.

Sleep Problems?

If you are having problems sleeping, try these suggestions. If the problem persists, contact your physician.

- Cut caffeine
- Drink alcohol in moderation
- Relax before bedtime
- Exercise at the right time for you
- Keep your bedroom quiet, dark and comfortable
- Eat right
- Restrict nicotine
- Avoid napping
- Keep pets off the bed
- Avoid watching TV, eating, and discussing emotional issues in bed

Courtesy of WebMD Feature and written by Michael Breus, PhD, and reviewed by Stuart Meyers, MD.

April is the month of the 6th Annual National Alcohol Screening Day

Tens of thousands of people will be participating in educational and screening events around the country during the month of April. The goal is to inform the public about at risk use of alcohol, alcohol's effect on health and the signs and symptoms of alcohol problems, as well as helping to assess you or someone you care about have the benefit of completing an evaluation and possibly appropriate treatment if a problem is determined.

Helen Slattery, the director of P.A.R.R. House and CADAC III (certified alcohol-drug addiction counselor) with Kansas SRS and KAAP (Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals) will be the facilitator of the event. She will be at several locations around the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation to conduct the screening for any Tribal employees or residents. Helen and other qualified counselors will be available to give out prizes, snacks, coffee and ice tea. Watch for flyers and notices of the times and locations in April.

Heart Disease, Stroke and Diabetes: Making the link

By Richard Pruiksma, MD
PBP Health and Wellness Center, 100 W. 6th Street
Holton, KS 66436

Just this month the figures for preventable deaths have come out. Tommy Thompson, the Secretary of Health and Human Services says that obesity is expected to pass up smoking in just a few years as the most common cause of preventable death in the United States.

I do have an occasional patient that can answer the question "What do most diabetics die of?" The American Diabetes Association reports that 2 out of 3 people with diabetes will die from heart attack or stroke.

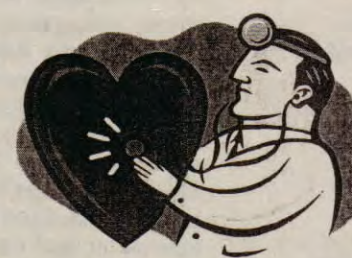
I encourage my patients to choose their own goals for these numbers based on their own lifestyle choices. But numbers that the American Diabetes Association recommends for most patients to choose are as follows:

- A: A1c, the test that measures average blood sugar over the past 3 months, should be less than 7. At our clinic we check this every 3 months.
- B: Blood pressure should be below 130/80 and measured every visit.

- C: Cholesterol. The LDL or "bad cholesterol" should be below 100. We check this at least once a year and more often if we are adjusting medicines to reach goal.

A recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association noted that less than 12 percent of people with diabetes meet their appropriate target blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol levels. What we have found out over the past few years is that blood pressure and cholesterol are just as important as the A1c for how long a person with diabetes lives. Some of you may be most worried about going on dialysis and some of you may be most worried about your eyes, but I know many of you have told me you have goals of seeing your grandchildren grow up. The goal of seeing your grandchildren grow up will take work on each of your numbers, not just your blood sugar.

When you come to see us at the clinic, please share with us your goal for your life so we can help you meet it. We would encourage you to know your numbers and ask us what your risks for heart attack and stroke are.



PBPN addresses meth problem: NEK coalition established

By Mary Young

In an active effort to disseminate valuable information to the community and readership, the *PBP News* will provide data and facts on the developing epidemic of methamphetamine and the growing problem of club drugs and other chemical substances as a regular health feature in the newspaper.

Information has been obtained through the attendance of workshops/conferences and working with the Northeast Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Coalition that meets on a monthly basis; Evelyn Hopkins, PARR, was instrumental in the development of the PBPN Coalition. The Coalition answers the following questions: Would you like to know more about the meth problem in the northeast Kansas area? Do you want to know what you can do about it? Do you know how meth affects children who are exposed to the chemicals from meth labs? Come join the group and learn how you can help reduce the dangers of young lives. For more information, call 966-3010. The community is invited to attend these meetings.

The following is a concern to the Coalition and to other programs in the country:

Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project legislative alert:

As of Nov. 7, 2003, word was sent to the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project (KMPP) stating they had lost their federal funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, an agency of the Health and Human Services Administration. According to KMPP, the "federal funding loss seriously jeopardizes methamphetamine prevention efforts in Kansas, even though Kansas has a severe methamphetamine epidemic and has implemented successful initiatives to address the problem in communities throughout the state." Furthermore, "without funding for these efforts, Kansas will lose ground in addressing the meth problem, which is already at epidemic proportions. Kansas will have more meth users, more injuries and deaths, and safety and health concerns in communities. It will require significantly more

time and funding to address meth if we are not proactive and don't continue current efforts."

The success of the efforts include the following: "increase in reports to law enforcement, increase in public awareness, increase in awareness of dangers by youth, decrease in lifetime usage and 30-day prevalence, increase in community safety, improved collaboration, improved control of anhydrous ammonia, increase in arrests, and 74,000 tamper tags were distributed throughout the state to address the theft of anhydrous ammonia, a main ingredient



An alleged meth lab on the Rez.

in meth manufacture. Farmers, employees of co-ops and other agricultural organizations also received education that led to increased safety for rural communities. Efforts expand rural efforts such as creating a Farm Watch program will not occur without further funding. Kansas has been identified as a leader in meth prevention by national organizations."

Meth Seizure Statistics for Kansas, 2003 and 2004:

According to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation report generated by the EPIC's National Clandestine Laboratory Seizure System for 2003, 649 seizures were reported. As of March 1, 2004, 107 were reported.

We would be naive and in total denial if we say the reservation does not have a meth problem. This is the reason why the Northeast Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Coalition was formed, to educate and eradicate the problem.

19th Annual Legislative Breakfast with Dr. Kevin Knight, Presenter of the "Alcohol/Drug Treatment for Offenders - What Works" Workshop:

Senator John Vratil and Representative Ward Lloyd who were responsible for Senate Bill No. 123 attended the breakfast and spoke about SB 123. "SB 123 makes major changes in the Kansas criminal law relating to penalties for possession of illegal drugs and the state's sentencing policies relating to these crimes. The bill establishes a non-prison sentence or sanction of drug abuse treatment, amends the current criminal statutes related to drug possessions to reduce all criminal penalties involving illegal drug possession (except first time marijuana possession which remains a class A misdemeanor) regardless of the second, third, or subsequent possession conviction to a level 4 drug offense."

Since the Kansas Department of Corrections no longer has an alcohol/drug treatment program, statistics are unavailable as the cause of the crime, i.e., was alcohol/drug a contributing factor to the cause of the crime. Of the 9,168 inmates, long and short term, 1.8% are Native Americans throughout Kansas facilities. Mirror, Inc. of Topeka is a facility that once offered alcohol/drug-counseling treatment for the female and male offender. Although Mirror, Inc. offers outpatient treatment to both male and female clients; they only house male offenders due to budget cuts. The outpatient is not receiving the appropriate counseling that is required to be effective. This is a topic Dr. Knight emphasized in his presentation. He said the offenders that had "aftercare" did much better than those who did not; and, appropriate treatment/needs are more effective in treatment (match the service with the needs). Dr. Knight said retention is the key, the client needs to stay in the program to completion; they need to change the way they think and need support, especially if the female has child custody issues. He also said the majority of offenders are involved with drug use and it is getting them the appropriate treatment.

The next issue will cover the "Kansas Grass Roots Conference Addressing the Growing Problem of Club Drugs and Marijuana."

2004 National Health Observances

"Source: 2003 National Health Observances, National Health Information Center, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC."

April 1-30

- Alcohol Awareness Month
- Cancer Control Month
- Candlelight Vigil for Eating Disorders
- National Donate Life Month
- National Occupational Therapy Month
- National STD Awareness Month
- National Youth Sports Safety Month
- Sports Eye Safety Month
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Women's Eye Health & Safety Month

2-4:
Alcohol-Free Weekend
3:
YMCA Healthy Kids Day
5-11:
National Public Health Week
7:
World Health Day: Road Safety
8:
National Alcohol Screening Day
18-24:
National Minority Cancer Awareness Week
and
National Volunteer Week

**** NEW ****

**Starting
MARCH 29, 2004**

**Women's
CLOSED AA Meeting**

**5:30 pm
Friday's**

**We-Ta-Se Bldg.
15434 K Road, Mayetta**



Area Churches

By Mary Young

Baptist

Prairie Band Baptist Church
128 E. Main Street, Mayetta, KS

Sunday: 10 am - Sunday School
11 am - Worship Service

Pastor Terry Paine

Bethany Baptist Church
821 New York Ave., Holton, KS
(785) 364-4379

David Noland, Youth Sunday School Teacher
David preaches the 5th Sunday of months.

Catholic

Our Lady of the Snows Parish
5971 - 166th Rd, Mayetta

Our Lady of Snows is on-line with a web page on history, calendar of events, mass schedule, photo gallery, and other important information. Please take a few minutes to visit our web page at <http://www.pbpcindiantribe.com/snow/index.html> or go to the tribal web site home page and click on Our Lady of Snows icon. We would be glad to answer any questions about our parish.

Native American Mass at Assumption Church

204 West 8th, Topeka, KS

Methodist

Pottawatomie United Methodist
On O Rd. between 142 and 150 Rd.

Rev. Floyd Nolin, Jr.

Sunday: 9:45 am - Sunday School
10:30 am - Worship Service

Pentecostal

Potawatomi Pentecostal Church
4-1/2 mi. west of mi. marker 134

Rev. Vernon Potts

Sunday: 10 am - Sunday School
10:45 am - Worship service
7 pm - Evening Worship

Easter, A Story of Hope

Submitted by Bernice Vega

For me, Easter is a wonderful time of reflection, forgiveness, reconciliation, rebirth and celebration. It is overwhelming to think that Jesus' message, through His pure love and sacrifice for all of us so long ago, has not lost any of its power

throughout the centuries even to this day.

When I was a child I always had new clothes and tried to look my best when my family went to Church on Easter Sunday. There was such excitement as we woke in the dark, got dressed and hurried so that we would arrive by Sunrise when the service began. I looked "new" on the outside but I cannot say that I understood with clarity what the Resurrection truly meant. I had been taught that Jesus had died and rose again so that we all could have a new life in Him. How I would experience this new life, I didn't know. I had the first inklings of Easter's importance because my mother put so much effort into making those clothes, taking me to Church and making sure that I respected this holiest of days. Though my understanding was limited, I took this very seriously. During Lent I was encouraged, even as a little girl, to "give up" something so that I could offer that to God in gratitude for the gift I had been given and as penance for my sins. My sacrifices may have been small but the important thing was that I tried to make them. As I grew older and I began to understand just how much Jesus did love me, I began to have hope that my shortcomings, failures and sins could not only be forgiven but I would become freer if I could acknowledge them. In doing so I could become a more loving person as I tried to "give up" my negative behavior and thinking. It is harder to be resentful, unforgiving or judgmental when I realize that not only do I have many of the same failings as others, but perhaps to a greater degree! I slowly started to become "new" on the inside, to resolve some of the things that bothered me and set my own shortcomings into motion. I began to understand what "Love thy neighbor as thyself" could mean in my life.

As I contemplate these things, my spirit is lifted. I already see signs of newness and rebirth all around me. As winter fades and spring emerges, snow is melting and the weather's chill gives way to milder days. Trees are beginning to show the first signs of buds on their limbs, promising that new life is just under their surface. I have that promise too if I have the courage to seek it. This is not to say that I do not have the responsibility to try to live daily by Jesus' example or that I'll ever become perfect or won't have to start over again and again. It is comforting to know that I can be uplifted every day, even on the bleakest, most difficult day, if I simply ask for God's strength, guidance and protection.

I believe that Easter is a time to come back home to my Heavenly Father's embrace so that I may be in a right relationship with him and to experience all the beauty that implies. The Easter message encourages me to pray, not only for forgiveness but also for the grace to love more, give more, help more and to ask for less. I know the promise in Jesus' message is for everyone so that we can all help one another as we make our way back to Him and begin yet another day of life's journey toward understanding, acceptance and Peace.



Bosho from the Boṭewatmi Tēshēmwn Department

The year is quickly moving along, here it is almost Spring! The last few days of Epok (winter) is upon us. I hope you have been practicing the sounds from the last article.

As stated in the last column, we need to talk about the remaining two combinations of letters that sound like vowels. Keep in mind that they sound like vowels to our English ears. They are:

ey.....long 'a' sound ... like the 'a' in say
ay.....long 'i' sound like the 'i' in lie

With the coming of Spring, we look towards the weather as being a big factor. So for this column, we will look at weather terms. We need to be able to ask about the weather and we do that by saying...

Nifte enomgék.....What's the weather like?
Nifte enomgék gom.....What's the weather like today?

Realize that the English translation is only an approximate since Potawatomi does not always translate directly.

For those of you who have children in the Head Start program, ask them to sing the weather song to you. We have been working on this song for awhile. Now we need to answer this question, even if we are just talking to ourselves, so we can say the following...

Knowēn	It's raining
Knoweswēn	It's sprinkling
Wishkanmēt	It's windy
Mnogishgēt	It's a good day
Pastemgēt	It's sunny
Mgwankot	It's cloudy



Now when we get the Spring weather coming our way, you will be able to say what is happening outside.

Well we are still waiting to move into our new offices. Hopefully by the end of March we will be in the process. We will be located in the basement of the Elder center. Our phone numbers will remain the same just our address will change.

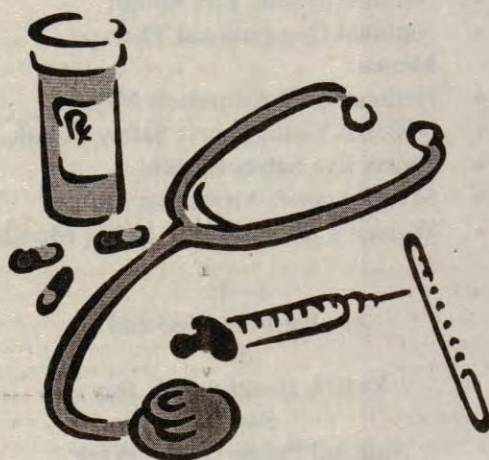
We have on staff now a part-time contract worker for the Audio-Visual Technician. I would like to introduce you to Laverne Biggoose. She is Masha Green's granddaughter and daughter of Jeannette. As some of you know, he worked with the Language department for a few years. She is currently working towards a degree in the Alcohol and Drug program at Washburn. With her help, we will be working towards completion of audio tapes for the language.

Another activity we are planning are informal language "round-table" discussions. Look for flyers, stating times and dates, to be posted around the community. We hope many of you will be able to join us in discussing the various aspects of language revitalization and the work that it entails.

If any of the membership would like to lend a helping hand in the department, we sure could use your help. We need help in the areas of clerical, packing and unpacking, language entry into the computer. If you have a few hours to spare then give us a call. 785-966-2138, we would love to have you. You just might learn a few words of Potawatomi also. For now I will say...

Pama mine kowabmēn.....Later again I'll see you.

Health Center offers monthly women's clinic: stop by and meet the new doctor



DeeAnn Deroin, M.D., is joining the medical team at the Prairie Band Potawatomi/Sac and Fox Health and Wellness Center beginning April 2, 2004. Dr. Deroin will be providing a monthly women's clinic that will focus basic women's health care, particularly breast and pelvic exams including related women's health issues, such as family planning, sexual health, change of life issues and osteoporosis. Her clinical focus will be on education and self-care, giving women the tools and responsibility to keep themselves healthy. For an appointment, please call Medical Records at 364-2176.



Victims' Rights: America's Values

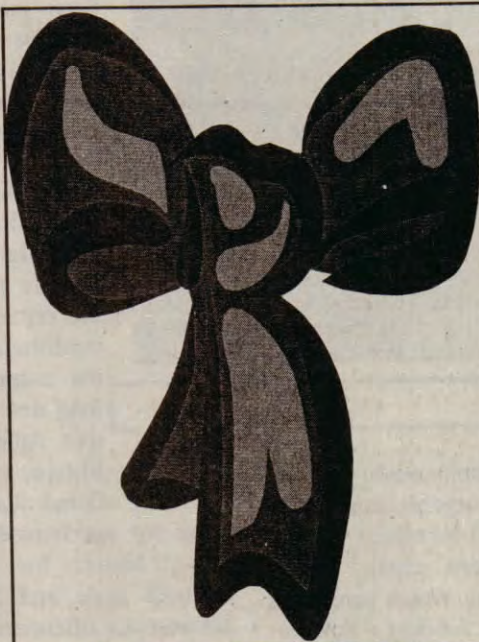
Submitted by Nis Wilbur

During the week of April 18 - 24, 2004, crime victims and survivors, victim service providers, criminal and juvenile justice, and volunteers will join together across America to commemorate the 24th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This year's theme, "Victims' Rights, America's Values," helps us recognize that when we value equal rights for all Americans, safety and protection for those who have been victimized, and justice for all, we value crime victims' rights and services.

This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the Crime Victims Fund established by the *Victims of Crime Act of 1984* (VOCA) which, over the past two decades, has provided over \$5.5 billion for victim assistance programs that offer a wide range of services to crime victims, and victim compensation that helps victims cope with the financial impact of crime. VOCA is not derived from taxpayers' dollars but, rather, from Federal criminal fines, forfeited appearance bonds, and special assessments on Federal convictions. The PBPB Family Violence Prevention Program is partially funded through a VOCA grant.

During the week of the 18th-24th the PBPB FVPP will hand out color-coded ribbons to wear to express recognition of victims and survivors of different crimes. On Monday, blue ribbons can be worn to show support to the ending of youth violence, such as bullying and gangs. Tuesday, the wearing of a green ribbon will recognize robbery and theft victims and survivors. Wednesday, the wearing of purple

will represent domestic Violence. Red is the official color of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), so red ribbons can be worn on Thursday to recognize those who have been affected by drunk driving. And on Friday, the wearing of white ribbons will recognize all other crimes that have not been highlighted during the week, such as arson, gun violence, and kidnapping.



John W. Gillis, Director of the Office for Victims of Crime within the U.S. Department of Justice, encourages all people in America who share the core value of equal rights for all to join in the commemoration of 2004 National Crime Victims Rights Week.

"Nobody asks to be victimized by violence and, when a crime occurs, victims need to be aware that they have rights within the justice system and many services to help them cope with the victimization," Gillis explained. "When we

are informed and aware of victims' rights and services, we are committed to shared values of justice for all, and assistance and support for our family members, friends, co-workers and neighbors who are hurt by crime."

Members of our community are encouraged to join together during the 2004 National Crime Victims' Rights Week to honor victims and survivors of crime. For additional information please contact Nis Wilbur at the PBPB FVPP at 966-0173 or visit the Old Community Building.



Gaming Commissioner says thanks!

Thanks for all of your support during the Gaming Commission Election. I appreciate it a lot. Like I said before, if you need any questions answered, or anything, I'll be willing to help. Thanks again.

Calvin Evans
PBP Gaming Commission
966-4057



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

**TOLL-FREE
NUMBERS**

The following are the toll-free numbers that are available to the various departments at PBPB.

Government Center
877 715-6789

Alcohol & Drug
866 966-2411

Boys & Girls Club
866 727-6242
(866 PBP-NBGC)

Health & Wellness Clinic
866 694 6728

Pharmacy
866 243-6525

Managed Care (CHS)
800 441-6021

Housing
866 966-2756

Social Services
888 966-2932

Tribal Court
866 966-2242

Transit Program
(785) 966-2995 or 966-3024 or
877 727-6743



BEST PRACTICES CONTRIBUTE TO QUALITY AT THE BEN-NO-TTEH WIGWAM

Submitted by Cecily Waubunsee

Four Best Practices are being implemented at the PBP Early Head Start, Head Start, and Child Care programs that contribute to quality, which include:

The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) has been conducting the "Hearing Head Start" pilot study with Migrant Head Start, Early Head Start and American Indian Head Start Grantees in Oregon, Utah, and Washington to update their hearing screening practices using OAE hearing screening technology and an effective screening and follow-up protocol.

NCHAM has trained over 100 staff, representing 19 Head Start Grantees serving across 69 sites, to conduct OAE hearing screenings on children 0-3 years of age enrolled in their programs. Screening and outcome data has been collected on over 2,800 children to date. Only seven (7) Early Head Start grantees including the Prairie Band Potawatomi Early Head Start program in Kansas, are recipients of the Hearing Head Start training and equipment. On March 10, 2004, three (3) staff members representing the PBP Ben-no-tteh Wigwam received training among twenty-one people from other EHS programs in Kansas. (Wichita, Salina and Manhattan) Carrie Hastings, Hope Adame and Robyn Wright represented the Ben-no-tteh Wigwam. The PBP Early Head Start program is one (1) of five (5) programs that were awarded new hearing equipment. This means that every infant, toddler and preschooler will have an opportunity to receive an on-site screening and ongoing monitoring to increase early identification of ear infections and prevent permanent hearing loss.

Robyn Wright, EHS Family Development Specialist, recently completed a three-day workshop on clinical breastfeeding assistance in Topeka, Kansas. The course, which was spon-

sored by Stormont-Vail Health Care and Lactation Consultant Services, addressed:

- The normal course of lactation
 - An assessment and problem solving practicum
 - An examination addressing usual circumstances and common challenges with breastfeeding.
- She was awarded certification as a breastfeeding educator. Scientific investigations have recently identified significant benefits of breastfeeding, which include:
- Increased intelligence
 - Protection against childhood infections,



Childcare and early headstart children out for a walk with the classroom child caregivers. (L-R): Tina Levier, Toni Dodds and Mary Tiscareño.

diabetes, liver disease, certain types of cancers, allergies, immune system disorders and sudden death syndrome

- Mothers who breastfeed have a reduced incidence of breast cancer and osteoporosis.
- Mothers Increase bonding and closeness with their infant.

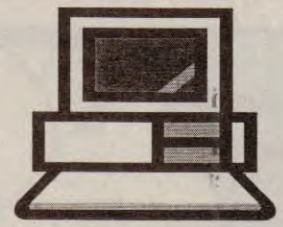
Touchpoints training is being provided to staff

and local professionals to strengthen and improve relationships between caregivers, parents and professionals that benefit the care and education of young children. The Touchpoints model supports family involvement and helps the caregiver or professional:

- Value and understand the relationship between the caregiver, parent and extended family
- Use the behavior of the child as your language
- Recognize what you bring to the interaction
- Be willing to go beyond your traditional role
- Value passion wherever you find it
- Focus on the child-parent/extended family relationship
- Look for opportunities to support familial mastery
- Value disorganization and vulnerability as an opportunity.

The Council for Early Childhood Recognition awards Child Development Associate credentials (CDA) to caregivers for their competence, knowledge, and practice of developmentally appropriate care and education to young children in various settings. Hedy Noland, Amanda Schultz, Juliet Carilisle, and Sam Mitchell were awarded a CDA credential, this past year. CDA renewals were awarded to Judy Jackson, Norma Shipshee, Sandi Jim and Vicki Wahquahboshkuk. At least three (3) staff members are nearing the completion of an AA degree in Early Childhood Education.

As we continue to grow in numbers, our goal is to improve our services to children and families, and we cannot do it alone. It takes a whole community to care and educate a child. We invite parents and community members to attend our Interagency Coordinating Council meeting to gain feedback and input on continuous quality improvement. The meeting is on April 2, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. at the Ben-no-tteh Wigwam. If you cannot attend the meeting, feel free to stop by, call or send in your suggestions.



Web Site Addresses of Interest

PBPN Website
Links to Human Resource Dept., Tribal Court, Education Dept., Calendar of Events and the Boys & Girls Club
<http://www.pbpnation.org>

Prairie Band Potawatomi
[HTTP://WWW.PBPIndianTribe.Com](http://www.PBPIndianTribe.Com)
Family histories, photographs, etc.

Administration on Aging
Programs & Resources for Native American Elders
<http://www.aoa.gov/AIN/default.htm>

Forest County Potawatomi
<http://www.fcpotawatomi.com>

Kansas Office of Native American Affairs (KONAA)
www.hr.state.ks.us/konaa/html/index.html

1-800-MEDICARE
www.medicare.gov

MEDICAID
[Http://cms.hhs.gov/medicaid/](http://cms.hhs.gov/medicaid/)

Native American Internet Resource
<http://indianz.com>



More on Shab-eh-nay (continued from pages 2-3)

The article to the right appeared in the Holton Recorder in 1998 and was reprinted in the 1999 Winter Potawatomi News. Since it offers a good background of the land claim issue it is reprinted here at the request of Tribal Council and courtesy of the Holton Recorder.



PBPN employee Deb Hale admires a portrait of Chief Shab-eh-nay that hangs in the PBPN Government Center lobby. Chief Shab-eh-nay and other Prairie Band lived on the Illinois reservation for many years before they were removed by the U.S. government in the 1830s.

Potawatomis working to reclaim land near Chicago

(MAYETTA)

Turning Horace Greeley's admonition to "go West, young man" on its head, a small Kansas Indian tribe is seeking to regain ancestral land near Chicago that it says was illegally seized and then sold by the federal government in 1849.

The petition is one of more than a dozen such reclamation efforts from coast to coast, promoted as a way to right the wrongs inflicted on scores of Indian tribes by forced relocations more than a century ago. In some cases, they could lead to developments of casinos without the usually required concurrence of state and local officials and other tribes.

Leaders of the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Indians, which owns a thriving Las Vegas-style casino on its reservation here in northeastern Kansas, insist they have no plans to build another casino on the 1,280 acres near Shabbona, Ill., 60 miles west of downtown Chicago, that they say were stolen from their ancestors. The tribal leaders say they are only trying to remedy the injustice done to Potawatomi tribal leader Chief Shab-eh-nay and his band when white land speculators tricked federal authorities into conducting an illegal auction of the land.

"I'm not the futuristic enough to talk about economic development until that land is in our hands," said Tribal Chairwoman Mamie Rupnicki, a direct descendant of Shab-eh-nay. "For 150 years we have tried to reclaim our home, and visualizing that land coming back to the tribe is our main focus now."

She stressed the tribal council has not discussed using the land for a casino if the petition is approved by the Interior Department. If the council changes its mind, however, the casino would be the first landbased gaming facility in Illinois, which allows only casinos on riverboats. And several tribal officials said they expect gaming to be one option studied in devising a land use plan.

"Economic development is the name of the game," said Joe Hale, a descendant of Shab-eh-nay.

The successes of other tribes in winning back potentially valuable real estate on their ancestral homelands, and the possibility that such homelands could be developed into lucrative gaming enterprises, have made state and federal officials wary of reclamation petitions in general.

According to federal law, if land is purchased by Indians and put into trust as a reservation, a tribe cannot operate a casino unless the interior secretary, after consulting with state and local officials and other nearby Indian tribes, determines the gambling would be in the best interest of the tribe and not detrimental to the surrounding community. However, that requirement is waived if the reservation is part of a land claim settlement or involves restoration of a previous reservation in another state.

If the Prairie Band tribe can prove that its ancestral land was taken without a treaty and therefore was never legally removed from the status of a reservation, it could at a minimum open a Class II gaming facility with high-stakes bingo and "pull-tab" video slot machines without state permission. It could also seek a compact with the state to operate a Class III casino with Las Vegas style slot machines, as well as roulette, craps, blackjack, poker and other gambling.

Since Congress passed the 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, requiring states to negotiate compacts spelling out the terms for legal gambling on reservations, Indian gaming has grown from a few isolated bingo halls into an estimated \$7-billion-a-year industry. The regulatory act also required the states to let tribes conduct any type of gambling activity that was not prohibited by state law.

Some tribes, seeking a larger market than they could find in their usually remote reservations, hit on the idea of reclaiming ancestral homelands near large urban centers and building casinos there. In some cases, the governments or business groups in towns and cities with dwindling tax bases have invited tribes to reclaim ancestral land in hopes of generating new revenue.

The most recent example of a reclamation proceeding for the declared purpose of gaming is the case of the Delaware Indians of western Oklahoma, whose ancestors were pushed out of New Jersey in the 1830's and who are now claiming virtually the entire beach front city of Wildwood as their ancestral homeland for the purpose of building a casino they hope will challenge Atlantic City's gaming monopoly in the state.

Originally, Wildwood business leaders offered the Delaware a two-acre parking lot, hoping they would build a casino and resuscitate the fading

resort city's economy. But when the state government tried to block the deal with a lawsuit, the Delaware claimed thousand of acres that they say were illegally taken by New Jersey in 1820 in violation of a 1790 law declaring that only the federal government can take Indian land.

Since long before gambling became a part of Indian reservation life, the direct descendants of Shab-eh-nay have tried to press their claim for the Illinois land, more than half of which is a state park and a county forest preserve. The land also includes a privately owned nine-hole golf course and 25 houses, whose owners would have to be compensated by the federal government.

In the mid-1800's, as western expansion gained momentum, scores of Indian tribes were forced off their ancestral lands in the East and Midwest and relocated to Indian territories in the West. Shab-eh-nay's band was one of those swept up in the displacement.

Shab-eh-nay was an Odawa warrior who migrated to northern Illinois and married into a Potawatomi band that lived in a large timber grove along Big Indian Creek in what is now known as Shabbona in DeKalb County. Although the Illinois tribe ceded their lands in several treaties with the United States in exchange for land west of the Mississippi River, some of these treaties reserved small parcels east of the Mississippi for chiefs and their bands. One of these was the 1829 Treaty of Prairie du Chien with the Chippewa, Ottawa and Potawatomi nations, which reserved two small sections of land for Shab-eh-nay and his band along Big Indian Creek.

In the 1830s, the Illinois Potawatomi bands were removed by the U.S. government to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where they merged and became known as the Prairie Band Potawatomi. Shab-eh-nay continued to be one of their chiefs, but he and his family migrated annually between Council Bluffs and their tiny Illinois reservation.

In 1846, the face of further westward expansion, the Prairie Band was forced to surrender its 5-million-acre Iowa reservation and moved to a 20,000-acre reservation here. Two years later, while Shab-eh-nay was at the new Kansas reservation, two land speculators, brothers named Ansel and Orin Gates, claimed that the Shab-eh-nay band had abandoned its Illinois reservation and petitioned the Office of Indian Affairs for title, according to attorney Fran Ayer, who has been working on the Potawatomi claim for more than two years.

Ayer said the Gates brothers claimed they had purchased the entire 1,280 acres from Shab-eh-nay even though the only record of sale is one purporting that Ansel Gates bought 50 acres for \$450 from an agent of the Indian Chief.

Nonetheless, when Shab-eh-nay and his followers returned to Illinois for a visit, they found their reservation had been declared surplus federal land and sold at auction to settlers. Ayer said the Indian affairs office conducted no investigation into the Gates brother's claim. She said that under U.S. law, the government cannot take Indian land without a treaty or an act of Congress, and that in this case the Potawatomi never signed a treaty negating the terms of the 1839 Prairie du Chien accord.

Shab-eh-nay died in 1859. Five years later, according to tribal historians, his widow, Pokanoka, mysteriously drowned in a creek near the tribal homeland shortly after hiring an attorney to sue the U.S. government in an effort to reclaim the reservation.

The 800 members of the Prairie Band, who live on what has dwindled to an 11-square-mile reservation located south of Holton, have seen their tribe emerge from abject poverty to relative prosperity since a modest bingo hall was opened in the 1980's and gradually expanded into a Las Vegas-style casino operated by the Memphis-based Harrah's chain. Largely as a result of gaming revenue, the tribe now has a \$6 million budget, employs 135 members in the tribal government and spends \$1.2 million a year to improve the network of dirt roads that crisscrosses the reservation.

"All our programs are supplemented by the revenue from the casino," said tribal vice chairwoman Vestina Nonken, who recalled that when she first was elected to the tribal council in 1976, the unemployment rate on the reservation was 80 percent and "we just didn't have anything going. It was really sad."

But with the casino's revenue, Nonken said, "We can look at options for the land in Illinois. The first thing is to get it back, but after that we need to look and see what kind of economic development we want out there."

Reprinted with permission: Holton Recorder, October 15, 1998



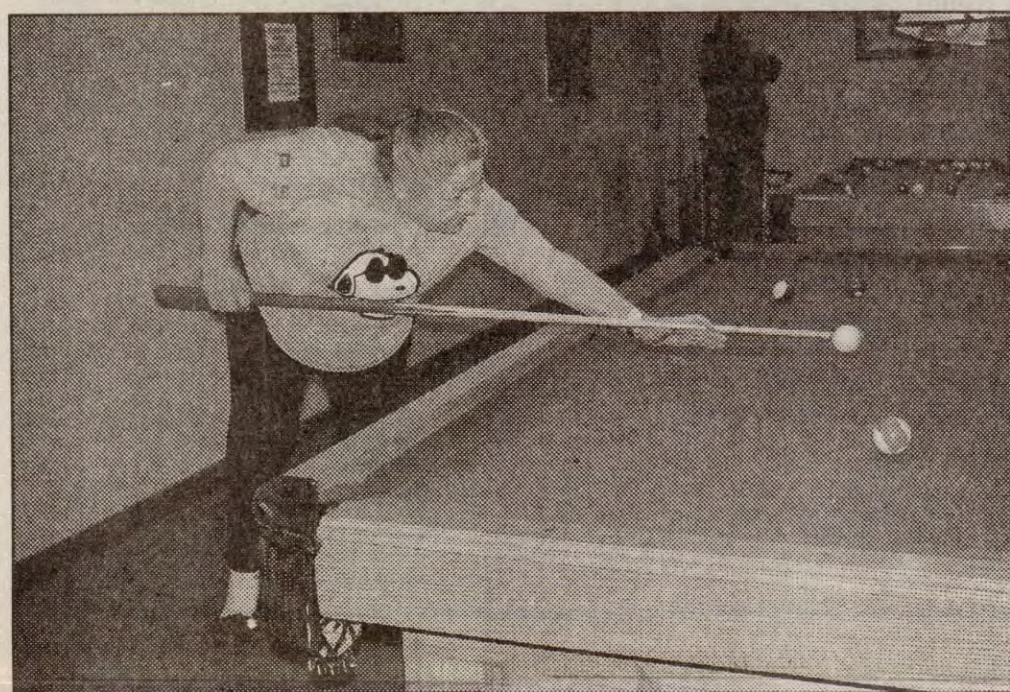
Contenders vie for first place in 3rd Annual Ladies 8-Ball Tournament at Elder Center

Blues, rock and jazz played amidst the cheering and laughter as the referee tossed a coin for the games to begin! Over 30 people attended the breakfast with 12 to compete in the tournament that was held at the Elder Center on March 13, 2004.

As the rain fell steadily, Laura Abeyta and Carol Dewitt played two games with Laura scoring for the win. Carol placed second and Cozette Wahwassuck third. They each received cash and a diamond shaped trophy donated by the PBP "Nish-nah-bah" men's fastpitch team.

During the award's ceremony, Warren Wahweotten and Roland Lynch received a plaque for their efforts to raise funds for an added pool table. Warren won the 9-Ball Challenge and Roland won the 2004 Snooker Challenge. The challenge was conducted daily for four months; a new challenge is in the making.

Carol Dewitt provided music and the PBP Elder Center staff and volunteers organized the breakfast and concession stand.



Missing from the Elder Center Squaw Dice Bowl & Dice

Last seen on a table in the dining room.



Purchased with fundraising money that the Talking Circle earned so please bring back to a staff at the Elder Center.
Thank you

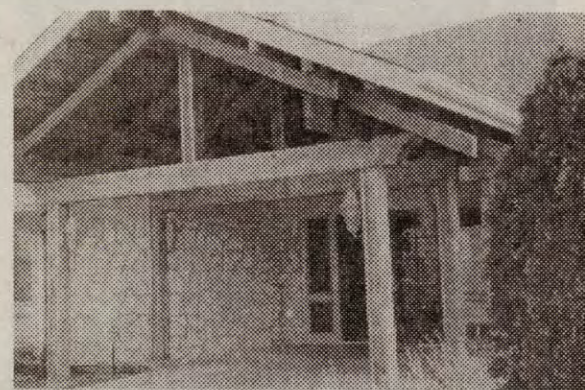
Talking Circle
Horse Shoe Tournament/ Fun Day
Saturday, April 3
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Men & Women 50 plus
49 yrs. and younger

Free will breakfast fundraiser, 8 a.m.
Community pot luck, noon

Last sign up day for tourney Friday, April 2
For more information :
Curtis Paul Masquat, 966-0040 or 41
Julia Lewis, 966-2182

Win a \$25.00 Walmart Gift Certificate in the Name the Building Contest

Suggestions must reflect on the purpose of the Elder/Senior Building, what the name means and why you picked that name



Deadline for entries: April 30

you may turn into the Elder Center Director's office or mail, fax, email to the following numbers below. We will not be responsible for suggestions that do not reach us at one of the sources listed:

Send to:
Prairie Band Potawatomi Elder Center
16281 Q Road
Mayetta, Kansas 66509

Phone: 785-966-0040
Fax: 785-966-0052
Email: nona@pbpnation.org

April "2004"



Potawatomi Elder Center

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast Sausage, Eggs Biscuits, Gravy Fruit Salad	Pork Chops Scalloped Potatoes Brussel Sprouts Dinner Roll	Chicken Casserole Harvard Beets Tossed Salad Biscuits	Shepherds Pie Cottage Cheese Tossed Salad Biscuits	Fried Catfish Baked Potato Zucchini & Tomato Texas Toast
Chicken Noodle Soup Grilled Cheese Cauliflower Salad Fruit, Crackers	Spaghetti & Meatball Green Beans Tossed Salad Garlic Bread	Chinese Stir Fry White Rice Egg rolls, Broth Cantalope Slices	Birthday Dinner Indian Tacos Beans & Rice	Closed for Good Friday
Liver & Onions Potato & Gravy Sliced Carrots Dinner Roll	Sloppy Joes Chick Rice Soup Tossed Salad Crackers	Sliced Ham Potato & Gravy Zucchini & Carrot Dinner Roll	Roast of Pork Potatoes & Gravy Carrots Dinner Roll	Chef Salad Minestone Soup Orange Slices Bread Sticks
Chili & Hot Dog Macaroni Salad Green Beans Cheese & Cracker	Country Fried Steak Potato & Gravy Broccoli Normandy Dinner Roll	Meatloaf Scalloped Potato Asparagus Spears Dinner Roll	Chicken Pot Pie Buttered Noodles Spinach Salad Deviled Eggs	Fish Sticks Macaroni & Cheese Broccoli & Cheese Garlic Bread
			Parmesan Chicken Brown Rice Broccoli Normandy Dinner Roll	Baked Fish Potato & Gravy Spinach Dinner Roll

Lunch Hours 11:30-12:30

Native Seniors 50+ Free
Adults \$3.50
Children \$2.00

Menu Subject to Change

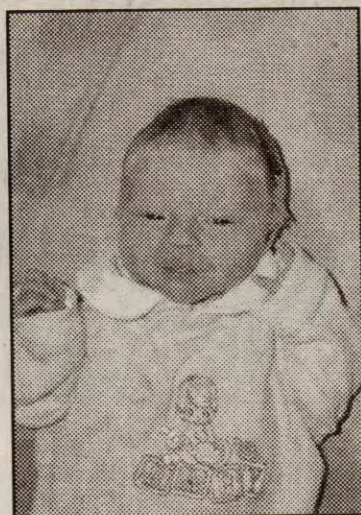
Just a note to say I'm living

that I'm not among the dead.
Though I'm getting more forgetful
and mixed up in the head.
I got used to my arthritis,
to my dentures I'm resigned.
I can manage my bifocals
but gosh I miss my mind!
For sometimes I can't remember;
when I stand at the foot of the stairs,
If I must go up for something
or have I just come down from there?
And before the fridge so often,
my poor mind is filled with doubt.
Have I just put food away
or have I come to take some out?
So if it's my turn to write you
there's no need for getting sore;
I may think that I have written
and don't want to be a bore.
Just remember that I love you
and wish that you were near.
Now it's nearly mail time.
so I must say goodbye, my dear.
Here I stand beside the mailbox
with a face so very red!
Instead of mailing you my letter,
I have opened it instead!
-author unknown



GINIGITTEK (Those who are born)

Sophie Jean Bosse



Dean and Sharon Bosse of Wheaton, KS proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Sophie Jean Bosse born on Friday, January 30, 04 at 11:34 p.m. at Stormont-Vail Hospital in Topeka. Sophie weighed 5 lbs, 5 oz and was 19 1/4 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Robert "Red" Anderson, Mayetta, KS and Judy Darnell, Mayetta. Maternal great-grandparent is Charles Jacobson, Mayetta. Paternal grandparents are Lowell and Sandy Bosse, Wheaton. Paternal great-grandparents are Sophie Bosse of Onaga, KS and Kenneth and Virginia Shenkel, Mission, KS.



Marcus Christopher Kern

Born: February 1, 2004
Weight: 7 lbs, 9 oz, 20 inches
Holton Community Hospital

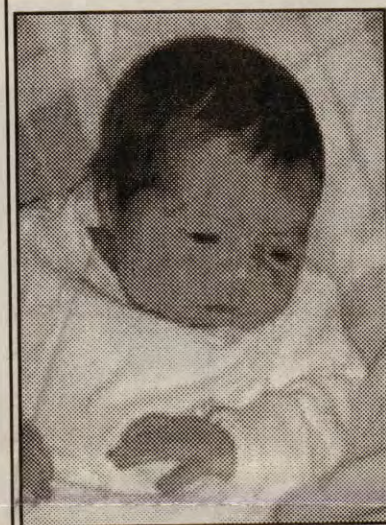
Parents: Jennifer and Russell Kern,
Hoyt, KS
Grandparents: Tina and Alan Higgins,
Whiting, KS
Tutti and Jimmie Kern,
Mayetta, KS



Hannah Alane Price

Born: February 11, 2004
Weight: 7 lbs & 6 oz., 20 inches

Parents: Billy & Nickolasa Price
Maternal Grandparent: Sandy Mitchell
Paternal Grandparents: Billy Price and Sarah Price
Maternal Great-grandmother: the late Alberta Wamego



Drake Louis Jones

Born: December 1, 2003
Weight: 10 lbs & 8 oz.

Parents: Henry and Crystal Jones
Grandparents: Misho-Kevin M. Aitkens
Norma J. Reel



Happy First Birthday, Coonie!



Love,
Mama,
Sugar,
Grandma,
Pops,
and
Chuckie

Hawa-Este Donsah
born: March 20, 2003

Congratulations to
Thurman Ellis (Dutch) Keo
for 3rd place in his age division
in the
New Star Discovery's
Cute Baby Contest
&
for Prettiest Eyes

son of Mokie Keo and
April C. Wahwasuck

Dutch will go to state finals in
Hutchinson, May 15-16 and needs funds.
Please call (785)486-3846 to donate.

Happy
Birthday
to the
North Star
Girls Group Home



Kamboŋt̄ek (Those who died)

Kathleen Dawn Peterson, 56 yrs Wittenberg, WI

Born: October 15, 1947
Died: February 5, 2004

Burial: February 8, 2004
John Stacy Memorial Cemetery

Survivors:
Milford Rockman, companion
Renee Rockman, daughter
Sharon Rockman, daughter
Nicole Roberts, daughter
Michelle Yoshida, daughter
William Roberts, son
Alexis Roberts, grandchild
Edwin Martinez, grandchild
Sasano Pedilla, grandchild
Loyal Shegonee, brother
Verna Rodriguez, sister
Laura Shegonee, sister
Faye Shegonee, sister
Barbara Shegonee, sister
Charles & Lou Neff, adoptive parents
and
Kathleen was preceded in death by
Gilbert and Melvina (Wewauson)
Shegonee
grandson, David Roberts, two brothers
and one sister, Mavis.

Melody J. Burke, 48 yrs Suring, WI

Born: August 24, 1955
Died: February 6, 04
Funeral services: February 11
Jones Funeral Home
Oconto Falls, WI

Survivors:
Marisa J. Schodeberg, daughter
Emily L. Burke, daughter
Richard Volm, companion
Forest Barnes, father
Clarice Barnes, mother
Cynthia Barnes, sister
Robin Barnes, brother

preceded in death by
her paternal and maternal
grandparents

Winona "Noni" Ruth Brazzanovich, 51 yrs

Born: September 30, 1952
Died: January 28, 2004

Services: February 2, 2004
Walton's Sierra Chapel
Reno, Nevada

Survivors:
Karen Atwood, companion
Ashley, daughter
Tishia, daughter
Clinton Ferrel, brother
Valera Ferrel, sister-in-law
Gary Brazzanovich, brother

In memory
of
Patricia Ann Makins
died
November 27, 2003



Other community happenings



Tribal member Jill Horn, left, and her mother, Janice Ownby are seen here celebrating Jill's graduation from Yuba College in Marysville, CA. where she received an A.S. degree in Registered Nursing.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Powwow

June 11, 12, 13, 2004

- Drum & Dance contests
- Golf Tourney
- Men's FastPitch Tourney
and more

call Micki Martinez, 1-877-715-6789 or
Rebekah Potts at 1-877-727-6743

11th Annual Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations

hosted by the

Citizen Band Potawatomi Nations
at the Tribal Complex
Shawnee, Oklahoma

August 4,5,6,7, 2004

For lodging information call
Cathie Hanson, 800-880-9880, ext. 1106

Congratulations
to
Jim Potter
on being elected
President
of the
Jackson County
Development
Corporation



Josette Wahwasuck
voted into
Who's Who Among
Students in American
Universities &
Colleges at
Washburn University
2003-2004



- one of 77 Washburn
students selected
- scholastic excellence
- outstanding campus leader



Back Page/Gaming Commission Election 2/25/04

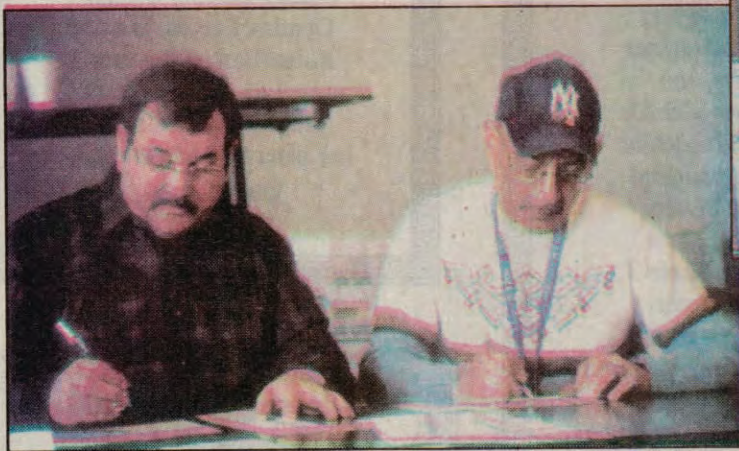
Prairie Band Potawatomi News



Waiting
for
the
results



The count



The win



Swearing In Ceremony March 1, Bingo Hall



Next election in July, 2004

4 seats on Tribal Council

- Vice Chair
- Treasurer
- 2 members