

# Prairie Band Potawatomi News

+++ A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation +++

# - SUMMER 2018 EDITION -

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# 25th Annual Potawatomi Gathering

July 29 -August 5, 2018

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# Wamego Sworn In As Gaming Commissioner #1



PBPN Tribal member Lisa Wamego addresses the community after being sworn in to the Gaming Commission. The ceremony took place on April 26, 2018 at the Old Bingo Hall, the former location of the Nation's original temporary casino.

Lisa Wamego is the newly appointed Gaming Commissioner #1. A Swearing-In Ceremony took place on applicants.

Wamego has 21 years of gaming experi-

April 26, 2018, marking the beginning of her term. Wamego's term will end in 2021.

The position of Gaming Commissioner #1 became vacant in March 2018, with the removal of Dorothy Kiyukan. Title XII of the Potawatomi Law and Order Code, which governs the Gaming Commission provides the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council the authority to appoint another person for the balance of the term. The **PBPN Tribal Council** appointed Wamego to the position after holding interviews with a pool of qualified

ence with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Her gaming career began when she assisted with the establishment of the PBP Nation's temporary casino, and for the next 20 years worked as the Casino Controller. In that capacity, Wamego was responsible for the cashiering and count room, establishing acceptable accounting procedures and internal controls, along with assuring all external and internal regulations were met, all with the primary goal to safeguard the assets of the company.

Wamego had recently transitioned from the Prairie Band Casino and Resort to work for the PBP Nation government as the Chief Financial Officer.

"This is an exciting time for our Nation. I look forward to being part of the casino expansion and ensuring communication between the PBPN Gaming Commission, the Tribal Council and our membership," stated Wamego.

Wamego joins Rey Kitchkumme, Gaming Commissioner #2/Chairman and Joe Mitchell, Gaming Commissioner #3.

# Native American Veterans Tax Refund Bill Signed Into Law



Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer, M.D. ceremonially signed HB 2417 on May 2, 2018, while surrounded by representatives of the four Kansas Tribes and members of the state legislature. Image: Courtesy of the KS Governor's Office.

The Native American Veterans Tax
Refund Bill, commonly referred to as HB
2417 passed the Kansas House of Representatives on April 2, 2018, with language to include repayment of interest.
One month later a Ceremonial Signing took place in the Governor's Office at the state Capitol. The new law provides recourse for Native American Veter-

ans who were wrongfully taxed state withholdings while serving active duty during the years of 1977 to 2001 and maintained their permanent residence on their federally recognized Indian reservation. Kansas is the third state in the Nation to enact a law to address this issue.

The Kansas Department of Revenue is currently developing the refund claims process. Once the process is established, impacted individuals will have a set time limit to file a claim. Updates of details and timelines will be provided through Tribal media as it becomes available.

# Chairwoman Liana Onnen: Message to the Nation



General Council Members,

I hope this report finds you in good health and spirits. In this article, you will see the boards, committees, and workgroups I serve on as well as the purpose and/or function of the board or committee. All the information contained in this report pertains to my activities in the time-period covering January 21 through May 31 of this year. You will see a calendar that shows the meetings, events, activities, and travel from the quarter. The calendar is intended to give you a quick reference overview of how my time was spent during the quarter. On the days when I do not have events, I am usually in the office and at times, I do work from home. As your Chairwoman, I am truly always on the clock. I assure you, I work hard to represent the Nation, to protect and grow its interests, to foster positive relationships, and to pass laws and influence policy that protects our sovereignty and strengthens our selfdetermination.

### **BOARDS/COMMITTEES/WORKGROUPS**

### **National Level**

National Institutes of Health Tribal Advisory Committee (NIH TAC)

I am currently serving as the Chair of the NIH TAC, elected by the members of the TAC. Previously, I have served as Co-Chair and as Oklahoma Area Representative. This will be my third term serving on the Committee.

Website: https://dpcpsi.nih.gov/thro/charter

All of Us Research Project Tribal Collaboration Working Group

Associated with my work on the NIH TAC, I was asked to participate in this Working Group has completed its purpose and will be an ad hoc group that may be called back to service should it be needed or desired. I participated in this group from approximately six months from September until March, primarily via conference call and one, in-person meeting in February.

Website: https://allofus.nih.gov/about/ about-all-us-research-program

The All of Us Research Program is committed to ensuring that the program reflects the diversity of the United States and includes individuals who have typically been underrepresented in biomedical research. The Tribal Collaboration Working Group, a working group of the All of Us Research Program Advisory Panel, will provide information for consideration regarding the inclusion of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations in the program.

The Tribal Collaboration Working Group will identify strategies for developing meaningful, culturally sensitive collaborations with AI/AN populations. It will offer input to the All of Us Research Program Advisory Panel, describing collaboration opportunities and potential challenges.

Website: https://allofus.nih.gov/about/ who-we-are/tribal-collaboration-working-group-all-us-research-program-advisory-panel

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)

Although no longer serving in the role of Southern Plains Vice-President, I continue to remain involved in NCAI activities and workgroups. I serve as Co-Chair of the Housing Subcommittee and remain active on the Land Working Group and the Tax Working Group, which both keep a close eye on developing legislation and policy, calling the group to action when it is time to advocate on these issues as they pertain to tribes. The participants in this group then lobby Congress and the Administration for action on bills and policies that could adversely affect tribes, tribal sovereignty, and tribal self-determination. I also remain very vocal on behalf our tribe and even tribes in our region when I attend listening sessions and consultations at NCAI events.

NCAI Mid-Year Local Planning Committee (NCAILPC)

Starting in March, Vice-Chairman Pahmahmie and I are the co-chairs of the NCAI LPC. The Mid-Year convention will be held in June in Kansas City, Missouri. This is the Southern Plains region and we are one of the closest, regional member tribes. We will be assisting with both sponsorships and our time in helping coordinate local events. At this time, the meetings are via conference call and are bi-weekly. They will increase in frequency until the convention.

Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (HHS STAC)

I recently received an appointment as a National At-Large Alternate Delegate for the HHS STAC. I will attend in-person meetings only in the event the Primary Delegate is unable to attend. This appointment happened approximately one week ago. I look forward to serving in this capacity. HHS provides funding for a number of programs including Child Care, Language, Health Center, Social Services, Behavioral Health and more. This will be an opportunity to advocate on behalf of our tribe and others and shape the department's policies with regard to Indian Country.

Website: https://www.hhs.gov/about/agencies/iea/tribal-affairs/about-stac/stac-charter/index.html

### **Tribal Level**

Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation Board of Directors (PBPEC BOD)

I have served in the role of the Ex-Officio representative from Tribal Council for just over one year. I attend board meetings and conference calls, usually twice a month, to observe and report to Tribal Council and facilitate communication between the Board and the Tribal Council. I have been and will remain actively involved. With the expansion project, communication between the Board and Tribal Council is especially important. I have not expanded on this one as much because this is a tribal board and I presume many of you know what this board is and what purpose it serves.

**Local Level** 

GO Topeka Board of Directors (GO Topeka

I am currently serving the second year of a two-year term on the GO Topeka Board of Directors. Although Topeka is in Shawnee County, the impact the Nation and its enterprises have on the Topeka and Shawnee County are significant. New leadership within the organization a few years ago reached out to our tribe and asked us to be participants in Topeka business development and its Chamber. Participation in these organizations provides an opportunity to further build relationships and has the potential for partnerships that can help our Nation grow economically.

With nearly 700 tribal members residing in Topeka/Shawnee County, I believe it is important to be engaged in the business and political arenas in Topeka. We, as a Nation and as individuals spend a lot of dollars with business in Topeka and Topeka is our nearest metropolitan area. What happens in Topeka affects us as both a Nation and, for our members who reside there, as individual citizens. Our interests need to be represented.

Website: https://www.gotopeka.com/aboutus/

#### STATE OF KANSAS AND KANSAS LEGISLATURE

The legislative session convenes in early January and ends in early May. That is four months for bills to be introduced, heard, debated, voted on and signed into law. In addition, the Governor gives a State of the State address and in election years there is an inauguration. The state also begins to introduce legislation it wishes to pass. One thing to note is for the legislative process outlined above, the work to draft that bill and to garner support for that bill starts in the prior year. Engaging with representatives of affected individuals and agencies and meeting with stakeholders in any legislation is key to its passage.

I remain very active in lobbying for legislation that would benefit our Nation and its people as well as lobbying against harmful legislation when needed. I have learned that building relationships and educating legislators and state administrators about our tribe and the others in Kansas is one of the key pieces in getting legislation passed. They need to understand the sovereign status we hold as well as the unique government to government relationship they have with our Tribe. Legislators need to see the faces, to know they are representing Native people. They need to know the Potawatomi were here before 'Kansas' was here and what that means.

We often meet with legislators at the Capitol and routinely invite select legislators to dinner so we can discuss legislation and the impacts these laws could have on our people and our sovereignty. These dinners are opportunities to engage in a more relaxed setting and have more focused conversation about the issues that affect us. It is an opportunity to ask for support of legislation and to encourage legislators to reconsider legislation that could harm us by explaining the impact. This year we took the opportunity to ask for support for the two pieces of legislation below and educated them on the potential impacts of legislation such as expanded gaming on our ability to generate revenue to support our programs. We explained to them the potential impacts on their communities who likely also benefit from the existence of our businesses and government, as well. Education and relationship building are key.

This year saw the passage of two key pieces of

legislation: HB 2147 and HB 2498

HB 2147 (Veteran's Tax Bill) An act concerning veterans; relating to Native American veterans' income tax settlement claims; authorizing a study of such claims.

Work on this bill began several years ago. Tribal Member and Veteran, Richard Adame, pushed for this legislation and eventually found supporters for the bill in the legislatrure. Once that was done, crafting the bill became the focus. The Nation met with legislative representatives and members of key committees to garner support for the bill and to get input into how the bill would be drafted and implemented. I attended a meeting between the Secretary of the Department of Revenue and his staff and the Nation and its representation to help the State understand the reason for the legislation and its potential fiscal impact on the state.

Once the bill was drafted its sponsors, Rep.  $\,$ Boog Highbarger and Rep. Ponka-We Victors introduced the bill and it began a bumpy trip that included testimony before the Veteran's Affairs committees of both chambers. The bill went to the floor of the House and encountered some debate and amendments. Ultimately, it went to the Senate floor and encountered no debate and was reverted to its original version and passed by the House in its original version. I sincerely thank all of the Council Members who supported this and the community members who came to hearings and debate and showed support. Most of all, I thank Mr. Adame, for lighting a fire and keeping the flames burning. Without his advocacy, this bill would not have been possible.

For more information on this bill visit: http:// www.kslegislature.org/li/b2017\_18/measures/hb2147/

HB 2498 (Regalia Bill) Prohibiting governmental entities from prohibiting the wearing of tribal regalia and objects of cultural significance at public events.

I was asked by Rep Ponka-We Victors to support legislation she was introducing to prevent the prohibition of tribal regalia and items of cultural significance at public events. The legislation was targeted to prevent schools and public meetings from prohibiting eagle feathers, beadwork, regalia, and other traditional items at events such as graduations and public hearings. I testified along with other tribal members and members of other Kansas tribes. It was a great experience  $\,$ to be a part of protecting

Native children and people from being discriminated against for expressing themselves through practicing their cultural traditions. We testified in committees for both chambers and ultimately saw the bill pass both chambers uanimously. It was an historic win for Natives in Kansas. I am grateful to all those who testified and especially Rep. Victors for her tireless advocacy for Native Americans in Kansas.

For more information on this bill visit: http:// www.kslegislature.org/li/b2017\_18/measures/hb2498/

### March

1st: Tribal Council Meeting 5th: Testimony - HB 2498 (Regalia Bill) House Fed and State Affairs Committee 7th: NIH TAC conference call 8th: Tribal Council Meeting 9th: NIH TAC - pre-in-person meeting conference call 12th-15th: NIH TAC In-person Meeting\* (Bethesda, Marlyand) 17th: Tribal Council Meeting 20th: Government to Government conf call w/ Administration for Children & Families

# Message to the Nation Continued

21st: Tribal Council Meeting 22nd: Tribal Council Meeting 24th: PBPEC BOD Meeting (on-property) 26th: HB 2498 (Regalia Bill) signing at State-

26th: Kansas Legislature - Joint Committee State & Tribal Affairs at Statehouse 27th: NCAI - Mid-Year Local Planning Committee conference call 28th: Meeting with Rep. Lynn Jenkins' Legisla-

tive Assistant - Tribal Interests 29th: HB 2147 (Veteran's Tax Bill) Senate debate

#### April

2nd: GO Topeka BOD Meeting 3rd: Hotel/Casino Gathering Coordination 3rd: Legislative Bi-Partisan Dinner 4th: NIH TAC Conference Call 4th: HHS Region 7 Consultation Planning Meeting conference call 11th: Tribal Council Meeting (cancelled; no

12th: Tribal Council Meeting (cancelled; no

11th: Student Recognition Night

quorum)

12th: Charitable Contributions Award Ceremony

14th: ElectHer Event at Haskell Indian Nations University

16th: NAFOA Panel Preparation Meeting conference call

17th: Gaming Commissioner Appointment Interviews

18th: Gaming Commissioner Appointment Interviews

18th: Emergency Tribal Council Meeting 22nd -25th: Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) 36th Annual Conference (Invited Panelist) 26th: Tribal Council Meeting

#### May

1st: NIH TAC Conference Call 9th - 10th: Tribal Council Meeting 15th - 16th: HHS Region 7 Tribal Consulta-

18th: Haskell Spring Commencement 21st: Meeting Aaric Davis, Royal Valley USD

22nd: Tribal Council Meeting 30th: LLC/TC Annual Meeting **UPCOMING** 

June 2nd - 6th: NCAI Mid-Year Convention (Kansas City, MO) Local Planning Committee Co-Chair, Host Tribe, Invited Speaker (Local Welcome), Invited Panelist

I hope you have found this report to be useful and informative. I appreciate feedback and am always listening to you and trying to find new ways to communicate with you about what I am doing as your Chairwoman. As always, I thank you for the honor and privilege of serving in this role.

Igwien.

Liana Onnen Tribal Chairwoman

Office: 785.966.4008 Email: liana@pbpnation.org

# Casino update

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation Board of Directors will begin the casino expansion by building excitement with our team members. After 20 years, the employee back hallway is being refreshed with new paint, flooring and lockers.

At the end of June, construction will begin on the I-5 floor renovation. In order to minimize the time and disruption to the floor, most of the work for this project is being completed offsite. The first part of the project will include the installation of a hotel lobby bar, coffee/espresso bar and a complimentary front desk refresh. The second and longest part of the project will begin shortly after, in July. This part of the project will consist of

nine phases of wall, floor and carpet renovation on the casino floor. The anticipated completion of this part of the project is slated for late October.

The Cultural Heritage Committee has been formed and is made up of Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Members. Their objective is to provide input regarding cultural design and influence throughout the expansion project.

The Casino expansion that was approved in the January 2018 General Council meeting also includes a casino floor expansion, relocation of administrative offices, an additional hotel tower with spa and parking garage. These phases are currently being designed.

# 2018 **General Council**

**Saturday - 7.21.18** Saturday - 10.20.18 Saturday - 1.19.19

General Council Meetings are held at the Old Bingo Hall.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Light breakfast 9 - 9:30 a.m. Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.

PBPN Tribal Members 18 years of age and older only. No one under the age of 18 is allowed in the meeting.

# Meetings

## **Potawatomi** News The Prairie Band Potawatomi News or *PBP News* is a quarterly publication

**Charitable Contributions** 

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Total Donated \$76,900

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Little House on the Prairie Museum

Jefferson County Fire District #3

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Kaw Valley Chapter, MOAA

Museum of Kansas National Guard

Northeast KS Area Agency on Aging Race Against Breast Cancer

Safe Kids Kansas

Sertoma Club

**Sunflower State Games** 

Theatre Lawrence

The Prairie Band

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Deadline for Fall 2018:



August 3, 2018

### Mill Creek Leads Transition for WRAIR Renovation & Addition By Jacob Wamego | Prairie Band LLC, President & CEO

Mill Creek, a subsidiary of Prairie Band, LLC, is working with Turner Construction to provide transition and inventory services for the renovation and addition to the Raymond Randall Building, a vivarium and research lab at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR).

Located in Silver Spring, Maryland, the WRAIR is the premiere biomedical research lab of the Department of Defense (DOD). The addition and renovation will bring the facility up to current building codes and standards, while providing more room for specialized equipment and animals.

At WRAIR, scientists are working on innovative projects, like the development of vaccines and preventative

drugs for Zika virus, malaria, HIV/ AIDS, dengue fever, wound infections, leishmaniasis, and enteric diseases. The presence of contained viruses has made this an interesting project for Mill Creek, as transition specialists had to suit up in appropriate gear to avoid infections while carefully moving the animals and equipment to a temporary location for the building renovation.

As one of the most diverse DOD research labs in the nation, the WRAIR's work is not limited to the study of illnesses and vaccines. With a focus on Service Member health and well-being, WRAIR researchers pursue projects about psychological resilience, neurological functioning, and operational readiness among

Service Members. Based on their research, WRAIR scientists have recently developed "Battlemind Training" to manage stress during combat.

The facility also houses sleep suites, where researchers study how sleep deprivation impacts productivity. For example, WRAIR researchers discovered that sleep is "banked," meaning that a week of extended nighttime sleep can reduce performance struggles in a subsequent week with less sleep.

When construction on the Raymond Randall Building concludes in December, Mill Creek will lead the transition of personnel, equipment, and animals into the new addition.



Good day to everyone, summer is just around the corner as school is now out and another round of graduates are ready to move on to their next challenge. The close of the 2018 school year saw many local graduates from our Early Childhood programs to our college graduates. I had the opportunity to attend several graduations, as well as parties held for the graduates. While I was not able to attend all of the events, the ones that I did were refreshing to see the students proud of their accomplishments as well to be able to celebrate their accomplishments with their friends and family who are also proud of them. The 2018 student awards banquet was held at the Casino and it was a success. Special recognition was given to the Royal Valley High School Girls Basketball Team who finished their season as the runner up in the 3A State Championship as well as the Royal Valley Middle School Boys Basketball Team went undefeated for two years in a row. Both teams' rosters include several of our Tribal Members and we are really proud of their accomplishments and thankful for the pride they bring to the local community. Congratulations to all our graduates and we do plan to make our annual student awards banquet a regular event at the Casino. Below are a few of the financial highlights from the past few months as well as some upcoming items for the months to come.

#### House Bill 2147 -**Native American Veterans Kansas State Income Tax Refunds**

This past spring House Bill 2147 (HB 2147) was signed into law by Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer. The bill was sponsored by Representative Ponka-We Victors who is the only Native American in the Kansas Legislature and is from the Wichita area. In addition to Victors support there were several of our Tribal Members, legal staff, lobbyists and Tribal Council Members attending and testifying at hearings at the state capitol over the past several months in support of HB 2147. Without everyone's support HB 2147's successful passage would not have been possible. For those that are familiar with HB 2147 there is one Tribal Member that special recognition must be given to for his dedication and perseverance in working on what ultimately became HB 2147 and that is Richard Adame. Richard has spent nearly 15 years working on HB 2147 and is one of our many Tribal Member Veterans. Richard has retired from the Army after 20 years of service and also served overseas in the Gulf War.

So, the question is what is HB 2147 exactly? HB 2147 provides for Native American Veterans who were illegally taxed by the State of Kansas between the years of 1977-2001 to file for a refund of those KS State Income Taxes plus Interest. Basically, it is the same exemption scenario in which Tribal Members who live and work on the Reservation and are exempt from KS Income Tax, in the case

# Treasurer Wade Pahmahmie: Message to the Nation

of HB 2147 Native American Veterans who enlisted into the United States Armed Forces while residing on the reservation are also exempt from KS Income Tax. Now that HB 2147 has become law the next steps are to determine how the refunds will be distributed which will happen on and after October 1, 2018. We will be meeting with the State in the next few weeks to work out the details on how the refund process will work later this year starting with October 1st date.

Additionally, I have met with our CPA firm and they will assist us with auditing the refunds to ensure that our Tribal Member Veterans are paid the correct amounts due. In the meantime, if you believe you may be eligible for a refund under HB 2147 you can send me your contact info and I can keep you updated as there are developments with HB 2147 as well as ensure that our CPA's can audit your refund as necessary. Additional info will be distributed on the website, newspaper, public meetings etc. in the weeks to come.

#### **FY2019 Budget Process**

In previous articles I've talked about our annual budget process, currently we're in the process of putting together our detailed budgets for FY2019 which will be finalized later this year. In the previous articles the focus was more on the process and not so much on the funding sources and how those affect our Tribal Programs and operations. The funding sources become even more critical as we hear of the Trump Administration's proposed cuts to budgets in Indian Country for FY2019. What that would translate to in regards to our operations would be less federal funding (grants and P.L. 93-638 contracts) for our programs with the Tribe having to pick up the tab for the federal government failing to fulfill its trust responsibility in Indian Country.

In a given year, federal funding makes up roughly 12-15% of our total budget (Gaming Revenue makes up 67-70% and Third Party Revenues make up the remaining 17-20%), while the cuts would create some financial hardship, the Tribe would be able to make up the balance in the short-term with increased supplementing from our prior year Gaming Revenues that we hold in reserve. While this would only be a short-term solution it does provide some assurance that we would still be able to provide services in the interim period until longer term solutions could be implemented. So, you could say the good news is we do have our Gaming Revenue to fall back on, but at the same time the bad news is also that we are still too heavily reliant on Gaming Revenues and this makes it all the more important to diversify beyond gaming so we can lower that 67-70% reliance. While there is still some glimmer of hope for the Shabbona project our more immediate opportunities to diversify will come from our Prairie Band LLC Investment and the development of the 150 & 75 Hwy Project.

#### **Financial Literacy Workshop** - July 17, 2018

This coming July Providence First Trust Company (PFTC) will be here on-site to present a financial literacy workshop. The workshop will be put on as part of our Trustee Services Agreement with PFTC for our Minors Trust. The date for the event will be July 17, 2018 (Tuesday), time and location are still to be determined and will follow with a flyer to be posted in the next few days. The focus for the upcoming financial literacy workshop will be on Financial Plans and Budgeting. Key items for the workshop will be 1) The legacy of your trust fund 2) Discovering talents and setting goals 3) Creating your financial plan 4) Balancing a checking account 5) Creating a budget. The workshop is open to our Minors Trust Account Holders and their Parents/ Guardians as well as our Summer Youth

Workers. If you would like more info on the workshop you can contact my office or our Education Department.

Also, just a brief update on the AYCO financial counseling services which we had hoped to add on in addition to the PFTC financial literacy workshops. The AYCO services are currently caught up in legal issues but we hope to work through those in order to provide financial resources for our Tribal Members of all ages. My hopes are to utilize both PFTC and AYCO in complimentary services to assist our Tribal Members as financial questions come about and in order to make the best decision possible.

#### **Audits**

For this quarter's article, I would like to write a little about the audits the Tribe has conducted. Whether we are talking about the Tribe itself or any of its component units (Casino, Prairie Band LLC, Gaming Commission, Low Income Housing Tax Credit Projects, Boys & Girls Club etc.) there are either federal guidelines or partnership agreements that require an annual audit, conducted by a defined set of standards. Those standards that apply for the Tribe's annual audit are the commonly referred to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and the Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS). The Tribe's annual audit is required by 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F Audit Requirements which incorporates GAAP and GAGAS into how the audit is conducted. Basically, what this means is because the Tribe expends over \$750,000 in Federal Funding we are required to have an audit conducted in compliance with 2 CFR that is then submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) within 9 months of the end of our fiscal year. The Tribe's (including component units) fiscal year runs on the calendar year, January 1st - December 31st. Other fiscal years that may be commonly encountered is the Federal Fiscal Year which runs October 1st - September 30th and the Kansas State Fiscal Year runs July 1st - June 30th, many of our federal awards have varying fiscal years different than the Tribe's, Federal and State fiscal years but nonetheless all fiscal years are 12 month periods.

So back to the annual audit, the primary focus of the audit is to ensure that the Tribe has appropriate internal controls and processes in place to manage both the financial and programmatic functions of our programs. The Tribe's financials are audited as well as program functions are reviewed and a report is issued by a qualified CPA firm or otherwise referred to as the "auditors" revealing any findings as well as an opinion from the auditors as to whether the financials were fairly presented by the Tribe. Once finalized the audit report is submitted to the FAC and it is reviewed for compliance with the  $2\,$ CFR requirements and is ultimately marked as "complete" once it passes the review. Generally, the audit report would then be made public on the FAC website but Indian Tribe's may opt out of making the report public, and the PBP Nation does exercise that option. Upon opting out of making our audit report public we must then provide copies to our federal awarding agencies as necessary and is only intended to be used for compliance with our federal award requirements.

As far as findings on the audit reports they fall into 3 main categories which include Control Deficiencies, Significant Deficiencies and Material Weaknesses, with the Material Weakness finding being the most severe. A Control Deficiency is only communicated to the Management of an organization, which in the Tribe's case is the Tribal Council. A Control Deficiency which is the least severe could be described as say a warning or heads up from the auditors. It is merely a situation where the auditor's alert the Tribal Council that issues may escalate into a reportable finding which is the next level as a Significant Deficiency.

A Significant Deficiency is in fact reportable in the audit report that is ultimately distributed to the federal awarding agencies. While it is less severe than a Material Weakness, a Significant Deficiency does warrant the auditors to report the finding to the federal awarding agencies. A Significant Deficiency is in most cases an oversight that causes no major issues in the performance of administering a federal award and no material misstatement of any financial data.

However, a Material Weakness does lead to the likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements exists and therefore the financial statements would be deemed as unreliable information. While Significant Deficiencies are more likely to occur as minor oversights, our last Material Weakness was reported in FY2010 and was resolved in the following year. While we strive to have no audit findings on an ongoing basis, the Material Weakness finding is most detrimental to future funding opportunities so we must guard against it with qualified staff and strong internal controls. When either a Significant Deficiency or Material Weakness occurs the Tribe must provide a "Management's Response" explaining how the issue occurred as well as a "Corrective Action Plan" explaining how the issue will be resolved which are published in the audit report. Also once either of the two findings occurs the auditors must follow up on the findings in the following year until such findings have been resolved.

The final area I'd like to talk about in regards to our audits is the area that would generally be referred to as internal audits. In the case of the Tribe these internal audits are more technically known as Agreed Upon Procedures or referred to as AUP's by CPA's. AUP's are generally used when a specific area needs to be reviewed internally and is not required by federal guidelines hence the name internal audit is used. In the case of the Tribe we would engage a CPA firm to review a specific area of concern and work with the CPA firm to develop a scope of services that would then be reviewed. Similar to an audit, AUP's also have their own set of standards and are conducted in compliance with the standards American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In the case of AUP's the CPA firm does not offer an opinion and only reports the findings from the review of the scope of the services. It is then left up to the management of the organization to determine what action is appropriate based upon the information provided in the report.

While there are additional areas of our audits and AUP's that I could touch on these are the more significant areas that could be covered in a few paragraphs. As with this section or any of the other sections above if you have  $% \left( x\right) =\left( x\right) =\left( x\right)$ any questions on any of the topics mentioned in this article or financial questions in general about the Tribe's operations my contact information is: Office: (785) 966-3905 - E-mail: wadepahmahmie@pbpnation.org., or you can always stop by my office or set up a meeting to discuss. Also if you have any specific financial topics that you would like me to write about in future articles let me know and I can incorporate those in. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Tribal Council Treasurer and I look forward to continuing to serve our Tribal Members.

> Respectfully, Wade Pahmahmie (Wap-tti-ge)

# 2018 Election: Tribal Council Chairperson Candidates



Stephen Ortiz (Monwah)

Vote For Stephen Ortiz (Monwah) Chairman Integrity/Commitment/ Communications "Preparing Today to meet our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Challenges and Needs For the immediate Future'

Message: Over the past years we have become solely depended on Gaming for the major share of our revenues to provide Per Capita payments, government operations (Police, Fire, Land, EPA, Court Services) Member services of Enrollment, Housing, home improvement, education, health operations, Social Services, meal programs, Daycare, Boys & Girls Club, Elder services, Veteran services, assistance to maintain Traditional Religion practices, and donations to groups through our 1% Revenue allocation. To continue these practices we need to ensure the expansion of our Casino continues to provide funding for these activities. Our gaming challenges are formable in Kansas with Hollywood Casino, Kansas Star Casino, Boot Hill Casino, 3 Tribal Casinos and coming soon the Quapaw Downstream Casino in southeast Kansas. These challenges put Tribal Council in situation to ensure through the charter that our Entertainment Board is managing in such a way that we stop the loss of our base customers and come up with creative business practices that increase gaming revenues and customers have a better gaming experience at PBP Casino than at our competitors' casinos. I will work with Tribal Council members to ensure Tribal Council follows up and follows through with assisting the Entertainment Board through the Charter at re-establishing the casino as number on in Kansas again.

Economic Development needs to begin assessing what other ventures PBP Nation needs to look into so that revenues can be increased to contribute to the overall revenue allocation. (Continued on Page 6)



Liana Onnen

For the past four years, it has been an honor and privilege to represent the Nation as your Chairwoman and so I must begin by thanking your for that, first and foremost. I am humbled by the honor and have worked hard to be a positive leader making positive changes and moving our Nation forward in a good way. Now, I ask you, again, to consider voting for me in the upcoming 2018 election.

My name is Liana Onnen. My Potawatomi name is Nakwakishkokwe. I am happily married to my husband, Terry and we have been together for 22 years, married for 13 of those years. We have two sons. Kameron (Nyewaske) who is 12 and Brandon (Mah-bis) who will be 10 soon. I currently live in Topeka. I lived on the Potawatomi reservation as a young child, moving to Kansas City, Kansas, in third grade. I graduated from Sumner Academy of Arts and Sciences High School in 1992 and attended Haskell Indian Junior College for one year, before moving to Topeka. I worked various jobs in office and service industries and spent five years working as an optician and optometric assistant in the eye-care industry before going to work for the Nation in 2002.

I have faithfully served the Nation for over 15 years in various roles including Administrative Assistant, Office Manager, Assistant Director and Director in the Housing Department. I also served four years as the General Manager (GM) of Tribal Operations. While working full-time for the Nation, I attended Washburn University on both a full- and parttime basis, obtaining my Bachelor of Arts Degree in English-Writing Emphasis. I believe my experience working for my tribe, growing with my tribe, being educated by my tribe, and consistently and exclusively serving my tribe for 15 years, provides the Nation with the continuity of leadership and the experience the Nation needs to continue moving us in a (Continued on Page 6)



Joseph "Zeke" Rupnick

I am Joseph "Zeke" Rupnick and I am running for Tribal Council Chairperson. I am the oldest of five children born to Mamie Wahwassuck Rupnicki and Joe Rupnicki. There isn't a typo, I don't have an "i" at the end of my name. (It was left off of my birth certificate!) I have been living on our reservation since 1995 when I got out of the Army, after serving honorably for 13 years as a Cavalry Scout.

My formal education includes completion of a Bachelor of Business Administration from Baker University where I graduated with honors (Magna Cum Laude), Master of Business Administration from Baker University, and a concentration in Health Care Administration from Ottawa University. I also completed additional accounting courses to meet the requirements to become the Chief Financial Officer of a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical hospital if I chose to go that route.

I began working for the VA in 2009 as a Budget Analyst, transitioning over the years to my current position as a Senior Management Analyst. I work with the Executive Leadership from the hospitals in the Heartland Network, including those at Columbia and Kansas City (MO), and Topeka, Leavenworth, and Wichita (KS). I analyze data on productivity, efficiency, cost reduction, revenue generation, and strategic planning for the medical center leadership. My assessments help them to make informed decisions concerning improved patient care. My experience at the VA has increased my awareness about the importance of safeguarding public funds. As an elected official, I feel it would be my obligation to ensure fiscal responsibility, meaning that all employees working for The People must ensure money is spent appropriately following all laws and regulations.

In the various positions I have held, I have always been a leader that has (Continued on Page 7)



**Dorothy Kiyukan** 

Bozho! ~Hello To Our PBPN Membership,

I greet you with a warm heart and a hearty handshake. I am a former Prairie Band Casino and Resort Board of Director and a certified Gaming Commissioner at the Master Level. I am running for the Tribal Chair position, as I possess the skills of being a strong Native American Leader and I have addressed National and local issues for many years, in Indian Country. Having been a College Instructor, and having taught Sovereignty, ICWA - Indian Child Welfare Act, Indian Studies, and Tribal Government; I truly believe I would be an asset to our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, and our Nation will lead the way to real Native American advancement. Our people as a whole have a voice, and I vow to strengthen our General Council as it is the ultimate authority. Respecting the rights of our members will be granted, along with due process of law, in all areas of our Nation. Healing and empowering our Nation will allow our people to move forward in a more cohesive manner, one of which allows for teamwork and an environment where productivity can now take place.

We are in a time where our Nation must closely look at how we are going to supplement programs to meet the needs of all our people, as Indian Country nation-wide, will take a Federal budget cut of about half a billion dollars in 2019. In fact, some programs may be eliminated or function at a bare minimum; which in return will hurt our local economy and ultimately employment will suffer. This is not a time to wait for something bad to happen, we need to be proactive instead of reactive. Tribes everywhere are bracing themselves for this huge impact and we must too. It will take a team of Council Members dedicated to voice and address these concerns. It will take countless hours of working on (Continued on Page 7)

### 2018 Election: Candidate Profiles Continued

#### Steve Ortiz Continued..

The PBPN 10 million-dollar startup revenue contribution to the Economic Development Board needs to show a greater return on investment for our Tribal Members. I will work with Tribal Council to ensure we are following Best Practices for Economic Development through the Charter that governs the relationship between Tribal Council and Economic Development Board.

As a Nation the Tribal Chair and Tribal Council needs to improve communications with Tribal Membership both on and Off reservation to ensure Tribal Council is working on whatMembership wants in the areas of tribal Sovereignty, Constitutional changes, Enrollment, Member Services, Direction the Nation is heading towards, Economic Development, Land policies, employment issues, improving the Integrity and Trust of Leadership on Tribal

Council, Gaming Commission and Appointed Boards. As Tribal Chair I will emphasis an open door policy for Tribal members, Employees and Tribal entities to ensure all are valued. Improving the working environment within our Tribal operations, Health and Casino Operations benefits us all.

#### Personal:

Age 66, Married 45 yrs, 2 Adult Children, 1 Granddaughter, Wolf Clan

- Grandfather Dewey M'Jessepe (Ga-kee-kaw-bah) "Bad Boy"
- Grandmother Minnie M'Jessepe (Sho-wak-e-yah) Eagle Clan
- Mother Laura M'Jessepe-Ortiz (Pshuck-to-quah) Thunder Clan

#### Experience:

- Bachelor of Business Administration from Washburn University of Topeka, KS
- Honorable Discharge United States Marine Corps E-3 and US Army Reserves 410th Medical EVAC Unit (SMBL) Spec. E-5

- 20 yr member and Life member of We-Ta-Se served on Honor and Color Guard unit.
- 22 years management experience in Corporate world IBM, Kansas Power & Light, and Hallmark cards, Inc.
- Previously served as Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Chairman 2007 to 2014
- Previously served as Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Secretary 1998 to 2006
- Previously served on Federal/Tribal committees as Co-Chair, Member, and Alternate at Department of Interior, Department of Health and Human Services and Environmental Protection Agency.
- Served as Delegate and Alternate to National Congress of American Indians. Selected as Southern Plains Representative in 2011 to meet with President Barack Obama at the White House to discuss Tribal Issues.
- Served as Delegate and Alternate to the National Indian Gaming Association and awarded the 30th Annual

NIGA Tribal Chairman's Leadership Award for 2014.

- Served on Oklahoma City Area Intertribal Health Board as Vice-President and Board Member 2006 to 2014. OCAITHB represents 38 Tribes in Oklahoma, 4 in Kansas and 1 in Texas at annual Indian Health Services Budget and Policy meetings covering Direct Services Tribes, 638 Contract Tribes and Self Governance Tribes.

Lastly as Tribal Chair I will do the best job I can and put my best foot forward in representing our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation at the Local, Tribal, State and Federal Level. Your Vote for me is appreciated.

Megwich Stephen Ortiz (Monwah) Tribal Member Email: steveo13156@gmail.com Facebook: Stephen Ortiz Phone: 785-760-7846

### Liana Onnen Continued..

positive direction.

Below are some key achievements, appointments, and activities, which demonstrate my commitment and action on behalf of the Nation in the past four years as your Chairwoman:

- Successful Tobacco Tax
  Compact with the State of Kansas
  and passage into law by the Legislature, protecting our tobacco sales
  and creating exclusive taxation on
  all tobacco products in the stream
  of commerce; testimony before two
  legislative committees
- Revision of Title 22 Employment Code: strengthening and ensuring Tribal Preference was implemented as intended; strengthening employee rights through allowing terminations to be heard by the Employment Disputes Tribunal; significant reduction in "at-will" terminations
- Implementation of Tribal Council Policies and Procedures, TC Travel Policies and Procedures, and TC P-Card Policies and Procedures as per the directive of the General Council and as was needed; polices are still in effect and have not been rescinded as of this writing
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation Board of Directors (PBPEC BOD): Ex-Officio for the past year; improved, consistent communication and accountability between the Tribal Council and the PBPEC BOD
- National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Board of Directors: Vice-President, Southern Plans Region; co-chair of Housing Sub-Committee, Tribal Tax

Working Group, Land Working Group; delegate or alternate delegate all four years of my term; presenter and facilitator

- Congressional Testimony: Invited to testify before Senate Committee on Indian Affairs (SCIA) on Taxation in Indian Country; Testified for NCAI before SCIA in support of the re-authorization of NAHASDA; Invited to testify before House Sub-Committee on Alaskan and Insular Affairs
- Shabehnay: Successful submission of our Shabehnay Land-into-Trust Application and significant movement through the process, including publication in the Federal register and beginning the Environmental Impact Study needed for this application. The change in Administration has severely halted this process
- National Institutes of Health Tribal Advisory Committee (NIH TAC): appointed to represent as National At-Large member on the processes for human subject research, research protocols, data sovereignty, and protection of tribal data in Indian country; elected as committee Chair, served one year as co-Chair and one year as member.
- Service on the GO Topeka Board of Directors; serving year two of a two year term becoming more involved in the economic development ventures in Topeka, our nearest large metropolis, home to approximately 700 tribal members
- Recently appointed to the Health and Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee HHS STAC) as an Alternate At-Large Delegate
- Successful lobbying for HB 2147 in the 2018 Legislature, the Veteran's Tax

Bill - passed unanimously; Successful lobbying for Regalia Bill in the Kansas Legislature - passed unanimously
• New Construction: Tax Credit Housing Development; Behavioral Health Center; Language and Culture Center; Casino Expansion and Upgrade

Based upon the past four years, I have developed goals and projects I would like to work to achieve should I be re-elected as your Tribal Chairwoman, outlined below:

- Tribal Needs and Priorities Assessment: It is time for the Nation to reach out to its membership across the reservation, the region and the country and ask them what they want and what they need through a thoughtful and meaningful survey of our member's needs and priorities · Strategic Plan: After the needs and priorities assessment, I would like to take that data and have the Tribal Council along with stakeholders from all of its entities as well as the community, and create a cohesive, synergetic plan that meets those needs and priorities and leverages our sovereign advantages
- Tribal Tax Parity: Continue to lobby and work for tribal tax parity at the federal and, to the extent possible, the state, to overcome the disadvantages of the lack of federal tax policy with regard to tribes and the continued challenge of dual taxation
- Communication: The Nation has members across the country, many of whom have expressed a desire to have more access to tribal information, activities, and meetings; I will look for practical, economic solutions to this challenge

- Constitution Reform/Enrollment:
  Two long-standing and complex challenges that are interlaced. Outlined in our Constitution, is our enrollment criteria and a Constitutional amendment is needed to change that; an overall consideration of Constitutional amendment including enrollment and other changes as a whole can help us better analyze, make and approach the decisions and changes needed for our nation.
- Analysis and action to repeal the Kansas Act, (gives exclusive criminal jurisdiction to the State of Kansas)
  The circumstances that existed when the Kansas Act passed are no longer applicable to the Nation –we have the capacity to handle our own affairs without state interference. It may be a large undertaking, but it is not one to avoid. We should have jurisdiction over our own people on our own reservation and we should do what we can to pursue that possibility.

I have a demonstrated ability to create results and change. I am practical enough to have goals and a plan for the future, but flexible enough to adjust those plans when it becomes necessary. I believe my experience and the relationships I have built within this tribe, within the local community, within this state and at the national level combined with my vision, my drive, and my actions in the past four years have shown my dedication to strengthening our self-determination and sovereignty. These qualities also make me the most qualified candidate for the position of Tribal Chair. I cannot make the promise that all of these things will Continued on Page 7..

# 2018 Election: Candidate Profiles Continued

#### Liana Onnen Continued..

happen, but I can promise to do all I can to make them happen. I appreciate your time and consideration and humbly ask for your vote in the upcoming Tribal Election. Igwien.

Please feel free to connect with me via my Facebook Election Page "Liana Onnen Tribal Chairwoman" www. facebook.com/lianaonnenpbpchairwoman or via email at voteliana@gmail.com or at 785.608.7873.

#### Zeke Rupnick Continued..

looked for solutions to benefit all. I feel that many misunderstandings are the result of some parties not knowing the facts. If elected, I would do everything possible to provide the information needed for our members to make decisions. I believe an informed General Council is a strong General Council and one that will help with the complex issues facing our tribe. Some of the issues facing the tribe today are Shabenay, our water and its protection, economic diversity, enrollment, and state/local jurisdiction. While this list is not all-inclusive, we need to seriously address these concerns to ensure the strength and survivability of our Tribe.

I have served in leadership roles in the many positions I have held throughout the years. Those that have worked with me in the past can tell you that I am fair and consider all options before making a decision. While most of my working career has been with the government, I have been taught and still believe in the traditional values passed down from my grandparents and my mother. My elders' advice to me was "Learn as much as vou can and use that knowledge to **help The People."** I feel that I have learned much and developed many skills that I can use to help strengthen our Nation.

Together with General Council, I feel that we can make a difference today, leaving behind a strong Nation for our youth. I would like to thank my family and friends for supporting and encouraging me to represent The People, and I welcome further discussion on issues we face as a tribe.

Thank you for your time and I ask for your vote.

#### Dorothy Kiyukan Continued..

supplemental programs to meet the needs of our people and to ensure a future for generations to come. Basically, these cuts will affect the general welfare, health, and education of our people. It will further impact housing, and special programs designed to help strengthen our families and community. Although Congress stepped in and passed a fiscal 2018 omnibus bill, that included increases for the BIA, Native land and water settlements, Indian Health Service and Indian Education Title VI., on Oct. 1. 2018 begins the new 2019 budget year. I was a Data Coordinator for many years in a very large school district, and I have been a School Administrator, which included budgets and accountability. Having this experience and working with a team of Council members to address these upcoming issues are vital for our Tribe. Travel of any kind must benefit the tribe, no more of this fruitless spending, when we know this storm is coming. I have been a Keynote Speaker at many conferences and my passion for my people speaks loudly wherever I go. I

don't pass the buck, but rather search for remedies in order to make things work more efficient. Creating a Tribal Grant Department will be another top priority. I am asking for your support in the upcoming election and I do so with the most sincerity.

In closing, I would like to add that I have earned two Bachelor of Arts Degrees and went on and achieved Master's Degrees from the University of South Dakota in 1991. I have been awarded the National Indian Educator of the year, SD Indian Educator of the year, as well as having received numerous awards for outstanding performance in various career areas, and I was given a "Dorothy Kiyukan" day. I take pride in our culture and traditional ways of life. My nishnabe'k name is Wiche Quah, a name given to me by my Misho/Grandfather David Paul Lewis of Soldier Creek area, who close friend was Wiche Quah. I am a proud Thunder Clan member, Granddaughter of Minnie LeClair, daughter of PBPN Elder, Julia Lewis, and my color is Blue. My family has a long history of serving our Country in the Armed Forces. A list of our family

Veterans both male and female can be seen on the Veteran Memorial Site at the Prairie People's Park. My extended family served as Treaty Delegates, and they have instilled the respect for our Tribal Sovereignty with the respect for protecting our Tribal assets and natural resources for generations to come. I am a dancer, singer, and active participant within and outside of our community; I live on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation. In the Professional arena, I am known for being \*Competent, \*Accountable, and \*Trustworthy. Keeping in mind while you vote, longevity, proficiency, and expertise is vital in this position. With your vote, I will continue to provide professional oversight by monitoring and ensuring our Tribe's most precious assets in all areas are protected and upheld. I would be honored to have your vote and serve our Nation, Igwein!

> VOTE "Dorothy Kiyukan" PBPN Tribal Chair

Website: https://www.facebook.com/ Wichequah/ Email: DAKiyukan@hotmail.com

# **Dates To Remember:**

Friday, June 8, 2018 | Ballots Mailed to Registered Voters

Saturday, July 28, 2018, 9:00 a.m. | Tribal Election - Ballot count at the Old Bingo Hall

**Saturday, August 25, 2018, 9:00 a.m.** *IF NEEDED* Run-Off Election will take place (4) weeks after the initial ballot count for those not winning by a majority vote.

### Junior Wahweotten Continued..

We need to keep our focus on offering Tribal members opportunities to thrive for personal gain through educational opportunities, job opportunities, and quality health care. I will continue to advocate for Tribal programs that support our

heritage and culture, because it is the basis of our identity.

I am fortunate to be a part of this Community and to serve it as a Tribal Council Member. I would appreciate your support for me as Tribal Council Secretary. If elected I would continue to work for the people to upmost capacity.

Igwien,

Warren "Junior" Wahweotten Tribal Council Member Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (785) 966-4013

### Anna Boswell Continued. .

General operating policies and governmental operations is what makes me an ideal candidate for the position of Tribal Council Secretary.

Outside of work, I am very involved in the community and my children's activities. Our three eldest children have graduated high school and are now building their own paths; the younger children attend Royal Valley Schools. They continue to be active in volleyball, softball and baseball activities and are involved with the Royal Valley Singers & Dancers, of which I am very proud to see them participate. My other community involve-

ments have been serving on various committees including Head Start Policy Council (3 years) and currently serving on the Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors (8 years) and the PBPN Pow Wow Committee (12 years). I am also a proud member of the Women's Auxiliary where I hold the position of Sgt. At Arms. While each of these activities requires an immense amount of time and commitment, I am committed to doing my part not only within my family but within our community as well.

I feel that it is past due time for change and I am prepared to be an active part of that change. There are many opportunities for our entire Council to step up and be that voice for all or put their skills to work in helping the Nation reach our goals. I have never been one to shy away from hard work or offering to help in any situation. I have always said that I will not make any promises that I cannot keep, but I will work hard every step of the way and expect the same of my counterparts. I also know there are times when everyone will not be happy with choices or decisions that are made. However, I will always look at what is best and what is right for our Members and Nation as a whole.

Igwien for consideration and your vote.

# 2018 Election Candidates: Tribal Council Secretary



Warren Wahweotten, Junior

Bosho,

I hope this message finds everyone in good health and happy spirits. Kosnan has blessed us with another day.

I appreciate the Membership for supporting me during my tenure as a Tribal Council Member for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. This position demanded me to perform its daily tasks with my best ability and respecting the Nation's interest during the decision-making processes. I brought balance to the Council Chamber with my traditional knowledge and awareness of Community issues. My 12-year tenure as Tribal Council Member #1 ends, as I seek your vote for the position as Tribal Council Secretary.

My agenda as Tribal Council Secretary is creating better communication from Tribal Council and securing the Nation's information. Improving communication between Tribal Council and the Nation will be accomplished via transparency to keep the Nation's members informed of Tribal Council's activities. Tribal secretary is the Nation's Record Keeper, so it is important the information handled by Tribal Council is kept secured. Securing this information means proper storage and being certain that confidential information stays as such.

The Nation's social and economic principles are moving in the right direction. The Prairie Band LLC is one of our venues providing economic growth and stability aside from our gaming operation. I have worked closely with this company since inception, and have endured the obstacles during its infancy. I am humble to participate in Prairie Band LLC's development and want to ensure it prospers, so it can increase the sovereignty of this Nation for generations to come.

Continued on Page 7...



**Anna Wahwassuck Boswell** 

My name is Anna (Wahwassuck) Boswell and I am running for the position of Tribal Council Secretary. I would like to ask for your support as well as your vote in the upcoming Tribal Council election. I am the daughter of Merriell "Meatball" & the late Belva (Coochise) Wahwassuck, and the granddaughter of Jacob & Beulah (Naha) Coochise and Jon Paul & Josette (Nahgonbe) Wahwassuck. I am also the mother of 5 children, ranging in age from 13 years to 24 years of age and happily married to Michael Boswell, for over 23 years.

I was born in Holton, Kansas spending a majority of my childhood in Arizona where I graduated from Buckeye Union High School, in Buckeye Arizona and returning to the PBP reservation in 1996. My employment background is very diverse and each area has given me the tools and experience to be successful in my career. My employment history, while not inclusive, includes working at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (document specialist), Freemont Compensation (managing workers compensation), Prairie Band Potawatomi Gaming Commission (Compliance Officer), Prairie Band Casino and Resort (previously Harrah's Prairie Band Casino) which include Hr Training Assistant, Database Analyst, and then as Assistant GM for the Nation's government. Each of these positions have required a high degree of confidentiality, professionalism, knowledge of rules and regulations and attention to detail. This has also allowed me to be that team player, where I not only have input but I can also pull up my sleeves alongside my coworkers, friends and family to get things accomplished. I am currently employed for the Nation as the Assistant General Manager where I oversee 10 departments and have been with the Nation going on 7 years. I feel this internal and diverse experience working hands on with regulatory requirements, casino processes, HR, Continued on Page 7...



**Michelle Simon** 

As Secretary of the Tribal Council, this is how I would advocate for your needs:

1) The Nation needs to know what the members' priorities are. I suggest a PBP Nation-wide survey, which could be implemented immediately, and use it to develop a 5, 10 and 20-year strategic plan. Every 4 or 5 years the survey can be completed, with everyone's input, so we can adjust accordingly. In this manner our tribe will make unified progress.

2) Keeping you informed. In addition to the quarterly general council meetings, I would be open to hosting an informal monthly community meeting as a forum for tribal members to voice their concerns and ask their questions. There is too much going on in the Nation to cover everything in a quarterly meeting. I would also advocate for using technology more to facilitate communication with membership that is not in the immediate area.

3) With our current federal administration it seems that the Nation may soon face drastic changes. I hold a Masters in Business Administration with an emphasis in Change Management. I would utilize my proficiency in this area to minimize the negatives and do my best to establish positive outcomes.

4) I would encourage the hiring of at least two more lawyers so the Nation can expedite the process of expanding economic development, taxation issues, National Indian Child Welfare issues and all other legal matters.

I understand the working complexities of both the Nation's government and the casino, along with everything this role entails. There is work to be done on your behalf and I would like to do it. Many of you may not know me personally, but I have been working for our Nation for 17 years. During this course of time

Continued on Page 9...



Camilla Wishkeno Chouteau

Re elect Camilla Wishkeno Chouteau PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL **SECRETARY** 

Bozho,

I hereby declare my candidacy and re-election for the position as Tribal Council Secretary for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. The qualifications I continue to bring to the elected position are strong work ethic and operation knowledge of Tribal Government, along with Management, Federal/State Programs and higher education background. My previous work experience includes positions with the highly profile The Tulsa Salvation Army of Oklahoma and the Topeka School District #501.

I graduated from the University of Kansas with Masters of Social Work Degree (2007) and Bachelor of Social Work Degree (1985) with the major field of study being Administration. I also had the opportunity to attend Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas as a part time student.

My Tribal Government experience includes being first elected to the Tribal Council that purchase 326 acres of the Oketchshawno property on K Road and the location of our Nation's Boys and Girls Club, Tribal Fire Department, Daycare Center and Housing residences for the Community. The General Council appointed me to serve on the Health Committee to plan and develop new Health Center facility located on 150th Road. Presently, I serve as Secretary to the Nation's Land Committee, Tribal Council Liaison Social Services Board, Board Member on the Banner Creek Science Center and Tribal Council Liaison 2018 Potawatomi Gathering.

I have had the honor to be elected to our Nation's first Constitutional Drafting Committee and served the Continued on Page 9...

### 2018 Election Candidates: Profiles Continued

#### Michelle Simon Continued..

I have learned many skill sets, acquired the education needed for today's economy and honed my character while upholding our unique culture in order to serve the Nation as the Tribal Council Secretary.

I began my tenure with the PBP Nation as a Summer Youth Worker at the Bennotteh Wigwam watching over the children. Next I worked in the Human Resources department, where I researched health insurance coverage for all tribal members, which lead to the implementation of the Vision Service Program, which is still going strong today.

In order to better serve the Nation, I chose to pursue higher education. While working toward my degree, I held contract positions for the PBPN. During this time I worked as a Housing Specialist managing the relocation program and implement-

ing an inspection tracking system, and as an Education Administrative Assistant, where I helped establish a physical and digital file management system minimizing errors and increasing efficiencies.

In 2006, I completed my Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communication: emphasis in Advertising and Marketing, graduating Summa Cum Laude.

With my education in hand, I was hired by Harrah's Prairie Band Casino and Resort as a Marketing Coordinator, responsible for creating local campaigns and implementing national campaigns to drive business and ultimately provide our tribe with the funds to operate and provide services and per capita payments to you.

I was at the casino when we transitioned to self-management. At that time, I also transitioned back into Human Resources to establish on-site insurance coverage for over 1000 employees in one month's time. I learned the necessary software within one week, and implemented 9 plans with a less than 1% error rate.

Presently I serve as the Media
Relations Specialist, a director-level
position, for the Nation. Each quarter
I produce the newspaper, provide
daily management of the website,
social media accounts and provide
public relations as needed. While in
this role, I have personally uploaded
over 3,000 documents from 2015 and
back to the Members Only section on
behalf of the Tribal Council
Secretaries Office in order for you to
have access to the Nation's records.

I care deeply about the needs of our children and the welfare of our people as evidenced by my active commitment to the PBPN community. In April 2018, I was recognized for my years of service as a member of the JOM committee: President for 2 years, Member for 2 years and Secretary for 3 years. I currently sit on the Policy Council of the Early Childhood Education Center as a community member. For the past 2 years I have also been on the Enrollment Committee serving as Secretary, with only 1 excused absence during my maternity leave. I am also on the 2018 Gathering Committee serving as the Registration, Transportation and Communications captains and I regularly participate in General Council Meetings. In the past I have tutored students, served on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club, helped host a Youth Initiative geared toward healthy behaviors, facilitated a smoking cessation program and served on the Powwow Committee for approximately 4 years.

I would appreciate your vote in this election.

Igwien, M.Simon | Mis No Quah misnoquah@gmail.com

# Camilla Chouteau Continued... Secretary position.

The past three years and nine months, Tribal Council has successfully negotiated Tobacco Compact with the State of Kansas, purchased 3,200 acres of Land, new construction for South wood Homes, revised Tribal Council P Card Policy, Casino Expansion approved by the Nation's General

Council, Veteran and Regalia legislation approved by the State of Kansas and Behavior Health facility under construction.

I pledge to our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Membership positive visionary goals aa follows: Update Tribal Enrollment, Secure and protect our Nation's Casino and enterprises, purchase property to increase our Land Base, maintain our Language and Cultural values, create new jobs, feasibility study to establish Nation's first Bank, and develop solar panel farm to meet our Nation's energy needs. Today, our Nation continues to be faced with the challenges of the Trump Administration unfavorable to Native American Tribes/Nations and Kansas Casinos completion and I will work with our Tribal

Council to explore profitable business enterprises to strengthen our Tribal Government and economy.

As a Voter, you will receive your Election Ballot by mail after June 8, 2018. I will highly appreciate your vote in the upcoming election. Igwein!

Camilla Wishkeno Chouteau

### Chago Hale Continued..

Housing is needed. Assisted living, so that they can stay close to home. Our Elders need to be loved, just like our children and US.

Our economics is what we need to focus on and work together on. Relationships amongstTribal Council, Casino Executive Board,

### Gaming Commission, and LLC needs to work together to help each other become the best they can be. We are in this together, pushing each to do the best it can is most important.

I've served on the Powwow committee for 18 years, assisting with a successful powwow each year that has put Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation out there, as a great

### celebration!

I humbly request your vote. I will use your vote to help lead with action. To serve all from youngest to the Eldest. And help bring us together so we can all benefit in some way that makes life peaceful.

I Truly believe in our people. We can be a Tribal Nation that stands strong, and is a leader amongst all nations. We can do great things together.

Chago Hale needs your vote. Together we can move forward in a good way.

Ahoo,

Chago Hale

### Tony Wahweotten Continued..

participate in tribal gatherings and the events of other nations representing our tribe and the indigenous culture in general. I am a healthy, non-smoking, full-blooded Prairie Band Potawatomi. I do not use alcohol or drugs.

My father is Ronald Wahweotten, son of Ray Wahweotten and Elsie Wahwahsuck-Wahweotten. My Mother is LaVeda Wahweotten, daughter of Charles Thomas and Lillian Shopteese-Thomas. I'm married to Angela Greemore-Wahweotten and we share two beautiful children Brennah and Zach.

I also have a wonderful daughter, Chaumin. We have been in our current residence in Mayetta for 25 years.

Since 1996, 1st Nation Painting, Inc. has completed painting contracts on the PBPN Elder Center, the PBP Early Childhood Education Center, the PBPN Government Center, the PBPN Fire Station, the PBPN Tribal Court, the PBPN General Council Hall, the PBPN Tribal Health Clinic, the PBPN Tribal Community building, the PBPN Golf Couse Clubhouse, the PBPN Elder Village, the PBPN Keepers of the Fire Casino, just to name a few of our projects with the Nation in the last 22 years. My business management

skills, time management abilities, and self-sufficiency have been developed through many years of hard work. If elected into office of Tribal Council Member #1, I will surrender the duties I currently perform as Manager in my company.

My Interest in running for Tribal Council Member #1 has come from being involved with the Nation in various business endeavors, meetings, committee work, my own personal experience and belief that Indian Country is in a time of change that will affect our future well-being. My characteristics of being fair, honest, having solid ethical standards and being able to make sound decisions quickly would make me a helpful component of our Tribal Council. I have run for office in the past and have not been elected to serve our Nation. I will do my best in representing our Nation if elected and would appreciate your vote!

An e-mail address and phone number where I can be reached as of 5/7/18 is rmagic49@yahoo.com & 785/966-2935. Please contact me if you would like to talk about anything.

Warm regards, Tony Wahweotten's Campaign for Tribal Council Member #1

### 2018 Election: Tribal Council Member #1 Candidates



Chago Hale

Hello,

Your vote is respectfully being requested, to help us all. Together we can make positive things happen, in a Good Way.

I am Chago Hale, and I am running for Tribal Council Member. A Strong voice to speak up for us all, local and far away. A strong mind to help make the best decisions that will benefit us all, local and far away. A strong spirit that will help bring us together, and lead in a positive direction.

Effective Management and true leadership skills is what I have acquired over the years. Leadership is a natural ability, and I strongly believe in myself to lead us in a positive direction.

Traditional teachings and modern day technology, will be used as both are needed, in this this time we live in. Experience at the management level, has helped me to become a strong leader for our tribal programs. Leading by action, is what is needed to help us move forward, to new levels in today's world.

Helping the Children is just a natural instinct. Its' something that I have been part of since growing up with brothers. It taught me to watch over, help with what is needed. To correct when needed. But most importantly to show by example. In our traditional ways this is most important, in our outside world it is just as equally important. Being sincere to our children is what I believe in.

Respecting our Elders! I believe in helping by action. They are our teachers, our reason for existence. Our Elders have carried us through hardships that our children, hopefully never see. To learn and be taught life lessons from our leaders ahead of us, is a gift. Finding ways to help them in their homes with alternative energy.

Continued on Page 9..



Tony Wahweotten

Boozhoo Members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation,

I hope this information will help you get to know me a little better. I graduated from Royal Valley High School, in 1984. At that time, I went to work for U.S.D.A. as a Field Office Engineering Technician (for six years) where I learned survey and design techniques regarding land and computer knowledge. Ronald Wahweotten Sr., my father, and I created 1st Nations Painting, Inc. in 1996. This is a successful sub-contracting business which operates in approximately a 100-mile radius of my home near our reservation. In addition, I have been taught great respect for all our resources through drum services, hunting, fishing and gathering from our land. I have 25 years of experience sitting on tribal committees and working for our tribe. My business knowledge and life experience make me a very capable candidate for Tribal Council Member.

I served on our Tribal Zoning committee for 15 years. I was nominated and voted to serve as chairman for three terms while working with this committee. I was asked to participate, and soon after was elected as a board member, with the Land Management committee. Service to our community was eight years in this context. I was nominated and voted for Chairman for one term. I, also, served on the PBPN pow wow committee for four years.

I have lived both on the reservation and off the reservation in the surrounding areas of Mayetta, Hoyt, and Topeka my entire life. Raised by a strong family, I acquired the knowledge needed to function well in both our traditional and contemporary worlds. I am invested and active in both. In the past ten years, my family and I have chosen to travel throughout the United States and Canada to *Continued on Page 9.*.



**Peggy Nioce Houston** 

I was blessed with my traditional Potawatomi name of Comma kwe with the meaning of it being; first born girl or leading lady, given by my Grandfather Sauk Nioce. I am the first born girl of his only son, Edgar Lee Nioce. I was the last child born to the late Edgar Lee and Patricia Kahbeah Nioce. I am the proud mother of two children.

Children are first and foremost of our people. Children are the flame of our hearts; children are a daily motivation; and children are our future. We must work for our next generation. We all know our membership is decreasing. We all participated in several community conversations about what steps to take in changing our enrollment. It has not moved in four years, and we are short changing our children of the membership with benefits that they are entitled to. Let's finalize this process of approval and enroll our next generation with an updated plan that meets the needs of our membership.

Let's improve policies and follow them. Let's listen before we act fairly. Let's stop paying for unnecessary investigations. We have Talented, Educated Tribal Members, so let's utilize our resources. We have internships in our enterprises, however, we have very little formal internship development internal of the government. We have opportunity for improvement; let's offer this and accept their knowledge at the table to grow our Nation.

True Sovereignty. What is our vision and long term goals? Is it a secret? Let's promote true transparency. Our infrastructure is lacking. While many tribes are fighting for water and working for energy efficiency on their reservation, ours is still provided by Jackson County. We have multiple power companies and spend mega dollars on energy, however, we are still not a stakeholder.

Continued on Page 11..



Theresa Jessepe Murray

Bozho,

My name is Theresa Jessepe Murray. My Indian name is Wa-we-mo-quah. I am running for Tribal Council seat #1. I would appreciate your vote in the upcoming election. If elected my goals are to ensure that we help meet the needs of our tribal members.

We are now in a time of upheaval on a national level. After the wall is built on the southern border of the United States, the Veterans Administration, and insurance has been privatized the focus may be on Native American issues. It won't be long before native country will be under the microscope regarding federal funding, IHS appropriations, and services provided in the past may be cut. It will have a devastating effect on our tribal members. We need to be vigilant in our efforts to become business oriented to maintain what the tribes now have and secure a future for our children and grandchildren.

I have traveled across most of the United States over the years and have stopped at many tribal casinos. I can say that the Prairie Band Potowatomi Casino is one of the best. It's important that we continue to keep our casino profitable and competitive since there are multiple casinos operating within the state. We have benefited from its success and have become dependent on the revenue it generates but we cannot rely solely on the casino to meet our needs. Competition with other casinos within the state have had a negative impact on our profits. The tribe has money allocated for business ventures through the Economic Development Board. I will work with the Tribal Council and the Economic Development Board to help develop entrepreneurial enterprises which will generate revenue to help fund tribal programs.

Continued on Page 11..

# 2018 Election Candidates: Profiles Continued



William "Bill" Evans

To the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, allow me to introduce myself. My name is William "Bill" Evans, and my Nish-Nah-Bah name is Beh-Meh-Skeh. I belong to the Thunder Clan. My wife is Ashley Evans, and together we have four children. I am the son of Mando Evans and Anita (Pahmahmie) Evans.

I feel I have a responsibility to our way of life and it has become a passion for me, which carries a lifetime commitment to the people. It has always been a goal of mine to contribute to the success of our Tribe. Over the years I have had the honor of listening and watching various leaders of the community. Those leaders have instilled traditional values and respect into our community, a significant foundation that our people can grow from.

I started my higher education at Haskell Indian Nations
University, then I went on to complete my Bachelor of Business Administration program at Friends University. I was offered an internship at Prairie Band Casino and Resort, where I worked under various managers spending time in each department of the Casino. The internship was a valuable experience that gave me a better understanding of the Tribes primary funding resource and what it takes to run a successful Company.

Since the end of my internship at the casino, I have gone on to become a Supervisor in the Cashier's Cage and later moving on to Shift Manager in the Security Department. Both positions created a positive learning experience in refining my work ethic, accountability, and time management skills.

I currently work for our Nation as the Farm and Ranch Manager at the Land Management Department. I oversee the agricultural operations of the *Continued on Page 11..* 



Marlena Jessepe Jordan

My name is Marlena (Quami) Jessepe Jordan. I am asking for your Support and Vote in the 2018 PBP Tribal Council Member #1 Election.

First, a little about myself, my parents are Evelyn (Jackson) Seymour and the late Melvin (Sonny) Jessepe. My maternal grandparents were Robert and Lorene Alexander Jackson. My paternal grandparents were Henry and Margaret Wabski Jessepe. My husband Kevin and I have been married for 20 years and we have 4 children, Jaime, Adria, Marlissa and Kobe. I have recently been blessed with 2 grandchildren, Veli and Amari. We have resided on the PBPN Reservation for the past 15 years.

In 2004, I earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Friends University. While working on my degree, raising a family and having a full-time job, I learned how to juggle many tasks. More importantly, it has taught me to appreciate my family and take pride in my work responsibilities.

I have been employed with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Gaming Commission for the past 15 years. As Finance Assistant I am the timekeeper and payroll clerk for 24 employees. I am the Plan Administrator for our various insurances and am responsible for travel arrangements for Commission employees as well as all other duties needed to assist our Finance Manager. I take pride in my work and consider myself to be a hard worker.

Our nation has prospered since the opening of the casino. However, other avenues of revenue must be pursued so that we are not dependent on gaming alone. I look forward to working with other members of Tribal Council to expand our enterprises. I believe we have many highly educated people in our tribe who can *Continued on Page 11..* 

#### Peggy Houston Continued..

Let's take control and stop paying our neighbors more than we give ourselves.

My commitment first and foremost is; 1) move enrollment forward; 2) enforce the policies we have fairly; 3) Develop a Tribal Government internship program for our college graduates; 4) Develop a strategic Energy plan, and 5) support our casino enterprise board to do their job with confidence to increase revenue.

I completed my B.S. in Sociology and Anthropology with a minor in Rehabilitation Counseling in 1980 from Emporia State University. I completed my Masters of Science in Management as a non-traditional student in 2005 from Friends University. I have over 20 years of executive level experience working in Indian country; predominantly gaming and with 12 of those years working for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Working in a management role in two Prairie Band Casino openings, my expertise will add value to the oversight of the casino expansion expense. Let's bring more to the bottom line and distribute higher per caps to the people.

Vote PEGGY! A vote for the people!

### Theresa Murray Continued..

The Tribal Council has other issues that need our continued support. It is important that we retain our tribal sovereignty, land acquisition from Cobell fractionalization sales needs a plan of action, health needs for all tribal members regardless of where you live needs to be funded, construct more housing, housing renovation for all tribal homeowners, and education are some of the issues that we need to maintain and fund. It will be my goal to continue to help improve our reservation.

My qualifications include:
• BA in Elementary Education, Rocky

Mountain College, Billings, MT
• MA in Educational Leadership,
University of Montana, Bozeman,
MT. I amcertified as a Principal and
Superintendent.

• Completed course work toward a PhD in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana, Bozeman, MT. Currently writing my dissertation.

• Twenty-Two years in city politics-served as a councilmember five terms, then as mayor six years.

• Currently an educator, I have taught school twenty years, and I am currently an adjunct faculty member for a community college. I was also an adjunct faculty member for the University of Mary, Bismarck, ND.

### Bill Evans Continued..

department, which include the planting and harvesting of approximately a thousand acres. I previously spent time as the Part C Coordinator at the Ben-no-tteh Wigwam Early Education Childhood Education Center, where I was responsible for providing the necessary services to infants and toddlers with special needs. Since working with the Nation, I now have more quality time to spend with my family and that I am truly grateful for.

As a devoted Tribal Member, it would be an honor to serve you on Tribal Council. I respectfully ask for your vote to represent the Prairie Band Potawatomi People. Together, as people, we can make positive change! Together, we can do it! Please consider electing me, William "Bill" Evans, for Tribal Council Member #1. If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at William\_Evans\_55@hotmail.com. Thank you for your time and support.

### Marlena Jordan Continued..

help lead us into the future.

My promise to you if elected is to be accountable for my time and be available to all tribal members. I promise to listen to concerns and make fair and unbiased decisions that will benefit everyone. All tribal members should be able to benefit from the various programs whether they live on or off the reservation. Every member counts!

I appreciate the opportunities that I have been given; I will soon be a homeowner and I was able to go back to school and earn a college degree. I was able to be a role model for my children in this aspect. I am blessed to have benefited from the many different programs our tribe has to offer. I want to give back now and make these things happen for others. I would like the chance to work for you, the tribal

members, and make sure that we remain sovereign, successful and strong. I believe in helping others and promise to look out for all members, from our youngest to our elders. Our children are our future and our elders paved the way for us. It is our duty to look after them as they did for us.

With my educational accomplishments, knowledge and work experience I feel I would make a responsible Tribal Council Member. I respectfully ask for your vote.

With your vote, I can assure you I will take my duties as a Tribal Council Member to heart. As a tribal member, an Indian woman, mother and grandmother, I will always strive in ensuring all our children have available the same opportunities I have been given.

# 2018 Election: Tribal Council Member #3 Candidates



Jona Potts Rupnicki

Jona 'Keo-Ko-Mo-Quah' (Potts) Rupnicki, MSM

Granddaughter of Maynard and Coralene (Keesis) Potts, and daughter of Vernon 'Shko-Mack" Potts and Marcia (Couch) Potts.

Tribal employment/Education qualifications are listed as follows:
• MSM (Masters of Science Manage-

- ment)
   BS ( Bachelors of Science) Organiza-
- tional Management & Leadership
   20 + years' of gaming and tribal
- operations experience
   10 + years' of management
  experience in recruiting and
  retention, employee relations and
- organizational development.
   10+ years' of human resource management and leadership experience.
- 10+ years' of management experience in talent management, training and development, compensation and incentive plans, policy development and administration, mergers and restructuring, integration and change efforts.
- 9 years owner/operator of a small business in NOTO Arts & Entertainment District- management, budgeting and marketing skills. Through my business I have promoted and supported multiple fund raisers/ benefits for the PBPN community in addition to the Local Community members.
- Knowledge & experience in protecting assets and increasing the return on investment.
- Operate with integrity, wisdom and performance based accountability.
- Possess a diverse background and range of abilities.
- Recognized as one who embraces creativity and new innovative ideas.
- Excellent organizational abilities and prudent decision-making skills.
- Communicated effectively with co-workers, clients, and vendors at all levels.
- Strategic planning with analytical and sensible problem-solving abilities. *Continued on Page 13...*



Joyce Kitchkommie Guerrero

Joyce Kitchkommie Guerrero (Sog-mah-quah)

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation will vote to elect representatives for the Nation. I am a candidate for the #3 Tribal Council member position. I am asking for your vote.

My parents: Joe Kitchkommie and Agnes Wabski Wamego, both raised on the reservation, moved to Topeka after my dad's service in the army. My Grandparents: Joe Wabske and Mary Ship -she-qua. Dora Naquabe Gokey and Francis Wabshaw Kitchkommie. We were raised and attended Topeka schools. I also attended Washburn University as a single mother, working full time. I've lived in same place for 24 years. I am blessed to be an active great grandmother!

Employment: worked within the Topeka area at various government agencies, Shawnee county, city of Topeka and Blue Cross Blue Shield, worked for BNSF railroad for years before coming back to work for PBPN.

Considered a baby boomer, I'm influenced by growing up in uncertain times for the PBPN, familiar words: termination, relocation, agency, BIA superintendent, lease payments. "big money" coming soon. (finally got in 1967/68!) the suspension of the PBP constitution, self-determination, activism. Organizing groups, relatives, friends, Indian Centers, events, powwows, (monthly pot luck dinner dances) and community action boards, was what held Indian families together to sustain a way of life remembered, culture, language and traditions.

This year the PBPN celebrated a 20-year success with the Prairie Band Potawatomi casino operations. Many more benefits and opportunities are available to the PBPN because of this prospering success. I've been privileged to work for the nation, during this time. On the Gaming Commission during Harrah's management years,

Continued on Page 13..



Tamara Lewis McClammy

My name is Tamara (Lewis) McClammy submitting my candidacy; I would greatly appreciate your vote for Council Member #3. My grandparents are the late Joe Lewis and the late Connie (Magnauck) Lewis. I reside in Topeka, Kansas with my husband Will. We have three beautiful daughters, and two amazing granddaughters. My husband is a Veteran of the Gulf War, my oldest daughter served in Iraq and my middle daughter is currently serving overseas. My educational achievements include a Bachelors in Criminal Justice, a Bachelors in Human Resources, and a Masters in Management. I have worked for our tribe in several different capacities and skill levels and have used my knowledge in my roles of leadership, management and mentorship with positions I have held.

I come from a long lineage of strong women who advocate(d) for the Potawatomi people. My hope for our future is simple; sustainability for the revenues we have acquired and a hard look towards the future to continue those goals. Follow through with objectives set from previous Council members; in order to advance and diversify in our economic pursuits for the well-being of our future generation.

One goal I have is to see our tribe look past gaming revenue for self-governance; the casino may eventually succumb to less revenue for our nation. I believe we can to move outside governmental assistance. We can achieve this with private sector enterprises, beyond gaming and/or governmental help. There are many prior initiatives that should be revisited. One way is to examine our natural resources we currently have and expand on how to utilize the possibilities.

- I am an advocate for full disclosure on all issues in regard to financial prosperities.
- I believe accountability and transparency for tribal council and it is **Continued on Page 13..**



Raphael J. Wahwassuck

Always do the best you can for the betterment of the people. This lesson from my childhood is part of the foundation of who I am and how I approach my life today. I believe that it's possible to compromise to achieve goals for all our people, so long as you know the principles that can never be compromised; and so long as we're willing to listen to each other.

My name is Raphael Wahwassuck. I am a candidate for Tribal Council seat #3. I am honored to say that I have lived most of my life here on our reservation. I have witnessed and participated in the many great accomplishments that we have gained in recent years. I am fortunate to have worked within our Tribal government in multiple capacities. I have assisted many of our departments develop from ideas, to become functional programs. I have also worked with many national organizations that seek to improve the quality of life in Native communities. Many years of my life have been devoted to identifying, learning, and implementing holistic methods to contribute to the wellness of our Nishnabeyek.

Our Tribal Council hold the most crucial offices for our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Through its leadership, can come a more vital life for our people. Leadership comes with great responsibility; a responsibility to listen and to be an advocate for the people. It is our responsibility as members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation to ensure that we have the right people in these positions to be our advocates.

I look forward to the opportunity to bring my ideas and knowledge to our Council to contribute to our continued success and future endeavors. My education, previous work experience, and most importantly, my devotion to our future, the future of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, will enable me to be an effective member of our Tribal Council.

Continued on Page 13..

### 2018 Election: Profiles Continued

#### Jona Rupnicki Continued..

- Current PBP LLC Board Member, Current NOTO Arts & Entertainment District Board Member
- Former PBPEC President & Board of Director

The use of tribal discretionary funds, property, housing needs are just a few areas that are growing in capacity. Tribal Ordinances in addition to Policies and procedures that guide tribal programs are ever evolving and are in continual need of reviews and updates. Legal Tribal representation on these matters must be diligently reviewed by one dedicated Tribal Attorney in conjunction with Tribal Council. These tasks require carefully coordinated efforts to ensure that all tribal members are considered at every level.

Some areas of concern that I feel need to be addressed are:

1. Accountability of time should apply

to all that receive a payroll check from the PBPN Government. Full-time Elected Officials are a must, currently we have certain Elected Officials that come in late or do not come in at all, this has to stop. Showing up to work on time and working a (40) hour week should be required at all levels within the PBPN Government. With current and anticipated future growth of the tribe, serving as an Elected Official requires more time and dedication to ensure that sound decisions are made for the Nation.

2. Services/benefits should be provided that are equal/fair for all members. Tribal members that live out of the service area and are in need of assistance should also get the assistance that will improve their quality of life. Innovative ways must be explored to bring services/benefits to all members. We need to research the costs of providing supplemental plans such as health insurance, cafeteria plan or dental plans to meet the needs of our people.

3. Tribal preference, development and retention are imperative to our Nation. We can empower our sovereignty by upholding tribal preference policies. A clearly defined Tribal/TERO ordinance needs to be in place that clearly outlines hiring practices pertaining our own government, entities, vendors, contractors and purchasing Native to Native.

4. Elevate the needs and care of our senior citizens by researching supplemental funds to assist them with hardships. In addition to initiating an assisted living center or home health care program so we can keep our elders home here on the reservation.

TRANSPARENCY OF GOVERN-MENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, and INTEGRITY are vital to ensure that our tribal government is servicing all tribal members in a consistent and fair manner.

With your support and guidance, we as a people can accomplish great things for our tribe. I am respectfully asking the PBPN members for your vote in this upcoming election. Management experience, leadership, education and knowledge of governmental operations are needed to successfully fill the Tribal Council #3 Position, which are skills that I do possess. These skills would be put to use for the benefit of all tribal members and our Nation.

It would be an honor to serve you as Tribal Council to accomplish tasks that support and encourage tribal economic sustainability and growth. With good leadership our tribe can prosper and continue to achieve success. Your vote will determine our leadership, "make it count".

Respectfully, Jona (Potts) Rupnicki

### Joyce Guerrero Continued..

including the transition period after the PBPN voted to self- manage. I've served as Tribal Council Vice Chairperson from 2008-2016. I continue to actively participate in the General Council meetings as a voting tribal member and attend other events and activities.

I will work toward keeping our businesses successful and continue to assist council, committee members, staff and tribal members for positive communication, seek and support endeavors for new enterprises and current programs to be successful. I am aware that with all the advancements made, with that comes new challenges for today's Prairie Band Potawatomi. There has got to be attention focused on social service issues. There continues to be concerns of family preservation. Family domestic issues and children separated from loving parents who struggle to

find balance is heartbreaking, we can do better. We must do better! We are fighting years of this cycle.

We are hearing more from seniors at meetings requesting assistance as they cannot meet their health needs. Hearing aids, sleeping devices, dental needs, rehabilitation services if they've had serious surgery. I support the assist and attention, seeking funds that will help, local on reservation and off reservation senior tribal members. With some requirements. There are third-party billing revenues that are collected diligently by the health center. There are some tribes that self-insure. I'm no insurance expert but I think we could have someone research possibilities.

The General Council was asked to approve a \$55ml dollar casino expansion at the January meeting. I've some concerns that this was hastily done and would have liked more discussion on the PBP capital requested,

and how plan could potentially impact government services and future per capita payments. Improvements help us stay competitive, there are also issues that could be addressed re casino management, customer marketing, services, tribal development and retainment. There were other options that should have been discussed thoroughly before asking for a vote on the \$55ML proposal. It will be some time before we see how much we gain from this expansion.

Progresses made in Tribal Jurisdiction issues, Tribal Sovereignty, land issues, trust responsibility to tribal nations, government to government relationship with other governmental agencies could be in jeopardy with this current United States administration. A cohesive, committed tribal council working together is important. A fragmented tribal council that occupies their time with egotism, gossip, anonymous letters intimidation is not

helpful to the PBPN's future. We've had numerous removals/resignations of elected officials. This last General Council's meeting heated discussions indicate a lack of trust and transparency in our processes. Issues, requests from tribal members to consider: constitution, enrollment, land, economic development are not being discussed because of these other issues. We can look to history to see how discord within doesn't serve the PBP well. I believe in the fundamental principles of the Constitution of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and I will speak and represent all in a positive, respectful manner always. I believe I have the maturity to be fair and open to new ideas. I am always willing to discuss issues.

Sincerely,

Joyce Guerrero PBP member Email: joyceguerrero823@yahoo.com Phone: 785 554-3409

# **Tamara McClammy Continued..** essential we work towards achieving this goal.

• Most of all; I believe in the voice of our people and the potential we are capable of accomplishing.

In conclusion, accountability will be a priority. I will continue to be an active member of the community and my door will always be open to suggestions and/or concerns. I rely on my own morals and convictions to guide me in my decisions. If you would like me to elaborate more on my thoughts, feel free to contact me at mcclammytami@yahoo.com. Please exercise your voting right.

Thank you, Tamara (Wah-sesh-mo-quah) McClammy

### Raphael Wahwassuck Continued...

I will bring a new energy to the position, and to the council.

Leadership does not come without sacrifice, and I thank my family and friends for supporting and encouraging me to be a representative for the people. Thank you for your consideration.

Kłamik††ewitwak wi†† nïshnabeyēk mine kłaśhēwenmak.

Respectfully, Raphael J. Wahwassuck



### Congratulations Aaron Hale!

After 17 years of service to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Hale retired from his current role as Groundskeeper in the Building Maintenance department in April 2018. Thank you for your years of dedication and best wishes on your retirement!

# 2018 Election: Gaming Commission Candidates



Rey Kitchkumme

AUTHENTICITY, INTEGRITY & ACCOUNTABILITY

All successful Gaming Regulatory operations rely on highly regarded relationships, maintaining those associations and knowing their place in day-to-day collaborations. Safeguarding by regulating our Nation's most dynamic and revenue generating enterprise takes well-rounded and upright individuals to carry out these tasks.

For those who don't know me, my name is Rey Kitchkumme. I have been one of your elected Gaming Commissioners for nearly eight years. Thank you for trusting me in carrying out the daily responsibilities of a Casino Tribal Gaming Regulator. I am one member of three Elected Tribal Commissioners and a support staff of 20 employees who carry out the regulatory functions of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Gaming Commission. Along with my fellow team members, it has been an honor to serve you.

Holding an elected position for the tribe is no easy task. It takes either an experienced person or self-starter who is a well-rounded and trustworthy individual who can continuously keep the Nation goals and objectives in perspective. Circumstances do arise requiring Commissioners the daunting task of making critical changes within its structure. I have learned over my 20-year span of service one has to make decisions that are in the best interest of the Nation as a whole. In those unusual cases it takes veracity and accountability to make the right decision.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Gaming Commission is required to perform its functions within current sectioned applicable statutes of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Constitution, PBP Law and Order Code (Title-12), Tribal-State Gaming *Continued on Page 15..* 





**Chaumin Wahweotten** 

Biography for Chaumin Wahweotten. Born Daughter of Tony Wahweotten and Melissa Olsen in Topeka, Kansas 1985. Pottawatomi and Kickapoo. Raised in different areas of Colorado but mostly Wellington, CO. Began working around the age 12 delivering newspapers before school. The day I turned 16 I had 2 jobs. On top of school. Subway as a Sandwich Artist and Hobby Lobby in the warehouse at first. Then progressing into the Craft Department where I was in charge of a portion of the Department. GED was received in 2002.

Resident of Kansas since 2004. A transfer through Hobby Lobby was issued. Offered a job in 2004 as a Slot Attendant that was maintained until 2007. Then working as Valet until offered a job as a Casino Cashier, 2007-2008. Transferred from Casino Cashier to Table Games Dealer, 2008-2011. Then sufferring from disease causing chronic pain changing professions for some relief and full-time insurance.

From 2012-2014 Supervisor at the Seabrook Applemarket. Hired as Customer Service and was asked to advance within the first month. Closing Supervisor and was trusted with many responsibilities and other duties. I enjoyed the job very much but was offered a Surveillance position at the Prairie Band Casino and Resort. From the Seabrook Applemarket a transition was made in 2004.

My Surveillance Career was from 2014-2017. Where a requirement was to train hard and to know the ends and outs of the casino. To maintain the Security of the Staff and the Guests. Personally being a Tribal Member I performed at my absolute best to my ability to help protect the Tribal Asset, Prairie Band Casino and Resort.

Strengths of Chaumin Wahweotten are tenacity, heart and need to become quickly adequate at whatever *Continued on Page 15..* 



Raymond Wahweotten

Bozho,





Larry Mzhickteno

Bozho!

Many of you know me. For those who do not, my name is Larry Mzhickteno and I am seeking the position of Gaming Commissioner #3.

I am not new to our gaming operation. I began working for our Gaming Commission in 2003 as an Inspector. In 2009 I ran for the position of Gaming Commissioner and was elected to office. I successfully ran for re-election in 2013 and served a second term until 2017. I lost a re-election bid in 2017. Since that time, I worked for several months at the Casino in the Surveillance Department. In February of 2018 I returned to work for the Gaming Commission as an Inspector and I am still employed in that position.

Prior to my employment with the Gaming Commission, I worked 11 years for a wholesale liquor distributor in Topeka, the last several years I was the Operations Manager. Some of my responsibilities included handling HR issues, inventory management, and scheduling. The company closed after a merger and it's operations were moved to locations in Wichita and Lenexa. If I were to remain working for them it would have required a move. My family and I made the decision to stay in this area.

My wife Marguerite and I have been married for 32 years. We have 2 grown children. Our daughter Rachel coowns and manages 2 businesses in Richmond Virginia. Our son Aaron lives in Topeka and was recently married. Aaron has worked at our casino for several years and is currently a Slot Technician.

During my time with the Gaming Commission, I have taken advantage of educational opportunities whenever possible. I have been through the NIGA Commissioner Certification courses achieving the Master level in

Continued on Page 15..

## 2018 Election: Profiles Continued



**Ramzey Ingels** 

No profile submission for Mr. Ingels.

#### Rey Kitchkumme Continued...

Compact, Minimum Internal Control Standards, National Indian Gaming Commission Guidelines, and the Kansas State Gaming Agency Oversight Act. It is with key experience that enables the Commission to abide by these rulings and to regulate our gaming enterprise professionally and efficiently. I bring this knowledge and experience to the Gaming Commission and do not waiver in carrying out actions and decisions based on these laws.

The recent approval of the \$55 million casino expansion will require the Gaming Commission to work closely with management to ensure that the regulatory requirements are followed and adhered to. My experience with the two previous expansions that were completed in 2005 and 2016 will help to ensure another successful expansion project.

With your support and vote I would like to continue representing the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and utilize my experience and knowledge as an Elected Tribal Gaming Commissioner. I encourage you to contact me with questions or remarks regarding my candidacy. I can be reached at (785)966-3043. I thank you for your support in the 2018 Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Gaming Commissioner election.

www.pbpindiantribe.com www.prairieband.com

#### Chaumin Wahweotten Continued...

the job. Weaknesses are that I wear my heart on my sleeve and having some health problems that I fight through like a Warrior. Life is too short to let pain hinder the experience. I will do what is best and what it takes to care for my Daughter, Family and Community. Almost always with a smile and Hello to offer.

Lastly a few hobbies. A longtime love of Kickboxing, Aerobics videos, reading, listening to music. Also enjoying a good Comedy or Horror movie. Can't forget the Action and occasional Romance. Playing and running with our Toddler. Toddler with my awesome partner Chris. I also enjoy volunteering at the Pow-Wows any chance I am available.

### Raymond Wahweotten Continued..

management, human resources, and I appreciate the work that former Commissioners have set forth. I have received many awards and recognition for my outstanding achievements of my performance in various positions I have held. I come from a family that instilled our traditional tribal ways; I am known as being a very straight forward and humbling man. We were all taught to be respectful, accountable, professional, and to always protect our tribal interests; especially our tribes sovereignty. Your

vote would be greatly appreciated in the upcoming election, and allow me the chance to bring about change that would help our Nation's Gaming Commission move in the direction that would help our Nation grow. I take Tribal Indian Preference and Tribal Development seriously, and strongly believe our people should be valued, as there are many members here that have a lot to offer. With your vote, we can make this happen. Vote for "Raymond Wahweotten" for Gaming Commission, and make your vote count!

### Larry Mzhickteno Continued..

I am well versed with the regulatory guidelines we must adhere to, the most important being IGRA, our Tribal - State Compact, Title 12 of the Potawatomi Law and Order Code, the Tribal MICS, and Title 31 of the USC. I am also familiar with the Policies & Procedures of the various departments of the casino.

I am asking for your vote so I may put my knowledge, skills and experience to work for you. I have always displayed a good work ethic and will continue to do so. In the past my door was always open and I will continue that as well.

I thank you for your time and attention to read this, and I would really appreciate your vote!

## 2018 Election: Ethics Candidates



Jean Howley Wayatnekwe

Bosho. My name is Jean Howley "Wayatnekwe". I am the daughter of David Perry and Georgie Ann O'Bennick-Perry. My paternal grandfather is the late George O'Bennick and grandmother was Mary Valley of Hot Spring, Montana. I am Thunder Clan and my birth color is blue.

I received my Associates of Arts degree at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. I am proud to say that it is in Indian Law and Advocacy. While in school, I was a journalist for the Indian Leader student newspaper, and served a twoyear term as Student Body President. It was a great experience. During my last semester at Haskell, I was selected to do an internship at the Department of Labor in Washington D.C. I studied for one semester at American University in Indigenous Studies and grant writing. After taking a few years off to work for the Federal Emergency Management Agency as an on-call disaster assistant for Native American communities I made the decision to return to school to finish my bachelor degree. I completed my BA in Business at Baker University in 2009 and rejoined the work force again for a few more years. I completed my Masters of Science in Psychology with an emphasis in Behavioral Health in 2016 at the University of Phoenix.

My husband and I are foster parents and have been for the last 17 years. We are state licensed and currently provide services to our Tribe taking in Native American children. We usually have between 4 to 6 foster children at any given time. My husband and I are 49 and have two daughters ages 13 and 20, and 1 son who is 31. We live in Mayetta, Kansas, on the Potawatomi Reservation, and have always been in this area. I am an approved mediator by the Kansas Supreme Court. I also have the distinct privilege of being a Peacemaker for Prairie Band Potawatomi Judicial Council (Tribal Court).

I was elected through General Council in 2014 and I am currently serving my 2nd two-year term. And last year I was placed on the Social Services Advisory Board as Vice-Chair. I run my own peacemaking practice and tend to focus my efforts on my Indigenous Dispute Resolution (IDR). I also love to speak about my craft and have had the pleasure to present at numerous conferences Nationwide.

Jean Howley is the only candidate for the Ethics Commission Vice-Chairperson position. There were no filings for the Ethics Commission Secretary or Ethics Commissioner #2.

# Foster Parents Needed

In search of motivated individual's to become Licensed Native Foster Parents, must reside on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation:

Being a native foster home allows native children to remain connected to their culture and heritage while achieving a sense of belonging. Our children deserve the right to remain connected.

### How can you help?

There are different types of homes....
For those who are unable to provide constant care, we are in need of respite homes. A respite home is a safe, stable home other foster parents can send a native child in care to when they are unable to provide care for a short period of time, generally a day to a week.

For those who can provide short term care, emergency foster homes are needed. An emergency foster home provides a safe, stable living environment for a native child for up to 30 days in order for a permanent foster home to be located. If the placement and the child feel that the home is a good fit an emergency home may become a permanent home.

For those who could provide a safe, stable and long term placement for a native child in care, family foster homes are needed. A family foster home is a home that accepts a child(ren) into their home long term allowing them to reside in a safe, stable and healthy living environment.

# For more information please contact:

Aimee L. Urban | PBPN Foster Home Social Worker Office: 785-966-8339 Cell: 785-506-7713 Email: AimeeUrban@pbpnation.org

# **Student Award Recognition Night**



Tamo Thomas, Kibo Throssell, Isabella Wamego, Mshewe Hale, Keesis Potts and Ka-tti Hale received special recognition during the Student Award Night.

### **Student Award Recognition Night Recipients**

All Around Student-Elementary: Ka-tti Hale

All Around Student- Middle School: Mshewe Hale

All Around Student-High School: Isabella Wamego

Outstanding Achievement Award: Robert Griffith, Jr Ki-Bo Throssell

Outstanding Female Athlete: Tamo Thomas

Outstanding Male Athlete: Brian Shane

*Unsung Hero:* Keesis Potts

Outstanding Parents Award: Christopher & Jessica Mitchell

Outstanding Teacher Award: Mrs. Roach | Royal Valley

Language Department -Senior Awards: Tamo Thomas Masen Spoonhunter

Language Department Eighth Grade Awards:
Sahbi Potts
Nahconbe Wahwassuck
Marcella Wishteyah
Mason Thomas
Danielle Rector
Ruben Tinajero

Each year, the Title VI – USD 337 program collaborates with departments and programs from the Nation, including Education, Boys & Girls Club, Language, Youth Outreach & Prevention, and the Johnson O'Malley Indian Education Committee to recognize the educational achievements of the Native students in the service area. The promotion of education is a tenet of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and this event is one way the tribe shows support for the education endeavors of the youth.

This year's annual Student Award Recognition Night occurred on April 11, 2018, at the Prairie Band Casino and Resort Convention Center. It was the first time the event has been held at the casino in over ten years. The night began with an invocation by Lyman Shipshee, Language department staff member, followed by guests enjoying a flavorful meal.

While everyone enjoyed the meal, the evening's recognition ceremony took place. There were two groups of student athletes that received recognition: the Royal Valley High School Girls Varsity Basketball team received recognition for their history-making win as the Class 3A State Runner Ups and the Royal Valley Middle School Boys Basketball team was recognized for two back-to-back undefeated seasons.

Next, the Student Recognition Awards were announced (see list of awardees).

Recognition was also given to those students who made the Honor Roll or received Perfect Attendance during the school year.

The Boys and Girls Club announced their \$1,000 Scholarship recipient, Isabella Wamego. The Language Department also provided awards to seniors and eighth grade students that participated in five or more classes during the school year (see list). The seniors received a backpack designed with their Indian color, clan and Indian name and the eighth graders received bias beaded bracelets handmade by the Language department staff. The JOM Committee also provided recognition to committee Chair Josie Pahmahmie and Secretary Michelle Simon for their years of service to the committee.

To end the awards program, the eighth grade students were called on stage to receive recognition for their promotion to high school and they were given a backpack. The senior students were last to cross the stage. In recognition of their academic achievements they were given jackets with the Nation's seal embroidered on the chest. There were 27 eighth grade students and 26 seniors recognized.

Other special touches to the evening included door prizes for the students in attendance, a slide show of the graduating seniors along with a senior photo collage display and the PBPN Tribal Victim Services program also attended the event to provide face painting to the youth.

# Royal Valley Girls Basketball Take 2nd at State Championship!



The 2017-18 Royal Valley Girls Basketball team: (Back Row, from left) Emily Albright, Mary Broxterman, Kiikto Thomas (Kickapoo/Potawatomi), Kenzie Ogden (Potawatomi), Keanu Shopteese (Potawatomi), Halina Williamson (Potawatomi/Sac n Fox) and Madison Saia. (Front Row, from left) Paige Ogden (Potawatomi), Danielle Stithem, Marlissa Jordan (Potawatomi), Bella Thompson (Potawatomi, Kickapoo, Sioux) and Tamo Thomas (Kickapoo/Potawatomi). The RVHS girls were the Class 3A Sub-State champions and went on to place second in the Class 3A State Tournament.  $16 \mid \text{Summer} \ 2018 \ \text{PBP News}$ 

The Royal Valley Girls Basketball team ended their season on fire!

First winning girls basketball season in 7 years!

First girls sub-state championship in 13 years!

First state basketball tournament win ever for Royal Valley girls and boys teams!

First state basketball semi-final round win ever for Royal Valley girls and boys teams!

Most successful athletic team in Royal Valley High School History!

The Royal Valley Girls basketball team ended their regular season with a 15-7 record and listed as fourth place in the Big Seven League with a 9-6 record.

The #3 seeded Royal Valley Panthers then hosted the first round game of Class 3A Sub-state Tournament play against the #6 seeded Oskaloosa Bears. The Panthers were victorious with a 55 to 34 point win.

This advanced RV to play against #2 seed St. Marys. During the course of the match up, Royal Valley played to win, coming away with a final score of 34 to 31.

This lead to the Sub-State Championship game played on Saturday, March 3, 2018, against the Mission Valley Lady Vikings. At the end of game, the two teams tied at 39 to 39, putting the game into overtime. With

# **PEP Promotes Earth Day**

This April the Planning and Environmental Protection Department (PEP) engaged the community with two main events to raise awareness for Earth Day.

The first event was the annual Community Roadside Clean-up. Members of the community along with employees of the Nation, Prairie Band Casino & Resort and the Prairie Band, LLC worked together as teams of volunteers to collect trash from the primary roads of the reservation. In all, the teams collected a total of 1,988 lbs of trash.

The team that picked up the most trash was Emergency Services with a team total of 533 lbs of trash. Followed by the Tribal Victim Services/Boys and Girls Club with a team total of 295 lbs of trash. The winning team received a pizza party and the second place team received a pie and ice cream party.

The Head Start and Preschool classrooms also participated. They picked up a total of 6lbs of trash around their building. It is wonderful to see these little ones so happy to be taking care of the Earth.

All team totals are listed below:

Childcare = 6 lbs.
Housing = 71lbs.
Social Services = 81 lbs.
Finance = 130 lbs.
Clinic = 135 lbs.
LLC = 219 lbs.
PEP = 230 lbs. (exempt from prizes)
Casino = 288 lbs.
Tribal Victim Services/BGC = 295 lbs.
Emergency Services = 533 lbs.

The second feature event for the community was the annual Earth Day Celebration. It was held on a bright, Sunday afternoon at Prairie People's Park. Over 100 community members came out to participate in a 3-mile Predictor's Walk/Run and received free t-shirts with the 2018 theme, #OPTOUTSIDE. Through the theme #OPTOUTSIDE the PEP department aims to encourage all members of the community, from every age and physical level, to play outside and celebrate every moment spent outdoors.



Members of the community make their way through Prairie People's Park as they take part in the 3-Mile Predictors Walk/Run. Some participants wear their 2018 Earth Day T-shirt with the theme #OPTOUTSIDE.

### Royal Valley Girls Basketball Continued..

56 seconds left at the end of the first OT, Tamo Thomas came in and hit a three to tie it up again with a score of 44 to 44 leading the team into a second overtime. At the end of the second OT, the final score was 53 to 49 and the Lady Panthers emerged as the Sub-state champions!

Out of the 64 teams in the Class 3A division, only eight teams advanced to play for the state championship. The Royal Valley Panthers received the #7 seed for the Class 3A State tournament, which was held at the Hutchinson Community College

Sports Arena located in Hutchinson, Kansas starting on Thursday, March 8, 2018.

Royal Valley's first match-up in the State tournament was against Big Seven League opponent Nemaha Central (#2 seed). Nemaha Central ended the regular season as Big Seven League Champs, with a 15-1 record, and an overall record of 21-2. Nemaha Central placed fourth at state last year, with this being their second straight appearance at state. In the end, the Royal Valley Lady Panthers triumphed against the Lady Cyclones

# Fast Moving Wildfire Threatened Homes And Dance Grounds

By Doug Schreiner | Fire Chief



Potawatomi Tribal Fire units were dispatched to contain a fast moving wildfire located east of the Potawatomi Dance Grounds.

Thursday, March 22, 2018, 3 p.m. - A wind driven grass fire southeast of 150th and K Road burnt over 125 acres of grass and timber Thursday. The fire threatened several homes and structures including the PBPN Dance Grounds and Road & Bridge department. The blaze required resources from across southern Jackson County to finally extinguish. The fire was brought under control by 4:30pm but Potawatomi Tribal Fire units did not leave the scene until 8 p.m. that night.

The Tribal Fire Department was notified of the fire by an alert PBPN Lands Department employee Dennis Eakin. Initial responding Tribal Fire units rapidly assessed the scene, established Incident Command, and deployed to several defensive positions to protect homes and structures while awaiting mutual aid assistance. Hoyt Fire, Mayetta Fire, Jackson County EMS, and Tribal PD all responded to help. A Horton BIA Wildland Fire crew was in the area and provided an additional grass fire truck.

The Tribal Police Department blocked 150th Road between K & L Roads and prepared to assist Jackson County EMS in case evacuation of a disabled resident was needed. The

with a final score of 51 to 48, and advancing to the Semi-Final round.

On Friday, March 9, Royal Valley went up against #3 seed, Hays-Thomas Moore Prep. With less than a minute on the game clock, the score sat at 41 Monarchs with the Lady Panthers trailing with 36 points. Then Kiikto Thomas added two points, followed by a much needed three point shot by Tamo Thomas, tying the game with a score of 41 to 41 with 7 seconds left on the clock. The game went into overtime, and at the end, the Royal Valley Panthers were left standing with a

fire was contained before any evacuations were required.

Tribal Fire Chief Doug Schreiner said the fire damage was limited to grass and timber while crediting long-time PBPN employee Dennis Eakin with quickly recognizing the danger. After calling the fire in, Eakin assisted putting the fire out using the Lands Department grass fire truck (a former Tribal Fire grass rig).

Additional credit goes to the initial actions of the first arriving Tribal Fire units and the excellent cooperation between all responding agencies.

"This type of multi-agency response is a daily occurrence across all of southern Jackson County and is a great example of neighbors helping neighbors," said Schreiner.

The fire is believed to have started from the smoldering remnants of a controlled burn in the area the day prior. Multiple grass fires were in progress across Jackson County and the PBPN during this fire. The spring wildfire season has been particularly active with the Tribal Fire Department responding to over 30 wildfire incidents in the three weeks between February 28th and March 22, 2018.

final score of 54 to 52.

The championship game was a match-up between Royal Valley and the #1 seed, Garden Plain on Saturday, March 10. At half time the Royal Valley Panthers lead with a score of 20 to 16, and at the end of the third quarter, RV still maintained the lead with a 33 to 26 score. But then, in the fourth quarter, Garden Plain increased their pressure and battled it out to ultimately take the win. The final score was 45 Garden Plain Owls to 39 Royal Valley Panthers.

# **Sexual Assualt Awareness Month & SAFESTAR**

By Jessica Wheeler | Intern **Social Services Department** 

The month of April is nationally recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the PBPN Tribal Victim Services program has been diligent in its efforts to recognize this month and raise awareness about Sexual Assault in Indian Country. By raising awareness about Sexual Assault, TVS hopes to give a voice to victims, prevent Sexual Assault from happening, and protect victims from experiencing further trauma.

Raising awareness about Sexual Assault is especially important to Indigenous People. Native American women experience the highest rate of sexual assault of any other female population in the country (NVWS, 2000). It is estimated that Native American women are more than 2.5 times more likely to be raped or sexually assaulted than other women in the United States (USDOJ, 2011).

Native children are also at more risk: a female Native American baby has a 1 in 3 chance of being sexually assaulted during her lifetime, which is much more than babies in the U.S. as a whole, which is less than a 1 in 5 chance of Sexual Assault during their lifetime (USDOJ, 2011). These figures only include Sexual Assault cases that were reported, therefore, the number of Sexual Assaults committed against Native American women and children are undoubtedly higher.

The discrepancy in the number of Sexual Assaults that actually occur and the number of Sexual Assaults that are eventually reported is concerning. PBPN Tribal Victim Services has implemented a SAFESTAR program to empower victims with options when seeking safety and support while maintaining cultural preferences. TVS is recognized as the second tribal organization in the entire United States to have developed a SAFESTAR program. SAFESTAR provides compassionate, holistic care for victims while working to end sexual violence in our community.

#### What is SAFESTAR?

SAFESTAR stands for Sexual Assault Forensic Examination, Safety, Training and Resources. SAFESTAR is unique because it is a model of care that is supported by public health and is community developed, community implemented, and community integrated. SAFESTAR focuses on the individual, as well as the community. Using this type of model allows for cultural considerations regarding Sexual Assault including the difficulty of discussing Sexual Assault for Native American women, community size and confidentiality issues. conflicts of traditional values, and the fear of insensitivity by law enforcement that some Native women may feel. SAFESTAR allows a more traditional approach to helping survivors heal in mind, body, and spirit.

SAFESTAR requires cross-training state, federal and tribal law enforcement, prosecutors, health providers and advocates to create meaningful, positive change in their responses to Sexual Assault, thereby educating and empowering Tribal communities and future generations. SAFESTAR draws upon the strength and resilience of Native women and recaptures the important and positive role of women by training Native women within the community to support victims of Sexual Assault.

Six individuals within the PBPN community have become SAFESTARs by learning the skills necessary to deliver emergency first aid to survivors, provide referrals for follow-up medical and traditional care and to educate communities on the harm caused by sexual violence and lead the way back to healthy, respectful ways of living. SAFESTARs are also trained to collect Sexual Assault forensic evidence that will help deliver accountability to Sexual Assault perpetrators.

SAFESTARs can also help victims of Sexual Assault navigate daunting medical and law processes. These advocates can also appear in court and testify on behalf of victims. By providing these laypersons with the tools to be advocates for survivors of Sexual Assault, Native American victims will be empowered to speak out against Sexual Assault and to find holistic healing that is culturally considerate.

For more information about TVS or the SAFESTAR program or an interest in becoming a SAFESTAR volunteer, please contact PBPN Tribal Victim Services at 785-966-8330. If you or a loved one is sexually assaulted, reach a SAFESTAR advocate by calling the toll-free TVS hotline at 1-866-966-0173.



Congratulations Judy Wabaunsee! During the month of April 2018, the TVS program hosted an "I Am S.A.A.M." tshirt contest, whereby community members that provided the definition of SAAM were entered into a drawing for a Bluetooth Jukebox and two Lee Ann Womack concert tickets for a show at PBCR. Judy Wabaunsee was the grandprize winner.

24-Hour TVS Hotline 1-866-966-0173

24-Hour National **Domestic Violence** Hotline

1-800-799-7233

# Social Services Spring Swap 2018 Data Provided by the Social Services Department

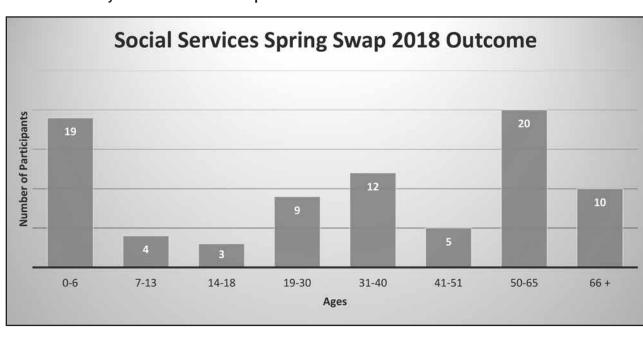
We are very pleased to announce that we helped approximately 82 individuals total, all of whom were providing for their entire family.

Each attendee signed in reporting their gender and age to protect confidentiality. See the Tables to show the outcomes of the Spring Swap 2018.

Our Elders and children, mostly female, are who benefited most from this initiative. The Topeka Rescue Mission received our remaining donations.

- Total Number of People that donated items: 27
- Total Number of People that volunteered time/ snacks: 13

We want to thank everyone that participated in this event and look forward to another Swap in the Fall of 2018!



Participants by Gender: 19.23% were Male and 63.77% were Female.

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The Social Services Advisory Board hosted a one-day training for the Nation's public health workers. The training aimed to introduce and enhance traditional Native cultural values the individual workers can utilize in their work with the community.

At right, Kelly Lewis, Child Support Services staff member, shares a laught with her colleagues as they present their team's message to the group.



Baby Jay from the University of Kansas stopped in to visit children at the Early Childhood Education Center on April 17, 2018. The PBPN ECEC and Social Services Departments collaborated with KUCDD -Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities and LEND - Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities to provide the community with a one night Child Development Summit providing information to parents and professionals. The event included presentations on behavior, family preservation, literacy, hearing loss, and promoting play.

# Purchased Referred Care (PRC) Program By Prairie Band Health Center

The mission of Purchased Referred Care program is to assist the patient in managing their health care when a referral to see a specialist is determined by a PBP Health Care provider to be beneficial.

Please use the chart below in assessing if PCR can help pay for your medical care.

#### **Emergency Room | Urgent Care Notifications**

- ER/Urgent Care visits must be reported to PRC within 72 hours of discharge, or within 30 days for the elderly (age 62 and older) and/or disabled patients.
- The PRC Committee will assign a medical priority

number and approve or deny the request for paymont on ER/Urgent Care visits based on eligibility, medical priority and funding availability.

- An approval for payment of the care will be for the emergency care ONLY. Ongoing or subsequent care will follow normal PRC guidelines.
- To report ER/Urgent Care visits please call PRC at 785-966-8282 or 785-966-8270. Voicemail messages are accepted.
- PRC is not an entitlement program or an insurance and is not every PB Health Center patient is eligible.

- Funding for the PRC Program is limited and is used to assist patients with obtaining health care services that are not provided at PB Health Center.
- If payment of services is denied by the PRC Program, the patient has the right to appeal the decision in writing within 30 days from the date of denial. Please contact the PRC Program for additional information on the appeal process.

Prairie Band Health Center 11400 158 Road Mayetta, KS 66509

Phone: 785-966-8282 or 785-966-8270 Fax: 785-966-8395

### CAN PURCHASED/REFERRED CARE AT PBP HEALTH CENTER PAY FOR YOUR MEDICAL CARE? FIND OUT IN 3 STAGES.

### Stage 1-Individual Qualifications You are eligible <u>if</u>:

a) You are a member of a federally recognized Tribe. EXCLUSIONS: Kickapoo of KS, Sac & Fox of MO and Iowa of KS & NE.

### **AND**

b) You live in Jackson County or you are an enrolled Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Member living in Doniphan County KS or Richardson County NE. \*you must provide proof of address to the PRC office. Ask PRC staff for specifics on approved documents.\*

### <u>AND</u>

c) You get prior approval from your provider for each case of needed medical service or give notice within 72 hours in emergency cases (30 days for elders 62&older & disabled)

> If you answered **NO** to any of the above

> > Application is denied

### **Stage 2-Medical Priorities** Funding may be approved if:

a) The health care service that you need is medically necessary.

### **AND**

b) The service is not available at an accessible IHS or Tribal facility.

### <u>AND</u>

YES

to

all

c) The PRC committee determines that your case is within the current medical priorities of the facility. \*\* Unfortunately, PRC funds often are not sufficient to pay for all needed services. When this happens, the committee considers each individual's medical condition to rank cases in relative medical priority. Cases with imminent threats to life, limb, or senses are ranked highest in priority. \*\*

### **AND**

d) PRC funds available are sufficient to pay for the service to be authorized.

# If **NO** to any of the above



\*Deferred lower priority cases will be reviewed on a weekly basis and reconsidered if funding permits.

### **Stage 3-Coordination & Payment** Approval, Billing, Payment

a) You must apply for any alternate resources for which you may be eligible. -Medicare, Medicaid, Insurance, etc.

b) An approved referral is issued to a specialty provider authorizing payment for services.

### THEN

c) PRC staff and the authorized provider coordinate your medical care.

### THEN

YES

to

all

d) After your appointment, the authorized provider bills and collects from your alternate resources.

### THEN

e) The authorized provider bills any unpaid balance to PRC for payment. -PRC is the payor of last resort, it pays only for costs not paid for by your alternate resources.

\*Many times outside providers will mail bills to the patient instead of the PRC office. If you receive a bill, you are required to turn the bill into the PRC office to be considered for payment.



Provider is paid

### Kambottek

\*\*All postings are reprinted from public obituaries or submissions from the family.\*\*



### Anna-Leah Garrison

GLASTONBURY, CT -Anna-Leah "Topi" Garrison, 59, of Glastonbury, peacefully passed away surrounded by her caring family on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at her home after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Born in Topeka, Kansas on March 19, 1958 she had resided in Colchester for several years prior to moving to Glastonbury over eight years ago.

Anna-Leah was a beloved daughter of Carole (Masquat) Garrison of East Hartford and the late Edward J. Garrison, a retired Deputy Fire Marshall of East Hartford. She was a graduate of George J. Penney High School in East Hartford, Class of 1976.

A dedicated hard worker, Anna-Leah was employed by Coca-Cola Bottling Company of East Hartford since 1988 and was a long-time member of the Teamsters Local 1035 in South Windsor. She also worked at the Comcast/Xfinity Theater in Hartford for over thirteen years.

Proud of her Native American heritage, Anna-Leah was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and she still continued to participate at "Pow Wows" with her family. In her free time, she enjoyed going to the beach and spending time with her family.

In addition to her mother Carole of East Hartford, Anna-Leah is survived by a son, Storm Garrison a Hare Krishna devotee of Glastonbury; a sister, Megan R. Garrison of East Hartford; two brothers, Edward R. Garrison of East Hartford, Blake E. Garrison and his wife, Audria, of Hoyt, KS; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and



### **Kimberly Springer**

LIBERTY, MO - Kimberly Kay "Kim" Wishkeno Springer, 54, daughter of Louie and Jeanie (Shandy) Wishkeno, passed away February 15, 2018.

Visitation 1-2 pm and service at 2 pm Thursday, February 22, Park Lawn Northland Chapel (816) 781-8228. Burial in East Slope Cemetery, Riverside. Memorials: Artists Helping the Homeless.

Kim was born November 14, 1963, in North Kansas City, MO. She was preceded in death by her husband Brian Springer, and son, Bryan Springer.

Survivors include her son, Ryan Springer (Emily); granddaughter, Madisynne Cross; parents, Louie and Jeanie Wishkeno; sisters, Lisa Rheuark (Robert Chambers) and Angela McMullen; grandmothers, Marjorie Springer and Marjorie Shandy; many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews; and her companion, Scott Burson.

- Courtesy Kansas City Star

# *Garrison Continued..* many dear friends.

Besides her father, she was predeceased by a son, TyCody Dzikiewicz of Colchester.

A memorial service celebrating Anna-Leah's life will be Saturday (March 17, 2018) at 1 pm at the D'ESOPO-East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family. Relatives and friends may call at the funeral home chapel on Saturday (March 17th) from 10 am - 1 pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Anna-Leah's name may be made to the



### Patricia Kostelecky

LOCKWOOD, MT - Patricia Ann Marshno Kostelecky, was born March 4, 1969 to Stephanie Amelia Jessepe and Kurtin Patrick Marshno, passed away Feb. 26, 2018, she was preceeded in death by both parents.

She married Ralph Duane Kostelecky in 2000, and they made their family home in Lockwood. She was a devoted mother, wife, homemaker, aunt, sister and friend and most of all devoted grandmother to Eli, Ashton, Amelia, Micheal, Paul and baby Kyle Ray. They cherished their grandmother.

She is survived by Ralph of family home, daughter Marcia Lynn Jefferson(Glen), Lockwood, Son Kyle Robert Kostelecky(Marie), Lockwood, sister Teresa Marshno, Topeka KS., brother Shannon Sullivan Missoula, MT. 6 grandchildren and her niece, nephews, who cherished her Danielle Ledesma, Topeka, KS, Matthew Jefferson, Lockwood, Joshua Marshno Topeka KS, and numerous adopted family members.

Patricia will be laid to rest Mon. March 5th at 11:00 a.m. at Smith Funeral Chapel 925 So. 27th St, with burial at Holy Cross Cemetery. Viewing will be Sun. March 4,1-8 p.m. at Smith Funeral Chapel.

- Courtesy of Billings Gazette

### Garrison Continued..

Helen & Harry Gray Cancer Center, 80 Seymour Street, P.O. Box 5037, Hartford, CT 06102. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family please visit www.desopo.com.

- Courtesy of The Hartford Courant



### **Sharon Miller**

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, MO – Sharon Ann (Cadue) Miller, 71, passed away March 19, 2018, at her home in Excelsior Springs, MO. Visitation will begin at 1:30 pm, followed by services and Native American ceremonies at 2:30 pm, on Friday, March 23, at Park Lawn Northland Chapel, I-35 at State Route 291, Liberty.

Sharon was born October 27, 1946, in Holton, KS, the daughter of Phillip Benjamin Cadue, Sr. and Virginia Ann Wishkeno Cadue. Along with her parents, Sharon was preceded in death by a son, Bradley Alan Miller, Jr. Sharon was a proud member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Indian Nation.

Survivors include her sons, Larry Miller and Chad Miller (Nobuko); grandchildren, Tyler, Misha and Cameron Miller; siblings, Lewis Wishkeno (Georgina), Phyllis VanBecelaere (Steven), Phillip "Sonny" Cadue Jr. (Cynthia); and Lori Fales; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, other family members and friends.

- Courtesy of Parklawn Funeral Home

### Pauline Oehler

MILWAUKEE, WI - (nee Bodah) Thursday, March 29, 2018 at the age of 81 years Pauline Oehler walked on. Mother of Forrest, Karri and Shawn. Loving grandmother of Blu, Rayvin, Tia and Tamara. Cherished great-grandmother of Gabbi, Frosty, Laney, Dane and Skyy. Further survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Private cremation was held.

Pauline was born May 1, 1936. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

– Courtesy of Rozga Funeral Home



### **Dennis Rickert**

WYOMING, MI – Mr. Dennis Joseph Rickert aged 60 of Wyoming passed away peacefully, after a courageous fight with cancer Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

He was preceded in death by his father, Carl E. Wicker; son, Chad Michael Rickert and his Fiance, Sheliah Denise Gallegos in 1984; grandson, Michael Levi; mother-in-law, Shirley Mae Cook; brother-in-law, Michael Bloom; niece, Caitlyn E. Bloom; Grandparents Levi and Ellen Whitepigeon along with several aunts and uncles.

Surviving are his wife of 12 years, Lynn Marie Rickert; children, Elizabeth Lynette (Christopher) Peay, Adam Michael Rickert, Nicholas Lawrence Rickert; grandchildren, Israel Tyee, Etania Olissa, Philomena Sheliah; his mother, Jennie Wicker; brothers, James Rickert, Garrett Rickert and Levi (Sheri) Rickert; sisters, Dr. Jessica Rickert (William Strait), Deborah Bloom and Nancy (David) Krogmann; father-inlaw, Gerald Cook; brothers-in-law and sistersin-law, Mark (Mary) Cook, Sheryl Schroeter, and Thomas (Veronica) Cook; his beloved dog, Buddy; special family friend, Paul Collins; dear sister-in-law, Deanna Tolbert; many nieces, nephews and extended family. Dennis was proud to be a Tribal citizen of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

A celebration of his life will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 31, 2018, at Apostolic Faith Church, 1935 – 44th St. SE. His family will greet relatives and friends Friday, March 30th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Stegenga Funeral Chapel – Wyoming, 3131 S. Division Ave. Memorial contributions may be made to a College Education Fund

### Kambottek

\*\*All postings are reprinted from public obituaries or submissions from the family. \*\*



### Jack Monroe, Jr.

KANSAS CITY, KS – Jack Bruce Monroe, Jr, 49, of Kansas City, Kansas died on March 30, 2018, at home. He was the son of Jack B. Monroe, Sr. and Louella J. Monroe.

Jack loved sand dune racing, fishing, camping, river rafting, fixing electronics and spending time with his family. He was a member of the Native American Church.

Jack is survived by his wife, Kathryn J Monroe and her children William Fortin, Cynthia Fortin, Randy Kalm, and Shane Chambers; his father, Jack Sr., his siblings Judy Quinn, Georgia Monroe, Jim Monroe, and 9 nieces and nephews and 7 great nephews and 2 great nieces. He loved his family very much and will be sorely missed.

- Courtesy of Highland Park Funeral Home and Crematory

# **Rickert Continued..** for his grandchildren.

Lynn and Dennis's family would like to extend a special thank you to SpartanNash, Teamsters and FedEx for their personal support, concern and help to Dennis and Lynn over the last few months, we have greatly appreciated all you have done.

To share a photo, memory and sign the family's online guestbook please visit www. stegengafuneralchapel.com.

- Courtesy of Stegenga Funeral Chapel



### Sarah Waubiness-Werbelow

APPLETON, WI – Sarah Waubiness-Werbelow, 37 of Appleton, passed away unexpectedly at home with her family by her side.

Sarah enjoyed making dream catchers and jewelry, sewing, and her nail art, which she became very good at. She loved to spend time with her family, especially during the Holiday seasons, but most of all she loved spending time with her children. Her children were number one, always.

Sarah is survived by her husband Daniel; son, Jaymes; two daughters: Issabella and Elayna; five brothers: Tim (Holly) Tom, Billy (Wendy), Jamie, Dusty, and Jeff; 14 nieces and nephews, and three great-nieces. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Sherry (Tom) Waubiness.

Memorial Service for Sarah will be at 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 15, 2018, at Valley Funeral Home, with Rev. Mike Huff officiating. The family will receive friends and relatives at the funeral home at 4:00 PM, Thursday, until the 7:00 PM time of service.

In lieu of flowers, a trust fund has been established for the children.

- Published in Appleton Post-Crescent on Mar. 14, 2018

# Tay Moore

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA – Tay Moore, 78, passed away Wednesday, January 24, 2018. He was born August 28, 1939. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.



### Judy Ann Messner

SHEBOYGAN, WI - Judy Messner, age 48, passed away Saturday morning April 14, 2018 with her family at her side. Judy was born September 21, 1969, in Sheboygan to Jerome and Beatrice (Cook) Messner. She attended Sheboygan schools and graduated from South High School in 1988. Following high school Judy furthered her education at Lakeshore Technical College, earning her Associates Degree in accounting. Judy enjoyed spending time outdoors, camping, following the Cubs, NASCAR and shooting darts.

Judy is survived by her children: Trisha (Branden) Toerpe of Sheboygan, Nicholas Balma of Fond du Lac, Brandon TenPas of Sheboygan, her dog Sophie, sister Ellie (Bruce) Meyers of Sheboygan, brothers: Jerry Messner Jr. of Sheboygan, Roger (Jacki) Messner of Georgia, her boyfriend Paul TenPas of Sheboygan, nieces and nephews: Elizabeth Meyers and her fiancé Agustin Garcia, Bruce (Rhaina) Meyers III, Jason Meyers, Amber Gasper, Julia Messner, Joelle Jackson and Roger Messner Jr., great-nephews Anthony, Agustin Jr. and Benson, and a great-niece Savannah. She also wanted to thank Sharon and Stanley Moilanen for being like second parents to her.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents.

Family and friends may gather at the Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home, 1535 S. 12th Street, Sheboygan on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 from 4-6 p.m. Online condolences may be expressed at www. reinboldfh.com.

Judy's family wishes to extend a special thank the staff at Sharon S. Richardson



### Helen Wilson

DELIA, KS - Helen Jeanette "Mes kwob no kwe" Wilson, 81, of Delia, KS passed away Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka. She was born September 7, 1936 in Mayetta, the daughter of George Henry and Helen Cynthia (Claybear) Williams.

Helen was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

She married Robert Wilson; he preceded her in death on August 3, 1997. She was also preceded in death by her parents, 6 sisters and 1 brother.

Survivors include 5 daughters, Lisa Aitkens, Mary
Thomas, Cindy Thomas, Roberta Thomas and Charlene
Wilson; a son, Robert Wilson,
Jr. and many grandchildren
and great-grandchildren.

Private family services will be at a later date. Mercer Funeral Home in Holton is in charge of arrangements. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www. mercerfuneralhomes.com.

- Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home

### Messner Continued..

Community Hospice for the care and compassion shown to Judy. Also thank you to St. Nicholas Hospital and Froedtert Hospital.

- Courtesy of Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home

### **Gary Lavier**

TUCSON, AZ – Gary Joe Lavier, 33, died on April 6, 2018. He was born on January 10, 1985. He was an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

### **Gary Wahweotten**

DEER RIVER, MN - Gary Joe Wahweotten, age 69, of Deer River, journeyed to the spirit world on Monday, March 5, 2018 at the Grand Village in Grand Rapids. Gary was born on April 21, 1948 in Holton, KS the son of Joe and Evelyn (Fitzsimmons) Wahweotten.

Gary grew up in Mayetta, KS and later resided in Deer River area for a few years. He loved to go to the casino and ride his bike around town and also to attend pow-wows. Gary also loved to spend time with family who will miss him very much.

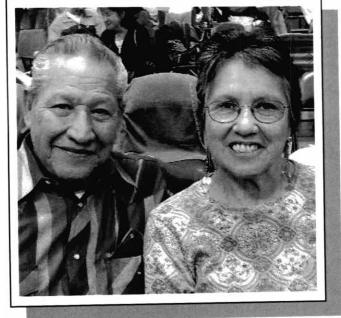
The family that Gary joins again are his mom and dad, sisters; Carol and Juanita, niece; Shawn, grandfathers; McKinley and Floyd, and grandmother; Ruth Fitzsimmons.

Those he leaves behind to cherish his memory are his sister; Darlene, nieces; Sherry, Ronda, Brenda, Shannon, Tammy and Teri, nephews; Randy, Barry, Shadley and Israel, many other nieces, nephews, family and friends.

A wake for Gary will begin at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, March 8, 2018 and will continue until the 10:00 a.m. service on Friday, March 9, all held at the Ball Club Community Center in Ball Club. Spiritual leader will be Steve Jackson. Pallbearers will be Kenny Moore, Ralph Schaaf, Wade Monroe, Mike White, Randy Schaff and Frank Schaaf. Alternates will be Tommy Applebee, Shadley White, Israel White and Raymond Schaaf. Interment will be held in the Olivet Cemetery in Deer River following the service.

Gary's care has been entrusted to the Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be given at www.northernpeace.com.

- Courtesy of Nothern Peace Funeral Home







Troy Sr. and JoAnne LittleAxe would like to thank Operation Eagle JOM Program for recognizing them as honored elders for the April powwow. Troy is a full blood enrolled Absentee Shawnee and is a fluent speaker of his language. JoAnne Kitchkommie LittleAxe is a full blood enrolled Prairie Band Potawatomi of Mayetta, Kansas. Troy and JoAnne first met while attending Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas then married and resided in the Kansas City, Kansas area prior to moving to Bartlesville, OK in the early 1970's. They have been married over 56 years.

During their residence in Kansas, they were in volved in the Kansas City Indian Club and Troy worked to assist Native Americans seeking employment in the business and maintenance sectors. In Bartlesville they became involved in the local community in several capacities. JoAnne served on the little league softball/baseball board, served as past president of the Bartlesville Indian Woman's Club including holding other office titles, served as co-chair of teh Indian Festival for several years, and was selected by the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women as Mother of the Year in 1995. JoAnne further volunteered her expertise in

teaching Operation Eagle students beading. Troy is retired from Indian Coatings Inc., a family owned powder coating business that is now being carried on by his son Dennis. In the past, Troy has

volunteered his time by teaching Operation Eagle students the various Native American styles of Men's/Women's dance when dance class was first starting out. He also served as the MC and singer when Operation Eagle conducted various school and community programs and events. Both Troy and JoAnne have served as cultural advisors when requested.

The LittleAxe family has been involved with Operation Eagle since its inception with their children, Lisa, Troy Jr. and Dennis participating while in the Bartlesville School system. The tradition is being carried on with their grand children and the next generation therafter as well.

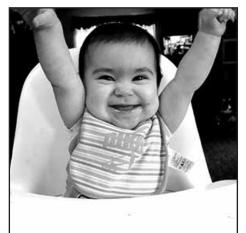
Thank you for this honor.

- Courtesy of Operation Eagle Powwow Program, 40th Annual Event - April 7, 2018

A lot of family were fortunate to witness this honor for our sister and brother, Troy and Joanne LittleAxe. There were so many wonderful words spoken about them and so many friends to thank them for all they have done.

We are so proud of them and love them very much.

LaVerne & Jason



Happy Birthday Rinny, July 1st! Love, Granny V



Happy Birthday to my amazing son, Knowee Potts, on May 23rd. You are the joy of my life, the source of my fondest memories, and the sunshine in my soul. Always remember how much you are loved.

All my love, Mom



Happy 1st Birthday Brother! You have brought so much joy to our lives Trace Michael Goslin - May 28th -Love, Dad, Mom and Sissy



Happy Birthday Wishes Francis R. Jessepe! 67 Years Young on May 8th! Love, Your Sisters & Brothers

### **Game Time Power Snacks**

By Matthew Waits - Lifestyle, Fitness & Sports Nutrition Coach **Diabetes Prevention Program** 

It is another hot summer is Kansas and your child's soccer, softball and baseball tournament are this weekend. Like most parents, your first thought may be: "What can I pick up in a flash and bring to the game?" Being the team parent responsible for bringing healthy and nourishing snacks does not have to be added stress on your already busy week. It's never too early to show children the importance of eating right. You want to fuel -up your little athletes, not bog them down, so the snacks you choose should:

- Provide energy for working muscles to power through the activity (pre-exercise)
- Supply fluids for hydration and to maintain the body's temperature (before, during and after exercise)
- Provide nutrients for growth and development
- Promote recovery after hard exercise Snacks should be easily digestible so blood can flow to the muscles that are working during the activity and not to the gut to digest heavy, fatty snacks. We made a great list for you and your family to keep everyone healthy and active!

### Dairy (protein & carbohydrates):

- 6-ounce cartons of low-fat or fat-free fruited yogurt or yogurt in the tube (can be frozen the night before)
- · Low-fat string cheese and mini pretzels or grapes

- · Small cartons of low-fat milk and baggies filled with Cheerios, cornflakes, raisin bran, muesli, etc.
- Fruit and cheese kebabs with reduced-fat Colby-Jack cheese, grapes and strawberries

### Fruits and Vegetables (calories & hydration):

- Orange wedges
- Frozen grapes
- Mini apples
- Small bananas
- Strawberries with the tops cut off
- Clementines (tangerines)
- · Watermelon cut into wedges or sticks
- Fruit kebabs with grapes, melons and strawberries
- Paper cups of berries
- Baggies of celery and carrot sticks
- Small boxes of raisins (Note: Dried fruit does not hydrate.)
- Unsweetened applesauce in pouches or cups

Nuts and Grains (fiber and protein)

- Whole-grain granola bars (made with real ingredients such as whole grains, nuts, seeds and/or dried fruit, have six grams or less of sugar, have between two and eight grams of fiber, and have no more than 95 milligrams of sodium per bar)
- · Air-popped popcorn sprayed with olive oil spray and sprinkled with Parmesan cheese in baggies
- · Homemade trail mix of raisins, almonds, granola, and other nuts and dried fruit in baggies

#### WATCH-KE & PIS-SHE-DWIN **FAMILY HISTORY**

am a descendant of Watch-Ke and Pis-she-dwin and I would like to visit/ share information on the Watch-Ke that was the wife of Pis-she-dwin.

If you are a member of this family who has done research on her, please contact me at abramsda@yahoo.com to discuss a time and place to meet at the Gathering in August so we can share information and photos.

You may also leave your phone number and message at 720-340-4280. Was-cho-win was also a daughter of Pis-she-dwin.

Old photos I have to share are: Peekmuck, Man-do-wa-ho Mzhickteno Brothers Cat-key Levier John Bogle

### :::NOTICE:::

School Sports Physicals can be scheduled anytime starting May 1st at the PBPN Health Center. Please complete the patient portion of the forms prior to the appointment time.

To set up your appointment, call 785-966-8200!

We can all help prevent suicide. The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

### **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**

1-800-273-8255

### **Alcoholics Anonymous** Meeting

Each Wednesday at 7 p.m. PBPN Reservation | Rock Building 162nd & Q Road

## Who ya gonna call? **Tribal Dispatch!**

If you see someone or something out of the ordinary or out of place, report it by calling Tribal Dispatch.

Also contact Dispatch to report power outages, wild fires or tornados.

785-966-3024

# + New Resource Available +

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation has partnered with the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition to provide the Nation with a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor.

Information and support for breastfeeding moms is available:

Stephane Rupnicki | Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Call or Text: 785-305-0334 Email: Stephannerupnicki@pbpnation.org

Available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day!



Registration for the 2018 Potawatomi Gathering is open! www.pbpindiantribe.com/registration/

- Volunteers for the Gathering are needed -Contact Tribal Council Secretary Camilla Chouteau's Office to sign up today! 785-966-4032







# WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2018

### **DOORS OPEN 1 PM | SESSION STARTS 2 PM**

- \$20 Buy-In For 20 Games \$100 Prize Per Game
- Paper ONLY All You Can Daub
- Optional \$5 Blackout 4-On With \$250 Prize
- Pull Tabs and Event Ticket Games Based on Headcount
- This Session Will **NOT** Be Open To The Public
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Members Must Present Their Tribal ID For Entry & Each Member May Also Bring 1 Guest



# YOUTH CAMP 2018

**JULY 23 TO JULY 27, 2018**: 8 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

This is a no cost camp for youth ages 10 - 15 who are interested in Law Enforcement and related activities. Meals will be provided at no cost.

It is designed to establish a positive relationship between the PBPN Police Department and youth in the community.

> **CAMP HIGHLIGHTS!** - CRIME SCENE SCENARIOS FROM **LEARNING OBJECTIVES** - ACHIEVEMENT TESTS - CONFIDENCE AND LEADERSHIP EXERCISES - COOKOUT - FIELD TRIP

To register, or for more information, contact: CRO Josh Peters or Cherie Jim | Potawatomi Tribal Police Dept. Phone: 785-966-3024

Email: joshuapeters@pbpnation.org or cheriejim@pbpnation.org

**LIMITED SPOTS! - REGISTRATION CLOSES JUNE 26, 2018 AT NOON!** 

2018 Potawatomi Powwow Friday, August 31 to Sunday, September 2 Prairie People's Park - Mayetta, KS www.pbpindiantribe.com/pbpn-powwow-committee/



Kishno Bell
Seaman High School, Topeka,
KS
Will attend Baker University
on Bowling Scholarship
Daughter of Troy Bell &
Angela Wahquahboshkuk
Maternal Grandma: Jackie
Mitchell
Paternal Grandma: Kathy
Knight



Elaina Kay Lan
Kell High School, Marietta, GA
Daughter of Jim & Jaquelin Lan
Will attend
Georgia State University
pursuing a degree in
Business Entrepreneurship

Marlissa Jordan Royal Valley High School, Hoyt, KS Daughter of Kevin & Marlena Jordan

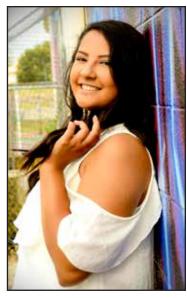


Jayden "Mack tao zi" Serna Royal Valley High School, Hoyt, KS Will enter the United States Marine Corps - Active Duty Son of Anthony & Season Dominguez

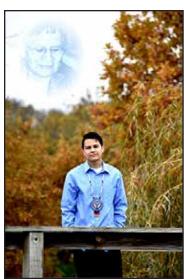


Bella Thompson

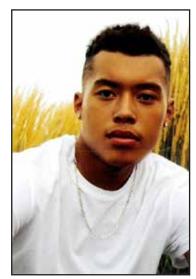
Royal Valley High School,
Hoyt, KS
Will attend Park University
on Basketball Scholarship
Daughter of Michelle Simon &
Chago Hale
Daughter of Sheldon Thompson
Granddaughter of Janis Simon,
Paula Moore & Laverne Hale



Isabella Wamego
Hayden Catholic High School
Topeka, Kansas
Will attend Haskell University
Daughter of Edie Wamego
Sister to Micaella Wamego
& Manuel "Buvy" Gracia



Sedrick
Pahmahmie-Arteaga
Topeka West High School,
Topeka, KS
Son of
Sena Pahmahmie-Arteaga
& Fredy Arteaga



Trevor Hubbard

Monarch High School,

Louisville, CO

Son of Tara & Duane Hubbard

Tesla Touch-the-Sky Potts
Royal Valley High School,
Hoyt, KS
Attending Haskell Indian
Nations University
Daughter of Willie & Tracy Potts
Maternal Grandmother:
Mary (Shobney) Rogers
Paternal Grandmother:
Doris Potts-Zyganiuk



Charissa
Wahwasuck-Jessepe
"Sebequah"
Masters in
Public Administration
University of Kansas
Daughter of Carol Shopteese
& Kenneth Jessepe
Granddaughter of
Arlene Wahwasuck



Niigaaniibines Nate Taylor
TrekNorth High School, Bemidji,
MN Will attend Minneapolis
Community and Technical
College
Son of Ona Knoxsah
Grandson of Clifford Knoxsah



Daughter of Richard & Rolanda Fuller Granddaughter of the late Edward & Edwina (Matchie) Dickinson Great granddaughter of the late Pete and Blanche (Masquat)

Matchie





Mona Nozhackum & Adonis Trujillo

Mona will be graduating with her Master of Education in Educational Leadership with an emphasis in Community College Higher Education from Northern Arizona University. Her husband Adonis Trujillo will be receiving his Master of Business Administration from the University of Arizona.





Rolanda "Kish wa kwe" Fuller, BSN, RN

Thank you to my husband Richard, my daughters Darien and Daysha and

my whole family for their love and support while in school. Migwett to the Nation for helping earn my Bachelors of Science in Nursing from Northern Arizona University, Fall 2017.



