



# Prairie Band Potawatomi News

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

- SUMMER 2019 EDITION -

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## Trull Appointed to Tribal Council Member #2



Shirley Trull recites the Oath of Office at a formal Swearing-in Ceremony held at the historic Rock building on May 22, 2019.

Shirley Trull has been appointed by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council to serve as Tribal Council Member #2. Trull was sworn into the council on Monday, May 20, 2019, and a formal Swearing-In Ceremony occurred on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, at the historic Rock building.

The PBPB Tribal Council Member #2 term began in 2016 and became vacant in April 2019 after Thomas Wabnum relinquished the position due to personal reasons. Pursuant to the PBPB Constitution, Article XII – Vacancies and Removals, if a vacancy occurs during the second half of the term following the regular election for the position vacated, the Tribal Council shall fill the vacancy by appointment. The Tribal Council interviewed 13 tribal members for the position, ultimately selecting Trull.

“I am grateful to Tribal Council for this appointment and want to serve in the best interests of our Nation,” stated Trull.

Trull was raised in Topeka, coming back and forth to the reservation. She moved to Kansas City, Missouri and worked for Honeywell F, M, & T for 27 years. Trull was the Executive Housekeeper for Prairie Band Casino and Resort and has also worked the Department of Commerce (Census) and Department of the Treasury (IRS) In Kansas City, Missouri. Most recently Trull was a Financial Officer within the PBPB Social Services department from May 2014 until January 2019. Trull is the daughter of Alvina (Wamego) LaClair and the late Milton LaClair.

## The 2020 Census is Coming

Every ten years, per the United States Constitution, a nation-wide census occurs in America and the next one is slated to begin in March 2020, with April 1, 2020 as the official “Census Day.” Here are the highlights you need to know and information on how it impacts the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and you, as a tribal member.

### The Count

The census counts every person living in the United States once, only once and in the right place. In 2020, you will be able to complete the Census online, over the phone, or by mail making it increasingly easier on everyone to get it done.

However, after a certain cutoff point if you have not completed the Census on your own accord, then a Census worker will assist you in completing the Census because it is mandatory.

### \$675 Billion in Federal Funds

The Census helps determine the distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support that is distributed to tribes, states, counties

and other communities. The amounts received are based on Census data.

### Be First, Not Last

The first person entered onto the Census form determines the status of the entire household. For example, if a Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation member is living with two non-native individuals and the PBPB member is entered first, the household will be counted as Native American. Conversely, if a non-native person were listed first the entire composition of the household is counted as such, regardless if the other occupants identify as Native American or another race.

### Self-identifying

In another significant change in 2020, Native Americans across the U.S. will be able to self-identify their specific tribe on the form. The PBPB Nation strongly encourages its tribal citizens to identify as such, if completing the form online look for the Nation’s full name: Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, or write it in on paper forms. By identifying, you are providing the PBPB Nation valu-

able statistics about our tribe that will be used in strategic planning and enabling the Tribe to qualify for grant funding, regardless of your geographic location. Essentially, the more grant funding we have access to, the more services the PBPB Nation is able to provide.

### Representation

The results of the census directly impact our democracy. Census data is used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets. This information is provided to the President by December 31, 2020. It’s also used to redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in each state. This is supplied to each state by March 31, 2021.

### Privacy

Your information is protected. It is against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household specifically.

*Continued on page 5*

- 2019 Gathering - July 30th to August 4th - Wasauksing First Nation, Canada - More details inside!



## Chairman Joseph “Zeke” Rupnick: Report to the Nation



Dear Tribal Members,

The first quarter of FY 19 is now complete, with many improvements being made in the Nation, including the paving of parking lots and completion of building maintenance projects.

Recently, Tribal Council has initiated actions to address tribal jurisdiction and sovereignty issues. The Kansas Act, passed in the 1940s against our will, gives the State of Kansas concurrent *criminal* jurisdiction within the boundaries of the Reservation. This means that criminal cases, including all felony cases, will typically be heard in District Court in Jackson County. However, we never conceded our *civil* jurisdiction and have maintained that civil cases occurring on the Reservation should be heard in Tribal Court.

Over the years, issues of jurisdiction have become blurred, with Jackson County unclear about what or where their jurisdiction lies. We intend to correct that.

One common theme in the Treaties our People have signed over the years is the preservation of our hunting and fishing rights. Unfortunately, the rights of our people to hunt and fish on our reservation were recently threatened by actions taken by Jackson County and the State of Kansas Parks and Wildlife Department, due to their lack of understanding of Tribal jurisdiction. Tribal Council took the necessary steps to initiate meaningful dialogue between the Tribe and Jackson County, so that jurisdictional boundaries can be established.

On February 4, 2019, with Tribal Council approval, I attended a meeting in Tribal Council chambers to discuss the jurisdiction issue. Meeting attendees included the defense attorney who requested the meeting, Jackson County Attorney Shawna Miller, and Undersheriff Darrel Chapman. At the request of the defense attorney, attorney Russ Brien attended the meeting as well, because of his expertise regarding jurisdictional matters. During the meeting, we discussed our rights as a Tribe over civil matters involving Tribal Members. We also discussed an existing Memorandum of Under-

standing that recognizes the Tribe's right to hear civil cases in Tribal Court. This prompted follow up meetings with the County Commissioners.

On March 21, 2019, Tribal Council and Tribal Attorney Rob Porter met with the Jackson County Commission to explain our jurisdiction and the need for better communication and cooperation between our two governments. They agreed that an additional meeting was necessary.

On April 25, 2019, Tribal Council met with representatives of Jackson County including the Jackson County Commissioners and Jackson County Under Sheriff to propose an agreement to address jurisdiction. At the meeting, Tribal Council submitted the proposed agreement outlining our relationship with the Sheriff's Department and actions we felt as a Tribe needed to be brought forth. While we did not get any signatures, I was contacted by Sheriff Morse requesting a meeting to discuss the issues.

On May 13, 2019, with the approval of Council, I met with Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse individually to discuss the relationship between the county and Tribe. Both he and I brought up points concerning the coverage of the Nation and while we didn't come to an agreement, it was decided an additional meeting with the entire Tribal Council

would be beneficial. I'm hoping for a meeting in early June and will keep you updated with any additional developments.

At the time of this writing, we are working to schedule a meeting with the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism to discuss the same jurisdictional issue. I was hoping for an earlier meeting but had to wait on the State of Kansas before moving forward. With this meeting, we will continue to educate State officials of our jurisdiction and our status as a federally recognized Tribe.

Another important meeting, scheduled in June is with the Director of Fiscal and Asset Management for the Kansas Department of Transportation. Our goal is to improve the roadway at 190 Road and Highway 75, near our One Stop location. Since the beginning of the year, there have been four collisions with two fatalities at that intersection and there is a need to add additional safety measures since we are expanding operations there.

In closing, these are just a few of the items we are working on at the State and local levels while continuing to monitor activity at the Federal level for any opportunity that will benefit the Tribe.

Migwetch.

## PBPN Judicial Council Changes in Staff

By: Michelle Simon

The Judicial Council of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is undergoing changes in staffing. Both, the Honorable Theresa Barr and the Honorable Elizabeth Kronk Warner have reached the end of their terms and are choosing to pursue other options while the Honorable Charles Tripp is joining the Judicial Council.

Judge Barr began her tenure for the Nation in October 2009, presiding over the Healing to Wellness Court. She later transitioned into the role of Administrative District Court Judge and has maintained this position until May 2019.

Barr is opening a private law firm, Barr Law, LLC, in Lawrence, Kan. where she will specialize in elder law and estate planning. Her new office is located at 543 Lawrence Avenue. Barr graduated from the University of Kansas Law School in 2001.

Judge Kronk Warner served the Nation as a Tribal District Court Judge and presided over the Healing to Wellness Court since November

2015.

court staff," declared Kronk Warner at a farewell reception held at the PBPN



The Honorable Elizabeth Kronk Warner and the Honorable Theresa Barr were recognized for their years of service at a Farewell Reception held at the PBPN Judicial Center on May 16, 2019.

"It has been a real privilege working for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, along with the phenomenal

Judicial Center on May 16, shortly after attending her last Healing to Wellness Court session.

Kronk Warner, who was also the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the University of Kansas School of Law, along with a Professor of Law and Director for the Tribal Law and Government Center, will be moving to Utah where she will be the Dean of the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah effective July 1. Kronk Warner received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan School of Law in 2003.

And joining the Judicial Council to serve as the Administrative District Court judge is the Honorable Charles Tripp. Tripp was nominated for the four-year term by PBPN Tribal Council Chairman Joseph Rupnick and approved by the remaining six council members pursuant to the PBPN Constitution. Judge Tripp was sworn into office on May 20, 2019, via phone conference.

*Continued on page 5*



# The Prairie Band Potawatomi News

The *Prairie Band Potawatomi News* or *PBP News* is a quarterly publication of the Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the PBP News are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the PBP Media staff, Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Nation. The PBP News reserves the right to reject any materials or letters submitted for publication, including those submitted past the deadline.

Send submissions to:  
Michelle Simon - Editor

Email: media@pbpnation.org

Mail: PBP News, 16281 Q Road,  
Mayetta, KS 66509

Phone: 785-966-3920

Website:  
www.pbpiniantribe.com

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**Deadlines for 2019:**

**August 2, 2019**  
**November 1, 2019**

## Charitable Contributions 1st Quarter Recipient List

*Total Donated \$79,600*

- Arthritis Foundation
- Donnelly College
- Douglas County Historical Society
- Easterseals Capper Foundation
- Episcopal Social Service
- Family Service & Guidance Center
- Haskell Foundation
- Heart of Jackson County Humane Society
- Kansas Children's Discovery Center
- Kaw Valley Chapter, MOAA
- KSDS Assistance Dogs
- Lawrence Arts Center
- Museum of the Kansas National Guard
- NAMI Kansas, Inc.
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Fiesta Mexicana
- Rossville High School Alumni
- Safe Streets
- Sertoma Club
- Sunflower State Games
- Theatre Lawrence
- Topeka Blues Society

# Ethics Commission Election Notice

Members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation are hereby given notice that an Election will be held on July 20, 2019 at the General Council meeting for the purpose of electing five (5) members of the Ethics Commission. The term of office for all positions are as follows:

- Chairperson - 2 years
- Secretary - 2 years
- Commissioner #1 - 1 year
- Commissioner #2 - 3 years
- Commissioner #3 - 3 years

This election shall be conducted in accordance with the Constitution and Election Ordinance of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

### Qualified Voters

To vote in this election you must:

A) Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

B) Be 18 years of age or older by May 17, 2019.

C) Have a voter registration form filed with the Election Board no later than May 17, 2019, by 4 p.m. if you have never registered to vote in tribal elections. Registered voters will receive a wristband so their vote may be counted at the General Council meeting.

### Qualified Candidates

A qualified candidate must:

A) Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

B) Be 25 years of age or older, as of the date of this election for the following seats: Chairperson, Secretary and Commissioner #1.

Be 21 years of age or older, as of the date of this election for the following seats: Commissioner #2 and Commis-

sioner #3.

C) Agree to a comprehensive criminal background investigation conducted by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation or an investigative agency deemed appropriate by the Election Board for record clearance.

D) Not have been convicted of a felony within the past 5 years.

E) If elected, agree to the PBPN Drug-Free Workplace Policy and consent to drug testing.

### Voting and Election Results

Votes will be tallied by two (2) counters and by two (2) members of the Election Board. You must be wearing the designated wristband in order for your vote to be counted. Any election protests must be filed within three (3) business days following the July 20, 2019 election by 4 p.m.

## Social Services Advisory Board Openings

The PBPN Social Services Advisory Board has two (2) open positions.

The mission of the Social Services Advisory Board is to establish tribal standards that serve the best interests of our Indian children and their families by assuring that the Social Work Approaches of the Nation reflect the unique societal values of Indian culture and acknowledges the tribe's inherent authority in defining its own culture, laws and customs.

Interested enrolled PBPN members may submit a letter of interest to the Office of the Secretary.

By email:  
To: Camillachouteau@pbpnation.org  
CC: Lorriewahwassuck@pbpnation.org  
Subject: SSAB Position

or by mail:  
PBPN Tribal Council  
Attn: Office of the Secretary  
16281 Q Road  
Mayetta, KS 66509

## Peacemakers Circle Openings

The Peacemakers Circle has five (5) open positions. These positions will be filled at the next General Council meeting, on July 20, 2019.

The Peacemakers Circle is a separate mediating branch of the Judicial Council, pursuant to PBPN Tribal Council Resolution No. 2009-107. Peacemakers is made of ten tribal members selected by the General Council and are sworn in by Tribal Council to serve four (4) year terms.

The purpose of the Peacemaking Circle is to resolve and mediate disputes in a non-adversarial way, voluntarily brought by disputants, through a healing and harmonious way, by applying traditional, cultural and restorative methods.

A Peacemaker may be used to resolve any dispute and/or any action pending in the District Court, for parties who are subject to the jurisdiction of the District Court.

## Potts Wins Naming Contest



PBPN member Verna Potts submitted the winning entry for the new restaurant venue at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

The venue will be known as the Embers Bar and Grille. Potts received a \$200 gift card, along with bragging rights. See page 6 for an update on the casino expansion.

## Evans Retires

PBPN member Calvin Evans, retired from the PBPN Gaming Commission on April 30, 2019, after 25 years of service.

Evans was elected to the Gaming Commission in 1994, when the Nation oversaw Class II gaming. He assisted in the transition to Class III gaming, serving as a Commissioner until 2013, when he then became a Gaming Inspector.

The PBPN Gaming Commission hosted a retirement party for Evans on April 26, 2019 bestowing Evans with a fire sculpture plaque to recognize his years of service.

Evans is the grandson of the late Minnie Evans.



Gaming Inspector Calvin Evans received a plaque of recognition from the PBPN Gaming Commission for his many years of service.



# Treasurer Wade Pahmahmie: Message to the Nation



Good day to everyone, hope all is well with you as we move through this extremely wet spring which has been a change from last year when we seemed to go directly from winter to summer. Farming, gardening, mowing, fishing, camping, sporting events and all sorts of other outdoor activities have been a great challenge this year with all the storms, high waters, flooding and yes, even a few tornadoes. In the finance world we have wrapped up fieldwork for our annual financial audit earlier than in prior years as the finance staff have worked to improve processes for more timely financial reporting. The annual budget process will be picking up speed here in the next few weeks as the Tribal Programs will be putting together their annual budget requests for both operations and capital requests. Below are a few additional highlights and updates on items of interest in the Tribe's financial area.

**Credit and Debit Card Acceptance**  
In April 2019, Tribal Council approved an agreement with Heartland Global Payments Company which will allow for our Tribal Programs that take payments to do so in the form of credit and debit cards. Currently, we are in the process of working out the final details and logistics and hope to have the system up and running in the next few weeks. In addition to having credit card machines at our Tribal Programs that accept payments which include Housing, Health Center, Police Department, Child Care, Tribal Court, Planning and Environmental Protection (PEP), Finance and the Boys & Girls Club, payments will also be able to be made online. Payments will still be accepted in the form of cash, check and money order, in addition to the new payment options. Heartland Global Payments is also the same company that the Prairie Band LLC utilizes for the One Stop and Prairie Band Propane so most likely our credit and debit card payment acceptance process will be similar in fashion. MasterCard, VISA, American Express and Discover credit cards will be accepted along

with all brands of debit cards. This has been a long-needed service for our Tribal Programs and Tribal Members and will be a great addition to our payment options.

### Native American Veteran Tax Refunds

Just a reminder that the application period to file for a refund under Kansas House Bill 2147 is currently open through June 30, 2020. The Kansas Income Tax Refund under HB 2147 is available for those Native American military veterans who were illegally taxed by the State of Kansas between 1977 through 2001, refunds are paid with interest calculated through September 30, 2018. To be eligible for the refund you must be an enrolled member of one of the 4 Kansas Tribes and had enlisted while residing on the reservation in which you are enrolled. Information that is needed to file for a refund is the application which is Form K-NAVR, Enrollment Verification, Form DD 214 and W-2's or Leave and Earnings Statements (LES). For PBPB Tribal Members we have an agreement with our CPAs to assist in the refund process from start to finish. For assistance or questions on the refund you may contact my office at the information below.

### Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act/General Welfare Support Programs

In my last article I had talked about the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act (TGWEA) and those programs the Tribe administers that are subject to income tax exemption under the TGWEA. To further solidify the tax-exempt status of our general welfare programs we are currently working on drafting a General Welfare Support Program document to identify our programs that are shielded under the TGWEA and their purpose.

Generally, the purpose of general welfare programs is to provide assistance to our Tribal Members for needs such as education, health care, housing, public safety and other similar needs. Current and proposed programs to be funded under the General Welfare Support Program would be the burial program, education programs, health programs, cultural & historical programs, housing and General Welfare Support Benefit payments, all of which would not be subject to income tax. What this means going forward is that you would no longer receive a Form 1099 for the value of the benefits that you receive from the Tribe and therefore would not have to report the value of those benefits as income on your tax returns.

Currently, Per Capita payments are the most heavily taxed programs and

due to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (TCJA) some of our Minors are being unfairly taxed at a significantly higher rate than in prior years. Our Minors are currently subject to the "Kiddie Tax" which is designed to keep rich parents from evading taxes by transferring unearned income to their children. Under the TCJA some Minors will see their tax rate increase from an already high rate of 24% to 37%. The Tribe is in support of current federal legislative efforts to repeal such taxation and provide tax fairness and parity for our Tribal Members. In reaction to the high tax rates, some Native students avoid college until age 24 because the Kiddie Tax applies to those who are under age 19 and those who are under age 24 but are full-time students. More discussion is necessary as we move forward with our GWS Program and I hope to provide more details at our July General Council meeting.

### Indirect Cost Agreements

For this quarter's article I would like to write a little about our Indirect Cost Agreements. For those who have attended a quarterly General Council Meeting you have most likely heard me talk about Indirect Costs or have seen them listed on the quarterly Financial Statements that are included in the Financial Report. Below is a summary of how Indirect Costs fit into the Tribe's financial landscape.

Indirect Costs can most simply be thought of as administrative overhead costs. These include necessary costs to run an operation such as accounting, payroll processing, accounts payable, human resources, information technology, building maintenance, administration, attorneys etc. to name a few. In our federal awards we are able to apply an Indirect Cost Rate to a cost base in order to receive funding to cover our Indirect Costs listed above. In our case we apply a percentage to our cost base which is a salary and fringe benefits base. Our current Indirect Cost Rate is 48.91%, so how this works for example: in a grant we have \$100,000 in salary and fringe benefit costs, we multiply our rate of 48.91% times \$100,000 and we recover \$48,910 of Indirect Cost Revenue which we use to cover our Indirect Costs listed above. The catch to this is that we only receive Indirect Cost Revenue from a handful of awarding agencies including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Education. Indirect Cost Revenue makes up about \$1,250,000 of our total budget which comes to about roughly 2%. Our total Indirect Costs are about \$6,000,000 so the Tribe basically gets stuck with difference of about \$5,000,000 which must be paid

from our other revenue sources.

In order to receive Indirect Cost Revenue as part of a federal award we negotiate an Indirect Cost Agreement with the Department of Interior's, Interior Business Center (IBC). In order to negotiate an agreed rate we must put together an Indirect Cost Proposal which is a combination of audited and budgeted financial information. The Indirect Cost Proposal is a formal report which is primarily put together with the assistance of a CPA firm that specializes in such reports. The CPA firm that puts together the Indirect Cost Proposal must be separate from the CPA firm that conducts the annual audit hence we use two separate CPAs for each service. Once the Indirect Cost Proposal is completed, it is approved by Tribal Council and is then shipped off to the IBC for negotiation of the Indirect Cost Rate. Ultimately the Indirect Cost Rate is agreed upon and is included as part of the formal document which is the Indirect Cost Agreement.

Our Indirect Cost Agreements are negotiated and approved on an annual basis and must be kept up to date in order to continue to receive Indirect Cost Revenue from the awarding agencies. If Indirect Cost Agreements become outdated then Indirect Cost Rates must be negotiated directly with the awarding agencies if they choose to do so or in some cases they may refuse to release funding to cover the costs incurred by the Tribe. Keeping our Indirect Cost Agreements up to date is essential in making sure that we do not lose funding and also so that we have an accurate rate so we collect what is due to us as much as possible.

If you have 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)



# Wamego Named Pillar Professional of the Year

By: Eden Rensing, Travois

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (May 9, 2019) –

Travois, a Certified B Corporation<sup>®</sup> based in Kansas City, Mo., recognized five outstanding industry professionals and an American Indian tribal entity at a Superhero Awards ceremony on April 11. The consulting firm, continuing 24 years in business and directing more than \$1.4 billion of investment in American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities, held the ceremony at its 19th Annual Indian Country Affordable Housing & Economic Development Conference in Miami, Florida.

“Since 2015 we’ve honored industry professionals doing amazing work in their communities,” said Elizabeth Glynn, Travois chief executive officer. “These honorees have filled their communities with beautiful homes, successful businesses and created thousands of jobs with the use of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit and New Market Tax Credit programs. Our annual awards ceremony celebrates the important work of Indian Country’s housing and economic development professionals and provides inspiration to all in attendance.”

Pillar Professional — Kristen Wamego, general manager of tribal operations for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB), Mayetta, KS.

Kristen Wamego knows how to manage a project, stretch a dollar, and battle the elements to deliver a quality product on time.

In the past year, Wamego has completed a Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) development that brought 27-single family homes to her community. This complicated process involved everything from reviewing contractor bids to performing punch list walk-throughs for completion. Her open communication skills with all parties involved ensured smooth operations through both the closing and construction process.

“I would like to thank Travois for the recognition,” Kristen Wamego said. “While I am appreciative and humbled to receive this award, I do not work alone and must recognize the PBPB team and their hard work on making our third Low Income Housing Tax Credit project a success.”

In addition, she was able to submit a LIHTC application for a rehabilitation development for community elders. More housing opportunities for Prairie Band tribal members are the direct result of her remarkable work.

Wamego continued, “Community development is vital to our nation, and providing quality, affordable homes has been instrumental in that process. It has been a rewarding experience, and I am grateful to the hard work and assistance that Travois has provided. I look forward to working with Travois in continuing to develop the PBPB community.”

2019 Superheroes include:



PBPB General Manager Kristen Wamego named Pillar Professional of the Year. Travois honors industry “superheroes” at the annual conference.”

Housing Professional of the Year: Sara Spence, executive director of the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority (KTHA); Happy Camp, CA

Economic Development Professional of the Year – Pat Mercier, CEO of the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians; Corning, CA

Pillar Professionals — Kristen Wamego, general manager of tribal operations for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB), Mayetta,

KS.

Haven Professional of the Year — Elfina Kalemisa, resident services program manager for Hopi Tribal Housing Authority; Polacca, AZ

Project Team of the Year — Tolowa Dee-ni’ Nation; Smith River, CA

For more information, visit [travois.com](http://travois.com).

## About Travois

Travois is a Certified B Corporation and Kansas City-based consulting firm focused exclusively on promoting housing and economic development for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities. Since 1995, Travois has brought investor equity to 200 projects through the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program and New Markets Tax Credit program, making an impact of more than \$1.3 billion across Indian Country. These private investor funds have helped build or rehabilitate more than 5,300 homes and have helped finance critical economic development projects, including infrastructure, health care, community centers, education facilities and job incubators. Travois family of companies also offers architectural design and construction monitoring services, environmental assessments, consulting on green building, asset management and compliance services, impact investment models, and comprehensive training to clients in 22 states, from Hawaii and Alaska to Maine and California. For

more information, please visit [travois.com](http://travois.com) or find us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram or on the company blog.

## About the Low Income Housing Tax Credit

The Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) was signed into law by President Reagan in the Tax Reform Act of 1986 and is included in Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code. It was first expanded and made permanent under President Clinton in 1993, and further strengthened under President Bush and President Obama, reflecting its strong bipartisan support. It was created to encourage private investment in the construction or rehabilitation of housing for low-income families. Today it is widely regarded as the nation’s most successful housing production program. The housing credit has financed more than 3 million affordable apartments through public-private partnerships, and supports 96,000 jobs each year, mostly in the small-business sector. For more information, visit [taxcredit-coalition.org](http://taxcredit-coalition.org).

## Census 2020 Continued

By law, the Census Bureau cannot share your answers with any other government agency. Census data that is made public is aggregated – meaning the data is composed of several measurements and stripped of individual identifiers.

## Local Outreach

On the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation, the Native Vote Committee will be assisting in distributing information about the census and answering questions over the course of the next year.

## PBPB Judicial Staff Continued

Judge Tripp is a member of the Cherokee Nation. He also serves as the Chief District Judge for the Miami Tribe District Court, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Kaw Nation in Oklahoma, and as a District Judge for the Sac n Fox Tribe of Missouri and Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, along with acting as an attorney representing multiple tribal entities in Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Washington. Tripp received his Juris Doctorate in 1993 from the University of Tulsa.

General  
Council  
Meetings

Saturday

7.20.19

Saturday

10.19.19

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bottom of the home page -

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delivered directly to your

inbox!



# Casino Expansion Underway

Submitted by: PBPEC

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation (PB-PEC) is proud to showcase the Class II Gaming area as part of the new expansion piece.

This addition was completed and opened in March 2019. The Class II Gaming machines are located in the Bingo Lobby entrance. These additional 50 new machines are available to guests 18 years and older.

Also included in March was the addition of two new pull-tab machines that have performed well above the pull-tab machine located in the Bingo hall.

Our newest expansion area is the Administration Building that will accommodate offices for Finance, Information Technology and Surveillance. Their vacated area will become a new High Limit Gaming area scheduled to be available this summer. This area will add over 50 high limit slot machines and four table games.

Our most recent restaurant upgrade is the Embers Bar and Grille. Embers is scheduled to be in operation by the time of this printing.

This beautiful new restaurant will feature high-quality, made to order traditional favorites with a contemporary twist.

The restaurant is designed to have a rustic décor and seating for over 100 guests. It will also feature a full-service bar, with several craft beers on tap. There will be TV's throughout the restaurant to catch all of your favorite sporting events.

Embers is located where the previous Buffalo Grill was and extends onto the casino gaming floor.

The Casino will hold a Tribal Grand Opening and Media Event on July 19, 2019, from 4:00-6:00PM and extends an invitation to all Tribal Members 18 years and older. There will be items from the menu available to sample.

Work on the Hotel Expansion will begin in 2020. These amenities will assist us in marketing to another demographic and revenue source. The hotel expansion will provide the casino the amenities to craft the most memorable and rewarding entertainment destination in the Midwest.



An artist rendering of the Embers Bar and Grille restaurant at Prairie Band Casino & Resort.



The Class II gaming machines located in the lobby between the Gift Shop and the Bingo entrance.

# Caring for Our Community

Submitted by: Prairie Band, LLC

Prairie Band Health Services (PBHS), a subsidiary of Prairie Band LLC, was awarded a grant from Community Care Network and the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas (AHK) this spring.

The purpose of the grant was to inform, educate, and develop advocates for the need to expand the KanCare program. KanCare is the program through which the State of Kansas administers Medicaid.

PBHS used the grant funds to plan an event in partnership with PBPB tribal departments and community resources for a family friendly health and wellness event centered around the theme "Caring for our Community".

The event took place on March 29, and 30, 2019, and was held at the PBPB Boys and Girls Club on the PBPB reservation. On March 29, there was a health and wellness fair during the day leading to an evening performance by the Royal Valley Native American Singers and Dancers. A soup and salad dinner was served and family friendly activities completed the day. Activities included face painting, bounce house, art projects, sunflower planting, gardening lessons and more.

On Saturday March 30, a free healthy breakfast was provided along with

continued family activities and an option to participate in a fun run/walk.



PBPB members Jason Matchie and LaVerne Hale walked through an inflatable colon, one of the many available health stations.

On both event days, the AHK held a presentation for attendees on why KanCare is important and discussed how expanding the program (by covering more individuals) would positively impact the community. Topics included extended coverage for tribal members and more reimbursable costs for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center.

The event had an attendance of 150+ people between the two days. The opportunity to partner with several PBPB departments and health/wellness focused groups made for a great event for community members to learn about all the resources available to them.

Prairie Band Health Services/Prairie Band, LLC staff members- Rockell Otero, Richele Pahmahmie-Potts and Samantha Mellies coordinated the event as Co-Project Managers.

# Ribbon Cutting at Sabal Park Clinic

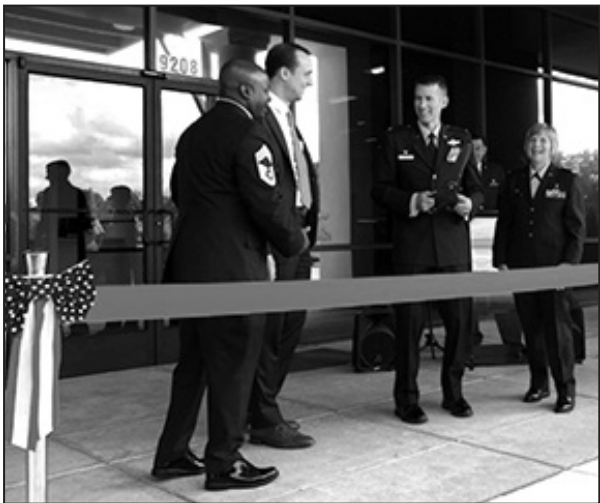
Submitted by: Prairie Band, LLC

Mill Creek, a subsidiary of Prairie Band, LLC, celebrated the opening of the 6th Medical Group's Sabal Park Clinic on Friday, May 3. The ribbon cutting ceremony marked the conclusion of Mill Creek's role as the initial outfitter of Sabal Park Clinic, a satellite clinic of MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida.

As the clinic's initial outfitter and transition planner, Mill Creek ensured that the transition from the old, under-sized clinic to the new 32,000 square foot clinic ran smoothly. This included taking inventory of all furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) in the old clinic; coordinating the move and installation of the FF&E to the new clinic; purchasing new upgraded equipment; providing interior design services; and taking care of all construction-related public relations. The interiors Mill Creek designed were inspired by the coastal imagery of Tampa Bay, using soothing greens and

blues, with water and ocean themed artwork throughout the facility. The ribbon cutting ceremony, which Mill Creek planned as part of their public relations package, was held at the entrance of the beautiful, new clinic. Colonel Stephen P. Snelson, Commander of the 6th Air Mobility Wing, and Colonel Christine R. Berberick, Commander of the 6th Medical Group, gave their remarks honoring the future of the clinic and its hard-working staff. Following the ceremony was a catered reception inside the clinic.

Mill Creek is grateful they were able to work on this project with the 6th Medical Group, whose dedication to their patients was evident throughout the project. As always, Mill Creek's team worked meticulously to ensure a seamless transition for their client, continuing to uphold the reputation for excellence they have cultivated over many years.



Colonel Stephen P. Snelson, Commander of the 6th Air Mobility Wing, and Colonel Christine R. Berberick, Commander of the 6th Medical Group, prepare to cut the ribbon outside the Sabal Park Clinic located in the outskirts of Tampa, Flo. on May 3, 2019.



# 2019 Student Recognition Night

By: Michelle Simon

The Boys & Girls Club of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, PBPB Language and Education departments, along with the PBPB Johnson O'Malley committee and Title VI/USD #337 committee, acknowledged K-12 students within their respective service areas for their scholastic accomplishments at an awards ceremony held on April 17, 2019, at the Prairie Band Casino and Resort. The evening included a Mexican-themed meal along with a presentation of awards.

The first award announced was a Special Recognition Award received by Cheryl Hopkins, Boys & Girls Club Director of Operations, for the impact she has made in the lives of the children she has served beginning in September 1998, and still going strong.



PBPB Boys & Girls Club Director of Operations Cheryl Hopkins.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Language Department presented next, with Director Dawn LeClere announcing that over 164 children between the ages of 5 and 10 are learning the Prairie Band Potawatomi Language within the Royal Valley school system. LeClere thanked the Royal Valley administration for allowing all children within the schools the opportunity to learn the language.

LeClere then recognized the 36 teenage students that participate in the after-school teen night held on Wednesdays, noting that these students are actively participating of their own accord. The Language Department shared a video they created with the students' impressions about learning the Potawatomi language.

To conclude their portion, the staff of the Language department recognized 8th grade graduate Wyatt Boswell and 12th grade graduates Kiikto Thomas and Menon Irving with a special gift for each.



Language staff Melinda Williams and Cindy LeClere hand off a gift to Wyatt Boswell.



The graduating class of 2019 - a total of 30 seniors were recognized during the ceremony.

The next awards were delivered to the All-Around Student of the Year, with one award going to an elementary student, one to a middle school student and one to a high school student. Each student received a plaque of recognition. Award winners included Connor Noland – Elementary, Isabella Wheeler – Middle School and Abby Boeckman – High School.



Students of the Year: Isabella Wheeler and Abby Boeckman.

Then the Outstanding Achievement Award was bestowed on the 2018-19 Royal Valley Girls Basketball team for their outstanding season, which included winning the 3A Girls State Basketball Championship.

Kiikto Thomas, a Royal Valley senior received the Outstanding Female Athlete Award for her skills on the basketball court and Mikal Kitchkommie, also a Royal Valley senior, received the Outstanding Male Athlete Award for his running abilities.



Outstanding Athletes: Mikal Kitchkommie and Kiikto Thomas.

The next award of Unsung Hero went to Rossville 7th grade student Nagos Hale. Mikal Kitchkommie received the Outstanding Volunteer Award and the Outstanding Youth Service Professional

Award was presented to Kyle Porter, Royal Valley High School teacher and Varsity Girls Head Coach.

Boys and Girls Club Director, Nathan Hale relayed the club recently received a generous donation to the scholarship fund on behalf of the Francis Jensen Family and took a moment to recognize long time financial supporters Mike and Julie Jensen, who have since passed. Hale then announced that the 2019 Scholarship was awarded to Royal Valley senior Keanu Shopteese in the amount of \$1,000.



Jensen Scholarship recipient Keanu Shopteese.

Then, all of the students that had qualified at the state level through school-sponsored activities from the Spring 2018 season through the Winter 2019 season were invited to come up to the stage and announce their accomplishments, along with receiving a hoodie



Special recognition was given to the 8th grade graduates heading to high school next year, each received a backpack with the Nation's official seal.

in the color of their choice. The 2018-19 Royal Valley Girls Basketball team was then called to the stage to receive special recognition for their historic season. They are the first Royal Valley team to win a state basketball championship as a district. The coaches and athletes each received a hoodie. Coach Kyle Porter addressed the crowd and thanked everyone for their on-going support of the team and then the senior team members presented the coaches with gifts on behalf of the team.

To close out the presentation, the 8th-grade graduates were called to the stage and received a Nike backpack emblazoned with the Nation's seal. Then the 12th-grade graduates were called up and each addressed the audience, sharing their next steps after graduation. Each senior received a pullover and a basket of sundry items to start them along the next chapter of their lives. In total, 34, 8th-grade students were recognized along with 30 seniors, although not all were present.

Students with perfect attendance and those making the honor roll also received recognition for their achievements. Graduating seniors displayed photo boards along with a photo montage running on the overhead projectors. Throughout the course of the evening door prizes were distributed to those in attendance.

The PBPB Student Recognition Night began in 1995, sponsored by the Title VI Committee. It has evolved over the years with several PBPB departments and committees joining in sponsoring this unique event which acknowledges the community's children and their families and the ongoing commitment to education.



# PBPN Vocational Rehabilitation: Increasing Access to Employment

By: Michelle Simon

Entering its 20th year of providing service, the PBPN Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program prepares Native Americans with disabilities with resources to rehabilitate and gain or keep employment. Not every disability looks the same, in addition to physical limitations some mental health issues and substance abuse issues are considered a disability if the individual has a diagnosis. No two employment plans are identical, some individuals are trying to get back into the workforce while others may be employed and newly diagnosed with a condition and need assistance adjusting. Each client of the program receives highly individualized services tailored to meet their specific needs with the prime goal of providing resources to the client so they will be more employable.

The VR program does have stringent eligibility requirements, which means not everyone is eligible. Two starting criteria include living in the service area (Jackson, Brown, Atchison, Jefferson, Shawnee, Pottawatomie, Nemaha or Doniphan county) along with being an enrolled member of any federally recognized tribe. After meeting those two criteria the next step is contacting the VR staff and completing the application process.

The application process is a critical step and it can take a fair amount of time to complete. It includes an intake appointment where information about the applicant's disability and employment history is gathered

to verify how the applicant's disability impacts their ability to gain employment. PBPN VR can provide a referral for individuals to obtain necessary assessments for determining eligibility in the program. Under federal regulation, the program has 60 days from receipt of the application to make

such as scrubs. For those dealing with substance use, services would include incorporating the recommendations of the health care provider to encourage rehabilitation. The Tribe's program also allows for non-medical interventions and cultural services, like holding a ceremony. Clients can

them work through it and reach employment as they regain self-sufficiency," stated Sarah Cowan, PBPN Vocational Rehabilitation Manager.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Vocational Rehabilitation program is one of many services available to the community under the umbrella of the PBPN Social Services Department. The program is staffed by program manager, Sarah Cowan, counselors Julia Griffith and Samantha Wahwassuck, and support staff member Nevika Kitchkommie. The program is funded by federal competitive grant dollars administered by the Department of Education (DOE), along with a tribal match. There are 88 grant programs in operation around the United States. In 2018, the PBPN Vocational Rehabilitation program worked with 125 individuals.

Along with their direct work with clients, the program also offers a free weekly jobs class available to the public. Class is held each Tuesday, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Social Services department. The department is located in the east wing of the Prairie Band Health Center located on 158 Road. To reach the Vocational Rehabilitation staff contact 785-966-8330 and select option 7, or visit [www.pbpindiantribe.com/social-services/vocational-rehabilitation/](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/social-services/vocational-rehabilitation/) for more information.



The Vocational Rehabilitation Program is one of many offered by the PBPN Social Services Department. From left: Program Manager Sarah Cowan, Support Staff Nevika Kitchkommie and Counselors Samantha Wahwassuck and Julia Griffith.

an eligibility determination. Once deemed eligible, the client and staff have 90 days to develop an individualized plan of employment.

PBPN Vocational Rehabilitation offers a wide range of individualized employment services to eligible participants. For example, the program has provided assistive technology like hearing aids and other similar aides for physical limitations. A client receiving CNA training could be eligible to receive required work attire

also work with the state's program or other resources at the same time but PBPN "Voc Rehab," as it is commonly referenced, cannot duplicate services. Once a client becomes employed, their file stays open for an additional 90 days to ensure the client has a successful transition.

"We work with a lot of people who are in very vulnerable times in their lives, and it can be hard for clients because they are in crisis mode 24/7, we help

## April 2019: Sexual Assault Awareness Month



PBPN Social Services - TVS staff Michelle Gray and Jessica Wheeler joined Kansas Governor Laura Kelly as she signed a proclamation declaring April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

On Friday, March 29, 2019, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly signed a proclamation designating the month of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. In attendance for the historic moment were PBPN Social Service - Tribal Victim Services staff Jessica Wheeler, Victim Specialist and Michelle Gray, Outreach Coordinator/Victim Specialist.

The proclamation will help bring awareness to Sexual and Domestic Violence in the state of Kansas, including the PBPN Reservation.

In response, the PBPN Tribal Victim Services Program planned two activities for the PBPN community.

"Does Your Light Shine?" The PBPN TVS program handed out teal light bulbs to community members along with asking them to take a pledge as a way to show support for ending domestic and sexual violence, along with supporting survivors.

"Take Back the Night" was held on Saturday, April 27, at Prairie People's Park. The event consisted of a vigil, a survivor speakout and a glow awareness walk to conclude the event.

For anyone in need, or with questions, surrounding domestic violence or sexual assault - help is available. Call 1-866-966-0173 toll-free.



A guest speaker addresses the PBPN community at the annual Take Back The Night event which raises awareness about sexual and domestic abuse. Help is available 24 hours a day through the PBPN Tribal Victim Services Program.



# PBPN Child Support: Here to Help Families

By: Michelle Simon

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Child Support Services program supports Native American children and their families by assisting tribal members with establishing and administering financial child support payments. The program is under the umbrella of services provided by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Social Services Department.

The program itself was established in 2012 and is primarily funded through a non-competitive grant administered at the federal level by the Office of Child Support Enforcement, along with a 20% tribal match. Prior to the program, child support payments were handled by the PBPN Tribal Court staff. Today, the program consists of Program Manager Kelly Hopkins, Child Support Specialists Kelly Lewis and Season Dominguez, along with Specialist/Investigator Shelley Cadue and Financial Specialist Jennifer Steelman. The program manages over 200 cases.

Parents, grandparents or other guardians seeking services through this outlet must complete an intake application. After the application is received, the staff can assist clients in five main service areas including establishing paternity, establishing and enforcing support orders, modifying child support orders, locating the non-custodial parent, and the collection and disbursement of child support payments.

Regarding establishing paternity, the program can provide DNA testing free of cost provided that the father is not listed on the birth certificate, or an amended birth certificate or already established via a court order. Otherwise the cost of DNA testing falls on the parent.

Within the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation per capita distributions are subject to garnishment to fulfill past child support owed to the custodial parent or the Nation, however this is not the case with all tribes that distribute per capita payments to their respective members. The PBP Nation

tion of the child support payment. The program is also able to assist in the modification of orders. Throughout the course of time, an individual's circumstances may change, and the office can review the case for possible modification.

One of the more difficult elements in the child support process is locating the non-custodial parent, especially if that individual is not a member of the PBP Nation. The program does work with states and other tribes and is subject to the jurisdictional protocols of the non-custodial parent's location.

The Child Support program seeks to support both the custodial and non-custodial parents of the children they serve by referring them to other services under the PBPN Social Services umbrella such as the Vocational Rehabilitation program, which can assist in the employment process, or other outside agencies that can provide aid. The program has also instituted a *Fatherhood/Motherhood is Sacred* 12-week curriculum for fathers, mothers and caretakers to gain a deeper understanding of the importance of engaged parenting practices underscored by Native American values and beliefs.

For anyone seeking services or for questions, contact 785-966-8329 or visit [www.pbpindiantribe.com/social-services/child-support-services/](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/social-services/child-support-services/).



The Tribal Child Support Services program is staffed by a five-member team. From left: Investigator/Specialist Shelley Cadue, Specialist Kelly Mills, Manager Kelly Hopkins, Financial Specialist Jennifer Steelman and Specialist Season Dominguez.

Child Support Services works with the PBPN Tribal Court to establish support orders with income withholding as the most efficient means of garnering support. The program also has the authority to issue bench warrants if an individual does not show up to court.

also has a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Kansas which allows the program to garnish state taxes to fulfill the payee's obligation. And unlike the Kansas Payment Center which processes child support for the state of Kansas, the Nation does not charge interest or take a por-

## Festival of Giving

The Social Services Department is accepting donations each month for the "Festival of Giving" baskets distributed to those in need during the holiday season.

Drop new, unwrapped items into any donation box located at:  
Boys & Girls Club  
Fire Keepers Elder Center  
Government Center - Upper Level  
Health Center  
Police Department  
Social Serives

June > Cleaning Supplies for the home: dish soap, dishwasher soap, disinfectant wipes, floor cleaner, window cleaner, trash bags, etc.

July > Bath towels, hand towels, wash cloths, kitchen towels

August > Toys for ages 13–25 or gift cards for older children/adults

## Empowerment Fest!

By: Tribal Victim Services

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is hosting an Empowerment Fest on Friday, June 28, 2019, at Prairie People's Park! There will be motivational speakers who will uplift attendees by delivering powerful inspirational messages. The nationally-known band, Indigenous, and the Cecil Gray Blues Band will be on hand to provide music.

This holistic-oriented festival is sure to impact the mind, body and spirit of all who attend. It is a great opportunity for families to experience a no-cost day of fun, quality-time together in a safe and healthy environment while engaging in a variety of fun, and empowering activities. This positive, empowerment packed day will have participants feeling confident, energized and strengthened in their mind, body and spirit.

The festival will also include cultural activities that provide an opportunity to learn new skills, and other activities to provide attendees a message of pride, encouragement, and inspiration. There will also be information booths to bring awareness to the causes of social issues like domestic violence and sexual assault, which can diminish an individual's or family's sense of empowerment.

The Empowerment Fest will end with a bang as participants are treated to the Nation's annual fireworks display!

Sponsorship opportunities are available to anyone who would like to donate time, money or resources to this event. Please contact Michelle Gray at [michellegray@pbpnation.org](mailto:michellegray@pbpnation.org).

## Mzhickteno Barr Contributes to Tip 61

PBPN Tribal member and former staff of the PBPN Behavioral Health Program, Elaine Mzhickteno Barr, acted as field reviewer for TIP 61:Behavioral Health Services for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

This TIP (Treatment Improvement Protocol) is published by the Substance Abuse and Mental

Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). It provides behavioral health professionals across the United States with practical guidance about Native American history, historical trauma and critical cultural perspectives in their work with American Indian and Alaska Native clients.



# Prairie Band Health Center Pharmacy: An Essential Component to Community Health Care

By: Michelle Simon, Michael Carpenter Contributing

The Prairie Band Health Center is the primary outlet for health care on the Reservation. Within the patient service cycle at the Health Center, the pharmacy fills an essential role in beneficial patient outcomes.

“I want my patients to be successful in their health,” stated Mike Carpenter, Pharmacist and department director. Carpenter, who has 34 years of experience, explained that dispensing medication is not enough for patient success.

“Patients need to be informed,” said Carpenter. The Pharmacy is equipped with two private consultation rooms where the pharmacists are available to provide in-depth information on medications and to allow patients and caretakers to ask questions. The Pharmacy staff want patients to feel confident in the use of their prescriptions and encourage questions. Medication use compliance increases when patients understand the why, how, and when to take their medicines.

Along with Carpenter, the pharmacy employs one other staff pharmacist, and three nationally certified pharmacy technicians. Two of the technicians focus on customer care and filling prescriptions, while the third technician, brought onboard a year ago, is the Point-of-Sale technician. Having a staff member dedicated to insurance claims has allowed the pharmacy to significantly increase the number of insurance reimbursements received. Approximately 65% of patients who utilize the Health Center Pharmacy have insurance and capturing reimbursements helps keep the Pharmacy shelves stocked with

product. The Health Center Pharmacy is filling approximately 1500 to 1600 scripts a week, with the assistance of “Rosie,” a ScriptPro robotic prescription dispensing system obtained in 2011. Once the Pharmacy receives an order, a pharmacist makes the determination if the prescription is correct based on multiple factors, and if so will release the prescription



**PBPN Health Center Pharmacist Michael Carpenter reviews a tray of prescription medications that can be dispensed by “Rosie” a ScriptPro robot at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Health Center.**

to fill, either by hand or by Rosie. The robotic system will select a vial size, count out the drug, print the label and can collate multiple prescriptions for one patient. And best of all, Rosie does not make mistakes.

The Nation’s pharmacy operates under the Indian Health Service umbrella and uses their core formulary, or list of available medications, containing approximately 800 items.

However, being Tribally operated there can be some flexibility with the formulary. For example, if a new medication comes on the market that provides considerable benefits to multiple patients, is affordable, and passes some rigorous reviews, the Health Center pharmacy could add it to the formulary. Almost all medications that the pharmacy purchases are bought through federal contracts,

which makes them affordable to offer. Most medications held in the Pharmacy are less than 10 cents per unit, but others are in the \$3 to \$4 range.

And like other pharmacies around the U.S., the Health Center Pharmacy has faced the effect of drug shortages and the opioid crisis. In the past few years, hurricanes have wreaked havoc on drug manufacturing plants limiting supply. In both 2018 and 2017, some

of the worst drug shortages in recent U.S. history have occurred according to Carpenter.

The pharmacy has both external and internal controls in place regarding opioids. For instance, the Nation utilizes K-TRACS, a prescription drug monitoring program, sponsored by the Kansas Board of Pharmacy. Insurance providers are also included in the reporting process so clinic providers can see a patient’s controlled substance use. The pharmacy also completes a full inventory at the end of each month on controlled substances and does a physical inventory of all supplies annually. The pharmacy is also able to collect and safely destroy any un-used prescriptions, especially opioids, to prevent “diverting” or selling them, which is against federal law.

The Prairie Band Health Center is located at 11400 158 Road, Mayetta. The Pharmacy hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The Pharmacy Drive-Up Window is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every weekday, unless staff need to attend midday meetings.

The pharmacy reminds patients that you must be seen by the clinic at least once a year to remain being considered an active patient. Prescription refill requests require a 48-hour notification in order to secure provider authorizations. Pharmacy staff can be reached toll-free at 866-727-6330 or locally at 785-966-8200, option 3. To leave a prescription refill request on the automated refill line dial 785-966-8260.

## Rupnicki Receives National Tribal Trailblazer Award

By: Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition



**PBPN Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Stephanie Rupnicki has been recognized by the United States Breastfeeding Committee with the Tribal Trailblazer Award.**

Stephanne Rupnicki, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, received the “Tribal Trailblazer Award” from the United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) for her leadership and collaborative efforts to support breastfeeding families of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in March 2019. Rupnicki was one of only seven individuals to receive this prestigious national award. She will attend the USBC Ninth National Breastfeeding Coalitions Convening in Bethesda, Maryland in June to receive her award.

The Tribal Trailblazer Award is given to talented and dedicated individuals who are new, emerging, or aspiring breastfeeding leaders, actively pro-

moting maternal and child health, and breastfeeding support in their Tribes. This honor recognizes individuals of American Indian/Native American and Alaska Native heritage.

“Stephanne is an active member of the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition. We are proud of her accomplishments and to have been able to support her work. Her passion and dedication for helping breastfeeding families in her community exemplifies the work of KBC members across the state striving to build a culture of breastfeeding support in Kansas,” said Dr. Lisette Jacobson, Chair of the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition’s Board of Directors.

The Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition (KBC) is a state-wide nonprofit

organization. With a mission to improve the health and well-being of Kansans by working collaboratively to promote, protect and support breastfeeding, KBC envisions a state where breastfeeding is normal and supported. To achieve this, KBC focuses its work on improving policies, systems and environments to remove barriers to breastfeeding.

Rupnicki began her role as the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in April 2018. She can be reached for services at 785-305-0334 or by following the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Breastfeeding Coalition page on Facebook.



# PBPN Housing: A High Demand Resource

By: Michelle Simon, Ann DeCouteau and Eric Sheets Contributing

The PBPN Housing Department is charged with providing affordable housing options for all PBPN tribal members of all income levels, both on and off the reservation. These options include rental and lease-to-purchase units located on the reservation, along with providing two national programs available to all tribal members, regardless of location.

The PBP Nation has built their property holdings of 191 units through utilizing the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program to build new homes along with acquiring properties through land purchases. Three quarters of the housing units are a blend of apartment units, duplexes, single family units, along with low-income and lease-to-purchase units. The remaining 25% of properties are specifically reserved for seniors age 62 and older.

In 2018, the Housing Department completed the most recent LIHTC project, Southwood Estates, comprised of 27 homes, ranging from 3, 4 and 5-bedroom units along with being ADA accessible, and available to low-income tribal members. In 2019, the Housing Department submitted an application for a new LIHTC project, to allow the department to rehabilitate the Senior housing units.

The Housing Department also administers two National programs to all tribal members. They consist of the Down Payment Assistance – a grant of \$10,000 to assist in home ownership and Renovation Assistance – a \$5,000 grant available to homeowners,

each are available every 3 years pursuant to the guidelines. To qualify for renovation assistance, the PBPN member must own the home and utilize it as their primary residence. As a component of the nation-wide Down Payment program, the PBPN Housing department offers a free home buyer

Certification through the National American Indian Housing Council Leadership Institute.

To facilitate placement of tribal members into homes, the department utilizes three waiting lists on a first come, first serve basis. The three lists



A house located in the Southwood Estates housing unit, the most recent LIHTC project designed to bring affordable housing to the PBPN Reservation.

workshop each quarter.

The department is headed by Ann DeCouteau, Director and a team of 7 staff which includes Property Manager Erin Hubbard, Inspector Dawn Berryhill, Office Manager Lisa Devader, National Programs Specialist Erin Pahmahmie along with Maintenance Technicians Merle Green, Richard McKinney and Larry Coates. In November 2018, DeCouteau and Hubbard received NAHASDA – Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act and LIHTC – Low-Income Housing Tax Credit

include rental units, lease-to-purchase and senior housing. Applicants must update their information once a year or if their address, income or household composition changes. The PBPN Housing Waiting List Verification Form, along with all pertinent applications and requirements for all housing units and housing programs are located on the Nation's website at [www.pbpindiantribe.com/housing](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/housing).

For current PBPN Housing tenants, that are also employees of the PBP Nation, rent can be paid through payroll deduction. PBPN employees

can fill out the required paperwork at the Housing office or at the Finance department located in the Government Center. Also, if any tribal residents wish to receive receipts and other communications via email they can provide their email information by sending an email to [pbpnhousingadmin@pbpnation.org](mailto:pbpnhousingadmin@pbpnation.org) or by dialing the main Housing phone line at 785-966-2756. All other questions and inquiries can be received at that number, as well as the toll-free version 866-966-2756.

Additionally, the Nation recently brought in a third party to audit the Housing program that resulted in areas where the department can improve. In response, Administration and Tribal Council are reviewing the department's structure, policies and procedures, and internal controls and developing a management response to the audit as well as a corrective action plan to address identified issues.

Since the completion of the audit in late December 2018, the Department has made numerous changes, including migration to a new housing management software system with a suite of features designed to increase transparency and accountability.

Reservation housing continues to be in high demand, and both staff and management continue to search for effective options to increase, improve, and develop the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Community.



Jim Potts, followed by Isabella and Jessica Wheeler pick up Earth Day 2019 T-shirts, flowers and plants were also giveaway items.



Earth Day participants head through the park on a Predictor's Walk/Run.

## 2019 Earth Day Activities

The community Earth Day Celebration sponsored by the Planning and Environmental Protection department was held at Prairie People's Park on Sunday, April 21, 2019. Activities included a Predictor's walk/run through the park, along with the distribution of information, plants and t-shirts. The red t-shirts had an environmental image embedded in the shape of a pair of flipflops with the message "tread lightly."

The Boys & Girls Club of the PBPN partnered in the event and provided a multi-age easter egg hunt through out Prairie People's Park.

Later in the week, on Thursday, April 25, over 120 PBP Nation employees and community volunteers teamed up and removed 2,560 pounds of garbage from 20 miles of reservation roads.

And what is cleaning up without a little competition to make it fun? The

Social Services department took 1st place, clearing 354 pounds and received a pizza party for their efforts.

They were followed by the Language program who removed 277 pounds of litter, and received a coffee and pie party as their reward.

### Community Clean Up Team Totals

- Social Services: 354 lbs
- Language: 277 lbs
- Human Resources: 252 lbs
- Casino: 244 lbs
- Guns & Hoses (PD & Fire): 240 lbs
- Boys & Girls Club: 176 lbs
- Finance: 159 lbs
- Clinic: 125 lbs
- Admin/Housing: 110 lbs

The Planning and Environmental Protection program did not include themselves in the contest, although they did participate and removed 623 pounds from the reservation roadside.



# Kambottek

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



## Willie Shegonee, Sr.

TOMAH, WI – Willie Shegonee Sr., age 56, of Tomah, Wisconsin, passed away Sunday, January 14, 2018, at the Tomah Memorial Hospital. He was born September 15, 1961, to William and Agnes (Shongo) Shegonee Jr. in Loves Park, Illinois.

Willie spent most of his life driving truck. He was a Packers and Badgers fan, although he didn't care for Aaron Rodgers. He spoke his mind and you always knew what he was thinking. He loved pow-wow dancing, spending time with his grandchildren and was always willing to help in his community at any cultural event. Willie was a true outdoorsman and especially enjoyed fishing.

He is survived by his sons, Luke (Brook Baumbach) Shegonee and Willie Shegonee Jr.; grandchildren, Ellyana Marie Shegonee, Zoey Sophia Shegonee, and Asher Cashion; siblings, Leela Shegonee, Angie (Bobby) Jacobs, and Catherine (Kevin Greengrass) Shegonee; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Linda; sisters, Fern and Lorna; grandson, Carter Houghton; and nephew, Jonathan Jett Cleveland.

Traditional Ho-Chunk Services will be held Wednesday, January 17, 2018, 12:00 p.m. at the Torkelson Funeral Home in Tomah. Burial will follow in the Shegonee Cemetery, near Arpin, Wisconsin. Family and friends are invited for visitation on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, from 3:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. at the Torkelson Funeral Home in Tomah, as well as from 10:00 a.m. until the time  
*Continued on Page 13*



## Frank McDonald

RENO, NV - Frank Roy McDonald passed away in his Reno, NV home on November 15, 2018. "Uncle Frank" was born to Alice C. (Shipshee) McDonald and Henry C. McDonald on August 16, 1928, in Topeka, KS, and was the youngest of five brothers: Joseph, William, Cecil and John. A descendant of the White Earth Chippewa and Citizen Potawatomi Nations, Frank was an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Frank was a talented musician, adept at the piano, guitar, bass guitar, upright bass, harmonica and banjo. He played in the Army Band during the Korean War, and later found residence on the Las Vegas Strip, playing in big bands and house bands alongside premier artists of day, such as Frank Sinatra, Benny Goodman and The Kim Sisters. Frank was a great singer, with an emotional, raspy tone reminiscent of Tony Bennett, and he was great friends with the legendary jazz guitarist Joe Pass.

Frank loved music and continued performing at various senior centers, with his last appearance coming at the Washoe County Senior Center just two short months before his passing. He was independent up to the end. Frank drove a taxi in Reno for decades but did not drive the last six years of his life, during which he would pack his keyboard and music into a suitcase and drag it all with him on the public bus to his next gig.

Frank thought everything was funny. He had a great smile and an infectious laugh. Frank loved all animals but had a very special place in his heart for cats. He would feed  
*Continued on Page 14*



## Arlen Wamego

LAONA, WI – Arlen Wamego, 65, of Laona, WI passed away Tuesday, February 12, 2019, at the Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Wausau. Arlen was born November 3, 1953, in Pawnee, Oklahoma the son of Floyd Wamego and Mildred Whitefish-Engels. He was united in marriage to Edna Kortbein on October 11, 1997, at Sunny Side Church in Carter.

Surviving Arlen is his wife of 21 years, Edna; step-father, Peter Engels Sr.; sisters, Susan Wakeman, Waupan; Pamela (Lawrence) Daniels, Wabeno; Florence St. Clair, Wabeno; Debra (Douglas) Danielson, Wabeno; Sylvia (Harold) Moss, Mayetta, KS; Denise Huettl, Wabeno; Tina (Tom) Leonard, Wabeno; brothers, Dean (Eunice) Whitefish, Stone Lake; David Engels, Wabeno; Peter Engels, Wabeno; step-sons, Charles (Kris) Larson, Wabeno; Corey Larson (special friend Kara), Green Bay; many grand children, great-grand children, nieces and nephews.

Arlen was preceded in death by his parents, sons, Eric; Arlen Jr. and Arlen Benjamin Wamego; sister, Annette Whitefish; brother, Orville Whitefish.

Services will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, February 16, 2019 at Sunny Side Church in Carter with Pastor Don Dewing officiating. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. to time of service at church.

Weber-Hill Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements. Online condolences for the family may be directed to [www.weberhillfuneralhome.com](http://www.weberhillfuneralhome.com).

*- Courtesy of Weber Hill Funeral Home*



## Vernon Wahweotten

MAYETTA, KS. – Vernon L. "Pam-mah-ska" Wahweotten, age 77, of Mayetta, KS, passed away Thursday, February 14, 2019 at the Medicalodges Jackson County in Holton. He was born July 31, 1941 in Holton, KS the son of Albert "Wiley" Wahweotten and Isabelle (Nioce) Thomas.

He graduated from Mayetta High School. He worked for Goodyear Tire Company as a tire builder for over fifteen years. He later worked for the Tribal Fire Station and was a support worker for Parr Ranch.

He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Drum Religion and Sweat Lodge.

He married Rosemary Masquat, they later divorced.

Survivors include his four children, Barbara Evans of Mayetta, KS, Alan Wahweotten of Mayetta, KS, Lisa Wahweotten of Topeka, KS and Denise Wahweotten of Kansas City, MO; a sister, Linda Cadue of Mayetta, KS and a brother Jim Lyndane of Hutchison, KS; 15 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two children, Joe and Verna Wahweotten and a brother, Warren Wahweotten.

Drum Service will be Sunday evening, February 17, 2019, at the Danceground Building. Burial will be Monday, February 18, 2019 at Prairie Peoples' Cemetery. Vernon will lie in state at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton until Sunday afternoon. To leave a special message for the family, please visit [www.mercerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.mercerfuneralhomes.com).

*- Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home*



## Adeline DuBoise

SHAWNEE, OK – Adeline Ketcheshawno DuBoise, 85, resident of Shawnee, OK passed away February 14, 2019. Adeline was born June 8, 1933 in Meeker, Oklahoma to Willie and Alice Ketcheshawno.

After high school Adeline joined the United States Air Force; she served three years and was honorably discharged. Adeline enjoyed sewing; she was an outstanding Native American designer and seamstress. She made shawls for fashion shows; she also made ribbon shirts for Sac & Fox, Shawnee, Kickapoo, Prairie Band Potawatomi and is a member of the Thunder Clan. She made ribbon shirts for Wes Studi and Michael Horse and a dress for Elaine Miles on Northern Exposure. Adeline collected Scottie dogs. She enjoyed antique shopping, watching wheel of fortune, basketball and softball.

Adeline was very active, she enjoyed exploring mountains and even had the opportunity to hike the Grand Canyon. She enjoyed the Grand Canyon so much she even rode the mules down too! She rode in hot air balloons and rode in the nose of the B25 from Maryland to Oklahoma.

Above all else Adeline loved her family. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She will be dearly missed by everyone who knew and loved her.

Adeline is preceded in passing by her parents, Willie and Alice Ketcheshawno and Willie, Amelia, Shirley, Robert and Willie Ketcheshawno. Adeline is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, Larry DuBoise; son, John Rosser and his wife, Robin; son, Paul Rosser and his wife,  
*Continued on Page 14*



# Kambottek

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



## Marilyn Hale-Wakolee

MAYETTA, KS - “Num-weh-t’mok” Marilyn Kay Hale Wakolee, age 79, of Mayetta, KS passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, KS.

She was born November 7, 1939, on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation, Mayetta, KS the daughter of the late Jess Sr. and Alfreida (Williams) Hale.

Marilyn attended Haskell Indian Institute from August of 1953 and graduated in 1957. She was a Haskell Cheerleader, member of the Haskell Indian Yearbook Leader and attended many out of state Alumni Reunions. She later graduated from the Clark Business School in Topeka, KS in 1972. Marilyn worked at the Topeka Capital-Journal newspaper in Topeka for over 30 years as a full-time Pioneer Journeyman. She was active in the PBPB community, a long-time member of the PBPB enrollment committee, enjoyed bowling, attending powwows and danced her style. She was an advocate for important issues and took pride in helping others.

Marilyn attended the Assumption Catholic Church in Topeka, KS and she was also a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Drum Religion.

Marilyn was married to Everett Brewer, they divorced. She later married C.L. Wakolee, they divorced.

She was preceded in death by brothers Jess “Bonsie” Hale, Leslie “Chick” Hale, infant brother Wesley Hale; sisters Jolene Hale & Sylvia Hale-Smith; daughter Roberta Asselin.

Survivors include 5 daughters, Pamela Brewer Pahmahmie (Richard), Deanna Brewer, Angela

*Continued on Page 14*



## Beverly Westwood

BELOIT, WI. – Beverly A. Westwood, age 81, passed away on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at The Green Knolls Nursing Home ( formerly Beloit Health & Rehab) Beloit, WI. She was born August 22, 1937 in Tomahawk, WI, the daughter of Russell and Mabel (Mattson) Barnes.

Beverly graduated from Beloit Memorial High School in 1955 and continued her education at Swedish American Hospital School of Nursing graduating in 1959. Beverly married Joseph J. Westwood Jr. on December 4, 1959 at Grace Methodist Church in Elgin, IL. She was employed as a nurse at Beloit Memorial Hospital, the Beloit Clinic and Beloit Health Department until her retirement in 1998. Beverly also loved to get her hands in the dirt in her garden and read. She will be remembered for her wonderful sense of humor.

She is survived by her husband, Joseph, her three children, Kari (Michael Dzieciolowski) Westwood of Wake Forest, NC, Joseph J. (Kathi) Westwood III of Bloomingdale, IL and James W. (Heather) Westwood of McHenry, IL; grandchildren Kathryn (Stephen) Seese, Shawn (Jackie) Phetteplace, Joseph J. Westwood IV and Sarah Rose Westwood, Riley Westwood and Emma Westwood; great grandchildren Travis, Zachary & Josephine Seese and Charlie Phetteplace; and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, Edwin Barnes and her sister, Gloria Foster.

Beverly’s Funeral Service will be at 12 Noon on Saturday *Continued on Page 13*



## Ralph Grinnell

KENT, WA – His hands were weathered and wrinkled but still strong. They told his story without demanding words and this had always suited him as a simple man. He knew that those at the top of the mountain didn’t fall there and his hands helped relay the story of his climb.

Ralph Edward Grinnell was born on January 25, 1929, on a reservation just outside of Mayetta, Kansas. One of six children blessed to Carl and Dora Grinnell, he spent his first days knowing only the comforts of family. His father was a fur trapper, the pelts he sold as soft as his young boy’s hands, and when the swift fox left Kansas so too did the Grinnells. They moved west, settling in Carson City, Nevada where the rail lines connected, and the silver rush had long brought those seeking adventure and prosperity. A city once proclaiming to be “America’s Smallest Capital” couldn’t satisfy a man like Ralph for long and eventually he found himself in Rancho Cordova, California.

There Ralph was embraced by love. He lived in an apartment directly above a precocious and beautiful woman named Norma Jean Barber, and for them both this simple twist of fate began a great love affair. They married in the fall of 1967 and their two families became one. For nearly fifty years the two were inseparable. Together they built a beautiful family, working their hearts and hands tirelessly, just as Ralph did when he worked the wood and created something unique and wonderful.

In 2017, Norma went ahead into the heavens and Ralph waited patiently to again be by her side. On April 20, 2019 his hand met hers once more. *Continued on Page 14*

## Deanne Muniz

WICHITA, KS – Deanne Ruth Kitchkommie Muniz, 52, of Wichita, formerly of Topeka, passed away Saturday, March 30, 2019.

She was born August 23, 1966, in Topeka, Kansas, the daughter of David and Carol (Kabance) Kitchkommie.

Deanne was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe.

Survivors include her father, David (Kitchkommie) Lake, Mayetta; a sister, Andrea Kabance, Topeka; and two brothers, Anthony Kabance, Topeka and David Kitchkommie, Lawrence.

Preceded in death by her mother; a sister, Christina.

Honoring her request, cremation is planned. Inurnment will be at Shipshee Cemetery, Mayetta, KS.

*- Courtesy of Dove Cremations and Funerals, Southwest Chapel*

## Carie McVea

BETHANY, OK – Carie Louise McVea, 44, passed away Friday, March 15, 2019, at her home.

Wake services will be Tuesday evening at First Indian Baptist Church. Funeral services will be 1 p.m., Wednesday, March 20, at First Indian Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Walker Funeral Service.

She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

*- Courtesy of the Shawnee News-Star*

***Shegonee Continued***  
of service on Wednesday. The Torkelson Funeral Home of Tomah and Robert Bird Sr. are assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are available at [www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com).

*- Courtesy of Torkelson Funeral Home*

## Jayleen Farrell

AUBURN, KS – Jayleen A. “Byrrd” Farrell, 55, passed away Saturday, March 23, 2019, at the University of Kansas Hospital St. Francis Campus.

She was born April 11, 1963, at Kansas City. She was the daughter of the late Dennis C. and Delores C. Kolterman Farrell. She lived in the St. Marys and Rossville communities. Byrrd attended St. Marys Grade School and graduated from Rossville High School. She loved nature and flowers.

Survivors include her biological daughter, Alex; a brother, Denny Farrell, Valley Center; a sister, Tomi Morford, Topeka.

A Celebration of Life will be held later. Plant a tree or flowers in memory of Byrrd. Piper Funeral Home in St. Marys is assisting the family. To leave online condolences go to [www.piperfuneralhome.com](http://www.piperfuneralhome.com).

*- Courtesy of Topeka Capital-Journal*

## Jesse Varela

CHICAGO, IL. - Jesse J. Varela passed away on April 21, 2019. He was born on July 12, 1967, the son of Geneva M. (Levier) and Edmund Varela.

Jesse was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

***Westwood Continued***  
April 20, 2019 in the Rotary Botanical Gardens, 1455 Palmer Drive, Janesville, WI with Rev. Daniel Eddy officiating. Friends will be received on Saturday at Rotary Botanical Gardens from 10:30 a.m. until the time of service. In lieu of flowers, a memorial is being established.

*- Courtesy of Brian Mark Funeral Home*



Nishnabek Ntewmèn - “Who We Are”



PBPN member, Gishgo Hale, a seventh-grade student at Royal Valley Middle School received third place in the Kansas History Day state-wide competition held at Washburn University in April 2019.

The theme of this year’s competition was “Triumph & Tragedy.” Hale created a 10-minute documentary “The Fight Against Termination,” detailing PBPN leader Minnie Evans actions to save the PBPN from termination in the 1950s.

Hale became interested Evans as a historical figure after seeing the play, “We Fought Termination” at the 2018 Potawatomi Gathering.

Gishgo is the daughter of Adrian “Gubba” and Keirsten Hale.



Happy 1st Birthday  
Carly, July 5th!  
We Love You!  
Mom, Dad & Family



Happy 4th Birthday  
Loretta Rose Frye, July 8th!  
We Love You!  
Mom, Dad, and Gideon



Happy 6th birthday  
Alyssa, July 17th!  
Love you! Mom, Dad, sisters, bro  
& your KS fam!



Happy 2nd Birthday  
Miksekwe Jackson, July 19th!  
Love, Dadda, Momma, brother, and  
Sisters

Happy 4th Birthday Massko Young  
& Happy 6th birthday  
Monte Littleaxe!  
Love, Gramma Dumps and Family

Happy 50th Anniversary  
Leida and Tom Tuckwin!  
With love, your daughters  
and grandkids!!!



Kambottek Continued

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

***McDonald Continued***

any cat that came around, whether it was his or not. Frank loved sports and he loved betting on sports. He really loved betting on the horses. He was an avid golfer and he was a fighter, having survived a bout with cancer in his mid-80s.

Frank is fondly remembered by his step-daughter Mollie, and by his many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the American Cancer Society, give to someone in need, adopt a cat, or just go bet on some horses.

- *Courtesy of the McDonald Family*

***DuBoise Continued***

Jeanne; son, Larry DuBoise and his wife, Alesia and daughter, Alice Pfeiler and her husband Karl; grandchildren, Julie Bliss, Ryan Rosser, Jennifer Rogers, Joey Bliss, Casey Rosser, Jaclyn Rosser, Amber Shepherd, Jacob Filer, Anthony DuBoise, Brenna Hertz, Jami Rosser, Allen DuBoise, Alyssa Hertz; great-grandchildren, D’Anna Murray, Landon Rosser, Tripp and Jett Rogers, Presley Rosser, Brooklyn O’Brien, Izabella and Sylus Humphreys, Stella Rosser and numerous other family members and friends.

Visitation will be 4-6 pm, Sunday, February 17, 2019, at Resthaven Funeral Home Funeral Service will be 11:00 am, Monday, February 18, 2019, at Resthaven Funeral Home Chapel.

- *Courtesy of Dignity Memorial*

***Hale-Wakolee Continued***

Wakolee, all of Mayetta, KS; Patricia Wakolee, Lawrence, KS and two sons, Marcus Tuckwin & Anthony Royal both of Mayetta, KS; sisters Arnetta Hale, Topeka, KS, Maxine Begay, Mayetta, KS, Lorene Wahweoten, Denver, CO; grandchildren, Richele, Justin, Tamara, Daniela, Melissa, Tanner, Valerie, Bailee, Anthony, Dakota, Taylor, Cayden; and great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandson; adopted children, Peter Asselin (Marion), Sandra Quintana, and Kabot Hale (Paula).

Rosary will be at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, March 16, 2019, with visitation to follow until 8:00 p.m. at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton. Drum service will be at the Danceground Building on the Potawatomi Reservation on Sunday. Burial will be Monday, March 18, 2019, at the Kennekuk Cemetery on the Kickapoo Reservation.

- *Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home*

***Grinnell Continued***

It is only love which sets us free. It is only love which sees us home. Those who remain to continue telling his stories, sending him love, and calling him “home” are his children Victoria Barber-Stroudt, Leslie Crawford, Lila Jean (Joseph) D’Orio, Guy Edward Grinnell, and James Eugene Barber; his loving grandchildren Jeremy (Lisa Lammey) Barr, Kelly (Marietta) Henson, John Watson, Rhya Raven-Roper, Deborah Barber, William Barber, Christopher Barber, John Arion Thedy III, Lisa Knight; his great-grandchildren Alexis Barnrieter, Sean Alonzo, Kelby Lammey, August Feeney; and great-great-grandson Aiden Feeney. Ralph and Norma will be inurned together at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Washington.

- *Courtesy of Weeks’ Dryer Mortuary*

*I would like to recognize Angel Wahwassuck for her accomplishment in playing in all of the football and basketball games at RVHS this year.*

*A shout out to Autumn Wabaunsee for being the boys basketball manager last fall.*

*Congratulations to Danny Wilson and Albee Thompson for finishing first grade, Alyssa Thompson for completing second grade, Sheldon Thompson for completing kindergarten at RVES and baby Dar Wilson for completing Head Start at the PBPN Early childhood program!*

*Love,  
Grandma Dawn*



# Nishnabek Ntewmèn - “Who We Are”

## Royal Valley Lady Panthers Make Historical Win

By: Michelle Simon

The Royal Valley Lady Panthers made history on Saturday, March 9, 2019, in Hutchinson, Kansas, when the varsity girls basketball team won the Class 3A State Championship! It was Royal Valley’s first state basketball championship as a district and it is only the second time an RVHS sports team has won a state championship since the RVHS cross-country team took state in 1974.

The road to the championship began with a 44-29 win against Jeff West in the sub-state tournament championship game held on March 2, 2019, at Perry-Lecompton High School, advancing the team to the state playoffs.

In the quarter-final game of the state playoffs held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, the Royal Valley Lady Panthers began as the 6th seed against the 3rd seed, Eureka Tornados. Royal Valley lead the entire game, and in the third quarter dominated with a 14-0 run. The Panthers handled the Tornados with a final score of 56 to 36. Senior Mary Broxterman lead the game with 25 points.

On Friday, March 8, 2019, the Lady Panthers came up against the #2 seed, Norton Lady Bluejays in the tournament semifinal. Sophomore Mahpiya Irving opened the game with a solid 3-pointer, and the Panthers once

again maintained a lead, up 24 to 6 at half-time. While the Bluejays did their best the Royal Valley Lady Panthers forged ahead winning 53 to 44. Broxterman lead the team in points with 26, followed by senior Kiikto Thomas and sophomore Wakiyan Irving with 9 each.

matched and at the half the Panthers found themselves down for the first time in the tournament at 19 and the Cardinals at 24. Both teams played with grit and determination, and by the end of the third quarter the Royal Valley Panthers found themselves trailing with 32 points to Cheney’s 39.

lost their lead in the fourth quarter and narrowly lost to #1 seed Garden Plain, receiving second place.

Cheney and Royal Valley continued to play their game, with the championship up for grabs to either team, the suspense thick in the air. At the end of regulation, Wakiyan Irving made a shot tying the teams at 46 to 46 and sending the game into overtime.

Overtime was a fast and energetic exchange between the two teams with each scoring and responding, staying neck and neck to the very end. With only 27 seconds remaining, Mahpiya Irving received the ball and launched a 3-point shot, giving the Lady Panthers a final score of 55 to 52 – and securing their title as the Class 3A State Champions.

The 2018-19 Royal Valley Girls Varsity Basketball team proved to be an indomitable force. The team was led by Head Coach Kyle Porter, along with Assistant Coaches David Boucher and Marizona Chapman. The team received special recognition at the PBPB Student Recognition Night on April 17, 2019, and on May 1, 2019, the team was recognized for their accomplishment on the floor of the Kansas House of Representatives at the State Capitol Building.



A candid snap of the Royal Valley Lady Panthers 2018-19 Varsity Basketball Champions: (back, from left) manager Kennedy Bryan, Hayley Harman, Karlie Albright, Kiikto Thomas, Emily Albright, Menon Irving, Mary Broxterman, Mahpiya Irving, Maddie Saia, manager Morgan Davis, (front, from left) Emma Poort, Wakiyan Irving, Tope Serna and Shanokwe Price.

Royal Valley entered the championship game facing the #1 seed, Cheney Cardinals. Mahpiya Irving once again opened the game with a 3-point shot, and the Panthers closed the first quarter ahead by 5, with a score of 12 to 7. The two teams’ skill levels were well

At the top of the fourth quarter, tension ran high throughout the sports arena, as Royal Valley fans wondered if the Lady Panthers would be able to make their comeback or if their fate would follow the RV Girls Varsity team of the 2017-18 season when RV



Hi, my name is Larry Dean Shopteese, Jr. and I am wanting a pen pal. I am releasing from this facility soon and look forward to showing my facial expression called the Huffy Puffy. I won the talent show in El Dorado, dancing and showing my two facial expressions. I am 35 years old, and I love “love” songs, watching movies and dancing.

If interested, please write to:  
Larry D. Shopteese, Jr. #79740  
El Dorado Correctional Facility  
PO Box 311  
El Dorado, KS 67042

Mark Your Calendar!  
“Native Trauma” Training  
October 1 - 3, 2019  
Presented by  
Theda Newbreast  
Native Wellness Institute  
Open to tribal members  
and PBPB Employees

Sponsored by the Social Services Advisory Board

Wasauksing First Nation hosts  
**Potawatomi Gathering**  
2019

Contact:  
E: [pottawatomi@wasauksing.ca](mailto:pottawatomi@wasauksing.ca)  
P: 807.464.2929

Nottawaseppi  
Huron Band of  
Potawatomi

Forest County  
Potawatomi

Prairie Band of  
Potawatomi

Bkejwanong  
Walpole Island  
First Nation

Citizen  
Potawatomi  
Nation

Hannahville  
Indian  
Community

Gun Lake  
Tribe

Pokagon  
Band of  
Potawatomi

SAVE  
THE  
DATE!

**July 30- August 4, 2019**

Online Gathering Registration is Open!  
<https://wasauksing.ca/2019-potawatomi-gathering-registration-form/>  
Pre-registration for the language & history conference, youth conference and gathering workshops is encouraged.

Language  
Conference  
July 30-July 31

Youth  
Conference  
August 1

Traditional  
PowWow  
Aug 3- Aug 4

Cultural  
Programming  
July 30-Aug 4

+Miss Potawatomi  
+Ceremonies  
+Golf Tournament  
+Baseball Tournament  
and more!



# 2019 PBPN Graduates

Candelaria Alcantar - HHS  
Victor “Bem” Hubbard - RVHS  
Maxine Coon - Sherman  
Devon Hale - RVHS  
Waniyetu Irving - RVHS  
Kobe Jordan - SHS  
Mikal Kitchkommie - RVHS  
Skyla Knoxsah - RVHS  
Davee “Kio” LeClere - RVHS  
Kobe Mills - RVHS  
Keesis Potts - RVHS  
Wiley “Knowee” Potts - RVHS  
Brandon Rodewald - RVHS  
Keanu Shopteese - RVHS  
Brianna Wabaunsee - RVHS  
Myra Wahwassuck - RVHS  
Zach Wahweotten - RVHS  
Trenton Wilbur - RVHS



Jaiana “Top ne bi qe” Serna  
Royal Valley High School

Proud parents  
Anthony & Season Dominguez

Tope will be entering the  
United States Army.  
Your family is so proud of you!



Levi Taylor Wheeler  
Royal Valley High School

Proud parents  
Scott & Jessica Wheeler

We are very proud of you!



Bryce R. Garrison  
Royal Valley High School

Proud parents  
Blake & Audria Garrison

Congratulations son!



Congratulations on completing  
the Aerospace Medical  
Technician program HA Price.  
Love your Momma!

Happy Birthday, August 7th!



Pat-ko-shuk Mitchell-Alvarado  
Kickapoo Nation School

Proud parent  
Martie Ann Mitchell

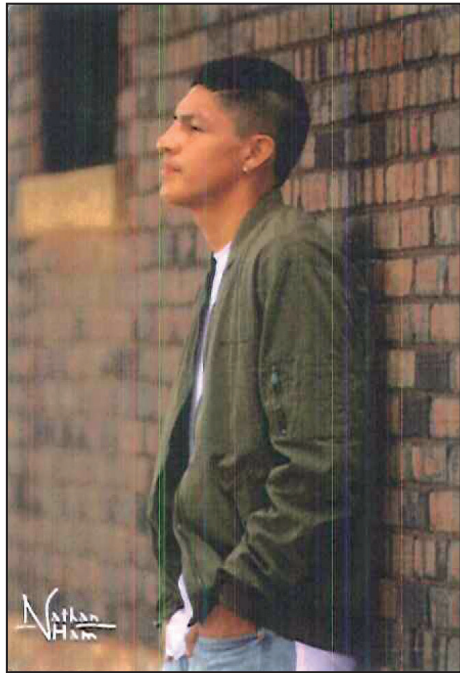
Congratulations! We love you!



Desiree' Ladywolf Duncan  
McCloud High School

Proud parent  
Michelle Throssell

Happy 18th, July 10th!  
We love you!



Paknahgah Hale  
Royal Valley High School

Proud parents  
Adrian “Gubba” & Keirsten  
Hale

You did it!



Colleen Clair "Zhowmkokwe"  
Rice, 21, is a current full-time  
student at St Norbert College  
in De Pere, Wisconsin where  
she is working on her Bachelor  
Degree in BioMedicine with  
a minor in Psychology; she  
carries a full course load and  
yet found time to take courses  
at NorthWestern Technical  
College in Green Bay, Wis. as  
well.

Her degree track will  
ultimately lead her to Medical  
School, though she is  
undecided as to where (mama  
says KU)!

She is a member of the  
Prairie Band Potawatomi  
Nation, a faithful Native  
American Church member, she  
is from the bear clan, and her  
birth color is blue.

She joined the Theta Phi Alpha  
fraternity of women her  
sophomore year at St.  
Norbert, and was elected their  
treasurer for a year term and  
had the opportunity to travel  
to their national conferences  
in Indianapolis and Pitts-  
burgh.

But her biggest adventure is  
yet to come, as she has  
recently been accepted to the  
University of Otago, Dunedin,  
New Zealand for Fall Semester  
of Senior year!

Please help us congratulate  
her and pray for safe travels  
and an enriching and reward-  
ing experience for her -- it is a  
once in a lifetime opportunity!

Her family is so proud of all  
she has accomplished thus far  
and we know she will repre-  
sent us and her tribe with re-  
spect and dignity as she heads  
off to New Zealand in July  
2019!! Love you bubbly!