



Prairie Band Potawatomi News

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

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Epok 2019

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Epok

“Winter time of the year”

This paper contains the activities and happenings that took place during the Winter time of 2019: December 2019, January 2020 and February 2020.

Potawatomi Nation Economic Development Summit Explores Path to a Shared Venture



1.28.20 - Back Row, L to R: Brian McInnes (Wasauksing), Geewadin Elliot (Chippewas of Nawash), Zachary McCue (The Waabgaag Group), John Alloway (FCP), Raphael Wahwassuck (PBPB), Joseph Rupnick (PBPB), Jason Henry (Kettle & Stony Point), Jordan Comer (GLI), Immanuel Johnson II (FCP PBDC), Steve Tooshkenig (Walpole), James Crawford (FCP), Dan Miskokomon (Walpole), Jason Smalley (CPN), William Evans (PBPB), John “Rocky” Barrett (CPN), Wade Pahmahmie (PBPB), Jon Boursaw (CPN), Brian Pierson (FCP Atty.) Front Row, L to R: Theresa McInnes (Wasauksing), Camilla Chouteau (PBPB), Dawn LeClere (PBPB), Noreena Mishigaud-Dwyer (Hannahville), Martha Pedoniquotte (Chippewas of Nawash), Alicia Falcon (GLI), Mae Joslin (PBPB), Jessi Goldner (WDC) and Solomon King (Chippewas of Nawash). Not pictured: Brooks Boyd (FCP), Skye Alloway (FCP), Jacob Wamego (PB LLC) and Zach Pahmahmie (PBPB)

Envoys from the various bands of the greater Potawatomi Nation gathered together at the Potawatomi Nation Economic Development Summit II on January 28 and 29, 2020, to explore the framework for possible shared economic ventures. The summit provided two presentations on completed economic projects as prime examples and included lengthy discussion focused on the post-colonial geopolitics of each band, along with next steps.

Gun Lake Investments CEO, Kurtis Trevan and Waséyabek Development Company Compliance and Office Manager, Jessi Goldner presented on their significant joint venture; the \$17.5M purchase of the historic McKay Tower located in downtown Grand Rapids, Mich. which was acquired in January 2020. The acquisition represents a rare co-investment by the non-gaming economic development entities of two Potawatomi tribes, the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe) and the Nottawaseppi (Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians) respectively.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Legislator Jon Boursaw also delivered a presentation, detailing the economic achievements of the CPN. Their achievements include operating the largest Native American owned bank in the United States, establishing a free trade zone, developing a 6-field sporting complex, in addition to their casino, covered arena, grocery stores, golf course, and several other business and government operations.

The discussion that took place during the summit was reminiscent of the great chiefs of old. Many wise words and stories were shared from tribe to tribe as attendees worked congruously to determine what the framework for ongoing opportunities might look like.

Alongside the bold initiative to strengthen the collective Potawatomi Nation, a range of challenges will also need to be navigated including local, state, and international jurisdictional issues and each individual band’s community readiness.

This was the second summit in a series, this one hosted by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, at the Prairie Band

**“You must include
your community
in your canoe,”**
- Theresa McInnes,
Wasauksing First Nation
Councillor

Potawatomi Casino and Resort in Mayetta, Kan. The first summit, hosted by the Forest County Potawatomi took place in Milwaukee, Wis. in October 2019. The individual bands have determined to meet quarterly and the next two summits are slated for April 2020, hosted by the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe), and July 2020 during the 2020 Annual Potawatomi Gathering hosted by the Hannahville Indian Community.

While not a new idea, as the greater Potawatomi Nation has discussed ways to exercise their combined sovereign strength together for well over 20 years, this time around it appears many of the bands are positioned to bring a shared venture to fruition.

Chairman Joseph “Zeke” Rupnick: Report to the Nation



Dear Tribal Members,

During the third quarter myself, along with Council traveled to Illinois to meet with Senator Durbin and Duckworth Staff. While we received positive feedback from their staff, we are still waiting on the bill to be filed. We are still hopeful even with all the

issues going on back in Washington that once filed, we can get it passed through. As some may know, the President signed three different pieces of legislation for Tribes. So while there is an impeachment, bills are still making their way through the Senate even though they are moving very slowly. A suggestion was to get Senator Roberts to sponsor the bill in the Senate since he has a good relationship with Majority Leader McConnell. We have briefed Senator Roberts and are actively working with his staff to sponsor the bill. We will keep everyone updated on the events and possible movement of the legislation. Also, in Illinois, Members of Council attended the annual Dekalb County Economic Development annual meeting. There we continued to strengthen our relationships with the local community and had a chance to talk with State representatives about our claim to the area and asked them to contact their congress representatives to support our

legislation and move it forward for the betterment of the community.

In October, during our General Council meeting, many members expressed the need for Council to move forward with hemp. I am happy to report that in December, we have submitted our plan to USDA. Included in the plan was the Tribal Resolution, the Hemp Plan, Tribal Grower Application forms and all USDA/FSA required from. There is a 60-day review window and we recently received our official notification from USDA of approval. This is only the first step in the process, currently we are creating codes for hemp production and have a draft LLC Charter that we are reviewing. The codes are currently posted for public comment and after review, then we can move forward with LLC creation.

In October, Council attended the first Potawatomi Economic Trade Summit in Milwaukee. Most Bands were rep-

resented, and it was a good first step in developing a Potawatomi Trade agreement. Initially, we proposed a draft resolution and while some changes needed to be made, all bands felt the initial draft was a good starting point. At the end of January, we hosted the next meeting to finalize the resolution and discuss the next courses of action. One of the first proposals we have is to utilize technology to attend quarterly meetings to keep the momentum going and save dollars on travel. While we are just starting out, many in attendance feel this is long overdue. We will keep the nation informed about our progress.

The fourth quarter was pretty busy with Holidays, but we did continue to move items forward and look for opportunities that would benefit the Nation.

Migwetch.

Prairie Band LLC’s Position on Hemp

By: Jacob Wamego
Courtesy of Prairie Band, LLC Newsletter | Vol. 4 | January 2020

In early December, I visited a medical grade cannabis cultivation facility in Evart, Michigan with several Tribal Council Members. The Nation took an interest in cannabis or hemp cultivation several years ago. They are two separate plants that are used for different things.

Our position at Prairie Band, LLC

was and still is that our ownership of anything related to cannabis is a risk to our work with the federal government. However, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation itself could get into the area in states where cannabis cultivation/sales are legal. The PBPB owns property in Illinois where cannabis is now regulated as a recreational drug.

The group in Michigan cultivates, brands, and exclusively sells its own product. They control the entire pro-

cess from start to finish. The facility was cleaner than most medical facilities I’ve been to. All staff wore scrubs and protective facial masks when they were tending to the plants. This type of operation is exactly the type that we believe PBPB should build if it were to jump into this emerging market.

Locally we are continuing our diligence on hemp, which is legal following the 2018 Farm Bill’s provisions. I have a trip scheduled

later in January to tour a vertically integrated hemp operation with a company that is a leader in the hemp industry.

Additionally, I worked with the Tribal Council and other partners to submit our Hemp Plan to the USDA. The USDA has 60 days to approve or send our plan back for revision. We are confident that the plan will be approved and the PBPB could potentially plant its first crop in 2020.

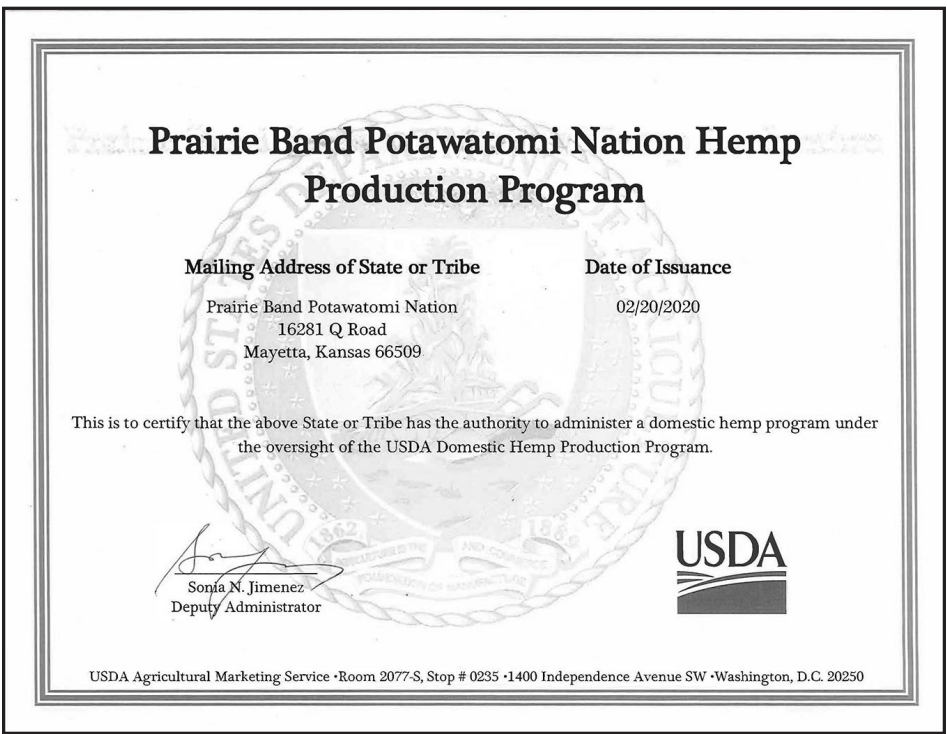
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Hemp Program Approved by USDA

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation hemp plan has been officially approved by the United States Department of Agriculture.

“We are one of just a few tribes that have been approved to grow industrial hemp. This is the first step in a long process to diversify our farm program and enter a new industry with many benefits for our Nation and the land,” stated Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Chairman Joseph Rupnick.

United States Department of Agriculture Secretary, Sonny Perdue announced the approval of three new tribal hemp production plans on Thursday, February 20, 2020, which included the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Otoe-Missouria Tribe and the Santee Sioux Nation.

To date, ten tribes and eight states have received approval for hemp



production plans. It is reported that the tribal hemp plans are surpassing expectations with the level of expertise and acumen displayed in the codes submitted for approval.

Other tribal Nations with approved plans include Colorado River Indian Tribes, Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, Fort Belknap Indian Community, Iowa Tribe of Kansas and

Nebraska, La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indian Tribes, Santa Rosa Cahuilla Indian Tribe, and the Yurok Tribe.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation submitted its plan to the United States Department of Agriculture in December 2019. The Nation utilized the Prairie Band LLC in conjunction with Native Network Consulting to facilitate the process.

Potawatomi Law and Order Code – Title 32: Hemp Legalization and Control is currently open for comment by enrolled PBPB membership. The code and proposed changes can be viewed by logging into the Members Only Portal at www.pbpindiantribe.com. Comments are being accepted through April 17, 2020.

2020 Notice of Election for Ethics Commission & Tribal Council

Members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation are hereby notified that an Election will be held on July 25, 2020 for the purpose of:

Electing three (3) members of the Ethics Commission;

- ♦ Vice-Chairperson, seated through July 2023.
- ♦ Commissioner #1, seated through July 2023.
- ♦ Commissioner #3, seated through July 2022.

Electing four (4) members of the Tribal Council;

- ♦ Vice-Chairperson, 4 year term
- ♦ Treasurer, 4 year term
- ♦ Council Person #2, 4 year term
- ♦ Council Person #3, 4 year term

ELECTION CALENDAR

1. Candidate Filing Date
April 13 to April 24, 2020 by 4 p.m.
Declaration of Candidacy form and photograph must be returned by this date.

2. Candidate Withdrawal Date
May 1, 2020 at 4:00 P.M. Last Date for Candidates to withdraw their names from the election.

3. Voter Registration Deadline
May 15, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.
Last Day for members 18 years of age or older to register to receive a ballot for this election, if not already registered.

4. Ballot Mailing Date
June 5, 2020 Ballots mailed to Registered Voters only.

5. Election Date
Saturday, July 25, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.
Last day for Ballots to be received at the Mayetta Post Office by 9:00 a.m.

6. Run-Off Election Date
If required, shall follow four (4) weeks after primary election, on Saturday, August 22, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

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

Automated Election Services of Rio Rancho, New Mexico will assist the Election Board with this election.

QUALIFIED VOTERS

To cast a ballot in this election you must:

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

B) Be 18 years of age or older by May 15, 2020.

C) If you have never registered to vote you can get the forms from the Member Services Department. In order to vote you will need a voter registration form on file with the Election Board **no later than May 15, 2020 at 4:00 P.M.**

BALLOT DISTRIBUTION

Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters no later than June 5, 2020. All ballot distribution packages will contain a preaddressed return envelope for mailing ballots back to the Election Board. All ballots must be received in the Election Board Post Office Box in Mayetta, Kansas no later than 9:00 a.m. on the date of the election, July 25, 2020. Please allow one to two weeks for mailing back your ballot.

ELECTION RESULTS

Ballots will be tabulated in an open meeting for Tribal Members conducted by the Election Board after 9:00 a.m. on Election day, at the Old Bingo Hall. Tabulation of ballots will continue until all ballots have been tabulated and the results of that tabulation have been recorded.

The Election Board shall issue the Preliminary Election Results immediately after the conclusion of the tabulation. Any election protests must be filed within three (3) business days following the election, by July 29, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

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

ELECTION
DATE
JULY 25, 2020

ETHICS ELECTION CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

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: Vice-Chairperson or Commissioner #1. Must be 21 years or older for the Commissioner seat #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 Drug-Free Workplace Policy and consent to drug testing.

F) Submit a Declaration of Candidacy Form and photo for ballot to the Election Board Office no later than April 24, 2020 at 4:00 P.M.

TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

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 Vice-Chairperson or Treasurer.

Must be 21 years or older for the Council Person #2 and Council Person #3 seats.

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 Drug-Free Workplace Policy and consent to drug testing.

F) Submit a Declaration of Candidacy Form, photo for ballot to the Election Board Office no later than April 24,

2020 at 4:00 p.m.

G) Submit the \$150.00 non-refundable filing fee to the Election Board Office no later than April 24, 2020 by 4:00 p.m. The filing fee must accompany the Declaration of Candidacy Form and must be paid by Cashier's Check or Money Order made payable to:

*Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Election Board*

No cash or personal checks accepted.

*** *Candidate profiles and pictures will be posted on the Nation's website www.pbpindiantribe.com and placed in the Eshkēnibēk (Spring Time) 2020 PBP Newspaper which will reach mailboxes around June 15, 2020.* ***

Aitkens Sworn In to Enrollment Review Committee



2.25.20 - PBP member Gilreath Aitkens was sworn into the Enrollment Review Committee in a brief ceremony.
From left: Lorrie Melchior - ERC Chair, Camilla Chouteau - TC Secretary, Jamie Hopkins - Member Services Coordinator, Joseph Rupnick - TC Chairman, Raphael Wahwassuck - TC member, Gilreath Aitkens - ERC member, Coleen Thomas - ERC Secretary, Wade Pahlmahlmie - TC Treasurer.

Enrollment
Town Hall
Meeting
3.21.20

- PBP Members 18 and up, are invited to attend an Enrollment Amendment Town Hall Meeting
- 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Old Bingo Hall, 16277 Q Road, Mayetta, KS

Treasurer Wade Pahmahmie: Report to the Nation



Good day to everyone, hope all is well as we navigate our way through the new year and begin our audit season as usual for this time of year. Audits for our two Low Income Housing Tax Credit Projects are well under way as is our Tobacco Compact audit. All three audits are due for completion in the first part of the year and soon after that we will then begin our Primary Government and Boys and Girls Club audits. Preparation for both the Primary Government and Boys and Girls Club audits picks up around the first of the year and we expect fieldwork to start in April with completion around mid-year. In addition to the annual audits we are in process of wrapping up feasibility and economic impact studies on a few of our economic development projects in addition to wrapping up and adopting our strategic plan. Below are a few additional highlights and updates on items of interest in the Tribe's financial area.

Online Bill Payment for Tribal Program Services

In mid-2019 we implemented our credit and debit card payment program which allows our Tribal Programs to accept credit and debit card payments in addition to paying with cash, checks and money orders. We are now in the process of setting up an online bill payment option where you will be able to pay bills online with credit and debit cards as well as make ACH payments utilizing your bank accounts. To do so you will be able to access the online bill payment function through the Tribe's website www.pbpindiantribe.com. Once on the online bill payment webpage you will be able to navigate through the secure payment link to select the type of payment you would like to make, whether you would like to use your credit card (or debit card) or make an ACH payment through your bank account and then finalize the payment by entering the required financial information and submit the payment for processing. Some examples of the types of payments you will be able

to make through the online bill payment option include payments for Ambulance Services, Tribal ID's, Employee Badges, Housing Services, Child Care Fees, Trash Services, Court Fees, Boys and Girls Club Fees, Facility Rentals just to name a few. We look forward to providing this additional payment option and hope to have it up and running in the next month or so.

Native American Veteran Tax Refund Deadline Approaching

Just another reminder that the application period to file for a refund under Kansas House Bill 2147 is going to be wrapping up here in the next few months, the deadline to file for a refund is June 30, 2020. The Kansas Income Tax Refund under House Bill 2147 is available for those Native American military veterans who were illegally taxed by the State of Kansas between the years of 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, Tribal Enrollment Verification, Form DD 214 and W-2's or Leave and Earnings Statements (LES). For PBPN Tribal Members we have an agreement with our CPAs to assist in the refund process from to start to finish. For assistance or questions on the refund you may contact my office at the information below.

Assisted Living Facility Research

Over the past few General Council meetings information has been requested and provided on the possibility of opening an Assisted Living Facility on the Reservation. Initial research on the project has found to construct such a facility would cost tens of millions of dollars and also cost millions thereafter to operate on an annual basis. Initial cost projections were based upon historical plans from 20 years ago and also from assumptions about current needs. To say the very least we are not sure of the exact need of the Tribe for this type of facility. With this being the case, we have now engaged a firm to assist us with a Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study. The Needs Assessment will help us identify current and potential residents for the facility, levels of care and services needed for the facility, and financial resources for Tribal Members to see if they qualify for Medicaid. Once the Needs Assessment is complete we can then move onto the Feasibility Study in order to estimate the cost of the facility to construct, cost to operate, cash flows, licensing requirements and other details to be worked out with the State of Kansas and Indian Health Services to help fund

the facility through Medicaid and a P.L. 93-638 Agreement. Once the Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study are complete the information can then be reported back to the General Council for review and determination on next steps. This phase of the project should be completed sometime around mid-year.

Per Capita Ordinance

For this quarter's article I would like to write a little about the Per Capita Ordinance. It is probably a document that you have heard of from time to time over the years but how does it come into play with the Per Capita Distributions that it was created to govern along with the other uses of our Net Gaming Revenues? The Per Capita Ordinance in its current form was last amended in February 2008 and is comprised of six different articles.

Article I of the Per Capita Ordinance deals with the declaration of the public policy and purpose of the ordinance. Under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) when tribes pay out net gaming revenues in the form of Per Capita Distributions it must have an approved plan for the allocation of those dollars along with how it allocates dollars for other uses such as Tribal Programs, Economic Development, General Welfare and Charitable Contributions.

Article II of the Per Capita Ordinance is titled Definitions and as the title suggests provides definitions for key components of the ordinance. This is where items appear such as defining who an Eligible Tribal Member is, Per Capita Pay Periods are established and Per Capita Distributions Dates are set. Additional definitions in the article are for items that are referenced throughout the ordinance that we may find more trivial such as definitions of Tribal Members, Tribal Council, General Council, etc.

Article III of the Per Capita Ordinance deals with the Revenue Allocation Plan and determines the percentages of how the net gaming revenues will be utilized. Net gaming revenues are budgeted according to the Revenue Allocation Plan as part of the annual budget process. For budgetary purposes if dollars must be moved within the categories of Tribal Programs, Per Capita Distributions, Economic Development, Charitable Contributions or General Welfare they may be moved in the fourth quarter of that fiscal year, however Per Capita cannot be increased beyond the established percentage in the Revenue Allocation Plan. With adequate planning and accurate budgeting processes, shifting of dollars between categories is generally not necessary.

Article IV of the Per Capita Ordinance deals directly with Eligibility for Per Capita Distributions. In article II of the ordinance an Eligible Tribal Member is defined, article IV further defines what makes a Tribal Member eligible. In short all living Tribal Members are eligible for Per Capita Distributions, but the section further discusses what makes a Tribal Member ineligible. Tribal Members who are disenrolled, withdraw from the Tribal Roll or pass away prior to the Eligibility Date are ineligible for the upcoming quarterly distribution. If those actions occur after the Eligibility Date then those Tribal Members are eligible for the quarterly distribution. Eligibility Dates are defined in article II as February 15th, May 15th, August 15th and November 15th.

Article V of the Per Capita Ordinance deals with the calculation and disbursement of the quarterly Per Capita distributions. Once the quarterly Per Capita Distribution is calculated it is then paid out to the adult Tribal Members and the minors' distributions are sent to the Trustee to be placed in each of the minors' individual accounts. Distribution Dates for the quarterly Per Capita Distributions are March 15th, June 15th, September 15th and December 15th. Article V also identifies how the minors funds will be paid out once they become adults as well as identifies what distributions can be made from the trust prior to the age of 18 which are referred to as Discretionary Distributions. Discretionary distributions are made only for the minor's health, education or welfare at the request of a parent or legal guardian.

Article VI of the Per Capita Ordinance deals with adoption and amendment of the Per Capita Ordinance. Most notable amendments to the Per Capita Ordinance have included the addition of the Minors Trust as well as adjustments to the Revenue Allocation Plan. Amendments must be approved by the General Council and comply with Federal Regulations as necessary.

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

2020 General Council Meeting Dates

- April 18
- July 18
- October 17

Enrolled Tribal Members age 18+ Only
Sign In begins 8 a.m. | Light breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Meeting begins 9 a.m.
Old Bingo Hall - 16277 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509

Charitable Contributions 4th Quarter Recipient List - Total Donated \$72,325

- American Heart Association
 - Boys & Girls Club of Manhattan
 - Boys & Girls Clubs of Topeka
 - CASA of Shawnee County, Inc.
- Community Village Lawrence
 - Glacial Hills, Jackson County Imagination Library
 - Holton Community Hospital
- Kansas Children's Service League
 - Let's Help
 - Lied Center of Kansas
 - Ms. Wheelchair of Kansas, Inc.
- Ozawkie American Legion Post 225
 - Ronald McDonald House
 - Salvation Army
 - Topeka Lulac Senior Center

Committee Openings

Peacemakers Circle	Social Services Advisory Board
<p>There are currently four (4) positions available on the Peacemakers Circle.</p> <p>The purpose of Peacemakers is to help resolve and mediate disputes through the application of traditional, cultural and restorative methods.</p> <p>Positions are open to enrolled Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation tribal members and are elected by the PBPN General Council. Peacemakers serve a four year term.</p>	<p>There are currently two (2) positions available on the Social Services Advisory Board.</p> <p>The mission of the SSAB is to establish standards that best serve the interests of the Nation's children and their families and reflect the unique societal values of the tribe including its culture, laws and customs.</p> <p>Positions are open to enrolled Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation tribal members. Interested individuals must submit a letter of interest and resume to:</p> <p>Email: Chrisbrewer@pbpnation.org, Lorriewahwassuck@pbpnation.org Subject: SSAB Position</p> <p>Or by mail: PBPN TC Secretary Office ATTN: SSAB Position 16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509</p>
<p>Interested individuals must submit a letter of interest to:</p> <p>Email: Chrisbrewer@pbpnation.org, Mariapatterson@pbpnation.org Subject: Peacemakers Circle Position</p> <p>Or by mail: PBPN Judicial Center ATTN: SSAB Position 11444158 Road, Mayetta, KS 66509</p> <p>And, must be present at the next General Council Meeting, set for April 18, 2020.</p>	

Watts New Healing to Wellness Judge



12.17.19 - PBPN Healing to Wellness Judge Shawn Watts stands with his family after the swearing in ceremony held at the PBPN Judicial Center.

The Honorable Shawn Watts was sworn in to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Judicial Council as a Tribal District Court Judge and will preside over the Healing to

Wellness Court.

The Honorable Charles Tripp, Administrative Court Judge presided over a brief swearing in ceremony for Judge Watts that took place on December 17, 2019, in the PBPN court chambers.

The Honorable Shawn Watts is currently a member of the KU Law lawyering faculty. He serves as the director of the Tribal Law and Government Center, Tribal Judicial Support Clinic and Mediation Clinic. Watts previously taught at his alma mater Columbia Law School, and has been a visiting professor at Yale Law School.

Judge Watts is a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

Rupnicki Joins Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Stephanne Rupnicki, along with Suzanne Bentley and Lori Raile have been elected to the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc. (KBC).

KBC Executive Director, Brenda Bandy, announced, "I am pleased to welcome our three newest members to our Board of Directors. They each have a unique background, with diverse experiences that make them an asset to the KBC's Board of Directors and to the organization as a whole."

Stephanne Rupnicki, a recognized member of the Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas, has served as the PBP Nation's Breastfeeding Peer Counselor since April 2018.

In 2019, Rupnicki received the Tribal Trailblazer award from the U.S. Breastfeeding Committee.

Rupnicki has a passion for breastfeeding support and advocacy. As a mother of 5 sons and 1 daughter, with husband John Rupnicki, Jr. (PBPN), she believes having support leads to a successful breastfeeding journey.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi community can reach Rupnicki at 785-305-0334 or through the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Breastfeeding Coalition Facebook page @PBPNBC.

Read Retires From Prairie Band Health Center

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Health Center Laboratory Director William "Bill" Read retired from employment in January 2020. Read served the Nation for 15 years, getting his start in 2004 when the PBPN health center was located in Holton, Kan.

Due to weather conditions in January, his celebration was re-scheduled three times! And took place on January 29, 2020, when Prairie Band Health Center Administration and staff recognized Read for his exemplary service. Under Read's leadership the PBHC lab earned COLAs highest accolade in 2017, along with exhibiting a strong reputation for quality work, excellent service and care to all patients during his tenure.

Read graduated from Fredonia State University of New York in 1969, and began his career with the U.S. Air Force that same year. In total, Read has provided 50 years of health services to patients.



"The Early Days" - William "Bill" Read stands near a centrifuge in one of the first labs he worked in, circa 1970.



1.29.20 - Bill reflects on his service with Prairie Band Health Center during his reception.

PBPN General Public Transportation Can Assist With Car Seats

The PBPN General Public Transportation (PBPN GPT) department is a coalition member of Safe Kids – Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and is now available to assist the community with car seats.

Rachael McCoy, PBPN GPT Lead Driver/Transportation Driver Supervisor recently attended training receiving certification as a Child Passenger Safety Technician. McCoy can assist the community in installing seats, providing seats, and answering car seat related questions from product recalls to car seat laws.

“As a mother, I know the importance of keeping our babies safe,” said McCoy.

McCoy can be reached at 785-966-2995 locally or toll-free 1-866-727-8181 for questions or to set up an appointment. The PBPN General Public Transportation department is located at 15185 K Road, Mayetta, Kan. Service is available Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and operates on a first-come, first-served basis. This project is funded by the KDOT Public Transportation Program.

Individuals can also access the Safe Kids website www.safekids.org for up-to-date information by state. Here are a few Child Passenger Safety Laws for the state of Kansas, courtesy of safekids.org:

- A child restraint is required for children 3 years and younger
- The maximum fine for a first car seat violation is \$60

- Children can start using a seat belt at age 8 or from age 4 to 7 if the child is over 80 pounds or taller than 57 inches
- The law provides immunity to a person rescuing a child from a hot car

Top 5 Recommendations for Protecting Your Child, courtesy of the Governors Highway Association & the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety:

- For the best protection, keep kids in a rear-facing car seat until they are at least age two and have outgrown the height or weight limit on the label of the car seat. Keep them in the safer rear-facing position as long as possible, because kids who ride rear-facing have the best protection for their head, neck and spine.
- Children who have outgrown their rear-facing car seat move to a forward-facing seat with a harness. Keep them in the forward-facing car seat until they reach the weight or height limits on the label of the car seat. Remember to use the car seat’s tether to secure the forward-facing car seat to the car.
- After a child gets too big for the weight or height limits listed on the forward-facing car seat’s label, move to a booster seat used with the vehicle lap and shoulder seat belt.
- A child is ready for using the seat belt alone when they pass these three tests: The child’s knees should bend at the edge of the seat when their backs and bottoms are against the vehicle seat back; the vehi-



2.14.20 - PBPN member Nib-Akwa Otero watches Rachael McCoy, Transportation Lead Driver adjust the harness straps of his car seat, as mom Megan Otero looks on from the door.

- cle lap belt fits snugly across the bony hips or upper thighs (not soft stomach), and the shoulder belt fits across the bony shoulder and chest (not across the soft face or neck.)
- All children under 13 years of age are safest riding in a back seat.

Safe Kids PBPN & Partners to Bring ATV Helmet Education to the JACO Community

Safe Kids Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Holton Community Hospital and Heritage Tractor of Topeka are working together to provide ATV helmets and safety education to Jackson County children 0-19 years of age in the coming months.

The Safe Kids Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Coalition is committed to helping families in the local community keep kids safe from preventable injuries – the #1 killer of kids in the United States. Safe Kids PBPN was recently awarded a \$10K grant from Polaris, a well-known outdoor sporting vehicle company, which produces ATVs or all-terrain vehicles. ATV’s are commonly used in the Jackson County community making it a great fit to raise awareness about the importance of wearing helmets and providing safety education.

Safe Kids PBPN is hosting a series of classes this summer in partnership with Holton Community Hospital and Heritage Tractor. Holton Community

Hospital will provide education on trauma and the importance of wearing a helmet during the class. Heritage Tractor is selling ATV helmets to Safe Kids PBPN at cost, creating an extensive savings which allows for more helmets to be purchased and distributed to community children for free.

The first class is set for June 3, 2020, at the PBPN Old Bingo Hall, 16277 Q Road, Mayetta, KS, from 6 to 7 p.m. with food and drinks provided. To attend the class, each child must pre-register in person, on or before Friday, May 1, 2020, by 4 p.m. at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Police Department, 16344 Q Road, Mayetta, KS, in order to be custom fitted for their ATV helmet. At the end of the class, each child will receive a free ATV helmet – over a \$100 value.

Information for the two additional classes will be made available in the near future. For questions about this program, contact Safe Kids PBPN Coordinator John Hurla at 785-966-6657.

Community Health Fair

WE WILL FOCUS ON PROVIDING A WELL CHILD CLINIC FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-5 YEARS OLD.

Free

- Tote Bags
- Door Prizes
- Snacks/Nutrition
- Resources
- Health Screens

- *Health Assessments
- *Hearing
- *Vision
- *Developmental

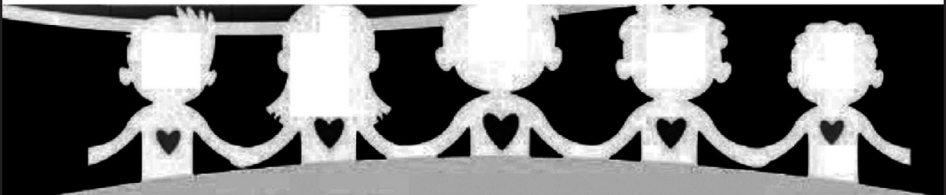
LOCATION: Child Care Center
15380 K Road
Mayetta, Ks

DATE: April 17,2020

TIME: 8:30am-2:00pm

Interested in setting up a booth?

For more information or to make an appointment call (785) 966-2527



Interested 2020-2021 Head Start School Year?

Prairie Band Potawatomi Early Childhood Education Center

This event is a collaborative effort of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Interagency Coordinating Council/Health Advisory Board

PBPN General Public Transportation Department Will Provide Rides for Donations

During the week of April 20, through April 24, 2020, the Prairie Band Potawatomi General Public Transportation department will accept donations of new household items as payment for rides.

Acceptable items include a family pack of toothbrushes, toothpaste, 4-pack toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, laundry soap, body soap, lotion, shampoo & conditioner, Clorox wipes, and similar cleaning supplies.

One item will cover a local ride, two items for an out-of-area ride, three items for Horton rides and four items for Lawrence rides.

Rachael McCoy, Transportation Lead Driver/Transportation Drivers Supervisor came up with the idea as a way for the department to give back to the PBPN community. Due to the nature of their work, Transportation staff are rarely available to participate in community service events.

“With our department always being on-demand, I thought rides in exchange for donation items would allow us to continue providing our service while also giving back to the community. It’s such a good feeling to be able to give back,” said McCoy.

McCoy reached out to several departments to see if they had any need, and the Social Services department responded to the opportunity to collaborate. At the end of the week, all items will be delivered to the PBPN Children and Family Services program to assist local families in need.

Riders are still able to pay the normal fare for rides if they so choose with all



2.14.20 - PBPN GPT staff show off donation items that will be collected during the April donation drive. From left: John Wahwassuck, Terry Cross Bear, Rick Rector, Danielle Moss, Maggie Adame-Wood, Jarvis Ramirez, front: Celeste Weber and Rachael McCoy.

proceeds benefiting the donation. For any questions regarding the donation drive, contact the PBPN General Public Transportation department at 785-966-2995 locally, or toll-free

1-866-727-8181. Service is available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. This program is funded by the KDOT Public Transportation Program.

Elder Assistance Program Available

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Elder Assistance Program is a resource available to all enrolled PBPN members age 65 and older nationwide.

The EAP reimburses or directly pays for medical, dental, or other health care expenses not otherwise covered by insurance, Purchased Referred Care, or other benefit programs.

A few examples of health care expenses that could be subject to consideration for assistance are:

- ◆ Acupuncture
- ◆ Artificial limbs
- ◆ Crutches
- ◆ Hearing aids

- ◆ Dentures
- ◆ Prescription eye glasses
- ◆ Orthopedic devices
- ◆ Oxygen

A complete list is included in the Elder Assistance Program policy available on the Nation’s website, www.pbpindiantribe.com/health-center/.

This program is administered by the PBPN Health Center Purchased Referred Care staff. For more information about the program or to submit an application, please contact the PRC team at 785-966-8282 or 785-966-8270.

2020 Buffalo Elder Supplement

The Buffalo Elder Supplement is a resource available to enrolled PBPN members age 50 and older. Distributions will occur Monday through Thursdays only, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., in accordance with the following schedule:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ☛ March 16 through March 19 | ☛ September 14 through September 17 |
| ☛ April 13 through April 16 | ☛ October 19 through October 22 |
| ☛ May 11 through May 14 | ☛ November 16 through November 19 |
| ☛ June 15 through June 18 | ☛ December 14 through December 17 |
| ☛ July 13 through July 16 | |
| ☛ August 10 through August 13 | |

If for any reason the schedule should change, notification will be made one month in advance. The office is closed on federal holidays and those dates deemed by the PBP Nation. Requests for ceremonies and services can be made any time during office hours. For questions, contact 785-966-2737.

Walker Retires

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Front Desk Clerk Cheryl Walker (PBPN) retired from employment with the Nation on Friday, January 31, 2020.

Walker started her 19 year run in 2001 as a Mail Clerk before transitioning to the Government Center Front Desk. If you have called in to the Nation any time in the last 10 years, you probably spoke with Cheryl!

Walker was well known for her good nature towards all she greeted in person and over the phone.

A Retirement Ceremony was held in Walker’s honor, and she was gifted a Pendleton blanket for her years of service.



1.31.20 - Retired PBPN staff Cheryl Walker wears the Pendleton blanket she received for 19 years of service to the Nation.

McCoy to Perform at PBCR



Visit Prairieband.com to purchases tickets!

MMIWP Legislation Introduced in Kansas



2.12.20 - Various members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation joined Victors as she announced the new legislation to address MMIW and men in Kansas. From left: PBPB Tribal Council Member Raphael Wahwassuck, Pannoquah Wahwassuck (PBPB), Ma’Ko’Quah Abigail Jones (PBPB), Rep. Ponka-We Victors (Ponca/Tohono O’odham), Liana Onnen (PBPB), and PBPB Native Vote Committee Members Michelle Simon (PBPB) and Verna Simon (Kickapoo).

Kansas House Representative

Ponka-We Victors introduced legislation on February 12, 2020, as a first step for the state of Kansas to address the national epidemic of missing and murdered indigenous women (MMIW) and men.

The Kansas legislature does not

currently have any policy addressing human trafficking of Indigenous people in Kansas. If passed, this bill will authorize the Kansas Attorney General, in conjunction with other appropriate state agencies, to provide training on human trafficking and missing and murdered Indigenous people for various law enforcement

bureaus across the state of Kansas.

General Derek Schmidt.

“It’s devastating that Native Americans are still fighting for basic human rights. This bill will be a positive first step toward bringing awareness to this issue, and acknowledging that these Indigenous people are missing” relayed Victors in a prepared statement.

The U.S. Department of Justice reports that American Indian women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average. The state of Kansas is home to four Native American tribes, the Iowa Tribe of Kansas, Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska, Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Additionally, there is a substantial presence of Indigenous peoples in Topeka, Wichita and Lawrence, Kansas.

On February 19, 2020, the Committee on Judiciary, chaired by Republican Representative Fred Patton and composed of 15 other Representatives heard testimony from seven individuals and received a letter of neutral testimony from Kansas Attorney

“Our lives are just as important as anybody else’s. We are citizens of this state, and we are citizens of this country,” stated Lawrence resident, Shelley Eagleman-Bointy (Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux) during her testimony on behalf of HB 2646.

Eagleman-Bointy was one of six Native American women that provided compelling testimony in support of HB 2646, along with testimony delivered by Legal and Policy Director of the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence. To listen to the testimony, visit www.pbpindiantribe.com.

The Committee on Judiciary recommended HB 2646 for passage on February 21, 2020. The bill then went before the Committee of the Whole, and was passed as a final action, 125 for, 0 against, on February 26, 2020.

House Bill 2646 will now go before the Kansas Senate for review. If passed by the Senate, the bill would then go before Governor Kelly for final approval or veto.

This Is My Story....Is It Yours Too?

Submitted by: Michelle Gray/PBPB Social Services Department

It’s Friday! The weekend. You decided to get dolled up and meet your friends at the movie theater to see the movie that everyone is talking about! You ask your boyfriend if it’s ok to go. He says ‘yes’ and says that he will meet you there. Your mom drops you off and soon you find yourself laughing and having a great time. Not a care in the world!

You spot your boyfriend in the parking lot. Your heart flutters for a split second. The closer he gets to you the more nauseous you feel. You look around you. You realize your friend, Dave, is standing close to you. You quickly move so there is plenty of distance between you and Dave, hoping your boyfriend didn’t notice. Your boyfriend walks up, grabs you and gives you a hug that’s so hard it feels like your ribs are going to break. You want to tell him to stop but, can’t find the courage to

say anything. Finally, he stops hugging you but, quickly grabs your hand in an aggressive way. You feel the blood rushing out of your fingers. You still can’t find the courage to say anything. If you do, you know he’ll embarrass you in front of your friends again. Telling you how stupid and worthless you are and then to make it worse, he would take you to his car to teach you “a lesson”. You still haven’t gotten over the last time he taught you a lesson by hitting and choking you.

This story is all too familiar to a lot of teens. One in three teens in the U.S. will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse by someone they are in a relationship with before the time that they reach adulthood.* In a single year, nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner.*

Abuse comes in many forms:

<i>PHYSICAL</i>	<i>EMOTIONAL/VERBAL</i>	<i>DIGITAL</i>	<i>FINANCIAL</i>	<i>SEXUAL</i>
Hitting	Putting you down	Sending threats via text, social media or email	Taking your paychecks	Restricting access to birth control
Slapping	Embarrassing you in public, threatening you in any way	Stalking or humiliating you on social media	Preventing you from working	Pressuring or forcing you to do anything sexual without your consent like forcing you to have sex or to perform sexual activity you are not comfortable with.
Choking	Telling you what to do, telling you what to wear	Logging into your social media or email accounts without permission	Controlling where you work	Forcing you to watch pornography or participate in pornographic videos; sexting
Shoving	Being jealous of your friends; letting you know who you can be friends with	Forcing you to share your passwords	Making you buy them things, but not letting you buy things for yourself	Taken from: https://www.loveisrespect.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/TDVAM-Action-Guide-2020-For-Teens.pdf (teen dating violence awareness month action guide pg 7)

*Statistics provided by the Break the Cycle 2011 College Dating Violence and Abuse Poll and loveisrespect.org.

Do you know of someone experiencing dating violence? What can you do?

- Talk to your friend. Let them know that you are concerned for their safety and you want to help.
- Be supportive and listen.
- Do not judge. Dating violence can happen to anyone at anytime and anywhere. Dating violence has no boundaries.
- Encourage your friend to seek help and

then let them know that they are not alone. Provide them with resources.

Everyone deserves to be in a healthy relationship where there is honest communication, safety, respect, and trust.

If you are experiencing dating violence or you know of someone that is experienc-

ing dating violence, there is help.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Social Services Tribal Victim Services
11400 158th Rd
Mayetta, KS 66509
24/7 Crisis hotline: 866-966-0173

Love is respect. org
<https://www.loveisrespect.org/teendvmonth/>
1-866-331-9474
Text: loveis to 22522
Chat option on their website

PBPN Bison Update



11.25.19 - A few of the 108 bison that were rounded up and sold at the Salina Auction on December 6, 2019. The PBPN herd now sits at 132 head of bison.

Eagles on the Rez



2.27.20 - An eagle's nest has been located on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation along the bank of Big Soldier Creek.

The nest, which measures roughly 5 feet across sits in the branches of a sycamore tree approximately 80 feet tall. The sounds of eaglets could be heard coming from the nest.

The birds are a welcome sight to the community.

**Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Partnership Meeting #2
Friday March 27, 2020
10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**PBPN Bingo Hall
(Red Morton Building south of the Government Center)
16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS**

You're invited to participate in the second Partnership Meeting for the

**Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Soldier Creek Watershed
Feasibility Study and
Land and Water Management Plan!**

This meeting builds upon input we received in the March 6, 2019 meeting. Your input will help us to identify ongoing and future partnership opportunities and ways to enhance management of Tribal land and water resources.

Background

The PBPN considers water to be one of their most important natural and cultural resources.

Protection of aquatic resources and their associated terrestrial resources has biological, cultural, and economic benefits due to the significance of the consumption of fish and wildlife.

In addition to the goal of protecting and managing a healthy environment, the PBPN also has a goal of creating a healthy community through partnerships.

The project team has been busy collecting data and formulating alternatives for the Feasibility Study and the Land and Water Management Plan and we are looking forward to sharing our findings with you.

Please RSVP to Laurie Brown at laurie@bevireo.com

PBPN P.E.P. Updates

- ✿ The Road & Bridge Department broke ground and began prepping the wetlands restoration site in January 2020.
- ✿ PBPN P.E.P. was awarded a BIA Water Management Grant for water management purposes. The cooperative study between U.S. Geological Survey and the PBPN P.E.P. began in 2020. Senior Environmental Technician Verna Potts is the project lead and will provide updates throughout the year.
- ✿ To continue environmental friendly practices, PEP is transitioning to make paperless billing of monthly curbside disposal services an option. Please call 785-966-2946 to submit your email address to your account.
- ✿ PBPN P.E.P. staff recently worked with University of Kansas graduate student Ian Fannin-Hughes on a comprehensive Community Resilience Plan. The plan highlights the strengths and areas for improvement within the PBPN.

We Count! - 2020 Census Information

CENSUS DAY
April 1, 2020

**Where ever you live on
Census Day is the place you
use to complete your
census form**

Responding to the census helps communities get the funding they need and helps businesses make data-driven decisions that grow the economy. Census data impact our daily lives, informing important decisions about funding for services and infrastructure in our community, including health care, senior centers, jobs, political representation, roads, schools, and businesses. More than \$675 billion in federal funding flows back to states and local communities each year based on census data.

Under Title 13 of the U.S. Code, the Census Bureau cannot release any identifiable information

about individuals, households, or businesses, even to law enforcement agencies or housing departments. Do not under report the people in your household. Everyone needs to be counted.

By law, your census responses cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way—not by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), not by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), not by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and not by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The law requires the Census Bureau to keep your information confidential and use your responses only to produce statistics.

For Native American peoples across the U.S. this census will include the ability to self-identify with your tribal Nation. If completing online look for "Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation." If completing the paper form, write it in. By identifying with the Nation, you provide the PBP Nation with valuable statistics which are used in strategic planning and assists the Nation in

qualifying for grant funding regardless of your geographic location. To see PBPN statistics based on the 2010 Census visit: [Census.gov/tribal](https://www.census.gov/tribal).

The first person entered on the Census form determines the status of the entire household. If you are Native American and list yourself first, your entire household will be counted as such, regardless if the other occupants identify as Native American or another background. Native American children age 15 and over can be listed as the head of household.

The Census Bureau will never ask for any of the following:

- Social Security Numbers
- Bank or Credit Card Information
- Money or Donations
- Anything on behalf of a Political Party

If anyone in the PBPN Community has specific questions about the 2020 Census, contact Michelle Simon, 2020 Census Liaison at Michellesimon@pbpnation.org or 785-966-3920.

TIMELINE

March 12 - 20 - Check your mail!
Invitations to respond to the 2020 Census will arrive in your mailbox. The invitation will include instructions for responding online at 2020census.gov or by phone.

March 21 - 31 - Respond now
This is the height of reporting time, members of the PBPN community can utilize the Education Computer Lab, located in the Government Center lower level if needed.

April 1 - 7 - Fill out the paper form
If you have not responded online or by phone, a paper form will arrive in your mailbox. Complete it and send it in.

Mid-April 2020 - A knock at your door
If you do not self respond, an enumerator will come to your home and allow you to respond verbally.

“Potawatomi Trail Of Death” Resolution Introduced in U.S. Senate

By: Native News Online Staff
Courtesy of NativeNewsOnline.net
Published 2.24.20

WASHINGTON — A resolution recognizing the forced removal of Potawatomi people from their homelands east of the Mississippi River to Kansas and Oklahoma was introduced by U.S. Senators Todd Young (R-IN), U.S. Senators Gary Peters (D-MI) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) last week.

The forced removal is known as the “Potawatomi Trail of Death” because over the course of 61 days in 1838, 40 Potawatomi died along the long and harsh journey.

“The Senate recognizes the special legal and political relationship Indian Tribes have with the United States and the solemn covenant that the Potawatomi people of the United States share with the land; and acknowledges the extreme hardship, violence, and maltreatment inflicted on the Potawatomi people by the United States through the cruel and ill-conceived policy of forcible removal of the Potawatomi people from their homeland east of the Mississippi River,” the Senators said in the resolution.

Part of the resolution reads:

“The Potawatomi people, collectively known as the “Potawatomi Nation”, are comprised of members of the many villages, communities, and bands that resided in their homeland in the southern Great Lakes region of the present day States of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin. Their advanced farming techniques, extensive trade and commerce networks, and well-established transportation routes of the Potawatomi Nation had a significant influence on the early history of North America”

The full resolution can be found online at: [young.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/DUN20039.pdf](https://www.young.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/DUN20039.pdf)

“The Senate resolution being sponsored by Senator Young acknowledges a profound historical tragedy suffered by Potawatomi people that has deeply affected Potawatomi through the generations and to the present day,” said Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Chairman Matt Wesaw. “We want to express our deep gratitude to Senator Young for opening a dialogue with the Pokagon Band on this important subject, and we also want to thank Senator Stabenow and Senator Peters for stepping forward to co-sponsor this important resolution.”

During the Potawatomi Trail of Death, some Potawatomi fled north in parts of Michigan, Wisconsin and even Canada to escape relocation to the West. Today, four Potawatomi tribes are located in Michigan: the Hannahville Indian Community, the Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians of Michigan (commonly known as the Gun Lake Tribe), Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi, and the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. The Forest County Potawatomi Community is located in Wisconsin.

The resolution points out that the legislative measure “does not seek authorizes or supports any claim against the United States; or serves as a settlement of any claim against 10 the United States.”

It is purely done to recognize the injustice done to the Potawatomi during the time of removal in United States history.

The Potawatomi People: Restoring Connection

The story of the Potawatomi People is expanding to include the voices of some formerly unrecognized relatives. Due to the origins of this history, only now, after many, many generations are some of the First Nations people willing to talk about and claim their heritage as Potawatomi peoples.

In the last couple years, Geewadin Elliot, an enrolled member of the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation has brought to light the little-known story of his people and their connection to the great Potawatomi Nation.

Most Potawatomi people are aware that our shared roots stem from the Great Lakes region of present-day America, regardless of where we stand today. Thanks to President Andrew Jackson’s Indian Removal Act of 1830, and the subsequent signing of the 1833 Treaty of Chicago, the Potawatomi people found themselves split apart and forced to confront a new and harsh reality.

Part of that reality in the mid-to-late 1800s included Potawatomi people relocating into present-day Canadian territory and falling in with Ojibwe First Nations for protection. Those Potawatomi people had bounties on their heads, and rather than be hunted down in the United States they became refugees and crossed the border to stay alive. Due to the real consequences if they were found out, many of the dislocated Potawatomi hid in plain sight with the Ojibwe and did not speak about their true identities as Potawatomi.

In 1902, a band of Potawatomi in northern Wisconsin sent word to Congress requesting payment for outstanding annuities and provisions that were not received under the 1833 treaty of Chicago. In 1906 official action was taken by the Secretary of

Interior to investigate the claim, and from this action came the Wooster Roll compiled in 1907.

The Wooster Roll establishes the ties between the present-day peoples of some Ojibwe First Nations and their roots to the Potawatomi people. The Wooster Roll lists 1880 individuals, of these 457 resided in Wisconsin and Michigan, and the remainder were located in 29 different locations in Ontario, Canada including Wasauksing, Cape Croker, Manitoulin Island and Christian Island.

It was through Elliot’s father, the late Arthur “Butch” Elliot that this story continues on today. Elliot’s father Butch learned of his own Potawatomi ancestry, and it set him on a path of discovering more about not only his own personal history but the shared story of those in his community of Cape Croker or Neyaashiinigmiiing. Butch was working on rebuilding connections to the Potawatomi when he passed in 2008. Butch’s findings were subsequently published in the 2009 book, “The Potawatomi: our history, our story, our future,” which is available at www.menomineebooks.com.

Geewadin Elliot, now a Councillor for the Nawash Unceded First Nation, has brought his father’s legacy forward by sharing it at the annual Potawatomi Gathering since 2017. The Neyaashiinigmiiing and G’chimnissing (Beausoleil First Nation) were recognized and participated in the 2019 Potawatomi Gathering. Elliot has called for formal recognition by way of resolution from the 9 recognized bands of Potawatomi and both Nations are active in the ongoing Potawatomi Economic Tribal Summit.

“Given the circumstances and the distance between us, it is remarkable to witness the spirit, the fire, that still connects us” stated Elliot.

Call for Art

The PBPB Cultural Heritage Committee is seeking art to exhibit at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

Details & Requirements

- The artist must be a member of one of the Potawatomi bands or a descendant of a member.
- We are looking specifically for two pieces that will fit within wall-hung cases measuring 12” x 12”, but all other applicable items are also welcome.
- Artwork may be traditional, contemporary, or a combination.

- Any medium is accepted (i.e. beadwork, weaving, painting, carving, sculpting, jewelry, applique, photography, etc.)
- Art will be exhibited in the Prairie Band Casino & Resort Exhibit Hall from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. on Friday, April 17, 2020. During this time, the artist may be present to discuss their work with the public (not required).
- Art will be judged by Cultural Heritage Committee members with results announced at the end of the day on April 17, 2020.

- Prizes will be awarded.

How to Submit

If you are interested in submitting your artwork, please email Jennifer Hansford at Jennifer.hansford@PBConst.com and Michelle Simon at Michellesimon@pbpnation.org. Submissions are due on April 14, 2020 by the end of the day. Digital submissions are acceptable for those not in the area.

New Language App

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi have launched a new Potawatomi Language Course through the Mango Language application. It is available on Google Play and in the App Store for Iphone users.

The course is free to all and will consist of 10 chapters to be published by the end of 2020, using a staggered release, it was reported. The first chapter of lessons is currently available.

The goal of the app is to teach the everyday, practical use of the Potawatomi language.

Nishnabek Ntewmèn - “Who We Are”

Brown Receives Full Circle Scholarship



12.3.19 - Kimberly Brown, daughter of Doris Shopteese, was selected for the American Indian College Fund 2019-2020 Full Circle Scholarship-Reboot Representation Computer Science Student Success Program for Native American Women.

Brown is a Hiawatha High School 2016 graduate is currently a senior attending Fort Hays State University.

The American Indian College Fund and leading tech companies have come together to multiply their impact, align their agendas, and pool their resources to address the gender gap for underrepresented women of color in tech.

The American Indian College Fund provides scholarships to American Indian and Alaska Native college students seeking under- graduate and graduate degrees at: – Tribal colleges & universities – All nonprofit & accredited schools.

(Submitted by the family, courtesy of Hiawatha World - online edition)

TTiwenmo Eginigyen



Happy birthday sista!
February 24!
You're not getting older...
You're getting better!

Happy 45th Birthday!
Robert Lara - May 28
Love,
Mom

Wilson Graduates Kenner Police Academy



PBPN Member Lorraine Steward Wilson, daughter of the late Larry Gene Steward, Sr., graduated from Kenner Police academy in Kenner, Louisiana.

Lorraine recieved full state comission from the State of Louisiana this past August. This is her third Law Enforcement training.

She began her career 18years ago from Louisiana community college with a degree in Investigations with honors. After hurricane Katrina, she recieved her degree as an Equine

Cruelty investigator from Code 3 law Enforcement from State of Missouri college.

She and her daughter Goldie then both joined the Gretna Louisiana police department as mounted officers after training and gentleing their BLM Wild mustang with whom they took to NOPD International Mounted peace officers academy along with their half blind horse and both horses and women completed with honors.

Lorraine is currently employed by Dillard University PD.

In Remembrance

In Remembrance of Jim Potter

June 6th would of been our 28th wedding anniversary. I have nothing but loving thoughts and memories of our time together. June 11th you will be gone for 6 years. I miss and love you more than I can say.

Love,
Patty Potter

In Remembrance of Ricky Clark

You left unexpectedly on June 20th - 4 years ago. It really hurts to lose my baby. I love and miss you so much.

Love you,
Mom, Patricia Potter

Darling Receives Government Leadership Award

Nedra Darling, PBPN tribal member received the Government Leadership Award from the National Congress of American Indians on February 11, 2020, during NCAI's 22nd Annual Leadership Awards Ceremony.

“The Leadership Awards Ceremony is one small way we can show our appreciation for those who have committed tremendous service to tribal communities,” said Fawn Sharp, NCAI President.

Darling served the United States Department of the Interior for many, many years playing an instrumental role in informing and guiding the federal government’s administration of its trust responsibility to tribal nations across multiple presidential administrations, and has served as mentor to many young Native professionals.



Photo courtesy of: Native News Online - Levi Rickert (PBPN)

Mother-Daughter Duo Graduate



PBPN Member Eunice Jones and her daughter Nevaeh walked accross Washburn University Lee Arena Stage together on December 12, 2019.

Eunice took a huge step in her health career, completing the Licensed Practical Nusring program and Nevaeh completed a Health Care Technology program.

Pen Pal Request



Hi,

There's a handful of good people in prison. I'm reaching out hoping to find some good people to talk to. I've been in 25 years. I have 14 months to go. As a boy I liked to smoke, drink, steal and hang out. As a man, I'm into my heritage, my family and staying free when I get out. I'm lonely, I'm institutionalized and my social skills are shot. I'm extremely smart, have a great heart and I am guided by my ancestors. Email me via the Jpay.com mobile app or write me direct at:

Wade Jones #122078
Liberty C.I.
11064 NW Dempsey Barron Road
Bristol, FL 32321

I have a great spirit I would love to share with some of my Relatives.

Events

Prairie Band Casino & Resort

25 MOWERS IN 5 DAYS!

MOW

WAYS TO

PLAY

SUNDAYS IN MARCH



Five guests will each win a John Deere™ riding mower and \$1,000 Prairie Cash each Sunday in March from 1 PM – 5 PM!



BONUS:

Starting February 24, receive ten bonus drawing tickets for every ten points earned.

Reactivate drawing tickets each promotional day for more chances to win!



Join us for Mow Ways to Play, Sundays in March
Earn drawing tickets now to March 29th for your chance to win a John Deere Mower and \$1,000 Prairie Cash!

Neal McCoy
Performing in the Great Lakes Ballroom, experience your favorite country artist as he performs his top hits including “No Doubt About It”, “The Shake”, “Wink”, and “Billy’s Got His Beer Goggles On.”

Kansas
Make sure to get your tickets to see KANSAS performing LIVE in the Great Lakes Ballroom. Top hits include “Carry on Wayward Son,” “Dust in the Wind,” and “Point of Know Return.”

Shot at a Chevy
Beginning April 1, swipe at a game kiosk for your chance to win a Chevy Trailblazer.
Join us on April 26th for drawings every 15 minutes from 1:00pm to 4:45PM for your chance to win Prairie Cash or a Chevy Trailblazer

Mustangs in May
We will be giving away five Ford Mustangs! Join us every Sunday in May for your chance to win. Start earning drawings tickets on April 20th.

Bingo Car Giveaway
Help us celebrate our 4th anniversary on Friday, June 5th. We will be giving away FREE totes and a NEW Car. Start earning tickets beginning May 13th.

Follow Along
Prairie Band Casino & Resort has a live link to watch history in the making as the new expansion pieces are constructed.
Visit: https://app.truelook.com/?u-sp1568311738#tl_live

Community

SPRING SWAP

If you have items you no longer want, please donate them at the Spring Swap so we can provide items to others in the community!

Old Bingo Hall 16277 Q Rd Mayetta, KS 66509

clean, gently used clothing (all sizes)

toys-cleaned & in working order

clean, gently used home furnishings

Drop Off:

April 1st 2020 8am-6pm

(8am-130pm drop off @ Social Services, 130pm-6pm drop off @ Old Bingo Hall, if assistance is needed please call 966-8331 to make an appt)

Swap Hours:

April 2nd 2020 8am-12pm (clients only)

April 2nd 2020 12pm-6pm (everyone)

April 3rd 2020 8am-2pm (everyone)

PBPN BOYS & GIRLS CLUB WILL BE SELLING FOOD TO ENJOY WHILE YOU SHOP!

Sponsored by PBPN Social Services Dept.

Community Earth Day Celebration

04.19.20

save the dates

04.24.20 Community Roadside Cleanup

SAVE

THE

DATE

POTAWATOMI GATHERING

Hosted by the Hannahville Indian Community

JULY 27–AUGUST 1, 2020

Tentative Schedule

MONDAY

Language Conference

TUESDAY

Language Conference

WEDNESDAY

Golf Tournament, Youth Conference

THURSDAY

Golf Tournament, Sports Tournaments, Workshops

FRIDAY

Workshops, Pow Wow, Meetings (Council & Others)

SATURDAY

Pow Wow

WATCH FOR UPDATES ON WWW.HANNAHVILLE.NET

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Kambottek

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



Dean Shepard

KUNA, ID - Dean Stanley Shepard passed away peacefully on November 7, 2019, at the age of 83, surrounded by his family in Kuna, Idaho.

Dean was born September 22, 1936, in Shoshone, Idaho to Frank and Lillian Shepard. He was a proud member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Kansas.

He grew up in the Shoshone Idaho area with open ranges, rivers and lots of fun outdoor activities with his family and friends.

After graduating high school, Dean moved to northern Utah where he met the first love of his life and married Judy Ann Larsen. They had three children; Becky, Douglas, and Shelly. They relocated to Idaho Falls, Idaho where he applied and was accepted in the local fire department. He loved all aspects of his job and steadily moved up the ranks to finally become the department's Fire Inspector. He taught many trainees their individual assigned duties throughout his tenure there. His next step moved him back to Utah as a prison guard at the state penitentiary, which he truly enjoyed and performed with pride.

Dean loved anything in the outdoors. Camping, fishing, hunting and hiking were among his favorites. He enjoyed many hunting trips to provide his family with much-needed food for many years. He took his young family on many camping trips to the mountains and also took them to the desert to ride dirt bikes which he taught each of his children to do so they could ride as a family. He took his family several times a year to play in the snow with toboggans, hot chocolate, and bonfires. He loved to tell scary stories around the campfire. He had much love for his woodworking crafts and spent many hours whittling, carving and making wooden objects.

Dean found the second love of his life in Utah, Barbara. They married and eventually moved to various cities within Idaho and lastly to Kuna, Idaho.

Dean is survived by his wife Barbara, two daughters, Becky and Shelly, seven grandchildren, Tracie Ann, Sheenah, Samuel, Isaac, Amber, Danny, Jeffrey and thirteen great-grandchildren, Patrick, Kyler, Caleb, Tia, Dakota, Bailey, Amethyst, Sterling, Amber Star, David and Tyler.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank R. Shepard and Lillian (Bates) two sisters, Leona and Linda, one brother Dewayne, and his son Douglas.

- Courtesy of the Shepard family



Sheila Fitzgerald

TOPEKA, KS – Sheila Ann Fitzgerald, 67, of Topeka, died Friday, December 20, 2019, at the Midland Hospice House in Topeka.

She was born on September 24, 1952, in Topeka, the daughter of Logie and Zelda Mitchell Martinez. She graduated from Hayden High School in 1970 and earned her LPN Certificate from Haskell University.

Sheila was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church.

She had worked as an LPN at the Memorial Hospital until it closed. She then worked at St. Francis Hospital and the Presbyterian Manor, all in Topeka.

She married Michael Clair Fitzgerald. He preceded her in death.

Sheila was also preceded in death by her parents, a son, Michael Christopher Fitzgerald, and a brother, Ralph Martinez.

Survivors include a son, Timothy Dyer; a brother, Manuel Martinez; a sister, Laura Thackery; one grandson, Timothy Dyer, Jr., one nephew, Clinton Thackery, one niece, Heather Thackery and a great niece, Cheyenne Thackery, all of Topeka.

Memorial services will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, December 27th at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt. A Rosary will be prayed at 10:00 a.m. Friday with visitation following until service time. Burial will follow in the Shipshee Cemetery, west of Mayetta. Online condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

- Courtesy of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home



Phyllis Hall

CORTEZ, CO – Phyllis Maurine Rice Hall passed away on December 21, 2019. Phyllis was born in Quinter, Grove County, KS on June 10, 1934, to Levi Leon Rice and Vera Loree Chestnut Rice. Phyllis was the great-granddaughter of Thomas J. Chestnut, an Irish immigrant, and granddaughter of Maggie Wah-Pe-Ko-Niah, a Native American of the Sauk and Fox Nation, and granddaughter of Isaac Rice of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

When Phyllis was 14 she met Victor Hall in Aurora, CO. Victor was from Dove Creek, CO. In October of 1952, they were married. To this union, they had four children, Steven Blane Hall (Connie) of Mesquite, NV, Vickie Hall Cooke of Cahone, CO, Timothy Wayne Hall of Cortez, CO, and Derek Duane Hall (Kim) of Arvada, CO. They have 13 grandchildren, Bri, Chip, Dani (Chuck), Natasha (Jason), Maegan (Rocky), Rachel, Nick, Shiloh, Ben (Mica), Marv (Cinda), Nichole, Jake (Karla), and Judy (Lester); 11 great-grandchildren, Evalyn, Vivian, Hudson, Jaron, Chelsea, Chambrielle, Chayanne, Kash, Kylina, Ariana, and Leoric; and four great-great-grandchildren Keagen, Kingston, Noah, and River. Phyllis was preceded in death by her husband, Victor Hall; her parents; and her brother.

Courtesy of Ertel Funeral Home

Jani Blanton

TOPEKA, KS – Jani Gay Blanton, 59, of Topeka, KS passed away on December 17, 2019. She was born October 20, 1960. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

She is preceded in death by her father, Joseph Wabske.

Robert Lacy

ODESSA, TX – Robert Wayne Lacey, 66, of Odessa, Texas passed away on approximately December 6, 2019. He was born January 21, 1953. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.



Debra Matchie-Wakolee

HIAWATHA, KS – Debra Ann “Ceezan” Matchie-Wakolee, 64, of Hiawatha, KS, passed away Wednesday, December 25, 2019, at Maple Heights Nursing Home. She was born February 21, 1955, in Holton, KS, the daughter of Amil and Regina (McKinney) Matchie.

Debra graduated from Holton High School in 1973 and attended Haskell Junior College and Highland Community College. She also attended Washburn University, earning her Bachelors Degree.

In 1975 Debra worked as an Administrative Assistant for the State Office in Washington D.C. She was a Financial Aid Officer for Haskell University. Later she was an Administrative Assistant in social work for Kickapoo Reservation and J.O.M. Coordinator for Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation.

Debra was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Drum Religion.

She married Richard Wakolee; they later divorced.

Survivors include 7 children, Heather Matchie (Mike) of Topeka, KS, Dawn Matchie (Skup) of the Potawatomi Reservation and Valerie Blackbird-Maguire (Chris) of Oklahoma, Wishkno Wakole (Justine) of Mayetta, KS, Charli Wakole (Kevin) of Horton, KS, Carmen Wakole (Jon) of Horton, KS and Gonk Wakole (Amber) of Horton, KS; 4 brothers, Jason Matchie of Topeka, KS, Leland Matchie of Mayetta, KS, Billy Matchie of Mayetta, KS and Mark Matchie of Topeka, KS; 30 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Viewing will be Friday evening at Mawah-quah's, 15320 Q Rd, Mayetta, KS 66509. Drum Services will be Saturday evening, December 28, 2019, at the Danceground Building. Burial will be Sunday afternoon at Danceground Cemetery. Mercer Funeral Home in Holton is in charge of arrangements. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

- Courtesy Mercer Funeral Home

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



Gary Buskirk

MAYETTA, KS – Gary Wayne “Sosah” Buskirk, Sr., 67, of Mayetta, KS passed away Saturday, December 28, 2019 at Rossville Manor. He was born October 4, 1950 in Claremore, Oklahoma. The son of Ada Levier (Mahkuk) and Eugene Buskirk.

Gary attended Haskell Institute and Washburn Vocation School. He worked at Allischalmers, Goodyear, PBPN Maintenance and Hamms Construction.

He was a member of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Native American Church Mayetta Chapter One.

Survivors include 3 daughters; Ella Mzhickteno (Buskirk) of Mayetta, Fawn Buskirk of Holton and Sheena Buskirk of Ottawa; 6 sons, Caine (Tucker) Buskirk of Holton, Wayne Russel of Missouri, Lance Buskirk of Rossville, Gary Buskirk, JR., James Buskirk and Matthew Buskirk of Mayetta; a brother, Mike Odell of Montana; a sister Margret Mahkuk of Mayetta; 20 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Gary was preceded in death by a daughter Lahoma Buskirk; his mother Ada Levier; his father, Eugene Buskirk; a brother, Edgar Levier; step-father Bernard Fogg and ex-wife Joy Buskirk.

Gary will always be remembered by selflessness, sense of humor, creativity, love for his family, love for hunting and fish and a loving brother and father to all. He will be forever in our hearts, left us all with treasured memories.

Native American Church services will be Tuesday evening, December 31, 2019, at the Nozhackum Hall, 8362 158th RD. Mayetta. Burial will be Wednesday morning, January 1, 2020, at the Mahkuk Cemetery. Mercer Funeral Home in Holton is in charge of the arrangements. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

- Courtesy Mercer Funeral Home



Yvonne Nephew

SYRACUSE, NY – Yvonne Marie Nephew, 57 passed away Tuesday, January 7, 2020, at St. Joseph's hospital in Syracuse, New York with her loving family by her side.

She was born March 27, 1962, in Madrid, Spain, the daughter of Charles and Berdina (Marshno) Nephew. Yvonne was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

She was married on July 5, 1980, to Rochester Clark Jr. in Rome, New York; they separated in 1993.

Yvonne is survived by her father and step-mother Charles and Dianne Nephew of Buffalo, New York; four siblings: Carol Ann Bulson and Galen Nephew of New York and Sherie Nephew and Dawn Barnes of Kansas; a close uncle Ron Hart “Uncle Herm” of New York; four children: Nanette Clark and Nicholas Clark of New York, Nathaniel Clark of Minnesota and Nolita Clark of North Carolina; and four grandchildren: Marlena Clark and Isaiah Collins of North Carolina and twins Alexis and Amara of New York.

A special thanks to Brian Melton of Syracuse, New York her longtime boyfriend of 20 years who stood by her side along with her family, until she took her final breath. The love he had for her was unwavering and unconditional. Yvonne was someone who always found something to smile or laugh about regardless of any obstacles she faced in life. She enjoyed spending time with her family and pets, cookouts and feeding people, and listening to music.

She is preceded in death by her mother; Berdina V. Marshno (2018) and brother James “Jimmy” Nephew (2011).

Arrangements have been entrusted into the care of Farone & Son Inc Funeral Home 1500 Park Street Syracuse, New York 13208, services will be private.

- Courtesy of the Clark Family



Brenda Lee Tibbits

TOPEKA, KS - Brenda “Kuk-No-Quah” Lee Tibbits, 57, of Topeka passed away on Sunday, January 12, 2020, in Topeka. She was born March 1, 1962, in Topeka. She lived all her life in Topeka, attending Sullivan Chapel in North Topeka while growing up.

Brenda was a member of the Shawnee County Sheriff Cadets while growing up. She most recently worked at Taco Al's. She had worked at several nursing homes in Topeka during her nursing career. She enjoyed murder mysteries and ghost hunter reality shows on TV. She loved to go fishing and on road trips, but most important in her life was her children and grandchildren and spending time with them. Any day was a holiday if her children and grandchildren were with her. Brenda was a very caring, giving woman. She was a mother to many; she took in anyone who needed love and loved them as her own.

Brenda was an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include her husband Alan Tibbits; daughter, Kathy Ann (James) Tibbits-Wathen; son Alan “Bud” K. (Shelby) Tibbits II; parents, Marilyn and Gary Revelle; sisters, Marilyn (David) Terry, Zena (William) Massey, Victoria (Allen) Foster, Rita Anne Azar; brothers, Michael E. (Rebecca) Revelle, Kirk (Laura) Revelle, Kraig Revelle; grandchildren, Brandy L. (Austin) Wathen, Abbygail L. Wathen, Trinity R. Wathen, Cameron Tibbits; and great-grandchild Belletriss R. Musick. Brenda always had a pet, mostly dogs and a few cats through the years, and currently has Kasper (baby), her cat, Junior, Rozay, and Samantha.

Brenda had many “adopted” children (Dustin, Shaun, Austin) whom she loved as her own, as well as “adopted” grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father Freeman Abel, and grandparents, Freeman and Elise Abel, Charles “Art” and Elizabeth (Jessepe) Miller and parents-in-law, Gilbert and Sylvia Tibbits and a brother, Kerry Revelle.

Memorial services will be held at 2:00 pm on Monday, January 20, 2020, at Davidson Funeral Home. The family will receive friends prior to the service beginning at 1:00 p.m.

- Courtesy Davidson Funeral Home



Juan LaClair

Show Low, AZ – Juan Marcos LaClair, 25, began his final journey to the Western Heavens of his ancestors on January 16, 2020. A Member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe, he was born in Phoenix, Arizona, to Tawny LaClair, on August 30, 1994.

In the summer of 2006 Juan came to live with Steve and Kathi McCormick and became a member of the McCormick Family. He attended Blue Ridge Schools and played football for the Jr. High. He had a Brown belt in Taekwondo and was an avid skateboarder.

In 2008 Juan became a volunteer for the Show Low Elks Lodge and he went on to work and volunteer at the lodge for the next 7 years—working in the kitchen, the Bingo Hall and assisting with many of the Elks Lodge functions, including performing as ElRoy the Elk for the Special Needs Dances. He was the winner of several Art Awards in several mediums. Juan loved to cook and enjoyed participating in cooking competitions.

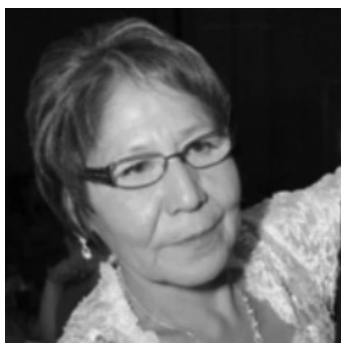
Juan is survived by his parents, Steve and Kathi McCormick; his mother, Tawny LaClair; his brother, Leandro; sister, Violet; and his Aunts, Kiiki Garcia and Fran Damato.

Juan's Celebration of Life will be held 11:00 A.M. Saturday, January 25, 2020 at the Show Low Elks Lodge located at 805 East Whipple, Show Low, Arizona.

- Courtesy of Owens Livingston Mortuary

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



Debra Tuckwab

CRANDON, WI – Debra Sue Tuckwab, “Neb Wey Kwe” “Stand Up Lady”, age 60, of Crandon, WI passed away after a long battle with cancer on Friday, January 17, 2020, at 11:57 a.m. at St. Mary’s Hospital, Rhinelander. Debbie was born on May 30, 1959, in Laona, WI, daughter of George and Alice (Ottowa) Tuckwab.

She is survived by her brother, Wayne Tuckwab of Wabeno; sister, Arlene Alloway of Crandon; friend, Tim Laabs of Crandon; son, Jamie Tuckwab of Crandon; daughter, Heather (Thomas) Robinson of Laona; daughter, Larissa (Daniel) Dehart of Crandon; daughter, Nicole Laabs (Heath) of Crandon; son, Ian Laabs (Katie) of Pelican Lake, nieces, Jacqueline Crawford of Wabeno, and Monica Michaels of Argonne; grandchildren, Mariya, Monique, Hunter, Allisia, Jayden, Jaycee, Hazel, River, Savannah, India, Makenna, Danica, Keira, Cheyton, two great-grandchildren-Stetson and Fletcher, and close friend, Guadalupe Cisneros. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Alice and George, brothers Calvin, Don, Stewart, sisters Juanita, Ellen, Marlene, Marcella.

She enjoyed spending time with her family and cooking for family and community functions. Her hobbies included cooking, beading, sewing and going to the Casino with family and friends. She had a heart of gold and was always willing to help whenever needed.

Services will be held at the Lake Lucerne Gospel Chapel in Crandon, WI. Visitation/wake Sunday, January 19, 2020, at 5 p.m., funeral on Monday, January 20, 2020, with meal at noon and services to follow with Pastor Don Dewing officiating. Interment will be at the Potawatomi Tribal Cemetery, Stone Lake (Crandon), WI. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.weberhillfuneral-home.com.

- Courtesy of Weber Hill Funeral Home



Marie Clement

MAYETTA, KS – Marie Therese (Morris) Clement, born March 23, 1959, has been called home by our creator the morning of January 29, 2020. She was everyone’s favorite aunty, mother, grandmother, cousin, and friend. Robert Clement and Marie Clement shared a long and beautiful marriage together and raised three amazing children: Chance Clement, Nick Wilder, and Jason Wilder, and Skylar who passed away at the young age of nine days.

We love you so very much. Our lives would have been very different without you. You always were able to smile and laugh no matter what. You were always happy and inspired many from family to friends to complete strangers. You were a Saint in the face of adversity and have brought a lot of joy to many.

Marie was an enrolled and very active member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, as she was a PeaceMaker, and also regularly attended Potawatomi language classes, as well as participating in volunteer work and community events.

Marie was voted as “Miss Wheelchair Kansas” in 2009?, board president of Three Rivers, actively worked on the diversity council of AARP, and had many hobbies. Marie liked gardening, beadwork, cooking, drawing, and most of all, spending time with family.

The world has lost a radiant being, and the world has a little less sparkle. But we have also gained a magnificent angel, who now gets to run and dance and be free amongst our ancestors.

Give your loved ones an extra hug today, especially the ones that make life that much more enjoyable and you always look forward to seeing. We are all very thankful to have had her in our lives.

Marie will lie in state after noon Thursday, February 6th at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Holton where a Rosary will be prayed at 6:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home. Burial will follow. A wake will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Friday at the old bingo hall across from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Government Center at 162777 Q Road, Mayetta, KS. On-line condolences may be made at chapel-oaksfuneralhome.com.

- Courtesy Chapel Oaks Funeral Home



Sandra Spiker

EL DORADO, KS - Sandra Marie Spiker (Burns), 68, of El Dorado, Kan. died Sunday, February 9, 2020, at her home.

She was born on April 6, 1951 in Holton, Kansas, the daughter of Edwin and Bonnie (Hamlin) Burns. She was a 1969 graduate of Luckey High School and later attended Marymount College.

Sandra, a Christian, who retired from a 20-plus year career with Walmart, and also was a long-term employee of McCall Pattern Company. After retirement, she enjoyed spending time with her Grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her infant sister Ann.

She is survived by her children, Leah (Alan) Taylor of Olsburg, Valerie (Dustin) Siegle of Westmoreland, Kandi Simpson (Chad Campbell) of Phoenix, Arizona, Joey Simpson (Robin Lenard) of El Dorado; her siblings Linda Correll, Doris (Bill) Bolicki, Ray (Nancy) Burns, Frank (Donna) Burns, Beth (Kevin) Fately, Sharon (Ryan) Runyan, and John Burns, and also her 18 grandchildren and 5 great-grandsons.

A Vigil Service with the Rosary will be held on Monday, February 17, 2020, at 6:30 pm at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home in Manhattan. The family will greet friends following the Vigil until 8:00 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 18, 2020, at the Seven Dolors Catholic Church in Manhattan, with Father Kerry Ninemire as Celebrant. Interment will be private at a later date in the Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Sandra Spiker Memorial Fund. Contributions may be left in memory of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

- Courtesy of Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home

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.

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

Phone: 785-966-3920

Website:
www.pbpindiantribe.com

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Deadlines
Spring Time 2020 Edition:
May 1, 2020
Summer Time 2020 Edition:
July 3, 2020

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Royal Valley Cultural Heritage Night

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation worked collaboratively with Royal Valley USD #337 to present the 2nd Annual Cultural Heritage night on December 17, 2019.

During the day Royal Valley students met with “Supaman” Christian Parrish Takes The Gun (Apsaalooke). Supaman is a Native American fancy dancer, hip hop artist and empowerment speaker.

In the late afternoon, the event kicked into high gear with several activities happening to share Potawatomi Culture with the local community.

The Boys & Girls Club Unity group served Indian Tacos, Social Service staff set up an information table, We-Ta-Se Post 410 presented colors, Little Soldier rendered the flag song, and Nanoki Lewis provided an introduction in the Botwewatmi language.

The Royal Valley Varsity Girls and Boys basketball teams donned their “Shipshiyek” jerseys. Special guest Manny King announced both varsity games. During the girls half-time Supaman performed and during the boys halftime the Royal Valley Singers and Dancers gave a stunning performance.



Big Bear Moon Powwow



The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Social Services department hosted the annual Big Bear Moon Powwow on New Year’s Eve. Several members of the community turned out to bring in the New Year in a kid-friendly, alcohol and drug free space.

There were several door prizes throughout the evening, a photo booth was on site, and Social Service staff painted faces. The night included several cake walks, a lulu contest, a hoop contest, and someone misplaced the potatoes so there was a

grapefruit dance contest, along with a handdrum contest. And the grand finale was a balloon drop at the stroke of midnight!

This year’s head staff were Head lady dancer Tara Mitchell, Head man Knowee Potts, Head girl Shawnot Evans, and Head boy Aven Mitchell, Arena Director Evan Evans and Event Emcee Chago Hale. We-Ta-Se Post 410 served as color guard and were accompanied by members of the Women’s Auxiliary.

Soup & Bowl Watch Party



The Diabetes Prevention Program, in collaboration with the Boys & Girls Club and Social Service staff held a “Soup & Bowl” watch party on February 2, 2020, as the Kansas City Chiefs took on the San Francisco 49ers during Super Bowl LIV.

Over 100 community members turned out to watch the big game in the Boys & Girls Club gym. DPP provided wraps and salads, along with a host of door prizes. Social Service staff provided face painting, and a balloon lady was on site making funny hats

and balloon creations for attendees. Over in the corner a video gaming station was set up for the youth.

Most attendees were rooting for the Kansas City Chiefs and were excited when they broke their fifty year streak to win 31 to 20.

To stay up on DPP and BGC events follow them on Facebook! @PBPNDPP and Boys & Girls Club of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation