



Prairie Band Potawatomi News

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

www.pbpindiantribe.com | Facebook: Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Eshkēnibēk 2020

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Chairman’s Report • 2
- Casino Update • 2
- Prairie Band Ag • 3
- Treasurer’s Report • 4
- Prairie Band LLC • 5
- Candidates • 6 - 7
- Community • 8 - 11
- Obituaries • 12 - 15
- Announcements • 16

Eshkēnibēk

“Spring time of the year”

This paper contains the activities and happenings that took place during the Spring time of 2021: March, April & May.

PBPN Collaborates with County on COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts



3.29.21 - Kansas Governor Laura Kelly visited the Prairie Band Health Center in recognition of the Prairie Band Health Center expanding vaccinations to the larger Jackson County, Kansas Community. (Back row, left to right) Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council Chairman Joseph Rupnick, Vice-Chairman Zach Pahmahmie, Member William Evans, Member Raphael Wahwassuck, Member Tony Wahweotten, Treasurer Wade Pahmahmie, (Front row, left to right) Secretary Camilla Chouteau, Governor Laura Kelly, PBHC Administrator Kristina Simmons and State Tribal Liaison Chris Howell.

The Prairie Band Health Center began administering COVID-19 vaccinations in mid-December 2020 and within two months had reached the final patient vaccination phase by mid-February 2021, which included administering vaccines to PBHC service eligible patients age 16+ and all unvaccinated persons prioritized in a previous phase. By the end of February, the PBHC reported vaccinating over 1,000 individuals.

Effective March 8, 2021, the Health Center made available a daily COVID-19 vaccine walk-in clinic increasing the ease of accessibility to receive the vaccine.

A week later, on March 15, with a majority of Prairie Band Health Center eligible individuals having already been vaccinated, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council determined to extend Prairie Band Health Center resources to address the vaccination needs of the surrounding county.

“Throughout the pandemic, the Nation has worked hard to keep our community safe. We, like all residents of Jackson

County, have had to change the way we lived during this National crisis in hopes of overcoming this virus and eventually returning to a somewhat normal life. In the effort to return, we need to ensure everyone who wants a vaccination can receive one and we are proud to be able to offer it to the residents of the county,” said Joseph Rupnick, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Chairman.

The Health Center collaborated with the Jackson County Health Department to increase delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to the 13,000 residents of Jackson County, Kan. through individual appointments and a Mass Vaccination Walk-in Clinic hosted on Friday, March 26, 2021. Through the course of the mass vaccination event, Prairie Band Health Center staff vaccinated 179 patients, bringing the total of people vaccinated at the Health Center to 1,981.

The following Monday, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly made a trip to the reservation to tour the Prairie Band Health Center and discuss vaccination efforts with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council. Governor Kelly’s

visit was the first appearance of a sitting governor to the reservation in approximately 26 years.

“We are here to serve and build these relationships,” said PBPNT Tribal Chairman Joseph Rupnick, “we are thankful Governor Kelly acknowledges the work we have been doing, not only with tribal members, but all citizens within this county.”

The Prairie Band Health Center continued to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to Health Center eligible patients and residents of Jackson County and on April 23, 2021, the Health Center reported administering a total of 4,157 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, impacting 2,186 people. Of those who received the vaccination, 1,971 people received both doses while 215 received the first dose.

Effective May 17, 2021, the Prairie Band Health Center began providing COVID-19 vaccinations to Health Center eligible patients age 12 and over. The change in age requirement was adjusted after the Center for Disease Control’s (CDC) official recommendation to include vaccinations for adolescents

Continued on page 3

Chairman Joseph “Zeke” Rupnick: Report to the Nation



Dear Tribal Members,

Since our last General Council meeting and Town Hall, I, along with Tribal Council, have been working hard to introduce ourselves to the new administration and to bring up our points of interest we have. On January 26, 2021, President Biden signed a memorandum "Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation to Nation Relationships" issued to all Executive Departments and agencies. This memo shows his commitment to work with Tribal Nations and to rebuild the trust responsibility lost from previous administrations.

The Nation has made great strides in the vaccination program and all the credit goes to our healthcare staff. Our goal of

70% vaccinations for all our members is still achievable but we have a long way. I know we are all suffering from COVID fatigue, but we need to continue to follow the guidelines and protect ourselves and our families. Even with the numbers of people getting vaccinations, here and across the nation, I feel this will be our new normal for the foreseeable future.

Recently, I read an article where the Department of the Treasury Office of the Inspector General is seeking information from the Kiowa Tribe and how they distributed the CARES funding. We, like the Kiowa distributed funds to our membership as did many Tribes across the Nation. We will be keeping an eye on this investigation. All federal funding received must be expensed in accordance to the law, specifically, Federal Appropriations Law. In the law, there are three areas we must comply with in order to expend funds and not be subject to review. First the amount. All appropriations have a specific funding amount and organizations must not exceed those amounts. Second is time. In each appropriation, there is a specific time funds can be used for. Finally, purpose of the funds. Working in the Government, this is an area I have seen people subject to prosecution for violation of the law because they obligated funds against the purpose. When the Tribe receives funding and in order to minimize risk to the Nation, we must consider all three areas before funds are expensed, time, amount and purpose. I make this statement in anticipation of

the American Recovery Act (ARC) funds we hope to receive. Council will review the requirements to-expense the funds and once satisfied, will spend the funds in accordance with the law. As I write this today, we have not received any funds from the ARC for COVID expenses. Tribes are still in consultation with the various agencies. We have submitted our comments and suggested funding for Tribes but have not been given any distribution date.

Our lawsuit is still being considered and there is another hearing scheduled later in April. Most know the Nation re-filed our lawsuit against the Treasury Department for review and compensation for the initial CARES Act distribution. Recently, the Treasury Department announced they were going to distribute the remaining CARES dollars reserved for Tribal Governments. We participated in the consultation and I offered testimony citing areas to be addressed before any funds are to be distributed. First, Treasury should resolve all three pending cases immediately and make the payments promptly. Second, Treasury should cease the use of the Indian Housing Block Grant formula to distribute any funds and finally, Treasury should cease its efforts to pit Tribe against Tribe to avoid having to provide relief to the plaintiff Tribes. We must remember that the Federal Government has a trust responsibility to all Tribes, and all Tribes must be treated fairly and equitably.

At the State level, recently the State Attorney General offered legislation into the House to move the MSA escrow account into an "equity fee" account from the tobacco settlement. By doing so, that would have violated the tobacco compact the Tribe has with the State. The legislation passed the House with no opposition since the Attorney General briefed the House saying it needed to be done and there was agreement between the Tribes. I briefed the Democratic Caucus on the implications of violations of the compact and that Prairie Band was never consulted. While I have mixed feelings about the compact, if the State truly wants to void the Compact, there are ways to do it and the first step is to consult the Tribes and not slide in an 11th hour piece of legislation where many have not reviewed. Today, the bill has stalled if it is brought up again, it will be done in the Veto Session.

In closing, we are still fighting this virus and I ask and beg everyone to get a vaccination and to follow the established guidelines. While we are working through this pandemic, I'd like to remind everyone of our on-line town hall to keep the people informed. I would like it to continue and I hope people find value in it. Again, please follow the recommended guidelines and be safe.

Migwett,

Joseph P. Rupnick

Prairie Band Casino & Resort Update

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation is providing an update on operations covering the past 12 months. This update reflects the variety of challenges endured as well as providing tribal membership an update on construction of the expanded areas.

On March 17, 2020 at 11:59pm the Casino was closed for the first time in company history in accordance with Tribal Council Resolution 2020-084A. The resolution passed in observance of several United States and International organizations issuing notices and declaring emergencies related to the Global COVID-19 Pandemic. During closure numerous precautions were taken to mitigate risk associated with transmission of the virus between persons. Plastic dividers were placed throughout the gaming floor in-between slot machines and table game seat positions. An increased cleaning schedule was implemented and cleaning products were quality checked to comply with CDC recommendations. Policy reviews and social distancing precautions were also implemented across all company facilities.

After 89 days of closure Prairie Band Casino & Resort was permitted to begin re-opening in accordance with Tribal Council Resolution 2020-084D. This resolution permitted a phased re-opening of gaming facilities which was subjected to review and approval of the Tribal

Council and Tribal Gaming Commission. Casino slot operations were resumed immediately. Table Games re-opened on June 22, 2020 and Bingo Operations resumed on July 23, 2020. One-Stop Class II gaming operations re-opened on July 1, 2020. Hotel room reservations were initially limited to small blocks of rooms and gradually increased to full room availability in August, 2020 as business demand and staffing allowed. Re-opening of additional amenities at the property were completed in phases and included a variety of restrictions. Concerts and large gatherings of people were prohibited by company policy through May, 2021. Starting in June of 2021 concerts will once again be slowly introduced back into operations over the course of the summer. The casino team is also proud to announce that Prairie Band Casino & Resort is the first property in Kansas to offer live Keno starting on May 5, 2021. Smoking was also prohibited by company policy on the gaming floor at the onset of COVID-19, limiting it to designated areas. The smoking policy was partially re-instated in April 2021, once again allowing smoking in designated areas of the gaming floor. The Embers Bar & Grill and the Three Fires Steakhouse modified capacity and operating hours while The Longhouse Buffet was closed a full 12 months. The buffet was modified to an "endless plate" style of food service and re-opened on April 15, 2021.

Internally, Human Resources (HR) revised company policies to provide additional flexibility for employees and accommodate their needs to the maximum extent possible. Employee call-outs due to COVID-19 were monitored throughout the Pandemic. Additionally, the PBPB Health Center opened doors to expand services across the local area. In late December 2020 vaccines were made available to Casino employees and their families before opening up to all Jackson County residents in March 2021. As of April 2021 there were no longer any active callouts due to quarantines / COVID-19 precautions at Prairie Band Casino & Resort for the first time in a year. The company also applied for Federal Government assistance programs such as the IRS Employee Retention Credit, which is anticipated to be fully realized later in 2021.

By March 2021 the casino gaming revenue, door count and hotel occupancy showed significant increases. Volumes nearly reached pre-pandemic levels indicating the promise of a "return to normal." Prairie Band Casino & Resort is anxious to open the expanded areas newly constructed, offering new customer experiences and become the premier resort in the Mid-West region. Over the winter months and into the Spring of 2021 the casino expansion project did unfortunately experience a number of delays. Progress was slowed

by availability of construction crews, a high number of change orders in various construction disciplines, increased coordination between the architect and general contractor (from change orders), reduced availability of materials, extreme weather and legal matters. Due to the complexity of these matters and the project going beyond the original completion date, the company Board of Directors hired additional legal counsel specializing in construction to assist in decision making. The Casino Executive team in closer coordination with the Board of Directors and Prairie Band Construction (as the PBPB's owner representative) will continue to work through the construction challenges to bring the project to a close as soon as possible. As of the creation of this article the project is now expected to complete in the latter part of 2021. Please monitor the company website and social media for updates and special event announcements as they become available. A tribal member "soft opening" will be announced prior to a public grand opening of the expanded areas.

Last, the Board of Directors would like to welcome Justin Pahmahmie to the team. He was appointed by the Tribal Council in January 2021 for a term of 4 years to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation. He joins Frank Tecumseh, Jona Rupnicki, Corey Mzhickteno and Hattie Mitchell.

Prairie Band Ag Hemp Operations Groundbreaking

4.23.21 - **P**rairie Band Ag, LLC a subsidiary of Prairie Band, LLC wholly owned by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation broke ground Monday, April 19, 2021, on a new farm operation located on O Road, on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation reservation. The O Road site is the kickoff to Prairie Band's entrance into the industrial hemp market. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation recognizes the opportunity industrial hemp provides as a new sustainable industry that allows the Nation to exercise its economic sovereignty.

The Industrial Hemp farm operation will be comprised of 3 greenhouses and a 6-acre field. The greenhouses will consist of two standard greenhouses and one light deprivation greenhouse, all with the capability to operate through the winter. The light deprivation greenhouse is an advanced system of growing, which will maximize plant yields and CBD levels with 12-hour cycles of light during the flowering period. The operation will also house mother plants for cloning and allow Prairie Band Ag to start their own feminized seed projects in the greenhouses.

The 6-acre field will be used to grow hemp for biomass extraction, which will then be infused into Prairie Hemp products. The user-friendly, THC-free pain relief will be available as gel capsules, gummies and in topical form. Currently Prairie Band Ag markets

been in the works for over a year with a collaborative approach between Prairie Band Ag management, the Prairie Band LLC Board of Directors and the Nation's Tribal Council and key staff.

Moving forward, the Nation's Land program is working to merge with the Prairie Band Ag division to best utilize the Nation's land resources, livestock, and farming practices. Prairie Band Ag, LLC is committed to reviving traditional farming practices and creating a healthier community by integrating a variety of plant medicines including industrial hemp, and eventually fresh produce and traditional herbs thus strengthening the local food system on the reservation and advancing food sovereignty.

Prairie Band Ag plans to produce hemp on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Reservation in line with official PBPB Code, which is also in accord with the federal law pursuant to the 2018 Farm Bill. Prairie Band Ag is also structured to

process industrial hemp for its grain and fiber which produce a very clean product for a variety of end uses.

The Prairie Band Ag, LLC operations manager can be reached at (785) 380-5575 with offices at the Prairie Band, LLC headquarters for further inquiries.



4.19.21 – Members of the Prairie Band Tribal Council and Prairie Band LLC Board of Directors, ceremoniously break ground at the new Prairie Band Ag Hemp Operations site on the PBPB reservation. From left: Raphael Wahwassuck, PBPB TC Member, Corey Mzhickteno, PBLLC BOD Member, Tracy Stanhoff, PBLLC BOD Member, Zach Pahmahmie, PBPB TC Vice-Chairman, Joseph Rupnick, PBPB TC Chairman, Tony Wahweotten, PBPB TC Member, Bill Evans, PBPB TC Member, Camilla Chouteau, PBPB TC Secretary, Wade Pahmahmie, PBPB TC Treasurer, Jona Rupnicki, PBLLC BOD Member, and Jacob “Tug” Wamego, PBLLC CEO and President.

a line of CBD products available at Prairie Band One Stop.

Initial Prairie Band Ag operations will add 8 jobs to the local economy, with plans to include an additional 6 jobs in the coming year in the fields of horticulture and biosciences. Plans for the new farm as a component of the new Prairie Band Ag division have

On Saturday, April 17, 2021, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation General Council voted to invest 2.3M with a 20% contingency to cover rising costs of materials into the Prairie Band Ag operations. The bulk of the funding will go toward the infrastructure of the O Road site and equipment costs for a decorticator and seed processing equipment.


COVID-19 Efforts Continued
age 12 through 15 years of age, following the Federal Drug Administration's (FDA) decision to authorize emergency use of the vaccine for this age group on Monday, May 10, 2021.

Additionally, the Health Center concluded the vaccination walk-in clinic to minimize any potential wastage of vaccines having met the initial surge in demand for vaccinations. As of May 17, 2021, the Health Center reported a total of 4,352 doses of COVID-19 vaccine being administered, which was an increase of 195 vaccines in a 3-week period. All vaccinations are now available by appointment only.

The Prairie Band Health Center can provide vaccinations to any PBHC eligible patient age 12 and over, or to any Jackson County resident age 16 and over, at this time. Contact 785-966-8200 and select option 1 to schedule an appointment. Any patient under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Please bring photo ID and insurance card if available.



3.26.21 - For over a year the Prairie Band Health Center staff have taken an “all-hands-on-deck” approach to patient care, including vaccinations. On Friday, March 26, 2021, the group including four FEMA staff vaccinated a total of 179 patients during a walk-in vaccination clinic.



For the love of our people, we will do whatever it takes to ensure the well-being of the next generations.

Getting the COVID-19 vaccine significantly decreases your chances of developing severe illness or dying from COVID-19.

It's still important to practice the 3 W's—wash your hands, wear a mask, watch your distance—so that you can protect yourself and others in the community!

Courtesy of the Urban Indian Health Institute and IllumiNative, visit forourpeople.uihi.org for more information.

COVID Case Count

The Prairie Band Health Center began testing for COVID-19 in May 2020. Here is a breakdown of testing results by month.

Month	Negative for C-19	Positive for C-19
May 2020	12	0
June 2020	34	4
July 2020	76	3
Aug. 2020	118	27
Sept. 2020	54	6
Oct. 2020	109	19
Nov. 2020	134	36
Dec. 2020	53	16
Jan. 2021	47	9
Feb. 2021	29	5
Mar. 2021	23	1
Apr. 2021	23	1
May 2021	14	0
Cumulative Totals	726	127

Treasurer Wade Pahmahmie: Report to the Nation



Good day to everyone, hope all is well as we move further into 2021 and hopefully continue to resume activities that have been restricted by the pandemic over the past year or so. Financially, we are starting to see revenues return to pre-pandemic levels as well as our investments continue to grow as the financial markets continue to reach all-time highs. Audit schedules and tax return deadlines are still a little behind but on a similar time-frame as we were used to prior to 2020. In 2020 we received significant relief funding through the Federal Government to help mitigate the effects of COVID-19 as well as endure shutdowns resulting in lost revenues and services. Here in 2021 we are currently in the process of receiving additional relief funds that appear in more detail in the following section of the article. Below are a few additional highlights and updates on items of interest in the Tribe's financial area.

American Rescue Plan Act Funding
On March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by the President. Through ARPA, the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) were established which will provide \$20 billion in direct funding to Tribal Governments. Additionally, there will be roughly another \$12.5 billion available to tribes through grants which will be awarded by various federal agencies over the next several months. The FRF funds will be awarded directly to tribes through the Department of Treasury beginning in late May 2021.

Fortunately, the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) formula that was used for the first distribution of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) dollars will not be used for the distribution of the ARPA funds. In avoiding the IHBG formula tribes will be funded more equitably and will be funded at a level to serve all of their tribal members regardless of where they reside. Instead, direct funding through FRF will be distributed in the following manner. \$1 billion will be divided equally amongst the 574 Federally Recognized Tribes so each tribe should receive just over \$1.7 million through this calculation. Next, of the remaining \$19 billion, \$12.35 billion will be allocated based upon tribal enrollment. To receive the first payment through each of these two methods, each tribe must submit their enrollment information through the Treasury Submission Portal by May 24th. The remaining \$6.65 billion will then be distributed based upon 2019 employment data, submission of this data is due to be submitted on the Treasury Submission Portal by June 7th.

Beyond the \$1.7 million that each tribe will receive, we will not know the exact amounts the Nation will receive until the first payments are distributed in late May followed by the second round of payments in mid-June. While the exact amount is unknown, the ARPA funding at \$20 billion is 2.5 times the amount of the CARES funding at \$8 billion. According to the Interim Final Rules issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, the ARPA funds will be subject to the same auditing requirements as our other federal funds under 2 CFR part 200. Essentially, this would mean that the funds could be both audited by the awarding agency as well as will be audited during our annual audit as required by 2 CFR part 200.

So what can the ARPA funds be used for? Under the Interim Final Rules the categories of Eligible Uses are:

► **Public Health and Economic Impacts** - COVID-19 Mitigation and Prevention, Medical Expenses, Behavioral Health Care, Public Health and Safety Staff, Expenses to Improve the Design and Execution of health and Public Health Programs, Assistance to Unemployed

Workers, State Unemployment Insurance Trust Funds, Assistance to Households, Expenses to Improve Efficacy of Economic Relief Programs, Small Businesses and Non-profits, Rehiring of Government Staff, Aid to Impacted Industries

- **Premium Pay** – provide premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic or to provide grants to third-party employers with eligible workers performing essential work.
- **Revenue Loss** – use of FRF to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Investments in Infrastructure** – assistance for meeting critical needs for investments and improvements to existing infrastructure in water, sewer and broadband.

While the categories are fairly broad in some aspects this is done so that the recipients of the FRF such as the Tribe have the flexibility to decide how best to use funding to meet the needs of their communities. In other words, the Tribe has the flexibility to determine what is best for the Tribe and its Tribal Members.

FY2021 Budget Update
As you may know for FY2021 we have planned our annual budgets fairly conservatively given the unknown of how COVID would continue to impact our cash flows. While we have been able to maintain our budget levels for Tribal Member service programs such as the National Housing Programs, Education, Burial etc. we have had to make cuts in other areas. However, what we have seen during the first few months of the year is our Tribal Cash Distributions (TCD) from the Casino significantly outpacing both Prior Year and Budgeted figures. In the past couple of months, we have experienced our 2nd highest monthly TCD overall in the history of the property in March and our 3rd highest TCD for the month of April for the property. Given this great news and financial boost we will likely revisit our FY2021 budget in the next few weeks with the hopes of an amendment to increase the budget. Additionally, these positive increases to the TCD will directly impact the June Per

Capita Distribution. Our June Per Capita will be the highest distribution that we have seen since the impact of State Gaming in 2012.

Will & Estate Planning Documents Online
In mid-March a link was placed on the Tribe's website to access information on the Tribe's Will & Estate Planning services provided through Kansas Legal Services (KLS). To access the Will & Estate Planning web page you can go to the Tribe's website at pbpindiantribe.com, then click on "Departments" – "Member Services" – "Will & Estate Planning". On the page you will be able to access the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Application for Legal Services as well as resources provided by KLS on Living Wills and Power of Attorney documents. Completed applications can be submitted to the Treasurer's office by mailing to 16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509, or e-mail to wadepahmahmie@pbpnation.org or can be dropped off at the Government Center. Once completed applications have been received, they will be forwarded to KLS, from there KLS will be in contact to schedule your appointment. Eligibility requirements remain the same as in the past. Will and estate services are available to any Tribal Member and their spouse with no age requirements, the property included in the legal documents must be in the state of Kansas, and also new documents may be drafted or existing documents may be amended or updated.

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. 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)

Tribal Council Member Tony Wahweotten: Report to the Nation



Ho' PBPB Members,

I first, would like to extend my thoughts and prayers, go out to the families who had suffered losses this year, due to accident, natural causes or of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have witnessed many heartaches during this time. I would also like to recognize our front-line Clinical Staff, Hero and Essential workers during the pandemic quarantine periods of PBPB operations. All departments deserve recognition during this time, and many thanks to the entire PBP Casino staff for all they do.

Secondly, many miigwetches to PBP voting membership for allowing me to be selected as your new PBP Tribal Council Representative, I am truly honored to serve at this capacity for the

nation, and alongside with my colleagues, Chairman Rupnick, Vice Chairman Zach Pahmahmie, Treasurer Wade Pahmahmie, Secretary Camilla Chouteau, Councilman William Evans, and Councilman Raphael Wahwassuck. Every day brings new challenges, especially during the 2020/2021 pandemic. Tribal Council is persistent through the course of responsibility, and remains diligent, to the PBPB and its members.

Since being sworn into office as Tribal Council on 08/27/20, I have scheduled one personal day off, and two days of approved administration time for spring dance.

Since the last January 16, 2021 General Council informational meeting, I have attended twelve special Tribal Council meetings, three, third Saturday Tribal

Council meetings, one Town Hall informational meetings, two Land Management meetings, three PBPB Tax Commission meetings, eleven Legal Council meetings, one quarterly PBPB Gaming Commission meeting, one Kansas HB 2008 testimony hearing, one Kansas Governor Laura Kelly visit to our reserve meeting, one Kansas Governors signing of, The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples bill 2008, one visit with the Kansas Governor Laura Kelly relating to new Senate tobacco bill 273, one KC Chiefs representative a visit and tour on our reserve meeting, and one quarterly PBPB construction tour meeting with the PBP Casino GM, all relating to informational only or the business and welfare of the Nation. Other Meetings relating to the Nations business include, consecutive General Manager, Board of Director

Continued on Page 8

Prairie Band, LLC CEO and President Jacob Wamego: Report to the Nation



Greetings. Spring is here and our new year has begun. Our elders tell us that spring is our new year and represents the start of new life. The plants, trees, and flowers are budding. A lot of the animals that our ancestors relied upon are giving birth. Now is the time when our community plants gardens and begins the growing process with plans of securing a good harvest in the fall.

Here at Prairie Band, LLC family of companies, we are also planting new seeds and beginning new ventures with plans for future “harvests.” We

have been planting seeds for 10 years, but 2021 feels especially like a “spring-time.” Looking back, we have seen tremendous growth and advanced our mission forward. 2020 was likely one of the most difficult years that our company has faced. This spring it appears that the pandemic is slowing down, and we can reengage our efforts to grow our company. Our yearly cycle of new beginnings is upon us.

New ventures, such as the real estate development on Highway 75 and 150th Road are moving forward and gaining momentum. Prairie Band Ag has begun construction of its operation sites on our Tribal Land and has planted its first crop of industrial hemp. Our federal contracting companies have made some remarkable awards over these past months and our local divisions continue to thrive. The economic development shovel has hit the ground. Now the ongoing work of nurturing our wins begins.

I have two quick updates for this quarter’s Tribal Newspaper. First, the General Council approved funding for the development and startup costs for Prairie Band Ag, LLC. Prairie Band Ag will be our company’s first venture

into the agriculture arena. Initially we will focus on hemp cultivation and later this year, processing. As the company matures, it will explore other avenues in agriculture. In addition to starting the company, the Tribal Council has also approved the merging of Prairie Band Ag and the Land Management Department’s Farm Operations. We plan to change the trajectory of the current farm operation under the government to a revenue generating venture. We are not naively venturing into this area. We have a full understanding that agriculture is an extremely difficult business and positive results are not guaranteed. However, we have the land, resources, equipment, personnel, and determination to make this newest venture a success for the Nation. Our team will work hand in hand with the tribal government to transition the Farm Operation by the end of 2021.

The second update I have is the 150/75 highway development project. We dusted the General Council approved project off and are working with the recently organized Economic Development Investment Committee to bring more economic development opportunities to the Nation.

There remains a significant amount of foundational work for this project. The Nation’s codes are quite detailed regarding zoning, building occupancy, environmental, and sanitation. All those details must be worked out and resolved before we can break ground and attract any type of outside investment. Additionally, the site will be governed by the Title 31 - Business Site Leasing Ordinance of the Potawatomi Law and Order Code. We currently have an RFP out for legal services to help guide this process. The code work requirements must be met before any work can commence. I am confident that we can continue to push this project forward and not get lost in the administrative process. Look for updates in the next paper and on our website, prairiebandllc.com

Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions or comments. We look forward to answering your questions and hearing your feedback. Stay safe and take care of each other.

Igwien.
Jacob “Tug” Wamego

2021 Notice of Ethics & Gaming Commission Elections

Members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation are hereby notified that an Election will be held on July 24, 2021 for the purpose of electing:

- three (3) members of the Ethics Commission. Chairperson, Vice-chair, and Secretary. Chairperson and Secretary term of office is three (3) years. Vice-chair will be seated until July 2023.
- two (2) members of the Gaming Commission. Gaming Commissioner #1 and Gaming Commissioner #2. The term of office for each position is four (4) years.

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 these elections.

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 21, 2021.
C) In order to vote in these elections you must have a voter registration form on file with the Election Board no later than May 21, 2021, at 4 p.m. CST. If you have never registered to vote you can get the forms from the Member Services Department for

future elections.
Ballot Distribution
Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters no later than June 9, 2021. All ballot distribution packages will contain a pre-addressed 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 a.m. on the date of the election, July 24, 2021. 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 a.m. on Election Day, at the old Bingo Hall, 16277 Q Road, Mayetta, Kansas. 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 an election, by July 28, 2021, at 4 p.m. CST.

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.

Ethics Commission Qualified Candidates
A qualified candidate must:
A) Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.
B) Be 25 years of age or older, as of the date of this election.
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 no later than April 30, 2021, at 4 p.m. CST.

Gaming Commission Qualified Candidates
A qualified candidate must:
A) Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.
B) Be 25 years of age or older, as of the date of this election.
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.
E) If elected, agree to the Drug-Free Workplace Policy and consent to drug testing.
F) Submit the \$150.00 non-refundable filing fee with a Declaration of Candidacy Form and photo for ballot to the Election Board no later than April 30, 2021, at 4 p.m. CST.

Election Date: July 24, 2021

Candidate Filing Date
April 19 to April 30, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Candidate Withdrawal Date
May 7, 2021, at 4 p.m.

Voter Registration Deadline
May 21, 2021, at 4 p.m.

Ballot Mailing Date
June 9, 2021. Ballots mailed to registered voters only.

Election Date
Saturday, July 24, 2021 at 9 a.m. Last day for ballots to be received at the

Mayetta Post Office by 9 a.m. CST.

Run-Off Election Date
If required, shall follow four (4) weeks afterward, on Saturday, August 21, 2021, at 9 a.m. CST.

Outcome Determination
A majority vote is required in each race. If no candidate receives the support of at least 50% plus one vote of those voting, then there shall be a run-off election for that position between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Ethics Commission Election Candidates

Chairperson Candidate	Vice-Chairperson Candidate	Vice-Chairperson Candidate	Secretary Candidate
			
<p>Dear PBP Members</p> <p>I hope this communication finds you well. I am writing to inform you I, Angela Greemore-Wahweotten, have registered as a candidate for Chairperson of the Ethics Commission position. This commission was created to give members and elected officials (as well as appointed individuals) a better process to communicate about any rumored wrong-doings, or missteps in handling gifts/money that could be unethical while working for the welfare of our tribe. These steps were devised to undermine the dysfunction and mistrust of misunderstandings and actions that could hurt those individuals and reflect poorly on our community.</p> <p>I am running for this position because I think the commission is an important and necessary part of our government. It has not had enough members to function since its creation. I'm one person stepping up to try to correct this.</p> <p>My education is varied and continuing. I went to school in Topeka and USD #337 graduating from Topeka High in 1982. I completed courses at Mansfield Business school in Austin, Tx. while playing music professionally. I returned home and completed a Bachelor of Elementary Education with a minor in Early Childhood in 1992, while starting to substitute teach and work in the administration of 1st Nation Painting, Inc.</p> <p>I married Ronald A. (Tony) Wahweotten in 1993. We have 3 adult children. Tony brought a bonus daughter, Chaumin, to our marriage. Brennah came to us in 1997, and Zach in 2000.</p> <p>I sincerely and respectfully ask for your vote. Please feel free to contact me - through FB if all else fails at Angie Wahweotten – if you have any questions. Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Yours truly Angela C. Wahweotten</p>	<p>My name is Royetta (Rupnicki) Rodewald. I am asking for your support and vote for the Vice-chair position on the Ethics Commission.</p> <p>The Ethics Commission is an important part of our government that assists in ensuring that our elected and appointed officials are conducting themselves in a professional and ethical manner by investigating complaints when filed. If elected I look forward to working with the members of the Commission in this needed and necessary role.</p> <p>I believe my current and previous work experience demonstrates that I have the skills required for this position and I will do the work needed as a member of this Commission.</p> <p>I am currently employed as an Investigative Specialist in the State of Kansas Disciplinary Administrator's Office and have been there for over five years. The Disciplinary Administrator's Office works under the direction of the Supreme Court. The disciplinary administrator's office reviews and investigates complaints of professional and ethical misconduct against attorneys in the State of Kansas, holds public hearings when appropriate and recommends discipline to the Supreme Court in serious matters, and is also charged with conducting character and fitness investigations into all bar applications filed in the State of Kansas.</p> <p>I was previously employed as the Judicial Administrator for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal District Court for over ten years and am very familiar with our Constitution and Law and Order Codes.</p> <p>I look forward to the opportunity to serve our Nation.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	<p>Hello PBP Nation,</p> <p>My name is Laura Abeyta. I am running for the position of Vice Chair of the Ethics Commission. It has been my sad experience to witness the need for this Commission throughout my 30 years of coming back home.</p> <p>I am a graduate of a Catholic Boarding School, at Marty, South Dakota both of my parents had gone to school there, and at that time, they decided it would be the best thing for us. The book education was excellent, while the real-life education lacked somewhat, in the real world.</p> <p>After a too young marriage and divorce, I worked for both Southwestern and Northwestern Bell for 5 years. I soon realized that in order to support myself and my sons, I needed a degree. I went back to school, first Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. Then, on to SIPI. SIPI had a program to FastTrack minorities for the new Equal Opportunity Act. I had my Associates Degree in Electronics within 9 months and was hired by NCR as a Field Engineer. I worked for them for 13 years.</p> <p>In 1991, the country had our first Desert Storm. That served as a reminder of how fragile our time here is. I figured it was about time to accomplish something with my life. We came home.</p> <p>Since coming home, I carried petitions to separate the Council from the Gaming Commission, sat on the original Jackson County Development Board, was one of the first elected Gaming Commissioners, lobbied for three years to get the gaming compact passed by the State Legislature, was elected from the floor to sit on the first Constitution Committee, which I served on for approximately 10 years, only to have our final product cut and pasted into a totally different document.</p> <p>It would be my pleasure to further serve the people in this position. If there are any questions as to my qualifications or integrity, I would welcome a forum, or any opportunity to prove my worthiness for this position. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>I thank you, Laura A. Abeyta</p>	<p>I am pleased to be running for another term as the PBPN Ethics Commission Secretary. Prior to my current elected role, I also served on the Ethics Commission from 2008-2014. During this time, we developed our own operational procedures in the form of the Ethics Commission By-Laws. We also worked with a legal consultant to develop the Code of Ethics, approved in 2010. I'm very familiar with both documents.</p> <p>In addition to my experience on the Ethics Commission, I have also participated on the following committees/boards as either a professional requirement of my position as the Environmental Manager for the PBPN or on a personal volunteer basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint Tribal/EPA Region 7 Operations Committee Delegate (2005–Present)• Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Emergency Response Committee (2005–Present)• Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Planning Commission facilitator (2005–Present)• Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee Member (2008-Present)• Prairie Band Potawatomi Powwow Committee (2015-Present) <p>I am proficient in committee facilitation/participation and am dedicated to serving our Tribal community. I have a Master of Science degree in Management and over 21 years of professional experience within the PBPN community. I will be fair, dutiful and obligated to the PBPN Code of Ethics. I know the Ethics Commission fulfills a vital role in our Tribal government. By providing external independent oversight and ensuring the ethical conduct of elected/appointed officials, the Commission can help build trust in Tribal government. Presently, it has been unfortunate and frustrating to not have a quorum for the Commission and I'm excited to move forward with a functioning group. Please consider voting for me as the Secretary of the Ethics Commission.</p> <p>Thank you, Virginia LeClere</p>

Gaming Commission Election Candidates

Commissioner #1 Candidate

Commissioner #1 Candidate

Commissioner #1 Candidate

Commissioner #2 Candidate



Hello, my name is Lisa Wamego, I currently serve as Gaming Commissioner #1. I am humbly asking for your vote in the 2021 election. My experience, knowledge, leadership, dedication and work ethic make me the best candidate for Gaming Commissioner #1. I have been certified by the National Indian Gaming Association and completed training as Commissioners' Level I, II, III along with the Master's Commissioners Level I & II. I have also advised and participated in updating the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Tribal Law and Order Code that governs our gaming facility (Title 12) that was subsequently approved and passed into law by our Tribal Council.

Experience and Knowledge
I have been involved with our gaming operations for over 24 years. In 1996, I was recruited by Harrah's to become part of the auditing department for the temporary facility at the old bingo hall. Over the years I have become well versed in the rules and regulations that govern our property such as the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Title 12, PBPB-Kansas Gaming Compact, Title 31 Banking Requirements, and other Tribal Law & Order Codes. There are many complex laws, rules, regulations, and policies that govern our operations. I take great pride in my knowledge of these complexities and utilize this knowledge everyday as a Gaming Commissioner.

In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic proved to be challenging for everyone. The Gaming operation was shut down temporarily for the safety of our nation, employees and community. The Gaming Commissioners worked closely with the Tribal Council, National Indian Gaming Commission and casino management to reopen our gaming operation with a solid plan to ensure the health and safety of not only our employees and guests but also the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and community.

Having over 24 years' experience in gaming has given me the necessary tools to be an effective Gaming Commissioner. I have the experience, knowledge, integrity, and dedication that this position requires. Gaming has been a great success for the Nation. Safeguarding this asset will always be my priority.

Continued on Page 10



Hello,
I am Chago Hale, and I am asking for your support, by voting for me in this Gaming Commission election. I have worked in Tribal Gaming for many years. Like many of us, I started back in the old bingo Days. We have come along way since then. Our facility has grown and compliance in all departments is very important.

My experience comes from working in the different departments of the casino, and for the Gaming Commission. Working on the gaming floor, you see first-hand all the details that are required for a successful casino. Also, many rules that are needed to ensure our slots and table games are being used in the correct manner. In our current times, we face many outside influences of fraud and we need to be prepared and trained to ensure we are operating safely and following all gaming regulations.

I have the experience of the Food and Beverage department which plays its part in our success. Many rules and regulations involving alcohol and actions of workers are needed to stay in compliance.

As a gaming inspector, one gets to experience all aspects of the casino. The inspectors are key personnel, in our Gaming Commission. An inspector oversees all the areas of the casino operations. I was able to gain knowledge from observing and asking questions when needed. To ensure casino operations are following all gaming compact regulations and Title 12.

My leadership experience comes from serving on Tribal Council, and Director for PBP Road & Bridge. Also serving on the PBP Casino Entertainment Board, and Slot Floor Shift Manager has given me excellent gaming experience. I also, have worked at Target, as a department manager and have experienced the retail world. I have learned being a good leader is not about only being a boss but helping others become better. Leading by example is important.

I have lived and worked in our community many years. Volunteering for many functions and with our schools is important to me and my family. Working together for a better future for all of us is one of my goals.

Continued on Page 10



Good morning, afternoon and evening!
I am Barbara (Wahweotten) Evans. I am the daughter of Vernon and Rosemary Wahweotten. Granddaughter of Curtis and Elizabeth Masquat and Isabelle and Hollis Thomas. Wiley (Wildman) Wahweotten is my grandfather but passed when I was young, so I only knew Misho Hollis as my grandfather.

I have worked in the casino business for 23 years. I started out as a casino cashier for six months, then hired by the Tribal Gaming Commission, as a Tribal Gaming Inspector. Presently working as a Tribal Gaming Inspector. I have thoroughly enjoyed the ever-changing challenges. The casino always challenges my mind to be the best for our Tribe. As a Tribal Gaming Inspector, my goal is always for the betterment of the Tribe. To adhere the Tribal/State Compact, Minimum Internal Controls Standards, Internal Control Standard, Casino Policy and Procedures which these were all started by the National Indian Gaming Commission to have Indian Gaming. We also have our Tribal Constitutional laws for Gaming such as Title 12, which is a reference when writing reports.

I have also been afforded training, to keep up with the technology of games, cheating scams and guest services, such as

- Surveillance training -Detecting fraud
- Surveillance training -cards/ dice cheats and scams
- Surveillance training -slot scams
- IGT Technical training-slot games
- Gaming Laboratories Institute-Basic Slots
- Advanced math, Forensics procedures -slots
- Homeland security-National Protection and Active shooter workshop

These listed training certificates have been throughout my 22.5 years as a Tribal Gaming Inspector with different years in these fields. I have also had numerous commendations from General Managers, Tribal Gaming Commission and casino guests, throughout my years of service. I value integrity, honesty and communication in the work place. It is key for our business success!

I was born and have lived on our Reservation all my life. I am truly proud of our Nation, our Heritage and Culture and our community.

Continued on Page 10



Hello, my name is Joe Mitchell and I am announcing my candidacy to run for reelection for the position of Gaming Commissioner #2. It was an honor and pleasure to have had the opportunity to serve as your elected Gaming Commissioner for the past four years. I am grateful and I feel fortunate to live on, work for, and raise my family in the PBPB community. I am asking for your vote and support to continue to represent you as Gaming Commissioner.

During my time in office, I have attended various Gaming Commissioner trainings with Tribal Gaming Protection Network (TGPB), National Tribal Gaming Commissioners & Regulators (NTGCR), National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), and National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA). I have received the Master Level Gaming Certification for NIGA. Also, in my tenure the Commission approved the Facility and Standard Operating Procedures for Class II Gaming at One Stop as well as developed and established Class III Skill-based Technical Standards.

The Covid-19 pandemic resulted in the casino closing the gaming floor on March 15, 2020. The Gaming Commission then created and implemented policies and procedures for the reopening of the casino on June 15, 2020. These policies are still in effect to offer the safest environment possible for the casino employees and patrons.

In the last few years, I have served on the Title 12 committee. In 2020, the Title 12 committee revised the PBPB Tribal Code, Title 12. The amendments were adopted by Tribal Council Resolution No. 2020-363 on December 9, 2020. The amended ordinance was recently approved by NIGC in March of 2021.

Along with my regulatory experience, I have 10+ years of experience working at Prairie Band Casino & Resort on the business side. I have worked in various departments throughout the casino. Most notably, I went through our Casino's internship for two years and then transferred into the Table Games Department where I worked from 2010-2017. During my time in Table Games, I became familiar with the policies and procedures when working with the different departments in the casino. In 2017, I ran for the position of Gaming Commissioner and was elected into office.

Continued on Page 10

Congratulations Early Childhood Education Center Graduates!



5.20.21 - The Early Childhood Education Center celebrated the Preschool and Head Start graduates at a special event held at Prairie Band Casino and Resort.

Front row, left to right: Kinikwe Mitchell, Ronin Rupnicki, Kyra Wahquahboshkuk, Jaken James Jr., Oakley Wahquahboshkuk, Geneva Thompson, Wahwe Wakole, Abel Grant and Wyatt Steele. Back row, left to right: ShawNosh Simon, Meeks Irving, Anwahbe Thomas, Drayden Bell, Ashton Mills, Maxximus Mills, Pitt-ko Potts, Fallon Dayson.

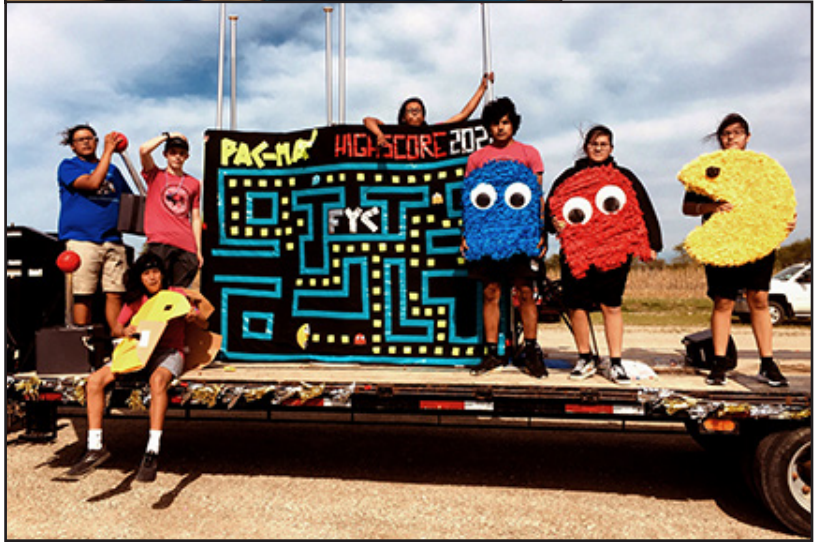
Activities of the Boys and Girls Club of the PBPB



2.6.21 - BGC Youth attend the Breakbeat-code Hackathon to learn music coding. The one day workshop was sponsored by the Orphaned Starfish Foundation and Google, in partnership with music industry experts Syndee Winters (Hamilton, Lion King) and producer Rich Nice (Ice Cube, LL Cool J, Mary J. Blige).



3.3.21 - The BGC was able to reopen to a limited amount of youth after an entire year of the BGC building being closed for normal services. Children are grouped in a pod format, with masks and other protocols in place for safety. At left the kids enjoy a game of bingo.



5.1.21 - The BGC Fire-keepers Youth Council took first place at the Royal Valley 50 year Anniversary Celebration Parade with their Pac-Man float. (From left to right) Alberto Tinajero, Calvin Ogden, Antonio Hopkins, Cayenne Wahquahboshkuk, Ruben Tinajero, Pisi and Pana LeClere.



Spring 2021- BGC staff Joanna “Dumps” Mitchell and Anita Evans continued to provide service by teaching beading class virtually to students in Mrs. Del Toro’s class at Royal Valley Middle School.

Tribal Council Member Tony Wahweotten: Report to the Nation Continued

reviews, LLC quarterly reviews, the Nation’s current budget reviews and legal challenges. At the National level, the Nation has had the opportunity to participate in the Biden Harris Transition process, as well as the new confirmed Secretary of Interior, Debb Holland, virtually, to address specific concerns that may impact the Nation. On continued leadership activity, The Nation held a envision of Unified Leadership Economic Development Summit at the PBP Casino. This will be a five-year course effort, to steer or Leadership to possible additional enterprise solutions. Since, Tribal Council has appointed a new Economic Development Investment Committee.

Outside of my specific duties as Tribal Council, I have been appointed, as one of the new Tax Commissioners for the Nation. This position was formed by

Tribal Council as the Tribes, one out of three, designated taxing authority. Title 10 (General Taxes) and Title 13 (Business Licensing). Title 32 (Hemp Legalization and Control Ordinance). See tribal website or portal for Tribal Law and Order Codes and Tax Reports. Since being appointed, I have participated and acted in approximately six acting, Tax Commission meetings. New applications involving the Nation’s Tax Authority, are available on the Nations website.

Under our Prairie Band Potawatomi Constitution, it stated under Article II-Land, Section 2 Tribal Council shall establish a Standing committee vested with the responsibility of protecting and preserving our land rights in accordance of our policies of the Nation. Tribal Council has appointed me as an additional Liaison, Vice Chairman, to the Lands Committee. I have participated in four PBP Lands meetings, one

cancelled due to COVID related reasons. As the new Tribal Council Liaison, I have had reviews of LMD activity reports, the Land Purchasing Office activity reports, and the cooperating USDA Natural Resources Conservation Reports. See the Tribal website or portal for Constitutional declarations under Article II-Lands.

Other continued news and interest I have been delegated to follow up on, is a sought-after project called the Soldier Creek Watershed. This project consists of early assessments in water resource planning, natural resource conservation, environmental protections within and outside our current boundaries. Our goal for the Soldier Creek Watershed Plan, cooperation with newly established 2018 farm bill funding opportunities, in respect to new development of rural water supply, flood prevention and damage, erosion and sediment control, fish and wildlife habitat, wetland restoration,

and recreation opportunities. We are still in the process of gathering historical information relating to any study on the SCWP, before a formal letter of sponsorship is submitted.

I have also conducted meetings with our Social Services department to discuss Tribal Council leadership representation to the Tribal Victim Services.

All though, there is much more to cover, this is my report to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and its membership. Remember to continue to be safe out there, as we are still in a national pandemic, due to COVID-19. Please continue practicing CDC safety guidelines.

Miigwetch,
Tony Wahweotten

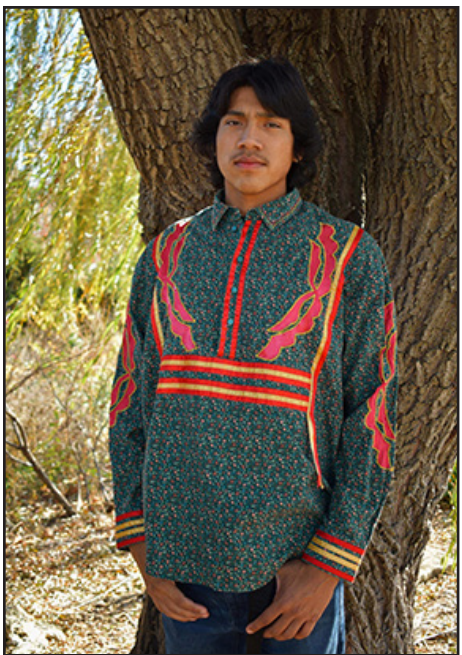
Congratulations 2021 Graduates!



Abby Boeckman
Midwest City High School
Midwest City, Oklahoma
Daughter of Tina Wahweotten
and Adam Boeckman
Granddaughter of Laveda and Ron Wahweotten



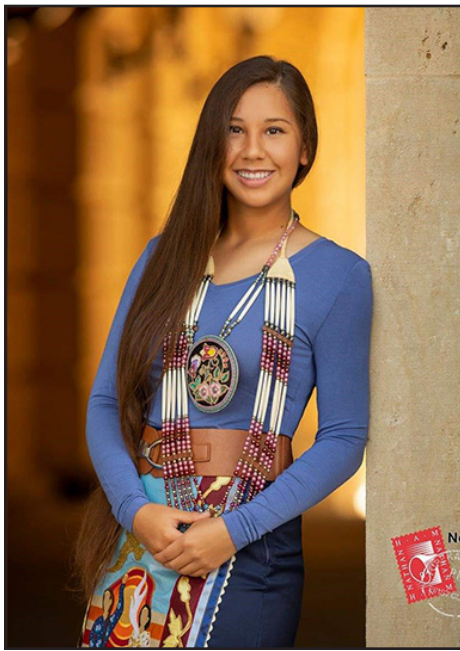
Alberto “Mento-ka” Tinajero
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kansas
Ruth Walter & Lucas Family Scholarship Recipient
Son of Rachel Masquat



Alek “Wahpgeegah” Mitchell
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kansas
Son of Tina & Paul Neiss, and Samuel Mitchell
Grandson of Dolly (Pahmahmie) & Mike Richard
and the late Ivan Levier



Amiya Patterson
Topeka High School & Washburn Tech
Topeka, Kansas
Daughter of Maria Patterson
Granddaughter of Dolly (Pahmahmie) & Mike
Richard and the late Ivan Levier



Hayley T. “Onsoquah” Harman
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kansas
Valedictorian
Kansas Governor’s Honor Scholar
Daughter of Becky & Jeremy Harman
Granddaughter of Lythia (Thomas) &
the late Larry Shopteese, Sr.



Isaac “Moenka” Hale
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kansas
Ruth Walter & Lucas Family Scholarship Recipient
Son of Jenn and Nathan Hale
Grandson of Joyce and Aaron Hale



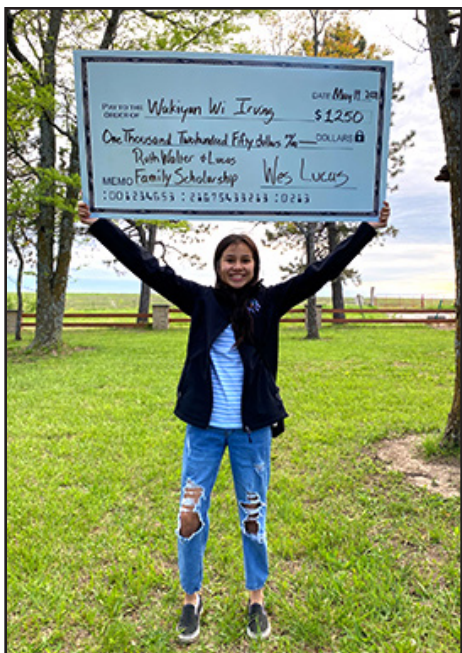
Mahpiya Wi Irving
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kansas
Francis Jensen Family Scholarship Recipient
Ruth Walter & Lucas Family Scholarship Recipient
Daughter of Mahnee Hubbard and John Irving
Granddaughter of Jan and Bob Hubbard



Mani Gail Marie Quick
Manhattan High School
Manhattan, Kansas
Daughter of Karla and Parrish Quick



Thurman Ellis Keo
Horton High School
Horton, Kansas
Son of James & April Keo,
Grandson of Raymond & Christina
Wahwasuck, Horton, KS
Frank & Debra Tartsah, Cache, OK
Jim & Donnis Keo
Great-grandson of Thurman Shopteese



Wakiyan Wi Irving
Royal Valley High School
Hoyt, Kansas
Francis Jensen Family Scholarship Recipient
Ruth Walter & Lucas Family Scholarship Recipient
Daughter of Mahnee Hubbard and John Irving
Granddaughter of Jan and Bob Hubbard



Whisper Avril Perrot
“Mshektokwe”
Central Wisconsin Christion High School
Waupun, Wisconsin
Daughter of Delores and Donald Perrot

Additional High School Graduates

- Sarah Marshall - Jackson Heights
- Taylor Wamego - Jackson Heights
- Brenna Johnson - Rossville
- Clint “Patch” Potts - Rossville
- Austin Creollo - Royal Valley
- Starlene Hale - Royal Valley
- Maria Jessepe - Royal Valley
- Maya Ogden - Royal Valley
- Gloria Organista - Royal Valley
- Hannah Potts - Royal Valley
- Jocie Shopteese - Royal Valley
- Preston Torres - Royal Valley
- Quo-Jon Tye - Royal Valley
- Halina Williamson - Royal Valley

158 & US Hwy 75 Traffic Accident

At approximately 7:46 a.m. on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, a two-vehicle injury accident occurred at 158 Road & US 75 Highway.

Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department was dispatched along with multiple surrounding agencies. Potawatomi Tribal Fire units were the first fire/EMS apparatus to arrive on scene followed shortly by Hoyt Fire, Jackson County EMS, and Mayetta Fire. PTFD responded with two advanced life support ambulances, a rescue engine, and an advanced life support SUV.

Potawatomi Tribal Fire personnel initially found multiple critically injured patients being attended by PBPB administrative and Health Center employees, along with two employees from Stormont Vail and one Washburn University nursing student.

Working as a team, the responding agencies quickly and competently cared for all four patients involved while preparing them for transport. Tribal Fire ambulances transported three critically injured patients from the crash scene to Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation thanked all the responding agencies listed, the bystanders who stopped to help, the Jackson County Sheriff's Deputies that responded, the Kansas Highway Patrol, the on-duty Jackson County Sheriff Dispatchers,

and the Prairie Band Tribal Police Department and Dispatch for their assistance and teamwork during this critical incident.

The accident ultimately resulted in the loss of life of Rachael McCoy, 29. She was an employee of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, mother and wife, descendant of the tribe and resided within the bounds of the reservation.

"We are deeply saddened by this loss of life and the impact it will have on her family and our community," stated Chairman Joseph Rupnick, "and we are also grateful for the support of all who were directly involved in assisting during this critical incident."

Safe Kids - PBPB organization reminds all drivers to:

- Always wear a seat belt.
- Always have kids under the age of 8 years old or 80 pounds properly installed in a car seat.
- Make sure to stop at all stop signs and look both ways before proceeding.
- Make sure to yield and look both ways before proceeding.
- Try to avoid dangerous intersections.

Anyone who is traveling within the local area can use the 150th Road overpass to access the ramps to enter into and exit from traffic onto US Highway 75.

PBPB General Public Transportation Donation Drive



4.29.21 - PBPB General Public Transportation staff, Terry Cross Bear, Rick Rector and Dani Moss delivered 156 donated items to the PBPB Social Services Child & Family Services program received by CFS staff member Brande Adame.



Prior to her passing, Rachael McCoy, Supervisor and Lead Driver for PBPB General Public Transportation had arranged the first donation drive within the department. The Transportation department partnered with the PBPB Social Services Child and Family Services program, with all donations benefiting community children and families. Through the donation drive riders were able to exchange household items as a form of payment for

transportation and all fees collected were also donated.

During the course of the week long drive, held on April 19, through April 23, 2021, 156 items were donated along with raising \$151.20 in cash donations. Donated items included body maintenance items like shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, and mouthwash. Several packages of paper goods including paper towels, Kleenex, and toilet paper were donated, along with household cleaning products such as bleach, mops and floor cleaners, and laundry detergent.

Gaming Commission Candidate Profiles Continued

Wamego Continued Leadership

I have the leadership skills to hold people accountable, having many years experience supervising and mentoring employees. I also had the opportunity to play an instrumental role during the 2007 transition from Harrah's to Prairie Band Potawatomi self-management. I helped plan and execute our transition and ensured our team stayed on track.

I have experience educating, monitoring and ensuring our casino operations remain in compliance with the Title 31 Banking regulations and reporting requirements. Recently the regulations and scrutiny under this law have been heightened and my years of experience will be an asset to the Gaming Commission and casino operation as future Title 31 compliance issues become more complex and occur more frequently. I also have significant experience with the Minimum Internal Control Standards (MICS) the Gaming Commission has promulgated and the internal policy and procedures the gaming operation has implemented. Even before I became a Gaming Commissioner, I worked closely with the Gaming Commission and State Gaming on issues pertaining to our casino operations compliance with the

MICS. As you can see, I have excellent leadership experience in gaming operations and compliance which is an asset to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Dedication and Work Ethic

My dedication and integrity over the years are attributes I am very proud of. I have been a loyal and dependable employee to the Nation's gaming operations for over 24 years. I take pride in the work I do each day. It has been an honor to be part of the casino from the ground up to what it is today.

I am a dedicated public servant of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. I believe in holding myself, Gaming Commission staff, casino management and employees, and vendors accountable to the standards required by applicable laws, standards, and regulations.

I will continue to support the mission of our gaming operation and will do so by bringing my experience and leadership skills to the Gaming Commission. I promise to actively communicate with fellow Gaming Commissioners, casino management, the casino board, Tribal Council, and General Council and seek continual improvements to our casino

operations.

I commend the tribal leadership on the success of our gaming operation and look forward to the opportunity to continue my contribution to its success as a Gaming Commissioner.

I would appreciate your vote in July. I look forward to continuing to be part of our great Nation's operations and to our future endeavors in gaming.

Evans Continued

I am graciously asking for your vote for Tribal Gaming Commissioner.

Please be safe, stay well and thank you!

Barbara Evans

Mitchell Continued

I hope to continue the improvement, while also providing stability, to the Gaming Commission. Above all, it is my goal to continue to preserve and protect the assets of the Nation by ensuring that the casino is adhering to all the necessary guidelines and regulations.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at joem@pbpgaming.org.

Hale Continued

I believe in teamwork and helping our community. I have strong traditional beliefs that have taught me to be respectful in all aspects of life. I believe in learning technology so our children will have a good future. Balancing a traditional and business world, is something that is needed in our native world.

If elected, I would carry on, what all previous elected commissioners have done up to this point. We have had many good leaders serve as commissioners in the past and continuing their hard work would be an honor. The gaming world is in a constant change and becoming more digital, many laws and regulations are also needing amended as it changes. We need to stay up to date with the new digital world. Online sports gambling and geonets in the casinos, are just at the beginning. Also, being present at the capitol during discussions of gaming is of high importance. Our Presence and Our Voice is needed, so we are not forgotten or overlooked at the state level. I humbly ask for your vote, in this Gaming Commission election.

Thank you,
Chago Hale

Nishnabek Ntewmèn - “Who We Are”



3.23.21 - The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council met with The Kansas City Chiefs Executive Vice-President of Business Operations, Tyler Epp. The Chiefs organization reached out to learn more about the Prairie Band Potawatomi and increase their awareness of a local tribe in their region. From left, are Tony Wahweotten, Zach Pahmahmie, William Evans, Tyler Epp, Camilla Chouteau, Raphael Wahwassuck, Joseph Rupnick and Wade Pahmahmie.

Opinion: Not Your Mascot

A national conversation on racial equality and anti-racism has renewed attention to and interest in a number of issues. One topic that seems to sit on the back burner being forever deemed okay is the use of American Indian-themed mascots. While there are many issues, we as Indigenous People must address, our task is much more difficult when mascots and caricatures prevent others from seeing Indigenous People for what they are: people.

Native Americans constitute roughly two percent of the United States’ population. Thus, if Native American voices must outweigh the voices of those who want to retain harmful mascots, our battle will never be won. Rather than engaging in a heated, divisive debate, it is time to start listening to research and voices that have been drowned out for decades.

Addressing the issue of race-themed mascots is not political correctness. It is about racial equity and justice. It requires the courage of a whole society to stand up against an accepted norm to overcome racism. We must push to advance a more equal and just society for all people. We must accept that the time to advance equality for America’s first people is long overdue.

I recognize that many may feel a sense of pride and identity with race-themed mascots adorning schools and sports facilities. I recognize that a call to retire familiar mascots will bring feelings of anger, defensiveness and confusion. I recognize that it is easier to name and call out racism in other communities and institutions than to do so within an institution we

have grown up in and identified with. I recognize that it is difficult to speak the word “racist” in association with a school district or a sports organization in which we feel great pride. I also recognize that many members and fans may feel uncomfortable with the mascot but are hesitant to say so publicly at the risk of upsetting friends and family.

The Kansas City Chiefs’ race-themed mascots undermine efforts regarding the struggle of Indigenous and Native Americans who were wiped out by white greed and racism. This lessens the value of the football team because they continue the legacy of racist oppression and humiliation. By turning a minority group into caricatures, the Kansas City Chiefs invalidates our identities and makes our voices less accepted by those in power.

That no harm was intended when the logos were adopted may be true. It is also true that we – American Indian people – are saying that the logos are harmful to our cultures, and especially to our children, in the present. When someone says your actions cause harm, that harm becomes intentional if you persist.

Today the Kansas City Chiefs have the opportunity to represent American Indians with respect by removing such mascots in a show of respect for all American Indians. To ignore this issue means to continually and knowingly inflict harm and perpetuate racism.

Edward T. Ventura Jr.
PBPB Member
Bellevue, NE

Happy Birthday! - Ttiwenmo Eginigyen



Happy 18th Birthday!
7/25 - Isaac Hale

Happy 80th Birthday Mom!
Phyllis Jean Mitchell,
celebrated her day in
El Paso, Texas
where she has lived
for 48 years.
Love and hugs to you all days,
always.
- Your oldest daughter, Gina
and your grand-pups Jingles
and Blue



Happy Birthday Family!

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 3/21 - Anthony LaClair | 5/12 - Kayla Gomez |
| 4/1 - Leslie LaClair | 6/1 - Arlene Lingo |

McClammy Promoted to Master Sergeant



PBPN Member Courtney McClammy (above left) has recently been promoted to Master Sergeant in the Air Force. She enlisted in the Air Force and graduated in May 2011. She worked with the 190th in Topeka, Kansas until she took a position in Baltimore, Maryland. She served in Operation Freedom’s Sentinel for the 175th Wing while in Baltimore. Along her journey she has received many awards for her dedication to her career.

Her family is very proud of her. She continues to amaze us with her dedication to her purpose in life. We love you so very much! Keep doing what you do babe!! - Proud parents Will and Tamara McClammy.

Turning Point For Elders Springtime Giveaway



Prairie Band Casino and Resort Charitable Contributions Committee participated, too, honoring elders with a terrific donated assortment of gifts.

Volunteers for the Springtime Giveaway were Mary Le Clere, Babe Harrison, Angie Wakolee and Sherri Landis.

Turning Point For Elders sponsored a surprise Springtime Giveaway for area Prairie Band Elders on March 31, 2021. Sixty-two mixed gifts were handed to Elders as they proceeded through the lunch pick-up point at the Fire Keepers Elder Center. Gift cards to local retail outlets were included in the Giveaway, made possible by generous donations from staff members at the Prairie Band Health Center.

Prairie Band Tribal member Gina Anthony serves as Director and oversees varied assistance, informational details and activities in the service program known as Turning Point for Elders. Tribal Elders at all locations are invited to call for information. (785) 554-6857 Monday-Friday 9-3. (Pictured above are Babe, Gina, Angie and Mary).

Kambottek

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



Harold Hernandez

TOPEKA, KS – Harold Ernest Hernandez, 57, of Topeka, died December 10, 2020, at his home.

He was born on May 18, 1963, in Topeka, Kansas the son of George and Arlene (Marshno) Hernandez.

He worked in the lawn care nursery business. Harold enjoyed fishing and spending time with his friends. He also was a sports fan of the Las Vegas Raiders and the K-State Wildcats.

Harold is survived by a brother Daniel Hernandez, a sister, Antoinette “Toni” (Randy) Dodds all of Topeka, a half-brother, Vincent Hernandez of Mayetta, and two half-sisters, Dolly Potts of Wisconsin and Denise Hinds of Mayetta and many nieces and nephews.

Harold will lie in state at the Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home on Tuesday after 2:00 p.m. where the family will receive friends from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home. Interment will follow in the Dance Ground Cemetery on the Potawatomi Indian Reservation. The family would like to encourage you to wear Raiders or Wildcat attire to his service.

Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home to assist his family with expenses and sent in care of 800 SW 6th Ave., Topeka, Kansas, 66603.

- Courtesy of Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home



Delores Blanks

TOPEKA, KS – Delores Ann (Gamino) Miller Blanks, age 70, of Topeka, passed away January 29, 2021, with her family by her side.

She was born September 4, 1950, in Manhattan, KS, the daughter of Guadalupe “Lupe” and Alvena (Belaire) Gamino.

Delores attended local schools and proudly graduated from Manhattan High School with class of 1968. She was baptized at Seven Dolors Catholic Church in Manhattan and was also a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Mayetta, KS.

She was married to Harold Dean Miller and he preceded her in death in 1986. She later married Robert Blanks and he preceded her in death in 2013.

Delores’s joy in life was taking care of her family and children. She always came back to Manhattan for holiday dinners and birthday gatherings for her parents and siblings. Delores had a big heart for fostering children, later adopting two brothers, though she couldn’t adopt them all.

Delores worked for Topeka Housing for many years as an inspector, did some home health care, and worked at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Government Center in finance.

She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, sewing, reading, fishing, going to the casino, and just having fun win or lose. She was always quick to give advice, always liked to hear about the Manhattan changes, even saying sometime she would like to move back to Manhattan.

Continued on page 15



Ophelia Nicholson

TOPEKA, KS – Ophelia J. Mattwaoshe Nicholson, 84, of Topeka, passed away Saturday, February 6, 2021, in Topeka, Kansas.

She was born October 1, 1936, in Mayetta, Kansas, the daughter of Joe and Edith (Nocktonick) Mattwaoshe. She attended school in Mayetta, Kan. and Holton, Kan.

Ophelia married Robert “Nick” “Bob” Wayne Nicholson. He survives. Other survivors include her daughter, Debra (Bill) Thill; one granddaughter, Christina Jean (Aaron) Frasier; and niece, Barbara (Sal) Giardina. She was preceded in death by her parents and sisters, Mel Guerrero and Rosetta Anderson; and brother, Logan Mattwaoshe.

Ophelia enjoyed collecting antique radios, traveling, and spending time with her beloved husband Robert. She was a tribal member of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indian Tribe.

Honoring Ophelia’s wishes, cremation has been planned. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at ASPCA.org.

- Courtesy of Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home

Timothy Hall
GRAND JUNCTION, CO – Timothy W. Hall, 62, passed on February 6, 2021. He was born on January 6, 1959. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.



Steven Boleski

WICHITA, KS – Steven Mark Boleski, born in Wichita, KS to Don and Mary Kay Boleski on November 2, 1961, passed away Saturday, February 13, 2021.

Steve was a devoted husband and has been married to Kris for 29 years. They met through Kris’s cousin and after Kris proved she was a Chiefs fan, he knew she was the one. They married on August 30, 1991, and started a family a few years later. The children became Steve’s pride and joy and he spent his weekends cheering on Paige, Erica, Lauren, Joe and Reagan in all of their activities. Steve truly loved his family and loved sharing their successes and when he did he beamed with pride.

In addition to his family, Steve was an active member of the Wichita community for many years. After he graduated from Wichita State University, he went to work for Dean Witter, which was part of the Sears Financial Network. He stayed with this company through their many changes and today it is known as Morgan Stanley. Steve was the Senior Vice President of the Boleski Group and recently celebrated 35 years at the firm.

Steve loved the Shockers! Steve had offers to work in bigger cities but it seemed that although Kris would move, Wichita State would not. He graduated in 1985 with a degree in Finance. Over the years, Steve remained extremely close to the University, especially the athletic department. He was involved in many development activities and served as the president of SASO.

One of Steve’s favorite hobbies was photography. He loved to photograph both nature and sports.

Continued on page 15



Lorene Wahweotten

WHEAT RIDGE, CO - Lorene Donnes “Snooks” Wahweotten, Wah Box Si Quah, 69, of Wheat Ridge, Colorado, passed away Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at Lutheran Medical Center in Wheat Ridge.

She was born February 3, 1952, in Topeka, the daughter of Edna Keggmege.

She graduated from Topeka High School in 1970 and received a business degree from Clarks Business School.

Lorene was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and part of the Drum Religion. She had worked for Regional Transportation in Colorado for fifteen years and later worked for the State of Colorado for ten years. She also worked for the State of Kansas for five years.

She was preceded in death by brothers, Orville Rice, Jr., Edward Wahweotten, Eli Wabnum, Irving Shopteese and Reuben Wabnum, and sisters, Theresa Wabnum, Inez Dodds, and Mary Brown.

Survivors include her adopted mom, Voncile Mitchell, Mayetta; five children, sons, Robert Roberts and Brian Roberts (Nicole), all of Aurora, CO, Norman Roberts (Tracey), Clara Roberts-Vielma (Javier), and Eliza Roberts (Justin Droge), all of Topeka; twelve grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, sisters, Maxine Begay and Cheryl Walker, both of Mayetta, brothers, Ronald Wahweotten (LaVeda), Mayetta and Larry Wahweotten, Augusta, nieces and nephews and cousins.

A wake and drum service will be Tuesday evening, March 9th at the Dance Ground, west of Mayetta. Burial will be Wednesday afternoon in the Matwe-Shobney Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com.

- Courtesy of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home

Kambottek

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



Anthony Sanchez-Day

LAWRENCE, KS – Anthony J. Sanchez-Day, 46, of Lawrence, passed away on Friday, March 5, 2021, at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas.

He was born July 21, 1974, in Topeka, the son of Frederick Sanchez and Delores M. Pimentel-Day. He graduated from Grand River Academy in Ashtabula, Ohio, and attended Haskell University for Liberal Arts.

Anthony was a freelance writer. His writings included poetry and short stories.

He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Anthony offered his creative writing skills by volunteering with inmate programs at the Douglas County Jail. His work with the inmate reentry program was his passion.

Anthony was preceded in death by his parents, Frederick and Delores.

Survivors include his stepfather, Robert Day, Lawrence; a son, Ontario and a daughter, Ana; one brother, Robert Day, III, Lawrence; three aunts, Margaret Vasquez (Richard), and Barbara Calvillo (Frank), all of Topeka, and Linda Leavitt (Jack), Lakewood Ranch, FL; one uncle, Blas Ortiz (Linda), Topeka; several cousins, including, Lisa Ortiz, Topeka, Sara Ortiz, Gabriel Ortiz (Jessica) and Christine Ortiz, all of Lawrence; a niece, Calli Day, and a nephew, Robert IV Day, both of Lawrence. Several friends in Anthony's life whom he considered his brothers as extended family.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 19th at 11:00 a.m. at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until service time on Friday with a Rosary to be prayed at 10:30. Please wear a mask for the services. Burial will follow in the Dance Ground Cemetery, west of Mayetta.



Julia Lewis

MAYETTA, KS – Julia "Jon-yan" Lewis, 86, of Mayetta, KS, passed away Sunday, March 7, 2021 at Midland Hospice House in Topeka. She was born January 14, 1935, in Soldier, KS, the daughter of David and Minnie (Rose) Lewis.

Julia attended and graduated from Manhattan schools. She lived most of her life on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation and also lived in Indiana and Illinois. She was a Registered Nurse, most recently working for McCrite's Plaza in Topeka. Julia was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include her daughter, Doris Cochran of Topeka, KS; twin daughters, Judy and Joyce; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Dorothy A. Kiyukan-Ziegler; 2 sons, Raymond and Robert Bridegroom; 2 sisters, Mary Cell and Mickie Lewis and 4 brothers, Pete, David, Francis and Bill Lewis.

Funeral Service will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 13, 2021, at the Mercer Funeral Home in Holton. Burial will follow at the Shipshee Cemetery. Family will greet friends one hour prior to service time. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

- *Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Homes*

Sanchez-Day Continued
Memorials are suggested to the Douglas County Sheriff's Inmate Resource Fund, 111 E. 11th Street, Lawrence, KS 66044, or in care of the funeral home, PO Box 280, Hoyt, KS 66440. Online condolences may be made at chapeloaks-funeralhome.com.

- *Courtesy of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home*



Rosemary Young

FAIRLAND, IN – Rosemary Ann Young "Wah-sash-mo-quah," 53, of Fairland, Indiana passed away Sunday, March 21, 2021, at a hospital in Indianapolis, IN.

She was born September 7, 1967, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin the daughter of Gene Olp and Mary L. Young. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Rosemary had lived in Ohio where she graduated from Orrville High School in 1985 and had attended Akron University. She had been in Indiana for over 20 years. Rosemary was very talented. She loved sewing, crocheting and raising chickens. She was an amazing cook and baker.

Rosemary is survived by her mother, Mary Young of Mayetta, KS; her sister, Carrie "Dolly" Black (Gary); her brothers, Warren "Sha Nosh", Edwin "M-shuc-qeah", Gary Olp (Amy King) and Dale Olp (Darlynn) and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles. She was preceded in death by her father and step-mother, Gene and Pat Olp; her sister, Gale Boggs.

Private family burial will be in Shipshee Cemetery west of Mayetta, KS at a later date. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com. Card of condolence may be sent to Mercer Funeral Home, P.O. Box 270, Holton, KS 66436.

- *Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Homes*

Joel Shopteese

ARIZONA CITY, AZ – Joel Jonathan Shopteese, 62, passed away April 21, 2021, at the University of New Mexico hospital in Albuquerque, NM. He was born on August 6, 1958. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.



Stephen Timroth

HETTINGER, ND – Stephen Joe Timroth, 48, passed away on April 3rd, 2021, in Hettinger, ND.

Stephen was born on February 27th, 1973 in San Diego, CA. Many people would describe him as a free spirit. His heart took him many places during his life and led him to South Dakota where he resided with his wife Deana and their two children until late 2019 when he moved to Hettinger, ND.

Stephen had a great love of life and a love for the many people he had met during his life journey. He had a quick sense of humor and a way to make you laugh even on a bad day. His big heart made him easy to love, along with his generosity and willingness to help others, which was felt by the people around him. He never shied away from hard work and his love of the outdoors gave him great skills while learning the aspects of life on the ranch. Whether it was calving through spring storms, running farm equipment, or building things he always took it in stride and with enthusiasm.

Stephen had many personal accomplishments in his life, one of which was having his children's book published in 2009. He was thrilled about this and even with him fighting dyslexia he would always have something to give his children. This first book in his Dreamworld series captured how much he loved all his children and Dreamhawk will always be that special gift to them from him. Most of all Stephen was proud of his children and would often share this with others. The love he had for them was as unconditional as any fathers' and he always wanted and hoped for the best lives for each of them.

Continued on page 15



Jason Kelley

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK – Jason Grant Kelley, 41, of Ada, Oklahoma passed away Friday, April 9th, 2021 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Jason was born on December 4, 1979, to Stanley and Jennifer (Jessepe) Kelley in Dallas, Texas. He grew up in Ada, attending Ada and Stonewall Public Schools. Jason spent most of his working life as a Packaging Laborer in the food industry.

When Jason wasn't working, you could often find him playing video games, listening to music, and playing or watching football, particularly the Buffalo Bills.

Jason is preceded in death by his father, Stanley Eugene Kelley, maternal grandparents Wesley and Mary Jo Jessepe, and paternal grandparents Jack and Marie Brown.

He is survived by his mother, Jennifer Kelley, of Ada, two brothers, Jesse Kelley of Ada and John Kelley of Ada, one sister, Lisa Kelley, of Ada, threw nephews, James Townsend, Jack Kelley, and Noah Kelley, all of Ada, three nieces, Jessica Kelley, Ashley Kelley, and Adriene Kelley, all of Ada, as well as a host of other family and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 PM, Wednesday, April 14th, 2021 at Estes-Phillips Funeral Home Chapel in Ada.

- *Courtesy of Estes-Phillips Funeral Home Chapel*

Kambottek

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



Caroline Moore

TOPEKA, KS – Caroline R. “Sezikwe” Moore, 90, of Topeka, passed away on Sunday, April 11, 2021, at a Topeka care facility. She was born February 25, 1931, in Mayetta, Kansas, the daughter of Frank G. and Eleanor (Spitto) Moore.

Caroline graduated from Circleville High School in 1948. She was employed by the Santa Fe Railroad for 39 years before retiring. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include her brother, Terry Moore of Topeka and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews and great-great-nieces and great-great-nephews.

Caroline was preceded in death by her siblings, Geraldine Moore, Bernice Holtzman, Camille Sweet and Melvin Moore.

Cremation has taken place and a private Celebration of Caroline’s Life will be held at a later date. Private inurnment will take place in Shipshee Cemetery.

- Courtesy of Dove Creations and Funerals

Stay Connected!

Visit pbpindiantribe.com

► click “Contact” at the bottom of the home page

► sign up to get the latest updates delivered directly to your inbox!



Carlotta Johnson

MAYETTA, KS – Carlotta J. Keesis Johnson, 89, passed away April 14, 2021 at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Lawrence, KS.

Carlotta, known as Carla, was born September 18, 1931 on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation to Bernard and Susan (Moore) Keesis. She was raised on the Potawatomi Reservation and in Holton, KS. She attended Marty Indian School in Marty, South Dakota, through high school. Carla was one of ten children and was affectionately called “Tiny” by her siblings and family members. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

She married James R. Peters and they had three sons; Patrick Drebeck of Bremerton, Washington, James H. Peters of Tacoma, Washington and Larry Peters of Topeka, Kansas.

She later married the love of her life Ross Johnson and they raised Jim and Larry in Topeka and Salina. Carla and Ross enjoyed many family vacations and simple times of just sitting on the porch together until Ross’s death in 1977.

Carla worked at the Kansas State Treasurer’s Office and Ray Beers clothing store in downtown Topeka. Carla used to joke that she never made any money from her work at Ray Beers because Ross was always buying a new suit with her employee discount. After Ross’s death, she returned to Topeka and retired from the Department of Revenue. She always enjoyed her work, her co-workers, and believed in doing the best job possible.

Carla is survived by her sister, Patricia; her sons, Patrick (Chris), Jim (Onica) and Larry

Continued



Gerri Shopteese

TECUMSEH, OK – Gerri Shopteese, 67, of Tecumseh, Oklahoma passed away Friday, April 16, 2021, at his home.

He was born July 22, 1953, to Melford and Donna (Alstrom) Shopteese in Amarillo, Texas.

Gerri was raised in Amarillo, Texas and Rifle, Colorado. He lived most of his adult life in Colorado and had lived in Tecumseh for the past several years.

He worked as a drywall and painter contractor for many years and was a member of the Painters Union.

Gerri was a proud member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. He loved fishing and making Native American carvings.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Melford and Donna Shopteese.

Survivors include 1 son, Jermiah Schmitz of Abilene, Kansas; 3 sisters and 2 brothers-in-law, Pam Shopteese of Midwest City, OK, Yvonne and Gary Johnson of Foster, OK, Terri and bob Seaman of Choctaw, OK; 1 brother and 1 sister-in-law, Joseph and Nancy Shopteese; 2 granddaughters; 1 great-grandson; 1 aunt, Aunt Babe; many nieces, nephews and other extended family and friends.

No formal services will be held. Cremation arrangements by Cooper Funeral Home of Tecumseh.

- Courtesy of Cooper Funeral Home



Christopher Brewer

MAYETTA, KS – Christopher Michael Brewer, Wabski, 58, of Mayetta, passed away on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka.

He was born August 19, 1962 in Topeka, the son of Marilyn Kitchkommie Brewer. He received a Master’s Degree in social work from Ashford University and worked for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in their administrative office.

Chris was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the Drum Religion. He also served on several boards with the Tribe.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Marilyn Brewer.

Survivors include his brother, Richard Brewer, Mayetta; a nephew, Kadot Brewer and a niece, Quengo and several Aunts and Many Many Vital Cousins.

Chris will lie in state after 9:00 a.m. Thursday, April 29th at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt where visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. that evening. A graveside service will be 10:00 a.m. Friday at the Shipshee Cemetery, west of Mayetta. Online condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com.

- Courtesy of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home

Johnson Continued
(Deb); as well as her grandchildren, Hannah, Seth, Hiram (Barbra), Sarah and two great-grandchildren.

Private Family Memorial Service will be at a later date. Inurnment will be at Shipshee 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 of Mercer Funeral Homes



Rose Patterson

OLALLA, WA - Rose (Posie) Marjorie (Pahmahmie) Patterson, 82, of Olalla, Washington passed away with loved ones at home on April 28, 2021. She was born on March 20, 1939 in Mayetta, Kansas. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. The daughter of Alice Wahquahboshkuk and William Pahmahmie.

She grew up in Mayetta and Topeka. She started her career as a Secretary at Indian Health Service and retired as an Administrative Supervisor in Seattle, WA. She was an entrepreneur at heart and always had new ideas to start businesses. She enjoyed spending time with family and going on car rides while listening to Frank Sinatra. She loved looking at the night sky for stars and planets, and enjoyed watching the rabbits and birds on her property. She never lost her sense of humor, even at the very end. She will be greatly missed. We will love her forever and always.

She was a devoted wife to her late husband, Mark W. Patterson and a loving mother to surviving son, Tony Wabaunsee and to surviving daughters Leslie Hollandsworth and Gayle Wabaunsee. She is survived by her mother-in-law Shirley Patterson, brother William (Bill) Eteeyan, Jr. and sister Geraldine Eteeyan. She loved her grandchildren Tristin Davis, Kathern Davis, Nicole Wabaunsee, Arlene Harrison, Roxanne Harrison, Lucas (pnaswe) Kitchkommie, Tommyrose Wabaunsee and great-grandchildren Johnathan Harry, Rosanna (misak) Harrison, Emery David Negonsott, Trudell Negonsott, Samantha Smith, Nevaeh Smith and great-great grandchildren Rossley Jessepe, Pewamo and Kaia Kitchkommie.

She was preceded in death by her beloved sister Pearl Pahmahmie and precious sons

Continued

Kambottek

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



Badger Wahwasuck

MAYETTA, KS – Badger Roy Wahwasuck, 71, of Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation, Mayetta, KS, passed away Monday, May 3, 2021, at his home. He was born April 27, 1950, in Holton, KS, the son of Trilby Hix and Lucille (Bennick) Wahwasuck.

Badger was a Professional Pow Wow Dancer, traveling to many towns and states. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Karen Janet (Leman) Wahwasuck; sisters, Velma Wahwasuck, Shawnie Smith (Chev); eldest son, John Roy Wahwasuck; eldest daughter, Josette Scholfield (Douglas); son/nephew, Greg Wahwasuck; son, Trilby Wahwasuck; daughter, Adriana Tobey (Arlan); son, Louie Cervantes (Arnalda); grandchildren, Keenen and Labradford Wahwasuck, Alicia, Daniel and Dasan Scholfield, Sophia and Adriana Suke, Travis and Victor (Littles) Ortero and Dania and Arianna Wahwasuck.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Trilby and Lucille Wahwasuck; brothers, Clyde Papakee and Luther Wahwasuck and sister, Edna (Crunchie) Johnson.

Wake and Services will be Tuesday evening, May 4, 2021, at the Dance Ground Building on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation. Mercer Funeral Home in Holton is in charge of arrangements. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneral-homes.com.

- Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Homes



Roseanna Mathewson

POLSON, MT – Roseanna Jean Mathewson, age 41, passed away March 25, 2021 at St. Joseph Medical in Polson, MT. She was born on September 24, 1979. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

A visitation will be held Saturday, April 3, 2021, from 3:00-6:00 pm at The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

- Courtesy of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory

Bolenski Continued
He traveled as far as Alaska to photograph bald eagles and grizzly bears. In the last few years, he was able to ride along with storm chasers and fulfill his dream of photographing severe weather. Some of Steve's photographs earned awards from the Wichita Eagle newspaper, particularly those of the Kapaun Mount Carmel Women's soccer team. Although he was an award-winning photographer, Steve's most prized photos were of his children playing soccer and tennis.

Steve was a man of faith which was evident in the way he lived his life. He was a lifelong member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church and centered his life around his Catholic faith.

Viewing will begin at 2 pm Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at Downing and Lahey East Mortuary. Rosary will be held at 5 pm on Friday, February 19, 2021; Funeral Mass will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, February 20, 2021, both at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church.

Survived by his wife, Kristine (Durst) Boleski; daughters, Paige Boleski, Erica Boleski, Lauren Boleski, Reagan Boleski; son, Joseph Boleski; parents, Donald and Mary Kay Boleski; brother, Jeff Boleski; sister, Donna (Curtis) Hernandez.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established with St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 1321 N. Stratford, Wichita, KS 67206.

- Courtesy of Downing & Lahey Mortuary – East Chapel

Blanks Continued
Her favorite saying was "nothing is promised". She will be missed by all that knew her. Now we can say "she is home".

Survivors include her children: Mark Miller and his wife Julie of Topeka, Christopher Miller of Topeka, and Paul Miller of Emporia, KS; her sisters: Marita Saunders and Tammy Gamino; her brothers: Ronald Gamino, Johnny Gamino, Lupe Gamino, Jr., and Tony Gamino; her grandchildren: Anthony, Robert, Jaya and Mya Miller; and a large extended family and many friends.

A Celebration of her Life will be held at 2:00 P.M. Thursday, February 25th, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel with Father Kerry Ninemire officiating. Inurnment will follow in the Sunset Cemetery. The family will receive friends prior to the service starting at 1:00 P.M.

- Courtesy of Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home

Timroth Continued
Stephen is survived by his wife Deana (Akers) Timroth; children; Drake of Glenwood Springs, CO, Spencer and Layla of Parachute, CO, and Jaylen and Stephanie of Lodgepole, SD; Father and mother Drew and Joanne Timroth of Heber City, UT; four sisters; Anna Timroth of Heber City, UT, Laura Gisber of Heber City, UT, Kathryn Timroth of Kerhonkson, NY, and Kindahl Atwood of Tallahassee, FL; and grandmother Laura Hasti. His passing has left a huge void in our family and lives, but he will always be remembered in our hearts.

- Courtesy of Evanson Jensen Funeral Homes

Patterson Continued
David Harrison, Robert Harrison, and Victor Wabaunsee. Arrangements were under the direction of Edwards Memorial, University Place, WA.

- Courtesy of the Patterson Family

Charitable Contributions
1st Quarter Recipient List
Total Donated \$58,650

- Donnelly College
 - Family Service & Guidance Center of Topeka
 - Grahem-Herbers VFW Post 3084
 - Humanities of Kansas
 - Justicia, Inc/Ballet Folklorico
 - Kansas Children's Service League
 - March of Dimes
 - Museum of the Kansas
- National Guard
 - Rossville Senior Citizens Association
 - Royal Valley Recreation Center
 - Sertoma - Great Topeka Duck Race
 - Sunshine Connection
 - Topeka Blues Society
 - USD 450 South Brown County
 - Washburn Athletics

General Council Meetings	Virtual Town Hall Schedule
♦ July 17, 2021 ♦	• August 25, 2021 •
♦ October 16, 2021 ♦	• December 1, 2021 •
Enrolled Tribal Members age 18+ Only	Enrolled Tribal Members age 18+ Only
8 a.m. Registration Opens 9 a.m. Light Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Meeting Begins	All meetings open at 5:30 p.m. CST Meeting begins at 6 p.m. CST
Location TBD – visit www.pbpindiantribe.com	Log In to the Members Only Portal at www.pbpindiantribe.com for access instructions

REMINDER! Update Your Address!

The Member Services department encourages all tribal members, both adults and minors, to keep your address current.

The Official Change of Address form is available at pbpindiantribe.com/member-services
No address changes will be accepted by phone

The Prairie Band Potawatomi News

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

Send submissions to:
Email: media@pbpnation.org

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

Phone: 785-966-3920

Website:
www.pbpindiantribe.com

Follow us on Facebook:
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Enibēk/Summer Time 2021 Edition Deadline August 6, 2021

Congratulations Royal Valley Varsity Boys Basketball Team!

The 2020-21 Royal Valley High School varsity boys basketball team is the first team in school history to qualify the boys basketball program for the Kansas Class 3A State Basketball tournament.

The Panthers won the Class 3A sub-state tournament after defeating Marysville with a score of 39-31 on Saturday, March 6, 2021. Nahcs Wahwassuck lead the scoring during the sub-state championship game with 17 points, followed by KJ Miller with 9, Mason Thomas with 8, and Brady Klotz with 5.

The Panthers traveled to St. George on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, to face the Rock Creek Mustangs for the State Quarterfinal game. Rock Creek maintained an 8 point lead for the majority of the game, at one point reaching a 12 point lead. During the fourth quarter Royal Valley narrowed the divide to 5 points after Thomas sunk three 3-pointers taking RV to 43 against RC's 48 points. In the end Rock Creek advanced with a score of 53, to Royal Valley's 43 points. The Panthers ended their season with a 20-4 record.



3.6.21 - The Royal Valley High School varsity boys basketball team Class 3A sub-state champions! (Back row, left to right) Jase Wege, coach Chris Brown, Ian Torres (PBPB), KJ Miller (PBPB), Brady Klotz, Nahcs Wahwassuck (PBPB), Mason Thomas (PBPB), Cole Dressman, Luke Boyden, coach Glenn O'Neil and coach Nathan Smith. (Front row, left to right) Daniel Coleman, Antonio Hopkins (PBPB), Jake Kelly, Omar Higinie (PBPB), Treyson Murata (PBPB), manager Albert Tinajero (PBPB) and Conner Hammes. The RVHS varsity boys basketball team also won the Big Seven League for the second season in a row.

MMIW: PBPB Partners with Meskwaki RISE

By Gea Aitkens (PBPB), Meskwaki RISE staff

May 5th is the National Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Awareness Day – Indigenous women are murdered at a rate 10 times higher than the national average (U.S. Department of Justice), and homicide is one of the leading causes of death for young Indigenous women (3rd for women age 10-24, 5th for 25-44). You will often see the hashtag #MMIW, but it does not stop with Indigenous women alone. It also includes Girls #MMIWG.



5.5.21 - (Left) Gea Aitkens (PBPB) showcases MMIW information at Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve in Illinois, (Middle) Henri Brown (PBPB) and granddaughter wear red to honor MMIW on the Meskwaki Settlement, Iowa, (Right) Jeanette Little Sun (PBPB) raises awareness at Prairie Peoples' Park on the PBPB reservation in Kansas.

two-spirited individuals #MMIWG2 and men.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation collaborated with Meskwaki RISE and several other state domestic violence programs and tribes to help spread awareness on this ongoing epidemic. Through this collaboration, the MMIW awareness message was seen throughout Kansas, Iowa, Wisconsin, Oklahoma and Illinois. Through this event, Meskwaki RISE and the PBPB Victim Services program were able to collaborate with Shabbona Lake



State Park and place several posters up for onlookers to see and even participate in this event. Shabbona Lake State Park is also the homelands of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and we thank them for collaborating with us on this journey.

Below are a few photos from participants. Let us continue to spread awareness every day, not just one day. Speak their names and do not let their voices be silent. #RISEFORMMIW #MMIW #MMIWG2 #BRINGTHEMHOME



Prairie Band Casino & Resort Spa Naming Contest



ABOUT THE CONTEST

We need your help choosing a name for the NEW Spa at Prairie Band Casino & Resort. The winner will receive \$500 Prairie Cash. One entry per participant.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A full-service Spa and salon offering massage therapy rooms for single or couples, hair services, skin care and nail care. The Spa also features a relaxation lounge, relaxation pools, a dry and wet sauna and dressing rooms.

HOW TO SUBMIT

Entries are due by June 18th at 5 p.m. CST and can be submitted via email to: we_care@pbpgaming.com, with subject: PBC Spa Name.

For questions call 785-966-7777
Prairie Band Casino & Resort
12305 150th Road
Mayetta, KS 66509

Saturday, July 3

Soak Up the Fun
Hot Tub Giveaway

Win a Hot Tub and \$2,500!

GARY ALLAN

Thursday, July 15

RODNEY ATKINS

Thursday, August 19

LARRY THE CABLE GUY

Thursday, September 2

Thursday, September 23

Thursday, October 14

CHOOSE YOUR RIDE!

WIN A MAZDA MIATA CONVERTIBLE OR MAZDA CX-5 CROSSOVER!

July 31 & August 1