



# Poarch Creek News

*Keeping the Family and Friends of Poarch Informed*

Volume 23, Number 9

Atmore, Alabama

September 2006



*Pictured left to right are: Robbie McGhee, Stephanie Bryan, Arthur Mothershed, Patricia Hodges, Lucy Baxley, Buford L. Rolin, and Daniel McGhee.*

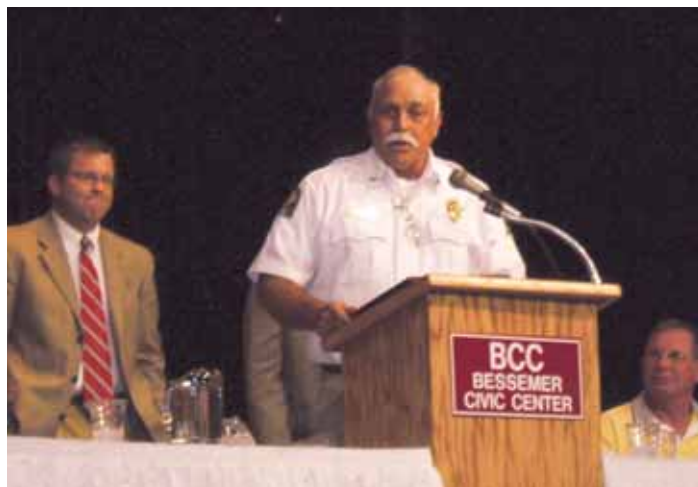
Lt. Governor Lucy Baxley stopped by the Reservation for a brief meet and greet with the Tribal Council on Friday, August 18, 2006. The Senior Services Department provided Indian Tacos for lunch for Mrs. Baxley, Tribal Council Members, and guests.

## Poarch Volunteer Fire Department Receives Prestigious Award

Ronnie Jackson, Fire Chief, and several members of the Poarch Volunteer Fire Department (PVFD) traveled to Birmingham on Saturday, August 5, 2006, to attend a banquet in their honor and to receive the prestigious 2006 Thomas E. McClendon, Jr. Memorial Award.

Tom McClendon owned and operated Sunbelt Fire Apparel, which supplies fire apparel and other fire related equipment across the country. Upon his death his family founded the Tom McClendon Memorial Award Foundation by which they

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*Fire Chief Ronnie Jackson gives acceptance speech.*

## Poarch Volunteer Fire Department Receive Prestigious Award *(continued from front page)*

recognize fire departments across the nation for their dedication and hard work in the face of adversity. The award was presented to PVFD for its outstanding performance during the 2004 & 2005 hurricane seasons.

The Poarch Volunteer Fire Department consists of 33 Volunteer firefighters. The department is highly trained and skilled with the entire department being trained in Basic High-rise Operations. The department has, six EMTs, two Certified Divers, seven Paramedics, seven Certified Instructors, Six Haz. Mat Techs, three Fire and Arson investigators, and Dispatchers.

In September 2004, Hurricane Ivan devastated the Reservation and surrounding area. The Tribe suffered \$2.5 million in damages. The department did emergency road clearing, handed out ice, MRE's, and made deliveries to people who were homebound. They also conducted assessments of the buildings on the reservation.

Not even a year later in July of 2005 Hurricane Dennis made it's presence known on the Gulf Coast and the Tribe incurred over \$500,000 in damages. Although on a smaller scale than during Hurricane Ivan, the department did

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*Members of PVFD shown with award and Slade & Thomas McClendon, sons of the late Tom McClendon*



*Members of PVFD with Jim Walker, Alabama Homeland Security Director.*



*Members of the PVFD from left: Susan O'Donovan, Ronnie Jackson, Fire Chief, Chastity Peebles, Jason Hiebert, Carla McGhee, David Kirby, and April Sells*

# From the Chairman

This has been an exciting month of coming together and improving our quality of life.

Our "3rd Annual Celebration" was a wonderful time for Tribal members to join together with family and friends and enjoy our beautiful Magnolia Branch. It appears we had a record attendance. I would like to personally thank all the Annual Celebration Committee, staff, cooks, and volunteers who worked so hard to make this day one of great food, prizes, relaxation and fellowship.

I would like to commend the Magnolia Branch Board and staff for improvements that have been made at Magnolia Branch, including the beautification project, bathhouse, and expansions to the camping facilities. Future improvements planned for hiking trails, cabins and a lodge will allow our Tribal members and community members additional opportunity to relax and enjoy this natural treasure in a clean, and alcohol drug-free environment. We invite you to contact Magnolia Branch about how you can utilize these facilities.

Speaking of relaxation, the Tribal pool is now open, and we ultimately hope to enclose the pool and have year-round activities. The Wellness & Activities staff does a great job making sure that the elders in our community have a fun and safe place to enjoy themselves.

We have also had several opportunities to join together with tribal members from other tribes across the U.S. and Canada to participate in various activities. Poarch Community Church recently hosted the Native Assembly Ministries of the U.S. and Canada's Convention. Activities were held on the Pow Wow Grounds and at several locations throughout the community, and it was an enlightening experience.

As a member of the National Indian Health Board (NIHB), I

was privileged to attend the "Healing Our Spirit" Worldwide Conference in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Indigenous tribes from over 20 countries world-wide, including Canada and the U.S. attended. The main focus of this conference was to address the family unit in relation to alcohol and drug abuse. It was the goal of those in attendance to address how we deal with these issues and what we can do to address the needs of our nations.

I congratulate all our NAYO and NASA teams who recently participated in inter-tribal baseball and softball competition. The NAYO youth tournament was held in Choctaw, Mississippi on July 27th-29th. NAYO provides an excellent opportunity for our youth to interact with youth from other tribes in spirited competition, and we are proud of how well they represented our Tribe. The NASA tournament was held in Hollywood, Florida on August 11th-12th, and both the men's and women's teams placed third in their division.

We also recently met with a state official and shared a bit of our culture. On Friday, August 18, Lt. Governor Lucy Baxley stopped by the Tribe for a visit on her way to an event in Baldwin County. During her visit, she joined the Tribal Council for lunch and was given a brief tour of the reservation by Robert Thrower, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. We are proud of our rich history and plan to take every opportunity to get our message out in the state.



**Tribal Chairman  
Buford L. Rolin**

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## LEGAL UPDATE

**Submitted by Venus McGhee Prince, Tribal Attorney**

The National Indian Gaming Commission ("NIGC") recently issued proposed Class II regulations, which could potentially limit the scope of gaming that the Tribe is currently allowed to play at its gaming sites under federal law. According to statements of the NIGC Chairman, the proposed regulations are intended to draw clearer distinctions between Class II and Class III gaming. As you may know, Class II gaming consists of games such as bingo and pull-tabs, whereas Class III gaming consists of games such as slot machines and blackjack. The proposed regulations, if adopted, would effectively redefine "bingo" and other class II games. As a result, the proposed rules would reclassify a number of games that the federal courts, tribal gaming commissions, and the NIGC itself have previously determined to be Class II, and would thus require their removal from many tribal operations. The Tribe, for example, would have to replace or reconfigure almost all of its existing games.

The Tribal Council attended a private consultation with the NIGC on July 12, 2006, to present many of the Tribe's concerns regarding these proposed Class II regulations. The Tribe will also be presenting testimony at a public hearing before the NIGC on September 19, 2006, and submitting written comments to the proposed regulations by September 30, 2006.

Before NIGC circulated these Class II regulations, the Tribal Council had already taken steps to secure the Tribe's current Class II gaming and expand the scope of its gaming to match that of its growing non-Indian competition within the state of Alabama, such as dog tracks and sweepstakes parlors. In March of this year, the Tribe submitted a petition for Class III secretarial procedures to the Secretary of the Interior.

This Class III secretarial procedures process is available to a tribe under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act where a State's governor refuses to negotiate with the Indian tribe, while allowing a broader scope of gaming for non-Indian businesses. As part of this process, the State is allowed to comment on our request for secretarial procedures. On July 28, 2006, the State Attorney General Troy King, on behalf of Governor Bob Riley and himself, responded to our request by asking the Secretary of Interior to deny it. The Secretary of Interior is currently evaluating the Tribe's request for secretarial procedures and the State of Alabama's comments. The Tribe will likely be involved in informal conferences with the Secretary of Interior and the State of Alabama in the coming months.

The Tribal Council will continue to pursue any and all available legal avenues to protect the Tribe's scope of gaming and its gaming operations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of your Tribal Council members or me at (251) 368-9136 Ext. 2204.

# Annual Celebration

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is celebrating its 23rd Anniversary of Sovereignty this year, 2006. To mark this historic occasion, the Tribe held a day-long celebration at its Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve, on Saturday, August 5, 2006.

The day was filled with food, fun, and fellowship. Everyone young and old, enjoyed a wide range of events. These included live music performed by Tribal and local musicians, and a wide range of sporting events.

This date coincides with the August 11, 1984, timeline when the United States Government, Department of Interior, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs acknowledged that the Poarch Band of Creek Indians exists as an "Indian Tribe". The Tribe is the only

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# Along the Creek

According to Billy Smith, this has been a very busy summer at Magnolia Branch. The summer has been full of: family reunions, birthday parties, the 3rd Annual Celebration was held there in August, the Native Assemblies of the U.S. and Canada had a day of fun and relaxation at Magnolia in July, and the Royal Ambassadors from First Baptist Church in Bay Minette, AL. Billy said that it was really interesting to watch this group in action. They set their camp of pup tents on the sandbars back behind the pavilions. This was the first time some of these young boys had participated in this type of activity; it was the first time some of them had been fishing. The chaperones, mostly fathers of the boys, spent time teaching them how to fish and BB gun safety. The Wayward Group brought a group of about 15 young people out for a couple of days. They roughed it on a sandbar the entire time.

The recent rains have helped the levels of the creek and lakes rise. Some of the fishermen have even said that they have seen several baby alligators out at some of the lakes. Just remember that they are there, so are snakes, some poisonous, some not, and other animals of this area, after all, this is their natural habitat.

Billy would like to remind everyone that 4-wheelers and recreational type vehicles with tractor grip tires are not allowed on the Reserve. He said that 4-wheelers do not seem to be much of a problem anymore and he appreciates the fact that people are considerate of the Reserve and are following the rules. However, since the Annual Celebration there has been evidence of mules or other recreational vehicles with tractor grip tires have been used throughout the Reserve. Such vehicles were used during the Annual Celebration, but were allowed only to help with the event. Billy asks that visitors to the Reserve not bring or use such vehicles at the Reserve.

New duck boxes will soon be up on the banks of the lakes throughout the Reserve in hopes of bringing more ducks into the area. The Emergency Watershed Project (EWP) has been completed and the roads are much better around the Reserve. Gravel trucks travel Algiers Road carrying approximately 75 loads of gravel a day; as a result areas of the road have been virtually destroyed. The EWP assisted in this area as well. Six culverts were installed, the creek bank was enlarged and rip rap was used to help guide the water flow.

The construction of a new dam and spillway will soon begin. Once this project has been completed there will be a large lake for paddle boats, canoes, and kayaks. A wharf is in the plans for this area as well.

Well, that is about it for this month, we hope to see you along the creek!

Billy would also like to say "Thanks" to Tribal Member Fred Murphy. He says that Mr. Murphy comes by every day to feed the fish. He also brings blue gills and shell crackers to help stock the lakes as well. His assistance has been very helpful and Billy encourages others to do the same if they can.



## Gold 2006 President's Education Award

Dylan Alvarez received the Gold 2006 President's Education Award for outstanding academic excellence on May 18, 2006. Dylan was in the fifth grade gifted program at Lipscomb Elementary in Pensacola, Florida.

Dylan is the son of Wesley and Cynthia Jackson Alvarez of Pensacola. He is the grandson of Fay and Martha Jackson of Poarch, and the grandson of Harrell and Donna Alvarez of Pensacola. He also has a sister, Bailey.

Congratulations Dylan, we are proud of you!



Dylan Alvarez

## Education Department Hosts Red Cross Baby Sitter Certification Class

On August 7th, the Education Department had the pleasure of bringing Ms. Sandra Lanier of the American Red Cross to the reservation for baby sitter certification class. Ms. Lanier taught the fundamentals of baby sitting to an enthusiastic group of young people, including LaRose Powell, Connie Colbert, Trey Flowers, Shawna Montgomery, Tori Rodriquez and Thursa Griffey. Instruction included safe and responsible babysitting, basic care of infants and toddlers, and injury prevention and safety. The class was very informative and entertaining, and each student participated fully. If you are on the look out for a baby sitter, remember these young people who took the time to get their certification through the Red Cross!

*The Education Department hopes to hold these classes again in the near future. Though this class was aimed at young people, arrangements can be made for older students as well. If you are interested in putting your name on the list for an upcoming class, please call Ms. Billie McGhee at 368-9136, extension 3343.*

## Happy Birthday

Micah McNair and Kennedy McGhee both turned one year older on Tuesday, August 8, 2006. "Happy Birthday" to both of you from your families.

*Micah McNair and Kennedy McGhee*



## We're getting married!

Tribal member James "Shelton" Sells and Tribal employee Christyn April Lindsey will be married on September 30, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. The Ceremony will be held at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church on 3564 Butler Street in Atmore! Everyone is invited!

*Shelton Sells & Christyn Lindsey*



*Potential babysitters!*

## 2006 Christmas Parade

Preparations have begun for the 2006 Christmas parade; the theme for this year's parade is "Christmas At The Movies". The parade is scheduled for Friday, December 1, 2006. The parade will begin at 5:00 pm., with line-up at Building 300 at 4:00 p.m. The route will be the same as last year; approximately three miles from the Tribal Complex to the Wellness & Activities Center (Gym) via Willow Creek Subdivision, Emergency Road behind the Fire Station, left on Martin Road, right on Green Road, left on Lynn McGhee Drive, and then right into the Gym parking lot.

Please mark your calendars and join us for the Christmas parade!



*From left: Trey Flowers, Thursa Griffey, Tori Rodriquez, Connie Colbert, LaRose Powell, and Shawna Montgomery*

# Let Us Make Our Ancestors Proud

Submitted by Alex Alvarez, Cultural Education Coordinator

The Poarch Creek Indian Education Department is proud to present "Mvskoke Emponvkv", an introductory class to Mvskoke (Creek) language, culture, and history.

This class is being offered to Tribal Members, 1st Generation Descent, and Tribal employees. Classes will begin Monday, September 11, 2006 and will run in two sessions. Sessions for parents and children 12 and under will run from 5:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.; session for those 13 and up will run from 7:30 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.

If you have any questions or plan to attend, contact Mvhayv (Teacher) Alex Alvarez, at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2240 or via email at aalvarez@poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov

# Haunted Highway

Submitted by Betty Caraway

*An excerpt from The Psychic Society Summer/Fall 2006*

Throughout America there exist cursed patches of highway known for the incredibly high number of serious accidents that take place on them. One such highway is an isolated 40-mile stretch on Interstate 65 in southern Alabama, which is believed to be haunted.

According to the Department of Motor Vehicles, hundreds of drivers have died on this often deserted highway since 1984. Many of those living in the surrounding area believe that it is cursed due to the desecration of Indian graves when the construction of the Interstate began several decades ago. Local legend states that the spirits of those buried in the highway's path were disturbed and remain restless to this very day. One resident of a nearby Indian reservation told Psychic Society reporters recently "We feel certain that a lot of our people's graves were disturbed by the construction of Interstate 65. I do not doubt that the unusual accidents that occur on the road are the result of angry Indian Spirits."

In a five year period from 1984-89, there were 519 accidents on the otherwise quite, straight highway. However, law officers say there are rational reasons for these deaths, such as people falling asleep at the wheel, DUI, fog, storms, and so forth. Nevertheless, many local commuters are aware that there was once an Indian burial ground where there is now what they believe to be a haunted highway.

*\*Note: Betty is not saying that she believes the information in this article; she just found it interesting, after all it appears to be talking about our community.*

# Birthday Checks

Submitted by Mary Jane Tullis

The Tribal Members listed below have had their Birthday Cards returned in 2006, if they are a relative of yours please have them call 1-877-276-2724 ext. 2501 on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday morning. Please leave a short message with your telephone number if I am out of the office.

Jennifer Leigh Strich  
Angela Michelle Bray  
Tammy Ann Longo  
Patricia Ann McGhee  
Jenell Fieldman

Sandy Laine Gibbs  
Ellis E. Lee  
Willard Rayborn, Jr.  
Stephanie Mayo  
Robert Fredrick Hubbird

Just in case you didn't know, listed below are the eligibility/requirements for Per Capita Payments (birthday checks) as stipulated in the Revenue Allocation Ordinance.

## Section 3. Eligibility/Requirements for Per Capita Payments

In order to provide for orderly review and consideration, membership applications approved within sixty (60) days or less of a scheduled per capita distribution date shall not be found eligible for distribution until the next scheduled distribution.

Each member shall be responsible for providing current address information to the Census Office in accordance with procedures and instructions established by the Census Office. Members shall be responsible for providing address changes to the Census Office as they occur. The Tribe is not responsible for sending a per capita check to the wrong address if the Tribal Member has failed to provide a current and correct address.

I have also gotten several phone calls from the parents of children under the age of 18 who have not received a birthday check. Under the Revenue Allocation Ordinance, children under the age of 18 will not receive a birthday check. The funds that they are entitled to are being placed in a trust account; these funds, plus applicable interest earned, will be disbursed to the member/beneficiary after reaching the age of eighteen in an amount and manner to be approved by the Tribal Council

**REMEMBER, IF YOU MOVE OR CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS, AS WELL AS OTHER CENSUS INFORMATION, WITH THE CENSUS OFFICE. BIRTHDAY CHECKS, NEWSLETTERS, AND OTHER OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE TRIBE WILL BE SENT TO THE ADDRESS ON FILE IN THE CENSUS OFFICE. IF YOUR INFORMATION IS NOT CORRECT, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE YOUR BIRTHDAY CHECK, NEWSLETTER, OR OTHER TRIBAL CORRESPONDENCE.**

# Tribal Member Accepts Prominent CIE Position

Buford L. Rolin, Tribal Chairman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, announced on July 14 that James T. (Tim) Martin has accepted the position of president of Creek Indian Enterprises.

"Tim Martin has a long history of promoting economic development in Indian Country," Chairman Rolin said. "We are lucky to have him come home and use his talents to help the Tribe."

Martin has served as the executive director of United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) since 1995. USET is an inter-tribal organization comprised of 24 federally recognized tribes from 12 states. USET promotes the exchange of information and ideas among the member tribes' various government agencies and other American Indian organizations and is considered one of the most prestigious and influential American Indian advocacy groups in the United States.

Prior to his position as executive director of USET, Martin served for 10 years as the tribal administrator for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians in Alabama.

Martin says he is excited about the prospect of returning home and working for the Tribe again. He notes that with many reservations located in predominantly rural areas, tribal economic development has always been challenging – a challenge he readily accepts.

"Tribal gaming has expanded employment and revenue opportunities for the Tribe considerably," Martin said. "While gaming is important, we must also support our existing enterprises. Most importantly, we must be receptive to new partnerships and new ventures that will allow our Tribe to grow and prosper."

Working with the Creek Indian Enterprises Board of Directors and the Tribal Council, Martin believes that there are endless economic opportunities that lie ahead for Poarch Creek.

Martin assumed his position as president of Creek Indian Enterprises on July 24, 2006. He succeeds former CIE President Robert R. McGhee, who recently accepted a position as tribal administrator of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

## About the Poarch Band of Creek Indians

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is the only federally recognized Indian tribe in the state of Alabama, a sovereign nation with its own system of government and jurisdiction.

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## Economic Development Tribal Business Review

*This month's featured business...*

### Thomas Contracting

Thomas Contracting is located at 4745 Poarch Road, and is owned and operated by Teresa (Shada) Thomas. Thomas Contracting bids construction jobs. It started May 1, 2006. Thomas Contracting has over 30 years experience in road construction, and Safety regulations. The services they offer include supervising jobs, checking road grades, checking curbing and cement depths, etc.

Thomas Contracting currently employs one (1) Tribal member, and has two (2) volunteers. Thomas Contracting offers a 1% percent discount to Tribal Members.

For more information you can reach them at (251) 368-3948.

If you are interested in having your business featured in the Business Review, please contact the Economic Development Department at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2505



## It's Time To Update

Any Tribal Member 21 years of age or older interested in a new house must come into the Poarch Creek Indian Housing Department to submit

a new application or update your current application.

Applicants must provide a copy of their 2005 tax returns and Social Security cards of all persons on the application plus all other required documents.

Last day to update is Wednesday, October 18, 2006.

**THE SECOND ANNUAL STATE OF THE TRIBE PRESENTATION**  
has been scheduled for  
**Saturday, September 30, 2006**  
in the Wellness & Activities Center (Gym).  
**2:00 p.m.**

Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend.  
Meal will be provided.



# Adult Abuse Facts For Alabama

Facts provided by Alabama Department of Human Services

Abuse is a painful reality for thousands of Alabama's elderly and disabled adults

The elderly population is the fastest growing segment of our society. The hidden problem of adult abuse is on the rise as elders are living longer and requiring more care from others. A total of 4,754 investigations were completed for FY'04. This represents an increase of 63 reports from the 4,691 reports that were received in FY'03.

The number of reports received by month ranged from a low of 313 in November to a high of 454 in February, with the average number of reports received per month being 395. The largest number of reports was received in March (454), June (451) and October (436). Over 77% of all Adult Protection Services (APS) investigations received included allegations of suspected neglect. 16% of the reports received contained allegations of abuse, while 15% of the reports received included allegations of financial exploitation.

Sexual abuse was the least frequently reported type of suspected maltreatment. Women were alleged victims in more than 63% of the reports received.

Approximately 51% of the alleged victims were reported to be white and approximately 31% were reported to be black. The victim's race was not reported in 906 investigations. Over 90% of the incidents reported to DHR occurred in the home of the victim. Slightly less than 10% of the reported incidents occurred in an out-of-home setting.

Adult abuse can occur in all racial and ethnic groups, and among families in all income levels. Although adult abuse usually occurs in a family setting, health care or social service providers may abuse those in their care.

Adults often suffer humiliation and embarrassment whenever they are abused, neglected or exploited. 53% of the investigations were indicated, 40% were not indicated and 7% were undetermined.

Of the investigations that included an approximate age for the victim, 1,146 victims, or 24% of the total were between the ages of 18 and 59. More than 51% of the victims were 65 or older. More than 13% of the alleged victims were 75 years old or over. Age was not reported for 884 victims.

Regardless of age or ability, each individual deserves to be safe from harm by those who come in contact with them on a regular basis.

If you have an emergency and need assistance from the Tribal Police, you must call

**(251) 368-4442.**

If you need the Fire Department call (251) 368-8787.

For non-emergency assistance call (251) 368-5011.

Police and Fire Dispatchers can no longer be contacted through Tribal extensions 2620, 2621, and/or 2622.

# Domestic Violence Month

## Wanda Flower, Victim's Advocacy Coordinator

Next month, October, is "Domestic Violence Awareness Month." Please take the time to remember those who live in fear behind closed doors in our community. In order to honor victims and survivors of domestic violence, the Family Services Domestic Violence Program is asking that you:

Wear the purple ribbon pins during the month of October. You can obtain these pins from the Family Services Department.

Please join us at 5:15 PM on Oct. 10, 2006 for a short memorial service and vigil for the victim's and survivors of domestic violence. This will be held at the PCI Pavilion.

Attend one of the Domestic Violence sessions, presented by the PCI Domestic Violence Program and the Police Department. There will be a video presentation and opportunity for questions. This has been approved for 1 hour of Administrative leave

Remember that domestic violence is no discriminator of persons. It is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, income levels, and gender. Domestic violence is not just a couple's problem, or a domestic "squabble," or a "fight." Violence is a choice the abuser makes.

Remember you have the right to be safe and when you keep yourself safe, you are teaching your children to be safe. If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, contact Family Services, 368-9136 ext. 2600, Wanda Fowler, Victim's Advocacy Coordinator, at ext. 2212, or for help any time day or night, the Alabama Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-650-6522 or in an emergency, the Police at 911.

**Together, we can stop Domestic Violence!**

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## Bless This House

*Submitted via Email*

*Bless this house, oh Lord, we cry  
Please keep it cool in mid-July  
Bless the walls where termites dine,  
While ants and roaches march in time.  
Bless our yard where spiders pass  
Fire ant castles in the grass.  
Bless the garage, a home to please  
Carpenter beetles, ticks and fleas.  
Bless the love bugs, two by two  
The gnats and mosquitoes that feed on you.  
Millions of creatures that fly or crawl,  
In Alabama, Lord, you've put them all!!!  
But this is home, and here we'll stay,  
So thank you Lord, for insect spray.*



*The pool is open, let's take a dip!*

## Pool Hours

Effective Thursday, August 10, 2006, the pool at the Wellness & Activities Center will be open the following hours:

Monday – Friday	11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Co-Ed Volleyball League

The Wellness & Activities staff will be sponsoring a co-ed volleyball league. The dates, times, rules and entry fees will be determined at a later date.

If you have any questions or want to enter a team please contact Trent Jackson at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2256.

## Native American Music and Native-Themed Films

If you are interested in listening to Native American Christian music you can visit a website on the Internet that features only Native American songwriters. The website is <http://www.jesusbroadcastingnetwork.com/index.htm>. The NativeVue Film & Media Connection ([www.nativevue.org](http://www.nativevue.org)) website can provide you with information about American Indian/Alaska Native films, shorts, documentaries, and television productions.

## 2006/2007 Princess Prize Money Set

The Pow Wow Committee has set the following cash prize amounts for the 2006/2007 Princess Contest.

Senior Princess	\$1,000
Senior Princess 1st Alternate	\$500
Junior Princess	\$500
Junior Princess 1st Alternate	\$250
Elementary Princess	\$250
Elementary Princess 1st Alternate	\$125

The Senior Princess will also receive a crown, hair ties, and necklace set that will be hers to keep.

## YOU KNOW YOU ARE IN ALABAMA IN JULY WHEN.....

- The birds have to use potholders to pull worms out of the ground.
- The trees are whistling for the dogs.
- The best parking place is determined by shade instead of distance.
- Hot water now comes out of both taps.
- You can make sun tea instantly.
- You learn that a seat belt buckle makes a pretty good branding iron!
- The temperature drops below 95 and you feel a little chilly.
- You discover that in July is only takes 2 fingers to steer your car.
- You discover that you can get sunburned through your car window
- You actually burn your hand opening the car door.
- You break into a sweat the instant you step outside at 7:30 a.m.
- You realize the asphalt has a liquid state.
- The potatoes cook underground, so all you have to do is pull one out and add butter, salt and pepper
- Farmers are feeding their chickens crushed ice to keep them from laying boiled eggs.
- The cows are giving evaporated milk.
- Ah, what a place to call home
- God Bless Our State Of Alabama

## PACE Classes People with Arthritis Can Exercise

PACE Classes began again on Tuesday, August 14, 2006. This is a twenty-two week program, with classes on Tuesday & Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the SAIL Center. Please call Dana Pickern, Wellness Coordinator, at (251) 368-9136 ext 2256 if you have any questions.

What:	Brown Bag Bingo
When:	Third Thursday of each month beginning in September.
Where:	Poarch Creek Indian SAIL Center
Time:	12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Why:	This is a time to be sociable, creative, and enjoy yourself.

Bring a brown bag with a bingo prize inside. Prizes do not have to be purchased, be creative!

If you have any questions, contact Dana Pickern at (251) 368-9136 ext 2256.

# Senior Appreciation Day

Submitted by Gayle Johnson

May 2006, was designated as Older Americans Month. The Senior Services Department scheduled an Appreciation Lunch during the month of May, but rescheduled for June 30, 2006, upon the sudden passing of Chairman Fred L. McGhee.

Tribal Council Members Robbie McGhee, Eddie L. Tullis, Stephanie Bryan, and Keith Martin attended the luncheon and acted as servers in appreciation for all the things the Elders do and have done for our community. Those Tribal Council Members unable to attend sent a message that clarified their support for our Tribal Elders and promised to join them for lunch at a later date. After a great meal the Council Members each spoke briefly to the Elders and expressed their support and gratitude to them for their years of guidance and support. They also presented the following proclamation.

## OLDER AMERICANS MONTH 2006 PROCLAMATION

*A proclamation by the  
Poarch Band of Creek Indians Tribal Council.*

Older Americans teach us the timeless lessons of courage, sacrifice, and love. By sharing their wisdom and experience, they serve as role models for future generations. During Older Americans Month, we pay tribute to our senior citizens and their contributions to our Tribe.

Our seniors deserve our greatest respect. Their example shows us how to persevere in the face of hardship, care for others in need, and take pride in our communities. Their patriotism, service, and leadership inspire Tribal Members and shape the character and future of our Tribe.

Millions of Americans are now living longer, more productive lives, and many are choosing to stay active in the workforce. Senior citizens are also giving their time and talents by volunteering in many ways.

This year marks the 41th anniversary of the Older Americans Act of 1965, which was created to improve the welfare of our seniors. By treating older Americans with the dignity and respect they deserve, we honor their legacy and contributions to our Tribe. Their guidance and love enrich our Tribe and make our community a better place for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE TRIBAL COUNCIL of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, by virtue of the authority vested in us, do hereby proclaim May 2006 as Older Americans Month. We commend our senior citizens for their many contributions to our society. We also commend the Senior Services Staff and dedicated volunteers who work on behalf of our senior citizens. We encourage everyone to honor their elders, to care for those in need, and to publicly reaffirm our Tribe's commitment to older Americans this month and throughout the year.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE TRIBAL COUNCIL, also agree to give our elders just about anything that they want during this month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hand this 30th day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, to declare the fifth Friday of the month of June as Senior Appreciation Day for the Poarch Band Creek Indians.

In closing I too would like to say "Thank You" to our Tribal Elders as well as the non-Tribal Member participants of the Senior Services program. Their guidance and leadership of yesterday, today, and tomorrow is invaluable.



*Seniors were honored with lunch*



*Eldnar McGhee and Myrtis Kinman hard at work preparing plates,*



*Tribal Council Members Stephanie Bryan, Eddie L. Tullis, and Keith Martin serve lunch*



*Council Members Eddie L. Tullis, Keith Martin, Robbie McGhee, and Stephanie Bryan.*



# AMERICAN RED CROSS BUS

#744 #746  
#761

MOBILE, AL, August 11, 2006 – It’s school time again! Early mornings will be full of students standing at bus stops and the added yellow school buses to the morning traffic. In preparation for this school year the Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross encourages students and drivers to be aware of the following safety precautions.

## DRIVERS BEWARE

· When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch out for children walking or bicycling to school.

· When driving in neighborhoods with school zones, watch out for young people who may be thinking about getting to school, but may not be thinking of getting there safely.

· Slow down. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood.

· Be alert. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.

· Slow down. Watch for children playing and congregating near bus stops.

· Learn and obey the school bus laws in your state. Learn the “flashing signal light system” that school bus drivers use to alert motorists of pending actions:

- Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.

- Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate that the bus has stopped, and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.

## BUS RIDER SAFETY TIPS

Line up facing the school bus door—not along the side of the school bus.

Don’t play in the street while waiting for the school bus.

Carry your belongings in a backpack or book bag so nothing will drop or fall.

Never reach under a school bus to get anything that has rolled or fallen underneath.

After getting off the school bus, move immediately onto the sidewalk, out of traffic.

Wait for a signal from the bus driver before you cross the street. Walk at least 10 steps away from the front of the bus so that the bus driver can see you.

Never cross the street behind the school bus.



## Does the Education Department have your picture?

If you are in the Education Discretionary Tuition Payment Program, and you haven’t sent us a picture of you, we still want one for our “Wall of Fame.” Please email the picture to shiebert@poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov or mail it to the Education Department 5811 Jack Springs Road Atmore, Alabama 36502.”

## BSBC Special Open Enrollment for Alabama’s Uninsured

BCBS of Alabama announces an open enrollment for Alabamians who currently have no health insurance coverage. If you are an Alabama resident between the ages of 19 and 65 and do not currently have health insurance, BCBS can help. There are no underwriting requirements, so even if you have conditions like heart disease or diabetes, you may still enroll. (A 12-month waiting period will apply for coverage of existing conditions.) Dependent children are covered until their 25th birthday, if a full-time student. With BCBS coverage, you will have access to more than 9,000 preferred physicians and more than 130 hospitals in the state. Act now, this special open enrollment is only available for a limited time. For more detailed information, call 1-888-372-3909.

# EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S FINANCIAL AID AND INTERNSHIP NEWS

Submitted By Billie McGhee, Education Coordinator

## Attention: High School Seniors and Transfer Students!!!!

Now is the time to start applying for college admissions if you plan to apply for college based scholarships. If you plan to compete or receive freshmen scholarships from the University of Alabama, you will need to apply for admissions by December 1, 2006. Transfer students need to apply for admissions by January 15, 2007, in order to qualify for the U of A scholarship programs. Now is the time to check for admissions and financial aid deadlines for the school you plan to attend.

The Poarch Creek Indian's Tuition Payment Program does pay for your books, fees (mandatory) and tuition. It does not pay for your room (dorm room or rent) and board (food, gas, and other living expenses). You must apply for other scholarships to cover the cost of your other college expenses. Contact Mrs. Billie McGhee, Education Coordinator, for a list of scholarships for Tribal and Indian Descent students.

## Free Scholarship Search Sites

Additional Scholarships that can help pay colleges costs can be found by completing an application at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com), [www.allscholar.com](http://www.allscholar.com), and <http://www.careersandcolleges.com/>. Allscholars.com website is now taking applications from high school seniors for a \$1,000 scholarship and CareerandColleges.com is taking applications for a \$10,000 scholarship that will be awarded to an incoming college freshman for 2007.

We encourage you and your son/daughter to read the Hints and Advice articles found at <http://www.freschinfo.com>. The articles provide information about the "extras" you can include with the scholarship application. The "extras" can help you win the scholarship. You may be able to speed their application process by making extra copies of certificates of awards and achievements, documentation of volunteer hours, and extra copies of the blank application, as well, as an extra final copy of the application.

## College Fair

The Poarch Creek Education Department will host a College Fair on Tuesday, September 26, 2006 from 5 PM until 8 PM. All Staff, Tribal members and descendants are invited to attend. We will be scheduling Tribal Tuition Payment Workshops, Scholarship Workshops, and Federal Student Aid Workshops during the College Fair. We are inviting recruiters from colleges and Universities from Alabama, and from other colleges in the South. We are also inviting Universities that are recruiting Native American students to their graduate programs.

## Perkins Loan Forgiveness Programs

Students who borrowed money through the Perkins Loan Program after July 22, 1992 may qualify for the Perkins Loan Forgiveness Program. The Forgiveness program is available to teachers, nurses, social workers, and law enforcement professionals. You are advised to contact your college or university financial aid office or you can find the contact information for the Forgiveness Program on your loan payment statement. The information may be located on the back of your statement.

## Poarch Creek Education Department GED Classes and Computer Classes

### GED

The classes will begin August 21, 2006 – November 10, 2006 for 12 weeks. Applicants are welcome to enroll for the GED program at anytime during the 12-week period. Classes meet 8 A.M. until 10:00 A.M. on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The contact number is (251) 368-9136, ext. 2243.

### Computer Classes

Computer classes will be offered beginning August 21-November 10, 2006. The class will meet Monday - Thursday from 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. The contact number is (251) 368-9136, ext. 2243.

Full Paid Spring 2007 Semester Research Program for Native Americans Pursuing Studies in the Social Sciences, Law, and Diversity Studies, Ecology, Biology, as well as Museum Studies, Anthropology and Archaeology. The program will pay the air-fare to and from the program.

The University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology has started a project, called Native Voices: Past and Present. They need applicants who are Native American and who want to study and do research at the University of Pennsylvania for a semester. The program funds pay for all tuition, housing, and other expenses for the students including a weekly living stipend. While the applicant is participating in the research program they will be allowed to take two classes offered at the University (UPM) to complement their education needs and fulfill requirements at their own college/university. September 20, 2006 is the deadline. Additional information can be found at <http://www.museum.upenn.edu/new/NSF-REUsite/museum/index.shtml>.

Contact Person:

Dr. Clark L. Erickson

Department of Anthropology

University of Pennsylvania

33rd and Spruce Streets

Philadelphia, PA 19104-6398

Home Page: <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/~cerickso/>

Tel. # 215-898-2282

Fax# 215-898-7462 (include Attention: Clark L. Erickson)

## Eddie L. Tullis/Chief Calvin McGhee Scholarship Applications Available

The Eddie L. Tullis and Chief Calvin McGhee Scholarship Applications are now available. The Tribe will award these scholarships to part-time or full-time students who are over the age of twenty five. If you are receiving assistance through the Education Discretionary Tuition Payment Program, you are ineligible for these scholarships.

Applications may be picked up at the Education Department, or you can have one faxed or mailed to you. Simply call the Education Department at 251-368-9136 extension 2241. All applications must be received by 5:00 pm Tuesday, October 31, 2006.

## Annual Celebration *(continued from page 4)*



Federally recognized Tribe in the State of Alabama.

With above being stated and published in local newspapers, the 3rd Annual Celebration was a success. Yes, there were little glitches, nerves were frayed, and it was beyond being HOT (we went through 300 cases of sodas & water).

It was good to see old friends and family mem-

bers from far way. It was great to spend the day at the creek and enjoy good food, good music, and hear the laughter of children.

Door prizes were given out during the day. Carl McGhee won a cash prize for being the oldest male Tribal Member present; Ruthie Mae Rackard won a cash prize for being the oldest female Tribal Member present and Wanda Wasnick won a cash prize for being the Tribal Member who traveled the farthest to attend.

Come what may, it was a great day!

## Poarch Volunteer Fire Department Receive Prestigious Award *(continued from page 2)*

emergency road clearing, handed out ice, MRE's, and made deliveries to people who were homebound. The department responded to the only reported accident during Hurricane Dennis, an individual was cutting a tree; it twisted back on the individual hitting him in the face.

During Hurricanes Rita and Wilma the Poarch Volunteer Fire Department provided logistical support to federal partners and sent generators to Texas and Florida to aid in recovery.

Everyone knows how devastating Hurricane Katrina was to the Gulf Coast region. Once again, the Poarch Volunteer Fire Department came to the aid of many that were in need. They handled logistical operations for the supplies that were sent to the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana who were assisting Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. The department purchased medical supplies for the only doctor working at the time, who was a coroner. The list of supplies included stethoscopes, otoscopes, and blood pressure cuffs. They also partnered with the Alabama Department of Public Health to get supplies to areas that were hard hit by the storm. The fire department worked logistically with federal agencies by purchasing medical supplies, repackaging them and then driving them into these areas for distribution. With the training that the personnel have, the department been able to acquire the following units on site: adult and pediatric portable hospital unit, 2 MASS casualty units, and 2 DeCON UNITS. These were provided by grants through the State of AL Homeland Security and the Department of Public Health.

## Tribal Member Accepts Prominent CIE Position *(continued from page 8)*

The Tribe operates a variety of economic enterprises, which employ hundreds of tribal members and area residents. As president of Creek Indian Enterprises, Martin will oversee all economic enterprises of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, including Muskogee Metal Works, Best Western Motel, Perdido River Farms, Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve, Poarch Road Service Center, and Premier Family Eyecare, as well as three gaming facilities in Alabama, including the Creek Entertainment Center in Atmore, Riverside Entertainment Center in Wetumpka, and, Tallapoosa Entertainment Center in Montgomery. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is an active partner in the state of Alabama, contributing to economic, educational, social and cultural projects benefiting both tribal members and residents of these local communities and neighboring towns. The Tribe's Planned Giving Campaign includes significant donations to local schools, education scholarships, senior centers, youth athletics, and charitable organizations.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
SEPT 2006		Mary Jane is going to be off to attend the Tribal Elders Conference in Oklahoma. Therefore the Census Office will be closed beginning Wednesday September 13th, will reopen Monday September 25th.				1	2
3	4 Tribal Offices CLOSED in observance of Labor Day	5 Tribal Council Meeting 4:00 p.m.	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Senior Trip/Tribal Elders Conference, Tulsa, Ok							
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
Senior Trip/Tribal Elders Conference, Tulsa, Ok					Tribal Offices CLOSED in observance of American Indian Day		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
						STATE OF THE TRIBE 2:00 p.m.	

We reserve the right to edit or refuse any item for publication.



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**Atmore AL 36502**

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