



Poarch Creek News

Keeping the Family and Friends of Poarch Informed

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Atmore, Alabama

March 2007

White Receives Tribal Recognition Award

Barnie White, Environmental Health Specialist, recently received a Tribal Recognition Award from the Nashville Area Indian Health Service in recognition of his significant contributions towards the mission of Indian Health Services during Fiscal Year 2006. He was recognized for his hard work, determination, and dedication in assisting IHS as the Tribal Liaison on the SFC Scattered Projects. He played a vital role in furthering the mission of providing adequate and safe sanitation facilities to the Poarch Creek Indian Tribal Members, including other federally recognized Tribal Members within the Tribe's five county service area.

The SFC Scattered Projects, also known to some of us here at the Tribe as the IHS Sanitation Grant, provides assistance to Tribal Members in need of septic tanks, water wells, and sewage hookups. This program was previously managed by the Housing Rehabilitation Program. In absence of a Housing Rehabilitation Coordinator, former Tribal Administrator Edie Jackson asked Barnie to assume the management of this program. Barnie states that this program is a vital program that provides needed services to Tribal Members that they might not otherwise be able to obtain. He says that the Tribe is fortunate to have this grant and the assistance of Joe Watson, IHS Inspector.

If you need assistance with the services provided by this grant, please contact Barnie at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2316.



Shown left to right are Richie Grinnell, IHS Nashville Area Director; Barnie White, Environmental Health Specialist, and Dr. Charles W. Grim, Director of Indian Health Service.

CHILD CARE PROGRAM

Submitted by Carolyn White, Family Services Executive Director

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians Family Services Department will be taking applications for the Tribal Child Care Program March 12, 2007 through March 16, 2007. To qualify for child care assistance to cover day care expenses for Tribal Member children, you must meet the following criteria:

- ✦ The applicant must live in the five-county service area
- ✦ The household must meet income guidelines
- ✦ The child must be under 13 years old and an enrolled member of the Tribe, and
- ✦ All adult members of the household must be employed or attending school at least 24 hours a week

If you have any questions or need to schedule an appointment, please contact Carolyn Rackard, Social Worker, at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2600.

Note: Verification will be required of residency, membership, income, and school enrollment.

Tribal Council Election Notice

Submitted by Brenda Faircloth, Election Board Chairman

**2007 Tribal Election
is scheduled for
Saturday, June 2, 2007**

Tribal Members who are interested in becoming a candidate in the 2007 Tribal Council election should submit their biography and picture to Brenda Faircloth, Election Board Chairman, or one of the other members of the Election Board, Glenda Carlton and Gilbert McGhee, by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 3, 2007 for publication in the May newsletter.

Additional information relating to the 2007 Tribal Election will be published in next month's newsletter.

Dr. Estvold Recognized for Service



Staff and community members gather to celebrate Dr. Estvold



Buford L. Rolin, Tribal Chairman, presents award to Dr. Parker Estvold



Dr. Estvold cuts his cake

Dr. Parker Estvold was recently recognized for ten years of service with Indian Health Service (IHS). Buford L. Rolin, Tribal Chairman, presented the award to Dr. Estvold on behalf of Richie Grinnell, Director, Nashville Area Office. Buford and Dr. Estvold were joined by staff and community members for refreshments after the presentation.

We at Poarch Creek congratulate and commend Dr. Estvold on his efforts and achievements in the area of health in Indian County. We hope that he will remain with the Tribe and celebrate his twentieth year of service with IHS with us as well.

From the Chairman

Our Legal Department, which is working with the Tribal Chairman, Tribal Council, Tribal Departments, and Creek Indian Enterprises and subsidiaries, will soon be fully staffed. Tribal Member Lori Madison Stinson came on board as Staff Attorney January 22, 2007, joining General Council Venus McGhee Prince, and Legal Assistant, Lori Findley in the Legal Department. Tribal Member Cody Williams will start as Staff Attorney on March 5, 2007. The establishment of this department is another example of Tribal Members being utilized to provide service and assistance to the Tribe. To accommodate this growth, the Legal Department has been relocated to Building 300 and is located across the lobby from the Tribal Court Auditorium.

Auburn University has been assisting the Tribe over the past few years with the development of our strategic plan; our vision

of the future. This process began with Auburn's on-site visit at the beginning of the process and establishment of our plan of action. The areas of focus are economic development, community infrastructure, quality of life, and community service. We have recently moved to the second phase by attending a strategic planning meeting in Philadelphia, Mississippi January 26-27, 2007 where we addressed where we are as a Tribe, where we want to go, and how we develop a plan to get there.



**Tribal Chairman
Buford L. Rolin**

The next phase of the program is scheduled for Thursday, March 1, 2007 in the Tribal Auditorium. This phase will involve all focus groups, which include the Tribal Council, applicable staff, and community members. The Strategic Planning Committee will meet from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and we have asked community members to join us from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This



Tribal Council and staff visit with Congressman Bonner. Pictured left to right are Arthur Mothershed, Daniel McGhee, Kelli Ramer, Congressman Bonner, Buford L. Rolin, Venus McGhee Prince, and Robbie McGhee.

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Red Fridays

Submitted via email-Author Unknown

Very soon, you will see a great many people wearing Red every Friday. The reason? Americans who support our troops used to be called the "silent majority." We are no longer silent, and are voicing our love for God, country and home in record breaking numbers. We are not organized, boisterous or overbearing.

Many Americans, like you, me and all our friends, simply want to recognize that the vast majority of America supports our troops. Our idea of showing solidarity and support for our troops with dignity and respect continues each and every Friday until the troops all come home, sending a deafening message that ... every red-blooded American who supports our men and women afar, will wear something red.

By word of mouth, press, TV — let's make the United States on every Friday a sea of red much like a homecoming football game in the bleachers. If every one of us who loves this country will share this with acquaintances, coworkers, friends, and family, it will not be long before the USA is covered in RED and it will let our troops know the once "silent" majority is on their side more than ever, certainly more than the media lets on.

The first thing a soldier says when asked "What can we do to make things better for you?" is ... "We need your support and your prayers." Let's get the word out and lead with class and dignity, by example, and wear something red every Friday.

WE LIVE IN THE LAND OF THE FREE, ONLY BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE!!



**Please remember to visit
the Tribe's website at
www.poarchcreekindians.org
for updated information and postings.**

Title VII, "506 Forms" & Impact Aid - What's it all about?

Submitted by Sandra Hiebert, Education Executive Director

If you reside in Escambia County, Alabama and have children in the public school system, you have no doubt been asked to fill out forms for Title VII and Impact Aid; but do you even know what they are? Most parents don't, nor do they know why the forms are important. Unfortunately, neither do the school personnel. Here are the details on these programs.

TITLE VII

Also referred to as the Indian Education Grant. This is a federal program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Indian Education. The purpose of this program is to help schools and Tribes attend to the unique educational and cultural needs of Indian children. Basically this program sends federal dollars into the Escambia County Public School system to help educate tribal children. These funds are received yearly. With the upcoming school year (2008), the Tribe will be applying for and administering these funds. The majority of funding received under this grant pays salaries for the 2 Indian Education Aids in Escambia County. Currently, one Aid is stationed at Huxford Elementary School, and the other divides her time between A.C. Moore and Escambia County Middle School. The important thing to remember about this grant is that your child should have a "506 Form" on file with their school. This is not only for children who are Tribal members, but also for children who are first or second generation Indian descent. Therefore if your child is an enrolled member of this Tribe, or if you or one of the child's grandparents are enrolled Tribal members, it is imperative that you complete a 506 form. Funds are received from this grant based on the number of 506 forms we have on file. Please ask your child's Principal or Counselor to check your child's file for this form. You may complete this form at any time, but there is a yearly "count period." If your child does not currently have a form on file, he or she will not be counted this school year. But please go ahead and complete the form anyway as your child will be counted for the next program year. If your school cannot supply you with a form, please call the Education Department. We will make certain you get one.

IMPACT AID

The Impact Aid program was designed to assist schools that have lost property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt Federal property, or that have experienced increased expenditures due to the enrollment of federally connected children, including children living on Tribal lands. The Impact Aid Law, also known as Title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, provides assistance to local school districts with concentrations of children residing on Indian lands, military bases, low-rent housing properties, or other federal properties, and to a lesser extent, concentrations of children who have parents in the uniformed services or employed on eligible Federal properties who do not live on Federal properties. These funds are used to offset the loss of tax revenue; therefore your child needs to be counted so that those funds are replaced. Impact Aid forms have already been completed for this year, but please take the time to complete them next time they are sent home.

These programs can be difficult to understand, and sometimes we as parents are so busy with everything else that we don't fight for the things our children deserve. Both of these programs are meant to supply federal aid to our Indian children's schools. It is our duty to take the steps necessary to obtain as much of this funding as possible to help our children and our local schools. Please call Sandra Hiebert, Education Executive Director at 251-368-9136, extension 2242 if you have any questions about these programs.

CIE Announces Programs for Tribally Owned and Operated Businesses

Submitted by Arthur Mothershed, CFO, Creek Indian Enterprises

Creek Indian Enterprises (CIE) is pleased to announce two exciting programs identified by Tribal Members as important in advancing Tribally owned and operated businesses. We feel that individual Tribal Member's success is vital to our ultimate goal of self determination and self sufficiency. Our commitment is to help expedite the success of those who have shown the desire to make it on their own.

The first of the two programs is the Economic Development Loan Program. CIE has set aside monies to assist Tribal Members with business loans for both start-ups and current businesses. Realizing that it is sometimes difficult to obtain a loan without equity, CIE has approved a loan process that can serve as the owner's contribution or owner's equity. In some cases where the financial need is smaller, CIE may be able to finance the entire project. Funds are limited and shall be distributed on a first come first serve basis to qualified Tribal Members. Currently the loan program will serve as a supplement to traditional bank loans however, we expect the program to grow to a point where larger projects can be financed internally by CIE.

The second program is designed to assist Tribal Member businesses during the bid process. CIE recently adopted a procurement policy and has incorporated Tribal Member Preference as part of the policy. The program has been well thought out and will give Qualified Tribal Contractors the opportunity to receive construction related work and simultaneously protect the interests of the Tribal Membership as a whole. It is imperative that Tribal Contractors contact this office so they can get their business on our bidder's list. A procurement policy for goods and services is soon to follow. Each of these policies is available to all Tribal Members for their review. These are living documents and subject to change. We welcome feedback from Tribal Members. If Tribal Members would like a copy of the policies they may request them at the mailing address or email address listed below.

If a Tribal Member has a business they would like to put on the bidder's list they need to provide the following to:

Creek Indian Enterprises
3022 Hwy 21
Atmore, AL 36502

Attn: Arthur Mothershed
amothershed@creekindianenterprises.org

- 1) Company Name
- 2) Tribal Member Owner
- 3) Percentage of Company Owned by Tribal Member
- 4) In-depth Company Background
- 5) Type of Projects
(please include all projects for the last three years and their contract value)
- 6) Insurance Information
- 7) Bonding Capacity
- 8) Any Business License or General Contractor's License



Ricky Reed, Traditional Dancer, participates in Grand Entry

Tribal Youth Attend Children's Pow Wow

Tribal Members Ricky Reed, Cedo Coon, and Brice McGhee accompanied drum group Medicine Tail to the Alabama Coushatta Children's Pow Wow in Livingston, Texas on January 27, 2007. This is the first trip made by members of the newly established "Pow Wow Club." The Pow Wow Club is in its infancy, so if you are a young person and are interested in participating in the Pow Wow Club, please contact Alex Alvarez, Cultural Education Coordinator, at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2240 for more information. More information on the Pow Wow Club will be provided at a later date.

*Cedo Coon
participates in
Intertribal dance*



Ricky Reed, Cedo Coon, and Brice McGhee attend Children's Pow Wow



Brice McGhee sings and plays drums with Medicine Tail

Basket Weaving Classes A Huge Success!

Submitted by Hocciv (author): Alex Alvarez

Many tribes across North America have unique basket weaving techniques that have been passed down from generation to generation. Traditional Muscogee basket weaving is no different. These simple, beautiful baskets were made from river cane, a vital part of Creek life and were used to sift and process different sizes of vce (uh-jee), or corn. Large river cane breaks are now scarce in its indigenous environment in the southeast and it is very hard to find a Creek basket even in a museum because the art of Muscogee basket weaving has almost become extinct.

Mary Smith, a citizen of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma, is one of two teachers who are trying to revive this lost art. Mary agreed to come to Poarch and teach basket weaving for 2 weeks. We separated the participants into four different classes with an average of ten students per class. Each class met for twelve hours, which was broken out into three four hour sessions. Each participant made their own basket.

It was nice to see young and old working together, sharing stories of their families and community. I enjoyed getting to visit with all the senior citizens most of all. The room was full of laughter, old stories, and of course left-over cane all over the floor (thanks Custodians for helping out!). Mary was exactly right when she stated: "It's in your blood. Your fingers will know what to do". The class produced many fine Poarch Creek basket weavers, so many that we have decided to start the Poarch Creek Basket Weaving Club which will meet twice a month in the Education Dept. (date & time TBA).



Instructor Mary Smith with award presented to her by the Education Department



Lois Amos puts the finishing touches on her basket



Weavers come in all ages. Kennedy McGhee works on the side of her basket.



Catherine Sells starts the bottom of her basket



Mary Jane Tullis, hard at work on her basket



Lena Rackard examines her fine craftsmanship



MEDICINE TAIL “We Sing For You!” Native Rhythms Productions

CD Review by
Michael Sullivan Sr.

Good music has a tendency to generate good feelings, and Medicine Tail's latest album couldn't be described any simpler. “We Sing For You!” is definitely going to be the surprise album of 2007. Recorded live at the IICOT “Pow-Wow of Champions,” Medicine Tail demonstrates why they are the premier northern drum group of the south.

Medicine Tail hails from the Poarch Creek Indian reservation located in southern Alabama. It is most surprising that a tribe so geographically distant from your typical pow-wow country could produce such a high caliber northern style drum group. Medicine Tail's sound and songs are unlike any other drum group's music you may have heard before, and that is what separates them from all the others.

The recording gets started with “Bear Trax,” a contemporary word song sang in the Coushatta language, composed by Leland Thompson. The song is paced perfectly for an intertribal, or men's traditional style of dance. Northern men's traditional dancers of the south have to appreciate such a skilled group of singers in an area that typically produces southern singers.

Track 2, “Tunica Tune,” composed by Alex Alvarez, is probably the surprise song on this album. It is a faster paced straight song that contains that northern plains original style flavor. It is obvious that the group has done their homework and has been influenced by some of original style's premier drum groups of the north. Ideal for competition dancing, the song could also serve as a rocking intertribal as well.

Track 5, “Full Throttle,” composed by Thompson is one of the more entertaining songs on the recording. The song has a faster beat, ideal for shawl or fancy feather dancing. The leads are sure to please, and Thompson makes a definite statement that he is one of the premier up and coming contemporary song makers on the trail today.

“Righteous Phunk,” track number 8 of the recording is definitely the song to hear on this album. Composed by lead singer Alex Alvarez, the song contains what could be called the “Million Dollar Lead.” It is absolutely the type of song that separates Medicine Tail from your average everyday contemporary style drum group. Everything from the lead to the structure of the song's body is unique and entertaining.

Medicine Tail stuns the listener with two bonus tracks, “Southern Hospitality,” and “Beyond the Sundown.” The songs are rendered in the southern style of singing and will remind you in case you may have forgotten that these northern boys come from the south. Not too many drum groups are “switch-hitters” and Medicine Tail is sure to impress other singers from all corners of Indian Country.

In this day and age, originality is what separates your premier groups from your “average Joes.” Everybody is looking for their own sound and style and Medicine Tail has obviously found theirs. In a region where Native culture and language is near extinction, these young men show that they still have a strong hold on their ways. Thanks to Medicine Tail, the elders of Poarch Creek and the south in general can sleep a little easier at night knowing that their culture, music, and most importantly their languages are in good hands.

Contact & Ordering Info: medicinetailsingers@yahoo.com

www.indiancountrynews.com

Originally printed in News From Indian Country.

NAILS IN THE FENCE

Submitted via email - Author Unknown

When we are angry, our tongue works faster than our mind. We need to be slow to speak and quick to listen. It is wise to address our anger toward problems, not people; to focus our energies on answers, not excuses. According to a Chinese proverb, if we are patient in one moment of anger, we will escape hundreds of days of sorrow. Let's learn from the following story about controlling anger.

There once was a little boy who had a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, he must hammer a nail into the back of the fence. The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Over the next few weeks, as he learned to control his anger, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence.

Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper. The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone. The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, “You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It won't matter how many times you say “I'm sorry”, the wound is still there.”

The little boy then understood how powerful his words were. He looked up at this father and said “I hope you can forgive me for the holes I put in you.” “Of course I can,” said the father.

Friends are very rare jewels, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share words of praise and they always want to open their hearts to us. Let's be kind to one another; to lighten our load, let's forgive those who have put a hole in our fence.

Newsletter Reminders

Please remember the following in reference to submitting articles, and other information for the newsletter.

Deadline for submission: 10th of each month, for publication in the next month's newsletter, i.e. 10th of April for May newsletter. If the 10th of the month falls on a holiday or weekend day, the deadline will be extended to 5:00 p.m. the next business day.

Editorial Privilege: We reserve the right to edit or refuse any item for publication

Receipt of Newsletter: We strive to mail the newsletter the first week of each month however, there are situations beyond our control that sometimes delay the mailing of the newsletter. Please know that the newsletter will be mailed out as soon as possible after it is received from the printer.

POARCH CREEK EDUCATION NEWS FOR MARCH 2007

POARCH CREEK TRIBAL TUITION PAYMENT PROGRAM STUDENTS

This is a reminder that one of the requirements for the Tuition Payment Program is that your semester grades are to be submitted at the end of each semester or as you receive them. If you have not turned in a copy of your latest report card or transcript, you need to do so as soon as possible. Contact Mrs. Shelia Fisher at (251) 368-9136, ext. 2241, sstallworth@poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov, or by fax at (251) 368-0809.

2007 - 2008 FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID APPLICATION

Anyone planning to attend college or a vocational program that accepts the FAFSA should apply for the FAFSA, regardless of parental income. The majority of the technical, vocational, college and university institutions award their college based scholarship funds to students based on the students FAFSA student aid report (SAR).

2007 YOUNG NATIVE WRITERS ESSAY CONTEST

The contest for Native American high school students is sponsored by the Holland & Knight Charitable Foundation, in association with the Notational Museum of the American Indian. Applicants are asked to write an essay of no more than 1,200 words in which they write about the specific or general struggles and triumphs of Native Americans in history and in today's world. The writer should include in the essay how he/she plans to use his or her talents to enhance the future of their own Native American community. Additional information including the entry form, essay topics and rules can be found at <http://indian.hklaw.com/2007/index.asp> or 1-866-452-2737. Students can e-mail their questions about the essay to Indian@hklaw.com. *The essay must be mailed and reach their office by June 1, 2006. (This information is also on the Tribal website.)*

Five first-place winners will receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the National Museum of the American Indian, and their Congressional representatives, and other government and historical sites. The winners will be accompanied by the teacher who encouraged the student to enter the contest. First-place winners will receive a special award for display at home or school and a Certificate of Participation. Each first-place winner will receive a scholarship ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 to be paid to the college or university of their choice.

Five second-place winners will receive \$500, a special award for display at home or school, and a Certificate of Participation.

2007 Native American Student Art Competition

This information is also posted on the Tribal website

HEADLANDS INDIAN HEALTH CAREERS PROGRAM

The program is taking applications from high school seniors and first-year college students who are planning to pursue a career in the health profession. The six-week program is designed to prepare the students for college-level math and science coursework in pre-health programs. Travel, lodging and meal expenses are provided for each student accepted into the program. *The application*

deadline is March 15, 2007. (This information is also posted on the Tribal website.) You need to apply early to assure yourself a position in the program. Poarch Creek Indian students who have attended the program in past years have found this program to be a great help to them and are now in the process of finishing their health career college programs. The application and more details about the program are available at www.headlands.ouhsc.edu or call (405) 271-3090 ext. 46885 and request information and an application to be mailed to you.

THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN INDIAN PHYSICIANS (AAIP)

Attention: American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) high school students, ages 16-18, who have an interest in health careers and/or biomedical research. The NNAYI is now recruiting Native American youth who are 16 – 18 years of age. The applications to the 10th Annual National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) Program are now online at www.aaip.org/programs/nnayi/nnayi.htm. *The deadline for applications is April 20, 2007.* Applications are being accepted now. The program will be held in Washington, D.C. on June 23-July 1, 2007. American Indian/Alaska Native who are interested in health careers and/or biomedical research are encouraged to apply.

The program scholarship pays for travel, lodging and most meals during the program. Summer programs usually provide the tickets for air travel, but the student will need personal money to purchase snacks, drinks, or souvenirs. The purpose of the program is to prepare students for admission to college and professional schools, and to inform the students about careers in health and biomedical research.

AAIP COUNSELOR

The program is accepting applications for counselors, age 21 and older, to serve as role models during the nine-day program. American Indian/Alaska Native college students and health professionals are encouraged to apply. *Application deadline is April 20, 2007.* For more information please call (405) 946-7072 or go to the NNAYI website listed above.

AMERICAN INDIAN JOURNALISM INSTITUTE

The Institute is accepting applications now and until March 31, 2007 for their Summer Program. The Institute takes place June 3-22, 2007 at Neuharth Media Center, on the University of South Dakota's Vermillion campus. The applicants must have completed one year of college to apply. Selected students can attend for free and receive other financial assistance and college credit. If you are a Native American college student interested in becoming a journalist, this would be an excellent program for you to attend. You will be able to make valuable contacts that can help you in your future. You can receive an application and instructions by contacting Janine Harris at jharris@freedomforum.org or call (605) 677-5424.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY CURIE ACADEMY

The Academy is a one-week residential program for high school girls who excel in math and science and thinking of pursuing degrees in engineering. Cornell will provide room, board, and project supplies. The cost of the program is \$450 tuition and travel expenses are not covered. **The deadline for the program is April 16, 2007.** Applicants must be entering their junior or senior year of high school and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. The application and additional program details are available at <http://www.cornell.edu/curie>. Cornell is one of the universities that actively recruit Native American students and provides them with financial aid opportunities.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY CATALYST ENGINEERING SUMMER PROGRAM

This is a one-week summer residential program for all rising high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors from underrepresented backgrounds. The selected applicants will experience hands-on projects in engineering research fields and lab sessions led by faculty who are experts in their field. Applicants must be entering their sophomore, junior or senior year of high school, have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0. Additional information and the application can be found at www.engineering.cornell.edu/catalyst or by contacting Debbie Moss at d1m45@cornell.edu or (607) 255-6403. **The application deadline is April 16, 2007.** The tuition is \$450. The program does provide full travel and tuition stipends based on demonstrated need. The room and board and study materials are provided.

MARRIOTT SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The scholarship is for college freshmen, high school seniors, and high school graduates. It can pay up to \$9000 for students studying Culinary, Food & Beverage, Hospitality Management, Hotel Management, and Restaurant Management; credits can be used at any accredited college. The student should have a 3.0 GPA. **The application deadline is Sunday, April 1, 2007.** You can apply on line at <http://www.uncf.org/scholarships/scholarDetailSGA.asp?id=74> or go to <http://www.uncf.org> and click "On- Line" scholarship link.

TRAIL OF TEARS SCHOLARSHIP

The \$5000 scholarship is for Native American students from the South East who are members of a Federally recognized tribe or state recognized tribe or for students who have at least 1/16 verifiable Native American ancestry. There is a separate application for the students who live in Oklahoma. The scholarship description and PDF files are located at http://www.al-tn-trailoftears.org/Scholarships/General_SCHOLARSHIPS_2006.html

AMERICAN INDIAN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIPS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Applicants must be a member of a American Indian or considered to be an American Indian tribe by the tribe that they are affiliated with, or at ¼ American Indian blood, or is at least ¼ Alaskan Native and be a member of AISES (<http://www.aises.org/member-ship/>). The students must be enrolled full-time in college and be studying in one of the following areas of study: science, math, medicine, engineering, natural resources, or physical science. **The application deadline is usually June 15, 2007.**

THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MEDICAL, LAW, AND MBA SCHOLARSHIPS

The deadlines for the applications are April 15, 2007. You can find the information about the scholarships at http://www.dar.org/natsociety/edout_scholar.cfm. You must write and ask for the name and address of your state chairman and request a letter of sponsorship from the chairman. The address to request the local chairman's name and address and an application is:

Daughters of the American Revolution
Committee Services Office
Attn: Scholarships
1776 D Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-5303

MCCA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR LAW STUDENTS

The Minority Corporate Counsel Association was designed to support entering first year law students who have been accepted into an accredited law school. The program is open to all students. The MCCA will award 10 fellowships for \$10,000 per year for each of the three years of law school. In addition, 7-8 of the applicants will receive a one-time scholarship award of \$10,000 for support of their law school education. Another program plus is that the selected scholarship winners will be placed in paid summer internship positions at leading corporations. **The deadline for the completed applications is June 1, 2007.** The application is available at www.mcca.com. You can apply online at www.uncf.org.

HORACE MANN EDUCATOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Both public and private school educators may apply for the scholarship program. **The applications must be submitted on-line and received by May 16, 2007.** One recipient will receive \$5000 payable over four years; and another fifteen will receive \$1000 each in scholarship funds payable over two years. Twenty recipients will receive one-time \$500 awards. <https://www.horace-mann.com/educator-resources/educator-scholarship-program.html>

PENN STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERSHIP GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The program description states that the Penn State American Indian Leadership Program has a success rate 80% participant graduation rate compared to 50% graduation rate at similar institutions. The program is designed to train qualified leaders for service to Indian nations and its objectives are consistent with the goals of the Indian Education Act. According to their web page, applications are being accepted now. The applicants are awarded financial aid on an individual basis and through the degree grant department via fellowships and assistantships. The fellowship includes a monthly stipend of approximately \$1000 per month, tuition, and relocation allowance. You will find more information at <http://www.edu.psu.edu/AII/> or request information about the program by calling (824) 867-1487.

meeting will have already taken place by the time you receive this newsletter; it is my hope that as many of you as possible were able to attend and assist us in planning the Tribe's future.

I traveled to Washington to testify before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee on February 8, 2007. I was invited by the Committee Chairman, Senator Byron Dorgan of North Dakota, to testify before the Committee as an advocate for special diabetes funding in Indian Country. We have presented and support a five year expansion with a \$200 million dollar funding level for Tribes. This funding is vital to Indian Country. Since this funding has been available, the national hemoglobin A1C level has dropped by 1% in Indian Country. We at Poarch Creek are addressing the diabetes issue as well. There are currently 2438 Tribal Members, 14% (352) of which are affected by diabetes of this 14%, five are children.

Members of the Tribal Council and appropriate staff traveled to Washington to attend this year's annual United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) Annual Meeting and Impact Week from February 12-16, 2007. This is the time of year that in addition to general USET business we meet with our Congressional delegations and discuss issues relevant to Indian Country. This year we met with Senators Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions as well as Congressman Jo Bonner, all of whom are involved with reauthorization of both the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and Special Diabetes Funding. We voiced our gratitude for their assistance in these areas as well as the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act of 2006, which also reauthorized the Native American Programs Act of 1974 through the year 2012 and provides a grant program to ensure the survival and vitality of Native-American languages through such programs as language nests, survival schools, and language restoration

programs, in addition to programs currently funded by the Administration for Native Americans grants for language preservation within the Department of Health and Human Services.

While we were in Washington for Impact Week, Robert Thrower, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Venus McGhee Prince, and I met with representatives of the Muskogee Creek Nation from Okmulgee, Oklahoma on February 14th to plan a meeting between the Tribal Council, appropriate staff, and George Thompson, Mekko of Hickory Grounds March 16th and 17th. After meeting with the Mekko we will meet with the National Council of the Muskogee Creek Nation. I also met with the National Steering Committee for the Reauthorization of the Indian Health Improvement Act on the afternoon of February 15th and the morning of 16th.

I will be attending an Executive Council session of the National Congress of American Indians in Washington February 26-28, 2007. The Tribe is a member of this organization and the National Congress of American Indians has always been supportive of our Tribe.

I will be traveling to Washington again on March 13th to meet with the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) to address secretarial procedures. While in Washington I will testify before the House Resources Committee on the 14th for the reauthorization of the Indian Health Improvement Act.

In closing, the Tribe has received notice that NIGC will withdraw both its Class II gaming classification standards and Class II technical standards that are currently under revision. If they decide to move forward in the future, the new proposed regulations will be very different from those currently presented. Basically this means that our gaming operations will continue to operate in their current capacity until further notice.

Safety Moment



What happened: An employee of a company used an Instant Hand Sanitizer available in the bathroom. He immediately went outside for a cigarette break. It was windy so he held his hand up to block the wind as he was lighting the cigarette and his hand burst into flames as he had not fully rubbed in the sanitizer.

The Cause: Purell® Instant Hand Sanitizer

Product Description
Kills 99.99% of common germs that may cause illness in as little as 15 seconds.
Use anytime, anywhere, without water or towels.
Contains moisturizers and vitamin E.
Leaves hands feeling refreshed without stickiness or residue.

Warnings
For external use only.
Flammable, keep away from fire or flame.

Recommendation: Advise employees to make sure they rub in the hand sanitizer thoroughly and wash hands before lighting a cigarette or putting their hand near any flame.



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Germy Desks

Via Yahoo News

Your office desk harbors far more bacteria than your workplace restroom, and if you're a woman, chances are your workspace has more germs than your male co-workers', a new research report shows.

Women have three to four times the number of bacteria in, on and around their desks, phones, computers, keyboards, drawers and personal items as men do, the study by University of Arizona professor Charles Gerba showed.

Women's desks typically looked cleaner. But the knick-knacks are more abundant, and cosmetics and hand lotions make prime germ-transfer agents. The worst overall office germ offender for males is men's wallets; it's in the back pocket where it's nice and warm, it's a great incubator for bacteria. Another hot spot for bacteria in men's offices is the personal digital assistant, men tend to play with their Palm Pilots more.

The average office desktop has 400 times more bacteria than the average office toilet seat; using a hand sanitizer and using a disinfectant on office surfaces helps, with 25 percent fewer bacteria found on surfaces that were regularly disinfected. Desktops, phones and keyboards should be disinfected on a regular basis.

You can find the complete article online at http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070215/ap_on_he_me/germy_desks

Dedication

Submitted by Barbara Stephens

I dedicate the following, originally written in 1989, to all those who have lost loved ones, whether it is their father, mother, brother, sister, friend, spouse, etc.

Today I am lonely. As I look outside the trees stand so strong yet they show a weakness brought on by age and wearing. And even the softness of the wind can make them bend and give just a bit.

The birds, rustle of the leaves, a dog barking, my own heart beating, cars passing, all sounds of the times. How lonely I could be if not for the sounds of God being with me.

Life, love, laughter, sadness, enchantment, the arms of a trusting child around my neck, whispers of a free world.

Like a tree, I too will stand strong but with each season I bend. My heart becomes heavy. The joy in my song sometimes fades away. With each new moon I grow empty. I reach for hands to touch my face, only to find disappointment. You are not there. The warmth of your smile is replaced by the sun on my brow. Somehow I still feel cold, missing you fills my days.

I kneel before God with all my

woes, He embraces me with love. Through the wind, the sun, the stars, and the moon I am told I'm not alone. So why do I feel lonely?

Because this shell of flesh that I am imprisoned in strives only on the touch that I feel by another. The words and whispers that travel through my mind as you speak, the laughter that I hear as we share precious secrets. The beauty that I see in your eyes, the acceptance from one like me. I pray again.

God be with me, tell me the reason for the seasons of loneliness, betrayal, theft of our hearts, crying in sadness, hunger, cold, despondence and death.

He tells me in time I will know but for now, let the loneliness help you to seek friendship.

Let the betrayal help you to understand the depth of your trust.

Let the theft of your heart make you willing to love more freely so it would not have to be stolen from you.

Let the crying in sadness teach the beauty of happiness.

Let the hunger help you to find other ways to fill your emptiness.

Let the cold help you to seek warmth in your surroundings.

Let the despondence help you to explore yourself.

And last, let death show you the way to life.

With my head bowed in humble adoration, I thank Him most graciously for my family and my life. I know I will be alright. My heart will always feel your presence; the sun on my brown will have the warmth of your touch. The song of the birds will carry the laughter of your voice. The rain that falls will soak me with the touch of your love and I will know you are with me always. The Lord has blest me and through Him I will always have you with me. I love you.

So as I sit here I decide to write. I am writing to say I love you. The day may come when I look back and feel sorrow for the time I was too busy to hear your problems, or for the time I didn't take to share that cup of coffee and that hug and kiss, ha, yea, I'm surprised you even felt it as I was rushing on my way. Well, no more. I have plenty of time now to be that perfect companion. Unfortunately it came a little late for some. But this is something I must deal with.

The irony of this is that now some of you don't have the time.

Love, Me

Oh, how lonely I could be if not for my family being with me.



William Brayden Walker

Birth Announcement

Brandy M. Gregson and William Branden Walker are proud to announce the birth of their son, William Brayden Walker on January 26, 2007. Brayden was born at Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, Florida at 5:22 p.m.; he weighed 7 pounds 8 ozs. and was 19 1/2 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Robin Gregson and Larry Wayne Barlow of Molino, Florida. Paternal grandparents are Faye and Bill Walker of Pensacola, Florida.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
MARCH 2007				1	2	3
4	5	6 Tribal Council Meeting 4:00 p.m.	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
March 12-16, 2007 Applications for Tribal Child Care Programs available in Family Services Department						
18 Tribal Council Meeting 2:00 p.m.	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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



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