

*Keeping the Family and Friends of Poarch Informed*

July 2008

[www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov](http://www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov)

VOLUME 25 • ISSUE 6

# POARCH CREEK NEWS



Helen Hallman

Tribal Council Member

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## Record Number of Voters Turn Out For '08 Tribal Elections

According to official records certified by the Tribal Election Board, there was a total of 973 votes cast in the 2008 Tribal Election process. There were 403 Absentee Ballots and 570 Tribal Members who voted in person on Election Day. On the ballot were thirteen candidates vying for three seats on the Tribal Council and three proposed constitutional amendments which addressed run-off elections, Tribal membership, and direct election of the Executive Committee.

Incumbents Arthur Mothershed and Buford L. Rolin received the most votes, 451 and 389 respectively, followed by Garvis Sells, who received a total of 339 votes; this will be Garvis' first time on the Tribal Council. All three of the constitutional amendments passed.

Incumbent Eddie L. Tullis failed in his bid for re-election for the first time in forty-four years. Will Mr. Tullis run for election again next year? We will have to wait and see. Mr. Tullis has been involved in Tribal politics since 1964 and we are sure that he will continue to be involved any way he can. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

In closing, we thank everyone who voted for the candidate(s) of their choice and we look forward to great things from our newly elected/re-elected Council Members. If you did not exercise your right to vote this year, we hope that you do so next year. Every vote counts and one vote CAN make a difference.



## Deadlines for Tribal Newsletter

Remember, the *Poarch Creek News* is here to keep you, the Tribal Member, informed. It is very important to meet the established deadlines so that we can include the information in the newsletter.

For your convenience, the deadlines for submissions are listed below:

Month of Publication	Deadline
August, 2008	July 1, 2008
September, 2008	August 1, 2008
October, 2008	September 2, 2008
November, 2008	October 1, 2008
December, 2008	November 3, 2008
January, 2009	December 1, 2008





## Chairman's Corner July, 2008

The turnout for Tribal Elections has increased each year over the past four years. This year 43% of eligible voters cast their vote either

by absentee ballot or walk-in voting on Saturday, June 7, 2008. This is an obvious indication that Tribal Members are concerned about their government and the individuals that they select to serve as their leaders on the Tribal Council. I would like to personally thank everyone who participated in the election process. As a result of this election, Arthur Mothershed, Garvis Sells and I were elected to three year terms. All three Constitutional Amendments also passed. I would like to thank my fellow Council members for having the confidence in me to re-elect me to the position of Tribal Chairman. I look forward to continuing in the service of my people for the next three years.

The Exit 57 project is on schedule with the casino grand opening expected in December of this year followed by the grand opening of the hotel in early 2009. CIE and Tribal Gaming Commission have relocated to their new offices in the Poarch Creek Indians Business Center located in Atmore on Brookwood Road in the old TouchOne (Trinsic) building.

Summer is here and families will be out and about on vacation, going fishing, swimming, and enjoying other summer time activities. I encourage everyone to follow the safety rules of the highway, Magnolia Branch and other recreational facilities. The Tribal Police are currently participating in the highway safety program Click It or Ticket; any time you get on the highway remember to buckle up everyone in the car. It is my hope that we all have a safe and enjoyable summer.

I will be travelling to Washington D.C. for a meeting with Senate Majority Leader, Senator Harry Reid for a meeting with Tribal leaders to address housing, health, law enforcement, and concerns in Indian Country. The House of Representatives under the leadership of Speaker Nancy Pelosi is working hard to make sure that the reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act gets passed before the summer session ends. This legislation has already been passed by the Senate. Passage of this legislation means health care will be provided in Indian Country for another 5 years.

In closing I would again like to say thank you to everyone who participated in the election process. I also encourage each of you to exercise that same privilege during the national elections in November.

## BUFORD L. ROLIN RE-ELECTED TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

By Sharon Delmar, Tribal Public Relations Liaison

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS RESERVATION, POARCH, ALABAMA – June 13, 2008 – A swearing in ceremony was held during a Tribal Council meeting June 12, 2008 for the Tribal Council candidates who were elected into office Saturday, June 7, 2008. Buford

L. Rolin, Arthur Mothershed, and Garvis Sells were sworn into office by Judge Ben Brown.



*Tribal Judge Ben Brown swears in the newly elected Council Members.*

Buford L. Rolin was re-elected as Tribal Chairman for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians during the same meeting. This will be Mr. Rolin's second term as Tribal Chairman for the tribe. "I want to thank everyone for their support. I

look forward to serving as your Chairman for another term." Rolin said. He has served on the Tribal Council for more than forty years and has also held the positions of Secretary and Vice Chairman during his tenure on the Tribal Council.

Arthur Mothershed was re-elected to his second term as Treasurer for the Tribe. Mr. Mothershed holds a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Alabama and a bachelor's degree from Faulkner University. "I



*2008-2009 Tribal Council*

appreciate everyone's support and will continue to do my best during my second term as your Treasurer," said Mothershed. He is currently the Chief Financial Officer of Creek Indian Enterprises, a business enterprise of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

Garvis Sells will be serving his first term as a council member. "First I want to thank God. I also want to thank my family, friends, and those who voted for me," said Sells. "I'm here for my people and to unite us together again." In addition to serving on the tribal council, Garvis is an active member and Vice Chairman of the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO), which promotes tribal member employment and advancement.

Mr. Sells replaces long time Tribal Council Member Eddie L. Tullis, who has served the tribe for 44 years. Mr. Tullis was asked



*Eddie L. Tullis*

by Chairman Rolin for any thoughts he'd like to share with the Tribal Council. Tullis stated, "I have had many great opportunities to be involved and have had the privilege and pleasure of sitting at this table with the sons, grandsons, and great grandsons of Calvin McGhee, and we are all here for one purpose 'we are here to serve the people'. I don't intend to stop that, I intend to continue.

Remember while you are at this table you have the opportunity to do what very few people have and that is to affect the quality of life of a lot of people."

# A Blast From the Past

VOLUME X, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1991

## ***NAYO Softball Tournament***

On behalf of the Tribal Council and the Recreation Committee, we wish to congratulate the following young boys: Wade Fretwell, Larry Jackson, Clint King, Frankie Jones, Jason Griffey, Randy Fretwell, Dusty Martin, Tony Sells, Timmy Albritton, Jonathan O'Barr, Lavon McGhee, Mike McGhee, and Timothy Ramer. These young boys brought home the 3rd place trophy for the NAYO Softball Tournament, which was held in Brighton, Florida, June 15 and 16, 1990.



Tournament Team members: Back row l-r Wade Fretwell, Danny King (Coach), Larry Jackson, Clint King, Frankie Jones, David Kirby (Coach), Jason Griffey, Randy Fretwell, Dusty Martin, and Tony Sells. Front row l-r Timmy Albritton, John O'Barr, Lavon McGhee, Mike McGhee, and Timmy Ramer

## Annual Celebration Scheduled

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend this year's Annual Celebration on Saturday, August 2, 2008. If you plan on camping at Magnolia Branch, you should give them a call to make sure that there is still a campsite available. If you would be interested in performing as part of the entertainment through out the day, please give Mandy Peebles a call at (251) 368-9136 x 2205; available spots are limited so please call as early as possible. Please remember that this event is for Tribal members and their immediate family only.

Registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. Food will be served beginning at 11:15 a.m., after the blessing. All door prizes will be given away at 12 noon. The Tribe will pay the \$1.00 entrance fee for all Tribal members with Tribal I.D. Tribal members without Tribal I.D. will be required to pay the entrance fee themselves.



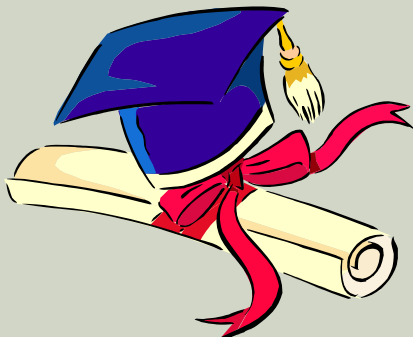
This year's complementary gift to Tribal Members in attendance is a mesh folding chair with carrying bag. Keep this in mind when you head out to the creek, this will be one less chair you have to bring with you!

*Photo for reference/example only.  
You do not get choice of color*

## Attention!!

### **McGhee-Tullis Tuition Assistance Program Graduates!**

The Education Department would like to extend our congratulations to all of our tuition assistance program participants who are graduating this spring. We are so proud of each and every one of you, and it has truly been an honor and a blessing to have a small role in the achievement of your dreams. We would love to have a cap and gown picture of you! You can email them to Sandra at shiebert@poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov or mail them to us at 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, Alabama 36502. If we can be of assistance to you in any way, please let us know. Best wishes for all your future endeavors!



## College Graduates Visit Hawaii

Karla Susanne Martin graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Master of Education.

Tiffany Faircloth graduated from the University of South Alabama with a Bachelors in Cardiorespiratory Care.

Brittany Martin graduated from the University of South Alabama with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Jennifer Martin graduated from the University of Auburn at Montgomery with Bachelors in Accounting.

During the week of May 12th these girls flew to Hawaii to enjoy a long needed and much deserved vacation after recently receiving their college degrees. Some of their family members joined them in celebration.

**Congratulations to Karla, Tiffany, Brittany and Jennifer!**



*Graduates, top to bottom: Jennifer Martin, Brittany Martin, Tiffany Faircloth, and Karla Martin*



## ***Class of 2008 The Future is Yours***

Sixth grade graduation at Huxford Elementary was an extraordinarily emotional event. Tribal Member Noah Coon, son of Debra and Clayton Coon, was Valedictorian; Noah and Casey Jackson, son of Edie and Eddie Jackson, were among the top five, with GPAs of over 3.5. Noah, Casey, and Brice McGhee, son of Jaime and Daniel McGhee, were awarded the Gold Presidential Award for Academic Excellence; Kortlan Peebles, daughter of Mandy and Anthony Peebles, Kaitlyn Rolin, daughter of Melissa Kendrix and Hubert Rolin, and C.J. Linam, son of Tracy (Linam) and James Green, were awarded the Silver Presidential Award for Academic Excellence. Of the 33 graduating seniors that night, 21 can be directly connected to the Tribe, either as Tribal Members, Indian descent, or as the child or grandchild of a Tribal employee.

The end of the school year also brought about PTO elections. Tribal Member Paul Pearson was elected as President to serve for a two year term. Doug Murphy, Indian descent, was elected to serve as Vice-President; Sandra Hiebert, Tribal employee/Education Executive Director,

was elected to serve as Treasurer, and sixth grade teacher Dawn Malone was selected to serve as Secretary.

At the conclusion of the graduation ceremony, Paul recognized outgoing PTO President, Edie Jackson, and presented her with a plaque and flowers in appreciation for her years of dedication to the school. Edie has been involved with Huxford School for many years and has served as PTO Vice President for two and a half years and as President for three and a half years. "I am not going anywhere," Edie said. "My children may have graduated and will no longer attend Huxford, but this is where my heart is. This is where our children go and I will always be a part of what goes on at Huxford." Edie was very proud of the plaque, it represented three of the things that mean a lot to her, it was a wood carving of a feather (representing the fact that she is Native American), an eagle (representing Auburn University), and an engraved plaque (representing her dedication to Huxford Elementary School and education for Tribal Members.)



### **Martin Graduates with Doctorate Degree in Physical Therapy**

*Submitted by Mary Boyte*

Brittany Ann Martin graduated from the University of South Alabama on Saturday, May 3, 2008, with a Doctorate Degree in Physical Therapy.



In June of 2005, Brittany was accepted into the highly competitive "advanced" early entry physical therapy program. She was officially classified as an undergraduate for the first two semesters of the program but had to take graduate courses of the DPT (Doctor of Physical Therapy) program. Brittany's overall GPA while attending USA was 3.58. She also obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Pre-Professional Health Science and served as a class officer of the 2008 graduating class.

Brittany is married to Josh Martin and is the daughter of Dean and Mary Boyte. She is the granddaughter of the late Jim McGhee, and the late Bertie Mae "Dollie" Sells Hamrick. A lot of hard work, dedication and prayers went into Brittany receiving the distinguished honor of being called "Dr. Brittany Martin". Thanks to all who helped make this accomplishment possible.

### **Smith Graduates From Huntingdon**

*Submitted by Kim Smith*

Kimberly Ann Smith graduated from Huntingdon College in Montgomery, AL on Saturday, May 17, 2008 with a Bachelor of Science, with a major in Business Management.



Kim is married to Wade Smith, and is the daughter of Daniel and Joyce Rolin Philyaw. She is the granddaughter of the late Woodrow & Estelle McGhee Rolin and the late Joe & Agnes Olean Rayborn Philyaw.

Kim was on the Dean's List for the Spring 2008 semester and would like to thank her husband and mother for all their support, understanding, and patience because without them she would have never accomplished her goal.

# The Poarch Creek Pow Wow Club, a New Generation, a New Hope

Hoccicv (Author): Alex Alvarez

During the late seventies and early eighties here at Poarch, it was common to find tribal members dancing and performing the intertribal pow wow dances all over the southeast. They included the likes of Rodney Rackard a.k.a "Baby", Clayton Coon, Chris "Ding-Ding" Blackburn, Jerry "Tink" Blackburn, Douglas "Spat" Daughtry, Larry Flurnoy, Eddie "Dinky" Jackson, Lawrence "Bunk" Peebles, among many others, including those young ladies who participated in the Poarch Creek princess pageant each year. These individuals, among many others shared Native culture with thousands via traveling to performances and participating at the annual Thanksgiving pow wow.



Now, a new generation has been built upon the foundation that these individuals worked hard to produce: The Poarch Creek Pow Wow Club. Originating in late August of 2007, the powwow club

was formed from a selected group of children who had shown great interest in learning their precious culture. The children and parents met twice each week learning not only dance styles and techniques, but also how to make items of their own regalia. Each child had a hand in constructing his/her outfit. The children, parents and staff worked diligently to prepare for their debut at the 2007 Thanksgiving powwow. They attained their high goal and 17 of our very own youth entered the powwow arena for the first time.

The Poarch Creek Pow Wow Club has not been an easy membership to retain. After realizing the needed dedication to the organization, as well as sports and other conflicts, few youth have left. However, the members still participating have proved to be dedicated and will undoubtedly carry on their culture for the rest of their lives. Not only do the members of the Pow Wow Club have to show dedication to themselves and the organization, they must also abide by a certain creed throughout their daily lives including: good behavior, respect for self and others, good citizenship in academics, and serving as a role-model for younger tribal youth.



Today, the club meets weekly at the Calvin McGhee Cultural Center and practices each child's dance style, powwow etiquette, Mvskoke language, crafts such as pottery and basket weaving, and traditional songs and games.

The Poarch Creek Pow Wow Club has already performed for

given audiences many times and has displayed an extremely healthy image of the tribe, and more requests are coming weekly.

Members-to-date include: Tom Rolin, Baccari Ramer, Brice McGhee, Bo Ramer, Chelsey Ramer, Rickey Reed, Kennedy McGhee, Taylor Hill, Ty Hill, Hannah Gibson, Josh Peebles, Xan McGhee, Hunter Nobles, and Justin Davis.

*I encourage any interested child to apply for membership into this prestigious organization. Though we will only be able to take 20 members for the 2008-2009 year, we hope to reach out to as many tribal youth as possible over the next several years. The club is open to Tribal Members and 1st Generation Descendants, ages 10-17. Applications can be found on the tribe's website, or may be picked up at the Poarch Creek Education Dept. The deadline for applications is July 25th, 2008 @ 5pm. For more info contact Alex Alvarez, Cultural Educator @ 251-368-9136 ext 2242 or email: aalvarez@poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov.*



**Do you like to have fun?  
Want to learn more about your culture  
and heritage?  
Do you like to travel and meet new people?  
Well...come join the**



**Open to all Tribal Members  
&1st Generation Descendants  
Age 14 - 20**

**Come and make a difference in your Tribe!  
Application available on the Tribe's website  
and in the Education Department**

**For more information contact  
Alex Alvarez (251) 368-9136 x 2242  
aalvarez@poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov**



## Education Department Financial Aid News

***The Association of American Indian Affairs Scholarship Program.*** Applications have a July 1, 2008 deadline. ([www.indian-affairs.org](http://www.indian-affairs.org)). They have general scholarships and specific area scholarships. There is also a scholarship for Native people who are members of a state recognized tribe.

### ***Helpful Information for Students Planning to Live on Campus***

***College Survival Tips*** <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/plan/college-success/963.html>

***What You Need to Learn about College Dorm Life*** [http://www.collegeview.com/articles/CV/campuslife/about\\_living\\_in\\_dorms.htm](http://www.collegeview.com/articles/CV/campuslife/about_living_in_dorms.htm)

***Explore Health Career*** <http://www.explorehealthcareers.org/en/Index.aspx>

College Seniors: Now is the time for you to check to see if you have completed the necessary paperwork for your graduation at the end of your senior year and for you to select and begin the application process for a graduate program. You will want to apply early for the program in order to qualify for fellowships to pay for your master's degree. You need to be aware of the GPA requirements and be prepared to work toward meeting your goal.

2008-2009 High School Juniors: Students entering the eleventh grade should be applying to take the PSAT and ACT Exams in order to meet college admission requirements. Tenth grade students and eleventh grade students can apply for dual enrollment classes. Dual Enrollments allows students to take college credit classes while attending high school.

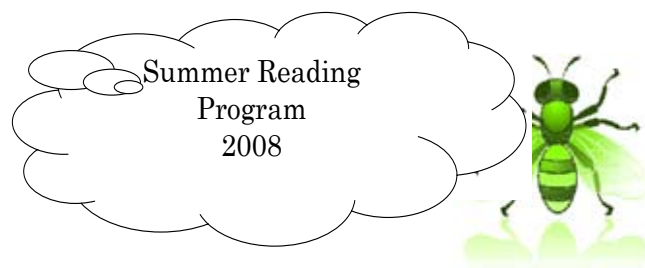
2008-2009 High School Seniors: Students entering the twelfth grade should have already taken the ACT or SAT in the eleventh grade. If they have not, then they need to register online for an October testing date. They should take the ACT or SAT in the fall and again before April. The ACT and SAT study guide DVD programs or books can be purchased from the major bookstores such as Barnes & Nobles or online from Wal-Mart. The local public library may provide students an access code for a free online access to the ACT or SAT Prep Programs.

Seniors should be alert for scholarship announcements from the High School Guidance Department. Your high school's senior Guidance Counselor may place the announcements for scholarships on the school's web page. It is up to the student to make sure they take advantage of all scholarship announcements. The majority of scholarships for high school seniors will become available during the fall through June-09.

Seniors should apply for all the scholarships available to them. Another deadline to meet is the application for admissions to the college that you have selected to attend in order to qualify for their college based scholarships. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) should be completed after January 09 as soon as possible. They can apply after March; however, they are going to miss state funds and some federal funds. The majority of the federal, state, and college funds are awarded to the early applicants and late applicants will receive what is left. Parents and seniors can use the free online scholarship search sites such as FASTWEB.com and Finaid.org.

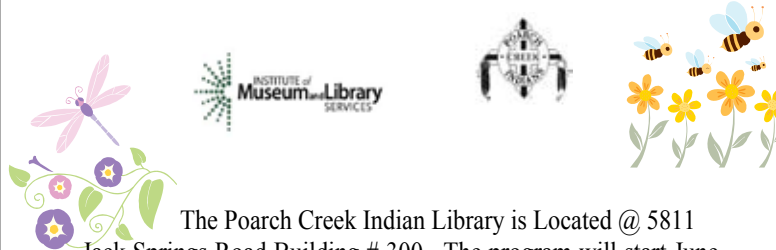
### ***Yahoo! HotJobs America's Surprising Six-Figure Jobs***

Marketing students might want to consider working as a Gaming Manager. The manager's primary duties are to oversee staff and to cater to gamblers. The average salary is \$69,000 and the top managers can make \$106,220 a year. Post-secondary teachers (average salary \$35,996 - \$116,247), Flight Attendants (private planes) average salary is \$62,880 to \$102,660, Air Controllers (they are recruiting now average salary is \$107,780 - \$141,860), Database Administrator (average \$70,260 - \$107,760), and Farm, Ranch and other Agriculture Managers (average \$61,1090 - \$103,910). Information for other jobs that pay six-figures is available at [http://hotjobs.yahoo.com/career-articles-american\\_s\\_surprising\\_six\\_figure\\_jobs-407](http://hotjobs.yahoo.com/career-articles-american_s_surprising_six_figure_jobs-407).



## **Catch The Reading Bug!**

Reading program sponsored by:



The Poarch Creek Indian Library is Located @ 5811 Jack Springs Road Building # 300. The program will start June 10<sup>th</sup> @10:00 a.m. and will continue every Tuesday @10:00 a.m. until school starts back. If you have any questions feel free to call (251) 368-9136 ext. #2240.

This program is open to all tribal member children, First generation children and their parents.

Activities will include reading, storytelling, arts and crafts, bug fear factor, evening at the movies and much, much, more!



**H**elen Hallman is the daughter of the late Levi and Treacy Walker McGhee and the granddaughter of the late Fred and Lula Walker and Lee and Ida McGhee. She is the mother of three, Cindy Martin, Rodney Exum, and Ryan Exum. She is also very proud to be the grandmother of five and great-grandmother of three. She was born and

raised in Hog Fork. When asked about a favorite childhood memory, she could not limit herself to just one. "My life has been so full, I have a great family and I have a lot of good memories from my childhood. I remember my mother used to take us with her to the grocery store, the McCullough Trading Center. We would stop on the way back and have a picnic under the big oak tree and eat garlic bologna sandwiches. She could not take all of us at one time, so we took turns. We all enjoyed going to the store with Mother. I was raised in the United Pentecostal Church; when I was 14, I would drive my Aunt Ruthie Mae (Rackard) to church and tent revivals; we went to church as much as we could and attended every tent revival in the community. She and I were the best of friends and I still love and admire her greatly today.

I can remember spending the night at my Aunt Lillie's (McGhee) house and waking up the next morning to a breakfast of pork and beans and biscuits. My cousin Lillian (Jackson) and I loved eating those pork and beans, sometimes we would have bacon with our breakfast, but mostly it was just the pork and beans and biscuits. I still love to eat pork and beans and biscuits today! My Aunt Alberta (McGhee) was always someone I could go to when I had a personal problem; she would always listen to my problems and never



*Helen with her father, Levi McGhee*

but we were rich with love."

Helen states that the three major accomplishments of her life include education, cancer survival, and serving on the Council. She dropped out of school in the ninth grade to help her mother take care of her younger brother and sisters. When

she was fifty she was able to get her GED and take college level classes. She is now looking at returning to college at the age of 70. She states that there is so much she would like to learn and that education is important, no matter what your age.



On January 26, 1990 *Standing l-r Judy McGhee, Deloris Kelley, Helen, Helen had a Myrtis Kinman, Donna White, Eva Nel Burkett, mastectomy Martha Wilson. Sitting l-r Eldnar McGhee, Levi McGhee, Treacy McGhee, and Velma Crocker* to remove her

left breast. In November of 1989 Helen had gone to the doctor for a check-up and was told that everything was OK but she knew her body and knew that something was not right. She went for a second opinion and was eventually diagnosed with breast cancer. She encourages everyone to know your body and be persistent when you know something is not right. In 1994 the Comprehensive Cancer Center commissioned an exhibit honoring breast cancer survivors. The exhibit was designed not only to inform and build awareness but also to offer something all too rare: hope, inspiration, strength, and courage. The exhibit "A Tribe of Warrior Women" was unveiled in 1995 at the Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. Helen was one of the women featured in the exhibit. She feels that the other major accomplishment of her life is to have been elected by her people to serve on the Tribal Council. It means a lot to her to know that people trust and respect her enough to elect her as one of their leaders.

Helen states that her daughter Cindy has been and continues to be a major influence in her life. "We help each other," she said, "she is motivating to me and I am motivating to her. Our lives have followed basically the same path so one or the other of us is able to help the other."



*Helen with her children in Orlando, FL shortly after the opening of Disney World.*

Helen is proud to be a member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, she is proud of her heritage and the accomplishments made by the Tribe. She remembers where the Tribe was, where it is today, and the unlimited possibilities for the future. She is very excited





*Helen with other cancer survivors at the "A Tribe of Women Warriors" Exhibit.*

about the possibilities available to the Tribe and is happy to be part of that change and growth.

Helen is just completing the first year of her third term on the Council. She has previously served one four year term and one three year term. She states that she will consider running for Council again when her current term expires if she feels she still has the respect and trust of her fellow Tribal Members and feels that she will be able to make a positive impact.

Helen has always been active in Tribal politics. She worked closely with her uncle, Calvin McGhee, and others as they started their pursuit of better education for our children and in developing the first Tribal Council. Her love for her people has always been the motivating source behind her as she helped make phone calls, cooked and sold chicken dinners to help send representatives to Washington and Montgomery. It is this same love that motivates her today and helps her plan for tomorrow.

When asked about how the issues faced by today's Council compares to those faced by previous Councils, she said that the biggest difference is the growth and development of the Tribe. Councils in the past focused on developing the basic needs for Tribal Members such as health, education, and housing. These issues are still major concerns of the Council and she feels that today's leaders need to be qualified to understand and comprehend the issues they address and guide the Tribe into a bright and well established future.

Helen serves on the Community Activities Legislative Committee, Education/Labor

*Helen graduated from the sixth grade at Poarch Consolidated School. She is shown with her fellow classmates. L-r Annie Bell McGhee, Annie Elizabeth Gibson Walker, Richard McGhee, Vivian Jackson Hobbs, Lillian McGhee Jackson, Earl Jr. Smith, Mary Jane McGhee Tullis, Helen, Floyd Gibson and teacher, Gracie K. Mays.*



Legislative Committee, and the Health/Human Services Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committees are new to the Council and they are still working on the exact responsibilities for each Legislative Committee but their goal is to address the concerns of the Tribal Members and to improve the services provided. These committees also address the issues that Helen is most passionate about: health, housing, jobs, and fairness across the board on all issues.

When asked what she would be doing today if she was not serving on the Tribal Council, Helen stated that she would still be serving her people in any way she could. She says that she is excited about the growth and development experienced by the Tribe and foresees additional growth and development in the Tribe's future. She does hope that the Tribe does not focus solely on building and spending too fast. She feels we



*Helen with her children. L - R Ryan Exum, Cindy Martin, Helen, and Rodney Exum*

should be more careful and focus more on generating a safety net. She also feels that as the Tribe grows that there will be a need for additional Tribal Council members and time clocks for employees.



## TRIBAL BUSINESS REVIEW

Submitted by: Michelle White, Economic Development Administrative Assistant

This month's featured business... **Boyte and Son Electric**

Boyte and Son Electric is owned and operated by Tribal Member, Rowdy Boyte and his father, Dean Boyte. The company is a residential and commercial electrical contractor.



Dean Boyte began Boyte Electric Company in 1981 and in 2006, turned 51% controlling interest of the company over to his son, Rowdy and the company name changed to Boyte and Son Electric.

Rowdy has 15 years electrical experience, which includes prior electrical work experience with H & H Electrical and Tri-Co Electric. In addition, Rowdy is currently enrolled at Bishop State, where he is furthering his education in electrical contracting.

Boyte and Son Electric are proud to serve the Poarch Creek Indians, Atmore, and the surrounding areas. For more information regarding the scope of electrical services offered by the company, please contact Rowdy at (251) 379-3820 or (251) 379-0073.

If you are interested in having your business featured in the Business Review section of the Tribal Newsletter, please contact Michelle White at Creek Indian Enterprises, at (251) 446-4556. The business review deadline is the 1st day of each month.

## *Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority And*

### *The Small Business Administration*

#### *Present*

### *“Small Business Success Seminar”*

Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority and the Small Business Administration will present the “Small Business Success Seminar” on August 14, 2008 at the Creek Indian Enterprise Business Center located at 100 Brookwood Road in Atmore, Alabama. This free Seminar will be conducted at the following times: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.; 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Employee Center Building located on the Business Center Campus.

While poor management is cited most frequently as the reason businesses fail, inadequate or ill timed financing is a close second. Whether you're starting a business or expanding one, sufficient ready capital is essential. Attend a live presentation where you can ask questions about SBA's loan programs. Information will be presented that make the SBA Small Loan Program understandable & attractive to borrowers. You will also receive information regarding federal contracting, marketing, bookkeeping, and available business counseling services that are available to the public.

Call Michelle White at 251-446-4556 to sign up today or email Michelle at [mwhite@creekindianenterprises.org](mailto:mwhite@creekindianenterprises.org)

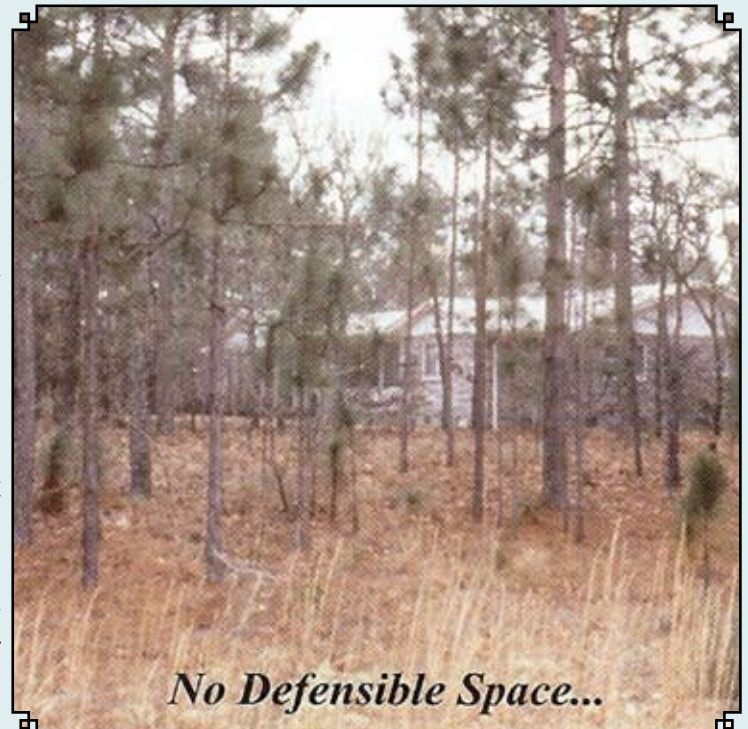
## ***Firescaping – “Fire Smart” Landscaping Design***

Firescaping is landscape design that reduces a home's vulnerability to wildfire. The goal is to develop a landscape that offers the best fire protection and enhances the beauty of the property. The ideal design involves surrounding the house with things that are less likely to burn, creating a defensible space around a home. Planning this type of landscape is best done when a home is built, but appropriate manipulation of existing landscapes can make a significant contribution towards wildfire survival.

**Create Fuel Breaks:** In firescaping, the open spaces are more important than the plants

**Fire Smart Plants:** There are no fire proof plants, but some are more fire resistant than others.

**Placement and Maintenance:** The location of plants in your yard should always be carefully planned. Proper maintenance is vital to remove excess debris.



*No Defensible Space...*

*An excerpt from “Living With Fire, A Guide for Protecting Homes from Wildfire”. Reprinted with premission from the Alabama Forestry Commission.*



# Poster Contest Winners Announced

The Housing Authority announced the local winners for this year's Amerind Fire Safety Poster Contest on Friday, May 9th. The first place winners in each category were submitted to USET for the regional level judging, with all three taking first place at that level. These prize winning posters will be displayed on Amerind's website at <http://www.amerindcorp.org>, for voting on the national level. Visitors to the site can vote on their choice of the posters July through August to determine the national winners. The national winners will each receive a \$1,000 savings bond. Please take time to visit this site and vote for Jason, Kennedy & Justin!

## K - 3RD GRADE

1st Place	Jason Davis
2nd Place	Melea McGhee
3rd Place	Cassidy Murphy
4th Place	Ashton Thomas

## 4TH GRADE – 6TH GRADE

1st Place	Kennedy McGhee
2nd Place	Heather Davis

## 7TH GRADE – 8TH GRADE

1st Place	Justin Davis
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Front row l-r Cassidy Murphy, Ashton Thomas, Kennedy McGhee, & Melea McGhee.

Back row l-r Housing Authority members Lavan Martin, Kevin Andrews, Teresa Thomas, Regina Brown (Housing staff), Kevin McGhee, & Ernestine Daughtry

## NOTICE TO ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS

If you have a construction business and would like to be listed in our specification manual as a subcontractor, please fill out the form below and return it to the Housing office in Building 400.

You can also download this form from the Tribe's website at [www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov](http://www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov).

Company Name

Owner

Address

City, State & Zip Code

Telephone Number w/area code

Type of Services Provided

Type of License

DO YOU HAVE INSURANCE  
(WORKERS COMPENSATION AND GENERAL LIABILITY)

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

## I Didn't Know That!

- In the last **4000 Years** no new animals have been domesticated.
- If the population of **China** walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

# BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Brooklynn Michelle Lucas

Brittany Gregson and Tony Lucas are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Brooklynn Michelle Lucas, on April 22, 2008 at 3:17 p.m. at Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, FL. At birth Brooklynn weighed 5 lbs. 12 oz. and was 18 inches long. Brooklynn is the maternal granddaughter of Robin Gregson and Larry Barlow; she is the paternal granddaughter of Linda and Ronnie Lucas.

## Dani Brianne Chunn

On February 12, 2008 at 4:50 a.m. Dani Brianne Chunn was born. Dani weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz. and was 21 inches long. Dani is the daughter of Jason and Brandy (Boyte) Chunn. She is the granddaughter of Dean and Mary Boyte and Preston and Wanza Chunn. Dani has two sisters who welcomed her home, Jacelyn Cheyenne and Macie Alyssa Chunn.



## Woodruff Completes Third Year Dance Recital

Madeline Grace Woodruff, age 6, has successfully completed her 3rd year dance recital. Madeline is the daughter of Westly and Sallie Woodruff and great granddaughter of the late Mr. Lawrence Walker and Mrs. Reva "Snooky" McGhee Walker.



Madeline has been in the ballet and tap class instructed by Ms. Bobby Dale Rowe, owner operator of Studio B Dance. Madeline is a gift to us and we believe that dance is her calling in life. We are so proud of her and all that she has accomplished. Madeline we love you so much.

Mama and Daddy

# BIRTHDAY WISHES

## Natalie Nicole Rolin



Natalie Nicole Rolin celebrated her 23rd birthday on February 23, 2008. Natalie is the daughter of Helen and Don Wayne Rolin. Happy Belated Birthday!

## Arlene Mack

Arelene Mack, Special Health Projects Coordinator, was surprised when her co-workers gave her a 50th birthday party on April 16th. Happy 50th birthday from all your friends and family at Poarch!



## Heather Rolin



Heather Rolin, daughter of Margie and Ronnie Rolin, celebrated her 13th birthday on April 22, 2008. Happy Birthday Heather.

## Raeven Ramer

Raeven Ramer celebrated her 7th birthday on May 3, 2008; she was especially happy to get a new puppy from her Uncle Ronnie.



## Carson David Wilson



Carson David Wilson celebrated his 2nd birthday on May 3, 2008. His party theme was Bob the Builder. Carson is the son of Brad & Anna Wilson and the grandson of Frankie & Tera Coon and Norman & Francine Wilson of Atmore, AL.

## Macie Chunn

Macie Chunn celebrated her third birthday on March 15, 2008 with a Disney Princesses party. Family and friends enjoyed Macie's celebration with the fellowship of food and jumping in her Princess castle.





## ROLIN FAMILY GATHERS FOR EASTER



The Eunice and Jack Rolin family still gathers at the "old homeplace" for birthdays, Christmas, Easter, and other special occasions. Eunice and Jack left behind a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Shown are a handful of the grandkids/great-grandkids that gathered at MawMaw's for Easter. Although MawMaw and PawPaw have passed on, they are still loved and remembered by their large family and their memories are kept alive for those grandchildren/great-grandchildren who never knew them.

## CULTURAL IMMERSION



Episcopal seminaries from throughout the country came to Poarch Creek/St. Anna's Episcopal Church for an immersion experience in Indian culture and history April 12-17th. Quoting one seminarian "... The manner in which we were welcomed and the relief we had were truly heartfelt and difficult to describe."

## Thank You

Donald Gibson and his family would like to say a heartfelt "Thank You" to Carolyn White, Family Services Executive Director, and staff for their assistance during their recent need for assistance. It is good to know that help is there when you need it.

## Family Services Department Hosts Early Literacy Program

Pre-schoolers from the Fred L. McGhee Early Learning Center, Shadaland Daycare, and First Baptist Church joined together in the Family Services Auditorium for a fun filled morning of arts & crafts, educational games, reading, and mobile classroom participation as part of this year's Early Literacy Program.



*The children had fun with Sidewalk Chalk, even without a sidewalk*



*These young drummers were always on beat! Are these the newest members of the Pow Wow Club?*

*The WOW Mobile was a traveling classroom that allowed the children to participate in classroom activities.*



*Grandmother Reading Program. "Grandmas" spend time with the children in group and individual reading sessions.*



*Representatives from the Mobile Council of the Arts helped with arts & crafts.*

# AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Poarch Creek Indians Health Department, owned and operated by the Tribe, is a full service, outpatient clinic funded through the Indian Health Service (IHS). The clinic is available to members of Federally Recognized American Indian Tribes; a tribal member must be able to show documented proof of enrollment. Services are also provided to first generation Indian descendants up to age 19. Through a combination of direct care and contract services, a comprehensive program of health, medical, dental, laboratory, and pharmacy services are provided.

As a payer of last resort, IHS will pay only after all other resources have been accessed. If you are covered by Medicare and/or Medicaid, private insurance, or Veteran's Administration benefits, you must use these resources before IHS can provide contract health services for you. If you do not currently have alternate resources, you will be referred to the Alternate Resource Clerk for assistance in applying for any health care assistance programs for which you qualify.

All emergency room visits or emergency hospitalizations must be reported to the Business Office within seventy-two (72) hours. The patient is responsible for notification to the Health Department regarding all types of emergency care. IHS defines an emergency as urgent and emergent hospital care, care that must be provided within twenty-four (24) hours or less to preserve life, limb, or organ. Each patient is responsible for bringing claims and explanations of benefits from their insurance company or the medical provider for each medial visit. No payment will be issued until all forms are received and all alternate resources have paid.

Dental services include routine cleanings, x-rays and examinations, education, basic dental and extensive care and treatment, and limited referral services (cosmetic and optional treatments are not covered by referral).

Environmental Health Services assists in obtaining and maintaining a healthy and safe community. Services include, but are not limited to, water testing for fluoride and/or harmful agents, rabies clinics, food services safety inspections, and community safety and injury prevention.

The Community Health Nursing program assists individuals and families in obtaining and maintaining a maximum level of health and to encourage and assist patients toward self-sufficiency and personal empowerment in health maintenance. Medical and ambulatory nursing services available through the Health Department include, but are not limited to, services related to cancer, diabetes, family planning, hypertension, immunizations, laboratory services, limited maternity care, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculin skin testing, vision and hearing, and well child clinic. The Health Department also provides nutritional serves through the WIC program or through consultation with a Registered Dietician, Certified Diabetes Educator, and a Health Educator.

The Human Services Program provides confidential counseling and education for a variety of mental health and lifestyle questions/concerns. Depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and relationship issues are some of the area in which Human Services can offer assistance.

General clinic hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Diabetic Clinic is scheduled for every Tuesday morning. Walk-in appointments may be made by calling first thing in the morning on a first come first served basis. If you need to access the services offered by the Tribal Health Clinic, you should call (251) 368-9136 ext. 2300 or ext. 2306 or (251) 368-8630 to schedule your appointment.

In closing, Jaime McGhee, Clinic Director, would like for everyone to know that the Health Department is doing everything possible to accommodate the growth in the area of needed services, unfortunately, the current facilities and inadequate funding prevents expansion at this time. She would also like for all patients to know that they have recently updated the Patient Handbook which contains updated information on the Health Department staff and the services available through the clinic. If you have not received an updated copy it will be issued to you on your next visit to the clinic. The Health Administrator, Candace Fayard, welcomes your positive comments and constructive suggestions for ways to improve services of the Health Department for all Tribal Members.



*Dr. Estovold and Julie Gordon, NP*



*Business Office staff, l-r Linda Selzer, Teresa Smith, Jonathan Martin, and Suzanna Lambeth*



# **Hokkolen Opvnykv, Hokkolen Ekvny, Hvmken Feke Two Languages, Two Lands, One Heart The Poarch Creek Bilingual/Bicultural Program**

Hocciv (Author): Alex Alvarez

It has been said that the Muscogee language has been gone from the state of Alabama now for 5 generations. What happened? Why did our ancestors stop speaking in their God-given tongue? The answer to that is a very harsh truth. In order to survive, our ancestors had to not only stop speaking the Muscogee language, but also abandon traditions, stories, talents, and ultimately, a way of life. They had to do so because they chose to survive. Migrant farming and cutting timber were two of just a few jobs that were open to Creek Indians, and their employers wouldn't hire anyone who was proud of their heritage. So it remained stuffed down and was beat out of them because it was the sole reason why they couldn't go to school, why they couldn't get a high-paying job, and why many people took advantage of their land and resources. Did they make the right choice? Of course, or we wouldn't be here today.



But now, 5 generations later, we have a chance to bring back what was taken from us; not only our culture and language, but more importantly, our pride and self-identity. This school year, students of the Fred L. McGhee Learning Center were immersed in their own culture and language each week. These 20 children are the base of which fluency of the Creek language will be built on here at Poarch. They have learned not only colors, numbers, countless animals and objects, but also phrases, answers to questions, verbs, commands, and greetings which are all vital to bringing back our sacred tongue. Everyday these children talk to their peers and their teachers in the Creek language, then go home and speak to their parents and siblings. Like a wildfire, it is spreading throughout the community, and more and more are using the language in their daily lives. These children have also learned many dances and songs of our people including Creek and intertribal social dancing and songs, as well as Creek Hymns, which are songs of praise. Their newly learned knowledge has been showcased at two large events. The first one was the at the 2007 Poarch Creek Thanksgiving Powwow, and

the second was at the 6th Annual Native Youth Language Fair at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma. There, our very own Poarch Creek pre-K class was joined by thousands of other students as



Native culture and language was celebrated and encouraged. Though we didn't place in the competition, performing at the Language Fair brought national attention to the Poarch Creek Indians as professors, administrators, and council and community members from all across Indian Country saw our performances. There were many great things said about us and many didn't even know we existed until the Language Fair.

During the next few years, we plan to expand the cultural and youth programs here at Poarch. During the 2008-2009 school year, The Poarch Creek Cultural Program will continue instruction at the Fred L. McGhee Learning Center, as well as begin instruction at Huxford

Elementary, and begin a cultural outreach program for Escambia County Middle School, among many other events, classes and activities. Without language and traditions, Native Americans will cease to be a culture and simply turn into an ethnicity. These efforts are to ensure that never happens and to bring our proud culture back to its aboriginal homeland-right here in our Vlipvma, or Alabama, which means, THIS IS WHERE WE WILL STAY!

Students I am so proud of everything you have done so far! I can't wait to see you grow and flourish in the future. Mvto to Mary Boyte, Jennifer Lucas, Margaret Bagget, and all the parents who have supported the program this year!

## **Schedule of Events**

**Monday June 30, 2008**

Last day to place bids on used items  
with Property Control Coordinator

**Tuesday, July 1, 2008**

Deadline for Submission for August Newsletter  
Closing date of Board/Committee Vacancies  
Tribal Council Meeting @ 4:00 p.m.

**Friday, July 4, 2008**

Tribal Offices Closed  
Fourth of July Celebration  
8:00 pm @ Rodeo Arena

**Monday, July 6, 2008**

Last date to submit application for  
Housing Rehabilitation Work

**Wednesday, July 9, 2008**

Housing Authority Meeting @ 1:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, July 15, 2008**

Tribal Council Meeting @ 4:00 p.m.

**Friday, July 18, 2008**

Last date to submit scholarship application for  
Fred L. McGhee Memorial Scholarship &  
1st Generation Indian Descent Scholarship  
Applications available in Education Dept.  
and on-line at [www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov](http://www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov)

**Friday, July 18th & Saturday, July 19, 2008**

NAYO Baseball & Softball  
Hollywood, Florida

**Wednesday, July 23, 2008**

Housing Authority Meeting @ 1:00 p.m.

**Friday, July 25, 2008**

Last day to submit application for Pow Wow Club

**Saturday, August 2, 2008**

Annual Celebration  
Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve

# PERDIDO RIVER FARMS



*Perdido River Farms also hosts rodeos throughout the year. Anyone wishing to use the rodeo arena is to coordinate that use through Perdido River Farms and must come by the office and sign a waiver before using the arena.*



Perdido River Farms maintains management control of approximately 2,200 acres of tribal agricultural properties, which includes a 178 acre pecan orchard, a 13 acre catfish pond (open to Tribal members on Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon), and 750 acres of the row crop land that is leased to area farmers whose crops include wheat, corn, cotton, peanuts, and soybeans, the remaining acreage is timber and pasture for the farm's herd of 800 cattle, which includes 450 mama cows.

Perdido River Farms has an EQIP contract with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to install cross fencing with water troughs to better use the pastures; to construct shade for the cattle; to fence drainage ditches to improve water quality; to install wells for supply water to the cattle; and to plant long-leaf pine in critical areas where a stone quarry has been.

The bulk of the hay produced by Perdido River Farms is used to feed the cattle herd during the winter months, but there has always been enough that hay is available at a reasonable price for Tribal Members if needed.

John Flowers, Agricultural Manager, states that the responsibilities of the farm have increased over the years and he has recently had to hire three new employees, which brings the Perdido River Farm staff up to eleven, seven of which are Tribal Members.



Poarch Creek Indians  
5811 Jack Springs Road  
Atmore, AL 36502

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSRT STD  
US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 113  
Atmore, AL