

*Keeping the family and friends of Poarch informed*

# POARCH CREEK NEWS

Volume 26 \* Issue 5

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May 2009



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## **Tribal Elections**

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Seek Vice Chair  
Position***

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# Chairman's Corner

## May, 2009

Another month has flown by for all of us. I hope each of you had a Happy Easter. Once again this month has been very heavily dominated by day-to-day meetings and workshop which is a change from traveling constantly.

We are fastly approaching Memorial Day and I would remind each of you to remember those who served and are currently serving in our armed forces in order for us to enjoy our freedom. If you see a veteran shake his hand and thank him.

We are also quickly approaching the Tribal Council Elections which will be held Saturday, June 6, 2009. Please remember to cast your vote. As Tribal members, your vote is a great privilege and helps determine the leaders of our Tribe. As always, hot dogs and beverages will be provided for you. So again please vote. Come if you are able, and if not, you have the option of an absentee ballot.

Until next month I wish you good health and prosperity. MVTO.

As of April 7, 2009, there are 2,958 Tribal Members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

## TRIBAL COUNCIL ATTENDANCE REPORT 2008

(Tribal Council meetings, Special Called Tribal Council meetings)

\* Full Time Tribal Council members

♦Part- time Tribal Council member

•In Attendance #Absent

Tribal Council Member	June			July			August		September		October		November		December		
	3	12	24	1	15	24	5	19	16	19	7	21	4	18	2	16	30
* Buford L. Rolin	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
* Garvis Sells	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	#	#	•	•	•	•	•	•
* Keith Martin	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
* Stephanie Bryan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
* Helen Hallman	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	#	#	#	•	•	#	•	#	•
*David Gehman	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	#	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
♦Daniel McGhee	•	•	•	•	#	•	•	•	•	#	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
♦Arthur Mothershed	•	•	•	•	#	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
♦Robert R. McGhee	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	#	•	#	•	•	•

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## PUBLICATION/PRINTING SERVICES

**The Poarch Creek News** is printed and published by Huskey Printing, a Tribal Member owned business. Huskey Printing is owned by Christy O'Barr Huskey.

Poarch Creek Indians  
5811 Jack Springs Road  
Atmore, AL 36502  
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## Poarch Creek News

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

**Deadline for submission**

**The first working day of each month**

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### **Homes For Sale Through Housing Authority**

The Poarch Creek Housing Authority has the following homes for sale:

	Location With Minimum Purchasing Price	
1.	2434 Ross Road, Atmore, AL	\$54,000
2.	1208 Salter Lane, Monroeville, AL	\$45,000
3.	50 North Broad Street, Atmore, AL	\$51,000

The above price does not include closing cost. The buyer will be responsible for all closing cost. The homes are available for sale **AS IS, WITH NO WARRANTY.**

The homes will be for sale until close of business Monday, June 1, 2009. If you are interested in one of these homes, please contact:

Poarch Creek Indians Housing Authority:  
5811 Jack Springs Road  
Atmore, AL 36502  
(251) 368-9136

## ***Public Notice From Family Services Department***

This article provides public notice to all Tribal Members that the following grants will be available for review and discussion during office hours at the Family Services Department, Building 500, during the week of May 23-27, 2009.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for June 6, 2009 on Tribal Election Day. Please drop by the Family Services Department's booth, which will be located in the Poarch Creek Indians Gymnasium. Staff will be available to record your comments in response to the grant applications and proposes services.

**Low Income Home Energy Assistance Grant (LIHEAP)  
Community Services Block Grant  
Child Care Development Block Grant**

Carolyn M. White, LCSW  
Family Services Executive Director

## ***Community Cultural Education Center***

*Submitted by Anna Wilson, Planning Department*

The Community Cultural Education Center will allow the Tribe to provide adequate space for our Tribal community members and visitors to experience our Creek culture and traditions through educational activities, such as, traditional cooking, native language, identification of medicine and herbs, agriculture methods, traditional storytelling, pottery, basket weaving, beadwork, quilting and dance classes. Many of our traditions have been lost due to our Tribal ancestor's fear of removal, isolation and discrimination. The center will have an exhibit hall to display artifacts, historic documents and pictures, and provide other historical information. The exhibits and cultural activities will tell the Poarch Creek story; identify where our Tribe came from, what previous generations achieved, what they believed, and what they hoped to be. With this facility providing a place to store and protect our tribal archives and by protecting our history, it will help us remember how we came to be where we are and what we ought to do now. It will give future generations the same opportunities to enjoy the beautiful culture and heritage that is unique to our Tribal community.

The new Community Cultural Education Center will be located on the east side of Jack Springs Road. This location was chosen due to its central location in relation to other Tribal services facilities and will also serve as the centralized Welcome and Information Center of the Tribe.



*Martin Construction beings work on the new Community Cultural Education Center*

## ***Homemaker Aide Services Provided***

*Submitted by Wanda Fowler, Adult Services Coordinator*

In keeping with the celebration and honoring of our elder tribal members, the Adult Services Program within the Family Services Department would like to acquaint you with one of its services. This is our Homemaker Aide Service. We provide homemaker aide services upon referral or application request from tribal members who are age 19 and older, who are disabled or elderly, and have a need for basic non-medical in-home services to recuperate from surgery or any depilating illnesses; or in response to life long health challenges.

The Homemaker Aide Services has been in existence since 2004. The first Homemaker Aide was Stella Rutherford. She provided services for a case load of about 15 tribal members until the services were expanded to allow services for more clients. The management and supervision of the homemaker aide services falls under the Adult Services Program, which was developed in 2006. Wanda Fowler is the Adult Services Coordinator. Juanita Slate and Deanna Harris are the Homemaker Aides.



Homemaker Aide Services assist tribal members with basic homemaker services, which enable the tribal member to remain safe and secure in their own home. All services are assigned and authorized through an Adult Service Case Plan which is developed with the client, their family, and the Family Service Department to meet the needs of the tribal member and family unit. Any referrals or request for services can be made through the Family Services Department, Adult Services Program, 5811 Jack Springs Rd, Atmore, AL 36502 by calling Wanda Fowler at (251) 368-9136 Ext 2373.

# LEGAL UPDATE

*Submitted by Lori Stinson, Staff Attorney*

The following are some of the recent cases involving the Tribe:

A. Freemanville Water System, Inc. v. Poarch Band of Creek Indians, et al.

On September 28, 2007, Freemanville Water System, Inc. filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama. Freemanville alleged that the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, PCI Gaming, and Creek Indian Enterprises were barred from constructing any water facility or system on or between tribal lands and that the Tribe's planned service in Freemanville's service area violates federal law. Freemanville sought a declaratory judgment and a preliminary and permanent injunction. The Tribe and its entities filed a motion to dismiss on several grounds, including sovereign immunity. The District Court granted the Tribe's motion to dismiss on January 7, 2008. Freemanville appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit on February 1, 2008. On March 30, 2009, the Eleventh Circuit affirmed the District Court's dismissal of the case.

B. State of Alabama v. United States of America, et al.

On April 7, 2008, the State of Alabama filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama against the United States of America, the Department of Interior, and Dirk Kempthorne, in his capacity as Secretary of the Interior. The State challenged the Department of Interior and the Secretary's ability to issue procedures for Class III gaming to the Tribe and sought a declaratory judgment and a preliminary and permanent injunction. Because the Tribe had a direct interest in the outcome of this litigation, the Tribe intervened in the action and filed a motion to dismiss on several grounds, including the ground that the case was not ripe for judicial review. The District Court agreed that the case was premature and granted the Tribe's motion to dismiss on November 24, 2008.

C. United States v. Kala Dennis

As previously reported in the January 2008 newsletter, Kala Dennis was convicted by a federal jury on charges of conspiracy and embezzlement of funds from Tallapoosa Entertainment Center. On January 16, 2009, Dennis was sentenced by United States District Judge L. Scott Coogler to 46 months imprisonment based on her conviction. Dennis has appealed her conviction to United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

D. Community Recovery Services, Inc. v. PCI Gaming v. Eddie L. Tullis

On March 14, 2006, Community Recovery Services, Inc. ("CRS") filed a complaint against PCI Gaming in Poarch Band of Creek Indians Tribal Court. CRS asserts, among other things, that PCI Gaming breached its contract with CRS with respect to improvements at Riverside Entertainment Center by refusing to pay in full or at all certain invoices and demands over \$2.1 million in damages. A preliminary audit initiated by PCI Gaming showed lack of basis for CRS' claim. PCI Gaming answered the complaint, denying CRS' claim and asserted counterclaims against CRS for the overcharges of CRS for the excessive payments made by PCI Gaming to CRS. On May 11, 2006, PCI Gaming filed a third party complaint against Eddie L. Tullis for approving and directing excessive and unreasonable payments to CRS.

The trial is scheduled to begin in this case on June 22, 2009.

# A Sisters Cruise

*Submitted by Deloris Kelley*

The McGhee sisters spent a relaxing, enjoyable weekend (March 19-23, 2009) cruising from Mobile, AL to Cozumel, Mexico. Would we do it again? Oh, Yeah!!

We have been having our "sister" weekends for a long time. Some of our weekends up to this point have included going out to eat, having sleep overs, going shopping, and making memorable keepsake items to go along with the fond memories.

These precious time spent together were actually started by our baby sister, Donna White. She enjoyed getting together and being with the family, and always had fun and creative ways of managing to bring a party together. Donna passed away October 7, 2005 after a long fight with cancer. We miss her so much. Our brother Fred McGhee, was with us during some of these events, but he would never stay the weekend! When he was present, he was the life of the party. He always knew how to make us laugh. We miss you Fred.

As time marches on, it seems even more special and important that we continue the tradition that Donna started. We'll continue our "sister" gatherings as long as possible!



*Pictured L-R around the table are Judy McGhee, Martha Wilson, Helen Hallman, Myrtis Kinman, Velma Crocker, Deloris Kelley, Eldnar McGhee, and Eva Nell Burkett.*

## Notice To Bidders

Sealed bids will be taken on several used items. Bids will be taken beginning at 8:00 a.m. on May 1, 2009 and ending at 5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2009. Bids will be opened by the CFO.

For general information, contact Betty Caraway, Property Control Coordinator at (251) 368-9136 x 2654.

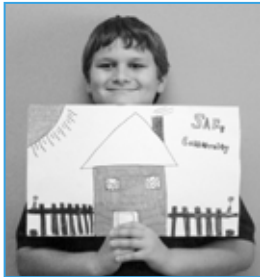
***\*This Notice to Bidders is not associated with the Gaming Commission Auction on page 15\****

## Be Ready Camp Poster Contest Winners

*Submitted by Christyn Sells, Children's Coordinator*

This year the Tribe selected four students to attend "Be Ready Camp" after they submitted posters detailing: "What does being part of a safe community mean to me?" March 23 marked the deadline for the contest.

Pictured below are the four students selected to go to "Be Ready Camp", which will be held at the Huntsville Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL in September 2009. They are: Troy Ross (top left), Breanna Hall (top right), Tyler Sells (bottom left) and Reece McNairn (bottom right).



## 4-H Kid's Community Garden

*Submitted by Christyn Sells, Children's Coordinator*



Pictured above are members of the Poarch Creek 4-H Club! They are Justin Hiebert, Cameron Murphy, Cheyenne McGhee, Ashton Thomas, Halle Ra Peebles and Shawnee McGhee. On Friday, March 13, 2009, the first ever Kids Community Garden was started! These kids along with Education Department staff planted green onions, cabbage, and Silver Queen Corn. The garden is located directly behind the Administrative building. Come join us as plans are being made to plant again after Good Friday!

For more information about "The Kids' Community Garden" and how your child can participate, please contact Christyn Sells, Children's Services Coordinator @ (251)368-9136 ext. 2244

## Thanks

I graduated nursing school and passed my National Boards. I'm now a Registered Nurse and I'd like to thank the Poarch Creek Indians for contributing to my education. The tuition assistance program has helped me fulfill my dream of becoming a nurse.



Thanks Again

Shelly Martin Sturgill, RN

## Congratulations

*Submitted by Shirlene Mauldin*

Larry and Shirlene (Presley) Mauldin of Seminole, AL would like to acknowledge and congratulate all of their grandchildren for all their hard work in school. They are especially proud of their 12 year old granddaughter Sayra Mauldin for receiving and maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

Sayra is the daughter of Matthew and Shannon (Mauldin) Skaggs of Cantonment, FL. Sayra is a 6th grade student at the Beulah Academy of Science School.

## Five Generations of Buster McGhee Family

*Submitted by Robin Johnson*

Robin Johnson's son Rodger Howard, Jr. recently visited with his infant son Tyler. This was his first trip home since Tyler's birth in August of 2008. While Rodger and Tyler were here, they gathered for a five generation photo with his mother, Robin Johnson, grandfather, Robert McGhee, and great grandfather Carl "Buster" McGhee. Rodger's brother Robbie Howard was also present and had his own five generation photo made with his two year old son Micah.



Carl "Buster" McGhee, Robert McGhee, Robin Johnson, Tyler Howard, and Rodger Howard, Jr.



Carl "Buster" McGhee, Robert McGhee, Robin Johnson, Robbie Howard with son Micah Howard.

## **Native American Youth Organization(NAYO)**

*The NAYO Tournament will be held at the Seneca Reservation in New York July 17-18, 2009. Due to the distance and expense of this trip, the Wellness and Activities Authority has agreed that we will take only **one** team per gender/per age group to the tournament. The application on the reverse side of the page is for NAYO try outs for the following age groups: 9-12, 13-15, and 16-18 year olds. There is also a manager/coaches application included. All participants must be tribal members or 1<sup>st</sup> generation Indian descendant and be at least 9 years old by July 17<sup>th</sup> and could not have turned 18 years old prior to January 1, 2009. In an effort to be fair to all applicants, try-outs will take place for all teams. You must participate in try-outs to be considered for participation in the tournament. ALL try-outs will take place on Saturday, June 6, 2009. You will be contacted for the time of try-outs for your age group.*

**An application must be completed and sent to the Wellness & Activities Center (Gym) to the attention of Eddie Jackson between Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> (5pm) to try-out for NAYO softball or baseball. The application may also be faxed to 251-368-6658.**

### **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**For your convenience, an application has been provided on the next page. You may make copies as needed or download additional applications from the Tribe's website [www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov](http://www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov)**

# Application to Try Out for NAYO Participation

*(Application must be completely filled out)*

Child's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: ( ) Male ( ) Female

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Child lives with: \_\_\_\_\_ Both parents \_\_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Child: \_\_\_\_\_

If tribal member Roll # \_\_\_\_\_, if 1<sup>st</sup> generation descent TM Parent's Roll # \_\_\_\_\_

## Application for Manager or Coach for NAYO

*(Application must be completely filled out)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

What position are you applying for? Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Coach \_\_\_\_\_ Either \_\_\_\_\_

What age group do you wish to manage or coach? 9-12 \_\_\_\_\_ 13-15 \_\_\_\_\_ 16-18 \_\_\_\_\_

Which sport do you wish to manage or coach? Baseball \_\_\_\_\_ Softball \_\_\_\_\_

## May is National Drug Court Month

*Submitted by Keesha O'Barr, Tribal Court Administrator*

How much is a human life worth? What if it's the life of your mother, your brother, or one of your own children? Most of us would agree that there is no price too high to save the lives of those we love. Money invested in the Drug Court program by this Tribe has already saved many lives. Take a look at some of the comments of past Drug Court graduates:

"Drug Court has made me realize that there is a better life out there and that I can be a better person. It has brought me sobriety and a peace of mind. It has saved my life and has made me realize my family is the most important thing. It has brought me hope and understanding. I thank God for putting me in Drug Court and standing beside me with this battle."

"I really learned to appreciate the program and the people trying to help me get my life back. I thank God for putting me in this program; it was his way of saving my life. I hope all of you keep up the good work of helping people like myself deal with addiction."

"This program has given me a new life and a fresh start. If you want to live clean and sober you can, this is your chance. Everyone doesn't get an opportunity to go thru a program such as this, but I thank God that I did. Within the past year, my life has been filled with trials and tribulations. It has had its ups and downs, but it has all been worth it. I can stand and say it has saved my life and has showed me a new way to live."

"Drug Court was a struggle and there was nothing easy about it. Thanks to all the hard work I have a new beginning. I was slowly killing myself and everyone involved with me, especially my family and my children. For the first time in 12 years, I can say I have been clean and sober. And to me that is the greatest accomplishment that I have."

"Before Drug Court I was going downhill fast. I had no money and I was always missing work. I was about to lose everything I had. Then I got busted and went to jail but it took me 2 years before I got on Drug Court. It helped me get my life straight and I'm glad of it."

As one of the graduates stated, there is nothing easy about Drug Court. It's hard on the participants as well demanding on the team members who work with them. But in the end, all the hard work is worth it for both parties. Lives truly are changed for the better.

Everyone is invited to join the PCI Drug Court Team on May 7th from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Tribal Court offices. We will be having presentations by our Public Safety Department and by Wes Hayles, Certified Drug and Alcohol Addictions Counselor. Refreshments will be served and door prizes will be available. Come and celebrate the lives that have been saved through the intervention of the Drug Court program, and help encourage our team and our participants to keep up the good work!



*PCI Drug Court Team L-R Chuck Johns, Debra Coon, Keesha O'Barr, Sandra Hiebert, and Wes Hayles. Not shown are Kim K. Snow, Larry Hammonds, Paul Thomas, and Drug Court Judge Ben Brown*

## TERO UPDATE

Per the April Newsletter, the new Tero Ordinance was presented and approved at the March 17, 2009 Tribal Council meeting. We would like to advise all Tribal Member Owned Business Owners to contact the TERO Commission Office regarding certification for your business to receive Indian Preference in contractual services.

Also, the Indian Preference policy for potential employees of all Tribal Entities for HIRING has been revised to include (1) Tribal Members, (2) First Generation Descendent of Tribal Member, (3) Indian, (4) Spouse of Tribal Member, and (5) Non-Indian for positions funded by Tribal Revenues. For federally funded positions, the Indian Preference is (1) Indian, (2) Non-Indian. After hire, promotions, transfers, etc. may be based on performance and the above preference will be followed when two or more employees are equally qualified for or deserving of the employment action based on performance. To qualify for this preference, the applicant must attach the following with their completed application:

- Tribal Member: List tribe and roll number on application.
- First Generation Descendent of Tribal Member: Attach letter from Tribal Enrollment Office
- Spouse of Tribal Member: Attach completed affidavit provided by the TERO Commission Office, copy of marriage certificate, and copy of spouse's Tribal ID card.

To apply for certification of your business, obtain an affidavit, or more information, contact the TERO Commission Office at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2268.

# Dragon Slayer

## Poarch Creek Indians Conduct First-Ever Terrorism Exercise on Reservation

*Submitted by Sharon Delmar, Public Relations Tribal Liaison*

*Photos by Jeffrey Weaver & Roxanne Murphy*

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians, in conjunction with the Alabama National Guard and Alabama Department of Homeland Security, led a homeland security exercise on the Poarch Creek Reservation, Thursday, March 26. The exercise, known as "Dragon Slayer," was a disaster response exercise meant to evaluate first responder efforts.

This simulated exercise was the first ever conducted on a federally recognized American Indian Reservation. No other tribe has tested their disaster efforts with this type scenario. Exercise officials will use this event as a model for other reservations in the nation.

The scenario centered on the annual Poarch Creek Indian Thanksgiving Pow Wow which includes approximately 20,000 people. The situation that will play out will be considered a deliberate act of terror on the reservation.

The Poarch Creek Fire and Police Departments, Health Department, local hospitals and ambulance services joined with the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Indian Health Service, Alabama Department of Public Health, Alabama Emergency Management Agency and other state agencies to determine what response is needed.



## NRCS Recognizes Conservation Partnership with Poarch Band of Creek Indians

*Submitted by David Elliott, NRCS Tribal Liaison*

Members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians recently met with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff in Auburn, Alabama for an informational meeting about NRCS programs.

NRCS State Conservationist (STC) Gary Kobylski presented Chairman Buford Rolin an oil painting of Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve in recognition of the Poarch Creek Indians' commitment and dedication to conserving natural resources in partnership with Alabama NRCS.

The portrait was painted by Tribal member Lori Sawyer and depicts Magnolia Branch and life on the reservation near Atmore, Alabama. Sawyer's painting won national recognition and was used for the National NRCS 2006 American Indian Heritage Month Poster. Copies of the poster are available by contacting David Elliott, NRCS Tribal Liaison at 251-368-0826.



*NRCS STC Gary Kobylski presents Chairman Buford Rolin an original oil painting used on the NRCS 2006 American Indian Heritage Month Poster.*

*David has also forwarded press releases relating to the Alabama Forestry Commission, the Alabama Association of Conservation Districts, the Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will provide more coordinated services to the state's forest landowners and Agriculture Secretary Vilsack selecting Dave White as NRCS Chief. This information is of importance to the Tribe and Indian County, however, space limits publication in the Tribal newsletter. You can find this information posted on the Tribe's web site at [www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov](http://www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov).*

## ***“Lucky” find on the Powwow Grounds***

*Hocciv: Alex Alvarez, Cultural Educator*

St. Patrick's Day has come and gone. However, on the Poarch Creek powwow grounds, one lucky young lady strikes gold, well actually green. On March 30, 2009, 9 year-old tribal member Gracie Coon was taking a hard-earned break from weaving baskets when she stumbled on a clover patch near the cultural center. As any artist may, yearning for inspiration, Gracie began to play with the clovers and neighboring plants. And that's when it happened. Yep, you guessed it. She found the real-mccoy- an authentic four-leaf clover! For many, including myself, an entire childhood can pass without finding the coveted environmental treasure. Congratulations Gracie!



Gracie Coon is the daughter of Clayton and Debra Coon. She is a 4th grade honor roll student at Huxford Elementary.

## ***Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council member takes on Alabama Government***

*Hocciv: Alex Alvarez, Cultural Educator*

For many of us, career paths were the least of our concerns as juniors in High School. This isn't the case for 16-year-old Justin Stabler, a member of the Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council. For quite some time, Justin has chosen politics as his primary career path. Recently, Justin was selected by Local State Representative, Alan Baker, to serve as a page for the House of Representatives. Justin spent February 24th, 25th, and 26th meeting key Alabama law makers, representatives, senators, and lobbyists. Justin also ran messages to and from for representatives while they were in session, and participated in the Alabama Public Safety committee hearings.

Justin would like to one day serve his people as a Tribal Council member. When asked what he would focus on as a tribal council member, Justin mentioned 3 issues: 1. Continuing the efforts of teaching culture to ensure that our tribe possesses a strong self-identity, 2. Environmental issues so that our reservation's resources last for generations to come, and 3. Taking care of the younger generation, because they are our future. Justin also said that he would love to get involved in local, state, and maybe National government one day.



*Honorable Seth Hammett, Speaker of the House, Justin Stabler, female Page, name unknown, and State Representative Alan Baker*

Justin would like to thank The Poarch Creek Indians, Mr. Eddie Tullis, and the Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council for making this trip possible. Way to go Justin! We are so proud of you! You are a role model to many and I cannot wait to see what great things you accomplish in the very near future. MVTO!

*Justin's mother and stepfather, Velma and Robert Hollingsworth, would like for Justin to know that they are proud of him and his many accomplishments. They support him in his educational and political pursuits and want him to know that they are there for him at all times. They also want to thank Mr. Tullis for his assistance.*

## ***Friday Night Stomp Dances***

*Hosted by Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council*



*Starting on May 22, 2009 @8:00p.m.  
Contact Calvin McGhee Cultural Authority  
(251)368-9136 ext.2648*

## ***3rd Annual Poarch Creek Youth Fishing Rodeo***

***Saturday, May 9, 2009***

***6:00 am - 2:00 p.m.***

***Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve***

***Bait, tackle & meals provided***

***Tribal Members &***

***1st Generation Indian Descent***

***Age Categories 0-6 7-12 13-17***

***Join us on Friday night***

***For Family Camp out Night***

***Fun, games, food, and entertainment  
for everyone!!***

***Call now to sign-up***

***For more information,***

***Call Alex Alvarez at (251) 253-5904***

# Poarch Creek Indians

## Tribal Princess Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Tribal Roll #: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/ Guardians: \_\_\_\_\_

School Attending/Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Achievements: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies/Activities: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Division: (You must be the appropriate age for your division by November 26, 2009)

☐ Elementary (Ages 8-11)      ☐ Junior (Ages 12-16)      ☐ Senior (Ages 17-22)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

**Orientation Session: Friday, May 22, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. @ the Pow Wow Grounds**

You may bring your completed application to the orientation session, drop it off at the Cultural Center or mail it to:

Poarch Creek Indians, ATTN: Amber Lisenby  
5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502

Tribal Roll Numbers can be obtained by calling Anita Glass at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2282.

Additional applications will be available at the front desk of the Tribal Complex, the Cultural Center, and the tribe's website at [www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov](http://www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov).

Please call Amber Lisenby or Margaret Baggett at (251) 368-9136, ext. 2656 for more information.

## Birthday Wishes

### Frankie "Boochie" Jones

Frankie "Boochie" Jones celebrated his birthday on April 18, 2009. Frankie is the son of Clara and Kenneth Jones. His daughter, Bailey, wishes her daddy a Happy Birthday!

### Carolyn & Larry Gibson

Marlie Jayden McGhee would like to wish her grandparents, Carolyn and Larry Gibson a happy birthday; both will be celebrating their birthday this month.



Happy Birthday! Love, Marlie

### Jack McGhee

Jack McGhee will celebrate his birthday on May 4, 2009. Happy Birthday Daddy, I love you.

Love, Deborah



### Fran Arp

Fran Arp will celebrate her 59th birthday on May 12, 2009. Fran is the daughter of Mary Anna McGhee Covington and D.J. Covington Sr. She is the granddaughter of the late Matilda McGhee and great granddaughter of the late Roushi McGhee. Happy Birthday



Love Moma and Marylan (Meddie)

### Carson David Wilson

Carson David Wilson will celebrate his 3rd Birthday on May 12, 2009. Carson is the son of Brad and Anna Coon Wilson. The grandson of Frankie and Tera Coon and Norman and Francine Wilson. The great grandson of Lucille Sells and the late Milton "Half" Sells.



### Cecelia Nobles

Hunter and Daya Nobles wish their mother, Cecelia Nobles, a happy 40th birthday on May 19, 2009. Happy Birthday Mom, we love you!!

### Bailey Jones

Bailey Jones, daughter of Frankie Jones, will celebrate her 6th birthday on May 24, 2009. Bailey is the granddaughter of Clara and Kenneth Jones. Happy Birthday Bailey!



## Birth Announcements

### Anna Grace Hollinger



Darrell and Sandy (Fretwell) Hollinger are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Anna Grace. She was born February 12, 2009 at Springhill Hospital in Mobile, AL. At birth Anna Grace weighed 6 lbs. 7 ozs. And was 19 3/4 inches long. She is the granddaughter of Jerry and Ruth Bailey of Poarch and the late William Fretwell; and Alex (Buster) and Yvonne Hollinger of Uriah, and the late Patricia Ann Hollinger. Anna

Grace is welcomed home by her big brothers Austin and Denver Shuttlesworth.

### Aya Elizabeth Prince



Venus and Jim Prince proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Aya Elizabeth Prince, on March 9, 2009. ("Ayv" means "traveler" in the Muscogee language.) Aya weighed 9 pounds, 4.3 ounces, and was 21 inches long. She is the granddaughter of Jack Allen and Charlotte McGhee and Robert and the late Suzanne K. Prince. She is the great granddaughter of the late Jack McGhee, D.C. and Ernestine Daughtry, Dorothy and the late James Stoltenberg, and the late Edward and Molly Prince.

## Drinking Water Contest

*Submitted by Josh Thomas, Utilities Executive Director*

The Poarch Creek Indians Utilities Authority placed third in the Alabama Rural Water Association's annual drinking water taste contest in Montgomery, AL on March 17, 2009. Approximately 72 water systems participated in this year's contest. Water is judged for taste, clarity, and odor.

The Utilities Authority board members and staff are applauded for their efforts in bringing the Tribe and Poarch Community the best water possible. This is a great achievement, especially considering that the Tribe began operating it's very first water treatment plant and well less than nine months ago.

Congratulations to the Poarch Creek Indians Utilities Authority and staff.



## *An Introduction to Senior Services*

The Tribe's Senior Services Program is all about keeping our Tribal Elders involved in activities that keep their minds and bodies active as well as providing necessary transportation for Elders to doctors appointments and other health and/or family services needs.

Carolyn Dortch is the Senior Services Director and is responsible for managing the SAIL Center and Senior Services activities including daily activities, meals, and the transportation service program while providing support, counseling, and outreach activities for community participants. The Senior Services staff also includes Eldnar McGhee, Senior Services Clerk, Cyndi Wright, Transportation Services Coordinator, and Vicky Burns, Transportation Provider. The Center also have volunteers that help on a daily basis; Carolyn says that there are times when these volunteers are irreplaceable.

No holiday passes without being celebrated by the Seniors at the SAIL Center. Each year they have a contest for Valentine King and Queen, with the winners being determined by the money raised by each candidate. We congratulate the 2009 Valentine King and Queen Mr. Edward Rolin and Ms. Willie Faye Thomas. There is always some sort of party or event going on, from a St. Patrick's Day Party to a "Crazy Hat" party.



You can find the Seniors sitting around the quilting frame every day. They have made quilts for special occasions and will take orders for quilts if you would like one. They can also be found in the blueberry patch around the first of June. The SAIL Center also serves as a distribution site for surplus produce through The Society of St. Andrews; last year there were onions and cabbages that were distributed to the community from the SAIL Center.

Each year Carolyn and her staff plan a trip for the Elders. Over the years they have been to New Mexico, Washington D.C, New York City, and Branson, Missouri. This year they are planning a trip to Iowa City, Iowa and plan to visit the Amish Community. The trips always include stops at points of interest along the route and they always stop at Walmart! The Elder's annual fishing trip to Eufaula is coming up in May and they are all

excited and ready to go!

Carolyn says that she is very excited about the future plans for her department. "Robert Selzer, the new Art Instructor with the Education Department, comes down and works with our Elders with various arts and crafts. Right now he is teaching us how to create a dream catcher. His future plans include working with gourds and making chinaberry necklaces. We are really excited about working with him and can't wait to see what else he has planned for us."

Carolyn also revealed that the Senior Services Department will soon be preparing their meals on site instead of bringing them in from an outside vendor. "We will be remodeling our kitchen and prepare all meals on site. We are very excited about this and can't wait to get started." The Seniors will also use this new kitchen when they cater various Tribal events such as Community meetings.

Our Tribal Elders are also Senior Olympic Champions and are currently in training for the 2009 Senior Olympics. They will host this year's Dominos & Checkers competitions in May. Carolyn stated that they are very proud of Ms. Savannah Daughtry who received the All Star Award at the last Senior Olympics for her determination and participation in the games despite being in a wheelchair. "She never lets anything get her down!"



In closing, Carolyn would like to invite any Tribal Member or Community Member age 55 and over to join them at the SAIL Center. "We always have room for one more!"

# ***ETHICS CORNER***

*By: Carrie Martin, Ethics Chair*

Robert Longfellow is President of Black Warrior Industries, Inc. which produces Native American items for ceremonial dances. Robert's brother, Charles, had lost his job at the local factory where he was a material handler. Robert hired Charles as a security officer at Black Warrior. During Charles 90 day review Robert was present and even made the statement that Charles had great potential for promotion within the organization. Two months later Charles was promoted to Security Manager with Robert being his supervisor. The Board of Directors of Black Warrior appointed Charles to Vice President of Operations one year later. Robert was present for the discussion and voting.



## **STANDARD OF CONDUCT:**

Nepotism: No Tribal Official or Key Employee shall supervise, hire, promote, appoint or participate in (including being present for the discussion of or voting on) the supervision, hiring, promotion or appointment of any immediate family member.

Immediate family members are defined as: spouse (including common law relationships) parents, children, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandchildren. These relationships are determined by blood relations, marriage, adoption, foster care, or legal guardianship.

In the above scenario, you may be thinking "Sure wish I had a brother like Robert." But, the truth is that Robert was out of line in regards to his brother Charles. Nepotism definitely played a role in Charles' success at Black Warrior. Robert hired Charles, was present for his 90 day review, promoted Charles and then became his supervisor, as well as participated in the discussion and voting of Charles for VP Operations. Robert violated 5 different areas in the standard of conduct nepotism.

Robert's intentions may have been driven by his desire for his brother to succeed in business and excel at Black Warrior. However, it does not excuse Robert for his behavior. Nepotism is one of the standards of conduct which ensures that all employees are treated with fairness when it comes to hiring and promotions within an organization, as well as preventing one family from having total control within the organization.

You may obtain copies of the Ethic Code as well as forms for advisory opinions and complaints from the Legal Department, Tribal Court and the Chairman's Office. Until next month I hope you enjoy the month of May with all the beautiful flowers, graduations, reunions, vacations, etc. that are looked forward to this time each year.

## ***Gaming Commission Auction***

*Submitted by Doug Murphy*

POARCH CREEK INDIAN GAMING COMMISSION will sell to the highest bidder the following:

2001 Dodge Stratus VIN# 1B3EJ46X61N650228

One (1) Hewlett-Packard laptop computer Serial #2ce81034SL

One (1) Cannon All-In –One Photo Pixma MP210 printer, Serial #JJTD3252

The vehicle, computer and printer may be viewed at the Poarch Creek Indian Gaming Commission Offices located at 102 Brookwood Road, Atmore, AL 36502 during the hours of 1 PM to 4PM Monday through Friday. Address questions to Doug Murphy at (251) 368-4512.

All bids must be in writing and sealed, and must be delivered to Doug Murphy at the Tribal Gaming Commission Offices, 102 Brookwood Road, Atmore no later than 5:00 p.m. May 15, 2009. All bids will be opened at this address and awarded to the highest bidder at 10:00 a.m. Central Time on May 18, 2009. Persons submitting bids are welcome to attend the opening of the bids. The winning bidder must pay in cash, by cashier's check, or money order immediately following notification of the successful bid. Upon payment of the entire cash balance, title and possession will be delivered to the buyer. There will be no warranties, express or implied and each item will be sold "AS IS WHERE IS." Seller reserves the right to reject all bids. Seller may submit bids on the same terms as the foregoing.

# 2009 Official Ballot To Reflect Eighteen Candidates And One Proposed Constitutional Amendment

A total of eighteen candidates have submitted their Letter of Candidacy and their names will appear on the official ballot on Election Day, Saturday, June 6, 2009. Tribal Members interested in being a candidate for this year's election still have until Thursday, May 7, 2009 to submit their Letter of Candidacy and be a write-in candidate on the ballot. The eighteen candidates include two for the position of Vice Chairman and sixteen for the two at-large seats that are available. There is one proposed Constitutional Amendment that will also appear on the official ballot that addresses run-off elections for Tribal Council Officer positions. The candidates are listed below and their pictures and bios as well as the proposed Constitution Amendment have been included in this issue for your review and consideration. A copy of the 2009 Election Notice, Tribal Election Calendar, and Absentee Ballot Request have also been included for your convenience.

## 2009 Tribal Council Candidates

### ***Vice Chair***

Stephanie Bryan  
Eddie L. Tullis

### ***Member At Large***

David Adams  
Amy Michelle Bryan  
Polly Ann Walker Carter  
Peggy Rolin Couch  
Rodney Exum  
Douglas "Poncho" Kelley  
Desi "Dusty" Martin  
Keith Martin  
Daniel Keith McGhee  
Kelli Ramer

Berry Ross  
Raymond "Bucky" Rolin  
William T. Rolin  
Danny Smillie  
Paula H. Smith  
Carolyn M. White

## Proposed Constitutional Amendment

On February 3, 2009, the Tribal Council voted to include the following Constitutional amendment on this year's ballot. If this Constitutional Amendment is approved by the General Council in June, then a candidate for Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, or Treasurer must receive a majority of the votes cast in order to be declared the winner at the annual election. If no candidate received a majority, then a run off election would be held between the two candidates receiving the most votes, or three candidates in the event there is a tie for the second candidate.

DO YOU APPROVE THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VII, SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION? If a Tribal Council Officer does not receive a majority of the votes cast, a run off election will be held.

### Section 3. Tribal Council Officer and At Large Member Election

A. Candidates for Tribal Council or Tribal Council Officers must be members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians who will be at least twenty one (21) years of age on the date of the election, who have never been expelled in accordance with Article VIII, Section 3, and who have never been convicted of a felony.

B. The election of Tribal Council Officers and at large members of the Tribal Council shall be staggered as follows:  
The Chairman and two (2) at large Tribal Council members will be elected once every three years;  
The Vice Chairman and two (2) at large Tribal Council members will be elected once every three years;  
The Secretary and Treasurer and one (1) at large Tribal Council member will be elected once every three years.  
Once elected, the Tribal Officers and at large members of the Tribal Council shall serve a term of three (3) years.

C. In any election of the Tribal Council Officers, each voter shall be allowed to cast one vote for each officer vacancy. The winner of each Tribal Council Office shall be chosen by majority of the votes cast. In the event that a candidate does not receive a majority of the votes cast, a run off election between the two candidates receiving the most votes, or three candidates in the event there is a tie for the second candidate receiving the most votes, shall be held and shall be conducted in the same manner as observed in the annual election.

D. In any election of the at large members of the Tribal Council, each voter shall be allowed to cast one vote for each at-large vacancy. No more than one vote per candidate shall be cast. The winners shall be chosen by plurality according to the rank order of votes received. In the event of a tie for the last remaining vacancy, a run off election between those candidates tied for the last remaining vacancy shall be held and shall be conducted in the same manner as observed in the annual election.

E. Until the Tribal Council Officers are elected by the General Council in the manner as set forth in the election ordinance, any vacancy in a Tribal Council Officer position shall be filled by the Tribal Council from the membership of the Tribal Council. Any Tribal Council Officer elected by the Tribal Council shall serve until the end of his or her term as a Tribal Council member or until installation of the Tribal Council Officer elected by the General Council in accordance with this Section, whichever shall come first.

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

# ***2009 Tribal Council Election Notice***

Pursuant to Section 22-1-10 of the Tribal Election Code, notice is hereby given that the 2009 Poarch Band of Creek Indians Tribal Council Election shall be held on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at the Community Services Building (SAIL Center). Voting will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Election results will be posted at the Tribal Center, on the Community Bulletin Board, and published in the July 2009 Tribal Newsletter. In the 2009 election, the General Council will directly elect the Vice-Chair and two at-large Tribal Council Members. Anyone wishing to be a candidate for this year's election must submit a written statement of candidacy with the Election Board no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, May 7, 2009. Walk-in voting will be held Thursday, May 7, 2009 through Tuesday, June 2, 2009 in the Tribal Auditorium of Building 200 of the Tribal Complex. Tribal Members may vote by absentee ballot if

1. The Tribal Member lives outside the five county service area (Mobile, Baldwin, Monroe, and Escambia Counties in Alabama, and Escambia County, Florida); or
2. The Tribal Member has any physical illness or infirmity which prevents him or her from voting in person on Election Day or participating in walk-in voting; or
3. The Tribal Member works a shift that has at least 10 hours and prevents him or her from voting on Election Day or participating in walk-in voting; or
4. The Tribal Member is enrolled as a student at an educational institution located outside the Tribal service area.

Absentee ballot request forms will be posted on the Tribal web site, the April and May issues of the Tribal newsletter, and at the Tribal Center.

## ***Tribal Election Calendar***

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

Deadline to submit Letter of Candidacy, biography, and picture for Tribal Council if name is to be printed on the Official Ballot, and bio and picture printed in the May newsletter.

Friday, April 17, 2009

Names of Candidates and any proposed Constitutional Amendments, Ordinances, and/or Resolutions will be posted.

Saturday, May 2, 2009

Tribally sponsored debate for all candidates.

Wellness & Activities Center (Gym)

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

***On the date of the debate, there will be a sealed box as you enter in which you can submit your questions for the candidates. If you would like to submit your questions prior to the date of the event, there will be a sealed box available in the Chairman's Office. The Election Board will review all questions prior to beginning the debate. Due to time constraints or questions that may be inappropriate, not all questions may not read at the debate. You do not have to sign your question.***

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Last day to submit Letter of Candidacy for Tribal Council to be a Write-In on Ballot. Any additional Names of Candidates will be posted within ten days of submitting a Letter of Candidacy.

Walk-In Voting begins at 8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

Last day to request that an Absentee Ballot be mailed out.

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Walk-In voting ends at 5:00 p.m.

Friday, June 5, 2009

Deadline to receive Absentee Ballots at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 6, 2009

2009 Tribal Election Day

Community Services Building (SAIL Center)

Voting from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions about this year's election, please contact Gia Johnson, Election Board Chairperson, at (251) 446-4263.



***The following two candidates are running for the position of Vice Chairman of the Tribal Council:***

**Stephanie Bryan**



Over the past three years, I have had the opportunity to serve each of you as the Vice Chair. It has been an amazing opportunity and one I will forever cherish. It would be an honor to serve you in this capacity once again. This election year is historic; it will mark the first time that the General Council will vote for the Vice Chair. We, as a Sovereign Nation, are putting Democracy in Action. This is the first time in the history of our voting process that the General Council will have the opportunity to vote on an executive position. Now, it will be the responsibility of each of you to determine based upon **Commitment, Integrity and Experience** to decide who should represent the Tribe on your behalf to the local, county, state, and federal government in the capacity of Vice Chair.

With that said, I would like to introduce myself to those of you whom I may have not had the opportunity to meet. My name is Stephanie Bryan and I hereby declare my candidacy for the Vice-Chair of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. I am the daughter of Julia Ann (McGhee) Stacey and Donald Ray Abney and the granddaughter of the late Doris (Buck) McGhee and the late Lunnie Mae (Presley) McGhee. I am married to Keith Bryan and have three wonderful children; Keisha, who works at Wind Creek Casino and is involved in the BBA program at Faulkner University in Montgomery; Brannon, who is stationed in Beaufort, South Carolina serving in the US Marine Corps; Niki, who is a freshman at Escambia Academy and one precious grandson, Taden Blaize Thomas.

To those of you who do know me and have supported me in the past, it has been my pleasure serving you and I thank you for your continued support. Over the last three years, I have been privileged to meet and build lasting relationships with elected officials at the local, county, state, and federal levels. Most of those relationships were formed by my service as your Vice-Chair. Per Tribal law, the Vice-Chair of the Tribe must serve as the Chair of the Tribal Gaming Commission. The Tribal Gaming Commission has the daunting tasks of regulating all three of our gaming establishments to ensure they are in compliance with the Federal Regulatory Authority-National Indian Gaming Commission. Due to the expansion of Indian gaming throughout the United States, many changes have been made to the Federal Gaming Regulations. These changes have not always been in the best interest of the Tribe. I have and will continue to advocate for the Tribe on these Federal matters. This is one challenge that I have always taken on head first. I hope that everyone takes these skills into consideration when voting for your next **Vice Chair**.

During my tenure, I have served on the National Indian Gaming Working Group, where we worked countless hours with the National Indian Gaming Commission making recommendations for regulations within Indian Gaming that would provide proper oversight without infringing on Tribal Sovereignty. It is my intent to always fight for our Tribe at all levels of government. One thing I realized while serving in this capacity is that our Tribal Sovereignty is constantly being challenged and we must constantly defend it. Our economic ventures, such as our Class II Gaming enterprises, are continuously being threatened by various governments and organizations. On many occasions I have spoken out against such entities in an effort to continue to have the funds coming into our Tribe that are necessary for us to continue providing the essential governmental services such as health care and Education to each of you.

My contribution to the Tribal Council and the community has not been limited to Gaming. In addition, I have served on the following committees; Budget & Finance Legislative Committee, Education/Labor Legislative Committee, and the Utilities Authority. Through these positions and with the help of volunteers, staff, and my fellow Council Members, we have been able to develop programs and initiatives that have increased benefits to Tribal Members and their families such as:

- Birthday Checks-They increased by over 600% from \$300 to \$2,000 per year.
- Health Insurance-Understanding the importance of health coverage, especially during the current economic downturn, the Tribe is proud to offer insurance to those who do not otherwise have access.
- Education-Now, more than ever, education must be at the forefront of our minds. As the textile mills and other industries continue to close our Tribal Members have the opportunity to use the \$30,000 scholarship program to enhance their current skills or enter a new field of employment. Funding for Indian Descent children scholarships has also more than doubled.
- Increased Tribal member Employment-Our businesses now employ over 75% more Tribal Members than they did three years ago.

These are but a few examples from the past three years....

***A VOTE FOR ME MEANS MORE TO COME***

***Paul "Bear" Bryant***

***"It's not the will to win, but the will to prepare to win that makes the difference."***

(Stephanie Bryan - continued)

- **Tribal Member Benefit Plan-** I supported the Tribal member benefit plan, which is a plan that has three phases's. The first phase provided uninsured Tribal members health insurance effective January 1, 2009. The second phase will provide (hopefully by the time you read this it will be effective) reimbursement to Tribal Members with health coverage a portion of their health care costs. The third phase will provide other un-taxable benefits. We currently have 578 Tribal members that participate in Phase 1. **I supported this benefit and my opponent did not per Minutes published in the Tribal Newsletter issue 25 Volume 1.**
- **Education-** Two major initiatives are still in front of the Council. First, we are researching the feasibility of a Tribal School. The Education and Legislative Committee led an initiative to increase Indian Descent scholarships from \$25,000 to \$100,000 taking some much needed pressure off the Tribal Member Head of Household. We can do more... We are also investigating the possibilities of allowing Tribal members to pass down their \$30,000 scholarship to their children. As mentioned earlier, I have always supported education because I believe it strengthens our future. The Education Assistance program has been a huge success. We have **393 participants** in the education program at this time. ***"Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it."***
- **Elder benefit program-** We currently provide all senior citizens 65 and older a \$200 monthly benefit. We have heard the message from our other Tribal Elders loud and clear... **"LOWER THE AGE"** and the Budget and Finance Committee is working in earnest to secure enough funds to lower the age of this benefit.
- **Elder's Advisory Council-** We got here to due the hard work and dedication of the former Tribal Leaders and we still lean on them for advice and wisdom. An Elder's Council is long overdue.
- **Assisted Living Facility-** This continues to be an important issue. We are looking at various avenues for funding.
- **Town Hall Meetings-** The community meetings for the TERO Codes were a huge success. It brought back to the forefront the need for quarterly meetings with the General Council. With all the growth of the Tribe, the need for communication has never been greater and I stand firmly committed to making these meetings a reality.
- **Land-** The Tribal Council is currently in the process of purchasing land in the Escambia County Florida area for housing purposes as well as a community center. Escambia County Florida is the next largest Tribal member service area. We plan to expand to other service areas as well in the near future.

My record speaks for itself. I support and will continue to support Tribal Member benefits. My opponent may have 20 plus years serving as the Chairman but he does not have the experience to serve in the capacity of Vice-Chair and as Chairman of the Tribal Gaming Commission. I feel we as a whole we have accomplished more over the last few years in regards to Tribal Members Services because of the Council working together for one common goal, **the betterment of the Tribe**. With new and fresh leadership and strong motivation we will continue to work together to create and foster an environment of prosperity and teamwork, with one goal in mind "How best can we serve our people".

Please consider me as your candidate for Vice-Chair. A vote for me is a vote for **honest leadership**, more **Tribal member benefits**, as well as **equality for all** no matter where you reside. You may contact me by phone at (251) 368-1940 or (251) 359-4900 or via the web: [tribalmembersfirst.com](http://tribalmembersfirst.com). I welcome any questions or concerns.

*Woodrow Wilson*

***"The ear of the leader must ring with the voices of the people."***

#### **Eddie Leon Tullis**



I hereby declare my candidacy for Vice Chairman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. I am Eddie Leon Tullis, son of Florence Walker and Volt Tullis. I have been married to Mary Jane McGhee for 52 years and we are blessed with four daughters and 12 grandchildren. We reside in the Poarch Community adjacent to the Reservation. For nearly 40 years it has been my great honor to serve the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

Since Federal Recognition, the tribe has established programs to provide health care, housing, education and senior services. We bought a motel, a restaurant, a machine shop, a cattle farm and a service station and built 3 gaming facilities. Through these efforts we have increased the assets of the tribe and created jobs for our people.

There are several critical issues that need to be addressed. While our education program has greatly improved, there is much work still left to be done. We need to continue providing our elders with the services that they are entitled to. Just as important, we should make sure that tribal discretionary funds are distributed as equitable as possible.

I look forward to discussing these issues and other concerns of the tribe during this upcoming campaign. To continue to improve the quality of life for our people we must be wise with the blessings we have been given and make wise investments.

You can do your part by electing tribal leaders with wisdom, vision and dedication needed to make decisions that will benefit our

*(Eddie L. Tullis - continued)*

people and provide the best possible quality of life for future generations. To ensure that our future remains bright, I ask you to participate in the upcoming tribal election on June 6, 2009. This will be an historic election for the tribe as it will be the first opportunity for tribal members to directly elect the tribal Vice Chairman.

With your support in the upcoming election for Vice Chairman, I vow to continue my efforts to build a strong and vibrant Poarch Creek Tribal family. Feel free to call me at any time at 251.368.2685 or 251.253.5960 if you have any question about where I stand on any issue.

***The following sixteen candidates are running for the two at-large seats open in this year's election:***

**David Adams**



I, David Adams would like to announce my candidacy for Tribal Council. I have lived in Atmore all my life, born and raised in the Poarch Community.

My parents are the late Carl Ben Adams and Margaret Hayes Adams. Parental Grandparents are the Late William Weatherford Adams and Mollie Colbert Adams. Maternal Grandparents are the late Bill Hayes and Linnie Presley Hayes.

I am married to Marissa Guyton Adams. We have two beautiful daughters, Brittany Alleen Adams, age 19, and Breiah Calleen Adams, age 15.

I have been employed with Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Atmore since 1989 and have been in Management since 1993. Tribal Members, that is 16 years of Leadership, Responsibility, Dedication, Loyalty and Honesty, which are skills needed to take the Tribal Members and Tribe forward. Also I am a graduate of the Leadership Atmore and a participant of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

**Amy Bryan**



I, Amy Bryan, want to announce my candidacy for the open position on the Poarch Creek Indian Tribal Council. I am the daughter of Gloria Sells Krafka and Marlon Nelson, Jr., and the granddaughter of the "late" Eugene and Roberta Sells and the "late" Marlon and Mary Nelson.

I was born in the Poarch Community and have resided in this community for most of my life. I have served the Poarch Creek Indians in several different capacities, including tribal government, the PCI Tribal council, the PCI Gaming board and as a Qualified Tribal Contractor.

I decided to run for tribal council, because I know I can be an instrument of change for our people. I want to regain our community. I can do this through support and ideas from each of you, as well as, constant communication and interaction with my people.

I want to correct the issues. Apathy amongst our once passionate people has hit an all time high. With Tribal government and Creek Indian Enterprises growing at a rate much larger than our tribal enrollment, it seems that the economic needs of "The Tribe" and a select few have been placed above the economic and social needs of our people. I will act as an instrument to ensure ALL tribal members' issues and concerns are addressed and I promise to always vote with my heart.

I will serve this tribe ethically, and work closely with the rest of the tribal council to resolve issues in a timely manner with the best interest of the people at heart. I believe this tribe is being led with its pocket book, instead of its people. I want to serve as a full-time tribal council member who is accessible to the general counsel. I understand the great responsibility and time commitments involved in this job. If elected, I will commit to devoting myself full-time to the position at the expense of any personal or business commitment I may have.

For those of you who know me, you know I have always been committed to any and all tribal members and will do anything I can to help anyone. For those of you, who don't know me, please afford me this opportunity to show you. I am committed to familiarizing myself with all tribal policies and procedures, and attending all board and committee meetings. I will stand by my campaign promises and actively support all efforts to improve per-capita payments, and ensure tribal member preference in hiring. It is obvious to everyone, with so much development going on within this tribe, inside the reservation and out, there has to be more compensation for distribution to "the people" than what is distributed in the yearly "birthday check". I will earmark this issue as a priority.

*(Amy Bryan - continued)*

I want to run on the campaign platform of a better tribe. I realize I will have to work with the other elected members of the tribal council, and will commit to being just as available after the election, as before. Many council members make promises, shake hands and kiss babies when they are running, but it's those truly great ones that actually deliver on their promises. I know I can be this for my people.

If you want a tribal council member who is accessible, knowledgeable, passionate and a change maker, then please vote for me Amy Bryan. Thank you and I appreciate your support.

**Polly Ann Walker Carter**



I, Polly Ann Walker Carter, hereby declare my Candidacy for the 2009 Tribal Council Election. I am the daughter of the late Lonnie and Eliza Rolin Walker. My Grandparents are the late Fred and Lula Walker. My Grandfather Fred Walker, was Chief to the Poarch Creek Indians. He was looked up to and respected, a Leader and Peacekeeper.

I have been married to James "Budk" Carter for forty years and we have five children and twelve grandchildren. I have an A.S. Degree in Nursing from Pensacola Junior College. I was Staff Nurse at West Florida Hospital for twenty nine years, having retired in August, 2008.

While our Tribe has made tremendous advancements in the past several years in Insurance, Education, and various lucrative ventures, there are still some areas that need to be addressed. Care for our Elders, equal housing and benefits, and lower the age for Senior disbursements are some things I would like to change. I will listen to you, the General Council, and vote on issues presented at Tribal Council meetings to best benefit all of us equally. My goal as Tribal Council Member would be to serve all Tribal Members, in all aspects, and to help them reach their goals as well. I am one who can make decisions on my own, and I will not be easily persuaded by anyone. Help me, help you, by casting your vote for me on election day, June 6, 2009.

I will listen to you and stay in touch with my Tribal Members.

Thank you for your vote.

**Peggy Rolin Couch**



I, Peggy Rolin Couch, would like to declare my candidacy for the open tribal council seat in the 2009 election. I am the daughter of the late Eugene "Buster" Rolin and Bessie Rolin. I am the mother of four sons, Aubrey and Johnny Steadham, and Danny and Bryan Couch. I have lived my entire life in the Poarch community, and have been involved with tribal issues since 1989. I have served previous terms on the Tribal Council and am an active member of the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission.

After much thought and frustration regarding the state of affairs at the tribe, I felt the only way I could express my concern and try to make a change was to submit my candidacy for tribal council. While there are several issues which need to be addressed, the first is the "Direct Election" Amendment", whereas the voices of the people were totally ignored. This resolution was passed June 2, 2007 by the (general council) to be voted on in the following election. One year later, June 2008, the general council voted to pass the resolution, which declared the general council would elect the executive seats of the tribal council, including the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. From June, 2007, when the "people (general council): passed the resolution, the tribal council had one year to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Chairman's position was open in case the "people" (general council)" voted to pass the "Direct Elections" amendment. In this case they did. In the June 2008 election, when the "people" (general council) voted to pass the amendments, those amendments became law. The Vice-Chairman should have become Chairman in June 2008, at the swearing-in of the 2008 Tribal Council Meeting, and until the regular election of 2009, whereas the people could vote for the actual Chairman. The "people" (general council) and only the "people" had the right to elect the Chairman or any other executive seats after the June 2008 election became certified. I am concerned with any tribal "entity" who feels they can manipulate a tribal constitution, tribal code, and disregard the will of the people for their own benefit.

Our tribal constitution has been in place since 1984, with very few changes over the past 20 some odd years, whereas, over the last two years, the "powers that be" have amended, changed, deleted and added to our constitution at will. I am submitting this candidacy in the hopes that others will stand up and support me, as I commit to you, I will be passionate in supporting tribal members rights and preferences and ensure our constitution as a people is protected.

Another alarming issue, included in the same "Direct Election" amendment, and not clarified to our people, is that the Tribal Council, now has the right to remove a Tribal Council member with a 2/3 vote, whereas before, a Tribal Council Member could only

*(Peggy Couch - continued)*

be removed by a 2/3 vote of the people. This sets the stage for the council table to be controlled by a select few, instead of the will of the people. Five of our tribal council members have the power to remove an elected official.

On a positive note, I will be dedicated to ensuring preference in tribal member employment, particularly at the Wind Creek Casino and other developments of Creek Indian Enterprises and the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. While I recognize the great efforts of the TERO Department, I feel more could be done by the Tribal Council, administration and commissions to employ and empower our people to be financially self-sufficient. I will move to have the "amnesty" period extended for tribal members. Our people have been historically disadvantaged in employment, education and financial opportunities. When this tribal council voted to build the Wind Creek Casino, they voted to expand the employment opportunities of "our people", and tribal members, Indian decent and spouses of tribal members should be given priority.

I feel this same way in regards to preference in Housing, Medical Attention, Tribal Members who want to start businesses, Education, Senior Support and any other venture where as a "pick and choose" system is used today. It just seems that more often, than not, a misconstrued system is used to determine who receives the benefits of the tribe, instead of a fair system that ensures equal treatment to all. Native Americans have a significantly higher rate of diabetes, high blood pressure, heart conditions and other ailments which impact and shorten their life span. I would vote to have the age limit for the monthly senior citizen check decreased from 65 down to 55, so that our seniors can actually enjoy some of their benefits.

I feel more money could also be distributed to our tribal members in the yearly "birthday check". Based on the amount of money being given out to employees, who are NOT even tribal members, in bonuses and other awards, this same money could be easily and evenly distributed to the tribal membership. The same could also be said in contracting.

I can fill this book with issues and concerns, but have chosen to highlight these issues as just a few of those that need to be addressed. While no one person can change the direction of the tribe, we as a nation can make the change by electing ethical, honest, forthright council members, who will fight for their people and ensure all of our rights are protected. In closing, I would appreciate your vote and support in the June 6, 2009 election.

#### **Rodney Exum**



Growing up from a child to a man learning our culture and then learning to embrace it has meant so much to me as it has to so many others. I am the proud son of Helen McGhee Hallman and the late Espy Ladon Exum, the grandson of the late Levi and Treacy McGhee and the late Thomas and Minnie Exum all from whom I have learned so much. I, Rodney Ledon Exum, am writing to declare my candidacy for the 2009-2010 Tribal Council Election.

In my past, I served on the council for three years during which the idea of Wind Creek Casino and Hotel, the birthday checks for the tribal members, and many benefits for the elderly were created. These tremendous ideas have had such a grand impact on the tribe and its' people and I intend to help make those types of impacts again if elected. We, as a community, need to strive to improve our education system, focus on our youth and our elders, and to make changes to improve our housing program. As members of the tribe there are many benefits offered and I want to help make sure these benefits are obtainable by all members. These areas of concern will be my main focus as a council member. Working for the tribe has lead me to see what a great community and organization we have. My past work experience with the Tribal Administration, Creek Indian Enterprises, and PCI Gaming has only opened my eyes more to the possibilities we have to better the lives of all our members. With the growth of those companies comes more opportunity and more success for the Poarch Creek Indians. This is what I want to see to continue to grow.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and I look forward to serving you and our people.

#### **Douglas "Poncho" Kelley**



Well it's another voting year. It's time to re-elect. I'm seeking all of your votes. Douglas Edward Kelley, aka Poncho.

Many things need to be addressed at the moment about our people. Our Elders are not just something to be thrown to the side like a bale of hay. They are to be part of what makes our nation. Our Elders teach us the old ways so we never forget what's been done onto us. Where we are from, or who we really are. We have to pass all of this onto the next generations. But the casino has made us all forget what needs to be done. We worry about the next big payday, and we forget about our history and culture of those who have passed before us. All our children have been deceived into thinking that cards and slots are what makes us Indians; but that is

*(Douglas "Poncho" Kelley - continued)*

not what we are. That would make us white men with roll numbers. Vote for me and I will try to obtain the path for our people to be what we really are, traditional Indians.

MVTO (Thank –you)

### **Desi D. Martin**



I, Desi D. Martin, hereby state that I am a tribal member with the Poarch Creek Indians and will be running for the 2009 Tribal Council Election. My father is the late Alex W. Martin (Jody Blond). My mother is the late Sharon F. Wall. They too, grew up here in the Poarch community.

I have spent most of my past eight years working for the Department of Army in the Anniston, Alabama area. There, I spent most of my time traveling around the world experiencing new things related to work and life. The past year I have been working for the tribe at Riverside Casino. I feel I have made a home working for my tribe. I hope I get the opportunity to serve in other ways as well. This is why I announce my candidacy; To Help Others. Thanks

### **Keith Martin**



Tribal Council Member, Keith Martin, believes that "without our past there is no future." More specifically, he urges us to remember those key values learned from parents, community leaders, and ancestors. For Martin he draws on a lifetime spent absorbing those values of the close knit family that is Poarch Creek and it is time for him to give back to the community.

Keith Martin, the son of Janette Beck and Henderson Robinson, was raised in Poarch, AL on Indian School Road. Keith's single mother had to go out and be the bread winner for the entire family in the early years of his life. That meant a lot of time spent with his great grandmother, Alice Rolin, grandmother, Elsie Holland, and aunt, Jean Ardis. Martin said "I will have to say there was a lot of love in that house. I think being raised by a house full of women was good for me early on because it instilled in me a love for the Poarch Community and the families that live there. Any time anyone was sick, my granny Elsie would go and visit them and stay with them if she was needed. Both of my grannies loved everyone in the community and it was returned. That was not lost on me. The men of the community also had a lasting impression on me. Alton Jackson, Eugene Sells, A.D. Martin, Otha Martin, Howard McGhee, Willis McGhee. Every one of them had a large family to take care of, but between them they would make sure that everyone in the community had what they needed. I hope to follow in their footsteps and never forget them."

After graduating Escambia County High School in 1984, Martin married his high school sweetheart, Rochel Stewart, and went to work for a General Motors dealership. While he work for local dealerships he continued his education to earn various certification in Automotive Technology. Over his 24 years at GM dealerships, Martin developed a great appreciation for sound business practices and direct honesty when dealing with the public.

Martin began to grow concerned about the future of the tribe and decided to run for a position on the Tribal Council. In 2006, Martin decided to serve the tribe on a full time basis. Becoming successful in his bid, he acknowledges the "team effort" of the Tribal Council in changing the way they operate by realigning Tribal enterprises.

After several years as a member of the original PCI Gaming Commission and the Creek Indian Enterprises Board, he joined the PCI Gaming Board. During his time on the board he also serves as a member of the Land/Natural Resources Legislative Committee. After becoming Chairman of the PCI Gaming Board in 2006, Martin helped direct the board during a time of tremendous growth and change. The following year, the Tribe hired an executive management team for gaming operations, secured financing for construction of Wind Creek Casio and Hotel Atmore, and initiated a major expansion of Riverside Casino. PCI Gaming is now an Authority, as well as Creek Indian Enterprises. The change streamlined operations and gave PCI Gaming a better opportunity to grow.

A true believer of the Poarch Creek people, Martin is deeply committed to working together with the community to secure a future that benefits the entire community. Top on Martin's list of priorities is improving quality of life through better health care and education. He also believes that the Tribe needs to focus on long-term growth and economic development beyond tribal gaming. Opportunities for the development include attracting major industry to the area and alternative energy enterprises.

Along the journey, Keith is joined by his wife of 25 years, Rochel and his four beautiful daughters, Samantha, Jessica, Rachel, and

*(Keith Martin - continued)*

Scarlet. Keith and Rochel also became grandparents when Samantha, and her husband Jonathon Rolin, gave birth to Lily Grace Rolin. "I was raised by a house full of women and the good Lord keeps blessing me with them."

Keith Martin draws inspiration from countless friends and family, from his parents and grandparents to community leaders. Their examples of sacrifice for the betterment of the community are strong guideposts as he looks to continue his service to the Tribe. "I have been called the bleeding heart of the Tribal Council. That's okay with me. I hope to be the bleeding heart for a long time."

Thank you to every member of the Poarch Creek Indians and please vote for me on June 6th.

**Daniel K. McGhee**



My name is Daniel McGhee. The last nine years of my life I have spent as a Council member serving the most gracious and loving people...the Poarch Band of Creek Indians whom I consider to be all members of my family. I hope with this family behind me I can continue to serve you for another three years.

I know in the last year we have gained many new friends into our Tribal family. I welcome these new faces and I hope together, with the guidance and wisdom of our life-long Tribal members we can form new bonds and alliances that will help our Tribe to continually prosper and grow.

For those of you who may not know me, let me give you some background into my family. I am married to Jaime McGhee. We have four sons, Brice, Xan, Daughtry, and Jamison. My parents are Bobby Lawrence and the late Doris Daughtry McGhee. My grandparents are the late Roy and Opal McGhee and the late Adam and Inez Daughtry. I am also the great grandson of the late Chief Calvin and Joyce McGhee.

After receiving my Bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama, I returned home and have been employed with the Tribe for thirteen years. In 2006, I earned my Master's Degree in Management from Faulkner Christian University completing my life-long goal of receiving a higher education.

As a current council member I am faced with many decisions that have sometimes made me feel proud, honored, and excited. Other times, I feel uncertain and disheartened, when I realize I cannot grant everyone's needs or desires. But with every decision, I always remember that the people of my tribe are the reason for every choice I make and I hope this has been apparent in my voting record and attitude in the community. I feel that my influence and voice at the council table has resulted in many positive changes we have experienced together.

As I look back on my Council tenure, I am pleased to see many of the projects I began or helped create become a reality; programs such as: the Tuition Assistance Program, Home Ownership Programs, Small Business Loan Assistance, Home Improvement Loans, and Universal Health Insurance. Nine years ago when I was first elected, these programs did not exist and I am proud to look back and feel confident that I felt your struggles, listened to your voices, and shared your vision. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of these projects and entrusting me to speak on your behalf during their creation.

I am also proud when I see the beautiful new resort that has become part of our Tribe. Gambling is and always will be a controversial subject for our people and those outside our circle, but I am comforted knowing that the benefits provide a better life for our people. I hope you can be comforted by my promise to keep my eyes on our gaming business and keep you informed of what this new and improved venture is doing for you and our tribe as a whole.

As a leader, I always remember that I am chosen by you and with that honor I am dedicated to your needs and desires. If re-elected, I will continue to "fight the good fight" using the same honest and fair methods I have demonstrated in the past.

These are some of the goals I hope we can achieve together:

- Improved educational opportunities for all Tribal members, Indian decent, and their families.
- Better healthcare to meet the needs of less fortunate Tribal members and those Tribal members who provide insurance for themselves.
- Housing programs that benefit everyone and not just certain qualified members
- Economic Development that stretches outside the realm of gaming
- Elderly benefits such as assisted living and nursing homes for Tribal members
- Continued financial distributions to Tribal members.
- Continued emphasis on cultural activities and education

(Daniel McGhee - continued)

If you will allow me, I will continue to make decisions that are led by my heart and my responsibility to you. I ask respectfully that you entrust your vote to me once again. Thank you for your consideration.



**Kelli Ramer**

I, Kelli Ramer, declare my candidacy for the 2009 Tribal Council Elections as an at-large-member. I'm the mother of Baccari Ramer, 13 and the daughter of Eddie Ramer and Janice Moye. I'm the granddaughter of Bobbie Joe, and the late D.C. Rolin, of Atmore, and Eloise (McGhee) and Norman Ramer, of Gasden, AL. I'm the great-granddaughter of the late Emma and the late Gus Rolin and the late Gladys (Presley) and the late Norvie Lee McGhee.

I have been employed with the Tribe since 1998 and have worked in the Chairman's Office with the Tribal Council since 1999. In this capacity, I have worked directly under the leadership of Eddie L. Tullis, the late Fred L. McGhee and currently Buford L. Rolin. Having worked with these great leaders, I feel I have a great wealth of knowledge of the current on-going business within the Tribe. If elected, I will work diligently to gain equality for all Tribal members by proposing equal healthcare benefits services as well as increasing birthday checks as needed. Also, I would like to work with my fellow Council Members on a plan to lower the age requirement for our senior citizens and disabled member benefits. With that being said, I respectfully request your vote on June 6, 2009.

"A VOTE FOR ME IS A VOTE FOR YOU"



**Raymond "Bucky" Rolin**

My name is Raymond Bucky Rolin, and I am declaring my candidacy for the Tribal Council of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. I would like to take this time to ask for your vote and support for this campaign.

I am the son of the late J.B. Rolin and the late Dorothy McGhee Rolin. I am 51 years old and reside in Atmore, AL. I have seven brothers, Wilbert, Charles, Authur, David, Clarence, Norman, Ray and four sisters, Geneva Shivers, Mable Lambert, Joyce Kuhn and Debra Strickland. Being raised in a big family has taught me many important lessons of life. I also have three daughters Nicole Teague of Fairhope, AL, Megan Rolin of Tuscaloosa, AL, Hillary Rolin, also of Tuscaloosa, AL. I also have two granddaughters Molly and Evangeline, and one grandson, Micah. I am very proud of my family. I am also very proud to be called Indian and especially Poarch Creek. My ancestry can be traced back to the likes of Len McGhee, Sam Manac, William

Rolin, Bill Colbert, Sam Rolin, William Gibson and others.

I have been in the automotive business for 23 years and most of the time I have spent as Service Manager for a G.M. dealership. I am certified in all of G.M.'s requirements. I have dealt with people and their problems for a long time and maintained a profitable department. My company is always on top of customer satisfaction scores. So I know about budgets, expense, contracts, overseeing production maybe on a smaller scale than the tribe but yet I have plenty of experience. One thing I do know is how to treat people.

I am involved in a local Church. I have served this Church as deacon since 1993. I am also the Worship Leader for our Church. The winds of change have blown through my live over the past year, but because of my relationship with JESUS I have been able to weather the storm and come out a better person. He is the keeper and sustainer of my life.

Well I have already served on the Tribal Council for seven years starting in 1989 and serving until 1996. But because I had three daughters to raise, I decided to not seek re-election, but I have always wanted to return and get involved at Poarch Creek. Well, I am back and now it's up to you folks to look at me and who I am and decide if I would be a good Council person for you.

I was there to see the early development of CIE and now it is a strong arm for our tribe and I also sat on the CIE Board in the early years. I chaired the Pow Wow Committee that planned and saw our pow wow change from a one day event to one of the premier pow wow in the southeastern U.S. I was also involved with the Recreation Department. I have dealt with tribal codes, policies and contracts. All the things that a council deals with I have done, so I do have what it takes to get this job done.

The things we see happening here at Poarch Creek just did not happen overnight but is the result of many years of planning and vision and I would like to thank all that have been involved in it from the past to the present leadership. Some of the things I envision and would support are a retirement facility for our senior citizens-I have heard a lot over the years yet it still remains undone. Let's take care of our own and a management Training Program-I would like to see a development program put in place to help and train our folks for some of the management position within our tribe. Maybe a shadowing program? I know that there are a lot of issues out there, but I think your issues should be dealt with, not just put to the side.

(Raymond "Bucky" Rolin - continued)

Well as you can tell I am not much of a writer, but that's not what it takes, but if you want a leader with honest, integrity and a strong sense of native pride, a leader that doesn't have his own agenda, but can be a voice for you then I am asking that you consider me. I would like to wish all the other people running the best of luck and let everyone know that no matter the outcome, I am here and ready to help our people in whatever way I can.

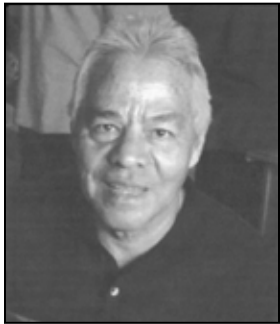
**HONEST/EXPERIENCED/READY  
I AM A GOOD CHOICE**

**Home (251) 368-4749**

**Cell (251) 978-9790**

**Email pbc1008@yahoo.com**

**William T. Rolin**



I William T. Rolin do hereby announce my candidacy for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Tribal Council. I have been married to my wife, Sheila Rolin for thirty years and have three children, Bridget Wasdin, Kasey Wise, and Matthew Rolin. I also have two loving grandchildren, Landon and Kaylee Wise. My parents are the late Tracy Rolin and Girlie Walker Rolin. I am currently employed as a Tribal Police Officer for the Tribe and have been employed for over 22 years. I attend St. Anna's Episcopal Church and feel that the values instilled in me by former church members are values that I remember well. The values of faith, honesty and integrity to which I possess are in fact values that I believe would assist me in becoming an effective leader for the Tribe.

If elected, I would work to improve the quality of life for our people today and for the future generations to come. I have a sincere interest in improving educational and job opportunities for Tribal Members. I look today at the individuals working for the Tribe and I wish the elder Tribal Members would have had the chance to gain such wonderful employment opportunities, individuals such as Eliz Rolin Walker, Florence Walker Tullis, Narvie Lee and Gladys Presley McGhee. When I look at the ball fields being constructed today at the Sports Complex, I think of individuals like Houston McGhee, Bennie McGhee, Fields McGhee, Edward Rolin and Roy Barnhill who were excellent athletes and had tons of ability. I only wish some of these individuals would have had these nice facilities that are being constructed today for our youth. I feel that our Tribe has preserved throughout the years as I think back on times in which job opportunities were hard to come by for Tribal members. I remember individuals such as Eugene Sells, Alton Jackson, and Mal McGhee who worked to try and find jobs for Tribal Members. I mention all of this because my recollections have helped me realize how much our Tribe has advanced, but there is still plenty of work to be done. I would like to be given the opportunity to serve you as Tribal Members regarding key issues and future growth/economic opportunities facing our Tribe.

I would appreciate your vote and support. Together things can only get better.

**Berry Ross**



TO ALL MY TRIBAL MEMBERS

My name is Berry L. Ross I'm blessed to be able to run for TRIBAL COUNCIL. My parents are GENE and MARILYN ROSS. My father retired out the UNITED STATES MARINES as a hero to me and a great friend to those who knew him. My grandparents are M.C. AND HATTIE LUE MORRIS.

I would like to start by saying to those who have lost a love one this past year my prayers are with the family and their friends. To everyone that are or has served and still serving in the armed forces thanks. Native Americans are one of the last small minorities' left and we need to protect our well being. Also, welcome to all new tribal members that just got on the roll. I know it was a long hard fight and you deserve to be on the roll as well.

If elected, I will work very hard to make my voice be heard for the people. I have visited several of your homes, and thanks for your time to talk to me and let me in your homes. What hurts me most of all is some of our tribal members don't have proper heating and cooling. Thus remember most of us live pay check to pay check or get just a simple check once a month. A majority of our own Tribal Council forgets where they came from and they have the power to help but do not. This is very sad. I promise everyone that I will never forget where I come from. The one thing they forget is that the people Voted them in and the people are ready for a change. Thus the people can Vote them out of office to.

*(Berry Ross - continued)*

If you the people won't a change I BERRY L. ROSS am "BY THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE" one who will make my voice be heard for the people and will fight for a CHANGE!. Remember if it was not for our past leaders we would not be where we are today. We have been building home for tribal members for years and we need to build at least 10 to 20 more new houses a year. There are ways to build houses faster and we need to do just that. Without knowing the actual profit it is in my opinion we as a Tribe need to off this \$300 million dollars debt first before we go in to another additional \$300 million dollar debt. Thus do not forget about the interest of about another \$250 million added to these debts. This would put the tribe into a debt that is close to a Billion dollars. When will it ever be enough and at what price are we willing to pay. If we spend it faster than we make it how will we ever pay it off. We need to finish on beg project before taking on another. We need to let this casino (Wind Creek) run for a least a year to get adequate projection of the revenue. We need to make sure that this money is properly managed and our businesses are ran properly. Remember some of the smartest people do make mistakes. Look at the stock market and the effects it has on the world.

Our leaders forget we are in a recession. The tribal council needs to fight harder for tribal owned business. They need to get more chance on receiving more contracts. Why do they keep giving contracts to outside business when there are tribal members that own businesses and can do the work. By doing this it would keep the money here at home and the whole tribe profits as well. If one of the tribal businesses goes out of business this will make us all look bad and we do not need this to happen. Tribal members are being laid off right now, because of contracts that are going to outside business that are not tribally owned. We need to make Tribal Owned Business mean a lot more that it does not. If we are to build new business then let's build new business like a lumber mill. This would help drive the price of lumber down and would help the price in building new houses, thus we could build more houses for tribal members. Also this business could give tribal business and tribal members a discount on the price of lumber. Another business would be our own shopping center for food. We need our own Bank thus starting this we could start a Tribal Credit Union and the tribal members could get loans from our own bank at a lower interest. Then the interest we make would be put back into the tribe. These businesses would be open to the public and would allow us to tap into these resources as well.

With these new businesses we could employ an additional 500 to 1,000 new employees and maybe more. This would put a lot of our own Tribal members to work and we would not be putting all our eggs in one gaming basket. Thus remember with these new businesses everyone that is able need to go back to school to get some type of computer skills or a degree in something dealing with a business environment. This would give everyone a better chance on getting a better paying job and will give one a better way of life.

We as a tribe need to put a lot more back for our 1st generation so that we don't forget them. They are our family, and we need to recognize them more than what we do now. If nothing more than a grasp on a better education program. There are only just a few scholarships we offer to them and we need to do something about this. With all of our business opportunities out there now we need to give them a better chance to succeed in them to. Another way is to extend their medical benefits to the age of 21. This would give them some medical benefits while in college. Remember by working together we can make a better future for all tribal members and give first generation a lot more too to work with as well.

I would like to thank everyone that has taken the time to read this. If you like what you read and would like a CHANGE then vote for a CHANGE allow me to represent you the people. I am one of you and I want the best for all of us. I ask you, the people, once again to vote for a CHANGE. VOTE FOR BERRY L. ROSS FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL. "BY THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE." I will never forget where I came from and I will put the peoples interest first. Please don't hesitate to call me on any issue you may have at 1-251-294-2106, a vote for me is a vote for yourself, and your family as well. GOD BLESS YOU!!!!

### **Danny Smillie**



Hello, I'm Danny Smillie and I'm running for Tribal Council.

I am the son of Patricia Albritton Smillie, grandson of the late Della Walker Phillips Albritton, and great-grandson of the late Richard and Emma McGhee Walker.

I have several areas of experience that will be valuable to the Poarch Creek Indians. I've worked 8 years in Law Enforcement. This has provided me with valuable Public Relations experience. I have 25 years experience with the Escambia County Road Department. I started with the job as truck driver and advance to my present position as Field Supervisor. This also provided me with knowledge needed to expand the many areas of the tribal enterprises. I have experience in pond maintenance, road building, road paving, public works, and mass destruction cleanup. My training also includes communications and responding to natural disasters.

*(Danny Smillie - continued)*

My goal is to make sure the Tribal Members and First Generation Descendants are treated with priority on job placement, job promotions and extra incentives. I will also make sure that a generous revenue will be returned to the Tribal Members and First Generation Descendants. As the revenue grows, so should the benefits.

We cannot afford to be wasteful at this prosperous time in our tribal history. We have to make sure the members are taken care of for years to come. I am asking you to give me a chance. My main concern is to inform you that I know who to communicate and resolve problems that will be best for all tribal members.

I am totally dedicated to the Tribal Members and First Generation Descendants. Thank you in advance for your vote.

**Paula H. Smith**



I, Paula H. Smith, would like to announce my candidacy for the 2009 Tribal Council Election. I am the daughter of the late Eva Pearl Walker Hansen. I have two wonderful children: Ashley age 20 and Nathan age 16. I am a member of St. Anna's Episcopal Church, Poarch AL. I am employed at Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority as Recording Secretary. With my position I know of the Economic Development of the Tribe and the needs. I feel that I'm mature enough to handle the political issues internal and external to the Tribe.

I believe that good leaders should never forget where they came from. I bring with my candidacy an individual that has lived in the Tribal Community here at Poarch as well as living away from the community for several years. I believe I can balance the views of Tribal members outside the home community with the needs within the home community. I will promise you (Tribal Members) that I will base my decisions on what is best for all Tribal Members.

Thank you, I hope to have an opportunity to serve you and to be your voice at the Council Table. Thank you for your vote.

**Carolyn M. White**



I, Carolyn M. White, declare my candidacy for the 2009 Tribal Council Election to be held on Saturday, June 6, 2009. I have submitted my written letter of candidacy for an "at large" position on the Tribal Council.

My ancestry is linked through Will and Bessie McGhee and Ed and Margie McGhee, who are my grandparents and great-grandparents, respectively. I am the daughter of the late Mal McGhee (son of Will and Bessie McGhee) and Martha Jane McGhee Jackson (granddaughter of Ed and Margie McGhee), and step-daughter of Fay Jackson. I am married to Donald H. White and we live in Atmore, AL. Our daughter, Paula L. White, resides in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. I have lived in and near the Poarch Creek community all of my life. Growing up, I participated in many community and youth activities; and later served on the Gaming Board for 10 years and the Best Western Board for more than 20 years. I currently serve on the Commission for the Tribal Equal Rights Ordinance, which was established in 2008.

My decision to run for Tribal Council this year comes at the time in my life that I would like to participate in tribal activities in another capacity while continuing to serve the tribal community. I retired from the Alabama Department of Human Resources in February 2005 and have been working as the Executive Director for the Poarch Creek Indians' Family Services Department for the past four years. During the past few years, the Department has been reorganized and new services developed within the Community Services Program and the Adult Services Program to meet the growing needs of the Creek family. I am proud of the many accomplishments of the Department but would like to expand my advocacy and community development activities to another level as a tribal council member.

I began my college education in 1970 at Jefferson Davis Junior College and completed a 2-year degree. It was not until 1987 that I returned to school as a student at the University of South Alabama (USA) and received my Bachelor's Degree in 1989 in Human Relations Administration. I attended college at USA while employed at the Escambia County Department of Human Resources (DHR). I continued my long distance educational pursuits in 1997 at the University of Alabama and received my Master's Degree in Social Worker in 1999 with a concentration in Planning and Management.

*(Carolyn White - continued)*

After graduation, I had the opportunity to serve as Escambia County DHR Director for 4 years until my retirement in February 2005. My employment, over almost 30 years, with the Alabama Department of Human Resources was in various capacities as the County Welfare Office Assistant; as a certification worker with the Food Stamp Program establishing eligibility and conducting program integrity activities; as a senior level social worker for Quality Assurance and Child Protective services within the Escambia County Child Welfare Program and providing services to the citizens of Escambia County.

The issues I submit as my platform for change or improvement during this election is for increased communication between Tribal Council and General Council; focused emphasis on the rights of General Council; and expanded advocacy and development of comprehensive services for tribal members in need. I ask that you consider these issues during your evaluation of candidates and eventually for decision making and vote on Election Day. I will work diligently to improve communication and develop a system for ongoing consistent flow of meaningful information from tribal members to Tribal Council of what is needed; and from the Council to the people of what is being planned and what actions are being taken in all areas of government. President Obama speaks of transparency of operations within his proposed economic plans, stimulus packages, and vision for education and health care. Transparency of operations is something that is also needed for tribal operations. There has been some good things put in place by Tribal Council over the last few years; i.e. annual birthday checks, health insurance for the uninsured, additional job opportunities, and increased business revenue which supports many services; however transparency of operations is lacking and informed communication is limited. I believe effective communication is the key to successfully meeting the needs of our community. You have to be open to listen and then to hear what is needed. This requires an open-ended style of communication to present, receive, review, and evaluate tribal business. Uninformed members leave tribal plans to the speculation and unreliability of the tribal grapevine which can jeopardize the success of projects if members are not included and informed about decisions.

Another issue will be the focus on the rights of General Council, as written in the Poarch Creek Constitution; and to ensure that their rights are protected and their voices are heard. Protection of their rights is directly linked to ensuring that reliable and consistent communication of tribal operations is provided to General Council.

I would also continue my advocacy, begun with the Family Services Department, to the Tribal Council table for the development of additional services for needy tribal families, disabled tribal members, tribal elders and their caretakers; as well as being committed to securing funds to develop wraparound elder services and an assisted living facility.

I ask that you consider my candidacy and vote to elect me as your tribal council member for the next three years. I look forward to serving the Tribe in this capacity. I thank you in advance for your vote and support. I look forward to talking with you about the strengths and needs of the community.

### ***Election Board To Host Debate On May 2, 2009***

The Election Board will host a debate between all candidates on May 2, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the Wellness & Activities Center (Gym). All candidates have been invited to attend and will be prepared to debate the issues and answer any questions submitted by Tribal Members. If you have questions you would like to ask the candidates, you may submit your question the day of the debate by placing it in the box provided as you enter; if you wish to submit your question in advance, the Election Board will place a box in the Chairman's Office where you can submit your questions Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through Friday, May 1, 2009 at 12:00 noon. You do not have to put your name on any question submitted.

All submissions will be reviewed by the Election Board during the candidate introduction session of the debate; no submission will be review prior to that time. Due to time constraints and questions that may be inappropriate, not all questions may be presented to the candidates. The Election Board will determine the appropriateness of the questions to be asked.

Refreshments will be provided to those in attendance.

### ***Election Day Activities***

The 2009 Poarch Band of Creek Indians Tribal Council Election will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at the Community Services Building (SAIL Center). Voting will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All eligible voters who have not voted by Absentee Ballot or during Walk-In voting are encouraged to vote for the candidates of their choice and the proposed Constitutional Amendment.

There will be various activities throughout the day. The Election Board will provide hot dogs and Pepsi products. The Wellness & Activities Center (Gym) will again be the site for the annual Health Fair and departmental information booths. We encourage everyone who comes out to stop by.

The Wellness and Recreation Authority will also be having try-outs for the 2009 NAYO softball teams. NAYO will be held at the Seneca Reservation in New York in July. Due to the cost of attending NAYO this year, there will be only one team per gender and age group going this year.

Election Day has long been a time for friends and family to gather; we look forward to seeing you there.

# Upcoming Events

## Tribal Newsletter Deadlines

*The deadline to submit information for the June 2009 newsletter is Friday, May 1, 2009. The deadline to submit information of the July 2009 newsletter is Monday, June 1, 2009.*

## Tribal Council Meetings

*Regularly scheduled Tribal Council meetings will be held in the Tribal Council Chambers in Building 100 at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 and Tuesday, May 19, 2009. These meetings are open to the public.*

## Housing Authority Meetings

*Regularly scheduled Housing Authority meetings are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. in the Building 400 Conference Room on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 and Wednesday, May 20, 2009. These meetings are open to the public.*

## Wellness & Activities Authority Meetings

*Regularly scheduled Wellness & Activities Authority meetings will be held at the Wellness & Activities Center (Gym) at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 and Wednesday, May 27, 2009. These meetings are open to the public.*

## 4H Club Meeting

*The 4H Club meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Education Department. The 4H Club is open to children of the Poarch community age 9 -19. Any interested child can join at any time. The May meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 11th; the June meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 8th.*

## We Shall Remain

*The PBS Series "We Shall Remain" airs every Monday night from April 13th through May 11th. This truly is "must see" TV.*

## TV Converter Box

*The Poarch Creek Indians Family Services Department is assisting the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging with the national campaign to help elders (age 55+) with the digital TV conversion. Call Amanda Montgomery at (251) 368-9136 x 2600 for more information.*

## Community Coalition being formed

*A "grass roots" community coalition is being developed for the purpose of representing you, the General Council, to our elected Tribal Council on issues of concern. If you are interested in becoming a member of this coalition, or you would like to be included for informational purposes only, please contact Ann Brooks by email at [annbrooks@hotmail.com](mailto:annbrooks@hotmail.com) or by phone at (251) 928-2622 or (334) 826-7810.*

## Third Annual Poarch Creek Youth Fishing Rodeo

*Calvin McGhee Cultural Authority hosts the 3rd annual Youth Fishing Rodeo on Saturday, May 9, 2009. All supplies, bait, and*



*Tribal member Tami Manning and her partner Debby Cupp were undefeated and took 1st place in the East division of the 7th Annual Pink Ribbon Tennis Tournament held March 20th & 21st at Roger Scott Tennis Center in Pensacola, Florida. The tournament raises money for Breast Cancer Awareness.*

*Picture taken by Missy Hoffman*

*meals will be provided. Fun, games, food, and entertainment for everyone. Call Alex Alvarez, Cultural Educator, at (251) 253-5904 for more information.*

## Back Issues of Poarch Creek News Available

*Limited issues of the Poarch Creek News are available in the magazine rack in Building 600. If you are interested in picking up a copy of an issue, please feel free to do so Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm. Due to const involved, issues will not be mailed.*

## Pow Wow Shirts for Sale

*Excess 2009 Pow Wow long sleeve t-shirts and sweatshirts are for sale through Tribal Government. A limited quantity of sizes, colors, and shirts are available. Please contact Tracy Linam at (251) 368-9136 x 2213 if you are interested in purchasing any of these shirts or any of the other items Tribal Government may have for sale.*

## Miscellaneous Information

*Other information relating to Tribal services is located on our Tribal web page at [www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov](http://www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov).*

## Minutes

*Due to the size of this issue, Tribal Council Minutes scheduled for publication in this issue will be published next month.*

# TRIBAL GAMING COMMISSION

The five member Tribal Gaming Commission was established by Tribal Council Ordinance 93:001 on July 26, 1993. The primary responsibility of the Tribal Gaming Commission is to regulate all gaming on the Reservation. Per the Ordinance establishing the Tribal Gaming Commission, the Vice Chairman of the Tribal Council serves as Chairman of the Tribal Gaming Commission. The current Commission consists of Stephanie Bryan, Chairperson, Vicky Burns, Vice-Chair, Sharon Smillie, Secretary/Treasurer, and Savilla McGhee and Candace Fayard, members at large.

The Tribal Gaming Commission Office, under the day to day supervision of Daniel McGhee, Tribal Gaming Commission Administrator, employs a full-time staff of eighteen with offices located at the main office on Brookwood Lane in Atmore with remote offices at each of the three Tribal Gaming facilities, Wind Creek Casino, Riverside Entertainment Center, and Tallapoosa Entertainment Center.

The duties and responsibilities of the Tribal Gaming Commission includes administering and formulating sound regulatory controls over Tribal gaming matters; interpreting and implementing the contents of the National Indian Gaming Commission's (NIGC) Internal Controls Standards (MICS), the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) passed by Congress, and the Tribal Council Ordinance approved by the Tribal Council in 1993. Contrary to popular belief, it is not their duty to seek or establish new forms or levels of gaming such as a casino or other forms of class III gaming.

The Tribal Gaming Commission is also responsible for all licensing for the Tribal Gaming facilities; all employees of the Tribal Gaming facilities must be licensed. These licenses are all renewed on an annual basis to ensure that all employees are in compliance. The licensing process includes fingerprinting and a criminal and civil background check along with character and reputation checks. It is the five members of the Tribal Gaming Commission that make the final determination on the approval/disapproval of all Gaming license.



Pictured are the members of the Tribal Gaming Commission. Standing L-R Stephanie Bryan and Candace Fayard; seated L-R Vicky Burns and Sharon Smillie. Not pictured is Savilla McGhee.

There are five departments of the Tribal Gaming Commission Office, Administration, Investigations, Compliance, Financial/Accounting, and Information Technology (IT). These departments are responsible for investigation of theft, cheating and other types of scams; ensuring the fairness of gaming machines, cage & vault, drop & count, surveillance, complimentary services, internal audits, information technology, and environmental public health and safety.



**Poarch Creek Indians**  
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