

Poarch Creek News

Keeping the family and friends of Poarch informed

July 2010



Volume 28 | Issue 6

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Members of the Tribal Council



Buford L. Rolin
Tribal Chairman
tlancaster@pci-nsn.gov

Chairman's Corner

July 2010

As Independence Day approaches our thoughts turn toward the freedoms we as Americans have; one of which is the freedom to vote for the candidate of our choice in an open election. I thank each of you for the votes cast during the regular Tribal Elections held on June 5, 2010. Since no candidate for the Tribal Council Secretary or Treasurer seats won a majority vote, there will be a run-off to elect the individuals to fill these seats. Please make sure that you vote for the candidate of your choice for these two very important council seats. Your vote during the run-off election is as important as your vote was on June 5th. There is more information about the run-off included in the newsletter beginning with the results on page 14.

In last month's article I referenced that the Tribe would be hosting the USET Conference in Mobile, AL the week of June 13-17th. The meeting was a great success and I extend my thanks to all those who helped with the planning and organization of the event. There were many working on the front lines and behind the scenes to make sure this event was a success, some of them quite visible at times, some of them always in the background, yet working just as hard; to each of you, I say "Mvto!" Several of the USET Committees toured the Reservation and Tribal facilities. We received a tremendous amount of positive feedback from those who toured the Reservation, attended the Cultural Event, and visited Wind Creek Casino. I have been told that many were impressed and have taken the ideas of some of our advances and successes to their home tribe in hopes of increasing the services they are able to provide their tribal members.

In closing I remind everyone to take the necessary precautions to protect yourself during this extremely hot weather we are having. Be sure to drink plenty of water, wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing, check on your elderly neighbors, and NEVER leave people or pets in a closed, parked vehicle. Just be sure to remember these hot weather safety tips and have a great summer. Mvto.



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***Magnolia Branch will close
June 21, 2010 and reopen on
Friday, September 3, 2010.***

***Per the Tribal Council, the
2010 Annual Celebration
has been rescheduled for
Saturday, September 4, 2010
at Magnolia Branch Wildlife
Reserve.***

***If you have a campsite
reserved at Magnolia, please
contact Billy Smith or Tracy
Sells at (251) 446-3423. The
campsites previously reserved
for the celebration will be
honored for the rescheduled
date.***

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DEADLINES TO REMEMBER. The deadline for submission of information to be published in the Poarch Creek News is the 10th of the month prior to the month of publication. If the 10th falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline will be extended to the next working day. **Birthday/Anniversary** Wishes can be published the month before, the month of, or the month after the birthday/anniversary as long as established deadlines have been met. **Birth/Wedding Announcements** will be published as long as the birth/wedding announcement is received by the last working day of the month immediately following the birth/wedding. **Obituaries/Family Thanks** will be published as long as the information is received by the last working day of the month immediately following the death. **Photos**, due to space limitations, photos may be limited to one photo per article.



POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM



The Tribal Council would like to announce that applications are being accepted for the Revolving Loan Program.

Tribal members meeting the eligibility requirements below are eligible for a signature loan subject to terms and conditions listed for any purpose.

Loans will be awarded on a "FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE" basis.

Eligibility Requirements:

- *Must be a tribal member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and 21 years of age.*
- *Must have a minimum credit rating of 500.*
- *Must have household income above 50% of the U.S. Median Income.*
- *Must not be in default on any tribal loan or past due with any obligations to the Tribe.*
- *Future per capita distribution must be free and clear of any encumbrances.*
- *Must not be currently participating in this program.*

Terms and Conditions:

- *Loans will be issued up to \$5,000 depending upon individual credit worthiness.*
- *Maximum payback period=5 years*
- *Interest rate=2%*
- *Individuals are eligible for only one outstanding Revolving Loan at a time.*

Applications are available through the Housing Authority or can be downloaded from the Housing Authority page of the Tribe's official web site at www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov. Please provide a copy of your driver's license, social security card, tribal id, and proof of income with your completed application.

For more information or questions contact Candy Lowery, Tribal Government Accounting at 251-368-9136 extension 2258.

Housing Authority Recognizes Amerind Poster Contest Winners

Submitted by Julie Thompson

Amerind Risk Management Corporation sponsors a local Safety Poster Contest every year. This year was the first year that the topic was changed from fire safety to all safety topics. The purpose of this contest is to make you aware of things we can do to stay safe, and to know what to do when accidents do occur. Sometimes just a reminder breaks the monotony of every day life, and makes us stop for a moment to think. If we are exposed to safety topics more often, they will eventually become second nature.

This year's winners for Poarch Creek Indians are:

K-3 Grade	First	Caleb Davis
	Second	Jason Davis
4-6 Grades	First	Denver Shuttlesworth
	Second	Melea McGhee
	Third	Kennedy McGhee
7-8 Grades	First	Austin Shuttlesworth
	Second	Heather Davis

Each participant received a certificate of participation and was presented with a gift card.

The first place winners will get to compete in the Regional Safety poster contest. If they win at the regional level, they

will progress to the National contest. The National Contest is the competition of all first place winners from each of the nine regions. The National level is held online for the public to vote. National on-line judging will be July 15 through September 30, 2010. Everyone can vote; go to www.amerindrisk.org to participate and vote as often as possible.

Please support our children and their efforts. Each First place winner on the National level will receive a \$2000.00 saving bond. *All first place winners placed first at the USET/Regional level in June and will now compete at the national level.*



Front row, Austin Shuttlesworth, Lynn Woodcock (Board Chairman), Kennedy McGhee, and Denver Shuttlesworth. Back row – Lavan Martin, Helen Hallman, Kevin McGhee, and Theresa Thomas, (Housing Authority Board members).

You are invited

You are invited to join us in the celebration of our newly renovated Health Department by attending an OPEN HOUSE in the Pharmacy Waiting Room on Friday, August 20, 2010. Opening Ceremonies begin at 3:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served.

Please contact Cindy Martin at (251) 368-9136 x 2302 if you have any questions.

Muskogee Metalworks Receives Recognition

Submitted by Jennifer Chisem

Muskogee Metalworks is proud to announce its recognition as a 2009 Quality Supplier Award (Circle of Excellence) and The Top Supplier of the Year by ITT Geospatial Systems (formally known as ITT Night Vision Division). This is the third year in a row that Muskogee has received the Quality Supplier Award and the first time to receive The Top Supplier of the Year Award. Jim Martin, the Procurement Manager for ITT Geospatial Systems, Roanoke, Va. presented both awards at a ceremony held at Muskogee Metalworks. The employees and guests were honored with a barbecue lunch, ITT umbrellas and mugs.

Mal McGhee, General Manager of Muskogee Metalworks, opened the ceremony with an overview of the four-year business partnership enjoyed by both companies. Mal stated, "It has been great to work with Jim Martin and ITT Geospatial Systems, it is an honor to know that by providing products and services to them we are saving the lives of our war fighters and protecting our country. Our employees take their job very seriously and it shows in their performance."

Muskogee Metalworks has provided over four hundred thousand products and kits with revenues exceeding twenty six million dollars. "ITT is our top customer; we appreciate their business and the opportunity to expand our electronic capabilities. We look forward to future growth," McGhee added.

When Mr. Martin took the platform, he spoke directly to the employees telling them how the work they do directly helped our war fighters complete critical national defense missions. He stated that, when Muskogee was called on to surge production to complete the cleaning and inspection of certain power supplies in November – December 2009 we met the requirement on time and saved the mission. It was so important to the Department of Defense they sent a Black Hawk helicopter to land at the ITT facilities to pick up the product these power supplies were needed for. Mr. Martin stated that he had all the confidence in the world that his suppliers would meet the challenge. He went into detail how over all of 2009 Muskogee had made the delivery schedule on thousands and thousands of units to ITT. Not only was the delivery schedule met without a single late delivery, but there were absolutely zero discrepancies. Mr. Martin stated the product Muskogee Metalworks provides to ITT is so critical that they perform 100% inspection on all items. He couldn't stress enough the importance of accomplishing *zero discrepancies*! He then called on Mr. McGhee to receive the 2009 Supplier Circle of Quality Award for Muskogee Metalworks.

Mr. Martin continued speaking of how very important the work is to the US Military. He stressed quality, delivery and having the work ethic it takes to be the very best. He stated where 'more is better' is a typical business mantra this is not so where ITT Geospatial Systems is concerned, he stressed 'better is better.'

This saying he takes to heart due to the criticality of the products
July 2010



Pictured l-r are Dorothy Johnson, Roberta Sutton, Jim Martin, Marilyn Ross, James Sutton, and Mal McGhee

Muskogee is involved in and who the end user of the product is. He is very appreciative of our men and women in uniform. He accepts nothing short of excellence from his suppliers. He said, "If these suppliers are not on board with this philosophy they will not be ITT suppliers long."

Mr. Martin stated that he went to the various departments at ITT to find out which supplier of their thirty-five hundred was the very best in 2009. He spoke to his Quality Department, Engineering, Contracts, Purchasing and various other areas of business. He said all departments came up with the same supplier...Muskogee Metalworks. Muskogee's quality score for 2009 was 100% quality and 100% delivery. He then asked Mr. McGhee to again come forward and presented to him The 2009 Top Supplier of the Year Award.

Mr. McGhee said, "It is a great honor to be recognized by ITT Geospatial Systems with these special performance awards, I am so proud of the staff here at Muskogee. I see the pride that they put into their work on a daily basis, it is very special when our customers are able to see it and show their appreciation." Muskogee Metalworks has been in operation since 1992 providing a variety of services including metal fabrication, precision machining, water jet cutting, and electronics. It has expanded to meet the needs of the aerospace and defense industries by providing electronic and electromechanical assembly and kitting services as with the ITT Night Vision Goggles.

Muskogee Metalworks is a subsidiary of Creek Indian Enterprise Development Authority located in Atmore, Alabama, which is the economic arm of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

Who's Having A Birthday??

Birthday Wishes can be published the month before the birthday, the month of the birthday, or as a belated Birthday Wish the month after the birthday as long as the established deadline has been met. Please remember the established deadlines when submitting your Birthday Wish.

Victoria Shelby

Victoria Shelby turned 14 on June 1, 2010. I wish you a very special birthday. Victoria, you are a very special part of my life! I love you and wish you a happy birthday. Uncle David



Halle Ra Peebles

Halle Ra Peebles celebrated her 10th birthday on June 16, 2010. Happy birthday Halle Ra!

We love you, Mama, Daddy, Kortlan, and Braxton.



Jason Cory Stephens

The parents and brothers of Jason Cory Stephens were honored to wish him a very happy 34th birthday on June 2, 2010. He is the best son and brother a family could ever hope for! We are proud of his accomplishments in life, and extremely proud each time he leaves his family to serve his country. He is an outstanding husband and daddy, and his beautiful smile and warm heart emanate sunshine to all who meet him. We love you Jason! Happy Birthday from Dad, Mom, Christopher, and Jonathan.



Colton Peebles

Colton Peebles celebrated his birthday on June 23, 2010. Happy belated birthday Colton!

Love Granny Sharon & Paw Paw



Leighanna Bray

Leighanna Bray will celebrated her 1st Birthday June 23, 2010. She is the daughter of Randall and AnnMarie Bray, granddaughter of Charles (Bo) and Debbie Bray, Gene and Karen Lewis, and great granddaughter of the late VR Bray and Willie Mae Bray (McGhee) and the late James R Lowery and Louise Lowery. "HAPPY BIRTHDAY LEIGH LEIGH" Love, Paw Paw and Granny Bray



Mikeal Allen Reeves

Mikeal Allen Reeves turned 16 at last on June 6, 2010. Watch out drivers!! Mikeal, your Uncle David loves you and wishes you a very special 16th birthday. Love, Uncle David



Megan Rackard

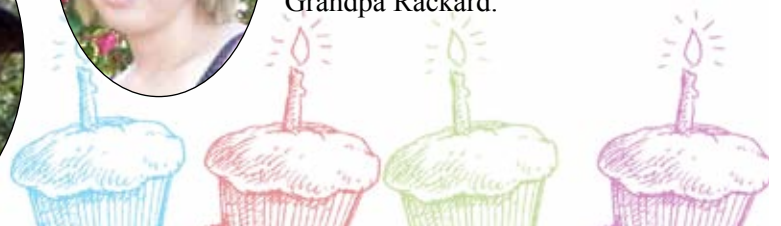
Megan Rackard, daughter of Kevin and Trina Rackard, celebrated her 16th Birthday on June 23, 2010. Happy Birthday Megan! We Love You Very Much! Mom, Dad, Jacob, Maw Maw, Paw Paw, Aunt Tab, Uncle Tony, Brooke, Allie Anna, Grandma and Grandpa Rackard.



Josh Peebles

Josh celebrated his birthday on June 11, 2010. Happy belated birthday Josh!

Love Granny Sharon & Paw Paw



Hailey Clark

Hailey Clark celebrated her 15th birthday with family and friends on June 26, 2010.

Happy birthday Hailey, we love you!!



Hunter Clark

Hunter Clark celebrated his 15th birthday with friends and family on June 26, 2010.

Happy birthday Hunter! We love you!



Melvine Malone-Kirk

Melvine Malone-Kirk of Memphis, TN celebrated her 48th birthday on June 29th!! You are very much loved by your many family members and friends, especially by your baby sister, Jackie. Stay sweet and come home soon for a visit. we miss you!



Bertie Lee Gibson Miller

Bertie Lee Gibson Miller will celebrate her birthday on July 9, 2010. Happy birthday Mama, we love you!

Ms. Bertie sends birthday wishes to her granddaughter, Hillary Miller, on July 1st. She also sends birthday wishes to her son, Kevin Miller, on July 13th.



Haylee Brooke Montgomery



Haylee Brooke Montgomery will be celebrating her 1st birthday on July 10th. Haylee is the daughter of Kristy and Mike Montgomery and little sister to Kaelyn of Milton, FL. Larue and Sandra (McGhee) Chunn of Theodore, AL are Haylee's grandparents. Great granddad is Carl (Buster) McGhee of Walnut Hill. Happy First Birthday Haylee! We love you.

Rose McGhee Conlon



Rose McGhee Conlon will celebrate her birthday on July 11, 2010. Happy Birthday Sis!! We love you very much, Kay, Linda, Barbara, and Bobby.

Allie Anna Schachle



Allie Anna Schachle will celebrate her 4th birthday on July 12, 2010. Allie Anna is the daughter of Tabitha Rolin Schachle and Anthony Lee Schachle, Jr. She is the younger sister of Brooke Schachle. Happy Birthday Allie Anna!! We Love You!! Mommy, Daddy, Brooke, Maw Maw, Paw Paw, Aunt Trina, Uncle Kevin, Jacob & Megan.

Madelyn Boatwright



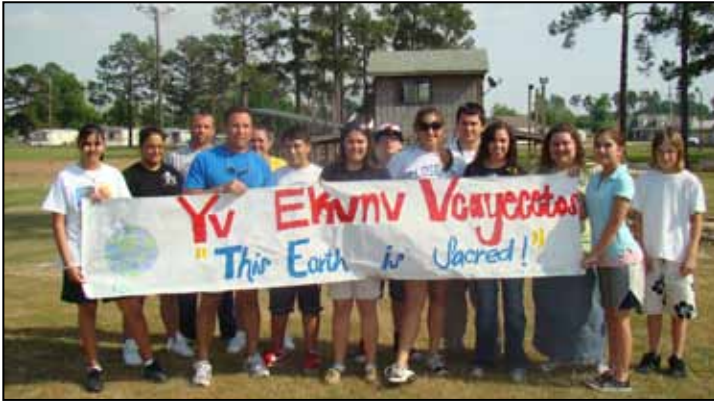
Madelyn Boatwright will celebrate her 12th birthday on July 14, 2010. We hope you have a happy birthday! Madelyn is the daughter of Dewayne and Melanie Boatwright and is the granddaughter of David and Myrtis Kinman and Rayford and Shirley Boatwright and is the sister of Logan Boatwright. Happy Birthday! We love you!! Connor and Kendall Kinman wish you a happy birthday as well!



Continued on page 22

True Heroes: The Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council

Submitted by Alex Alvarez



Striving to make the Poarch community a better place, members of Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council rolled up their sleeves and got to work. On April 22nd, in honor of Earth Day, the council prepared brochures telling how to save money and the environment all from home. Members then trekked through all of the subdivisions on a 5-mile walk personally handing out the information to tribal households.

On May 24th, the youth council took another initiative and conducted a clean-up of Lynn McGhee drive and the Manac subdivision. With the assistance of the Public Works and Public Safety Departments, members disposed of roadside trash and debris and helped make the community cleaner and safer. On June 15th, during the USET cultural night at the powwow grounds the tribal youth council helped serve food to hundreds of visitors and community members.

It is extremely rare to see people, let alone teenagers, work for the greater good and not receive a dime in payment. Since its creation the Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council has helped bring about a positive change within the community. They do not work hard for profit, for recognition, or to pay back a debt; they do this because they love their community and the people in it. Today, the youth council stands strong against the many adversities that affect Native American Youth. They have become a family and will most definitely be the next leaders of the tribe.

Officers are: Megan Flurnoy, Chief; Justin Stabler, Second Chief; Connie Colbert, Speaker; and Bethany Crook and Hailey Clark, Secretaries. Members-at-large are: CJ Linam-Green, Brad Rolin, Brent Lambeth, Cedo Coon, Kaweta Coon, Marilee Bell, Greg McGhee, Lydia Rolin, Josh Peebles, Brice McGhee, Tarissa Daughtry, and Derek Gibson.

If you or someone you know would like to join the youth council, please contact Alex Alvarez, Cultural Educator, @ 251-368-9136 ext 2655.

Creating a Positive Place For Our Future The Poarch Creek Boys and Girls Club

Submitted by Alex Alvarez

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is proud to announce the opening of the very first Poarch Creek Boys and Girls Club. Opening in the early fall of 2010, the club will open its doors to the community and give tribal youth a fun, safe and healthy place to attend after school and during the summer and winter holidays. Poarch tribal youth, ranging from ages 6-17 will be able to call the Boys and Girls club home and experience the Native American youth programming at its finest.

In addition to the club's innovative programming, the Education Department, Wellness and Activities, and the Cultural Authority will be providing instruction and activities for participants to give them a wide array of things to do including educational, cultural, and recreational activities. The Boys and Girls Club members will be broken down into three categories: 6-8, 9-12, and 13-17, giving isolation to specific age groups so lessons and activities can be geared toward each age-range.

The club itself will be headquartered at the old school house located on the powwow grounds. Details concerning transportation to the club from local schools are still being worked on; they will be publicized as soon as they are finalized.

Keeping our children safe and healthy is of the upmost importance to the tribe; they are the future. With this in mind, the Tribe wants to make sure that all tribal families can afford for their children to attend; membership into Poarch Creek Boys and Girls Club will cost very little and scholarships will be available for those who cannot afford the nominal fee.

Details and specifications of the club are still being worked on diligently by the Board of Directors for the Poarch Creek Boys and Girls Club and respective staff. As more information becomes available, it will be sent through mail-outs and/or the Poarch Creek News.

The club will not be taking membership applications until policies and procedures have been developed and approved. If you have a question concerning another matter of the club, please contact Alex Alvarez @ 251-368-9136 ext 2655.

Learning The Songs Of Our Ancestors And Giving Praise To God Poarch Creek Gospel Hymn Classes

Submitted by Alex Alvarez



Before the Indian Removal Act of 1830, which forced the majority of the nation out of the southeast, Muscogee Creek people worshiped God with both ceremonial traditions and newly composed songs of praise that were used in Indian churches. Many attended both freely and celebrated both traditions, new and old. All that changed when Andrew Jackson forced the “savages” of the five civilized tribes, Creek, Choctaw, Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Seminole, out of their ancestral homelands east of the Mississippi River. In what was once called Indian Territory, now called Oklahoma, these songs of praise and ceremonial customs were able to become a part of daily life once again for their respective tribes.

Those Native American families who were able to stay in their homelands through treaties and hiding weren't so fortunate. Indian communities of the late 1800's all the way up to the late 1970's faced a great deal of adversity for simply being exactly what God made them to be: Native American. Forced assimilation and prejudice prohibited Native American families from practicing cultural customs, speaking their God-given tongue, and even forbidding them to worship in their own way.

Since its creation in 2006, the Poarch Creek Cultural Education program has begun to reclaim what was taken from this community so long ago; identity and pride. Through April and May of this year, tribal members and families came to learn Creek gospel hymns. These wonderful songs of praise taught tribal members the values that their ancestors held dear as well as the Creek language.

The hymn classes proved to be a great success and everyone had a wonderful time attending and learning. We hope that everyone will get a chance to take advantage of the opportunities to learn about their heritage and culture in the very near future. MVTO!

Notice to Indian Contractors

Submitted by Clayton Coon

The Calvin McGhee Cultural Management Authority (CMCMA) is soliciting bids for a maximum of 16 laborers to perform parking and beautification duties at the 2010 Thanksgiving Pow Wow. Deadline for sealed bids will be at 4:30 p.m. July 30, 2010.

For more information, please contact Clayton Coon @368-9136 ext.2648 or via email at ccoon@pci-nsn.gov

Come Represent YOUR Tribe in
STYLE!!!!



Honoring Our Graduates & Student Successes

The *Poarch Creek News* will be happy to publish graduation and student accomplishments as long as applicable deadlines have been met. As dates for graduation ceremonies vary, we list the upcoming deadlines for your convenience, please be sure to submit your information by the established deadline.

August Newsletter/July 12, 2010 For June/July Graduations
Sept. Newsletter/August 10, 2010 For July/August Graduations

Nathan Smith Graduates Escambia Academy

Submitted by Paula Smith

Nathan Palle Smith graduated from Escambia Academy on May 20, 2010. Nathan is the son of Paula Smith and brother of USCG Seaman Ashley Smith and the grandson of the late Eva Pearl (Walker) Hansen. Way to go Nate! We are so proud of you. May God bless you in your future.



We love you. Mom, Ash, Uncle Punky, Aunt Donna, Aunt Bonnie, Aunt Lannie

Boatwright Graduates Huxford

Submitted by Myrtis Kinman

Madelyn Boatwright, daughter of Dewayne and Melanie Boatwright, graduated from Huxford Elementary School with all A's.

We are very proud of you and love you very much!! Keep up the good work. Love Nana, PawPaw, Mom and Daddy, and brother Logan.



Bray Graduates HIPPY Program

Submitted by Debbie Bray



We want to say "CONGRATULATIONS" to Gaberial Bray for completing the HIPPY Program (Home Instruction For Parents of Preschool Youngsters). Gabe is truly a very special young man. We would like to thank everyone involved with the HIPPY Program for all the special attention they gave Gabe. Gabe is the son of Randy and AnnMarie Bray and the grandson of Charles "BO" and Debbie Bray and Eugene and Karen Lewis. He is the great grandson of the late VR Bray and Willie Mae Bray (McGhee) and the late Jim Lowery and Louise Lowery (Johnson).

We Love You Gabe!!!! PawPaw and Granny Bray.

Gibbs Graduates From University Of Alabama With Bachelor's Degree

Submitted by Rosemary Powell



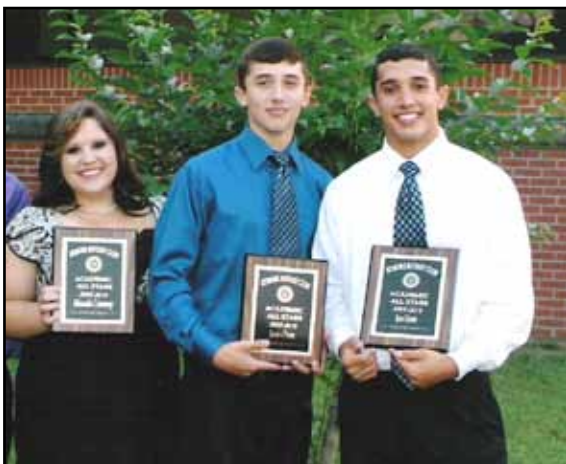
Stacey Marie Gibbs, daughter of David and Patricia Gibbs, graduated from the University of Alabama on May 8, 2010 with a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing with concentration in Consumer Marketing. Stacey is the granddaughter of Mary Stella Gibbs (shown with Stacey) and the late Rev. Fred Gibbs and Troy and Margaret Byrd. Congratulations Stacey!!

Atmore Rotary Club Recognizes Academic All-Stars

James Dean, Jon Dean, Miranda Caraway, and Kristen Gehman were named 2010 Rotary Academic All-Stars. Rotary Academic All-Stars are high school students who maintain a "B" average throughout the school year. Jon graduated on May 20, 2010 as a four year academic all-star.

Congratulations to all of you.

Jon Dean Signs With Birmingham Southern on page 26



Kristen Gehman

Photo by David Gehman Photography

Honoring Our Graduates & Student Successes

Schachle Wins Two Kindergarten Awards

Submitted by Tabitha Schachle

Congratulations to Brooke Schachle for winning (2) Kindergarten awards at Perdido Elementary. Brooke won the "Best Manners" award for her class and the "Never Pulling a Star" award. Brooke Schachle is the oldest daughter of Tabitha Rolin Schachle and Anthony Lee Schachle, Jr and the sister of Allie Anna. We are very proud of you Brooke!! We Love You!! Mommy, Daddy, Allie Anna, Maw Maw, Paw Paw, Aunt Trina, Uncle Kevin, Jacob & Megan



Walker Graduates Huxford

Submitted by Michelle White



The family of Dalton Walker would like to congratulate him for graduating from the 6th grade at Huxford Elementary School. We love you and are very proud of you. Love, Mom, Mark, Chris, Drake, and Tori.

Rackard Graduates From ECHS

Submitted by Trina Rackard

Jacob Rackard graduated from Escambia County High School on May 28, 2010. Congratulations Jacob for all your hard work. You made it! We are proud of you and all that you have accomplished. We Love You Very Much! Mom, Dad, Megan, Maw Maw, Paw Paw, Aunt Tab, Uncle Tony, Brooke, Allie Anna, Grandma and Grandpa Rackard



Dean Graduates Escambia Academy

Submitted by Kim Dean



Jon Dean graduated from Escambia Academy on May 20, 2010. Jon graduated with honors and was ranked second in his senior class. We wish you all the best as you begin the next phase of your journey at Birmingham-Southern College this fall. We love you and we are very proud of you. Love, Mom, Dad, and family

Kimbrough Serves As Class Salutatorian

Submitted by Agnes murphy Akers

Ashley Elizabeth Kimbrough graduated from Phil Campbell High School on May 28, 2010 as Class Salutatorian.



Ashley was voted *Most Likely To Succeed* in Who's Who and served as vice-president for her 8th-12th grade classes. She was a member of the FFA for four years and has served as vice-president of the National Honor Society and Jr. Civitan Chaplain. She was selected as the *Most Outstanding Girl* in the 9th grade and was class favorite in the 11th grade.

Ashley is the daughter of Mark and Lorri Kimbrough of Phil Campbell, AL. She is the granddaughter of Agnes Lousie Murphy Akers and the late Ken Akers of Russellville, AL. She is the great granddaughter of the late Wilson and Lydia Mae Murphy of Monroeville, AL. Other relatives include great aunt Eloise Brown of Monroeville, great uncles Lavon Murphy of Atmore, Don Murphy of Monroeville, and the late Fred Murphy of Atmore.

Caraway Graduates K-5

Submitted by Kim Dean



Maggie Pearl Caraway graduated from the K-5 class at Escambia Academy on May 15, 2010. Many family members and friends celebrated with her on this special day. We love you and we are very proud of you. Love, Ma- Maw and Pa-Pa McGhee and family

Comalander Graduates BCHS

Submitted by Michelle White



The family of Miranda Comalander would like to congratulate her on her graduation from Baldwin County High School. We are very proud of you and love you very much. Love, Mom, Thomas, Samantha, Aunt Shell, Mark, Chris, Drake, Dalton, Tori, Jody, and Granny.

Tullis Wins At-Large Seat, Run-Off For Secretary & Treasurer Seats

A total of 1,054 votes were cast in the 2010 Tribal Elections. All three proposed Amendments to the Tribal Constitution passed. Of the ten candidates for the open At-Large seat on the Council, Eddie L. Tullis received a total of 282 votes, narrowly upsetting incumbent Tribal Council member Helen Hallman, who received 196 votes. Mr. Tullis will take his place at the Council table after being sworn in at the June 17th Tribal Council meeting. Helen has been a long time voice for the people on the Council and we would not be surprised to see her name on next year's ballot.

No candidate running for the Tribal Council Secretary or Treasurer seats received a majority (51%) of the votes cast during the election process, which will necessitate a run-off between the two candidates with the most votes for each position. This run-off has been scheduled for September 4, 2010. The two run-off candidates for Secretary are Incumbent David Gehman, with 318 votes, and William Lawrence Bailey (Bubba), with 177 votes. The two run-off candidates for Treasurer are Incumbent Robert "Robbie" McGhee, with 379 votes, and Amy Nelson Bryan, with 350 votes. For your convenience, the run-off notice and Request for Absentee Ballot has been included and is posted on the Tribe's official web site at www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov.

This year's Tribal Elections were an experience that many will never forget. For those who do not live in the area, we have had extremely hot weather since the end of April. The heat of Election Day was so overwhelming that the voter line was moved into the SAIL Center to help prevent voters from becoming overheated. The overwhelming turn-out on Election Day started early; the polls opened at 8:00 a.m., with the first vote being cast at 8:04 a.m. From the time the polls opened until around 4:30 p.m. there was a line of voters, the majority of the time the line was out the door and appeared to wrap around the building at times.

The annual Health Fair was held in the gym and Tribal Administrative information booths were set up to distribute information about their programs to Tribal Members. Representatives from AE COM (formerly Gladding Jackson) were on hand and gave an update on the Master Plan and encouraged Tribal Member input in the Master Plan project, *A Place Called Poarch*.

Listed below are the official results of the 2010 Tribal Elections as certified by the Tribal Council on June 17, 2010:

There was a total of 1054 General Council Members who voted in the Tribal Election held on Saturday, June 5, 2010. There were 92 Absentee Ballots and 253 Walk-In Ballots counted

and there were 709 General Council Members who voted in person on Election Day. The required number needed to have a valid election for the Constitutional Amendments is 824.

Secretary	David Gehman	318
	William Lawrence Bailey (Bubba)	177
	Kelli Ramer	168
	Carolyn M. White	166
	Sandra Lee Smith	123
	Dewitt Carter	77

Treasurer	Robert "Robbie" McGhee	379
	Amy Nelson Bryan	350
	Edie Tullis Jackson	225
	William L. Vickery	76

At-Large	Eddie Leon Tullis	282
	Helen McGhee Hallman	196
	Debra Rolin Strickland	181
	Robert G. Thrower	101
	W. V. Williams	98
	Carrie Martin	75
	Valerie Barnhill Taylor	47
	Gil Caudle	46
	Douglas "Poncho" Kelley	11
	Ernest Vickery (Write In Candidate)	4

Amendment #1	Yes	796	No	177
Amendment #2	Yes	798	No	180
Amendment #3	Yes	578	No	393



L-R Robbie McGhee and Amy Bryan will face each other in a run-off for the Tribal Council Treasurer position; Eddie L. Tullis wins At-Large seat; William Bailey and David Gehman will face each other in a run-off for the Tribal Council Secretary position.

2010 Tribal Run-Off Election Notice

No candidate campaigning for the seats for Tribal Council Secretary or Treasurer received a majority vote during the regular Tribal Election held Saturday, June 5, 2010. There will be a run-off election between the top candidates for each position on Saturday, September 4, 2010.

Candidates for Tribal Council Secretary

Incumbent David Gehman
William Lawrence Bailey (Bubba)

Candidates for Tribal Council Treasurer

Incumbent Robert "Robbie" McGhee
Amy Nelson Bryan

Run-off Election Day- Saturday September 4, 2010 @ SAIL CENTER 8am-7pm

Walk-In Voting Begins- Thursday August 5, 2010 @ SAIL Center

Walk-in Voting Ends- Tuesday August 31, 2010 @ SAIL Center

On the original Request for Absentee Ballot we asked the members if they wanted a ballot for the run-off election if there was one, the members who checked this box will automatically have a ballot sent to them. The members who did not check the box will have to request for another absentee ballot.

Friday, August 7, 2010

Debate 1:00 p.m. Family Services Auditorium*

Tuesday, August 24, 2010

Last day to request Absentee Ballot

Friday, September 3, 2010

Absentee Ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m.

*If you would like to submit questions for the debate, please submit them to Gia Rodriguez or email them to her at grodriguez@pci-nsn.gov.

For your convenience we have included the original bios submitted by the candidates and published in the May 2010 issue of the Poarch Creek News. Per the Election Board, the candidates will have the opportunity to submit an additional 500 word statement to be published in the August issue of the Poarch Creek News.



ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST

2010 POARCH CREEK INDIAN TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2010



I, _____, am an enrolled member of the Poarch Creek Indians, and will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before September 4, 2010. I am hereby requesting an Absentee Ballot because: **(please check all that apply to you)**

- _____ I live outside of the five county Tribal service area;
- _____ I have a physical illness or infirmity which prevents me from voting in person on election day or participating in walk-in voting;
- _____ I work a shift that has at least 10 hours which prevents me from voting in person on election day or participating in walk-in voting; or
- _____ I am enrolled as a student at an educational institution located outside the Tribal service area which prevents me from voting in person on election day or participating in walk-in voting.

I am requesting a ballot for the following election.

[] Run- off election on September 4, 2010.

Please send an Absentee Ballot to me at the address listed below:

FIRST	MIDDLE	MAIDEN	LAST
<hr/>			
STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
<hr/>			
() TELEPHONE NUMBER	DATE OF BIRTH	TRIBAL ROLL NO.	

Each person requesting an absentee ballot “**MUST**” sign his/her own request.

SIGNATURE: _____
(This must be the signature of the Tribal Member to whom the ballot will be mailed)

RETURN THIS FORM TO: POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS
TRIBAL ELECTION BOARD
5811 JACK SPRINGS ROAD
ATMORE, AL 36502

Requests for Absentee Ballots that are to be mailed must be received by the Election Board no later than the close of business on Tuesday, August 24, 2010. Requests received after the deadline will not be honored. Should you have any questions pertaining to the 2010 Tribal Council Elections, please feel free to contact Gia Rodriguez at (251) 368-9136 ext 2525.

Run-Off Candidates for Treasurer

AMY BRYAN

Do you know how much money this Tribe generates on an annual basis? I don't, but I should, and so should every member of this Tribe.



My name is Amy Bryan and I am a candidate for Treasurer of the Tribal Council. I would like to introduce myself to any tribal member who may not know me. I am the daughter of Gloria Sells Krafka and Rick Nelson, the granddaughter of the "late" Eugene Sells, the "late" Roberta Sells and the "late" Marlon Nelson and Mary Nelson. I am the niece of Garvis Sells, Toney Sells, Harold Sells, Dewitt Sells, Julius Sells, Jerry Sells and Donny Nelson.

If elected I promise accountability and transparency of all Tribal Funds including funds generated by Creek Indian Enterprises and PCI Gaming. As Treasurer I could accomplish this by providing every General Council Member audited financials on an annual basis. In addition, I would be accountable to you, the general council, for every dollar spent and earned.

If you are an enrolled member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians you are a shareholder of the Tribe's assets. Currently there are 3011 tribal members. Each tribal member has one share...nothing more, nothing less. As a shareholder, you are entitled to complete transparency in tribal activities, spending and decisions where tribal member's lives are directly impacted. The best run government is the most informed government.

Each shareholder should receive a copy of the Tribe's audited financials from a third party CPA firm. These financials should include the government branch, and more importantly the gaming and economic development branch of our Tribe. Otherwise there is no way you can determine whether the tribal leadership you have elected is making responsible business decisions on your behalf and in the best interest of the people.

The Tribe is now generating hundreds of millions of dollars and the benefit to provide audited financials to every General Council Member would far out weigh any associated cost. Let me use the "real world" as an example. In any multi-million dollar corporation, shareholders receive annual financial statements on its revenue and expenses. There is an annual shareholders meeting and voting by proxy is the norm. If elected as Treasurer, I will ensure Tribal members be

given a copy of proposed budgets each year from each of its enterprises, prior to them being approved, and a public hearing be held to go over each budget. Our Tribe has members all over the world with their own unique situation which should be considered prior to budgets being approved.

I also support:

- Reducing the senior benefit plan to 55. (This is promised every year by the candidates running, but I assure you I will fight to make sure this is implemented.) As treasurer I would have access to the financials to ensure this is feasible and will vote in favor of making this happen.
- Adding enforcement provisions to the Ethics Procedures, including separation of powers between executive, legislative and judicial branches.
- Building an assisted living facility on the reservation for our elders. While we are investing in many "for profit" projects on the reservation, we also need to invest in projects, where the return on investment is not always a financial gain, but in the human interest. An assisted living facility will give all tribal members the opportunity to return to the reservation with a peace of mind knowing they will be taken care of for the rest of their lives, regardless of their income.
- The construction of a middle and high school for our tribal member and Indian descent students living on the reservation.
- Tribal Member preference in employment and contracting for tribal members, Indian descent and tribal-member spouses.
- Employment advancement when opportunities exist for tribal members when experience is equivalent to the required education. As a sovereign nation, we have an inherent right to protect our own, and a special consideration to make decisions based on the individual needs of ALL our people;

One of the reasons I love political campaigning so much is that it is republican democracy in its purest form. Candidates make their case over several months and the people they will ultimately represent get to decide which one of them gets the opportunity to actually do so. It's why I am strongly opposed to any and all restrictions that are unconstitutional for our people. Please contact me at 251-583-0071 if you would like to discuss any tribal issues.

If you believe in these same issues elect me, AMY BRYAN, AS TRIBAL TREASURER.

Please elect Amy Bryan to serve as Treasurer of the Tribal Council for the 2010 Annual Election

ROBERT “ROBBIE” MCGHEE

First, I would like to say THANK YOU for allowing me to serve as your council member over the last six years. I can honestly say it has been the most challenging, yet rewarding experience and opportunity provided to me thus far. During the past six years, we have seen many improvements – both in our community and in terms of benefits provided to our Tribal members. I would like to have the opportunity to not only continue, but expand the work I have done for you.



Many of you may know me already. However, for those of you who may not, let me introduce myself. My name is Robert “Robbie” McGhee. My parents are Bobby Lawrence and the late Doris Daughtry McGhee. My grandparents were the late Roy Lee and Opal McGhee and the late Adam and Inez Daughtry. I am also the great-grandson of our late Chief Calvin McGhee and Joyce McGhee.

Like the generations who came before me, I believe it is crucially important that our Members have access to good education. I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to earn a Bachelor’s degree from the University of South Alabama, a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Alabama, and a Master’s Degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Before coming back home, to work for the Tribe, I held several positions in federal government which included working on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. That experience, combined with my service on the Tribal Council, has allowed me to become involved in the local, state and national concerns that affect our Tribe at all levels of government. Each of these positions has allowed me opportunities to educate myself on all issues that could possibly impact our Tribe and to advocate for Poarch in local, state, and national forums.

Currently, I am serving my second term as your representative to the Poarch Band of Creek Indian’s Tribal Council. I also have the honor of representing the Tribe on the Executive Board of the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) and as the Eastern Regional Director of the National Indian Gaming Association. In addition, I serve as the Council representative to the Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority, (the economic development and management entity of the Tribe) and as the Chairman of the Budget and Finance Legislative Committee.

In my role as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, I am responsible for reviewing, modifying, and offering recommendations to Tribal Council for all Tribal Government, Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority, and PCI Gaming Authority budgets. Once these budgets are approved

and or modified by the Legislative Committee, our recommendations are provided to the Tribal Council for the appropriate action.

I believe that serving in these capacities, coupled with my experience as President and CEO of Creek Indian Enterprises and Tribal Administrator, makes me uniquely qualified to hold the office of Treasurer for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians – a position that is crucially important to our Tribe’s financial health and well-being.

In the past six years I have served on the Tribal Council, there have been many changes to the Tribe, and I am proud of the increased services that we have been able to extend to Tribal Members. For example, every Tribal member now has the opportunity to receive a college/vocational education. Recently, we increased, by 100%, Tribal scholarships that are available to Indian-descent children. Universal Health Care is now accessible to all Tribal members who don’t have existing health coverage. And we also approved funding for a financial health supplement to Tribal members who have their own insurance to assist them with offsetting their current medical costs. While the Tribal Member is the main beneficiary, they can use this benefit for themselves or anyone living in their household. Even with these added benefits the Tribal Member Birthday Check has increased by over 600%!

These definitely have been exciting times for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. However, these opportunities exist only because you have entrusted the Council with making the tough decisions to financially plan for the future of our Tribe, Tribal members and other members of your household.

I remain determined and committed to making a real difference in the lives of fellow Tribal members and I would ask you to once again give me the opportunity to work for you. I want to contribute to the overall welfare and continued success of the Tribe by serving you again as your Council member.

When I look back over the last two elections and my campaign platform, I am happy to see many of those things that I ran on have been accomplished and I was able to list previously. However, much more needs to be done.

We still need to continue to focus on the diversification of our financial resources so we continue to provide education and health care without relying solely on our Gaming revenues. With that said, we have begun to develop, with your input, the Master Plan for the Tribe.

Once completed, the Master Plan will provide a framework for the Tribal Council as it considers various opportunities aimed at enhancing the quality of life for our Tribal members such as providing assisted living, and building a grocery store and Tribal school. It will allow the Council to explore various diverse economic opportunities. On a personal note, I will

continue to search for the financing to build a nursing home facility for our Tribal elders in need of care. We have begun the process to determine the feasibility and sustainability of a Tribal School that will educate all our children without having to send them to area schools that are not focused on the well-being of our children.

With your support and continuous guidance, we, as a people, can continue to accomplish great things for our Tribe. I have always been told that every effective leader is ever-mindful of two important truths; you are chosen by the people and you must always strive to serve the best interest of those people. I pledge to continue to do both for you.

I ask respectfully that you entrust your vote to me, Robert "Robbie" McGhee, on June 5, 2010. Give me an opportunity to work with you and the Tribal Council to grow and protect the financial assets of the Tribe as your Tribal Treasurer.

Run-Off Candidates for Tribal Council Secretary

WILLIAM LAWRENCE BAILEY (BUBBA)

I ask for a little of your time to ask for your support by voting for me in the upcoming Tribal Council Election. I am William Lawrence Bailey, son of Verlie (McGhee) Bailey, grandson of Lawrence McGhee and Mammie (Rolin) McGhee. My wife Cheryl Lynn (Blackwelder) Bailey and I have been married for 32 years. We have two sons, Billy and Jake Bailey, and a lot of grand-children.



I believe in truth, honesty, and equality. These words, words to live by, can keep us as tribal members close to each other as a community. We have strayed from being a close-knit community and we need to get back to it!

I have had the honor of serving on the council before, but needed to resign for medical reasons. Currently, I actively preserve our culture and traditions, by being a member of the ceremonial grounds. Our separation from aspects of our culture has divided us and our tribe from other tribes. We are Creek people; I hope we all remember who we are in the future. We, as Creek people, believe in truth—always remember this if nothing else.

I would greatly appreciate your vote and support for myself and our Creek Community. Thank you, William Bailey.

DAVID GEHMAN



My name is David Gehman, candidate for Secretary of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. I am the son of Martin & Vernie Lee Barnhill Gehman; Grandson of P.R. and Ruby McGhee Barnhill; Great Grandson of Len and Hettie Colbert McGhee. My wife is Shyrell; our children are Stephanie, Emily, Kristen and Stephen. Visit www.abettertribe.com

Thank you so much for the trust you placed in me three years ago when tribal voters elected me to represent them and their families on the Tribal Council. Now I am asking for your vote and active support so that I may continue serving you as Secretary of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Having the opportunity to serve the members of our tribal family has truly been one of the highest honors of my life, a privilege that I have never taken for granted. There has never been a time in the history of our tribe where the future looks brighter, but we must always remember that our strength lies in our faith, our families and our traditions.

Improving and increasing services to our tribal members has been and will continue to be my focus for serving you. Consider the remarkable progress that has been accomplished:

- Health Insurance is now available for all uninsured tribal members ...no matter where they live.
- The Health Department will soon have an additional physician on staff providing more appointment opportunities.
- Tribal Health Reimbursement Cards are coming. Tribal Members not currently participating in the Tribal Health Insurance Plan will soon receive a Tribal Health Reimbursement Card that can be used to pay doctor visits, co-pays, pharmacy co-pays and qualified medical supplies. This is a \$50 per month benefit that will be accepted at locations across the U.S.
- The first Annual Tribal Report including the Tribal Financial Report was sent to you this year.
- Tribal debt is being paid down faster than expected due to strong revenues from PCI Gaming. Hopefully if the present success continues, we can eliminate the entire debt and once again be debt free.
- Birthday checks have grown and everyone also received a Christmas check.
- Housing opportunities are expanding with the purchase of land in Monroe County, Alabama and in Escambia County, Florida.
- Tribal Employment Rights Organization (TERO) is now available to protect Tribal Member employment and business contracting rights within the Tribe and its enterprises.
- Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve has been significantly

improved. There are many recreational opportunities now available while we protect our most basic natural resource.

- Direct election of tribal officers is now your privilege. Last year you elected the Vice-Chairman, this year you will elect the Secretary and Treasurer. Lord willing next year you will elect the Chairman. These are in addition to the at-large council seats.

- There will be a Constitutional Amendment on the ballot this year, that if Tribal Members vote to approve, will require Public notice and community meetings when the Tribal Council considers offering Constitutional Amendments. Knowledge is power and this is a step toward making Tribal Council actions more transparent.

With the amazing success we have enjoyed, it is more important now than ever for our Tribal Leaders to clearly define our future goals and actions that must be accomplished by our Tribal Leadership and our Tribal Members in order for those goals to be realized. Tribal Master planning will be completed soon. The results of your suggestions and input along with the work of our professional planners will create a new vision for a “place called Poarch”. As we grow our community we will have a plan that will guide us in our efforts to be one of the best communities in our State.

I am asking for your Vote and your active Support so that I can continue to work for you with a focus on:

HEALTHCARE:

- Conduct the feasibility study for a full-time nursing care center, an assisted living center, and provide Senior day care services.
- Home Health services for Seniors...no matter where they live.
- Health Benefits for all Tribal Members no matter where they live.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

When it comes to investing tribal moneys into economic development projects, I will continue to insist that any tribally funded developments either provide jobs for tribal members, or provide a needed service to tribal members or generate income that can be used to improve services for tribal members. We must continue to develop our gaming business but at the same time diversify our economic development to create more jobs and opportunity. Let us recruit the next car manufacturing plant and build it here on Tribal land. Let us return textile manufacturing that has been lost overseas and compete globally from Poarch, Alabama. Let the Poarch Creek Indians lead the way in generating clean power and create jobs and income.

GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

Over the past three years, I have supported more openness or transparency in the actions of the Tribal Council. I will lead support for A Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)

policy that would require community meetings are held and proposed ordinances published within a 60 day period prior to Tribal Council voting an Ordinance into law. This is especially important when proposals involve significant debt, whether by Resolution or Ordinance.

TRIBAL CONTRACTING

We must insure that contracting opportunities for tribal member businesses are fair and the Request For Qualifications (RFQ's), Request For Proposals (RFP's), Bidding, Awarding, and Performance process is open and transparent.

EDUCATION:

Expanding educational opportunities for all Tribal Members and offering economic incentives for our citizens to return home will improve the quality of life for us all.

I support the ongoing educational feasibility study to determine if it is in the best interest of our children to have a tribal school system where we can encourage our children to be the best that they can be while learning about their proud heritage and unique culture. We must continue to support the scholarship trust fund and insure education benefits for all tribal members at all ages.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

We must always remember that we stand on the shoulders of all those brave Creek men and women who laid the foundation for our lives, but did not live to see their dreams come true. We must not forget their sacrifices and struggles through hard times. And while our journey will never be over, the pathway is made easier because of the brave Poarch Creeks who walked before us. God help us that future generations will say the same of this generation.

We are a decent community of hard working men and women that love our country and our tribe. And with the right leadership we can grow stronger and more prosperous each year. I ask for your Vote and support to be part of that leadership, Please Vote David Gehman, Secretary of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Please visit www.abettertribe.com

You as a Tribal Member can play a special part in our future - take full advantage of the life God has given you and become involved! Freedom is not free, someone pays for it. Pray often for our military men and women. Help one another, trust in yourselves and never lose faith in God.

With the help of God and our people, we will build A Better Tribe, a place we can all call home, a place called “Poarch”. “It is your birthright to be free and dream big dreams. It is up to us as a Tribe to rise up and reclaim our rightful place in the larger community as honest hardworking and decent Americans who love this country.”



Thanks For You Vote and Support

Sandra Lee Smith

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people that voted for me in the election this year. I would also like to thank my campaign team, especially Jeanette Vaughn and Elizabeth Hebert, the phone committee, my relatives on and off the reservation, all the people that allowed me to discuss the issues with them, all the candidates that gave me campaign tips, and my Mother for believing in me.



I feel lucky to have had this experience. My search for knowledge of the history and operation of our tribe will not end. It has opened up a new passion to serve in other ways. My hope is to continue to inspire all tribal member to become involved in tribal affairs.

Debra Rolin Strickland

Thank you to all Poarch Creek Tribal members who voted for me during this election season. I consider it an honor to have been able to run in our Tribal elections. I have made many new friends, and have become re-acquainted with some old ones. Thank you to everyone for your phone calls, handshakes, words of encouragement, and most of all your prayers. Please pray for our Tribal Council and for God's guidance on them as they lead our Tribe into the future. Special thanks to my sons, Patrick and Clint, for their hard work and to my family for all of their love and support. I am determined to press forward and become more actively involved in our political process and the way that our Tribe is governed.



William L. Vickery



I, William L. Vickery, was a candidate for the Tribal Council Treasurer seat. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the ones that voted for me and the ones that voted in the June 5, 2010 election.

I think we, the TRIBAL Members, need to participate more in these elections. There were approximately 2,700 eligible voters but only 1054 voted. The people say they want change, but lack of participation in these elections never changes anything.

This was my first time as a candidate for a seat on the Council. My being away for 24 years in the military hurt me in the election because the majority of people didn't know who I was or what I stood for. Next year I will be better known through the community and to Tribal Members.

So again, thanks for your vote and support. I'll try again next year if it's GOD's will and I am still living and healthy.

Sincerely, William L. Vickery, PCI-Tribal Member

Carolyn McGhee White



Thank you tribal members for your vote and support during my campaign for Tribal Secretary in the 2010 Tribal Council Election.

Carolyn McGhee White

Helen Hallman's "Thank You" letter is located on page 27; space limitations prevented featuring all "Thank You" letters on the same page.

Please exercise your right to vote in the Run-Off Election scheduled for Saturday, September 4, 2010. Your vote is as important on that day as it was on June 5, 2010. When making your plans to attend the Annual Celebration at Magnolia Branch on the same day, don't forget to allow time to come by the SAIL Center and vote. Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Results will be announced as soon as the ballots have been counted.

Who Else Is Having A Birthday??

Sharon A. Miller

Sharon A. Miller will celebrate her birthday on July 18, 2010.

Happy Birthday Sharon!! We love you, family & friends.



Cierra Caraway

Cierra Caraway (CC) will celebrate her 13th birthday on July 22, 2010. CC's family and friends wish her a happy birthday.



Arch J. Peck

Arch Justin Peck will celebrate his 40th birthday on July 28, 2010. Happy Birthday Justin.

Justin is seeking a Tribal Member Pen-Pal. His address is Arch J. Peck B-611736, Lake Correctional Institute, 19225 US Hwy. 27, Clermont, FL 34711

Lucas Shane Weaver

We would like to wish Lucas Shane Weaver a Happy 1st Birthday. He will be turning 1 on July 30th. He is the son of Melton "Duck" and Magen Weaver of Atmore, AL. He has one sister, Ashkia Nicole Weaver. His maternal grandparents are Juanita McGhee Slate, and Timmy Slate both from Atmore, AL. His paternal grandparents are Fred and Patricia Weaver from Atmore, AL. We love you and wish you the best birthday ever. Love your family!



Welcome to the World Little One!!

Cierra Beth Brooks

Submitted by Lillie Brooks



Richard and Beth Brooks are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Cierra Beth Brooks on May 12, 2010. At birth Cierra weighed 9 lbs. 12 oz. Cierra is the granddaughter of Danny and Kathy Brooks and the great granddaughter of Lillie Brooks.

Wedding Announcements

Hannah Cole and Thomas Hood to Wed

Submitted by Carol Cole



David Allen Cole and April Modlin Brooks of Monroeville, AL are proud to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Hannah Beth Cole to Thomas Adam Hood, son of Tommy and Terri Hood of Guntown, MS.

The wedding will take place on Saturday, July 31, 2010 at the First Baptist Church of Monroeville located at 389 Pineville Road, Monroeville, AL. A reception will immediately follow in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

The bride is the granddaughter of David and Carol Cole of Excel, AL and Jim and Carole Modlin of Lawrenceburg, TN. The groom is the grandson of Knowles and Betti Charwood of Guntown, MS.

Amanda McGhee and Patrick Cobb to Wed

Submitted by Amanda McGhee



Mr. and Mrs. William "Cochise" Harold McGhee, Sr. are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Amanda Janette McGhee, to Jonathan Patrick Cobb, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cobb of Andalusia, Alabama.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Carl "Buster" and the late Atrebe McGhee Sr. and Lois and the late William "Bill" Jabus Ford of Phil Campbell, AL. Amanda is a 2002 graduate of Flomaton High School and a 2006 graduate of the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. She is currently in her fourth year at the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Optometry.

The prospective groom is the grandson of Ruth and the late K Ernest Holmes of Opp, AL and the late Guy and Thadie Cobb of Andalusia, AL. Patrick is a 2003 graduate of Straughn High School and a 2007 graduate of Troy University. He is currently in his fourth year at the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Optometry.

The ceremony will be held on the afternoon of July 31, 2010 in Andalusia, AL.

Farewell To Loved Ones

DOTTIE PADGETT

DOTTIE PADGETT LEAVES LEGACY OF CARING

By SHERRY DIGMON Atmore News

You may not have known Dottie Padgett, but if you or any of your family members had surgery at the hospital in Atmore over the last five decades, chances are she was there. Dottie was an operating room nurse at Lisenby Hospital, and at Greenlawn Hospital which became Atmore Community Hospital. For 45 years, she worked full-time, the last eight years part-time when she was needed.

Dottie passed away Friday evening, May 28, following a brief illness. At her service Monday afternoon, former Atmore Community Hospital Administrator Bob Gowing said Dottie was proud of her profession, that she was truly an old-school nurse. "The Good Lord gifted her with a caring spirit and a servant's heart," he said.

In September 2001, Dottie was honored as a Baptist Health Care Legend of Atmore Community Hospital, an honor not lightly bestowed. This was said of Dottie: "... Dottie's love for her patients and co-workers is expressed through her selflessness and kindness. Patients are her first priority and 'do whatever it takes' is her motto. For example, many times patients have no way of getting to the hospital for surgery. Dottie either picks them up herself or sends someone to get them. Afterward, she sees to it that they get home. In the middle of the night, Dottie has waited at the bus station to pick up special equipment or supplies needed for the next day. When faced with challenging situations requiring a quick decision to save the patient, Dottie comes through while giving the credit to someone other than herself.

"Dottie is known for her unselfish nature, always putting the needs of others before her own. She consistently volunteers to take call or work when one of her staff members needs to be off. Her smile, compassion for others and attitude of 'nothing is impossible when we work together as a team' make her a joy to work with. She has devoted her life to serving others, giving of both herself and her time every day."

In 2003, the Atmore Area Chamber of Commerce presented Dottie with the Lifetime Achievement Award. In atmore magazine, then-Chamber Executive Director Emilie Mims wrote of Dottie, "I imagine Dr. J. Otis Lisenby must have recognized Dottie's potential when she began working at the old Greenlawn Hospital back in the 1950s. With this support and encouragement, Dottie completed

nursing school at Baptist Hospital in New Orleans and returned to Atmore where she began a forty-five year career in nursing. Introducing Dottie's award, Bob Gowing, administrator of Atmore Community Hospital, spoke of her selfless commitment to co-workers and patients "... Our community and healthcare system are so fortunate to have a true servant leader such as Dottie Padgett among us."



Dottie is survived by her husband of almost 48 years, John, and two daughters, Kelly and Tracy.

EUNICE DEES GRIFFIN

Submitted by Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed. D.



Walking On: Aunt Eunice Dees Griffin (1920-2010) With deep sadness, I heard the news of Aunt Eunice walking on at age 89 this spring. Aunt Eunice, Poarch Creek (Muscogee), was born on October 8,

1920 in Jeddo/Uriah and died on May 15, 2010 in Newport News, Virginia. She is the sister of my father Otis Dees of Uriah who preceded her in death in 1984 and is buried with the Dees family at Poplar Springs. She is the youngest of the Dees children born to Pauline Bell Dees and Charlie Suwanee Dees of Uriah, so it is fitting that she is the last one of the siblings to pass on. Aunt Eunice spent her life in service to others as a healer who worked in the nursing profession. It is interesting to note that she was the salutatorian of the class of 1938 at J.U. Blacksher in Uriah, Alabama, an exhilarating fact that I did not learn about until I was probing for information about her after her death.

She was preceded in death by the lovely Dees sisters Willie Dees, Pearl Dees, Ruby Dees Sessions, and Birdie Dees Haynes/Jackson, respectively, and twins who died shortly after birth. Aunt Eunice married John Griffin who preceded her in death. They made their home in Newport News, Virginia. They are survived by their daughter Florence, son Dan, grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. Aunt Eunice and her family traveled back home to this area for family gatherings and pow wows whenever they could. With her passing, all of the Dees children have now been laid to rest.

The photo of Aunt Eunice and I above was taken the last time she visited.

Seminole, Miccosukee Probes Underscore Federal Scrutiny

Two separate government investigations of the Seminole and Miccosukee tribes in South Florida reflect stepped-up scrutiny of excessive personal spending of gambling profits by tribe leaders....Miami Herald

BY JAY WEAVER
jweaver@MiamiHerald.com

The Miccosukee Tribe, whose recently deposed chairman is under investigation by the IRS, has never submitted a federal plan required of Indian tribes that distribute gambling profits to members, regulators say.

Yet the West Miami-Dade tribe has handed out casino proceeds to its members -- including one who received \$168,000 in 2008, according to court records and people familiar with the Miccosukees.

In a separate matter last week, the National Indian Gaming Commission accused the Miccosukees' tribal neighbor to the north -- the Seminoles in Hollywood -- of breaking the law by spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on jewelry, vehicles and other personal expenses for a half-dozen members.

The Gaming Commission's crackdown on the Seminoles -- coupled with the IRS investigation of former Miccosukee Chairman Billy Cypress for alleged misuse of his tribe-issued credit card -- reflects stepped-up federal scrutiny of excessive personal spending by tribe leaders. The two tribes' annual revenues total about \$2 billion.

Indian tribes are sovereign nations with the right to self-government. But they are also subject to federal laws and regulations and must follow the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act when spending gambling profits. The 1988 act specifies that revenue must be spent on tribal or local government operations, economic development, charitable contributions and the general welfare of tribal members.

The law also allows tribes to distribute gambling profits to individual members under a federally approved "revenue allocation plan."

In the United States, 242 of 564 tribes have gaming operations. One-third of those -- the major Indian casino operators -- have a so-called "RAP" allowing them to distribute payments to members.

The Seminoles' plan, approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 2005, pledges to hand out gambling proceeds in equal shares. The 3,500-member tribe operates the popular Las Vegas-style Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood and Tampa.

In its enforcement action, the Gaming Commission accused the Seminoles of spending gambling profits on impermissible personal expenses for certain members, exceeding their shares

and depriving the tribe of operating income. The agency can fine the Seminoles \$25,000 for each of six violations or even close its gambling operations. The tribe said it is "intent" on resolving the offenses.

The worst offender, according to the Gaming Commission: Seminole Tribal Council member Max B. Osceola Jr., who stands accused of charging more than \$85,000 for jewelry, a Harley Davidson motorcycle, stereo equipment and more on his tribe-issued American Express in 2006.

UNCOMMON ACTION

Only one other tribe in the United States has been slapped with a similar violation, records show: Last year, the Yakama Indians in Washington state were fined \$5,000 for giving more than \$20 million in gambling profits to 10,000 members without federal approval. Tribal leaders had characterized the payments -- distributed around Christmas 2008 -- as stimulus money to help members in tough times.

But the Gaming Commission said the tribe's one-time payment violated the law because it was made before the Yakamas' revenue allocation plan was approved.

The IRS civil probe of the Miccosukee Tribe's longtime former chairman, Cypress, also is uncommon: the Justice Department has rarely brought civil or criminal actions against individual tribe members for failing to report or pay taxes on income received from Indian gambling profits, government and legal authorities say.

In April, the IRS issued a civil summons to Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, the tribe's Miami bank, seeking Cypress' credit card statements and other records from 2003 to 2005. The IRS summons also demand the tribe's credit card records and the names of members authorized to use the Morgan Stanley account for the same three-year period.

According to sources, Cypress regularly used his tribe-issued American Express credit card for trips to casino resorts in Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Biloxi, Miss., and Foxwoods, Conn. Public records also show he owns as many as 10 residential properties in Miami-Dade, each valued between \$236,000 and \$435,000.

The Miccosukee Tribe is seeking to quash the summons in Miami federal court, saying that as a sovereign nation it doesn't have to turn over records. The tribe's lawyers did not return calls for comment.

Unlike the Seminoles, the Miccosukees have never submitted a "revenue allocation plan" to outline their distribution of gambling proceeds to tribe members, according to the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs. The 650-member Miccosukee Tribe has bingo-style slot machines and poker at their casino

off Tamiami Trail. According to court records and people familiar with the Miccosukees, the tribe has handed out cash to members for years.

PROBLEMATIC SYSTEM

Shawn Pensoneau, a spokesman for the National Indian Gaming Commission, declined to comment about the Miccosukee Tribe or the IRS case targeting its former chairman. But Pensoneau said “giving cash gifts to tribe members from net gaming revenues without a federally approved plan is problematic.”

In several divorce cases reviewed by The Miami Herald, the issue of Miccosukee Tribe cash payments has been at the center of disputes about alimony and child support. In mixed marriages between tribe and non-tribe spouses, the Indian spouse asserted in court that such payments were “gifts” -- not income -- and need not be divided with the ex-spouse.

That was the argument in a 2008 Miami-Dade divorce case, when non-Miccosukee spouse Fancy Smith-Cypress claimed that her husband, Miccosukee Tracey Cypress, earned about \$168,000 a year in “tax-free income” from the tribe in addition to his annual maintenance worker salary of \$30,000. The case was settled.

Attorney Mary Streitz, a legal specialist in Indian tax issues, said that tribal gifts such as blankets or holiday baskets are not considered income, but gambling profits distributed to all tribe members are taxable income.

“I would probably not advise a tribe that its \$168,000 distribution of cash to a tribal member is a ‘gift’ for federal income tax purposes,” said Streitz, a partner with the Minneapolis-based law firm, Dorsey & Whitney.

“If a tribe made a substantial distribution of cash to every tribal member, the federal government would have a good argument that it’s a taxable per-capita payment,” she said. “Indians are generally subject to federal income taxes unless there’s an exception that applies.”

In a similar 2005 divorce case between a Miccosukee woman, Jolene Marie Story, and her non-Indian husband, Michael Van Slogan Story, the wife won the argument over “gifts” when a judge found that the cash distributions “shall not be considered income for purposes of an award of alimony.” But an attorney for the husband, who had worked as a chef at the tribe’s casino, asserts that characterizing Miccosukee cash payments to members as “gifts” is just an attempt to circumvent the laws governing Indian gambling profits and tax obligations.

“I think they take care of their own people, and they do it by breaking the law,” Miami attorney Kurt R. Klaus said. “They’re not hiding the money. They’re just not declaring it.”

Legal Update

Submitted by Venus McGhee Prince, Attorney General

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on several legal matters affecting your interests as tribal members. If you have any questions regarding any of these matters, please feel free to contact any of your Tribal Council members at (251) 446-1140 or me at (251) 368-9136 Ext. 2525.

LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

The Tribal Council is currently considering a new tribal member benefit—the establishment of a Legal Services Program that would provide certain types of legal services to individual tribal members regardless of his or her location or income. For example, the Legal Services Program could assist you with wills, power of attorney forms, deeds, divorce proceedings, child custody disputes, criminal defense, or other legal matters. ***We need your help*** in determining what types of legal services are most needed by tribal members. Please contact your Tribal Council members or Lori Findley, Legal Coordinator, at (251) 368-9136 Ext. 2530 or lfindley@pci-nsn.gov to share your thoughts.

SIGNIFICANT COURT CASES

T.J. Johnson Holdings, Inc. v. Poarch Band of Creek Indians, PCI Gaming, and CIE

On October 22, 2009, T.J. Johnson Holdings, Inc. (“Johnson”) sued the Tribe, PCI Gaming and CIE in state court, claiming that the parking deck in Wetumpka that serves Riverside Entertainment Center encroaches onto Johnson’s portion of River Oaks Drive, which runs in front of the parking garage. On January 5, 2010, the state court granted the Tribe’s motion to dismiss one of the three claims. The parties engaged in mediation on May 5, 2010, but the mediation was unsuccessful. Since that time, the parties have settled the case.

Alabama Department of Transportation v. Poarch Band of Creek Indians d/b/a Wind Creek Casino & Hotel, PCI Gaming, CIE et al.

On April 15, 2010, the Alabama Department of Transportation (“ALDOT”) sued the Tribe, PCI Gaming, CIE, and each entity’s Chairman in Escambia County for alleged illegal advertising on the Tribe’s water tower located next to Interstate 65. ALDOT wants the Tribe to remove “Wind Creek Casino and Hotel” from the signage on the water tower. The Tribe filed a motion to dismiss based on sovereign immunity. The hearing on the motion to dismiss has been set for July 6, 2010.

Tribal Member Submissions

Thank You PBCI!!

Submitted by Rosaleigh Boyte



Pastor Steve Breceda and New Home Church would like to say "THANK YOU" PBCI! We were blessed to be able to attend the Native American Ministry and Evangelism Conference in Pembroke, NC on May 13th – 15th. This trip was possible because we were able to take one of the tribal buses. A huge thanks to Mr. Toney Sells for being such a great driver. Having such a patient driver with such a large crowd really helped make our trip a lot smoother.

The N.A.M.E. Conference consist of many tribes from North America coming together to share their vision for reaching fellow tribal members in need. We attended many classes that equipped us with tools to better serve and assist our surrounding community. The ministers we heard from inspired us to reach beyond our comfort zone and share God's Word – not only with our Tribe, but the world!

Thanks again & may God Bless,
Pastor Steve Breceda



Gibsons Gather For Mini Reunion

Submitted by Sharon Miller

The children of Jesse and Clara Gibson recently gathered in May for a little "mini" reunion at David's Catfish in Atmore. Shown above are (standing l-r) Pam Etheridge, Julie & Judy, Sharon Miller, Keith Miller, and Margaret Crutchfied. Seated l-r are Wilma Gibson and Bertie Gibson Miller.

Woods Honors Award Winner

Submitted by Gerald Woods



Tribal Member Gerald Woods, shown above with red tie, served as Master of Ceremonies at the retirement ceremonies for Fredrick J. Herzog. Mr. Woods was honored to serve as Master of Ceremonies at this event and presented Mr. Herzog with a Presidential Award recognizing his 67 years of services with the Internal Revenue Service. (*Mr. Herzog was Mr. Woods' boss prior to his retirement last year.*)

Dean Signs with Birmingham Southern

Submitted by kim Dean



Jon Dean signs his letter of intent to play football for the Birmingham-Southern Panthers this fall. Jon received an academic scholarship to attend Birmingham-Southern which is ranked one of the top academic schools in Alabama.

We love you and are very proud you. Mom, Dad, and family.

Modern Woodmen Assists Community Members

Submitted by Teresa Smith

Members of the Atmore Modern Woodmen of America Camp (Chapter) recently helped raise money for Charlie Reed and Melvin Rolin, two community members in need, by selling fish plates and holding an auction.

The event held on May 22, 2010 raised \$5,507.00, which includes a \$2,500 match from Modern Woodmen's home office through the organization's Matching Funds program. The money will be used by both recipients to help pay medical bills.

The Matching Fund program offers Modern Woodmen camp members nationwide the chance to show their support of a community cause, organization, or individual in need by partnering with community organizations and holding fund-raisers. Modern Woodmen matches money raised up to \$2,500.00. These funds-raising projects contribute more than \$6 million to community needs nationwide each year.

Founded in 1983 as a fraternal benefit society, today Modern Woodmen of American offers financial services and fraternal member benefits to individuals and families throughout the United States. The organization's Atmore camp provides a number of volunteer services and social activities for local members.

Special thanks to all of you that helped make this event a success.



Hot Weather Brings Out Snakes

Submitted by Magen Slate

Bo Slate killed the rattlesnake above at his house in Rolin Hills. Please remember that this time of year we are not the only ones out in the heat. Watch yourself, your children, and pets when outside.

Thanks For Your Vote and Support

Submitted by Helen Hallman



Please allow me to extend a heart-felt thanks to each and every one of you who supported me during this year's campaign for Tribal Council. I am very thankful for the vote of confidence this year and the thirteen years that you have elected me as your voice on the council. I am proud to be a member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

Being a council member has allowed me the honor of being able to speak for my people. I have walked their steps and know how they feel. A friend recently quoted "Helen says what she means and does what she says". This has been my strongest qualification as your representative. I have given it my best and I thank God that I had the opportunity to serve my people and make a difference in your lives. I appreciate your vote of confidence.

I want you to know that I am still here for you if I can ever help you in any way. I want to stress to you, to take a look at your heart and make sure it's in the right place when it comes to our tribe. President John F. Kennedy's famous quote, "Ask not what your country can do for you... Ask what you can do for your country" rings so true even today. I have seen this tribe progress by leaps and bounds. The only way we will continue to grow is to remember to keep God first, and work together as our ancestors did and.... "Ask not what can this tribe do for me...Ask what can I do for this tribe?"

PEOPLE FIRST! This was my campaign slogan this year and it will always remain close to my heart.

With love, Helen McGhee Hallman

ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS!!!

The General Council Voice (GCV) organization continues to meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Family Services Resource Auditorium. There are still many issues to discuss, so GCV members please put these dates on your calendar to attend. GCV also invites all tribal members to join the organization and participate in a community-action approach to discussing and developing positive solutions to tribal issues and communicating these to Boards, Committees, and to Tribal Council.

Carolyn M. White, Chairman Ann Brooks, Vice-Chairman Martha Gookin, Secretary Teri Watkins, Treasurer

Education

ACE Warning against Online GED® Testing

Submitted by Billie McGhee

The GED Testing Service® (GEDTS), a program of the American Council on Education® (ACE) and architect of the Tests of General Educational Development (GED Tests), is aware of various entities claiming to offer GED exams online.

Please be advised that the GED credential cannot be earned via the Internet nor through correspondence programs. The GED Tests, developed by GEDTS, require extensive preparation and the demonstration of a high level of high school knowledge and academic skills.

The GED Tests are administered in each U.S. state and insular area, Canadian provinces and territories, the U.S. military, and federal correctional institutions via Official GED Testing Centers ONLY. To identify an Official GED Testing Center, please visit <http://www.GEDtest.org/locator>.

Any services that purport to offer a GED credential through any other means are NOT affiliated with GEDTS or ACE, may be of dubious value, and may deliver a product that is not accepted by employers, colleges and universities, or the military.

Hiring personnel, college admissions officers, and military enlistment personnel: To verify the authenticity of an individual's GED credential, please contact the appropriate jurisdictional agency that administered the GED Tests. A complete listing of these agencies can be found at <http://www.GEDtest.org/administrators>.

The Education Department has received several calls telling them that people are paying for the online GED certificates thinking they will be accepted at local colleges. They have heard from Tribal Members and Tribal descendants that who have paid from \$200, \$400 to \$600 for the fake certificates, and then learn that the certificates are not accepted by employers or colleges. The last one said, "It's accredited." The company selling the certificate says it is accredited; but it is worthless.

News &

Information

4-H Club Attends Cooking Class

Submitted by Christyn Sells



On May 28, 2010 the Poarch Creek 4-H Club got to be the first group of kids to attend the Cooking Studio at the Wind Creek Hotel. 4-H'ers in attendance were: Back Row (L-R) Magan Weaver (chaperone) Caitlyn Barnhill, Melissa Baggett, Cheyenne McGee, Shawnee McGee, Christyn Sells (4-H Leader), Chef Ben Spraggins, Middle Row (L-R) Halle Rae Peebles, Bailey Spann, Sara Milliken, Lydia Stacey, Front Row (L-R) Troy Ross, Ron Marshall and Tyler Vickery. On the Menu: Marinated Fruit Salad, Chicken Breast with a Sauce Supreme, Baked Macaroni and Cheese, Sautéed Hair Co'vert and No Bake Key Lime Cheesecake. The young culinarians were grouped in teams of two and they worked together to prepare their meal. Once the meal was prepared, the group enjoyed their meal together in the Cooking Studio's formal dinning room.

"Make a Splash" @ the PCI Tribal Library!



Join us at the PCI Education Department starting: **June 9, 2010@10:00 A.M.!**

Visit the Tribe's official web site at www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov for more information.

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For more information contact

Sandra Hiebert, Education Director

(251) 368-9136 x 2020

shiebert@pci-nsn.gov

HIPPY participants must be three (3) years old

by September 1, 2010

Applications available through the Education Department or on-line at www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov

Electronics Recycling Event

August 7, 2010

8:00 am- 12:00 pm

What will be accepted?

Computers (CPUs and Laptops),

Monitors, Telephones, Cell Phones,

Fax Machines, Printers, Copiers, other

small office equipment, TVs, Medical

Equipment, Rechargeable Batteries,

Stereos, Games (computer and video),

PDAs, Car Batteries, Refrigerators, Stoves,

Dishwashers, Microwaves, Washer/Dryer

For more information contact

Environmental Department

(251) 368-9136 x 2682

The Hard Road To Federal Recognition

Over the past few years we have had inquires from Tribal Members wanting to learn more about the Tribe's Federal Recognition process and the historical information that was provided to the Federal Government for Federal Recognition. The Tribal Council would like to share this information with you. It will outline the struggles and hardships that as a community we have experienced. However, as you will see in future articles, it was these struggles and hardships that kept our community together which was essential in our Federal Recognition.

In the early 1980's the Poarch community and its leadership came together to work closely with attorneys Barry Margolin and Tom Tureen, anthropologist Tony Parades, and many others to prepare the Petition for Federal Recognition. Many sacrifices were made and many hours were put into preparing the document. On December 29, 1983 John W. Fritz, Deputy Assistant of Indian Affairs forwarded the Petition to Kenneth L. Smith, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs and recommended that the Poarch Band of Creeks be acknowledged as an Indian tribe with a government-to-government relationship with the United States and be entitled to the same privileges and immunities available to other federally recognized tribes by virtue of their status as Indian tribes. In the Petition it stated that the contemporary Poarch Band of Creeks were a successor of the Creek Nation of Alabama prior to its removal to Indian Territory and that the Creek Nation had a documented history back to 1540.

The Poarch Band of Creeks began as an autonomous town in the late 1700's with a continuing political connection to the Creek Nation. The Poarch Band remained in Alabama after the Creek Removal of the 1830's, and shifted within a small geographic area until it settled permanently near present-day Atmore, Alabama. The Band has existed as a distinct political unit under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government since before the Creek War of 1813-14. It was governed by a succession of military leaders and prominent men in the 19th century. From the late 1800's through 1950, leadership was clear but informal. A formal leader, Calvin McGhee, was elected in 1950. The group's by-laws describe how membership is determined and how the group governs its affairs and its members. Virtually all of the Band's 1,470 members can document descendency from the historic Creek Nation and appear to meet the group's membership requirements. No evidence was found that the members of the Poarch Band of Creeks are members of any other Indian tribes or that the tribe or its members have been terminated or forbidden the Federal relationship by an Act of Congress.

Additional information will appear in next month's issue

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July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Weight Watchers Weigh-in @ 5:00 pm Classes @ 5:30 pm @ Gym Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym	Make A Splash Reading Program 10:00 a.m. Education Dept.	1 Tribal Council Meeting 4:00 pm Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym	2 CIEDA Meeting 8:00 am	3
4	5 Tribal Offices Closed In Observance of Independence Day	6 Weight Watchers Weigh-in @ 5:00 pm Classes @ 5:30 pm @ Gym Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym TERO Meeting 3:00 pm Building 200	7 Make A Splash Reading Program 10:00 a.m. Education Dept. Housing Authority Meeting 3:00 pm	8 Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym General Council Voice Meeting 5:30 pm Family Service Auditorium	9	10
11	12 Tribal Court 9:00 am Well & Act Authority Meeting 4:00 pm @ Gym Warrior Society Meeting @ St. Anna's 6:00 pm 4-H Meeting 6:00 pm Education Dept. <i>Deadline to submit information for August newsletter</i>	13 Weight Watchers Weigh-in @ 5:00 pm Classes @ 5:30 pm @ Gym Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym TERO Meeting 3:00 pm Building 200	14 Make A Splash Reading Program 10:00 a.m. Education Dept.	15 Tribal Council Meeting 4:00 pm Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym	16 CIEDA Meeting 8:00 am	17
18	19 Tribal Court 9:00 am CMCMA Meeting 5:30 pm Welcome Center/ Museum Warrior Society Meeting @ St. Anna's 6:00 pm	20 Weight Watchers Weigh-in @ 5:00 pm Classes @ 5:30 pm @ Gym Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym	21 Make A Splash Reading Program 10:00 a.m. Education Dept. Housing Authority Meeting 3:00 pm	22 Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym General Council Voice Meeting 5:30 pm Family Service Auditorium	23	24
25	26 Well & Act Authority Meeting 4:00 @ Gym 4-H Club Meeting 6:00 p.m. Education Dept.	27 Weight Watchers Weigh-in @ 5:00 pm Classes @ 5:30 pm @ Gym Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym	28 Last Day For Make A Splash Reading Program 10:00 a.m. Education Dept.	29 Aerobics @ 5:45 pm @ Gym	30	31

Summer LIHEAP Applications for age 55 and older & families with legal custody of children under age 5 continues through September 15th. Begin accepting applications for Households currently receiving TANF benefits July 1st - Sept. 15th. Call Family Services for appointment.

Newsletter Contact Information

Poarch Creek News

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www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov

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