

April 2011

Poarch Creek News

Keeping the family and friends of Poarch informed

Poarch Creek Enjoys Visit From Harlem Wizards

VOLUME 29 | ISSUE 4

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month of February.***

Tribal Council Page

Chairman's Corner

April 2011



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

Spring is in the air and it seems that winter is finally behind us.

The Tribe is honored to host the second annual United Southern and Eastern Tribes (USET) Utilities Summit, at Wind Creek Casino & Hotel April 5-7, 2011. This summit will include representatives from USET's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Committee as well as representatives from Indian Health Services (IHS).

The State of the Tribe meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Family Services Auditorium. All 2010 audits will be completed and that financial information will be included in the 2010 Annual Report that will be available at this meeting. I invite each of you to attend this very important meeting that will be both informative and beneficial to you as a Tribal Member.



Stephanie Bryan
Vice Chair
sbryan@pci-nsn.gov



Robert McGhee
Treasurer
rmcghee@pci-nsn.gov



David W. Gehman
Secretary
dgehman@pci-nsn.gov

I close this month's article with a reminder that the 2011 Tribal elections will be held on June 4, 2011, the first Saturday in June. This year Tribal Members will be voting to directly elect the Tribal Chairman position as well as two at large Tribal Council positions. I encourage all eligible Tribal Members to cast their vote either by Absentee Ballot, Walk-In Ballot, or by voting on Election Day.

I wish each of you a happy and safe Easter holiday.



Keith Martin
Council Member
kmartin@pci-nsn.gov



Arthur Mothershed
Council Member
amothershed@pcigaming.com



Berry Ross
Council Member
bross@pci-nsn.gov

State of The Tribe Meeting Scheduled For May 14, 2011

The State of the Tribe Meeting has been scheduled for 10:00 a.m. in the Family Services Auditorium on Saturday, May 14, 2011. The 2010 Annual Report will be available at this meeting.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this very informative meeting.

Per the most recently approved Enrollment Report, there are 3061 Tribal Members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.



Garvis Sells
Council Member
gsells@pci-nsn.gov



Eddie L. Tullis
Council Member
etullis@pci-nsn.gov



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DEADLINES TO REMEMBER. The deadline for submission of information to be published in the Poarch Creek News is **5:00 p.m. CST** 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. To prevent misprints or misinformation, all submission MUST be in writing. No phone or oral submissions will be accepted.

Birthday/Anniversary Wishes are limited to Tribal Members, spouses, first generation descent, and those living in the Tribal Member's immediate household. These requirements apply to Birth and Wedding announcements as well. 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. This may mean you will have to publish a birthday/anniversary wish prior to any party planned for the event. 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.

Call For Papers

On Poarch Creek Indians Tribal History!

Submitted by Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees

Did you write a paper on tribal history in high school? What about in college? Did you interview a family member or an elder in our community? Would you like to get published? Your research is very important to us. The Poarch Creek Indians is developing the Office of Archives and Records Management and would like to place papers written by tribal community members in our permanent collections.

I was hired as the new Tribal Archivist in January of this year in order to manage the Archives and safeguard tribal records so that our history can be preserved for future generations. One of the ways we can preserve our history is to maintain papers written by students from our community and share them with each other. Others who are writing papers in the future may build on the foundation that you have already laid which will help us build comprehensive scholarship on our own history.

Working with our Media Specialist, the Office of Archives and Records Management will select the most outstanding papers and publish them in the *Poarch Creek News* to share with our community. The deadline to submit your paper is Monday, May 2, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. You may submit your papers by sending them to my e-mail address at ddees@pci-nsn.gov or you may drop a copy by my office from Monday to Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. My office is located in Building 200 through Federal Accounting. You may also mail your paper to Dr. Dees, Poarch Creek Indians, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502.

If you have any questions, please call me at 368-9136 extension 2531. I look forward to reading your papers on tribal history.

ATTENTION

PHARMACY PATIENTS!

Beginning May 1, 2011, prescriptions picked up at Buy Rite Drug Store must be "stamped" by PCI Pharmacy for authorization of payment through the Health Department.

Pieces of History

In her quest to develop our new Office of Archives and Records Management, Deidra Dees, Tribal Archivist, may from time to time enquire of the community about certain artifacts or documents to help fill in some missing pieces in the tribal records. During this process she will also share interesting pieces of history that she uncovers.

The first of these pieces of history that we will share can be found on page 19 and addresses H.R. Bill 3686 that was introduced into Congress in 1969 by Congressman Bob Sikes. This Bill and others like it led to our "Indian money" checks which were per capita payments from the United States government to Creek Indian descendants for land that was unfairly taken under the Treaty of Fort Jackson of 1814.

We hope to publish "Pieces of History" on a monthly basis to share interesting information uncovered during the development of the Office of Archives and Records Management.



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Criteria Established For Birthday Wishes

Due to the ever increasing number of birthday wishes submitted, effective March 2011 birthday wishes will be limited to Tribal Members, spouses, first generation descendent, and those living in the Tribal Member's immediate household. This criteria applies to anniversary wishes as well as birth and wedding announcements. **All submissions must be submitted in writing. Birthday wishes should be limited to no more than four (4) sentences.** For verification purposes, the submission must include contact information, the Tribal Member's roll number or Tribal affiliation in the case of Tribal Member spouse, first generation descent, or those living in the Tribal Member's immediate household.



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Mention Offer: BOGOCC

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Join THE Club and we'll reimburse your loss on your day of enrollment up to \$500 (minimum loss \$25 requested).

Valid through June 30, 2011
All offers must be booked on the same day.

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Important information about the \$3.4 billion Indian Trust Settlement

For current or former IIM account holders, Owners of land held in trust or restricted status, or their heirs

There is a proposed Settlement in *Cobell v. Salazar*, a class action lawsuit about individual Indian land held in trust by the federal government. This notice is just a summary. For details, call the toll-free number or visit the website listed below.

The lawsuit claims that the federal government violated its duties by (a) mismanaging trust funds/assets, (b) improperly accounting for those funds, and (c) mismanaging trust land/assets. The trust funds include money collected from farming and grazing leases, timber sales, mining, and oil and gas production from land owned by American Indians/Alaska Natives.

If you are included in the Settlement, your rights will be affected. To object to the Settlement, to comment on it, or to exclude yourself, you should get a detailed notice at www.IndianTrust.com or by calling 1-800-961-6109.

Can I get money?

There are two groups or "Classes" in the Settlement eligible for payment. Each Class includes individual IIM account holders or owners of land held in trust or restricted status who were alive on September 30, 2009.

Historical Accounting Class Members

- Had an open individual Indian Money account ("IIM") anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, **and**
- The account had at least one cash transaction.
- Includes estates of account holders who died as of September 30, 2009, if the IIM account was still open on that date.

Trust Administration Class Members

- Had an IIM account recorded in currently available data in federal government systems any time from approximately 1985 to September 30, 2009, **or**
- Owned trust land or land in restricted status as of September 30, 2009.
- Includes estates of landowners who died as of September 30, 2009 where the trust interests were in probate as of that date. This means you have asked a court to transfer ownership of the deceased landowner's property.

An individual may be included in one or both Classes.

What does the Settlement provide?

- A \$1.5 billion fund to pay those included in the Classes.
- A \$1.9 billion fund to buy small interests in trust or restricted land owned by many people.
- Up to \$60 million to fund scholarships to improve access to higher education for Indian youth.
- A government commitment to reform the Indian trust management and accounting system.

How much can I get?

- Historical Accounting Class Members will each get \$1,000.
- Trust Administration Class Members will get at least \$500.
- If you own a small parcel of land with many other people, the federal government may ask you to sell it. You will be offered fair market value. If you sell your land it will be returned to tribal control.

If you believe you are a member of either Class and are not receiving IIM account statements, you will need to call the toll-free number or visit the website to register.

What are my other rights?

- If you wish to keep your right to sue the federal government about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **April 20, 2011**.
- If you stay in the Settlement you can object to or comment on it by **April 20, 2011**. The detailed notice explains how to exclude yourself or object/comment.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia will hold a hearing on June 20, 2011, to consider whether to approve the Settlement. It will also consider a request for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses in the amount of \$99.9 million. However, Class Counsel has fee agreements that would pay them 14.75% of the funds created for the Classes, which could result in an award of \$223 million. The Court may award more or less than these amounts based on controlling law. If approved, these payments and related costs will come out of the Settlement funds available for payment to Class Members.

If you wish, you or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost. For more information, call or go to the website shown below or write to Indian Trust Settlement, P.O. Box 9577, Dublin, OH 43017-4877.

For more Information:
1-800-961-6109 www.IndianTrust.com

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Celebrating Birthdays

Mikayla Spruill

Mikayla Spruill celebrated her 13th birthday on March 8, 2011. Mikayla is the daughter of Susan and Mark Spruill of Atmore, AL. Happy birthday from your family, we love you!!



Denise Lister

Denise Lister celebrated her 49th birthday on March 28th surrounded by her family and friends. Denise is the daughter of the late Ruthie Mae Caudle and the granddaughter of the late Fred and Lulu Mae Walker.



Eva Nell Burkett

Eva Nell Burkett celebrated her birthday on March 13, 2011. She celebrated with family and friends.

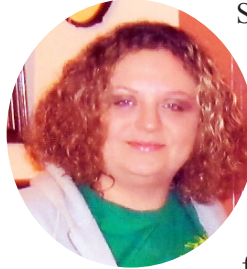
Happy belated birthday, we love you, Josh, Kahne, & Vicky.



Sara Parker Rowe

Sara Parker Rowe celebrated her 39th birthday on March 30, 2011. She is the daughter of Charles and Christine McGhee Parker of Trinity, TX.

Happy belated birthday from family & friends.



Jaylen Daughtry

Jaylan Daughtry celebrated his 10th birthday on March 14th. Jaylan is the son of Trenton and Crystal Daughtry. He is the grandson of Ray and Christine Ward, the late Gary Joe McGhee, Sr., Sue Wiggins, and Douglas Daughtry. Happy belated Birthday Jaylan! We Love You, Mom, Dad, Lexi and Josie.



Toot Toot

I am going to be nine on April 2, 2011!!

Happy Birthday Toot Toot!!

From your family and friends at the Fire Department.



Joshua Spruill

Joshua Spruill celebrated his 8th birthday on March 27, 2011. Joshua is the son of Susan and Mark Spruill of Atmore, AL. Happy birthday from your family, we love you!!



Ruth Bailey

Ruth Bailey will celebrate her 74th birthday on April 8, 2011.

Happy birthday from Randy, Sandy, Sherry, and all the grandchildren. We love you very much!



Daylon Brooks



Daylon Brooks, son of Douglas Brooks and Justina "Lupe" Contreas will celebrate his 5th birthday on April 18, 2011 with family and friends in North Carolina.

Daylon is the grandson of Janice Contreas and the great grandson of Lillie Brooks.

Happy birthday from all your family, we love you.

Bennie Presley



Bennie Presley will be 72 years young on April 29, 2011. He is married to Carolyn Presley and is the father of five, Ronda Woods, Regina Driskell, Melissa Sims, Bennie Presley, Jr., and Chasity McGillivray. He has 14 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Happy birthday from us all, we love you!

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The Medicine Tail Singers are proud to bring you their 4th album entitled: **"Family"!**

Recorded live at the 38th Annual Thanksgiving powwow, Family features 13 original brand new tracks from the Medicine Tail Singers. Pop this CD in and find yourself right in the middle of the powwow! Come support your hometown drum group! MVTO!

Buy it on the web:

www.cdbaby.com/cd/medicinetail2

Or call (850) 582-9844

Wellness & Activities Department Memorial Bricks & Tiles

The Wellness & Activities Department is selling Memorial Bricks and Tiles April 1st through April 29, 2011. Memorial Bricks and Tiles will be placed at the Wellness & Activities Arrowhead Park. For more information, contact Trina Rackard or Brooke Bell at 251-368-9136 ext. 2248 or by email at trackard@pci-nsn.gov or bbell@pci-nsn.gov.

Engraved Brick Sizes	Engraving	Price
8" by 4" Brick clay or concrete	1-3 lines of engraving (18 to 20 spaces/lines)	\$22.00
8" by 8" Brick clay or concrete	1-6 lines of engraving (18 to 20 spaces/lines)	\$31.00
9" by 6" Brick clay or concrete	1-3 lines of engraving (18 to 20 spaces/lines)	\$31.00
12" by 12" Brick clay or concrete	1-8 lines of engraving (18 to 20 spaces/lines)	\$52.00
Adding a Clipart Symbol	Unit (1 per symbol)	\$6.00



Creek Basket Weaving Classes

Beginning April 12th @ 5pm

Class schedule to be determined by students and instructor



COME JOIN THE LEGACY!

All Tribal members, 1st generation descendants, and tribal administrative employees are welcome.

Classes are free. Supplies for the class will be provided for each student to make ONE (1) basket. Students are encouraged to make more than one, however extra supplies may need to be purchased. Type and style of basket made depend on students' skill level.

ALL CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT THE CALVIN MCGHEE CULTURAL CENTER

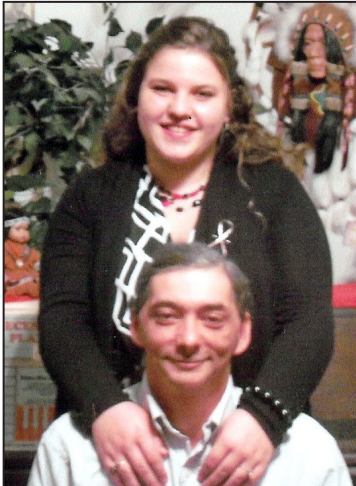
For more info, contact Alex Alvarez, Cultural Educator @ 251-368-9136 ext 2655, or email: aalvarez@pci-nsn.gov

Wedding Announcements

Harris & Gilbraith Wedding

Deanna Rolin Harris & Thomas Harris are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter, Maria Nadine Harris, to Raymon Charles Gilbraith.

The couple will exchange vows during an outdoor ceremony at the City Park in Brewton, AL at 3:00 p.m. on April 2, 2011.



Tew and Huggins to Wed

Jarrad Tew and Alison Huggins would like to announce their upcoming marriage. Jarrad is the son of Bobby and Patricia Tew of Brundidge, AL. He is the maternal grandson of A.D. and Willie Lee Martin of Atmore, AL, and the paternal grandson of Horace and Annie Ruth Tew of Brundidge, AL.



Alison is the daughter of John and Gwyn Huggins of Troy, AL. She is the maternal granddaughter of A.C. and Mary Carter of Auburn, AL and the paternal granddaughter of Preston and Virginia Huggins of Opp, AL.

Jarrad and Alison will be married on May 27, 2011 at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, NV. A reception is being held on July 9, 2011 at the Troy Country Club in Troy, AL at 6:00 pm.

Celebrating An Anniversary

Chris and Janet Rodriguez



Chris and Janet Rodriguez will celebrate their 27th anniversary on April 13, 2011.

Happy 27th Anniversary Moma and Daddy, from Gia, Cade, Devin, Yahira, Brittany, Ronnie, Tori, Kamryn, Kylee, and Mya.

We Love you.

Attention PCI Tribal Member and 1st generation youth in the 7th-12th grade:

The PCI Education Department will be sponsoring a trip to Montgomery to attend the play "**Much Ado About Nothing**" at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival on April 13th.



Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2011

Time: 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Location: Montgomery, AL

Admission to the play, lunch and transportation will be provided. Students must get approval from their Principal to attend. School permission letters will be made available upon request.

WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT THE FIRST 20 STUDENTS, SO PLEASE CALL AND REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

Call Christyn Sells @ 368-9136 ext. 2244 or Magen Weaver ext. 2021 for registration or more information.

Education News & Updates

The Fred L. McGhee Early Learning Center

Pre-K Registration

When: Friday, April 29, 2011

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Where: The Fred L. McGhee Learning Center

44 Creek Drive

Atmore, AL

You must bring:

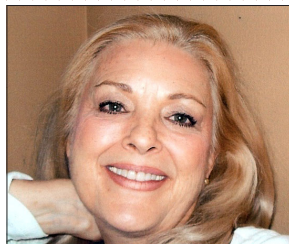
- Certified Birth Certificate
- Shot Record (Alabama Blue Card)
- Social Security Card
- Proof of Tribal Enrollment (if applies)

Child/Children must be 4 years old before September 1, 2011.



Art by Cher

- *Sculpture
- *Portraits
- *Oil
- *Landscape
- *Watercolor
- *Charcoal



Cher Christensen
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Six Attend Annual CloseUp Program

Submitted by Christyn Sells

During the week of February 6-12, 2011, six Poarch Creek students: Will Martin, Haliey Clark, Scarlet Martin, Dylan McGhee, Baccari Ramer, and PCI Senior Princess Connie Colbert all participated in the Close Up program during Native American Impact week, which is held in conjunction with USET's annual meeting in Washington D.C.

While there, the students visited memorials, participated in workshops and made lasting friendships! During the program, they shared information about their tribal government with the students of the other USET tribes and they presented a Tribal Action Initiative project during the USET reception. They visited several memorials including: The Lincoln, Jefferson and Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorials and participated in a walking workshop on Capitol Hill. The students also participated in a mock USET Council meeting. "Shear Madness" was featured during theater night and was a big hit as the ending is based on audience participation. Friday, February 11, was the highlight of the week as the student's had guided study time and were allowed to choose which sites/ museums that they wanted to visit most! They visited the Holocaust Museum and the Washington National Zoo, which was of particular interest, because of the Giant Panda Exhibit there. The week-long program ended with a farewell workshop and dance.

Any student interested in participating in the Close Up program should contact Christyn Sells, Children's Services Coordinator at: (251)368-9136 ext. 2244 or via email at csells@pci-nsn.gov.



Six from Poarch Attend 2011 CloseUP Program. Left to right are Christyn Sells, Coordinator; Will Martin, Connie Colbert, Dylan McGhee, Haliey Clark, Baccari Ramer, Tawana Parham, Chaperone, and Scarlet Martin.

Public Safety Dispatchers Vital to Tribe

Submitted by Hayden Glass

Dispatchers are often described as “the unseen first responders” to all emergency calls for assistance. There are over half a million dispatchers nationwide who answer approximately 240 million 9-1-1 calls annually. In 1994 President Clinton signed a proclamation designating the second full week of April as National Public Safety Telecommunicator’s Week.

In the Poarch community Tribal Dispatchers answer 9-1-1 calls from landlines on the reservation, the surrounding fire jurisdiction, and Wind Creek Casino & Hotel. Additionally, Tribal Dispatchers answer all non-emergency lines for the Tribal Police Department. Tribal Dispatchers are responsible for dispatching Tribal Police, Tribal Fire/EMA, Nokomis Volunteer Fire Department, and after hours calls for housing maintenance and utilities.

There are seven Tribal Dispatchers who are stationed at the Tribal Police Department; six Dispatchers are directly supervised by the Lead Dispatcher, Susan Rolin, who has 17 years of dispatch experience. Melinda McCurdy has spent over six years in the Public Safety Department, Melissa Kendrick has served for over four years, and Hayden Glass has dispatched for the Tribe for four years. Part-time Dispatchers Dan Currie, five years; Kristin Hall, one year; and Tina Lisenby, one year; complete the Poarch Creek team.

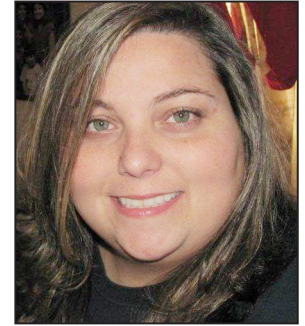
All full-time Tribal Dispatchers have attended a 40-hour basic Telecommunications course teaching the core principles of Police, Fire, and Medical dispatching. Likewise, all full-time Dispatchers are certified in Emergency Medical Dispatch which aids them in taking medical calls for assistance. Additionally, the Tribal Dispatchers have attended other specialty trainings aside from those mentioned above; such as Law Enforcement and Fire Dispatch, Domestic Violence Intervention, Homeland Security for Telecommunicators, and Incident Command.

The Tribal Dispatchers operate 24-hours per day for all 365-days per year. In 2008, Dispatchers received a completely new Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system for call data record keeping. 9-1-1 services have been fully operational since late 2009. Recently, the Police Department has begun building renovations which will include a complete redesign of the Dispatch area. Hurricane Electronics has also been busy installing a new radio console for the Dispatchers.

National Public Safety Telecommunicator’s Week will be recognized April 10th-16th .



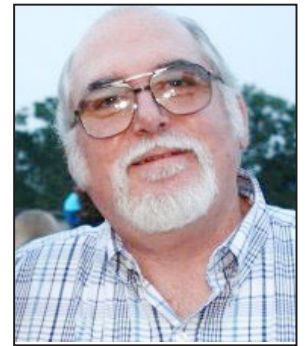
Susan Rolin, Lead Dispatcher



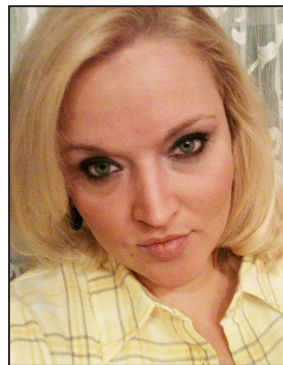
Melinda McCurdy, Dispatcher



Melissa Kendrick, Dispatcher



*Dan Currie, Dispatcher
Part-Time*



Hayden Glass, Dispatcher



*Tina Lisenby, Dispatcher
Part-Time*



*Kristin Hall, Dispatcher
Part-Time*

Early Childhood Literacy Fun Event



Date: Wednesday, May 4, 2011



Ages: 2 to 5 Years

Time: 9:00 am until 12:00 noon

Highlights

- Fun and Games
- Free Book
- Story Time
- Group Activities
- Lunch Provided



Hosted by: The Early Childhood Directions (GRCMA),
The Mobile Museum of Art, and
The Poarch Creek Indians Education and Family Services Departments.

Date: Wednesday, May 4, 2011 Time: 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon
Location: PCI Family Services Resource Auditorium , Building 500

Register by Friday, April 29, 2011 for the event. Complete the registration information below and return it to your child's daycare provider. Parents are welcomed to attend!

_____ Yes, we will be attending! _____ # attending including parent or authorized caretaker

Child's Name(s): _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____
(Parent / Guardian Signature)

Name of authorized caretaker if the parent is not attending: _____

Address: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

****Please complete the Photographic Release on the back!**



POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

A Federally recognized Indian Tribe pursuant to 25 CFR, Part 83

PHOTOGRAPHIC and VIDEO CONSENT FORM

The undersigned hereby gives their consent to be photographed by the appointed staff of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. The undersigned signature authorizes the Poarch Band of Creek Indians to use and reproduce photographs, slides and/or videos of the undersigned taken for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians in any publication, multimedia production, display, advertisement, or world-wide web publication. The undersigned agrees that the Poarch Band of Creek Indians may use name, likeness, or biographical information supplied by the undersigned. I will make no monetary or other claim against PBCI for the use of the photograph(s), slide(s) and/or video(s).

Accepted and Agreed:

Name (print) _____

Signature _____

Signature of Guardian if under 18 years of age.

Address _____

Date _____

Phone _____



The Family Service Department

Staff Members: Amanda Montgomery, Angela Bartley, Betty Jo Bexley, Carolyn Moye, Carolyn Rackard, Carolyn White, Juanita Slate, Judy Camden, Kathy Ledkins, Martha Gookin, Sandy Hollinger, Stella Rutherford, Wanda Fowler

April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month & Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Child Abuse Prevention Information

Pick up a newspaper, look on the internet, or simply watch the evening news and it becomes apparent child abuse and neglect can be found in every race and within every income level in our world. The impact of child maltreatment is profound and has life-long effects on the physical, psychological, and behavioral development of children. The good news is child maltreatment is preventable! We can honor our native heritage by building strong and supportive families who nurture and love our children.

Child abuse and neglect often takes place in the home and generally falls into four categories.

Neglect is the failure to provide for a child's basic needs, such as food and clothing.

Physical Abuse is causing physical harm to a child, such as hitting, kicking, shaking, or burning them. **Sexual Abuse** is any situation where a child is used for sexual gratification.

Emotional Abuse is any matter of behavior that impairs a child's emotional development or sense of self-worth, such as constant criticism, threats, and rejection.

Being a parent is a 24-hour-a-day job and it is normal for parents to feel overwhelmed at times. Parents can feel angry, lonely, and depressed while simply attempting to make ends meet. Don't let these feelings affect how you treat your children. You can: **Talk to someone; Reach out to other parents; Call a help line (1-800-4-A-CHILD); Get babysitting help when you need a break; or Take a parenting class.**

Prevention of child maltreatment includes five protective factors. First of all, **establishing a nurturing bond** between a parent and child will help the parent better understand, respond

to, and communicate with their children throughout life. Second, **increasing parental knowledge of child and youth development** will help parents know what to expect as their children grow. Third, **parental resilience**, or the parent's ability to cope with stressors, is essential for parents to recognize about themselves, and to manage appropriately. Fourth, **establishing positive social connections** will enable parents to build support for themselves in times of need. And last, **having community support** is essential for parents to meet and better attend to their role as parents.

All children need to have strong parents who will love them and who will do what is in their best interest. Babies who have a loving bond with their parent will have a better chance to grow up to be adults who trust others and know how to return affection. As young children grow and develop, they need parents who will establish loving boundaries helping them to become independent and yet, safe. Teenagers need parental guidance and loving boundaries to guide them in their decision-making processes, their relationship choices, and their tendency to be risk-takers.

Children are a gift from God. They are the future hope of our tribe and of our nation. Take time to love them.. Treat them with dignity and respect. They will return your love and they will grow to respect you!

Martha Gookin

Family Services Coordinator



Child Abuse casts a shadow the length of a lifetime.—Herbert Ward

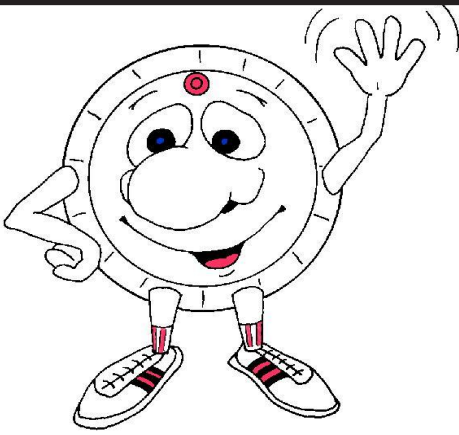
Ways to Help Prevent Child Abuse

- ☺ Be a nurturing parent.
- ☺ Love your children.
- ☺ Help yourself by dealing with your own issues.
- ☺ Take parenting classes.
- ☺ Ask for help if you are overwhelmed.
- ☺ Get involved in the community and learn from other parents.

10 Alternatives to Lashing out at Your Child.

- Take a deep breath . . . And another. **You** are the adult.
- Close your eyes and image you're hearing what your child is about to hear.
- Put your child in time-out.
- Put yourself in time-out.
- Phone a friend.
- Take a hot bath or splash cold water on your face.
- Hug a pillow.
- Turn on some music.
- Pick up a pencil and write it out.
- Call 1-800-CHILDREN.





POARCH CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT SMOKE ALARM PROGRAM

The Poarch Creek Fire Department will be out in the community the month of April installing smoke alarms and conducting home inspections. The fire department will be conducting this project on the following Saturdays in April: 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Home owners will need to sign a waiver form to receive a smoke alarm. The home fire inspection is optional. Below are the dates and areas in which the fire department will be targeting. At this time the Housing Authority Subdivisions will not be visited. Further details can be obtained by calling 368-4416.

April 9 th :	Martin Road, Pow Wow Drive,	Sells Road, Indian School Road,	Lynn McGhee Drive, St. Anna Drive
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April 16 th :	Green Road, Weber Road,	Dees Road, Hall Lane	Stoker Road,
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April 23rd: Jack Springs Rd from Woods Rd to Judson Lane

April 30 th :	Poarch Road, Edgar Rackard Lane, Blacksher Road	Switch Road, Mace McGhee Drive,	Aplin Road, Old Uriah Road,
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Proposed Constitutional Amendment

The following is a Proposed Constitutional Amendment for your review and/or comments. Please submit your comments in person to the Tribal Council Offices located at 3022 Hwy 21, Atmore, AL or in writing at 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36504, attention: Tribal Council Offices. The comment period will end on Friday, April 8, 2011.

RESOLUTION FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE OATH OF OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians is a federally recognized Tribe organized pursuant to 25 CFR Part 83;

WHEREAS, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Constitution does not have an oath of office for Tribal Council members; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council desires to include an oath of office that reflects the values and mission of the Tribal Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council authorizes the following proposed amendment to Article VII of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Constitution, which shall become effective when approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting in the 2011 annual election, provided that at least thirty percent (30%) of those qualified to vote cast their ballots:

Section 5. Oath of Office

Prior to assuming the elected office, the individual elected shall take the following oath of office:

I, _____, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians; and that I will faithfully, honestly and impartially discharge the duties of the office of the Chairman/Vice-Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer/Tribal Council to the best of my ability, so help me God.

As proud leader of our Tribe, my integrity demands that I be true to who I am. My integrity is the foundation of my love for my family and our community, which strengthens my faith and commitment to do what is right for the Tribe. I will further the legacy of self-determination and self-reliance inherited from our elders by investing in the progress and driving a vision

for the future that leads to our prosperity. I understand that I am beholden to the electorate and to the other Tribal Council members. To that end, I shall conduct myself in a manner which will foster respect and dignity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council directs the Election Board Chair to assign a ballot number for the proposed constitutional amendment on the election ballot for 2011 annual election and set forth on the ballot the following:

Proposing an amendment to Article VII of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Constitution, to require an oath of office for Tribal Council members that reflects the values and mission of the Tribal Council.

If approved, the following section would be included as part of Article VII:

Section 5. Oath of Office

Prior to assuming the elected office, the individual elected shall take the following oath of office:

I, _____, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians; and that I will faithfully, honestly and impartially discharge the duties of the office of the Chairman/Vice-Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer/Tribal Council to the best of my ability, so help me God.

As proud leader of our Tribe, my integrity demands that I be true to who I am. My integrity is the foundation of my love for my family and our community, which strengthens my faith and commitment to do what is right for the Tribe. I will further the legacy of self-determination and self-reliance inherited from our elders by investing in the progress and driving a vision for the future that leads to our prosperity. I understand that I am beholden to the electorate and to the other Tribal Council members. To that end, I shall conduct myself in a manner which will foster respect and dignity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this description shall be followed by the following language:

“Yes () No ().”



Effective April 1, 2011: LOCATION CHANGE for ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

As of April 1, 2011:

Family Services Department will no longer be a distribution site for Angel Food Orders. Allen Memorial United Methodist Church in Cantonment, FL will be the new location for ordering and picking up Angel Food.

Allen Memorial United Methodist
Church
206 Pace Parkway
Cantonment, FL 32533-1228
Phone: (850) 968-6213

To place an order:

Visit Angel Food Ministries @
www.angelfoodministries.com

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

Cantonment is located in the Florida Panhandle, 10 miles North of Pensacola. US Highway 29 goes right through the heart of the community. To find the church, turn west off Highway 29 at the Muskogee Road intersection (this is located at the corner of the Champion Golf Course). Turn at the second right (Pace Parkway). Allen Memorial is located one block down on the left.

If needed, Tribal Members can call Family Services for an appointment for assistance with on-line orders

Poarch Band of Creek Indians ☒ Family Services Department ☒ 251-368-9136 Ext., 2600

Public Notice

This article provides public notice to all Tribal Members that the following grants will be available for review and discussion during office hours at the Family Services Department, Building 500, during the week of May 23 -27, 2011.

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

A public hearing is scheduled for June 4, 2011 on Tribal Election Day. Please drop by the Family Services Department's booth, which will be located in the Poarch Creek Indians Gymnasium. Staff will be available to record your comments in response to the grant applications and proposed services.

Carolyn M. White, LCSW
Family Services Director

APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

What is sexual assault? Sexual assault and abuse is any type of sexual activity that you do not agree to participate in with your partner. Sexual assault can be verbal, visual, or anything that forces a person to join in unwanted sexual contact or attention. Examples of this are voyeurism (when someone watches private sexual acts), exhibitionism (when someone exposes him/herself in public), incest (sexual contact between family members), and sexual harassment. It can happen in different situations: in the home by someone you know, on a date, or by a stranger in an isolated place.

Rape is a common form of sexual assault. It is committed in many situations — on a date, by a friend or an acquaintance, or when you think you are alone. Educate yourself on “date rape” drugs. They can be slipped into a drink when a victim is not looking. Never leave your drink unattended — no matter where you are. Attackers use date rape drugs to make a person unable to resist assault. These drugs can also cause memory loss so the victim doesn't know what happened.

(www.womenshealth.gov)

If you or anyone you know had been sexually assaulted, please seek help and encourage others to seek help. Sexual assault is not your fault. Please contact the Family Services Department if you need assistance or information.

Amanda Montgomery, Victim's Advocacy Coordinator
Poarch Creek Indians Family Services Department
251-368-9136 Ext. 2212 or via email at amontgomery@pci-nsn.gov

If you suspect fraud, waste, or abuse in any of the Community Services Programs (LIHEAP, Community Services Block Grant, Child Care, or Tribal Emergency Fund), please contact the Family Services Department at (251) 368-9136 Ext. 2600.

BE SAFE. THINK AHEAD. BE PREPARED

Submitted by Amanda Montgomery

Before a violent encounter:

Practice getting out of the house quickly.
Keep your wallet and keys handy.
Tell a neighbor to call police if they hear strange noises.
Develop a code to signal them to call the police.
Teach your children how to dial 911.
Decide where you will go.
Call the Alabama Crisis Line at 800-650-6522 to locate the nearest shelter.
If local, call Poarch Creek Indians Police Department at 251-368-5011.
Teach your children how to get out or find safety

If you are being assaulted by your partner:

Scream for help (and do not stop).
Do NOT run into a room that contains potential weapons such as the kitchen.
Do NOT run into a room with no exit such as the bathroom or a closet.
Call the police.
Try to get to a safe place such as a neighbor's house or public place.

After an assault:

Get out of the house.
Get medical help. Your records could be evidence that could help you.
Tell someone you trust what happened (a doctor, counselor, relative, neighbor).
Call the Alabama Crisis Line.
Consider leaving even if just for the night.

Safety in the Community:

Vary or change any routine your partner may be familiar with. Change grocery stores, banks, day care.
Go out during the busiest times.
Have people you trust walk you to and from your car.
Take someone with you.
Carry a whistle.
Take a self defense class.
Program the police, crisis line or friend on your cell phone. Keep it with you at all times.

www.acadv.org

Election Board Vacancy Announced

The Tribal Council is currently accepting applications for vacancies on the following board:

Election Board

1 Alternate position

Applications are available from the Chairman's Office and online at www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov.

Applications will be accepted from Thursday, March 17, 2011 until 5:00 p.m. Monday, April 18, 2011. The customary 30 day application period has been extended one day since April 17, 2011 falls on a Sunday.

April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month

**Your Eye
Health
is Our
Number
ONE
Priority.**



Atmore Vision Center & Monroeville Eye Care

We are excited to announce we accept flex cards and your BCBS along with other major medical insurances. We are open Mon-Fri for your convenience, fast turn-around time on glasses, same/next day appointments available. We consider our patient's health our number ONE priority, therefore, we offer thorough eye exams, eye disease prevention education and DNA testing. We have a variety of name brand frames to choose from Kate Spade, Nine West, Juicy, Coach and name brand sunglasses from Maui Jim and Costa Del Mar.

Dr. Stephen M. Gross

Dr. Valerie Vick
Ocular Plastics

Dr. David Helton

Dr. Alan Franklin
Retina Specialist

Dr. Rollins Tindell
Cataract Specialist

Dr. Sunil Gupta
Retina Specialist

Atmore Vision Center

166 Lindberg Avenue
Atmore, Alabama 36502
251-368-8767

Monroeville Eye Care

3016 S Alabama Avenue
Monroeville, Alabama 36460
251-743-3384

"We have glasses to fit your budget."

Dottie Padgett Memorial Nursing Scholarship

The Dottie Padgett Memorial Nursing Scholarship was birthed by several hospital employees that had worked with Mrs. Dottie over the years. A scholarship committee has been created in honor of the memory of Mrs. Dottie.



The Committee is seeking donations from hospital employees and community residents so that a nursing scholarship can be awarded each year to an area resident that is pursuing a career in nursing. Applications will be required and will be available online on the Baptist Hospital web site in April.

Anyone interested in donating to this fund can make checks payable to Baptist Health Care Foundation. Please note on the check that this is for the Dottie Padgett Scholarship. All donations are tax deductible. Donations can be delivered to Myrtle Staff (Outpatient Clinic) or Amy White (Surgery).

This is a scholarship that will be given out yearly and the amount will be based on the donations that are collected by the committee.



Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA) Small Business Loan Program

Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority offers valuable business assistance to Tribal Members seeking small business loans. Getting your loan request approved depends on how well you represent yourself, your business, and your financial needs. The lending limit may extend up to \$50,000.00 in aggregate to any Tribal Member. All loans exceeding these limits must be approved by the CIEDA Board of Directors. Additional credit criteria as well as loan collateralizing requirements apply.

If you are a Tribal Member who owns a business or is thinking about starting a business and interested in obtaining a small business loan, please contact Donna Henry, Economic Development Coordinator at 251-368-0819, or by e-mail at dhenry@pcicie.com for additional information.

The Harlem Wizards



The Harlem Wizards visited Poarch on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 and took on a team of "elite" players from the Poarch Community.

A great time was had by all who visited.



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"Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." - Proverbs 27:17



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Farewell To Loved Ones

SINCERE THANKS & APPRECIATION

Donald Allen Reid



Donald Allen Reid, age 56, was born October 4, 1954. Don went to be with the Lord on January 25, 2011.

Donnie was a very good man. Don was a roofer for most of his life. He loved his family and friends. He spent the last three years of his life caring for our ill Mom. He endured a lot of hardship and heartaches during these three years, but he was faithful to attend to all of her needs. By doing this he took a tremendous burden off the rest of us. Donnie was loved by so many people. He may never have had his own children, but all of his nieces and nephews loved him as their second Dad. He was dependable, trustworthy, funny, lovable, decent, kind, and just all around a wonderful man. We will all miss him so much. Donnie was a brilliant musician. He could play any instrument he touched. His favorites were the drums and the guitar. He could also draw, he taught his nieces and nephews. He loved gardening and he had a green thumb. He was such a special person. Donnie was a proud member of the Poarch Creek Indians.

Donald Reid was preceded in death by his Dad, Rezile Reid, in September of 1999, his Mom, Rose Reid, in December of 2010, his nephew, Keith Picotte, in May of 2010, and Kirk Picotte. He is survived by two brothers, Joe Reid and wife Deb, Carl Reid, and wife Jennifer, and four sisters, Linda Gates, and husband Larry, Joyce Ward, Carole Henderson, and husband Doug, and Betty Reid. He will also leave behind many nieces and nephews, cousins, aunts, and many, many friends. He was well loved. We will miss him, but he has gone home to be with the Lord and have a reunion with Mom and Dad. We will always love you Uncle Donnie!

RIVERSIDE SMOKE SHOP

Next to Creek Casino Wetumpka

Montgomery's Low Price Leader

334-514-2700

Gift Certificates Now Available



Correction

The obituary of Mrs. Mattie L. Andersen was published in last month's issue of the Poarch Creek News. In error we did not include the date of her passing. Mrs. Anderson passed away on January 27, 2011.

Mattie Lucile Andersen
July 17, 1914 - January 27, 2011

CREEK SMOKE SHOP

Best Prices In Town!

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to check your brand.

Next to Wind Creek Casino
Gift Certificates Now Available



Andrea Loves Color



Andrea McGhee-Bowen
andrealovescolor.etsy.com

Tribal Member Submission

Heartfelt Thanks

Many of you may know about my recent health issues; the past 4 months have been hard for me and my family. I would like to take this time to say A SPECIAL THANK YOU to the CIEDA Board of Directors and staff; Garvis Sells, PCI Family Services Department; PCI Housing Authority; my family; my friends; and anyone else that helped my family in our time of need.

"I will never be able to express how much all of this has meant to me and my family."

Once again THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,

Michelle White and Family

Legal Update

Submitted by Venus Prince, Attorney General

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on 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.

Significant Court Cases

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

As you know, in March 2006, Community Recovery Services, Inc. ("CRS") filed a complaint against PCI Gaming in Poarch Band of Creek Indians Tribal Court for over \$2.1 million claiming unpaid invoices for performance of work on the Riverside project. For the past four years, PCI Gaming has defended itself against CRS' claims and maintained its counterclaim against CRS for over \$2.5 million in excessive overcharges in the performance of the same work. As part of its defense, PCI Gaming filed a third party complaint against Eddie L. Tullis, so that PCI Gaming's assets would be fully protected if it were ordered to pay monies to CRS.

The trial was held the week of June 22, 2009. The Tribal Court entered an Order in this matter on March 10, 2011. In its Order, the Court held that PCI Gaming was entitled to recover \$1,971,294.70 from CRS, less \$412,160.12 which the Court found to be the amount that PCI Gaming owed CRS, leaving PCI Gaming a net judgment of \$1,559,134.58. Eddie L. Tullis was found to have no liability to PCI Gaming because the Tribal Rules of Civil Procedure do not allow for third party practice. All parties have fourteen (14) days from the date of the Order to appeal. If you would like a copy of the Order, please contact Tribal Court.

White v. PBCI et al. (Tribal Court)

White v. McGhee et al. (State Court)

On May 1, 2009, former Tribal Judge Ernie White filed suit in Tribal Court against the Tribe and six individual Tribal Council members that voted to remove him from judicial office, alleging violations of his constitutional rights and demanding damages exceeding \$3 million for each of his four claims, and in Escambia County circuit court against the six individual Tribal Council members who voted to remove him, alleging invasion of privacy and outrage claims and demanding damages exceeding \$2.5 million for each of his five claims.

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ETHICS CORNER

By: Carrie Martin, Ethics Chair

Greetings from the Ethics Board. This month, I would like to discuss the standard of conduct "Preferential Treatment".



Preferential Treatment can be defined as a benefit a person receives because he or she is of the "correct" race, gender, economic status, religious affiliation or other categorization. In the Ethics Code, Preferential Treatment is addressed as special treatment that may be given by the tribal official or key employee to themselves, their immediate family or any person, group, or organization with whom the tribal official or key employee has a personal or business relationship with. By doing this the Tribal Official or key employee shows a greater interest for these individuals well being than for all tribal members or employees.

The Standard is stated as: *No Tribal Official or key employee shall show greater regard in making any decision or taking any action for the personal advantage or interest of such Tribal Official or key employee, his or her immediate family member, or any person, group, or organization with whom he or she has a personal or business relationship than for the interest of other tribal members or employees (other than preferences authorized by law, policy, or procedure).*

How do you know if someone is showing preferential treatment? Ask yourself these questions:

1. Who will benefit from the decision or action that was taken?
2. How will I personally, benefit from the decision or action that was taken?
3. Are there certain individuals, groups or organizations that will receive a greater benefit than the overall Tribal members?
4. Are certain employees being shown greater regard than other employees?
5. Is the Tribal Official or key employee receiving a personal advantage that other Tribal members or employees will not receive due to the decision or action taken by the Tribal Official or key employee?

I would like to remind any individuals that file an ethics complaint, that if the Ethics Officer decides not to file an ethics complaint you have the right to appeal that decision to the Tribal Council. The appeal shall be filed in writing with the Tribal Council Liaison within fourteen (14) days after the receipt of notification from the Ethics Officer.

You may obtain a copy of the Ethics Code, advisory opinions, or complaint forms from the Legal Department, Chairman's Officer or Tribal Court.

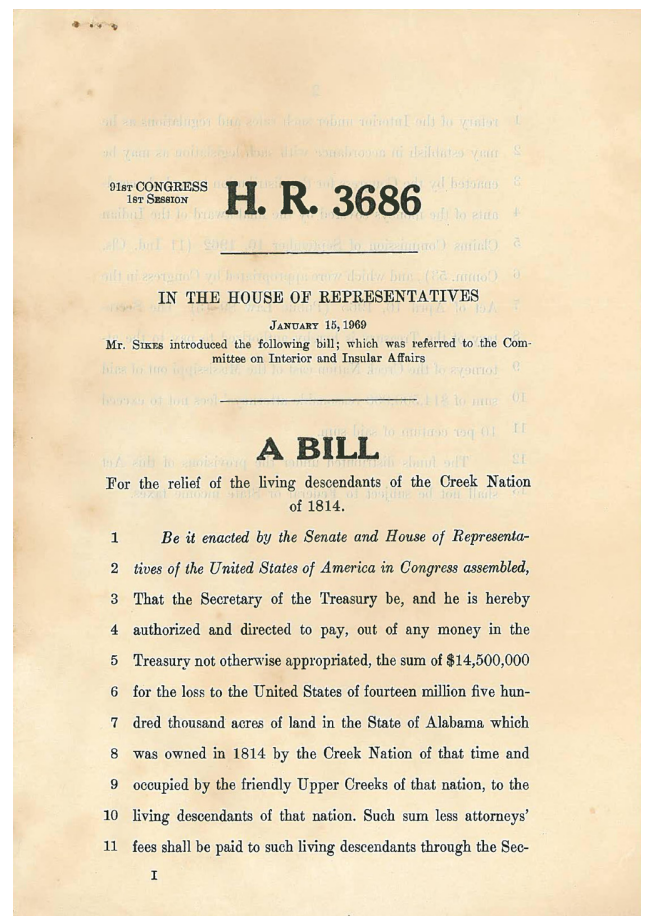
Remember that "Indian Money"?

By Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed. D.

Remember that "Indian money"? I was just a kid but I distinctly remember mine. In our archival collections in the Office of Archives and Records Management, we have a copy of the Bill that was introduced into Congress in 1969 by United States Congressman Bob Sikes. This Bill and others like it led to our "Indian money" checks which were per capita payments from the United States government to Creek Indian descendants for land that was unfairly taken under the Treaty of Fort Jackson of 1814.

The Bill in our archives came directly from Congressman Sikes who represented Florida's First District from 1941 to 1978. In his letter to us, he refers to it as "a bill that I introduced for the relief of the living descendants of the Creek Nation of 1814." The Bill is a very interesting piece of history so I wanted to share it with our community.

Sikes also worked on the building up of military bases in Florida including Eglin and NAS so that we could all be protected. Although he has now passed on, I would like to say, "Mvto Congressman Sikes!"



Page 1 of HR 3686 introduced by Congressman Sikes

The Hard Road

Gradually, during the last decade of the nineteenth century, the identity of the Poarch Band of Creeks as Indian began to resurface as a general perspective among non-Indians in the community and local, county officials. Stratifications of social classes once again became a topical issue, and the Poarch Creeks were again placed in the middle ground between white and colored: they were not whites and they were not blacks. They were in fact Indians, and came to be partially segregated on those grounds. The U.S. Decennial Census for 1900 lists the highest number to date of Poarch Creeks in the area as "Indian". The returns for Escambia and Monroe counties, Jack Springs Beat, and Precinct #13 list approximately 140 persons as Indian. Others, known both genealogically and by surname to be part of the Poarch community, were listed by race as either white or mulatto.

In 1902 John Rolin killed Will Colbert during a "frolic" in the Poarch community. He was indicted for 2nd degree murder by the state. John was sentenced to prison for the murder of Will Colbert on October 2, 1902; he was pardoned by Governor Jelks after serving only nine months. *The Standard Gauge*, published in Brewton, ran the story two days later. The opening sentence reads "John Roland, an old Indian of this county who was convicted of murder a year or more ago, has been pardoned by the Governor."

Perhaps the most salient example of the reemergence of Indian identity among the Poarch Creeks was the material generated by the report of Special Commissioner Guion Miller. Miller was appointed by the U.S. Court of Claims in 1906 to determine who was eligible to share in per capita disbursements of funds under the treaties between the United States and the Eastern Cherokees ratified in 1836 and 1845. The outcome of it all relative to the Poarch Creeks was that they were refused on the grounds that they were not Cherokee; Miller asserts that they are in fact Creeks. Miller's final report was published in 1908 and contains the following paragraph:

There are several hundred persons who have filed applications for participation in the distribution of the Eastern Cherokee fund who for the most part live in the extreme southern section of Alabama and the western section of Florida who are not Cherokee at all, and most of them do not claim to be Cherokees, but are Creeks. Quite a number of these claim descent from such historic Creek characters as Billy Weatherford, Peggy Bailey, William and Chilly McIntosh, and Alexander McGilliray, and most of these applicants claim only through the Hollinger,

McGhee, McIntosh, Moniac, McGillivray, Franklin, or Killian families which are all of Creek origin. Some of them are recognized as members of the Creek tribe, others while not recognized as members of the Creek tribe, claim as descendants some Creek ancestor. Most of them state in so many words in their applications and in their testimony that they are Creeks and they file their applications under the impression that descendants of Creek Indians are entitled to share in the fund.

June 3, 1911 is a significant date in the history of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, for on that date the report of the Federal Timber Cruiser J.B. Chatterton of the General Land Office was filed. The report is significant because it precipitated voluminous documentation about the Lynn McGhee reserve, the history of the Poarch Band of Creeks, the status of the community at the time, and it reawakened the Federal government to the fact that an Indian reserve still existed in southern Alabama obtained under the 1814 Treaty of Ft. Jackson—a fact apparently overlooked by both the General Land office and the Bureau of Indian Affairs for half a century. The specifics of the case are recorded in a variety of letters, legal briefs, and memoranda between the General Land Office, various offices of the Justice Department and the U.S. Attorney, and the William M. Carney Mill Company. Briefly, Carney's pine timber cutters had, despite warning by Poarch Creek's residents that this was government land, trespassed on the McGhee reserve in 1904 and cut certain stands of pine, which they sold commercially. On May 21, 1912 the U.S. Attorney in Mobile was ordered to give careful consideration to the facts and determine if there was sufficient evidence to maintain suit. The complaint of the United States vs. Carney Mill Company was filed on May 29th. The trial never occurred;³ the final disposition of the case resulted in the payment of \$2,000 in damages to the defendant on June 1, 1915.

With the advent of the 1920s a new era begins for the Poarch Creeks. Their history becomes less equivocal, since every few years they are studied or cited by representatives of governmental, scholarly, or religious agencies. As the twentieth century progresses they become the subject of scores of newspaper and magazine articles. The era of the Pan-Indianism about which historian Rachael Hertzburg writes, is now dawning; non-traditional and forgotten Indian groups around the United States are taking pride in their heritage and beginning to fight for their rights as Indian, and while the Poarch

To Federal Recognition

Creeks are not immediately active in this, the following decades show a gradual renaissance of pride in Indian heritage and culture among the Poarch Band of Creeks.

In 1920 F. L. McCawley wrote to the Department of the Interior requesting patents for the land they lived and paid taxes on, the Lynn McGhee reserve in Poarch. Clay Tallman, Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office notified McCawley that no patent could be issued for the land; he also wrote to the state of Alabama instructing them to cease collecting taxes for the land since it was government land. In 1924 the Department of the Interior issued Patent #948359 for the McGhee grant lands ending the protection of the title by the government. The legality of this issuance has since been questioned. Since that point in time, small parcels of land have been sold. Local non-Indians bought some 80 acres of the reserve land over the years and today approximately 160 acres are left of the pre-1924 lands.

Notwithstanding the loss of federal protection for the land, the Poarch Creeks at Hedapeada and the other hamlets of Bell Creek, Hog Fork, and Poarch Switch maintained their Indian identity both among themselves and in the consciousness of their non-Indian neighbors. In 1928 the Escambia County Board of Education shows a Gibson Indian School and a Poarch Indian School. Each school had one teacher, a seven-month term and appropriations of \$525 and \$420, respectively. Five years later the school board shows two new Indian schools, the Roland Indian School and the McGhee Indian School.

The segregated Indian schools point to an interesting situation for the Poarch Creeks at that time in their history—they were in a distinct position between the white and black strata of southern society. They were allowed to marry whites, but they were not allowed to attend white schools; they were allowed to sit on juries, but they were not welcome at all-white churches. What is obvious is that they were distinct; that they occupied a separate niche in the local social structure by virtue of the fact of their Indian ancestry.

Additional information will be published in next month's issue and will be the last of the *The Hard Road To Federal Recognition* articles as it will bring us up to the time of Federal Recognition.

We were there...

Support the Native American Veteran Memorial Initiative (NAVMI)

We were there in World War I; we were there raising the American flag at Iwo Jima during World War II, we were there at the 38th parallel in the Korean War, we were there in the jungles during the Vietnam War, we were there during the oil fires of the Gulf War, and we are there today in the current conflicts in Iraq & Afghanistan.

It has long been a dream of Native American Veteran Mitchel Cypress to see the inclusion of a Native American soldier represented along with the African American, Asian, and Caucasian soldier being represented on the National Mall located in our nation's capital.

“Long before an official organization of our Country's military, Native Americans have always served as stewards of our homelands.” As Native Americans we have served in every branch of the military and we would like acknowledgment along with our brothers and sisters that have served.

We were there during conflict, fighting for our country and as Native Americans when we look at the beautiful statue that depicts true and brave warriors, we wonder why we were not included, we were there too!

That being said, we are calling on all of our Veteran brothers and sisters who have served this country proudly to support our “NAVMI” initiative. This initiative will finally allow for funding to include a statue depicting our Native American Military Soldier that has fought in the same conflicts “to be added” with the current soldiers depicted in the statute.

We would greatly appreciate any assistance from those around the globe that live in this initiative to band with us to finally get the honor to stand in our nation's capital along with the rest of our military family. We need the support of our fellow Veterans, Veterans Associations, Congressmen, Senators, and anyone else that would like to see this dream become a reality.

To support this initiative and for more information, long on to www.theanvmi.com

Tribal Case

The Tribe filed a motion to dismiss all claims based on sovereign immunity. In May 2010, the Tribal Court granted the Tribe's motion to dismiss. White moved for reconsideration of that ruling, and the Tribal Court denied that motion in December 2010. White's appeal is now under consideration by the Tribal Supreme Court.

State Case

The individual Tribal Council member defendants also moved to dismiss the privacy and outrage claims based on sovereign immunity. In August 2009, the State Court denied the Tribal defendants' motion to dismiss, concluding that the issue of sovereign immunity is more appropriately addressed at summary judgment. The Tribal defendants filed a petition for a writ of mandamus with the Alabama Supreme Court, requesting that the Supreme Court direct the trial court to dismiss this case based on sovereign immunity. The Alabama Supreme Court denied the petition for a writ of mandamus in October 2010. The parties have been involved in discovery since that time. The Tribal defendants intend to file a motion for summary judgment based on sovereign immunity after completion of this initial discovery.

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*Poarch Creek Indians
2011 Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 9, 2011
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
At the Pow Wow Grounds*

*Four Age Divisions
1-2 * 3-5 * 6-8 * 9-10
1st - 2nd & Prize Egg
In each division*

*Refreshments will be available after the hunt
Be prompt or you might miss out on the fun!!*

Contact Mandy Peebles, Events Coordinator, or Tawana McGhee, Executive Assistant,
at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2205 or 2234 if you have any questions.

**Sign Up for Health Camp 2011
Pickerel House, Pow Wow Grounds
Saturday, April 9, 2011
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.**

**Ages 8 - 12
Tribal Member and
1st Generation Indian Descent**

**Only 80 slots are available
First come, first served!**

**2011 Health Camp to be held at beautiful
Lake Martin
June 26, 2011 - July 1, 2011**

**Contact the Health Department at (251)
368-9136 x 2327 for more information**



2011 Pow Wow Information

Submitted By: Clayton Coon

We will be celebrating our 41st Annual Pow Wow this year, and I wanted to take the time to inform you about some of the changes that will be taking place this year. One of the changes you will notice is the new admission prices, but don't be alarmed. Tribal Members will still receive free admission. Each Tribal Member that receives a newsletter in the month of November will also receive an invitation with four vouchers; each voucher is good for a two day admission wristband. These vouchers can be given to friends or family members of your choice. You can visit our website (www.poarchcreekindians-nsn.gov) to view additional information. Hope that everyone can make plans to attend and celebrate our traditional Thanksgiving together.

April 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Deadline to submit information to be published in May 2011 Poarch Creek News Monday, April 11, 2011 5:00 p.m. CST					¹ CIEDA Meeting CIEDA Office 7:30 a.m. Memorial Bricks/Tiles go on sale	² USA Day University of South Alabama
³	⁴ Dance Class @ Gym 5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.	⁵ Weight Watchers Gym 5:00 p.m. NA Meeting Turning Point 7:00 p.m. Dance Class @ Gym 5:30 p.m./6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. CMCMA Meeting Welcome Center/Museum 5:00 p.m.	⁶	⁷ Tribal Council Meeting Council Chambers 4:00 p.m.	⁸ Last day to submit comments on proposed Constitutional Amendment.	⁹ Easter Egg Hunt Pow Wow Grounds 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Health Fair Registration Pickerel House / Pow Wow Grounds
¹⁰	¹¹ Wellness & Activities Authority Meeting Gym 4:00 p.m. 4-H Meeting Education Department 6:00 p.m. Dance Class @ Gym 5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Poarch Creek News Submission Deadline 5:00 p.m.	¹² Weight Watchers Gym 5:00 p.m. NA Meeting Turning Point 7:00 p.m. Dance Class @ Gym 5:30/6:30 & 7:30 p.m. TERO Meeting 3:00 p.m. TERO Conf. Room Basket Weaving Classes Begin	¹³	¹⁴ Housing Authority Meeting Building 400 Conference Room 4:00 p.m. <i>(If schedules necessitate, this meeting may be moved to April 11, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.)</i>	¹⁵ CIEDA Meeting CIEDA Office 7:30 p.m.	¹⁶
¹⁷	¹⁸ Last day to submit application for Election Board Vacancy	¹⁹ Weight Watchers Gym 5:00 p.m. NA Meeting Turning Point 7:00 p.m. Dance Class @ Gym 5:30 pm/6:30 pm & 7:30 pm CMCMA Meeting Welcome Center/Museum 5:00 p.m.	²⁰	²¹ Tribal Council Meeting Council Chambers 4:00 p.m.	²² Tribal Offices Closed In Observance of Good Friday	²³
²⁴ Easter	²⁵ Wellness & Activities Authority Meeting Gym 4:00 p.m. 4-H Club Meeting Education Department 6:00 p.m. Dance Class @ Gym 5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.	²⁶ Weight Watchers Gym 5:00 p.m. NA Meeting Turning Point 7:00 p.m. Dance Class @ Gym 5:30 pm/6:30 pm & 7:30 pm TERO Meeting 3:00 p.m. TERO Conf. Room	²⁷	²⁸ Housing Authority Meeting Building 400 Conference Room 4:00 p.m.	²⁹ Last day to purchase Memorial Brick/tile FLMLC Pre-K Registration 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	³⁰

Newsletter Contact Information

Poarch Creek News

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