

*Cokv-Tvlvme/Newspaper (job-gub dub-luh-mee)*  
**Poarch Creek News**  
*December 2015*



TO THE BUREAU OF  
INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Government has given them about 2000 acres of land, but with a few exceptions the land will grow nothing and the people are not free to buy the several holdings in suits. It is the hope of the Government to give and through you to the Indians a few more acres of land. If we could get a lot of the cut-over land, and help these folks get cleared for a job, then they will be able to take care of themselves. I suggest a piece of land this A.M. for a new home settlement for them and expect to buy the land for it."

Approved: U.S. 100-10-1000

**Altar Bible**  
These large Bibles, left on the altar of St. Anne's Episcopal Church and St. John's in the Wilderness Church.



Keeping the friends & family of Poarch informed  
Volume 33 \* Issue 12      Rvfo-Rakko (December)

# A Moment With The Tribal Chair December 2015

*Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair* [sbryan@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:sbryan@pci-nsn.gov)



I am in awe that December is here already! This has been an eventful year for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and I am proud of the great strides we have made. Your Tribal Council has worked very hard this year to elevate the quality of life for our Tribal Members. With Thanksgiving behind us and Christmas before us, I am reminded of all the blessings we've been afforded.

One of the greatest blessings in my life is all of you: my people, my Tribe. As I travel throughout Indian Country, I constantly interact and correspond with other Tribal leaders, and I am often reminded of just how blessed a Tribe we are. Even when I'm far from home, my community remains continuously on my mind. I count it one of the greatest honors of my life to serve all of you every day.

Though we have experienced tremendous growth at the Tribe and in the benefits provided to Tribal Members, we have also experienced a difficult year as well. We've faced countless struggles and attacks on our sovereignty, as well as many controversial internal issues such as enrollment. While the enrollment issue has been a constant weight on the shoulders of Tribal Council Members, I also realize that this weighs heavily on all of your hearts and minds as well. My earnest hope is that this will be resolved in the right way so that no family has to go through this ever again.

As 2015 draws to a close, I am in much prayer for the future of the Tribe and for all that 2016 holds. I pray that God will guide us as leaders and give us the wisdom we need to make the best decisions for the entire Tribe; I pray for peace in our community; and, I pray that we will once again be a people united

by our love for one another. I also pray that the Lord will help us when those struggles and attacks come our way, and that He will give us the strength and perseverance we require to make it through another battle.

In closing, I wish you all nothing but the very best this Christmas season. I hope everyone takes the time to enjoy the moments we are given with each other, as we never know when it will be our last. Remember that Jesus Christ is the reason for this celebratory time, and may His love and the hope He brings shine upon you all. I appreciate and love you all, and I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!

In love,

Stephanie A. Bryan  
Tribal Chair/CEO

---

*We have always held to the hope, the belief, the conviction that there is a better life, a better world, beyond the horizon.*

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

*True leadership is only possible when character is more important than authority.*

*Joseph Marshall, Lakota Sioux*






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## Tribal Council Values

As proud leaders of our Tribe, our integrity demands that we are true to who we are. Our integrity is the foundation of our love for family and community, which strengthens our faith and commitment to do what is right for the Tribe.

We 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.



## Tribal Council's Purpose

Our love for our people and our commitment to their future drives us to make tough decisions and stand by them to provide stable governance.

With our blend of mature wisdom and modern knowledge, we grow the Tribe's assets to build self-reliance and enhance quality of life for all.



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## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- **Copyright Materials**  
Copyrighted poems, graphics, etc. will not be published without permission from copyright holder. It is the responsibility of the individual submitting the information to determine if material is copyrighted and to obtain applicable copyright license.
- **Birthday & Anniversary Wishes:**  
Published the month before, the month of, or the month after, the birthday/ anniversary. Submissions are limited to Tribal Members & spouse, First Generation as submitted by Tribal Member, and those living in Tribal Member Households.
- **Obituaries:**  
Submit information by the last business day of the second month immediately following the death. Submissions are limited to Tribal Members, First Generation as submitted by Tribal Member, and those living in Tribal Member Households. *Photos will be cropped to reflect deceased only.*
- **In Memoriam:**  
Published month before, the month of, or the month after the birthday of the deceased or the anniversary of the death of the deceased. Submissions are limited to Tribal Members, First Generation as submitted by Tribal Member, and those living in Tribal Member Households. *Photos will be cropped to reflect deceased only. Limit one In Memoriam submission per deceased individual per issue.*
- **Birth Announcements:**  
Submit information by the last business day of the month immediately following the birth. Submissions are limited to Tribal Members, First Generation as submitted by Tribal Member, and those living in Tribal Member Households.
- **Engagement/Wedding Announcements:**  
Submit information by the last business day of the month immediately following the engagement/wedding. Submissions are limited to Tribal Members, First Generation as submitted by Tribal Member, and those living in Tribal Member Households.
- **Photo Submissions:**  
One per article submission; photos will be cropped to fit available space.  
High resolution .jpg or PDF format.
- **Corrections:**  
Corrections will occur only if error/misprint is made by *Poarch Creek News*.

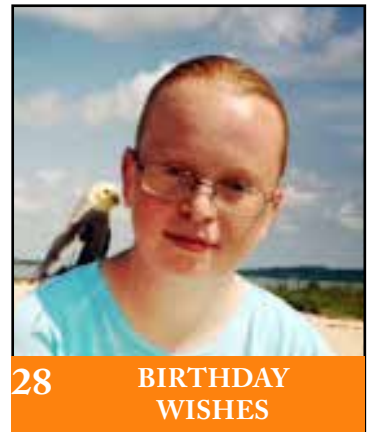
### SUBMISSION

### WORD LIMITS

**\*Please note changes to word limits**

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| News Article                                     | 400 words or less |
| Obituary   | 250 words or less |
| In Memoriam                                      | 200 words or less |
| Graduation/Accomplishments                       | 150 words or less |
| Birth/Wedding Announcements                      | 150 words or less |
| Reunions/Miscellaneous Tribal Member Submissions | 50 words or less  |
| Engagement/Anniversary                           | 50 words or less  |
| Birthday Wishes                                  | 30 words or less  |

**ESTABLISHED DEADLINE:** *The Poarch Creek News is generated one month prior to the month of publication. The deadline to submit information to be published in the newsletter is 5:00 p.m. (CST) the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the month of publication. If the 5<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is extended to the next business day. Please keep this deadline in mind when submitting information for publication in all sections of the newsletter. Please submit information as early as possible, delay in submitting information may cause you to miss the established deadlines.*



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**DEPARTMENTAL  
UPDATES**

WE EACH WISH YOU & YOURS A  
**HAPPY HOLIDAY**



**LET US ALL REMEMBER THE REASON FOR THIS SEASON!**

## 2015 ENROLLMENT SURVEY

The Tribal Council has posted the Enrollment Survey in the TMOP. A copy of the Enrollment Survey has been mailed to all Tribal Members 18 and older (as of June 4, 2016). Please submit your survey and return it to the Tribal Enrollment Department by online submission, hand delivery, or U.S. Mail. All completed surveys must be received no later than Thursday, December 31, 2015.

The TMOP is accessible to Tribal Members only utilizing their assigned username and password. Please contact Hannah Flowers at (251) 368-9136 x 2003 or [hflowers@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:hflowers@pci-nsn.gov) if you need assistance with the TMOP.

# A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



The *Poarch Creek News* is the official newsletter of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and is published by the Government Relations Department at the direction/discretion of the Tribal Council.

The *Poarch Creek News* is **not** the forum where individuals/groups can submit their views regarding matters of operations of Tribal Government or any decisions or policies enacted by Tribal Council, Authorities and/or Boards. Nor is it the vehicle to submit policies issues/concerns of individuals/groups.

All questions or concerns about the *Poarch Creek News* should be addressed to:

Gayle Johnson, Media Specialist  
*Poarch Creek News*  
5811 Jack Springs Road  
Atmore, AL 36502

[gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov)  
[www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov)

(251) 368-9136 x 2210  
Direct Dial # 251 446-5210

Regular Office Hours  
Tuesday - Friday  
7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



Gayle Johnson  
Media Specialist  
[gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov)

The *Poarch Creek News* office is located in Building 400 of the Tribal Complex.

*The Poarch Creek News reserves the right to edit or refuse any item submitted for publication.*



## Merry Christmas!

We can truly be of good cheer and full of hope because Jesus came to save us. - John 3:16



Jesus is the Reason for the Season! We have so much to be thankful for!  
Much love to you & your families this holiday season.

from *Chairwoman Stephanie A. Bryan & Family*



## Ask About The Native American Indian Program (184 Program)\*

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# UPCOMING CHANGES FOR 2016 NEWSLETTER

Beginning with the January 2016 issue of the *Poarch Creek News*, the following changes will take effect:

## Submissions:

Birthday Wishes, Anniversary Wishes, and other Tribal Member Submissions will be limited to Tribal Members, spouses, First Generation Descendants as submitted by the Tribal Member, and those living in the Tribal Member household.

When submitting information please be sure to identify if you are Tribal Member, spouse of Tribal Member, First Generation Indian Descendant, or living in a Tribal Member household. Newsletter Submission Forms have been updated and will be posted on the Newsletter page of the Tribal web site, [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov), prior to December 7, 2015, the deadline for the January 2016 issue of the newsletter.

## Word Limits

We have noticed that the established word limits appear to be too restrictive and do not allow sufficient space for certain submissions. Beginning Monday, December 7, 2015, the submission deadline for the January 2016 issue of the newsletter, the new word limits will be as follows:

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| News Article                  | 400 words or less |
| Obituary                      | 250 words or less |
| In Memoriam                   | 250 words or less |
| Graduation/Accomplishments    | 200 words or less |
| Birth/Wedding Announcements   | 200 words or less |
| Tribal Member Submissions     | 100 words or less |
| Reunions                      | 50 words or less  |
| Engagement/Anniversary Wishes | 50 words or less  |
| Birthday Wishes               | 40 words or less  |

## Photos

The requirements for photos are as follows:

- When submitting photos for publication, make sure they are PDF or high resolution (300 ppi) .jpg.

- Photos should be a close-up. Full body photos do not format well when cropped to fit available space.
- Do not send blurry or overly dark photos. Please do not submit photos from newspapers or magazines.
- Please make sure individuals in the photos are appropriately dressed, example men must wear a shirt, no swim suits except for swim team photos, no photos with cigarettes or alcohol, etc.
- Send photos that can be cropped and sized. Most photos will be cropped and sized to reflect just the subject matter. Photos with numerous subjects do not crop well.
- If a photo is deemed to be inappropriate or of poor publication quality, every effort will be made to secure another photo.

## Advertising

Tribal Member businesses may run a free business card size ad (3.625"x 2.25") in the newsletter. To qualify for a free ad, the business must be 51% Tribal Member owned. *Poarch Creek News* cannot create or develop these ads.

## Submission Guidelines and Deadlines

Submission guidelines and established deadlines are published each month. Please adhere to these guidelines and deadlines and keep them in mind when submitting information for publication in all sections of the newsletter. When submitting information, please provide contact information so that you can be contacted if there are any questions about your submission.

Submit information as early as possible, any delay in submitting information may cause you to miss the established deadlines. If possible, do not wait until the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month to submit your information. Please submit your information as soon as you have all of the pertinent information; you can always edit your submission prior to the deadline.

# Y<sub>OUR</sub> 2015-2016 T<sub>RIBAL</sub> C<sub>OUNCIL</sub>



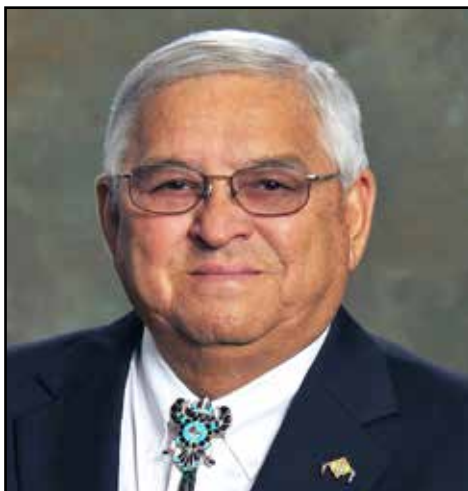
*Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair*  
[sbryan@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:sbryan@pci-nsn.gov)



*Robert R. McGhee, Vice Chair*  
[rmcghee@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:rmcghee@pci-nsn.gov)



*David W. Gehman, Secretary*  
[dgehman@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:dgehman@pci-nsn.gov)



*Eddie L. Tullis, Treasurer*  
[etullis@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:etullis@pci-nsn.gov)



*Sandy Hollinger, At-Large*  
[shollinger@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:shollinger@pci-nsn.gov)



*Keith Martin, At-Large*  
[kmartin@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:kmartin@pci-nsn.gov)



*Kevin McGhee, At-Large*  
[kdmcghee@windcreekhospitality.com](mailto:kdmcghee@windcreekhospitality.com)



*Arthur Mothershed, At-Large*  
[amothershed@windcreekhospitality.com](mailto:amothershed@windcreekhospitality.com)



*Garvis Sell, At-Large*  
[gsells@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gsells@pci-nsn.gov)

# Tribal Council Update

## December 2015

Sandy Hollinger, At-Large

shollinger@pci-nsn.gov

My how the year has flown! Where did time go? This year has been an eventful one for the Tribe. We have made great strides in advancing the Tribe into a future that will greatly benefit our coming generations; we have weathered storms and have come through the battles victoriously. I think that good things truly do come to those who wait, and also to those who dig their heels in and work hard to obtain such amazing goals.

There is not enough room in my column to name all of our successes of 2015 so I will not even try. Rest assured that we as the Tribal Council along with dedicated staff members will work each and every day of this coming year to advance

our Tribe in every way possible. It is an honor to serve as your Tribal Council Member, both here at home and throughout Indian Country.

Another successful Pow Wow has come and gone. I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to the staff and board of the Calvin McGhee Cultural Advisory Committee, and all who helped make this annual event such a success.

As I close, it is my wish that you have a safe and joyful holiday season. I would like to share a Bible verse that is fitting during this very special season:



*Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Please remember the reason for the season. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

God bless each and every one of you.



*"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth Peace, good will toward men. Luke 2:14."*

Merry Christmas to all from my family to yours.

*Darrell, Sandy, Austin, Devner, and Anna Grace.*

# 2016 PER CAPITA INFORMATION

In order for the annual Tribal Member's distributions to be processed accurately, Tribal Member Benefits needs to be informed of any changes you may have to your personal information.

Any changes to your current banking account must be documented on a Direct Deposit form with the Tribal Member's notarized signature. This is the only form that will be accepted and it must be notarized.

**Tribal Member Benefits must have this form by Monday, December 14, 2015.**

No banking information will be accepted over the phone.

**IF YOUR BANKING INFORMATION HAS NOT CHANGED IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO FILL OUT A NEW FORM.**

**Alabama residents will have the option of a 5% state tax withholding from their 2016 per cap distribution. At this time, this option is available to Alabama resident members only. Due to administrative requirements, this option will be available for other states in 2017.**

## UTILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**The next reimbursement deadline is December 30, 2015.**

All applications must be received prior to this deadline, correct and with all supporting documentation, in order to be processed.

It is the Tribal Member's responsibility to ensure that your application has been received and is correct. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

If you are participating in the Utility program and have a change in family structure (death of a spouse

or divorce), or if you move and your current address is different than the address on file with your original application – you **MUST** notify Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 and provide a current utility bill that reflects your present service address.

## TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFIT PROGRAM REMINDERS

### BURIAL ASSISTANCE ENROLLMENT FORM

If you have a change in family structure (death of a spouse or divorce), please call Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 and ensure that your Primary Designee on the Burial Assistance form is correct and updated.

### TRIBAL ELDERS SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

This benefit was previously known as the Elders Benefit Program. All Tribal Members age 55 and older are eligible to receive this benefit. If by chance you are age 55 and have not received this enrollment packet; please contact Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209.

**Effective January 1, 2016, the purchase of non-prescription sunglasses will be considered an ineligible expense and will not be covered under the DBS Benny Card.**



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# TRIBAL COUNCIL ANNOUNCES BOARD & COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Tribal Council has announced one vacancy each on the Recreation Board and the Calvin McGhee Cultural Committee and will be taking applications for the vacancies through 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 30, 2015.

If you are interested in applying for one of these positions, applications are available on the Tribal Council page of the Tribe's official web site, [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov); an application may be completed and submitted directly from the web site. You may pick up an application at the Tribal Chair's Office in Building 600 of

the Tribal Complex located at 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore AL or contact Kelli Ramer, Tribal Council Office Director, at (251) 368-9136 x 2110.

All applications, and resumes if applicable, should be returned to the Tribal Chair's Office by close of business Wednesday, December 30, 2015. Applications may be submitted via online submission, U.S. Mail, hand delivery, or email to [boards-committees@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:boards-committees@pci-nsn.gov).

Once the December 30, 2015 deadline has passed, a list of all

applicants will be published for your review. Please review to ensure that your name is listed if you applied for either vacancy. If your name is not listed, please contact the Tribal Chair's Office immediately at (251) 368-9136 x 2110.

For your convenience, the list will be posted on the outside bulletin board in front of Building 100, the Receptionist/Front Desk located in Building 500 (old Family Services Building), the Health Department, and the Tribal Council page of the web site.



## Merry Christmas

*Shyrell, David, Emily, Stephen, Addisyn, Kristen, Daniel, Stephanie*



## THE GAME'S GOT A NEW RHYTHM

Take your tastes to a different kinda place at Wind Creek Casino & Hotel Montgomery. Get in the winning groove on our gaming floor, grab a bite of somethin' outta sight at one of our three dining venues, then spice up your evening with the soulful sounds of B.B. King's Blues Club. And if all that action seems too good to leave behind, our stylish hotel will be open December 2015 for you to start spending your winning nights.



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## ON THE COVER-*FAITH & HOPE*

Have you visited Kerretv Cuko (Building of Learning), the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Museum and Gift Shop? The *Poarch Creek News* would like to take you on a tour of the museum!

“Aceyepvs”, come in. You are invited into the living history of the Tribe. This isn’t a story of a people at rest and gone, this is a

community that has been living, struggling, and overcoming for centuries. Here you will experience the commitment to community and the adaptable spirit that has led the Tribe through centuries of challenge and change. Today we continue to preserve our legacy through tradition, tribal involvement, and community

betterment. The Museum exhibits invite you to encounter a way of life, a culture woven over centuries<sup>1</sup>.

Our feature exhibits this month reflect on faith, hope, and the importance of missionaries and churches to our community.

*Missionaries Bring Help and Hope*  
“None of the Indian schools with which I am familiar go above the

sixth grade. It is our idea that the children of school age among the Alabama Indians should have the same educational opportunities as the children of other races.” – Dr. Robert Macy.

*To The Bureau of Indian Affairs:  
September 10, 1931*

“I have become interested in a small tribe of Indians located near here and I want to make an appeal to you and through you to the Indian Bureau to see if something of a permanent nature can be done for them.

I am a clergyman in the Episcopal Church of Alabama. My Bishop... asked me to see if our Church could find some good work among them, I found many of them in a bad way...disease, poverty...and all that goes with it. The Government has given them about 200 acres of land, but with a few exceptions the land will grow nothing and the people are too poor to buy the needed fertilizer to make it do for them. If we could get a lot of the cut over land...and help these folks get started for a year or so, I

think they will be able to take care of themselves... I begged a piece of land this A.M., for a one room schoolhouse for them and expect to beg the lumber for it too.” – Reverend Edgar Van W. Edwards

There have been churches in this area since the Mars Hill Baptist Church organized in 1869. Baptist missionaries set up churches and Sunday schools in the community.

In the 1920s the Holiness church, a fundamentalist movement, gained a group of members. But the biggest assistance for the Tribe came from Episcopal Missionaries starting in 1929.

The Reverend Edgar Van Edwards and Dr. Robert C. Macy and his wife, Anna, worked with the Indian community. Dr. Macy provided basic medical care, and Mrs. Macy taught domestic arts: Cooking, sewing, and health.

They helped to build two churches: St. Anna's and St. John's in the Wilderness. Both churches also served as schools.

The large bibles that sat on the altars of St. Anna's Episcopal Church and St. John's in the Wilderness Church are part of these exhibits and are shown on the cover of the newsletter.

These exhibits are just few of the many interesting exhibits at the Museum; some of the other items on exhibit at the Museum include authentic turtle shell shakers and stickball sticks, the original petition for Federal Recognition, and many more exciting items just waiting for you to come explore.

The Museum is located at 5484 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL. and is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Please stop by the next time you visit the Reservation.

*<sup>1</sup>Kerretu Cuko Brochure/Take a 2,000 year walk with us!  
Gayle Johnson, Media Specialist  
Information obtained from Cultural Department*



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**Art by Cher** [www.artbycher.50webs.com](http://www.artbycher.50webs.com)



**Cher Christensen**  
(505) 296-7723

- \* **Sculptures**
- \* **Portraits From Photos**
- \* **Oil & Watercolor Paintings**
- \* **Custom Jewelry Design**

*Shown: Dancing Flower's Sterling Silver Spiney Oyster Ring & Bracelet designed and created by Cher Christensen*



## EDUCATION, OPPORTUNITY ABOUND AS POARCH CREEK INDIANS PAY PROSPERITY FORWARD

*By Jessica Sawyer,  
The Community Foundation of South Alabama  
Reprinted with permission*

When the Poarch Band of Creek Indians approved the creation of a \$1 million scholarship fund with The Community Foundation of South Alabama this summer, the groundbreaking decision opened a window of opportunity to higher education for high school students in Alabama and the panhandle of Florida.

For Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair/CEO of PCI, this opportunity is a necessary part of the Tribe's goal to build stronger communities.

"There's a quote that I oftentimes refer to," said Bryan. "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.' Of course that's Nelson Mandela's quote, but I often tell the youth here within the Tribe that it's about opportunity. Take advantage of every opportunity you can that will help with the quality of life with you and your families."

The establishment of The Poarch Creek Indian Community Scholarship Fund ensures two scholarships annually will be awarded to one male and one female residing in Alabama or

Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington and Gadsden counties in Florida.

"We know how important a good quality education is, that's why we donate to the public school systems," Bryan said. "But we also know how important it is to obtain higher education. ... What we want to do is build stronger communities and advocate to all of the high school students and let them know the importance of higher education, of quality education. That's something that cannot be taken away."

And like the scholarship fund, the Tribe's overwhelming generosity

with the public has been well documented throughout the past decade. But the road to success has not been without bumps.

The Poarch Creek Indian reservation is well-kept, with buildings housing health, government and tribal council services that front the two-lane county road. The reservation is situated in rural Escambia County. The glimpse of prosperity the property gives, though, belies the struggle its people faced in becoming a federally recognized nation.

When the Tribe was federally recognized in 1984, grant money became available to help build up the tribal community.

"We were good stewards of our money to build what we have; what we did was we invested wisely with those grant dollars at that time. Now we don't get a lot of grant funding anymore," Bryan said.

Tribal leadership worked hard in the years following the designation to build a community that was thriving and self-sustainable.

"We've built it via offering quality health, housing, education," Bryan said. "We have done those things to be able to take care of our constituents, but at the same time we've also been good stewards of our finances that we can also offer it to the outside communities and the surrounding states."

And offer it they have. Each

year, PCI donates hundreds of thousands of dollars to schools, law enforcement, county services and organizations that serve its constituents across the state – and across state lines. The Tribe receives thousands of requests for donations each year, highlighting the openness and spirit of giving that is clearly apparent to the communities. Those requests and the due diligence required to research the causes are welcome, Bryan said.

"It's important to donate to those outside of our community because it takes a team of people. We can't do it all," she said. "Here at the Tribe its sometimes difficult for us to pick and choose what organization or which foundation we want to be a part of or place money or donate money. So when we were approached by the Community Foundation we thought this was a perfect opportunity to build a great relationship with a great organization that in turn will do great things for a lot of communities and will help change the world."

Being able to help change someone's quality of life, and in turn raise the profile of a community, makes the education component incredibly important to Bryan and the constituents she serves.

"We can move mountains with a good quality education," she said. "When you educate an enormous radius of students, then guess what: they may be that nurse that takes care of you in Pensacola, Florida,

even though you live in Atmore, Alabama, or Poarch, Alabama. It's important that we use our funds wisely to educate and to make these individuals much stronger to sustain the next generations. It's important that we look out for the now but really what we as leaders are doing is for the next seven generations."

Luckily for children of Alabama and the panhandle of Florida, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians see beyond their Tribe and are determined to make sure that students of all backgrounds are afforded similar opportunities.

"To be able to offer a scholarship that may go to a child that would not have been able to experience such opportunity is very humbling to me," Bryan said. "It's very heartfelt to see that we can do and build relationships with committees and organizations like Community Foundation so that we can change maybe that one person's life and make a difference so that they obtain their college degree and they get a good job and are able to provide for their families."

The Poarch Creek Indian Community Scholarship Fund will begin awarding scholarships in 2016. In the first year, the selected students are expected to receive up to \$6,000 each.

*For more information on scholarship eligibility and how to apply, visit [www.communityfoundationsa.org/scholarships](http://www.communityfoundationsa.org/scholarships).*

# FROM START TO FINISH



**Jan. 2009:**  
Wind Creek  
Atmore and Creek  
Convenience Store  
Atmore (then called  
Creek Smoke Shop).  
CCSA opened in  
late 2009.



**Dec. 2011:**  
Creek Entertainment  
Gretna (the horse track and  
poker room in Florida)

**Sept. 2012:**  
Creek Travel  
Plaza in  
Atmore  
(full-service  
truck stop,  
convenience store  
and diner)



Creek Indian Enterprises  
Development Authority



**Oct. 2013:**  
Entertainment Center  
at Wind Creek Atmore



**Jan. 2014:**  
Wind Creek  
Wetumpka



**March 2014:**  
Buford L. Rolin Health  
Clinic and Lavan Martin  
Assisted Living Facility



**June 2014:**  
Creek Convenience Store  
Wetumpka (then called  
Riverside Smoke Shop)



**Dec. 2015:**  
Wind Creek Montgomery  
(Creek Casino Montgomery  
transitions to new facility);  
B.B. King Blues Club

With the opening of Wind Creek Montgomery (WCM), and the ending of another year, now is a good time to look back at the construction history of the Tribe, as managed by Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA).

Since the mid-2000s, a plethora of major construction projects have taken place under the guidance and leadership of the CIEDA construction management team.

Following extensive renovations and additions to the Creek Casino Montgomery facility in recent years, the decision to add a hotel and entertainment venue to the property, to mimic Wind Creek Atmore and Wetumpka locations, was a no-brainer.

The concept began in 2011 with the total removal of the existing parking lot and entry and the complete redesign of the area near the Tallapoosa River, which has ultimately led to the Tribe's latest endeavor at WCM.

Here we will highlight various projects that, throughout the years, have made the Poarch Band of Creek Indians one of the most recognizable names in the state of Alabama and across the country.

## Wind Creek Atmore

The idea of Wind Creek Casino and Hotel in Atmore, Ala., (WCA) was conceived in 2007, and the \$245 million project was completed and open in January 2009. CIEDA Construction Manager Jim Angus said the project created more than 350 construction jobs.

"We are spending more on the finer details to make this a nicer hotel and resort (to distinguish from neighboring Mississippi gaming facilities)," Angus said at the time.

Since the opening, there have been major renovations of the facility, including complete remodels of The Fire restaurant,

By Jen Peake  
CIEDA Marketing Specialist

**See TIMELINE, next page**

## TIMELINE, continued from previous page

The Sound venue, The Grill, The Center Bar, adding stationary seating to the amphitheater and installing sliding glass doors at all entryways, all overseen by Tribal Member and Project Manager Kevin Rackard.

The addition of the Cultural Kiosk in the foyer was completed in mid-2015 to showcase archival photos and Poarch Creek artisan jewelry. Wall videos play on both sides of the display, flanked by murals depicting Indian history.

### Creek Convenience Store Atmore

In conjunction with the opening of WCA, Creek Smoke Shop finished construction and opened Labor Day 2009. The smoke shop previously was housed in a mobile trailer and sold only discount tobacco products. Once the new facility was built, it was rebranded in 2014 to its new name, Creek Convenience Store Atmore, to reflect its expanded product offerings and now is a full-service convenience store and gas station.

### Creek Entertainment Gretna

Next up for the construction management team was a new venture into Florida. Creek Entertainment Gretna opened in December 2011 as a horse racing and a poker room venue.

Gretna City Manager Antonio Jefferson said the \$20 million development provided 180 jobs, a boom for the rural community in North Florida.

### Creek Travel Plaza

And CIEDA construction didn't stop there. Less than a year later, Creek Travel Plaza (CTP) opened in September 2012. The full-service truck stop was built directly off Interstate 65 at exit 54, catering to truck drivers who come through the area on a regular basis and need a layover stay to rest



**Assisted Living Facility**

between deliveries.

CTP features big showers, laundry facilities, a sit-down 1950s-style diner, fast-food chicken by Chesters, a full convenience store and truckers lounge. Many Tribal Members gather to eat and socialize at the diner, making CTP a well-used Tribal Member service in addition to serving truck drivers and vacationers from out of town.

### Entertainment Center at WCA

The Entertainment Center at Wind Creek Atmore was completed in October 2013. In 2012, a feasibility study was conducted and design planning followed. The study identified areas of entertainment that locals were traveling to neighboring counties/cities to participate in.

"We built the entertainment center so local people would be spending their money here, instead of going to the surrounding towns that offered things like a big movie theater, a bowling alley, arcade rooms,

a spa," CIEDA President and CEO Tim Martin said. "We realized not everyone wants to use the gaming machines, so we identified areas of entertainment that locals would enjoy and would come back to again and again."

### Wind Creek Wetumpka

The year 2014 was an explosive time for construction at CIEDA. At the same time as the entertainment center planning in Atmore, the CIEDA management team was hard at work 138 miles north in Wetumpka, Ala., building the Tribe's second resort-style casino and hotel, Wind Creek Wetumpka. The hotel at WCW opened in January 2014, and the casino itself opened in December 2014.

### Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic and Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility

The Tribe always takes care of its own. The need to provide expanded health services for Tribal Members and honor Tribal elders sparked the construction of a

**See PROJECTS, next page**



## PROJECTS, continued from previous page

60,000 square foot health clinic and a 32 unit, full-service assisted living facility on the reservation.

In March 2014, the \$30 million combined projects opened. The assisted living facility serves all elders and houses the SAIL center. The architectural concept was inspired by elements found in nature and showcases Creek heritage through archival photos and displays Poarch Creek Indian art.

### Creek Convenience Store Wetumpka

Also simultaneously, construction was happening to create what would become Creek Convenience Store Wetumpka (CCSW).

Not to be outdone by its counterpart in Atmore, Riverside Smoke Shop moved from its mobile trailer location in June 2014 to the new facility across from WCW and was rebranded into CCSW. Just like the Atmore location, CCSW is

a full-service convenience store and gas station and continues to sell discount tobacco products, along with Indian culture items, such as dolls, purses and other souvenir items.

### Wind Creek Montgomery

The latest addition to the gaming facilities is in Montgomery, Ala., where this month, Creek Casino Montgomery will change names and open in the newly constructed, \$65 million project — Wind Creek Montgomery Hotel and B.B. King's Blues Club.

"We are ahead of schedule with this project," Angus said. "Construction began in November 2014; we were slated to open in January 2016 but will now open at the end of November."

The expansion and renovations of Creek Casino Montgomery began in 2011 and was done in phases, beginning with a 50,000 square foot, \$25 million facility; then another 30,000 square foot,

\$12 million facility; along with new parking lots, landscaping and interior renovations to the existing facility.

"Everything you see on that property is new — from the ground up," Angus said.

### Honoring Poarch Creek culture and history

The CIEDA construction management team works with various design teams to incorporate Creek Indian heritage by featuring culturally significant aspects in its architecture. The stone materials and colors used in the buildings represent the Tribe's connection to nature. Historical photos honor the Tribal culture and long road to federal recognition. Even details like the curved design on top of the casinos are strategically integrated to encompass Creek culture.

"We are a humble people," Martin said. "We give back to those who gave to us, and we respect nature, our Creator and where we came from."





# PCI TRIBAL MEMBERS: REDUCE YOUR HEALTH CARE COSTS

## IMPROVING HEALTH CARE BENEFITS TO PCI TRIBAL MEMBERS

Your Tribal Council constantly seeks to find ways to provide improved benefits to you and your household. In regards to health insurance, each Tribal Member is currently eligible for either insurance paid through the Tribe or a health care benefits card (DBS/Benny Card).

Now, thanks to the Health Insurance Marketplace, Tribal Members may be able to receive a greater health care benefit.

In the Health Insurance Marketplace, consumers are able to compare health insurance options based on price, benefits, quality and other factors with a clear picture of premiums and cost-sharing amounts to help them choose the insurance that best fits their needs.

## HOW THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IMPACTS AMERICAN INDIANS IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

- American Indians qualify for a special enrollment period that allows them to enroll in an insurance plan outside the yearly open enrollment period.
- American Indians earning between 100 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) and 400 percent of FPL may be eligible for advance premium tax credits that immediately lower monthly premiums.
- American Indians earning between 100 and 300 percent of FPL, which is roughly between \$24,250 and \$72,750 for a family of four in 2015, can enroll in a zero cost sharing plan at any metal plan level including less expensive bronze plans. Zero cost sharing plans or limited cost sharing plans assist members with out of pocket plan costs such as co-pays, coinsurance or deductibles.
- American Indians with income below 100 percent (below \$24,250 for a family of four in 2015) and above 300 percent of FPL (above \$72,750 for a family of 4), can enroll in a limited cost sharing plan and pay no out-of-pocket costs to receive services from an Indian health care provider or from another provider if referred from an Indian health care provider.
- States have the opportunity to expand Medicaid coverage to include Americans with family incomes at or below 133 percent of the federal poverty level (generally \$32,253 for a family of four in 2015). The expansion would include adults without dependent children living at home, who have not previously been eligible in most states.
- With greater numbers of American Indians receiving some form of coverage, including Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and private insurance, IHS will be better able to provide needed health services. This coverage will improve reimbursements to IHS and will also benefit other Indian health programs.

**HealthCare.gov**





#### WHY PCI TRIBAL MEMBERS SHOULD CONSIDER THE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

- Depending on your income, you may qualify for no cost sharing and reduced premiums for a Marketplace plan.
- You will be able to purchase health insurance coverage for yourself and your family.
- Marketplace plans provide more comprehensive coverage. (See chart below.)
- Enrolling in a Marketplace plan would qualify you for the PCI Tribal Health Card (DBS/Benny Card) program. With the annual PCI Tribal Health Card benefit contribution, members would have funds to cover the cost of premiums as well as other out of pocket health care costs.

| BENEFIT                                    | PCI TRIBAL MEMBER HEALTH INSURANCE | HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE PLAN |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Calendar Year Benefit Maximum              | \$250,000                          | No Limit                          |
| Prescription Calendar Year Benefit Maximum | \$5,000                            | No Limit                          |
| Mental Health                              | Not Covered                        | Covered                           |
| Coverage for Non-Tribal Dependents         | Not Offered                        | Offered                           |
| Organ Transplant                           | Not Covered                        | Covered                           |

#### EXAMPLE 1

**Tribal Member:** 40 year old male living in Escambia County, AL

**Dependents in Household:** Spouse and Two Children

**Annual Income:** \$50,000

**Premium Tax Credit:** \$24.95/mo

**No Cost Sharing:** Qualifies

\*Coverage for 40 year old male only

**BCBSAL Blue Saver Bronze:**

**Premium:** \$238/mo

**Deductible:** \$6,850 (does not apply for services qualifying for zero cost share)

**Out of Pocket Maximum:** \$6,850 (does not apply for services qualifying for zero cost share)

**PCI Tribal Health Card:** Once enrolled, the member is eligible for the PCI Tribal Health Card. After paying monthly insurance premium, the member is left with \$1,144 to spend on other out of pocket healthcare costs.

#### EXAMPLE 2

**Tribal Member:** 30 year old female living in Escambia County, AL

**Dependents in Household:** One Child

**Annual Income:** \$30,000

**HealthCare.gov**





**Premium Tax Credit:** \$120/mo

**No Cost Sharing:** Qualifies

\*Coverage for 30 year old female and child

**BCBSAL Blue Saver Bronze:**

**Premium:** \$244/mo

**Deductible:** \$13,700 (does not apply for services qualifying for zero cost share)

**Out of Pocket Maximum:** \$13,700 (does not apply for services qualifying for zero cost share)

**PCI Tribal Health Card:** Once enrolled, the member is eligible for the PCI Tribal Health Card. After paying monthly insurance premium, the member is left with \$1,072 to spend on other out of pocket healthcare costs.

FIND OUT IF YOU AND YOUR FAMILY QUALIFY FOR FREE OR LOW-COST COVERAGE, MEDICAID, OR CHIP BY VISITING [WWW.HEALTHCARE.GOV/TRIBAL](http://WWW.HEALTHCARE.GOV/TRIBAL) OR CALL 1-800-318-2596.

**HealthCare.gov**



*Merry Christmas*

*All Tribal Administrative Offices will close at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, December 18, 2015 for the Employee Christmas Party. Please keep this closure in mind when planning your trip to the Health Department and other departments at the Tribal Complex.*

*Tribal Administrative staff wishes each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday season!*

*Remember the reason for the season!*





## GETTIN' TO SCHOOL

*Jannice Colbert Lane, far left, is shown with her son, Dickey Johnson, Sr., grandson Jeffie Johnson, Jeffie's mother Charmaine Ross Johnson, and grandmother Elizabeth Ross.*

*By Jannice Colbert Lane*

*As told to Gayle Johnson*

In a recent book (newsletter) there was the picture of Jack Daughtry stopping the school bus so his daughters could ride the bus to school. Seeing this brought back some painful memories for me. But no matter how painful these memories are, I am glad I was able to go to school. People today just do not know how hard it was for us to go to school back in those days.

My family lived in Huxford. The school bus would drive right by our house every morning, but it never stopped for me; I was not allowed to ride the school bus.

My Daddy, Claude Colbert, would get up every morning and drive me

to the train depot in McCullough to catch the train to Atmore so I could go to school.

The train would go through McCullough and Atmore twice a day, once in the morning and once in the evening. I would catch that morning train in McCullough and ride it to Atmore every day. I would get off the train in Atmore at the potato shed and walk across town to the high school. I would walk back to the potato shed every evening to catch the train back to McCullough where Daddy would pick me up and take me home. I would do this every day, rain or shine, hot or cold weather, it didn't matter; I walked.

I rode the train and walked to the school house every day until my

family moved to Monroe County. Once we moved to Uriah in Monroe County, I was able to ride the school bus to school. Soon after that I met my husband and together we raised a beautiful God fearing family.

I look back at the hardships and I am thankful for all that has happened since then and I am proud to see how far the Tribe has come. I have a lot more I could say, but this is enough for now.

You young ones should be thankful for the education you can get now. Us older folks were not so blessed. We had the desire, but not the opportunity. Now you have the opportunity, I pray you have the desire.

# AN EDUCATION SUCCESS STORY

## KACI MARTIN

“Education is something that can never be taken away,” is a quote Kaci Martin heard often from her grandfather, Otha Martin. Kaci has taken these words to heart and made learning a priority in her life. Kaci graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelors of Social Work in 2009 and a Masters of Social Work in 2010. She is currently working to complete an Executive Masters of Business Administration from Faulkner Christian University, which will be completed in the fall of 2015.

Support was abundant during Kaci’s educational career. During times of homesickness, Kaci leaned on her parents, sister, grandparents, her Aunt Pauline, friends, cousins, and sorority sisters to help her through the tough and challenging times, all who provided her with guidance, words of wisdom, prayers, and love daily. Kaci feels that each of these people and more, were there for her when she was longing for the comfort of home and needed motivation and support. The quote, “It takes a village to raise a child.” sticks with Kaci when thinking of everyone who helped her throughout her educational journey.

The education funding program became available early in the course of Kaci’s education. Since there are many costs to consider



*Kaci Martin, in yellow kneeling beside her grandmother Marie Martin, thanks her family for their support throughout the years.*

when obtaining an education, Mrs. Billie McGhee provided additional information on scholarship programs to apply for that would offer additional help. The Tribal educational funding assisted Kaci tremendously with her goals in obtaining her education.

One of the many obstacles that Kaci faced was the lack of knowledge about Native American culture from her peers as well as her professors. She found this lack of knowledge disheartening and surprising. This led to many challenges throughout her college journey, but allowed her the opportunity to educate others about Native American culture, specifically Creek culture.

Kaci currently works with Wind Creek Hospitality in Human Resources as the Employee Wellness Supervisor, where she can use her skills to help team members, the company and the Tribe. Kaci loves her job and constantly sets goals to be the best person she can be and learn as much as possible. Kaci hopes to continue to grow in her position and within the company, using the skills and knowledge she obtained through her many degrees.

Kaci hopes to continue to contribute to the prosperity of the tribe for future generations.

Congratulations Kaci!

# BIRTHDAY WISHES

***Dickey Johnson, Sr.***  
***November 4, 2015***

Happy birthday Dickey!

We love you.

From your Mom, Jannice  
Colbert Lane, and the rest  
of your family & friends.



***Nicole Priest***  
***November 11, 2015***

Happy 20<sup>th</sup> birthday Nicole!

We love you!

Mom, Dad, & Tyler.

***Shirley McGhee***  
***November 21, 2015***

Happy 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday!

We love you!

From your loving wife,  
children, and grandkids.



***Hunter Nobles***  
***November 27, 2015***

Happy 18<sup>th</sup> birthday to  
Hunter Nobles.

We love you always and  
forever!

From Mommy, Keith, Daya,  
Daddy, and Nana.

***Noah Stephens***  
***December 1, 2015***

Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday!

We love you!

Love, Mom and Dad,  
Nanny, Poppa, and Dillion.



***Jordan Ledkins***  
***December 1, 2015***

Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday!

We love you.

Love, your family.



# BIRTHDAY WISHES

***Brantlee Till***  
***December 1, 2015***

Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday Brantlee!

You are a precious gift and a daily blessing to us. You make our lives complete.

Love, Mom, Dad, and the rest of your family.



***Samantha Odom***  
***December 3, 2015***

Happy birthday Samantha!

We love you!

Boo Boo, Jackson, and the rest of your family and friends.



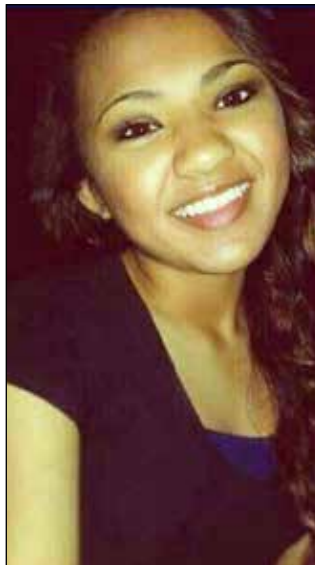
***Journi Cao***  
***December 5, 2015***

Happy 14<sup>th</sup> birthday to a very special young lady.

Mom and family.

We love you and cherish you as one of our own.

Waylon, Valerie, and Canyon Rolin.



***Christa Hamilton***  
***December 5, 2015***

Happy 10<sup>th</sup> birthday to our "Titter Tail".

Love, Mama, Drake, Trennon, Christa, Nana, Papa, Laura, Keaton, Brylynn, Uncle Tony and Aunt Catelyn.



***Kevin McGhee***  
***December 7, 2015***

Happy 40<sup>th</sup> birthday Kevin!

You are the best!!

We love you.

Tawana, Stacey, Courtney, Kennedy, Kaiden, and Avery.

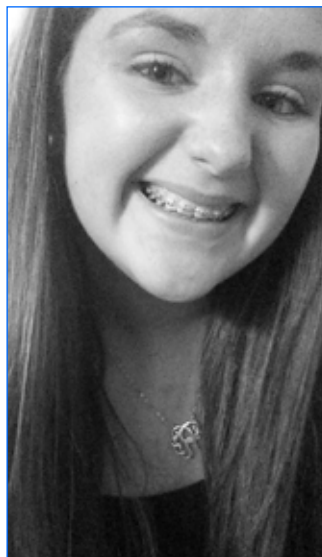


***Canyon Brooke Rolin***  
***December 7, 2015***

Happy 14<sup>th</sup> birthday to our beautiful girl.

We love you!!

Love, Mom, Dad, brothers, sisters, Journi, Sydney, and family.



# BIRTHDAY WISHES

***Murphy McGhee***  
***December 8, 2015***

Happy 66<sup>th</sup> birthday  
Murphy!

We love you!!

From your family.



***Ieesha Frazier***  
***December 10, 2015***

Happy birthday!

We love you.

From your family.



***Tori Johnson***  
***December 10, 2015***

Happy birthday!

We love you.

From your family.



***Jackson Odom***  
***December 14, 2015***

Happy birthday Jackson!

We love you!

Boo Boo, Mama, and the rest  
of your family and friends.



***Shawn Armond Gibson***  
***December 15, 2015***

You'll be just fine at twenty-  
nine!

Happy birthday Shawn  
Armond Gibson!

Shawn is the son of Clay  
Gibson and Jillian Armond.



***Avery Grace Baggett***  
***December 15, 2015***

Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday Avery!

Love Mimi and PawPaw,  
Mom, Dad, Kaiden, WoWo,  
and KeKe.



# BIRTHDAY WISHES

*Jennifer Kelley*  
*December 15, 2015*

Happy birthday Jennifer!

We love you.

From your Aunt Connie  
and the rest of your family  
and friends.



*Carol Reynolds*  
*December 15, 2015*

Happy birthday!

We love you.

From Tony, Tyler, Savannah,  
friends, and family.

*Jenni Jackson*  
*December 16, 2015*

Happy 27<sup>th</sup> birthday Sis!

I love you.

Always & forever.

Jessica.



*Jessica Brown*  
*December 16, 2015*

Happy 27<sup>th</sup> birthday Sis!

I love you.

Always & forever.

Jenni.



*Dalton Luke*  
*December 18, 2015*

Happy birthday Dalton.

We love you.

From your family.



*Richard Colbert*  
*December 19, 2015*

Happy birthday!

We love you.

From your family.

# BIRTHDAY WISHES

**Braylon Laike Snow**  
December 19, 2015

Happy 6<sup>th</sup> birthday little buddy!

We love you!

Love, your family.



**Tyler Olson**  
December 20, 2015

Happy 12<sup>th</sup> birthday Tyler!

We love you bunches!

Love, Mom and Dad.



**Elijah Bama Peebles**  
December 22, 2015

Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday Eli!

We love you bunches!

From your family.



**Glenda Ellis**  
December 22, 2015

Happy birthday!

We love you.

Love, your family.



**Robert Olson**  
December 22, 2015

Happy birthday!

We love you bunches!

Love, Nina and Tyler.



**Kortlan Jo Peebles**  
December 23, 2015

Happy 20<sup>th</sup> birthday!

20 years with you has been a dream come true!

We love you bunches!

From your family.



# BIRTHDAY WISHES

**David Gehman**  
*December 23, 2015*

Happy 55<sup>th</sup> birthday David!  
Thank the Lord for 55  
wonderful years!  
We love you.  
From your family and friends.



**Kaleigh Luke**  
*December 24, 2015*

Happy birthday Kaleigh!  
We love you.  
From your family.



**Michael Hutto**  
*December 25, 2015*

Happy birthday Michael.  
We love you.  
From your family.



**Kierra Kelley**  
*December 29, 2015*

Happy birthday Kierra!  
We love you.  
From your Aunt Connie and  
the rest of your family and  
friends.

**Raelyn Fretwell**  
*December 27, 2015*

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> birthday to our  
“Dugga Tail”.  
Love, Mama, Drake,  
Trennon, Christa, Nana,  
Papa, Laura, Keaton,  
Brylynn, Emily, Haley, Lil  
Randy, Uncle Tony and  
Aunt Catelyn.



**Kaden Ray Hutto**  
*December 29, 2015*

Happy 4th birthday Kaden!  
We love you.  
From your family.



# BIRTHDAY WISHES

*William Jason Vickery*  
*December 29, 2015*

Happy birthday Jason!

We love you.

From your Aunt Connie  
and the rest of your family  
and friends.



*Pedrow Rolin*  
*December 31, 2015*

Happy 78<sup>th</sup> birthday Pedrow!

We love you.

From your wife, your  
sons, grandchildren, great  
grandchildren, and all of our  
extended family.

**1305 McMillan Ave**  
**157A N. Hoyle Ave.**

**Brewton, AL 36426**  
**Bay Minette, AL 36507**

**Tel: 251-867-7711**  
**Tel: 251-937-8731**

**Fax: 251-867-7791**  
**Fax: 251-937-8733**



**WE ARE "HEAR" FOR YOU!**

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# BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

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## Presley Hope Rolin

September 28, 2015

Paul and Brandi Rolin are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Presley Hope Rolin, born September 28, 2015.

Presley is the granddaughter of the late Jack and Eunice Rolin and Jerry and Judy Hadley.

Presley is welcomed by her big brother Cody.

*Submitted by Sheila Odom*



---

## Macey Faith Rackard

October 24, 2015

Jeremy and Jasmine Rackard proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Macey Faith Rackard born October 24, 2015 at 8:35 a.m. Macey weighed 6 lbs. 2 ounces and was 19 inches long. Macey's grandparents are Carolyn Rackard and the late Lonnie Rackard, Jeff Johnson and the late Blanche Dees Yates.

Macey was welcomed home by her two big sisters, Destiny and Khalia and big brother Jackson.

*Submitted by Jasmine Rackard*



---

*A baby will make love stronger, days shorter, nights longer, bankroll maller, home happier, clothes shabbier, the past forgotten, and the future worth living for.*

*Author Unknown*

# CORRECTIONS



## Faith-Leigh Grace Wilson

August 25, 2015

Brad and Anna Wilson are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Faith-Leigh Grace Wilson on August 25, 2015. At birth she weighed 8 lb., 3 oz., and was 22 inches long.

Faith-Leigh was welcomed home by her big brother Carson.

We give God all the glory for our miracle! *Psalm 37: 4*

*Submitted by Anna Wilson*

*Reprinted due to error in original publication; Poarch Creek News apologizes for the error and any confusion it may have caused.*



## OUR LITTLE MIRACLE

*A star fell from heaven,  
And landed in our arms  
With all of mommy's sweetness  
And all of daddy's charm  
We are star struck by the arrival of our sweet baby girl.*

This Thanksgiving season we are thankful for our little miracle, Kennedy-Reese Evans O'Barr. She gave us a little scare at birth but through faith, prayers, and modern medicine, she is doing great. We witness a miracle each day as we watch her develop and grow. We thank everyone for their continued prayers and support.

Kennedy-Reese is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnathan Evans (nee Stacie Rolin) O'Barr of Atmore, AL. She was born on July 25, 2015, at Sacred Heart Hospital. At birth she weighed 4 lbs., 1 oz. and was 18 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Billy R. Rolin and Michelle Amerson Boyington. Paternal grandparents are Joe and Ellen O'Barr. She is the great-granddaughter of Isaac and Edna Rolin; Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Amerson; the late Adam and Inez Daughtry; and the late Joe and Bessie O'Barr.

*Reprinted due to error in original publication; Poarch Creek News apologizes for the error and any confusion it may have caused.*

*Wishing each of you and  
yours a Merry Christmas  
and happy holiday season  
from me and mine!*

*Kevin McGhee & Family*

*Kevin, Tawana, Stacey, Chance, Courtney,  
Kennedy, Kaiden, Avery, and Miley (the dog!)*



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# WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT



## Jessica Leigh Hall & Robby Edward Brown Marry October 23, 2015

Jessica Leigh Hall and Robby Edward Brown were married on Friday, October 23, 2015 at Poarch Community Church with Pastor Johnny Stabler officiating.

Jessica is the daughter of Linda Hall and the late Fonzie Hall. Robby is the son of Bobby Brown and Alicia Celone McGhee.

We present to you...Mr. and Mrs. Robby Brown!

Every day that passes  
I feel that I love you more  
I feel thankful for the times we spend together  
I know and feel that you are my perfect companion and friend  
And I'd choose you again...and again!

Naturally we have difficult moments  
But I would not give up on even those  
Because its a part of the journey of love  
That we've been on  
I want to travel by your side...Forever  
Because I love you!



*May this Christmas end the present year  
on a cheerful note and make way for a fresh  
and bright New Year.*

*Here's wishing you a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!*

*Robbie McGhee*

# ANNIVERSARY WISHES

## Michael & Lindsay Wood

November 22, 2015

Michael and Lindsay Wood celebrated their first wedding anniversary on November 22, 2015

Congratulations and we wish you many more.



## Douglas & Linda McGhee

December 26, 2015

Douglas and Linda McGhee will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 26, 2015

Congratulations!



## Ben & Barbara McCurdy

December 29, 2015

Ben and Barbara McCurdy, of Winter Haven, FL. will be celebrating their 57<sup>th</sup> wedding celebration on December 29, 2015.

They will be joining family members in Kentucky to share their special day.

God is good and we thank Him.



**SARA NELL CUMBIE**  
October 30, 1945 - October 2, 2015

**OBITUARIES/  
IN MEMORIAM**

Mrs. Sara Nell Darby Cumbie, age 69, of Uriah, passed away Friday, October 2, 2015 at Providence Hospital in Mobile.

Mrs. Cumbie was a life long resident of Monroe County. She was a member of McCullough Christian Center and worked at Vanity Fair as a personnel secretary.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Eubie Edward Darby and Roberta Mae Rolin Darby Melton and two brothers, infant Leo Darby and James Darby.

Survivors include her husband Harold Cumbie of Uriah; her sons, Eddie (DeAnn) Cumbie, and Robbie Cumbie; two brothers, Carl (Sharon) Darby and Charles Darby; one sister, Ruby McGlothren; one



sister-in-law, Doris Darby; three grandchildren, Monica, Morgan, and Miranda Cumbie;; and one great grandson, Kaiser Wall.

Visitation was held on Monday, October 5, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at Monroe Chapel Funeral Home with Rev. Richard Daniels and Rev. Cornelius Phillips officiating. Burial followed in Popular Springs Cemetery.

The family is accepting flowers or donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 3054 McGehee Road, Montgomery, AL 36111.

Please share your condolences online by signing Mrs. Cumbie's guest book at [www.monroechapel.com](http://www.monroechapel.com).

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**MARY KAY**



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6:00 p.m.

**For more information contact**  
**Jerry Sanchez (251) 359-4198**

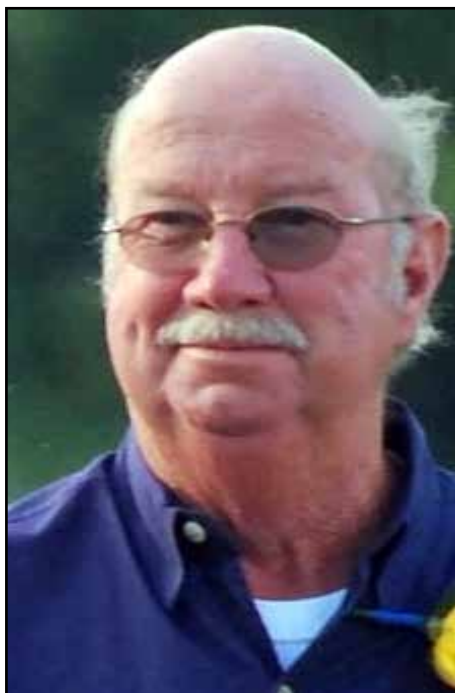
# OBITUARIES/ IN MEMORIAM

DEWEY MCGHEE  
November 7, 1942 - October 16, 2015

On October 16, 2015, Mr. Dewey McGhee passed away peacefully at his home in Atmore. He was laid to rest on October 19, 2015 at New Home cemetery.

We would like to thank the community for their out pouring of love and support through this very difficult time. We would like to give a special thank you to Wind Creek Casino for donating food and to the Tribal Council for their donation of a tent and chairs in order to receive family and friends after the funeral.

There are many others who brought food, drinks, or just came to sit with the family and reminisce on old stories, we thank you for your generosity, love and prayers. During



this time, we shared tears and laughter with our family, friends and the entire Poarch community. We couldn't be more grateful.

Dewey was a proud member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and proud of the legacy his father, Chief Calvin McGhee, left behind. His legacy will continue to live on thru the stories passed down by Dewey. We know that he would have been very pleased to see the way the community came together and honored his life.

Again, THANK YOU to everyone who has helped us along the way to keep his memory alive.

With love,

The McGhee Family.

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
FONZIE HALL  
JANUARY 9, 1944 -NOVEMBER 8, 2012

OBITUARIES/  
IN MEMORIAM

The day we lost you, we lost a part of our life.

The day I met you, you were the perfect father my sister and I could ever imagine. Even though you're gone, you're still dearly in our hearts. Not just in the hearts of your children, but your friends and family too.

I know you are watching over us. There is no doubt in my mind.

Daddy, our loving father, who was so kind.



You are still living in our hearts for always and forever.

Love always, Jessica & Jenni and your grand kids, Jayla, Kyleigh, and Kayden Jackson, Rhea Hall, Jaselyn Brown, and Fonzie Henry Shane Price, Jr., as well as Jason, Adam, and Albert Countryman, Christopher Adams, and Michael and Tommy Smith.

Til we meet again, we love and miss you.

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# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

## MCGHEE GRADUATES FROM UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WITH MASTER'S IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Tribal Member Jason R. McGhee will graduate from the University of Michigan on December 20, 2015 with a Master's Degree in Business Administration. He received his BSBA from University of South Alabama in Accounting.

Jason would like to thank the Tribe for their assistance. The tuition program made it possible to complete this level of education.

Jason is son of Douglas and Linda McGhee.

*Submitted by Jerusha McGhee*



## BUILDING LEADERSHIP SKILLS EARLY!

Congratulations to Makayla Parker, Rylee Huskey, Caleb Davis, and Gabby Williams.

They were inducted into the Junior Beta Club at Escambia Academy on October 21, 2015.

*Submitted by Wendy Davis*



*Map out your future - but do it in pencil. The road ahead is as long as you make it. Make it worth the trip.*

Jon Bon Jovi

*Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.*

Mark Twain

# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

## ALLISON FLOWERS' ART PLACED AT PENSACOLA INTERSTATE FAIR



Allison Flowers' creation of flowers and a butterfly was chosen to be placed at the Pensacola Interstate Fair. Her artwork was one out of two selected from all three second grade classes at her school, Bratt Elementary. It will be on display for the entire run of the Pensacola State Fair.

Allison, we are very proud of you and your artwork!

Allison Flowers is the daughter of Trent Flowers and the granddaughter of Kim Flowers.

We love you, Pappy, Kimper, Daddy, Hannah, and Aubrey.

*Submitted by Kim Flowers*

## NEVAEH BARNHILL WINS POSTER CONTEST

During the week of October 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, students at Huxford Elementary participated in many activities in observance of Red Ribbon Week. Students learned about alcohol and drug abuse awareness and prevention, and how they should just say "NO" to drugs and alcohol.

This year's theme was "Respect Yourself. Be Drug Free." Students in grades kindergarten through sixth were required to design posters for a contest.



Nevaeh Barnhill, a fourth grader and Tribal Member, won second place in the contest.

For her great accomplishment and artistic talent, Nevaeh received a certificate from Mrs. Leigh Ann Rowland, interim principal at Huxford Elementary.

Nevaeh is the daughter of Brad and Cari Barnhill.

Congratulations, Nevaeh

*Submitted by Amy Johns*

# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

## TO THE TRIBAL COUNCIL:

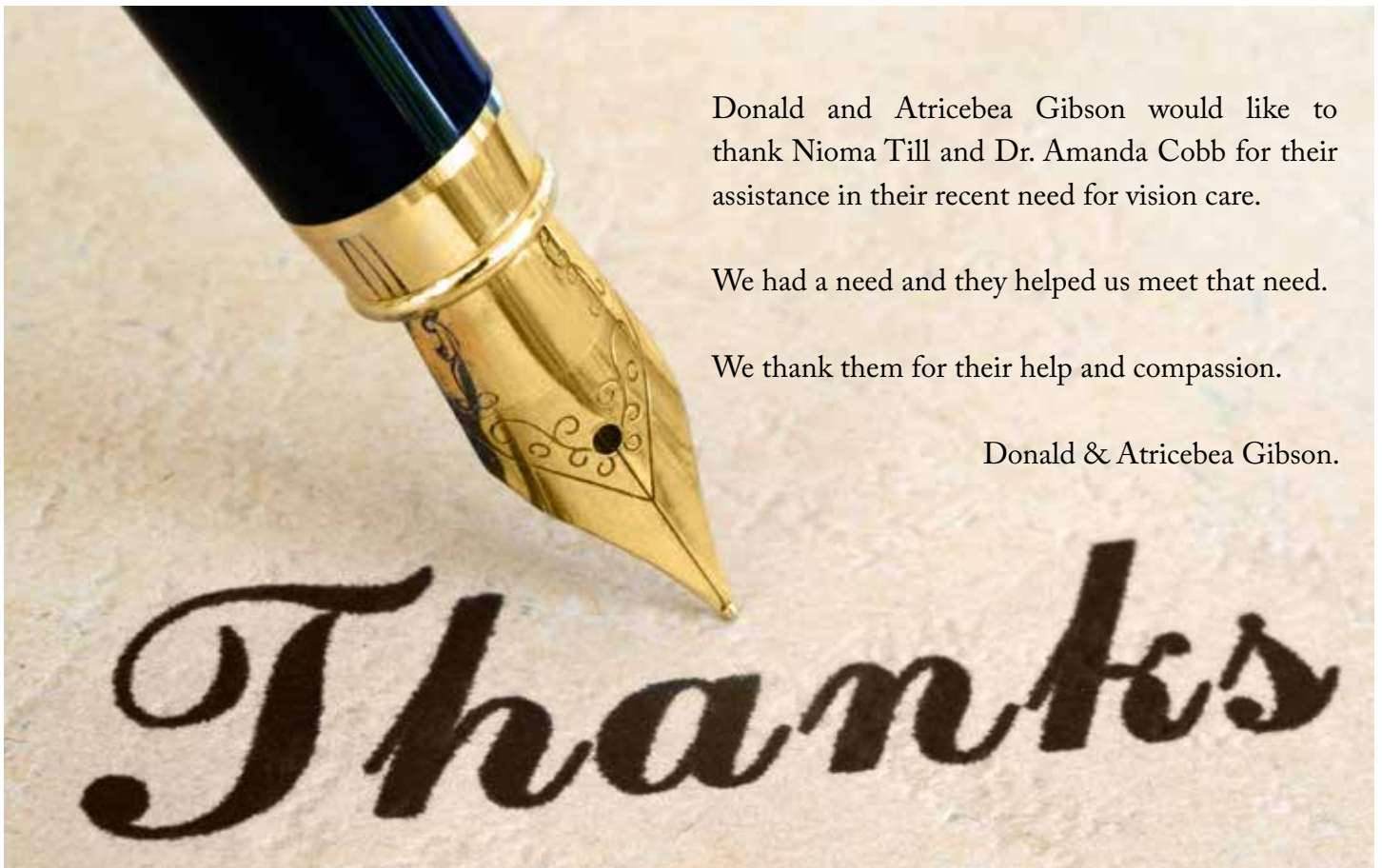
On behalf of many seniors, including myself, we would like to take the opportunity to say Thank You for providing The Senior Road Trip to us. We all had a great time seeing the different landscape venues, the different customs and lifestyles, the Fall Festival and the many activities planned, not to mention the various shopping options. The fellowship with one another was an awesome treat in itself! We both were personally able to reinstate relationships that had been dormant for the past 40 years! We are anxiously looking forward to next year's trip!

A special thank you goes out to the three wonderful ladies, Velma, Carolyn, and Pug, who were on our



bus (#3) and took such good care of us and kept us comfortable during our long ride. They kept us informed and made our trip more pleasant all the way around.

Rose McGhee Conlon  
Kay McGhee Archer



Donald and Atricebea Gibson would like to thank Nioma Till and Dr. Amanda Cobb for their assistance in their recent need for vision care.

We had a need and they helped us meet that need.

We thank them for their help and compassion.

Donald & Atricebea Gibson.

# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY

On behalf of the Sells family, Toney, Jannette, Lil Tony, Catelyn, Daphne, Laura, and all the kids, we would like to say a huge "Thank You" to the Poarch and Atmore communities (all those who participated in purchasing plates and raffles). It meant so much to our family to see a community come together and make this a successful benefit. This displays the actions of a community coming together. With everyone's help and participation we raised \$5,166.00 for Jannette's travel expenses back and forth to Atlanta, GA to undergo treatments for cancer.

We would like to send an exceptional thank you to all of the volunteer's: Rolin Construction, Poarch Community Church, and friends and family (Kevin Andrews, Shawn Rolin, Dusty Martin, Gary Gibson and "Peanut Wall") that were there that day cooking. Also the wonderful friends and family who helped assemble and deliver plates. We are so grateful for all of you and your effort to make this successful.

We would like to send a special thank you to those who donated items for the benefit as well as for the raffle: Stephanie and Shawn Rolin, Wind Creek Casino, Arthur Mothershed, Tim Ramer, Trina Rackard, Amber Banda, State Line Pawn Shop, Mallory Martin, Jerry's Alignment, David's Catfish, Creek Smoke Shop, Fast Lane, Coca-Cola, Pepsi, FS Advisors, Sizemore Creek, Dean's Grill, Tribal Chair Stephanie Bryan, Poarch Community Church, First Assembly of God, and Janette and Ken Beck.



Gary Gibson, Doris Phillips, James "Kevin" Andrews, Tammie Andrews, Stephanie Rolin, Alton "Hawkeye" Godwin, Shawn Rolin, Margaret Gollette, Ruth Bailey, Kelli Osgood, Daphne Sells, Nora Osgood, Dusty Martin, Jannette Sells, Toney "Bull" Sells, James "Pnut" Wall, Christa Hamilton, Keaton Sells, Laura Sells Smedley, Judy Bethea, Mickey Taber, Freddy Alvizo, Linda Stabler, and Johnny Stabler.

If we have overlooked anyone, please forgive us, as it would be impossible to thank everyone who took part in the event. We were overwhelmed with the outpouring of love, volunteers and help we received this day. It was wonderful seeing everyone come together and be so supportive.

Thank you all for participating and buying plates and raffles for this cause. It means so much to us. We love you all and again thank you.

The Sells Family.

*"Heroes didn't leap tall buildings or stop bullets with an outstretched hand; they didn't wear boots and capes. They bled, and they bruised, and their superpowers were as simple as listening, or loving. Heroes were ordinary people who knew that even if their own lives were impossibly knotted, they could untangle someone else's. And maybe that one act could lead someone to rescue you right back."*

Jodi Picoult, *Second Glance*

# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

## BRAGG JOINS MORRIS, CARY, ANDREWS, TALMADGE, & DIGGERS AS AN ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY

Brittney S. Bragg has joined the personal injury practice of Morris, Cary, Andrews, Talmadge & Driggers as an associate attorney. Brittney handles several types of personal injury litigation such as worker's compensation and motor vehicle accident cases.

Brittney earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of South Alabama in 2011. She subsequently obtained her Juris Doctor Degree from Thomas Goode Jones School of Law in May of 2015. While in law school, Brittney was an active member of the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund and Jones Public Interest Law Foundation. Brittney became a law clerk for Abell & Associates her second year of law school. She obtained a 3L



Practice Card her third year of law school which allowed her to gain valuable courtroom experience. She is a member of the Alabama State Bar.

Brittney grew up in Gautier, Mississippi. Being from the

Mississippi Gulf Coast she enjoys fishing and kayaking. Brittney also loves spending time with her family.

Brittney takes pride in her Native American heritage and greatly enjoys researching Poarch Band of Creek Indian's history.

Additionally she is grateful for the educational aid the Tribe has provided her throughout her scholastic journey. Brittney is dedicated to her profession and works well with people. She has been successful in resolving legal problems in the past and will continue to do so.

*Submitted by K. R. Bragg*

## THE JANNICE COLBERT LANE FAMILY

Jannice Colbert Lane, daughter of Claude Colbert, is proud to be the matriarch of her family.

Shown to the right are Dickey Johnson, Sr., Jayden Alexis Johnson, John Jeffie Johnson, and Dickey Johnson, Jr.

*Submitted by Jannice Colbert Lane*



## VENUS M. PRINCE JOINS KILPATRICK TOWNSEND & STOCKTON LAW FIRM

# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton announced the addition of Venus Prince to the firm's Washington, D.C. office. Ms. Prince, formerly the Deputy Solicitor for Indian Affairs at the United States Department of Interior, joins the firm as Counsel on the Native American Affairs Team in the firm's Litigation Department.

"Venus is an outstanding addition to the firm's Native American Affairs Team and the Washington, D.C. office," said Catherine Munson, Managing Partner of the firm's Washington, D.C. office and Co-Chair of Kilpatrick Townsend's Native American Affairs Team. "With over 15 years of experience, Venus is a highly-skilled and well-established lawyer in Indian Country and brings invaluable experience working with tribal governments. Her insight and knowledge gained from her time as Attorney General for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and as Deputy Solicitor for the United States Department of Interior will be an outstanding resource for our clients and enhances our already strong team."

"I am excited and honored to be joining Kilpatrick Townsend and one of the nation's premier Native American Practices,"



said Venus Prince. "After years of working closely with Kilpatrick Townsend on issues for my Tribe and observing its outstanding work for other tribes, I know that I am joining a firm that puts client service first, encourages collaboration, and serves tribal governments nationwide on an impressive array of issues."

Ms. Prince is a member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and focuses her practice on litigation and Native American Affairs.

Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Prince was Deputy Solicitor for Indian Affairs at the United States Department of Interior in Washington, D.C.

Previously, Ms. Prince was Attorney General for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians in Atmore, Alabama where she managed legal services and representation for all Poarch Creek Tribal entities.

Before serving as Attorney General for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Ms. Prince worked as an associate for law firms in Chicago, Illinois, and Washington, D.C. where she gained experience in insurance coverage law, commercial litigation, and Native American legal matters.

Ms. Prince earned her J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law, where she served as a member of the California Law Review. After attending law school, she served as a judicial clerk to Justice Dana Fabe in the Alaska Supreme Court. Ms. Prince received her B.A. in Sociology from Harvard, cum laude.

*Portion of Kilpatrick Townsend Press  
Release submitted by Jack Allen McGhee*

*Why do we close our eyes when we pray, cry, kiss, or dream? Because the most beautiful things in life are not seen, but felt by the heart.*

*Denzel Washington*

# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

## HELPING HANDS CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

October 6, 2015 was a Night to Remember! Those who attended the Cancer Support Group Meeting knew there was just 'something different' in the air.

First of all, the ballroom was filled to capacity with people! And this is what made it all so special. Because "people need people". Jean Ardis prepared a testimony of her experience with cancer that was beautifully read by her daughter Felicia. Mildred Poindexter, a local humanitarian and playwright, shared with us her story dealing with cancer as did others in attendance. Carrie Martin graciously accepted to provide education for early detection of cancer and answered any questions. There were a number of health care providers who attended, including Dr. Robert Green, D.O. (doctor of Osteopathy); his input was very well received also.

Thanks to Justina Ankum, for the candlelight ceremony. I'd like to say a special thank you to Ruth Bailey. I felt lead to ask her to come to the podium and



lead us in prayer and song. She then shared her own personal testimony with us. She asked the audience to stand and sing Amazing Grace! The beauty of that song was "out of this world".

We were all in one mind and one accord...to support one another. The common thread with this group was their faith in God, prayers and love is what brought them through their journey in dealing with cancer. Thank you Lord for your hand in this very special night. I would also like to thank Myra and Danny King for donating all the door prizes.

We now have a name for our Cancer Support Group, "Helping Hands" Cancer Support Team!

Meetings are held in the ballroom at Wind Creek Hospitality, Atmore. They are open to anyone affected by cancer, which is most all of us in one way or another. We are there to provide education and support for each other.

Meetings Scheduled for 2016:

January 26, 2016

April 19, 2016

July 19, 2016

October 19, 2016

Meetings begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. Buffet dinner provided by Wind Creek.

We do ask that adults only attend these meetings please.

For questions, please contact Helen Hallman at 253-5140 or Cindy Martin at 359-4813.



*The reason why a seesaw was made for two people is that when you go down, there would always be someone there to lift you up again.*

Ash Sweeney



*Houston Owen Hicks  
United States Marine Corps*

The late Houston Owen Hicks is the son of the late Clyde and Maggie Colbert Hicks of Uriah, AL. Houston is the youngest of 10 children.

He graduated from North East Jones High School in Laurel, MS and joined the United States Marine Corps where he served for four and a half years. Houston reported to Parris Island for boot camp. He was later stationed in Puerto Rico.

Houston met the love of his life shortly after leaving the service but lost her in an automobile accident shortly before their wedding. His love for her was so great that he never married another.

## VETERAN'S SALUTE

He was employed for 17 years as a communications technician at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL.

After his retirement from the Naval Air Station Houston moved to Atmore. He was employed with Wind Creek Casino Atmore at the time of his passing.

Houston Owens Hicks, just one of many Tribal Members who have proudly served for their family, their Tribe, and their country. Because of their sacrifices, we enjoy the freedoms we have today.

## RECOGNIZING OUR TRIBAL VETERANS

The *Poarch Creek News* honors our Tribal Member veterans for their sacrifice, dedication, and service.

We are asking all Tribal Member families to send in information on any Tribal Member veterans you may know. We wish to honor all veterans: male and female, those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country, those who have passed, those who have served, and those who currently serve.

We would like the veteran's name, Tribal roll number, rank, branch of service, and any medals or awards received.

You may submit a veteran's information via email to [gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov), via hand delivery to the Poarch Creek News, or via US Mail to Poarch Creek News, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502. Please be sure to include return address and contact information.

### ***Recognizing Tribal Veterans:***

Richard Colbert  
United States Marine Corps

William Edgecombe  
E5, United States Army

Mervin Gibson  
Sergeant E-5, United States Army

Brian O. Hall  
Tech Sergeant, United States Air Force

Gia Langham  
Senior Airman, E4, United States Air Force

William A. "Billy" McCann III,  
Staff Sergeant, United States Air Force

Bobby Joe McGhee

Emmanuel Lee McGhee

Fraiser McGhee

Jeffrey Martin

Lee Martin

Noah McGhee

Pamela Martin

Perry Martin McGhee

Savilla McGhee

We thank each of these veterans for their service. We will feature each of them in a Veteran's Salute article in future issues of the newsletter.

# ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY

Retired? Tired of cooking and cleaning? Need some assistance with daily living skills, medication or transportation? Come live with us!

The facility offers a warm and comfortable living environment with onsite amenities that foster a community atmosphere. There are one and two bedroom units available to Tribal Members, First Generation and Tribal Spouses who find it burdensome to maintain a home and who need assistance with medication, transportation or personal care services.

The facility offers three nutritious meals a day along with emergency assistance 24 hours a day for peace of mind. Residents are encouraged to be as independent as possible, but should a need arise; staff

is available to offer help at any time of the day or night.

There is 24 hour staff to provide assistance with self-care tasks, such as grooming, bathing, shaving, dressing, administration of medications and ambulating.

A team meeting is held upon admission and at least annually thereafter to assess the residents' needs and develop individual care plans. The admission process can typically be completed within two weeks.

The Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility (ALF) now has nine residents living in the facility and they are really enjoying the holiday season. They have been making ornaments to decorate the Christmas tree and are enjoying various outings during this season. They are looking forward to viewing

various Christmas light displays throughout this season as well as enjoying various other planned events.

We would like to thank the local churches who volunteer their time to provide worship services to our residents each Tuesday night. Most all of the residents attend the service and look forward to the opportunity to worship.

If you are looking for peace of mind and want to enjoy those golden years, join our family at the Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility.

You may obtain additional information by contacting the ALF Administrator, Michelle Colbert Shiver, at (251) 446-4899.



# BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

## *B&G CLUB 2016 REGISTRATION MEETING*

DATE: JANUARY 4, 2015

TIME: 5:30 P.M.

LOCATION: OLD SAIL CENTER

Meeting will be held on January 4, 2016 at the Old SAIL Center in Poarch at 5:30 pm.

Remember to bring Tribal affiliation verification such as First Generation letter, Second Generation letter, proof of Tribal Government employee, or proof of Tribal household. All membership fees and transportation fees are due at time of registration.

B&GC membership requirements are as follows:

- Must be 5 on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> to qualify for the summer program
- Enrolled in a verifiable K-4 program and 4 on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> to qualify for the afterschool program
- Anyone who is a Tribal Member, first or second generation descendant, living in a Tribal household, member of another federally recognized tribe or child of a Tribal Government employee is eligible to attend B&GC if requirements listed above are met.

For questions or concerns contact the Boys & Girls Club at (251)368-9070.



### **GREENLIGHT A VET**

America's veterans are some of our nation's bravest, hardest-working men and women. However, it's hard to show them the appreciation they deserve when, back at home and out of uniform, they're more camouflaged than ever. Greenlight A Vet is a campaign to establish visible national support for our veterans by changing one light bulb to green.

Green is the color of hope, renewal, and well-being. "Greenlight" is also a term commonly

used to activate forward movement. The simple act of changing one light to green is intended to spark a national conversation regarding the recognition of veterans and "greenlight" them forward as valued members of our communities.

Change one light to green in a visible location-on your porch, in your home, or at your office-and keep it glowing every day as a symbol of appreciation and support for our veterans. Share your support by taking a picture of your green light and posting it using the hashtag #greenlightavet.

# CULTURAL DEPARTMENT

## MVSKOKE LANGUAGE APP



The Creek Nation and Mvskoke Language Program presents the Mvskoke Creek Language learning app. The app is available for free in three major app stores: Apple, Android (Google Play), and Amazon.

Download this app and begin learning or practicing our Mvskoke language. You can use the app to learn the correct pronunciation of the Mvskoke numbers used on each page of the newsletter.

**Any Tribal Member unable to attend the Annual Celebration who did not have someone else pick up their gift may pick their gift up at the Tribal Museum. Deadline to pick up your gift is 5:00 p.m. December 31, 2015.**



The Cultural Department would like to thank the 2014-2015 princesses for doing such a great job representing our Tribe throughout their reign! Mvto! Pictured: Little Miss Princess: Savannah Gibson, Elementary Princess: Brionna Slate, Elder Princess: Cora Voncile Peters, Junior Princess: Gabriella McGhee, Senior Princess: Caitlyn Barnhill.

# 6th Annual Poarch Creek New Year's Eve Sobriety Youth Powwow

Social Dance will be held on Wednesday, December 30, 2015 @ 7pm

Food, Games, DJ; Open to all powwow participants & families

Powwow will be held on Thursday, December 31, 2015

Poarch Creek Wellness Center, Atmore, AL

Head Man: Tobine Alec - Livingston, TX

Head Lady: Nicole Williams - Mt Vernon, AL

Head Junior Male: Chayton Lowery - Randleman, NC

Head Junior Female: Edie Rogers - Buford, GA

Host Northern Drum: Medicine Tail

Host Southern Drum: Southern Sun

Arena Director: Thomas Rolin - Atmore, AL

Emcee: Herbert Johnson, Jr. - Livingston, TX

Dance Contests in: Tiny Tots 0-6 (Exhibition), Little Boys & Girls 6-8, Juniors 9-12, & Teens 13-18.

Over \$ 7,000 in Cash prizes! No category combinations!

## DANCE SPECIALS:

- "Teen Boys All Around Special" sponsored by Head Junior Male
- "Girls Jingle & Girls Fancy Special" sponsored by Head Junior Female
  - ◇ Two-step, Potato Dance, Switch Dance Contests, & More!

**Grand Entry: 7pm, feast @ 5pm**

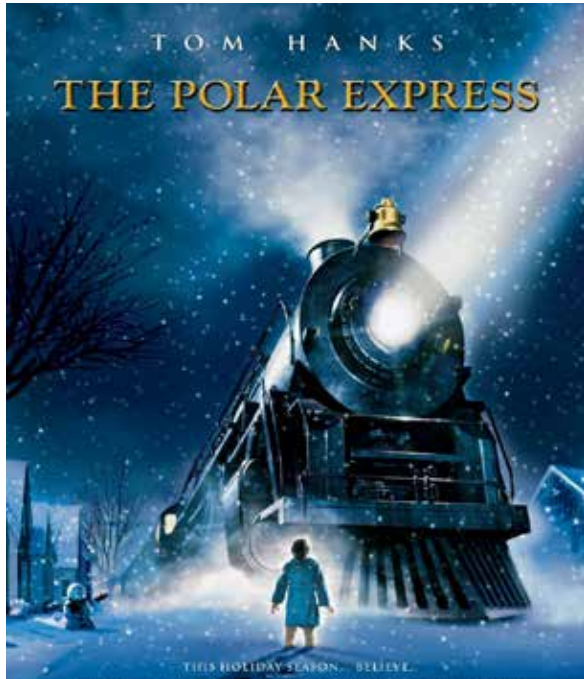
**Free Admission, Raffles, and a special ball drop New Year countdown!**

**All drums, royalty, and dancers welcome. Limited vendor spaces available.**

**For more info, contact: Chris Blackburn 251-368-9136 ext 2052**

**email: cblackburn@pci-nsn.gov**

# UPCOMING EVENTS & DEADLINES



## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT AT THE POW WOW GROUNDS!

Friday, December 11, 2015

After the Christmas Parade

Featured Movie: The Polar Express

Bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets

Tribal Members & Tribal Families

No Drug, Alcohol, or Pets Allowed!

Free cookies, drinks, popcorn, and hot chocolate!

*Sponsored by the Cultural Department*

## SIGN UP TODAY FOR THE 2016 POW WOW CLUB!



### Age 8\*-18

Open to all Tribal Members &  
1<sup>st</sup> Generation Descendants

(\*Must be 8 years old by December 31, 2015)

Deadline to submit an application:

5:00 p.m. Friday, January 29, 2016.

Application available and must be returned to the poarch  
Creek Indians Museum or mailed to:

Poarch Creek Indians  
Attn: Christ Blackburn  
5811 Jack Springs Road  
Atmore, AL 36502

For further information please contact Christ Blackburn,  
Planning & Events Coordinator at (251) 368-9136 x  
2052 or [cblackburn@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:cblackburn@pci-nsn.gov)

# EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## Tribal Students Achieve Honor Roll & Perfect Attendance at HES

Students attending Huxford Elementary School recently received their report cards for the first grading period. Congratulations to all of the students! These students are all Tribal Members, First Generation Descendants, or Second Generation Descendants. Keep up the good work!

Students in grades first through sixth who made the honor roll and perfect attendance were:

*Submitted by: Amy Johns  
Education Resource Specialist*

### All A's:

- |                     |                    |                       |                  |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| • Kai Barnhill      | • Major Thomas     | • Mari Yuana McCaster | • Hunter Weaver  |
| • Kylee Johnson     | • Maddix Tutton    | • Keenan McGhee       | • Hannah Johnson |
| • Kendall Kinman    | • Bailyn Weaver    | • Lily Rolin          | • Joshua Burkett |
| • Aiyannah McGhee   | • Annberly Dunn    | • Tehya Rolin         | • Colbie English |
| • Levi McGhee       | • Braxton Harrison | • Naomie Ward         | • McKenna Pettis |
| • Abbigail Stephens | • Olivia McKenzie  | • Tyee Rolin          | • Tanna Spence   |
| • Savannah Gibson   | • Cara English     | • Phoenix Cao         | • Mayci Stabler  |
|                     | • Dani Chunn       | • Adaline Dortch      | • Macie Chunn    |

### A's & B's:

- |                   |                         |                    |                  |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| • Callie Rolin    | • Kenslee Chavira       | • Kayleigh Patrick | • Leah Rolin     |
| • Chazen Fretwell | • Regan McGhee          | • Chante Rayborn   | • Summer Rolin   |
| • Tyson Jackson   | • Mary-Ashlynn Williams | • Dylan Boyington  | • Aron Chavira   |
| • Macey Jones     | • Bryden Brown          | • Crimson Cook     | • Jaycee Parker  |
| • Marlie McGhee   | • Mason McGhee          | • Kamryn Johnson   | • Harley Sells   |
| • Nathan Case     | • Lagan Rolin           | • Daygen Slate     | • Lauren Jordan  |
| • Alyssa Love     | • Taylor Smith          | • Ashkia Weaver    | • Sadie Smith    |
| • Autumn Rolin    | • Jenna Turberville     | • Anthony Jordan   | • Gavin Snow     |
| • Joseph Rolin    | • Landon Weaver         | • Ryder Spence     | • Noah Weaver    |
| • Cobie Wiggins   | • Josie Daughtry        | • Hayden Kinman    | • Jalia Lassiter |
|                   | • Kyleigh McKenzie      | • Addey McGhee     | • Kaiden McGhee  |
|                   |                         | • River Ramer      | • Mychael Smith  |

### Perfect Attendance:

- |                    |                     |                  |                  |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| • Callie Rolin     | • Brooklyn Lucas    | • Kamryn Johnson | • McKenna Pettis |
| • Macey Jones      | • Aliyonna Williams | • Brodie Rolin   | • Tallin Bishop  |
| • Nathan Case      | • Lily Rolin        | • Daygen Slate   | • Ethan Milstead |
| • Braxton Harrison | • Jenna Turberville | • Adaline Dortch | • Luke Moye      |
| • Alyssa Love      | • Naomie Ward       | • Jayla Brown    | • Chase Bishop   |
| • Autumn Rolin     | • Landon Weaver     | • Hayden Kinman  | • Jalia Lassiter |
| • Joseph Rolin     | • Josie Daughtry    | • Jordan Wall    | • Robert Ward.   |
|                    | • Jamison McGhee    | • Joshua Burkett |                  |
|                    | • Kayleigh Patrick  | • Colbie English |                  |

# How To Help Your Student Be Successful

As parents and guardians, it is our duty to help our students be successful. The most important part of education is the relationship between the parent, teacher, and student. Parents and teachers should create an open line of communication early in the school year, before any issues arise. Schools hold open houses at the beginning of the school year to help create this relationship, where a parent can see where their child will spend the day. It is important to share phone numbers, email, or other preferred forms of communication with the teacher. Frequent communication throughout the year help the parent stay aware of assignments or issues in the classroom. With open lines of communication, it is easier for all to discuss school related topics in a timely way.

Homework is used by teachers to reinforce skills taught at school. This is a time when the parent and child can work together on those skills, while alerting the parent to materials the child may need more help understanding. Completing homework helps the student attain a higher level of achievement. Working together with your child helps them see how much you value education and encourages responsibility within the student. For a good homework routine, a homework area should be set up, along with a specific time to complete homework. This area should be quiet, comfortable, well lit, and include any necessary supplies.

Routine is an important part of parenting. Children learn best when they know what to expect. Routines



help bring a level of comfort to the child. Establishing a set homework time will help students stay organized and focused. Routine is also important when it comes to a child's bedtime, assuring a well-rested child who is ready to learn. Special family times such as dinner, talks, or other family events play a part in a healthy, successful child's life. A good balance between family, school and play allow children to develop and grow.

Finally, you are your child's first teacher, which can be rewarding and exhausting. Open positive communication helps your child. Ask them about their day, including the best and worst parts. Ask them what happened that made them proud, sad and excited. If you or your child is struggling, reach out to their teacher and the education department. We are here to help you.

Above all, have fun with your child. Love them. Enjoy them.

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## FINANCIAL PEACE CLASSES

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University kits are available **free** to Tribal Members, First Generation Indian Descendants, and Tribal Employees.

Contact Bryan Fayard at (251)368-9136 x 2504 or [bfayard@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:bfayard@pci-nsn.gov) for more information.

Sponsored by: PCI Education and Tribal Court



# 2015 Teen Christmas Party



Join us for a fun filled night of entertainment!

At: Wind Creek Coosawada Ballroom ~ Date: Thursday, December 17, 2015

Food and Gift Pickup will be from 6:00 – 8:00 in the ballroom.

After dinner teens will be given a voucher for entertainment activities. This event will not be supervised by the Education Staff after the teen has left the ballroom area.

Teen must be between the ages of 13-17 and live in a Tribal household.

**Registration is required!** Deadline to submit registration forms is **December 11!**

Please call (251) 368-9136 Ext. 2021 for questions



## Registration Form

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

Contact Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check ONE of the following: \_\_\_\_\_ Tribal Member  
\_\_\_\_\_ First Generation  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tribal Household

Registration form must be returned to the PCI Education Department by **December 11, 2015.**

**You must be registered to attend this event.**

Registration forms can be submitted to the following locations:

Fax: (251) 368-0809 ~ Address: 5811 Jack Springs Rd, Atmore, AL 36502 ~ Email: mweaver@pci-nsn.gov





*Let us put our minds together and see what future we can make for our children.*

*Chief Joseph, Nez Percé*

I AM POARCH.  
I AM ALABAMA.

POARCH NEIGHBORS  
FIND US ON  
THE WEB!

[poarchneighbors.com](http://poarchneighbors.com)

## SANSPREE LAW FIRM, PC

REPRESENTING THOSE INJURED  
BY MEDICAL MAL-PRACTICE OR HOSPITAL  
NEGLIGENCE  
FOR OVER 16 YEARS

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[www.sanspreelaw.com](http://www.sanspreelaw.com)

"No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers."  
Rule 7.2(e) of the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct

Build a better tomorrow  
Starting  
Today  
Enroll in Ready to Work Training

80% of RTW participants  
gained employment in Atmore area

**RTW**

Gain valuable  
workplace skills

Enroll in free  
classes!

Atmore and Evergreen locations

**Reid State Technical College**  
For information call:  
Lynda Davis, [ldavis@rstc.edu](mailto:ldavis@rstc.edu)  
251-578-1313 ext. 114

### REACHING YOUR GOAL

*It will hurt.*

*It will take time.*

*It will require dedication.*

*It will require willpower.*

*You will need to make healthy  
decisions.*

*It requires sacrifice.*

*You will need to push your body to its  
max.*

*There will be temptation.*

*But, I promise you, when you reach  
your goal,*

*It's worth it!*

*Unknown*

# FAMILY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

*ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF TRIBAL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.*

## PROGRAM NOTICES:

LIHEAP or CSBG Services: PBCI Tribal Per Capita monies and Senior Benefit monies will be included in the calculation of household income.

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The following grants are available for public review:

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- Child Care Development (CSBG)
- Family Violence Prevention (FVPSA)
- Elder Abuse Prevention Initiative

If you wish to review these grants, please come by our office to view these documents.

We welcome your comments and suggestions!

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If you suspect fraud, waste, or abuse in any of the Community Services Programs please contact the Family Services Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2600.

If you or a loved one is a victim of domestic violence, please contact Dr. Frank McCloskey, Abuse Prevention Coordinator, for assistance or information. You are not alone. We are here to help you.

You can reach Frank at (251) 368-9136, ext. 2212, or via e-mail at [fmcloskey@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:fmcloskey@pci-nsn.gov).



Family Services Department

5811 Jack Springs Road

Atmore, AL 36502

Office (251) 368-9136 x 2600 Fax (251) 368-0828

## ARE DIGITAL DEVICES HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH?

These devices transmit high energy wavelengths of visible light that can cause eye strain and even damage your eyes over time.

It's everywhere – emitted from the screens of computers, TVs, tablets, smartphones, and fluorescent lights.

PROTECT YOUR EYES with our premium Blue Blocking Lens.



**Premier Family Eye Care**

5811 Jack Springs Rd.

Atmore, AL 36502

251.446.3937



*Origami Owl*  
CUSTOM JEWELRY

Edie Jackson, Independent Designer

251-253-5818

[www.ediejackson.origamiowl.com](http://www.ediejackson.origamiowl.com)

## The 2015 Kid's Christmas Party Information "Christmas At The Movies"

- The Family Services Department will host the 2015 Kid's Christmas Party at the Wind Creek Cinema on Thursday, December 10, 2015.
- The same movie will be shown in three different theater rooms.
- The times for the movie to start will be staggered to allow everyone a chance to see the movie.
- The time for the event is 5:30 - 9:00 with the last movie starting at 7:30 p.m.
- Food including a hot dog, a drink, and candy will be served prior to the movie starting.
- Each participant will be able to see the movie one time and then will be given and opportunity to take a picture with Santa and receive a Christmas gift.

## PER CAPITA-BE A GOOD STEWARD OF YOUR MONEY

Christmas funds have been disbursed and the 2016 per capita payments will soon be disbursed. When individuals and families receive a lump sum of money it is tempting to splurge! However, this is usually followed by regret especially when later in the year you encounter unexpected expenses. We all need to expect the unexpected and PREPARE. Here is some simple advice.

- **SAVE** - You should have AT LEAST 3 months of household income in savings. You should also consider having the sum total of all your insurance deductibles as well.
- **PAY OFF DEBT** - Pay off high interest rate credit cards and loans. When deciding how much to save and how much to use paying off debt, consider the money you will save in interest verses the interest you will earn in savings.

Let's talk about Christmas spending. Are you spending more than 1% of your annual income on Christmas? It may be tempting to do above and beyond because of the disbursement that comes out during the Christmas season. I don't advise using this entire disbursement on Christmas as for most families that is far more than 1% of the annual income. Children learn spending habits from their parents. Extravagant gifts can still leave children expecting more.

Moderation is a great demonstration of being a good steward of money. This life lesson is priceless!

For more helpful information contact Stephanie Gatlin, Crisis Coordinator at 251-368-9136 ext. 2389, or via email at [sgatlin@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:sgatlin@pci-nsn.gov).

# HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## IS MY MEMORY NORMAL?

A husband and wife were having a conversation one day about who was getting more forgetful. The wife had been having a bad week and it seemed like every day she was making silly mistakes. The husband said to her "You keep saying that I am the one getting dementia, but you are the one being so forgetful. I am going to start writing down all the things you are doing, so then I will have evidence." The wife replied, "That's fine, but will you remember where you put the paper?"

Does this sound like a discussion you have had with a family member? As a person's ages, some forgetfulness is part of the aging process. However, there is a difference between occasional memory lapse and what is referred to as dementia. In the October 2015 AARP magazine there is a quiz which was developed with input from brain health experts. This quiz is not in any way designed to be a diagnostic tool to determine if a person has dementia. After taking the test, if you have concerns; talk with your doctor.

Here's the quiz:

1. The kids or grandkids show up for Sunday dinner and you completely forgot they were coming.  
*Yes or No*

2. You run into your neighbor and start to ask about his daughter, but you can't remember her name; until later.  
*Yes or No*

3. You sometimes look in the mirror and don't recognize yourself.  
*Yes or No*

4. You always miss the turn to the grandkids regular soccer field.  
*Yes or No*

5. You find your glasses in the freezer, your watch in the sink or other objects in strange places.  
*Yes or No*

6. Your friend told you some great news about his wife's new job. You were certain he told you during lunch, but turns out he told you over the phone.  
*Yes or No*

7. You've always known where every penny was, but now your bills are a complete mess.  
*Yes or No*

8. You made a doctor appointment for a checkup months ago but completely forgot it.  
*Yes or No*

9. Your spouse tells you that you ask the same questions repeatedly.  
*Yes or No*

10. Your mother recently passed away. You're having trouble sorting through her papers.  
*Yes or No*

### HOW DID YOU DO?

If you answered yes to 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10 you are either showing normal memory loss due to aging, or some other factor is affecting your

memory. Stress, sleep deprivation or grief can affect your memory but your memory tends to improve once the underlying stressor improves. The tip of the tongue forgetfulness (question 2) becomes more normal as we age, as do gaps in attention, which can lead to misplaced items (phones, wallets) or forgotten appointments. Do not worry too much, but don't ignore the memory loss either. If you feel like your memory might be getting worse, you may need to be checked for other conditions such as depression.

Yes to 1,3,5,7, or 9: When people start to forget information that they previously would have remembered that's worrisome (Ronald Petersen, Director of May Clinic Alzheimer Center). Repeating question within the same hour may signal a problem. Trouble recognizing everyday objects, putting things in unusual places and problems keeping track of finances are common warning signs of serious memory loss. Family members are often the first to notice symptoms; so listen to their concerns and talk to your doctor about having your memory tested.

No to all the questions?

Fantastic, keep doing what you're doing. Your brain health is most likely excellent.

*Reference: Agnvall, E.; Is your Memory Normal; AARP Bulletin, October 2015, Vol. 56, No. 8*

# WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY ADDICT OR ALCOHOLIC?

The above question is frequently asked of the Behavioral Health staff. Each family situation is different but the heartache experienced by parents or siblings is universal. The goal for an addicted person is usually very clear – get treatment to escape from the drugs/alcohol. However, when the family approaches a loved one addicted to drugs about getting help they often hear: “It’s not that bad!”, “I will quit, I promise!”, “Who put you in charge of me?”

Why can’t the addicted person see what the drugs/alcohol is doing to their life? This process of not being able to see what the youngest child in the house can see is called DENIAL. Denial is a way for the addicted person to continue using drugs/alcohol without really comprehending the destruction resulting in their life and can be fatal if it prevents the addict from getting help. Denial can be complicated to understand but denial is not a conscious lie but a defense the mind uses to shield itself from seeing the extent of the problem. Most



*George M. Hamilton, LPC*

professionals consider the brain centers dealing with emotions and rational thinking to be compromised by drugs/alcohol. These chemicals, in effect, cause the addict to be unable to properly connect their behaviors with the negative consequences they receive. In effect, the addict is in a “chemically induced insanity.”

Consider the simple example of an addicted person using their

favorite drugs/alcohol resulting in oversleeping and being very late to work the next morning. The addict can admit they were late but often will misdirect their emotions at the boss for giving them a consequence such as a warning or docking their pay. If the spouse is fearful or upset about possible job loss, the addict often gets angry at the spouse instead of changing the bad behavior. Individuals in the family often try to control their emotions, especially their anger, which often results in emotionally acting out or shutting down. Often family members come to believe they are going crazy because they can’t understand nor control the situation.

In the Behavioral Health Unit we try to help families develop more effective ways to deal with this most stressful situation.

Call (251) 368-9136 x 2309 if we can help.

*Submitted by George M. Hamilton, LPC*

## REMINDERS TO ALL OUR PATIENTS

Remember that one of our providers will continue to see patients during the traditional lunch hour. Visits are scheduled by appointment only. A limited number of visits each day are reserved for "work ins" so if you are sick and require a "work in" appointment, please call the clinic early in the morning and we will do our best to assign an appointment time that day.

Please bring the following items on every visit to the Health Department:

1. Driver's License
2. Tribal ID
3. Insurance Card
4. Medication List

These items are needed so that we may keep all your information and medications updated.

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## GOOD HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN INDIAN COUNTRY

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Ms. Wynell M. Bell is the new Grant Coordinator overseeing the “Good Health and Wellness in Indian County” grant which is a community health assessment. Ms. Bell has been assigned an office on the second floor of the Health Department. Her immediate supervisor is Mrs. Sandra Day, Community Health Director.

The purpose of the grant is to gather health information about Tribal Members and the community in order to set goals that will lead to the improvement of overall health and well-being of Tribal Members, their families and the community as a whole.

Ms. Bell will be working with Poarch Creek Indian employees, Tribal Members and community members. Ms. Bell will be conducting one-on-one interviews and focus groups to gather information. Data gathered will be used to create a comprehensive community action plan that addresses health issues that currently affect Tribal Members of all ages and the local community.



*Wynell Bell*

The “Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country” grant is a five year Centers for Disease Control grant project for which United South and Eastern Tribes is the primary grant applicant. Poarch Creek Indians is one of the seven sub-grantee Tribes of USET. In year one, we are to conduct a Community Health Assessment that will inform a year two Community Action Plan (CAP). Both documents will help inform the Tribal Council on

future funding allocations needed for the health department to create health and human service projects. Years three through five will be implementation of the CAP and aggressive interagency and interdisciplinary actions needed to expand the Tribal health program. This will include grant partnerships and potential funds to be secured from non-Tribal funding sources. The grant is scheduled to run through February 28, 2020.

“I am looking forward to working with the staff and community here at Poarch. Everyone has been so helpful and has made me feel very welcomed. I have been away from this area for twenty-one years. I taught at both the local middle school and high school for a number of years, so I am enjoying getting reacquainted with former students who now work here. It is good to be back home and working with such great people,” said Ms. Bell.

Ms. Bell started October 5, 2015, and will work three days a week. She can be reached at 251-368-9136 ext. 2013 or [wbell@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:wbell@pci-nsn.gov)

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The lovely entrance to the Buford L. Rolin Tribal Health Clinic serves as a covered drive thru for elderly and physically challenged patients needing valet assistance. Patients who need someone to park their car for them should drive under the covered area and take their keys to the front desk. The valet will be glad to park your car for you.

# HEALTH CLINIC WELCOMES CHIEF PHYSICIAN & STAFF PHYSICIAN

Dr. James McKinley, “Jamie”, as he likes to be called, was born and raised in Atmore, AL, and graduated from Escambia County High School in 1994. Dr. McKinley graduated from the University of Alabama in Huntsville with a Master’s Degree, and then enrolled in the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine in 2004. Upon graduating, he completed a year of Neurosurgical internship before transferring back, due to family reasons, to UAB-Huntsville to complete a Family Medicine residency.



*Dr. James McKinley, Chief Physician*

was fortunate to have been on the faculty of the University of Alabama at Huntsville's school of Medicine prior to moving back to Atmore.

Dr. McKinley has been working as a Hospitalist for Springhill Medical Center, and he is looking forward to being our Chief Physician here at the clinic. He joined our staff on November 30, 2015.

Dr. McKinley has been married to his wife Michele for the past 13 years and they have two sons, James age 12, and William age 9. His wife, Michele is a registered nurse.

Dr. McKinley is excited about being home and looks forward to becoming active in the community.

Dr. McKinley has great experience to bring to our patients. He is passionate about teaching and

Dr. Karen Flanagan has joined our medical staff at the primary care clinic.

She has been in family practice for many years and brings a vast amount of experience and knowledge.

Dr. Flanagan currently resides in Brewton, AL and was in private practice there for several years.



*Dr. Karen Flanagan, Staff Physician*

She attended medical school in Missouri and residency at the University of Mississippi.

She brings energy and enthusiasm and will be a welcomed addition to our clinic.

*No matter what you do in life, your words, your actions, your looks, your thoughts, you're never going to please everyone.*

Nishan Panwar



**Thursday, October 22, 2015 Breast Cancer Awareness Day**



### **DENTAL CLINIC DRAWING**

**Enter for a chance to win  
one of these adorable  
prizes.**

**Bring a tribal member or 1<sup>st</sup>  
generation descendant in for a  
cleaning and enter them for the  
drawing.**

**Ages 0 to 9**

**Appointment must be in the month of  
November or December to be eligible.**

**Please call or stop by the PCI Dental  
Clinic for an appointment  
251-368-9136 ext. 2385**



# HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Applications for the following Housing programs are available on a daily basis and will be processed as vacancies/funds become available:

- Emergency/Transitional Housing
- Rental - All Poarch Subdivisions
- Rental - Manac Townhouses
- Rental - Walker Subdivision, Pensacola, FL
- Rehabilitation Assistance
- Renovation Loan Program
- Heating & Cooling Loan Program
- Senior Emergency Program
- TAHO

Applicants are responsible for accurately completing, correcting, and updating all applications and must certify that all information is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge.

Failure to update an application for a period of twelve months is grounds for removing the application for consideration and the applicant will be ineligible for consideration until an updated application is on file.

For questions or concerns contact the Housing Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2251.

## TIME TO UPDATE! DEADLINE EXTENDED

Any Tribal Member 21 years old or older interested in a new house must come into the Poarch Creek Indian Housing Department to submit a new application or update your current application.

Applicants must provide a copy of their 2014 tax returns and social security cards for all persons on the application plus other required documents.

**The deadline to update or submit your application has been extended to 5:00 p.m. Monday, December 21, 2015.**

Contact the Housing Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2251 for more information.



# LEGAL DEPARTMENT

The Legal Department would like to provide Tribal Members with a synopsis of recent revisions to Tribal laws and updates to pending litigation affecting your interests as Tribal Members. If you have any questions regarding any of these matters, please feel free to contact your Tribal Council members at (251) 446-1140 or the Legal Department at (251) 368-9136 Ext. 2525.

## TRIBAL LEGISLATION

As always, to promote dissemination and public access to Tribal laws, Tribal Member public viewing is available during office hours at the Tribal Chairman's Office, Tribal Council Office, Tribal Court, Education Department, and the Office of Archives and Records Management. The Tribal Code is also available online, 24 hours a day, by clicking on the links found on the Tribe's website, [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov). Also full copies of any Titles or amended legislation may be obtained by contacting the Office of Archives and Records Management at (251) 446-4540.

## TRIBAL LITIGATION

This update outlines the activity that has occurred since the last update on these cases.

### *Poarch Band of Creek Indians v. James H. Hildreth, Jr. (Federal Court)*

The Tribe filed this complaint in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama on May 26, 2015, against Escambia County, Alabama Tax Assessor Jim

Hildreth. The Tribe's Complaint requests that the Court declare that the lands are not within Hildreth's taxing jurisdiction and asks the Court to issue a preliminary and permanent injunction to prevent him from taxing the Tribe's trust property in the future. Hildreth filed his brief in opposition to the Motion for Preliminary Injunction on June 16, 2015.

The Court granted a preliminary injunction in favor of the Tribe on July 22, 2015. Hildreth appealed this order to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on July 28th. The parties have submitted briefs on this issue. The United States filed a brief supporting the Tribe's position on October 28, 2015.

When Hildreth filed his answer to the Tribe's complaint in the District Court, Hildreth also asserted a counterclaim against the Tribe. In his counterclaim, Hildreth asks the Court to (a) declare the Tribe is not an Indian tribe and not entitled to any of the rights and privileges, (b) declare that any federal trust established for the Tribe's benefit is void, (c) declare that the lands are not "Indian country", (d) declare that the Tribe does not have sovereign immunity, and (e) order the Tribe to pay his attorney fees. On or about August 4, 2015, Hildreth amended his answer and counterclaim to add the Tribal Council in their official capacity, the United States of America, and various federal officials, departments, and agencies as defendants. Both the Tribal

defendants and federal defendants submitted Motions to Dismiss on November 2, 2015.

Hildreth retired from the office of Escambia County Tax Assessor on September 30, 2015, and his successor is Thad Moore, Jr.

### *Carolyn M. White v. Tribal Council (Tribal Court)*

On July 10, 2015, Tribal Member Carolyn M. White filed a Petition in Tribal, court to challenge the constitutionality of Tribal Council Resolution 2015-63 (Resolution to Establish Standards for Exercising Recognition Authority). White also filed a Motion for Preliminary Injunction asking the court to stay enforcement of TCO 2015-063 until after ruling on the Petition.

White alleged that the Tribal Council exceeded its constitutional authority when it established criteria by which individuals could be recognized as Indians. She asked the Court for an order declaring TCO 2015-063 to be unconstitutional.

White's request for a preliminary injunction was denied in July. On September 8, 2015, the Tribal Council filed a Motion to Dismiss based on the fact that the resolution which was the basis for the petition was rescinded on August 6, 2015. The Court dismissed the case on October 14, 2015.

# OFFICE OF ARCHIVES & RECORDS MANAGEMENT

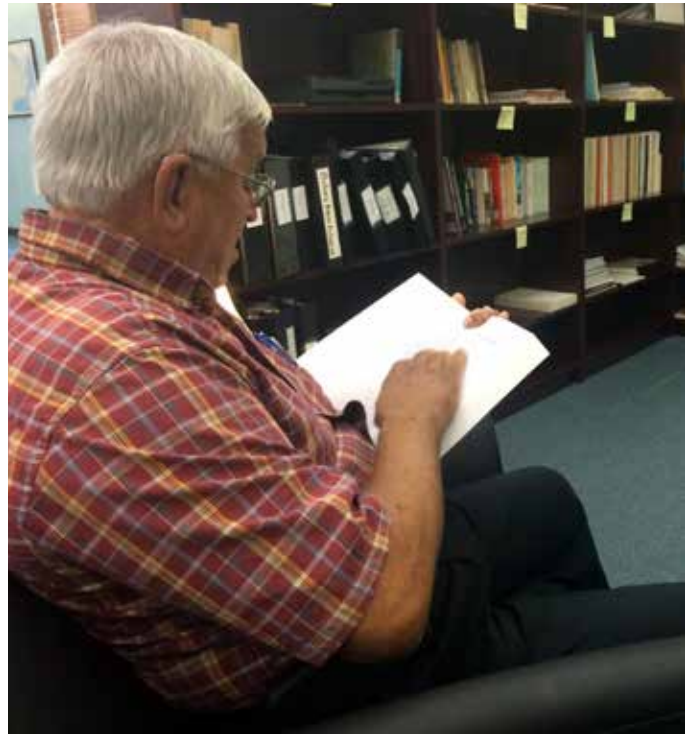
## NEW SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY: THE PEOPLE WHO STAYED

Despite the rich Native American history here in the Southeast, writers have not thoroughly documented the stories that shaped our lives. Scholars have commonly written about the parts of the five southeastern indigenous nations that were removed on the infamous Trail of Tears in the 1830s. This left a great void in the literature on the people who stayed, including Creeks.

To help fill that void, Professor Geary Hobson at the University of Oklahoma, along with Editors Janet McAdams and Kathryn Walkiewicz, published a book honoring the stories of American Indian writers in the southeast: *The People Who Stayed: Southeastern Indian Writing After Removal*. Tribal Archivist Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees is one of the authors featured in the book which she donated to our new Special Collections Library at the Office of Archives and Records Management located at 100 Brookwood/CIEDA building. Our knowledgeable and courteous staff invites you to read this book and many other Creek books from Monday to Friday, 8-5.

Dees shares stories with us from Roberta McGhee Sells who grew up in Headaperdido and her father Otis Dees who grew up in Jeddo/Uriah. Interestingly, the word Jeddo (cvto) in Muscogee means split rocks, which could refer to the rock quarry where Otis' father quarried stones to build the family's fireplace.

We can see how the economic condition of the community hovers over the lives of Creeks who struggle to be a part of the dominant society. Paradoxically, Creeks struggle to be a part of a society that does not accept them. They often times find themselves targets of crime. "Daddy saw a peddler who had some saltwater fish on sale... all the fish you can eat for ten cents," Dees writes. "Daddy said it would have been a good deal, but he couldn't eat none of that fish on account of it being



*"This library is a great idea! I am going to donate some of my books," Tribal Council Treasurer Eddie Tullis said.*

too salty." Based on the peddler's scam, Dees recalls he went to his grave thinking that seafood harvested from the ocean was too salty for human consumption.

Dees documents Creeks' first-time encounters such as the first time to see an automobile, the first time to drink a Coca-Cola, and the first time to get an indoor toilet. She shares these stories with Tribal Council Treasurer Eddie Tullis and others in our community through our Special Collections Library. Instead of only reading literature about the people who were removed, because of this library, we get to read stories about the people who stayed.

Mvto.

*Submitted by to Office of Archives and Records Management*



# YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Small Decisions Make Big Things Happen

## Don't Worry, Be Healthy

**I love breakfast! I actually don't, but I do love what it does for me.** Here's the thing: if I eat something healthy first thing in the morning, I feel successful all day long. Even if lunch and dinner slide down the slippery slope of "less than healthy" at least I have one victory under my belt. It also helps to curb hunger and cravings during that first part of the day, setting me up for better choices later. I know it feels like the last thing you want to think about when you're trying to hustle out the door but I have some ideas that might help. See if some of these ideas work for you:

### Peanut Butter Banana Smoothie

I know, again with the smoothies. BUT! It's my duty as a nutritionist to talk to you about them. Blend 1 frozen banana, 2 tablespoons natural peanut butter, 1 cup of regular milk, and some ice cubes. (Add a scoop of chocolate or vanilla protein if you have it handy).

### Zapped Scrambled Eggs with Veggies

Yes, it's possible (and easy!) to make really good scrambled eggs in the microwave. Beat 2 eggs in a microwave-safe container, add 1 handful of veggies, cherry tomatoes and spinach leaves work well and a sprinkle of cheese. Zap the mixture for 30 seconds, stir, and cook another 30 seconds or until eggs are solid. Eat it now or store the raw mixture in a fridge until ready to heat and eat.

### Breakfast Burrito

Who doesn't love a burrito? Scramble 2 egg whites, add ¼ cup black beans, 2 tablespoons salsa, and 2 tablespoons shredded cheese. Wrap in 1 small tortilla. Protein from the eggs and black beans keep you fuller longer, and the salsa spices up the flavor.



### Waffle PBJ-Wich

Try this sweet take on a classic sandwich the next time you're eating on the go. Prepare 1 toaster waffle (whole grain if you can get them) and slice in half. Spread with 2 tablespoons nut butter and layer 2-3 sliced strawberries on top in place of the traditional jelly (to cut down on sugar).

Easy-peasy! I'm so excited to know what you think. Please send me an email and let me know how these healthy and time saving breakfast ideas are working for you.

- Ashley

Ashley Richards is a Health Coach and Nutritionist for Advantage Training. She believes that the key to creating healthy habits is to start by making small, sustainable changes. You can connect directly to Ashley by clicking on My Message Center/Talk to a Health Coach inside the My PCI Wellness online portal.



[www.mypciwellness.com](http://www.mypciwellness.com)  
[facebook.mypciwellness.com](https://facebook.com/mypciwellness.com)



# YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Small Decisions Make Big Things Happen

## You Snooze, You Win!

**Getting enough sleep is essential to health, happiness and productivity.** Here's how to give your sleep the priority it deserves. When life gets busy the first thing we sacrifice is sleep. We know sleep is important, but how much can it hurt if we cut back a little? Turns out, a lot. Adequate sleep and health go hand in hand. Research has shown that getting enough sleep can curb obesity, anxiety and depression. It even helps regulate blood pressure! Sleep is an essential, not something we should fit in when we can. Getting enough of it can feel like a luxury but, really, it's a necessity for surviving and thriving hectic days.

### Rebuild Your Body

While you slumber, your body is far from idle. During sleep, the body produces hormones that help your immune system fight illness. Sleep also promotes the repair of muscle tissue. Missing shuteye, says sleep specialist Peter Freebeck, MD, decreases physical endurance and increases baseline heart rate. Getting enough sleep is also an essential element of achieving and maintaining a proper weight.

### Right Your Rhythms

To begin to get more sleep, tack on 15 minutes of shuteye each night for a week. If bedtime is 11 p.m., shift it to 10:45 p.m. The next week, shoot for 10:30 p.m., and so on. Continue until you wake up on your own, refreshed.

### Give Yourself a Liquid Curfew

Keep in mind that caffeine and sugar and alcohol, too close to bedtime, can keep you awake and hurt your quality of sleep. Lights, or glow from a computer or TV signal your body to stay awake. Instead, try reading, journaling, listening to relaxing music or soaking in a warm bath. Try to transition into these activities an hour before bedtime.



I know it's hard to fit in some movement every day. Part of the struggle is that we're so depleted all the time. Try to give yourself an opportunity to rest. I promise it'll give you more energy to enjoy your life. I hope you find these strategies helpful, they've really worked for me.

Let me know how you're doing, I'd love to hear from you. And, oh yeah, sweet dreams!

Win the Day!

Spencer

*Spencer Tatum is the National Training Director for Advantage Training. He has worked with all levels of fitness and currently oversees all of the program writing at Poarch Recreation. You can connect directly to Spencer by clicking on My Message Center/Talk to a Trainer inside the My PCI Wellness online portal.*



[www.mypciwellness.com](http://www.mypciwellness.com)  
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# RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## SWIM TEAM COMPETES IN WAR EAGLE INVITATIONAL



Mya Pettway, left lane, competes in Backstroke during the War Eagle Invitational held on the campus of Auburn University October 9-11, 2015. Other members of the swim team at the meet included Kamryn Langham, Mary-Ashlynn Williams, Kylee Langham, Kinsely Byrd, and Aviya Labue. The swim team has had a great season!

## ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUE

### Adult Basketball League

#### Open Registration:

October 5, 2015 - December 31, 2015

*(Games will begin after completion of registration)*

Ages 16 & Up

Team Registration Fee: \$125.00

Schedule: TBA

Registration applications are available upon request at the Recreation Department. For more information contact the Recreation Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2256



# SENIOR SERVICES PROGRAM

The Poarch Creek Senior Center is open to senior citizens age 55 and over from Poarch and surrounding communities. The Poarch Creek Senior Center is dedicated to helping seniors in various ways. If you have any questions, or would like to know more about our services and programs, please feel free to stop by or contact us at (251) 368-9136 x 2289 or [cwalker@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:cwalker@pci-nsn.gov). The Center is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## CONGREGATE MEALS

- Congregate meals are served Monday through Friday to seniors age 55 and older. Meet your friends and make new ones as you join us for a delicious and nutritious meal.
- The food is prepared and cooked at the Senior Center for all seniors over 55 years of age.
- If you are not a regular participant, reservations should be made up to 9:00 a.m. the day you plan to eat at the Center. Call (251) 368-9136 x 2802 to make reservations
- The Senior Center does **NOT** allow grandchildren to come visit for lunch. This program is for seniors **55 and older ONLY**.
- If you have any questions or need clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at (251) 368-9136 x 2289.

## HOME-BOUND MEALS

- The Center provides home delivered meals to seniors age 55 and above who are home-bound.
- Home-bound seniors can have a well-balanced meal delivered five days a week.
- Home-bound meals are the same menu served at the Senior Center. Transportation drivers will carry the meal into your kitchen or hand it to you at the door, whichever you prefer.
- If you get a home-bound lunch and decide that you would like to visit the Senior Center for lunch on a particular day, please call and notify the Center by 9:00 a.m. so that a home-bound lunch will not be delivered that day. The Center does not allow home-bound participants to receive a lunch at home and at the Center on the same day.
- If you have any questions or need clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at (251) 368-9136 x 2289.







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251-446-3426 | [reservations@MagnoliaBranch.com](mailto:reservations@MagnoliaBranch.com)

# TERO DEPARTMENT

## TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OFFICE (TERO) HOSTS NATIVE AMERICAN OUTREACH EVENT SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS (OFCCP)

Building diversity in construction.

Atmore, AL was the backdrop for a recent Native American stakeholder outreach event sponsored by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs' Birmingham District Office and the director of OFCCP's Indian and Native American Employment Rights Project.

Representatives from the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians discussed the department's efforts to increase Indian and Native American participation in the U.S. Courthouse Mega Construction Project.




*Left to right: Jennifer Colbert and Clara Jones, Poarch Band of Creek Indians; Polly Byrd Rivers, MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians; Wesley Manning and Valerie Barnhill Taylor, Poarch Band of Creek Indians; with Alvin Mitchell, Birmingham District Director, OFCCP. (Not pictured Katie Course, Assistant District Director, USDOL-OFCCP.)*

The collaboration focuses on \$100 million construction project developing applicants for the in Mobile. construction trades required in the

The TERO Department has moved back to their offices on Highway 21 and can be reached at (251) 368-0606.

Tribal Regulatory Commission (formerly TERO Commission) meetings will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month and will be held in Building 500 of the Tribal Complex.



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# TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION

## CHRISTMAS PARADE

The annual Tribal Christmas Parade is scheduled for Friday, December 11, 2015. The parade will start at the Wellness Center/Gym at 5:30 p.m. and follow the same route as last year.

The theme for this year's parade is "The Songs Of Christmas" and there are going to be lots of beautiful floats, Fire Trucks, bands, and other vehicles throwing candy and other goodies.

We all want to enjoy the parade, please keep safety in mind and keep children behind barriers and out of the streets while the floats are in motion.

If you have any questions about the parade, please contact Sehoy Spence at (251) 368-9136 x 2260.

## OFFICE CLOSURES

Please remember the following closure when planning your visits to the Pharmacy, Health Clinic, or other Tribal Administrative offices.

### ***Friday, December 18, 2015***

Tribal Administrative Offices, Boys & Girls Club, and Gym will close at 11:30 a.m. for the Employee Christmas Party.

### ***Thursday & Friday, December 24 & 25, 2015***

Tribal Administrative Offices, Boys & Girls Club, and Gym will be closed in observance of Christmas holidays.

### ***Saturday, December 26, 2016***

Gym closed in observance of Christmas holidays.

### ***Friday, January 1, 2016***

Tribal Administrative Offices, Boys & Girls Club, and Gym will be closed in observance of New Year's holiday.

### ***Saturday, January 2, 2016***

Gym will be closed in observance of New Year's holiday.



# TRIBAL COURT

## PUNT, PASS AND KICK DRUGS OUT OF OUR COMMUNITY



On Tuesday, November 3, 2015, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Drug Court sponsored “*Punt, Pass and Kick Drugs out of our Community*”. The event was a huge success, reaching approximately 90 young people with the drug free message. The Drug Court Team and participants had as much fun as the children!

Prizes were given out for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, as well as best punt, best kick and best pass. All in attendance received a t-shirt, and to the delight of everyone,

the Kona Ice Truck made a special appearance. The Drug Court Team and participants would like to give a special thanks to the Gym staff, Education staff, Michael Griffey, Josh and Vicky Burkett, and Ramsey Gafford for all their help with this spectacular event.

We hope to make the *Punt, Pass and Kick Drugs out of our Community* an annual event, with each year being bigger and better than the year before!

### TRIBAL COURT COMMUNITY AWARENESS EVENTS

The Poarch Creek Indians Tribal Court Administration would like to invite you to participate in our Community Aftercare Reinforcement Program. We have recently begun an incentive component which allows participants to receive vouchers for rewards for participation in the program.

Wes Hayles, Addictions Counselor for the Tribe, has worked diligently to provide a program that will assist participants that have graduated from our Drug Court Program or attended in-patient treatment facilities with their continued sobriety.

Please contact our office for more information or to schedule an appointment for the aftercare program.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Keesha O'Barr or Wes Hayles at (251) 368-9136 x 2653 or 2652.

SMART Recovery Meets every Monday night at 6:00 pm in the Tribal Court lobby. This meeting is open to anyone seeking to gain independence from addictive behaviors. Light snacks provided.

Parenting Skills Meets every Wednesday at 11:00 am in the Tribal Court activity Room. This is an open meeting to all Tribal Members and 1<sup>st</sup> Generation. (Please RSVP/Lunch is provided.)

To RSVP or schedule and aftercare appointment please call Charity Miller 251-368-9136 ext. 2660.

# TRIBAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## TURKEY FRYERS: NOT CERTIFIED BY UL

Each year Americans prepare a whopping 47 million turkeys for the traditional holiday feast. However, for those who decide to center their meal on a fried turkey, the potential hazards of cooking that dinner in the turkey fryer can be far worse than putting on a few extra pounds. UL is urging consumers to take extra caution if they are going to use turkey fryers this holiday season.

Manufacturers have made strides toward enhancing product features in an attempt to make turkey fryers safer for consumers. These new features include designing non-heat conducting handles and sturdier stands; but, based on continued observation, turkey fryers still pose a considerable risk if not used correctly. UL remains firm in its decision not to certify any turkey fryers with its trusted UL mark.

"We're worried by the increasing reports of fires related to turkey fryer use," said John Drengenberg, UL consumer affairs manager. "Based on our test findings, the fryers used to

produce those great-tasting birds are not worth the risks."

### Potential Hazards:

Here's why using a turkey fryer can be dangerous:

- Although some manufacturers have improved the stability of their fryers, some units could tip over, spilling as much as five gallons of hot oil out of the cooking pot.
- If the cooking pot is overfilled with oil, the oil may spill out of the unit when the turkey is placed into the cooking pot. Oil may hit the burner/flames, causing fire to engulf the entire unit.
- Partially frozen turkeys placed into the fryer can also cause a spillover effect, resulting in an extensive fire.
- Most turkey fryers have no thermostat controls, increasing their potential to overheat cooking oil to the point of combustion.
- The sides of the cooking pot, lid and pot handles get dangerously hot, posing severe burn hazards.

### Safety Tips:

Use extreme caution when using

turkey fryers. If you absolutely must use a turkey fryer, here are some tips for safer use:

- Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors, located a safe distance from buildings and any other flammable materials.
- Never use turkey fryers on wooden decks or in garages.
- Make sure the fryers are used on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.
- Never leave the fryer unattended. Most units do not have thermostat controls. If you don't watch the fryer carefully, the oil will continue to heat until it catches fire.
- Never let children or pets near the fryer when in use. After use, continue to exercise extreme caution as the oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot for hours.
- To avoid oil spillover, do not overfill the fryer.
- Use well-insulated potholders or oven mitts when touching the pot or lid handles. If possible, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from oil splatter.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and be careful with marinades. Oil and water don't mix and water can cause oil to spill over, starting a fire or even an explosion hazard.
- The National Turkey Federation recommends refrigerator thawing and to allow approximately 24 hours for every five pounds of bird thawed in the refrigerator.
- Never use water to extinguish a grease fire.



# Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.



## HOLIDAY DECORATING

- » Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- » Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- » Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- » Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- » Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- » Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- » Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- » Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- » Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- » Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- » Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- » Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



## Before Heading Out or to Bed

**Blow out** lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

## FACTS

- ❗ **Two of every five** home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ❗ **Nearly half** of decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Poarch Creek Fire Department

251-368-9136 ext 2290

[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)

# Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



## PICKING THE TREE

- » Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



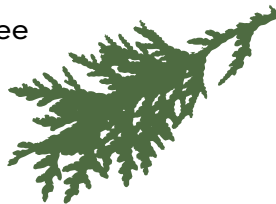
## PLACING THE TREE

- » Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- » Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- » Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- » Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



## LIGHTING THE TREE

- » Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- » Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- » Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- » Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



## After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home. Check with your local community to find a recycling program. Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

## FACTS

- ! **One** of every three home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly **one in every four** of the fires.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Poarch Creek Fire Department

251-368-9136 ext 2290

[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)

# TRIBAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Tribal Government Finance has established a Tribal Loan Portal accessible to Tribal Members Only through a link on the front page of the Tribe's web site at [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov).

The [Pay Tribal Bill Here](#) link is on the left sidebar of the homepage under the Tribal Member Portal heading. Tribal Finance will provide usernames and passwords for the Tribal Loan Portal to all Tribal Members with a current loan as well as future Tribal loan program participants.

Tribal Government now accepts Tribal loan payments via VISA and Master Card through the Tribal Loan Portal or on-site payments at Tribal Government.

VISA and Master Card payments are not accepted for other programs at this time.



*Please remember to keep your contact information up to date. Numerous loan statements and other correspondences from the Tribal Finance Department have been returned by the Post Office marked 'undeliverable as addressed', 'insufficient address', 'unable to forward', etc.*

If you have any questions please call Deborah Hammons at 251-368-9136 ext. 2007.

Amazing what going out one  
night a week can do for you.

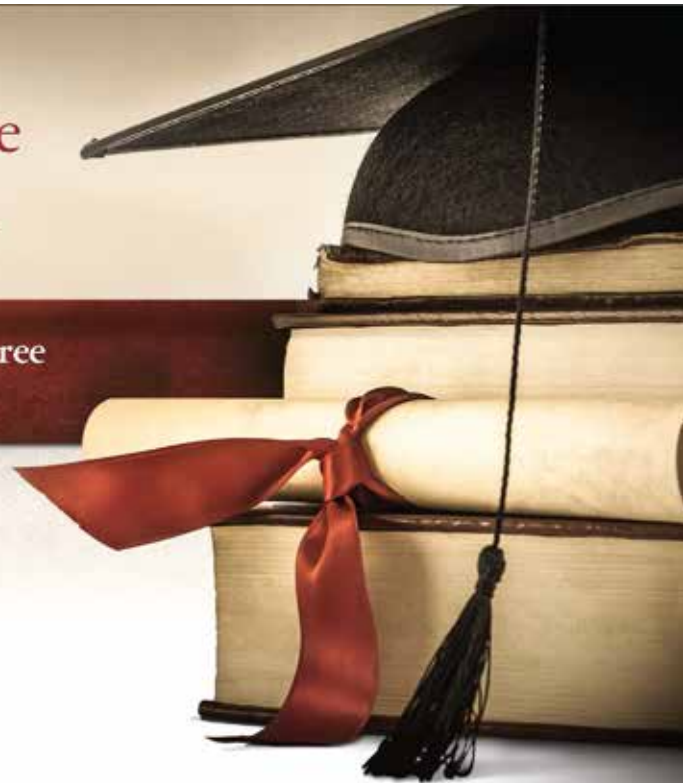
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# TRIBAL INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The Investment Committee held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at FS Advisors. Erin Hynek (FS Advisors) presented the PCI Investment Committee with the third quarter performance review. The review included performance updates for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Elder & Death Benefit Fund, Education Discretionary Fund, Minor's Trust Fund, and the Capital Reserve Fund.

Also, at the October meeting, the Committee was introduced to the two new CFOs, Chad Klinck (CIEDA) and Tim Speegle (Tribal Government). Chad and Tim will join Joe Quinn (CFO-PCI Gaming), Ann Brooks (Chairwoman), Wesley Manning (Secretary), Pam Martin, and Carolyn Peterson as official PCI Investment Committee members.



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# TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS DEPARTMENT

*In order for annual Tribal Member distributions to be processed accurately, Tribal Member Benefits must be informed of any changes you may have to your address, phone number, and/or other personal information. Numerous correspondences have been returned by the Post Office marked 'undeliverable as addressed', 'insufficient address', 'unable to forward', etc.*

Please contact the Tribal Member Benefits Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 or 2207 to update your contact information or to have a new Direct Deposit Form mailed to you to be completed and returned for processing. The Direct Deposit Form may also be downloaded from the Tribal Member Benefits page accessible through the Tribal Members Only Portal (TMOP). For 2016 distributions, this form must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2015. Banking information will not be taken over the phone. If there has been no change to your information, you do not have to complete a new Direct Deposit Form.

## TRIBAL UTILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REIMBURSEMENT

If your Utility company does not accept the debit/credit card, you may be eligible for reimbursement on a quarterly basis.

The following items are required:

1. Must first pay any and all other utility companies that will accept the Utility card
2. Rejection letter from the Utility Company
3. Detailed Utility Invoice showing service address
4. Proof of detailed receipt showing payment  
(Payments must have been made after April 1, 2015.)

Quarterly Reimbursement Pay-Out Schedule:

| <u>Application Received by</u> | <u>Check will be mailed</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| March 30 <sup>th</sup>         | April 30 <sup>th</sup>      |
| June 30 <sup>th</sup>          | July 30 <sup>th</sup>       |
| September 30 <sup>th</sup>     | October 30 <sup>th</sup>    |
| December 30 <sup>th</sup>      | January 30 <sup>th</sup>    |

For further information, please contact Tribal Member Benefits at 251-368-9136 ext. 2209.

## UTILITY CARDS PAY ELIGIBLE EXPENSES ONLY

“Eligible Expenses” means basic utilities services, specifically water, sewer, trash, electricity, and natural gas/propane, and basic communication services, specifically landline and/or basic cellular telephone service.

Telephone bills may be made with your Utilities Card ONLY for BASIC service. You cannot pay for someone else's phone bill, even if it is a family member on the same plan. Please, if you have any doubt or questions, contact Tribal Member Benefits at 251-368-9136, extension 2209.

Tribal Member Benefits is now accepting applications for reimbursement for utility payments made in cases where the card is not accepted by a vendor and all other utilities have been paid. You may view the application and all the requirements on the Tribal Member Portal. Again, please contact Tribal Member Benefits if you have questions.

Please be reminded that any misuse of the Utilities Card may result in being placed on a Reimbursement Only Status.

If you have moved, or planning to move, you are required to contact Tribal Member Benefits and register your new address and new Utilities service address.

# IMPORTANT DIVERSIFIED BENEFITS SERVICES (DBS BENNY CARD) INFORMATION

## A reminder for your PCI Health Card:

Please remember to keep all itemized receipts associated with purchases on your health card. The plan administrator may request documentation for these transactions at any time. Even though the card may process with a vendor as an “approved” transaction, the items or services purchased may not be eligible by the definition of approved medical expenses. This applies mainly to vision, dental and physician vendors. You may be asked to provide an itemized receipt or letter of medical need from your physician. Below is a list of eligible medical expenses; however eligible items are not limited to the list below, it is merely a guideline for common products.

**The following is a list of expenses that potentially qualify under the Tribal Health Card Program.**  
(This list is not all inclusive)

Alcoholism treatment  
Ambulance expenses  
Artificial limbs  
Birth control pills and other contraceptive devices  
Blood tests and transfusions  
Braces/orthodontia expenses  
Breast Reconstruction Surgery (following mastectomy for cancer)  
Chiropractor fees  
Co-insurance expenses  
Contact lenses, contact lens solutions and enzyme cleaners  
Co-pays (for office visits, prescription drugs, urgent care, etc.)  
Crutches  
Deductible expenses under a medical plan  
Dental Fees such as X-rays, cleanings, exams, crowns  
Dentures  
Diabetic supplies and insulin treatments  
Drug addiction treatments (medical expenses amounts you pay for an inpatient's treatment)  
Eyeglasses & Eye Surgeries  
Gum treatment  
Gynecologist services  
Hearing aids and batteries  
Hospital services  
Hydrotherapy (medically necessary)  
Invalid chair  
Lab tests and fees  
Lodging (away from home for outpatient care)  
Mammograms  
Nursing home and services (including board and meals)  
Obstetrician services  
Optometrist fees  
Oral surgery  
Organ transplant (including donor's expenses)  
Orthopedist fees and orthopedic shoes  
Oxygen and oxygen equipment  
Pediatrician services  
Physician services  
Practical nurse for medical services  
Premiums for voluntary federal Medicare insurance  
Prenatal care  
Prescription medicines  
Prosthesis  
Psychiatrist fees

Reclining chair (with letter of medical necessity)  
Smoking cessation programs (by prescription only)  
Special auto equipment for the handicapped  
Splints  
Surgeon and surgery fees  
Therapy equipment  
Transplants  
Transportation expenses (relative to health care)  
Tuition for child with learning disability  
Ultra-violet ray treatment  
Vaccines  
Weight loss programs fees (with approved letter of medical necessity from physician)  
Wheelchair  
X-ray

### Special Circumstance Expenses:

Capitol Expenses (for special equipment installed in a home, or for improvements, if for medical purposes)  
Lead paint removal  
Registered nurses fees  
Long term care insurance premiums  
Exercise equipment (by prescription)

### Examples of Non-Qualifying Medical Expenses

Advance payment for services rendered in the next year  
Athletic club memberships  
Cosmetic surgery  
Diaper service  
Funeral, cremation or burial expenses  
Hygiene products  
Marriage Counseling  
Maternity clothes  
Nonprescription medications *or sunglasses as of January 1, 2016.*  
Swimming pool  
Vitamins and dietary supplements for general health

**Note:** Expenses cannot be reimbursed or paid for by any other source that includes but is not limited to: Insurance Contracts, Health Reimbursement Arrangements, Flexible Spending Accounts, Health Savings Accounts, Employers, etc.

# TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

## TRIBAL TIP LINE

Call (251) 446-ITIP (446-4847) to leave an anonymous tip about:

- Drug Activity
- Alcohol Activity
- Known Underage Drinking Parties
- Recent Crimes-Thefts, Vandalism, Drug Sales, etc.
- Bullying
- Concealed Weapons
- Other Safety or Community Concerns

As a partner with our Tribal Community, the Poarch Creek Tribal Police Department is pleased to provide this service. We hope this service will be a great benefit to you as a citizen. Together we can make our community safer.

The Tip Line is not monitored; your name or phone number will never be required.

All information provided via the Tip Line will be investigated.

# TRIBAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

The Poarch Creek Indians Utilities Authority would like to wish all of our valuable customers and community a "Merry Christmas". We are very blessed to be able to serve each and every one of our customers and look forward to what the New Year has in store for all of us. Our main goal is to continue to strive at providing the most efficient service possible to all of our appreciated customers.

As of December 2015, we have now finalized the Canoe Water acquisition. In October 2015, the PCI Utilities Authority Management Team met with representatives with the Public Service Commission to answer any questions or inquiries about the pending Canoe Water acquisition. At this time, there has been no objection from the Public Service Commission regarding the proposed acquisition. They were impressed with how ECU has taken on the responsibilities of operating and managing the Huxford Water System acquisition.

In the recent month, Utilities has advertised, interviewed, and hired a Tribal member employee to fill our Utilities Assistant job vacancy. The need to fill this position was urgent, because of the diversity of job responsibilities and required educational courses to effectively operate multiple utility systems. Utilities also hosted a 2 day on-site training for an Operator Certification course. These classes provided informative information on water distribution to be

utilized by employees who will obtain their Water Operator Certification. In addition to this training, 4 utility employees traveled to Mobile, Alabama for required Continuing Educational Pumper Classes to renew their Pumper License through the Alabama Onsite WasteWater Board.

In addition to ensuring Tribal Utilities are always within compliance and making sure that we adequately provide services to existing customers, new communities, and upcoming Tribal growth, PCI Utilities always makes it a priority to provide our valuable customers with the best services possible.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please contact our office at 251-446-1617 Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00a.m. and 4:00p.m., as we continue to strive at providing uninterrupted services to our customers.

If you are a customer of PCI Utilities or Escambia Community Utilities and have a utility related emergency our After Hours Hotline # is 251-446-4920 and a qualified staff member will be notified and dispatched 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

We hope everyone has a safe and blessed Holiday Season.



*Working as the economic development arm of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA) oversees the non-gaming enterprises owned by the Tribe. CIEDA actively supports each business achieving their specific business goals and to grow and maintain economic sustainability as put forth by the CIEDA Board of Directors and Tribal Council. Additionally, CIEDA executes and oversees building, construction and development projects commissioned by the Tribe.*

## 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 \$100,000 in aggregate to any Tribal Member.

All loans exceeding \$50,000 must be approved by the CIEDA Board of Directors. Additional credit criteria as well as loan collateralization requirements apply.

If you are a Tribal Member who owns a business or is thinking about starting a business and are interested in obtaining a small business loan, please call Economic Development Coordinator Donna Steele at 251-368-0819 or email at [dsteele@pcicie.com](mailto:dsteele@pcicie.com) for additional information or to schedule an appointment.






**Looking for cool gift ideas this season? Find them here!**

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251-368-0088 | Interstate 65, exit 54






**Collegiate items on sale at CCSA. Get all your Game Day souvenirs here.**

Visit our Facebook page at [facebook.com/ccsatmore](https://facebook.com/ccsatmore)





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**Soup of the Day!**

Introducing our new soups, one for each day of the week. Comes with a small side salad.

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# CCSW: A higher standard of retail



Retail is a difficult business to thrive in sometimes. Changing trends, supplying what the customer wants and being unique enough in a niche market are a challenge in this competitive industry.

That's why Creek Convenience Store Wetumpka (CCSW) stands out against the big chain gas stations in the area.

"We hold our store and employees to a higher standard," General Manager of CCSW Ellis Martin said. "Our customer service, our products and the maintenance of the store is a high priority and top-notch (compared to other convenience store operations). Our drive-through service is also something we excel in. Not all stores are as efficient as we are, and many don't even offer drive-through service."

Martin is a Tribal Member, and a quick glance around the store and property shows he knows what he's talking about. The

grounds are well-manicured, and the store and bathrooms are exceptionally cleaner than most public places. The items on shelves are lined up properly, and nothing seems out of place. You can even find Indian-related items for sale, such as Indian dolls, hand-made purses, Poarch Creek logo items (hats, shirts, cups) and more.

"I've been in the business for almost seven years," Martin said. "Interacting with the customers has been one of the most rewarding experiences, getting to know them as a person and learning what they like is how to make a better business so they enjoy coming here."

"We have had CCSW for only a year, but we are learning new things every day and constantly improving," he said.

CCSW employs 10 full-time workers, all who receive a full benefits package, 401(k), paid vacation and sick time. That, Martin said, is another way CCSW is different. Most gas stations don't offer benefits or paid time off, let alone a retirement plan.

Martin said working with his employees on the floor and in the office is what he enjoys most about his job as a manager.

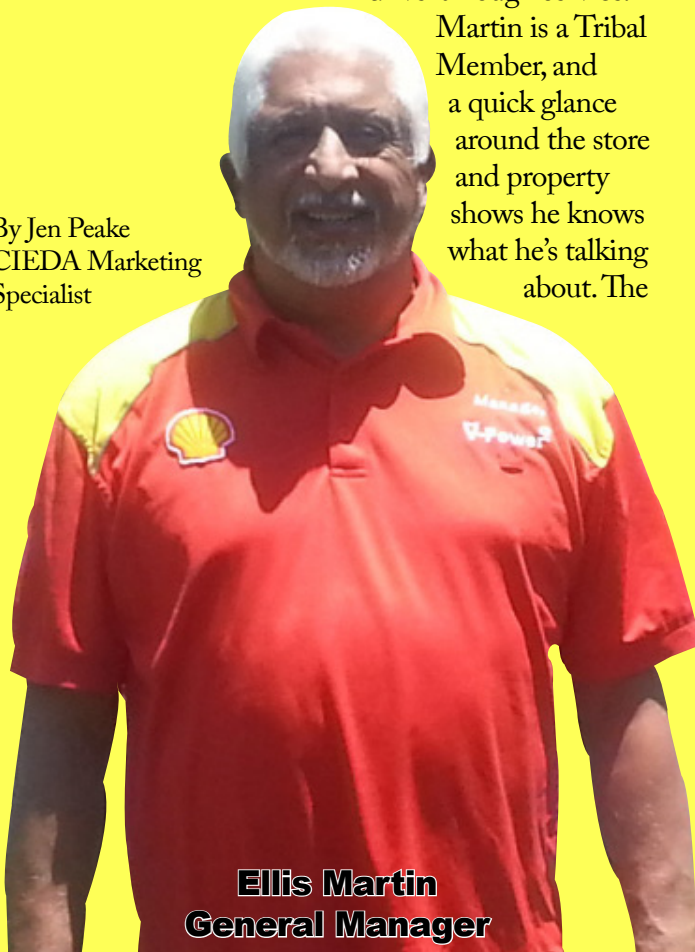
"My daily routine consists of paperwork, of course; cigarette and gas pricing, dealing with vendors. But conversing with and teaching my employees about high quality customer service is why I come to work."

CCSW sells Shell brand gasoline, as do the two other stations owned and managed by Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (Creek Convenience Store Atmore and Creek Travel Plaza, both in Atmore). All three stations also participate in the Fuel Rewards Network (FRN), where customers can redeem points for cents off gas.

According to Shell Oil Co., it boasts the largest retail gasoline network in the U.S., with more than 14,700 branded stores. Shell also is the largest participant in FRN.

"Selling high-quality fuel at low prices also helps us stay competitive," Martin said. "But our customer service and inventory is by far our pride and joy."

By Jen Peake  
CIEDA Marketing  
Specialist



**Ellis Martin**  
**General Manager**

# Billy Smith appointed to TREASURE forest board

Alabama has about 23 million acres of forests. Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve (MBWR) is surrounded by about thousands of acres of that timberland, with 900 acres of it being the campground.

In 2010, MBWR was designated a TREASURE forest by the Alabama Forestry Commission. TREASURE is an acronym for Timber Recreation Environment Aesthetics Sustained Usable REsource. The TREASURE forest program seeks to promote sound and sustainable, multiple-use forest management.

Recently, MBWR General Manager and Tribal Elder Billy Smith was appointed to the board of directors for the TREASURE program.

"It's an honor to be asked to serve on the board," Smith said. "I'm looking forward to helping with the TREASURE forests. I have a lot of respect for Mother Nature, the woodlands and wildlife."

The board meets four times a year, visiting forests with the focus to educate and promote good practices.

"Magnolia Branch has been planting pollinator plants under the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) program within the TREASURE forest," Smith said. "Nineteen acres have been planted with wildflowers to sustain the land and wildlife."

At age 77, Smith is still active and involved with maintaining the resources the Tribe has. He has served on many state, regional and national boards throughout his tenure and is the Tribe's representative to the Alabama NRCS State Technical Committee, which sets policies for the CSP, EQIP projects and other environmental programs. He represents the Tribe on the Gulf Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council and the Longleaf Pine Alliance.

Smith also serves on the Southeast American Indian Work Group Elders Advisory Council, the USDA NRCS American Indian Alaska Native Employees Association Elders Advisory Council, the East Region Recreational Advisory Council and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES).

Smith was recently honored as a Sequoyah Fellow, the highest honor given within AISES.

"Education is key, and that's what we are trying to do," he said. "The beauty of nature just astounds me. It brings me peace."

Here are a few Alabama forest facts from the Alabama Forestry Commission:

- Alabama has the third most timberland acreage in the 48 contiguous states, behind only Georgia and Oregon. As far as private timberland acreage is concerned, Alabama ranks second behind Georgia.
- About 30 percent of Alabama's timberland is comprised of pine plantations.
- The loblolly pine/shortleaf pine group is the predominant forest type occupying about 38 percent of the total timberland area.
- Alabama forests provide more than 122,000 jobs in timber production and processing.

## Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve

By Jen Peake  
CIEDA Marketing Specialist





# PERDIDO RIVER FARMS

## *PRF hosts FFA Fall Eliminations*

Forestry, land management events  
took place at Magnolia Branch

On Oct. 15, Perdido River Farms (PRF) hosted the FFA Fall Eliminations for the South District of the Alabama FFA Association. About 500 students from every district competed in four categories of career development events: livestock, land management, forestry and safe tractor driving.

The livestock and land management events took place at PRF while the forestry event was done at Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve and the tractor event in the parking lot of Wind Creek Atmore.

"We appreciate the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and Perdido River Farms for being generous hosts for our event, as we have a great working relationship with the Tribe," said State FFA Adviser Jacob Davis, with the Alabama State Department of Education. "The farm (PRF) also has hosted our South District Land Competitions in the past, and we are extremely grateful to be here and to continue educating our young people on the future of agriculture and land management."

After the FFA president opened the day with remarks and the traditional FFA meeting was called to order, Magnolia



Branch General Manager and Tribal Elder Billy Smith spoke about the Tribe's stewardship throughout the years and how honored he was to be able to host a portion of the FFA event at Magnolia.

"We started with just 20 acres here on the reservation and now we have expanded our land ownership to more than 17,000 acres," Smith said. "It's such an honor for us to provide the facilities to the students so they can learn different aspects of agriculture."



Tribal Chair Stephanie A. Bryan and Tribal Elder and current Tribal Council Treasurer Eddie Tullis also attended the opening ceremonies on behalf of the Tribe.

Students in the forestry and safe tractor driving categories took exams at PRF while the livestock and land management events took place. Lunch was provided at the farm by the Wind Creek Hospitality food truck, then the remaining two events took place at the respective sites.

"We are so pleased to have these students here at Perdido River Farms," PRF General Manager John English said. "The education of these skills is so important, and these students love learning about how to care for livestock and to manage land and be good stewards. The excitement level today is beyond thrilling, and they are eager to participate every year."

Winners in each category will be announced and awards given out May 6, 2016, at the South District FFA Eliminations at Enterprise High School. The South District is comprised of 19 counties, 82 teachers and 66 FFA chapters.

## TRIBAL MEMBER WAYNE COLBERT WINS

# BURGER PHOTO CONTEST

## AT CREEK TRAVEL PLAZA



At left, Wayne Colbert holds his grand prize voucher for a free spa treatment at The Spa at Wind Creek Atmore. Colbert took the above photo of the 3-Alarm specialty burger at Creek Travel Plaza and uploaded it to the contest link the diner provided.

In the age of social media and always being “plugged in,” staying connected with friends and family is just a click away. There are many online avenues to document your life, — Facebook, Twitter Instagram, Tumblr or other photo apps.

Photos are the most popular way to tell a story or share events with those who might not be close by. People take photos of EVERYTHING — their children, pets, clothes and even food, which has spiked in recent years and gained the nickname “foodtography.”

So in order to promote its roll out of

Bodacious Burgers, The Diner at Creek Travel Plaza (CTP) hosted a burger photo contest with a back-to-school theme. Posters, flyers and social media posts were displayed all over the store and online for customers to participate.

If patrons ordered one of the specialty burgers, took a photo and uploaded it to the contest link, they would be entered into a drawing for a prize.

Tribal Member Wayne Colbert was the grand prize winner of a free spa treatment at The Spa at Wind Creek.

“I saw the flyer on the table when I picked up the menu and thought ‘why

not,’ ” Colbert said. “The burger was super delicious, too! I’m going to have to try them all.”

The contest ran for two months, and Diner Manager Candy Stuckey said the burgers were a hot item.

“We sold tons of the specialty burgers,” Stuckey said. “They were flying off the grill.” CTP hosts contests and promotions throughout the year.

“Our customers are some of the best and loyal people, and they enjoy coming in and seeing what we have new to offer,” Stuckey said.

# NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICES



Mission: Helping people help the land

Vision: Productive soil, healthy land

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the USDA agency which works at the local level to help people conserve all natural resources on private lands.

Visit the NRCS web site [www.al.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.al.nrcs.usda.gov) to see updated news and information about services that may be helpful to you and your family.

Other sites that may be of interest to Tribal Members include:

Farm Service Agencies

[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

[www.fsa.usda.gov/al](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/al)

[www.nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill)

USDA Rural Development

[www.rurdev.usda.gov](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov)

[www.rurdev.usa.gov/al](http://www.rurdev.usa.gov/al)

Alabama Forestry Commission

[www.forestry.state.al.us](http://www.forestry.state.al.us)

For more information contact:

David Elliott, NRCS Tribal Liaison

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# December (*Rvfo-Rakko*) 2015

## ***SMART Recovery***

Every Monday night @ 6:00 pm  
Tribal Court Lobby

## ***Parenting Skills***

Every Wednesday @ 11:00 am  
Tribal Court Activity Room  
Open to TM & FG  
RSVP/Lunch Provided

## ***November 30<sup>th</sup> & December 1, 2015***

Monday & Tuesday,  
Museum gift shop closed for monthly inventory.

## ***Thursday, November 5, 2015***

***5:00 pm (CST)***

***Deadline to submit information for publication in December 2015 issue of Poarch Creek News***

## ***Friday, December 11, 2015***

- Free Retinal Screening  
Premiere Family Eyecare  
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
- Tribal Christmas Parade  
5:30 p.m.  
Parade starts at Gym and follows same route as last year

## ***Friday, December 18, 2015***

- Tribal Administrative Offices will close at 11:30 a.m. for the Employee Christmas party.

## ***Monday, December 21, 2015***

Last day to submit or update Housing Application 5:00 p.m.

## ***Thursday & Friday***

***December 24-25, 2015***

Tribal Offices, Boys & Girls Club, Gym, and Museum will be closed in observance of Christmas Holidays

## ***Saturday, December 26, 2015***

Gym Closed in observance of Christmas Holidays

## ***Tribal Council Meetings***

Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>  
Building 500 Auditorium 4:00 pm

## ***Tribal Court Sessions***

Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>  
Tribal Courtroom 9:00 am

## ***CIEDA Meetings***

Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

CIEDA Offices 7:30 am

## ***Tribal Regulatory Commission Meetings***

Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Building 500 8:00 am

## ***Calvin McGhee Cultural Advisory Committee***

Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm  
Cultural Building on Hwy 21

## ***Education Advisory Committee***

Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm  
Family Services Conference Room  
Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic

## ***Utility Authority Board Meeting***

Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm  
Utilities Office

## ***4-H Club***

Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 pm Education Department

## ***Gym & Weight Room Hours***

Monday - Friday 6:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

## ***Weight Lifting Class Age 13-17***

Tuesday & Thurs. 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Gym/weight room

## ***Batting Cages Open-Weather***

### ***Permitting***

Monday-Friday 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm

## ***Pool & Splash Pad -Closed***

## ***Playground Pavilion***

No Reservations needed  
Located by new baseball field  
No set time for usage  
First come/First Serve

## ***Friday, January 1, 2016***

Tribal Offices, Boys & Girls Club, Gym, and Museum will be closed in observance of New Year's Day

## ***Saturday, January 2, 2016***

Gym closed in observance of New Year's holiday

## ***Monday, January 4, 2016***

Boys & Girls Club  
2016 Registration Mandatory Meeting  
Boys & Girls Club/Old SAIL Center  
5:30 pm

## ***Newsletter Contact Information***

***Poarch Creek News***

*The Poarch Creek News is the official newsletter of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.*

Government Relations Department

Gayle Johnson, Media Specialist

(251) 368-9136 x 2210

Direct Dial # 251 446-5210

[gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov) [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov)



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