

*Cokv-Tulume/Newspaper (cho-ka da-la-mi)*

# *Poarch Creek News*

## *November 2016*



Creek Indian Enterprises  
Development Authority

*Volume 34, Issue 11 | Eholē (November)*

*Keeping the friends & family of Poarch informed*



# A Moment With The Tribal Chair

# November, 2016

*Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair*

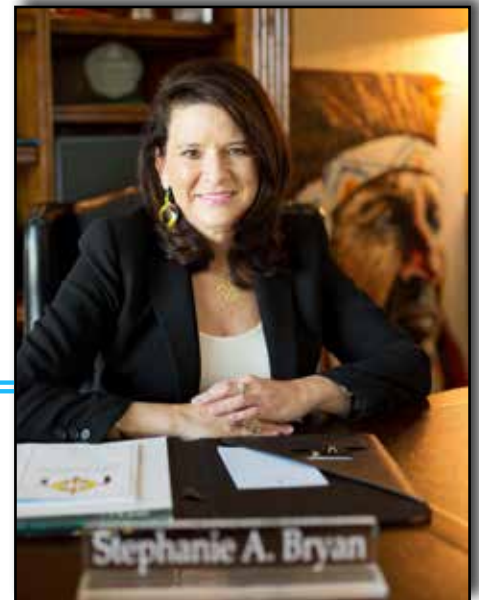
*sbryan@pci-nsn.gov*

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone! We have so much for which to be grateful, and I am glad that we have this season of Thanksgiving to reflect on our many blessings. For the upcoming year, we will be rolling out a new version of the benefits plan that we currently administer. We had a meeting at the end of September to discuss these changes and had a record-breaking number of attendees! Mvto! Thank you to everyone who attended and to all those that helped make the meeting successful.

There is no better feeling for me as a leader than to see something come to fruition that is beneficial for the people that I serve. It takes teamwork for programs such as the new Tribal Member Benefits Program to be successful. As the Tribal Chair, I have had the pleasure to spearhead efforts dedicated to this new benefit plan. I am thankful that the Tribal Council supported this new plan that myself and staff have worked hard to create. The plan will help provide a better

quality of life for you and your family, and will allow you to make decisions with funding that assists you with housing, utilities, and health needs.

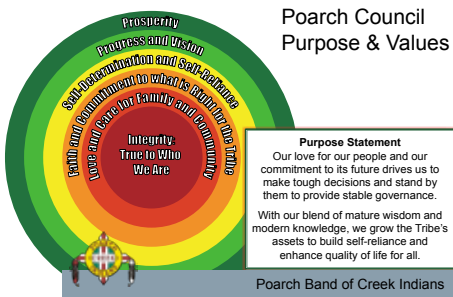
In reflecting on the great strides we've made over the years, I'd like to share an excerpt from long-time employee of 30 years Mrs. Ellen O'Barr: "When I was first hired, I was a receptionist at the Health Department that was located in the Bradshaw Building, the current Teen Center. Those years were tough; we worked in a little building servicing the 5 county service areas with only a nurse practitioner. There was even a time that we went without pay. ... Things have changed, people have changed but overall, remember, the Tribe does good things for its Tribal Members. Yes, we all get upset with some of their decisions, and you can't please all the people all of the time, but deep down in my heart I like to believe that the things that are happening are for the good of the Tribe; making this Tribe a better place to work and



raise families. Years ago, we got a turkey or a ham for Thanksgiving. Times have changed and we are very blessed with the things that we receive. I hope every Tribal Member is proud of what we receive. ... But I am proud to be a Poarch Creek Indian - and I always have been. But, times change and people change. There are some things we have no control over, so we just do the best we can, hope, and pray the good Lord looks after us."

In closing, I thank God for our employees like Ellen Marie. I appreciate their loyalty and the memories that they have made and are now sharing with us all. I pray that God blesses you all during this time of Thanksgiving.

In love,  
Stephanie A. Bryan



## 2017 CHANGES TO NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Beginning with the ***January 2017*** issue of the Poarch Creek News, the deadline to submit information for publication in the newsletter will be the ***first business day of each month***. Please remember that the newsletter is generated one month in advance of the month of publication and is mailed on or about the 27<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the month of publication.

Month of Publication/ <i>Approximate Publication Date</i>	Submission Deadline	Month of Publication/ <i>Approximate Publication Date</i>	Submission Deadline
January 2017 <i>December 27, 2016</i>	Thursday December 1, 2016	July 2017 <i>June 27, 2017</i>	Thursday June 1, 2017
February 2017 <i>January 27, 2017</i>	Tuesday January 3, 2017	August 2017 <i>July 27, 2017</i>	Monday July 3, 2017
March 2017 <i>February 27, 2017</i>	Wednesday February 1, 2017	September 2017 <i>August 28, 2017</i>	Tuesday August 1, 2017
April 2017 <i>March 27, 2017</i>	Wednesday March 1, 2017	October 2017 <i>September 27, 2017</i>	Friday September 1, 2017
May 2017 <i>April 27, 2017</i>	Monday April 3, 2017	November 2017 <i>October 27, 2017</i>	Monday October 2, 2017
June 2017 <i>May 29, 2017</i>	Monday May 1 2017	December 2017 <i>November 27, 2017</i>	Wednesday November 1, 2017

## NEWSLETTER DELIVERY METHOD

In an effort to lower publication costs of the newsletter, Tribal Members now have the option to select their preferred method of receiving the newsletter.

**Method #1** Monthly issues will continue to be mailed to Tribal Member Head of Households (HOH) at the address on file with Tribal Member Benefits. If you want to continue to receive your copy of the newsletter by U.S. Mail, no action is necessary. If you are the Tribal HOH and do not receive a copy of the newsletter, please contact Tribal Member

Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 to designate yourself as HOH.

**Method #2** The newsletter is posted on the Tribal web site each month; from this issue forward, the newsletter will be posted on the web site as soon as the issue has been finalized and sent for publication. If you prefer to access the newsletter online and not receive a monthly issue of the newsletter through the U.S. Mail, please notify *Poarch Creek News* at (251) 368-9136 x 2210 or [gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov). If you choose this option and

change your mind, just notify us and your address will be added back to the mailing list.

Please be reminded to keep your address and other contact information updated with Tribal Member Benefits at all times. Tribal Members whose newsletters have been returned by the Post Office for two consecutive issues will be removed from the newsletter mailing list until their information has been updated. Once the address has been updated, their name will be added back to the mailing list.

## LIVE STREAM ON TRIBAL SOCIAL MEDIA

The Government Relations staff now has the capability to live stream events directly to the Tribe's official Facebook page, [facebook.com/PoarchBandofCreekIndians](https://facebook.com/PoarchBandofCreekIndians).

When you see the Government Relations staff out and about at Tribally sponsored events or activities with their iPhones and tripod, you will know they may be streaming portions of the event/activity to Facebook.



# In This Issue

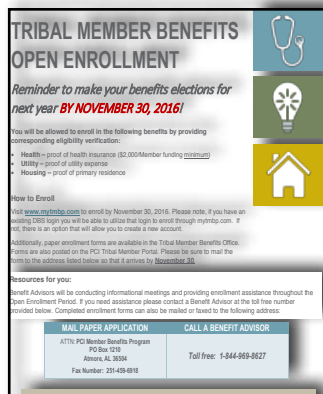
There are 3025 enrolled members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.



**2 A MOMENT WITH THE TRIBAL CHAIR**



**8 TRIBAL COUNCIL UPDATE**



**12 2017 TMB OPEN ENROLLMENT**



**16 ON THE COVER FOLEY HOLDINGS**



**22 VETERAN'S SALUTE ROBERT L. MCGHEE**



**24 BIRTHDAY WISHES**

3	2017 Changes To Newsletters
5	Submissions Guidelines
6	Note From Editor 2016 Word Limits & Deadlines
7	2015-2016 Tribal Council
9	State of the Tribe Scheduled
10	Congressional Update
14	Returned Newsletters
20	Educational Success Story
27	Birth Announcement
28	Anniversary Wishes
33-42	<b>Community Services Division</b>
43-45	<b>Facilities Division</b>
46-49	<b>Health &amp; Elder Services Division</b>
50-51	<b>Public Safety Division</b>
52	<b>Regulatory, Grants, &amp; Compliance Division</b>
53-60	<b>Tribal Member Services Division</b>
61-63	<b>Non-Divisional Departments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Resources</li> <li>• Tribal Gaming Commission</li> <li>• Tribal Utilities Authority</li> </ul>
64-70	CIEDA News & Updates
71	NRCS News & Updates
72	Monthly Calendar

*Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamour and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4: 31-32*



## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- **Submission Criteria**

Tribal Member submissions for publication in the *Poarch Creek News* are limited to Tribal Members & spouse, first generation, as submitted by Tribal Member, and those living in Tribal Member households unless exception is noted. When submitting information, please identify the person featured as a Tribal Member, Tribal Member spouse, first generation descendant, or individual living in a Tribal Member household.

- **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:**

May be published the month before, the month of, or the month after, the birthday/anniversary.

- **Obituaries:**

Submit information by the last business day of the second month immediately following the death. *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. *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. A Tribal Member may submit the birth announcement of their grandchild, even if the child is not first generation.

- **Engagement/Wedding Announcements:**

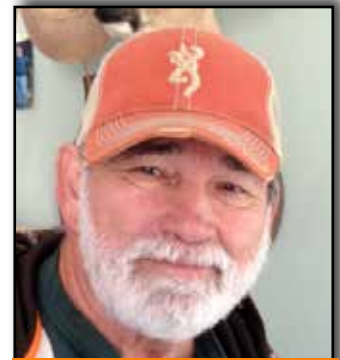
Submit information by the last business day of the month immediately following the engagement/wedding.

- **Photo Submissions:**

One per article submission; photos will be cropped to fit available space. High resolution .jpg or PDF format. Poor quality/inappropriate photos will not be published.

- **Corrections:**

Corrections will occur only if error/misprint is made by *Poarch Creek News*.



**30 OBITUARY-  
IN MEMORIAM**



**31 TRIBAL MEMBER  
SUBMISSIONS**



**33 DEPARTMENTAL  
INFORMATION**

In order for annual Tribal Member distributions and benefits to be processed accurately, Tribal Member Benefits must be informed of any changes you may have to your address, phone number, banking information, and/or other personal information. Numerous newsletters and other Tribal correspondences have been returned by the Post Office marked 'undeliverable as addressed', 'insufficient address', 'unable to forward', etc. Contact Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 to update your information.



**64 CIEDA/  
NRCS UPDATES**

# A NOTE FROM THE 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, Editor  
*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.

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

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

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## WORD LIMITS

Birthdays	40 words or less
Anniversary	50 words or less
Engagement	50 words or less
Reunions	50 words or less
TM Submissions	300 words or less
Birth/Weddings	300 words or less
Graduation	300 words or less
Achievements	300 words or less
In Memoriam	300 words or less
Obituary	300 words or less
News Article	400 words or less

## SUBMISSION DEADLINES

The *Poarch Creek News* is generated one month prior to the month of publication.

Submission Deadline: 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. *\*Beginning with the [January 2017](#) issue of the *Poarch Creek News*, the deadline will be the [first business day of each month.](#) \**

Please keep the established deadline in mind when submitting information for all sections of the newsletter.

Please submit information as soon as possible, any delay may cause you to miss the established deadline.



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



*Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair/CEO*  
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*Charlotte Meckel, Secretary*  
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*Garvis Sells, At-Large*  
[gsells@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gsells@pci-nsn.gov)

# Tribal Council Update

November, 2016

Arthur Mothershed, At-Large

[amothershed@windcreekhospitality.com](mailto:amothershed@windcreekhospitality.com)

Greetings fellow Tribal Members.

With the introduction of the new benefits program, an old debate will resurface. Who benefits? Do some benefit more than others? The plan is designed to provide assistance with healthcare, housing, and utility costs. Since the amount allocated to each member is the same, one would think the debate over equality, as it relates to this program, is over before it begins. Good assumption, but not one we should jump to quickly.

Many members participated in the Tribally funded insurance program last year. Last year the Tribe provided coverage to them at no cost. While they did not receive the flex card benefit, one could argue the total benefit to some of them outweighed the benefit of those on other insurance plans.

This year many of them will have to use a significant portion of their benefit program money to fund their insurance, leaving

them with little to nothing to allocate for housing and utility costs.

What is the answer? There may not be a perfect one. We live in a complex Tribal environment. On one hand, we act as a traditional government; passing laws, ordinances, and resolutions that help our Tribal Membership.

We provide benefits ranging from education to community gardens and senior trips to per capita payments. Those same per capita payments could be viewed as a distribution of earnings to shareholders, Tribal Members, which is more common in business circles. We invest capital in new business opportunities understanding that some will succeed, while others will fail.

No traditional governments in the U.S. operate in that space, and no commercial operations offer their shareholders the level of services our Tribal Members receive. The differences in business and government, and



the fact that we govern them under the same umbrella, make our operations unique.

Our Tribe is comprised of many parts. We have to recognize the difficult situations created because we must balance governmental services and business practices. No matter the complexity, we must agree that we are fortunate. Some may receive more benefits at particular times than others because not every Tribal Member needs our housing, healthcare, or education programs at the same time.

That said, more members of our Tribe have an education, own a home, and have better healthcare than ever before. Every Tribal Member is unique and if we are able to provide benefits to address their needs, is it inequality or doing the best we can with the resources



we have? More importantly, we are all in a better position than a decade ago. For that, we should be thankful.

There is no better time than the season before us to reflect on what we have and how far our Tribe has come. Our programs may not be perfect and unfortunately, as much as we try, may never be perfect.

However every year the Council meets, and we do our best to provide Tribal Members with resources to make a better life for themselves. As a Tribal Member, you can help the Council with constructive solutions that assist us as we try to develop even better programs.

As we enter the Holiday Season, take time to appreciate all that we have. Enjoy the time you have with your family, both immediate and Tribal.

In closing, I would like to wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving and I hope to see you at our annual Pow Wow.

Poarch Band of Creek Indians  
**State of the Tribe**  
Friday, November 18, 2016  
6:00 pm  
**Tribal Members Only**  
Wellness Center/Gym  
Light refreshments will be served  
For more information contact  
Hannah Flowers, Government Relations Administrative Assistant  
(251) 368-9136 x 2003 or [hflowers@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:hflowers@pci-nsn.gov)

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# Congressional Update

November, 2016

Representative Bradley Byrne (251) 690-2811 [Byrne.House.Gov](http://Byrne.House.Gov)

## *PUTTING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY FIRST*

There is no more important responsibility of the federal government than to keep the American people safe. With this in mind, I wanted to let you know about two important bills that recently passed the U.S. House of Representatives with my support.

First, the House passed a bill to end ransom payments to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Back in January, an unmarked cargo plane landed at a European airport. On this plane were wooden pallets stacked with \$400 million in unmarked, foreign currency. The same day this payment occurred, several Americans who had been held prisoner in Iran were released. This was clearly a ransom payment.

In an effort to prevent this type of payment from ever happening again, the House passed H.R. 5931, the Prohibiting Future Ransom Payments to Iran Act. Our bill, which passed with bipartisan support, would also

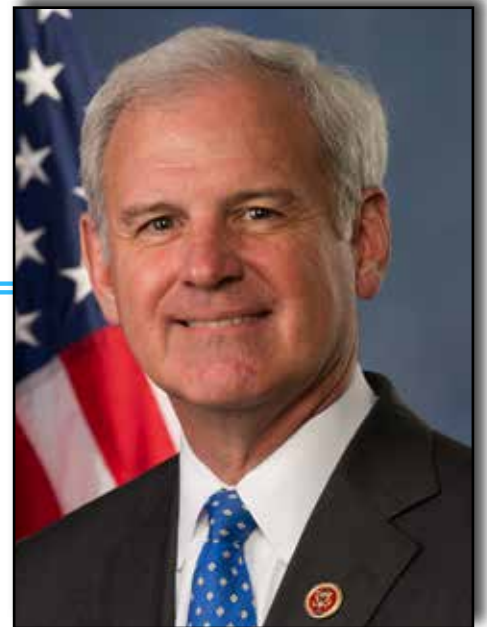
require a 30-day Congressional notification and review of any future settlements with Iran. This way Congress will have an opportunity to review all future payments.

Ultimately, we need to stop empowering Iran and instead start weakening them. By putting our foot down, the American people and our allies in the Middle East will be safer and stronger.

The second bill I want to mention deals with efforts to close the prison at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

Since taking office, President Obama has worked to close the prison, which is used to house terrorists. Thanks to bipartisan opposition from Congress, efforts to close the prison have so far proved unsuccessful, but that has not stopped the President from continuing to release prisoners to other countries.

Unfortunately, some of the prisoners released from Guantanamo have returned to terrorist activity. In fact, an official from the Obama



Administration testified before Congress that at least 12 individuals released from Guantanamo have gone on to launch attacks and kill Americans. That is unacceptable.

I'm pleased to report the House of Representatives passed legislation that would stop all efforts to close Guantanamo Bay and transfer prisoners to other countries. This legislation is necessary and required in order to keep the American people and our allies around the world safe.

These are just two examples of our efforts in the House of Representatives to strengthen our national security.

Should you ever have questions about our efforts, feel free to contact my office at 251-690-2811 or online at [Byrne.House.Gov](http://Byrne.House.Gov).



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# TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS OPEN ENROLLMENT

*Reminder to make your benefits elections for  
next year **BY NOVEMBER 30, 2016!***

You will be allowed to enroll in the following benefits by providing  
corresponding eligibility verification:

- **Health** – proof of health insurance (\$2,000/Member funding minimum)
- **Utility** – proof of utility expense
- **Housing** – proof of primary residence

## How to Enroll

Visit [www.mytmbp.com](http://www.mytmbp.com) to enroll by November 30, 2016. Please note, if you have an existing DBS login you will be able to utilize that login to enroll through mytmbp.com. If not, there is an option that will allow you to create a new account.

Additionally, paper enrollment forms are available in the Tribal Member Benefits Office. Forms are also posted on the PCI Tribal Member Portal. Please be sure to mail the form to the address listed below so that it arrives by **November 30**.

## Resources for you:

Benefit Advisors will be conducting informational meetings and providing enrollment assistance throughout the Open Enrollment Period. If you need assistance please contact a Benefit Advisor at the toll free number provided below. Completed enrollment forms can also be mailed or faxed to the following address:

MAIL PAPER APPLICATION	CALL A BENEFIT ADVISOR
ATTN: PCI Member Benefits Program PO Box 1210 Atmore, AL 36504  Fax Number: 251-459-6918	<b><i>Toll free: 1-844-969-8627</i></b>

## REMINDERS

- ***All Members will have to submit proof of health insurance coverage regardless of prior verifications.***
- ***Keep your current health and utility debit cards for use in 2017.***





# MY TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS PROGRAM CHECKLIST



Use the checklist below to make sure you are ready to receive your 2017 benefits.

CHECK		
	REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS	<b>PROOF OF ACTIVE HEALTH INSURANCE</b> <b>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COPY OF HEALTH INSURANCE CARD FRONT AND BACK</li> <li>LETTER OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE</li> <li>COPY OF HEALTH INSURANCE INVOICE WITH CONTRACT INFORMATION</li> </ul> <p>Members are required to allocate a minimum of <b>\$2,000 PER Tribal Member</b> to the Health Benefit Program. Active health insurance includes coverage for hospital, physician and prescription services.</p>
	REQUIRED FOR UTILITY BENEFIT PROGRAM FUNDING	<b>UTILITY EXPENSE</b> <b>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COPY OF UTILITY BILL WITH PRIMARY RESIDENCE ADDRESS IN TRIBAL MEMBER'S NAME</li> <li>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION IF NOT IN TRIBAL MEMBER'S NAME</li> </ul>
	REQUIRED FOR HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUNDING	<b>PROOF OF HOUSING EXPENSE</b> <b>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COPY OF MORTGAGE STATEMENT</li> <li>COPY OF LEASE AGREEMENT</li> <li>COPY OF DEED</li> <li>COPY OF TITLE (MOBILE HOME)</li> <li>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION IF NOT IN TRIBAL MEMBER'S NAME</li> </ul>
	OPTIONAL	<b>DIRECT VENDOR PAYMENT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BILLING INFORMATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VENDOR NAME, VENDOR PAYMENT ADDRESS, YOUR ACCOUNT REFERENCE NUMBER, PAYMENT AMOUNT, PAYMENT DUE DATE, FREQUENCY OF PAYMENT (MONTHLY/QUARTERLY)</li> </ul> </li> <li>COPY OF INVOICE OR STATEMENT</li> </ul>
	OPTIONAL	<b>DIRECT DEPOSIT INFORMATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VOIDED CHECK OR DIRECT DEPOSIT SLIP</li> </ul>
	OPTIONAL	<b>UPDATE/VERIFY CURRENT ADDRESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UPDATE OR VERIFY YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS WITH TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS DEPARTMENT.</li> </ul>
	OPTIONAL	<b>CREATE YOUR ONLINE ACCOUNT AT <a href="http://WWW.MYTMBP.COM">WWW.MYTMBP.COM</a></b>
	REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS	<b>COMPLETE BENEFIT ENROLLMENT BY NOVEMBER 30</b>

## RETURNED NEWSLETTERS




Approximately 20-25 newsletters are returned by the Post Office each month as undeliverable due to incorrect addresses, incomplete addresses, etc. From this point forward, if an individual's newsletter is returned by the Post Office for two consecutive months their name will be removed from the mailing list prior to mailing the next issue of the newsletter until the address has been updated. Be sure to update your addresses with Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 to assure that your newsletter, as well as other Tribal correspondence, is being sent to the correct address.

Names that have been removed from November variable data; please update your contact information:

Wanda Gaines, Pensacola, FL	Dewitt McGhee, Pensacola, FL	Amanda Stephens, Brewton, AL
Richard Gardner, Theodore, AL	Brian Moore, Atmore, AL	Taylor Thomas, Peridido, AL
Joy Gibson, Atmore, AL	Randy Rolin, Abilene, TX	Bobby Walker, Lacombe, LA
Adam Holmes, Siler City, NC	Marcia Shipps, Pensacola, FL	Joanna Ward, Pensacola, FL
Nicole Hubbird, Greenville, WI	Aaron Smedley, Atmore, AL	Phylliss Ward, Atmore, AL
Brandy McGhee, Foley, AL	Johnny Steadham, Atmore, AL	

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.

Thomas A. Edison



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Optometrist

**Dr. Alan Franklin**  
Retina Specialist

**Dr. David J. Helton**  
Optometrist

**Dr. Rollins Tindell**  
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**Dr. Ryan Tarantola**  
Retina Specialist

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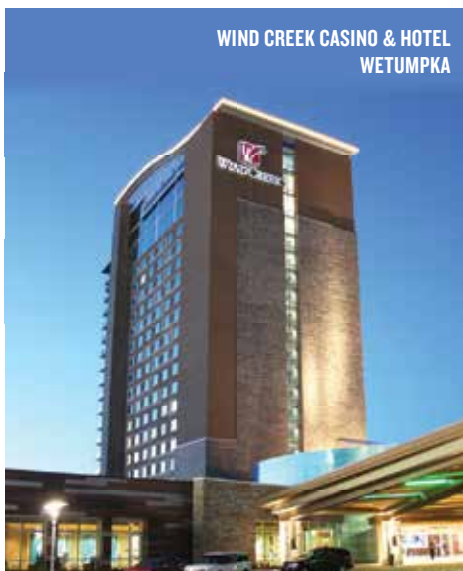
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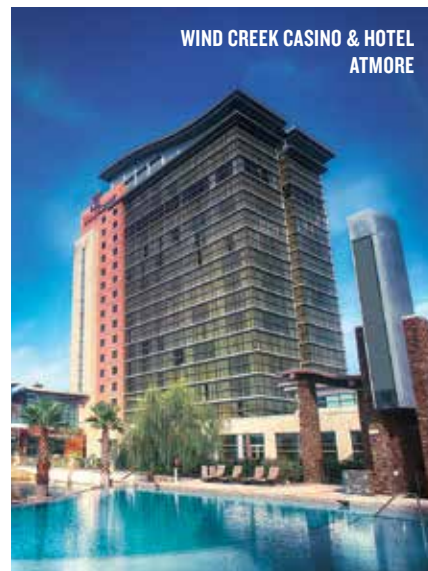
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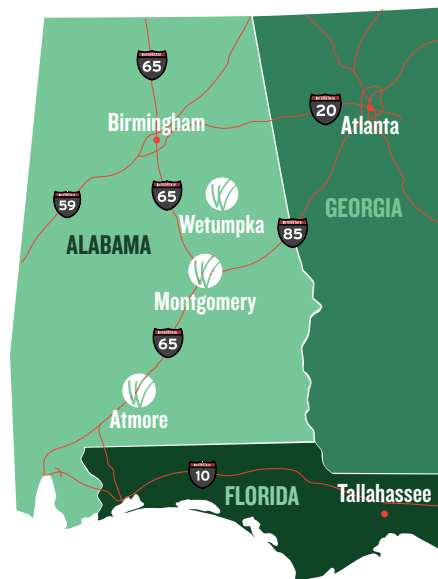


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# Destination: Foley

Tourism: It's what propels the economy on the Gulf Coast. From sandy white beaches to shopping outlets and restaurants, tourism in South Alabama is paramount for businesses of all kinds to succeed.

And soon, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians — working through its economic development branch, Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA) — and the City of Foley will introduce a new entertainment destination that not only will benefit local and nearby residents but also the entire country.

Foley Holdings has been created by CIEDA to establish a multi-million-dollar development that will put Foley, Ala., on the map as a vacation destination and attract tourists from around the country looking to experience a little Southern charm.

"From the beginning, we knew we wanted to be a part of something big in Baldwin County," CIEDA President and CEO James T. Martin said. "When the City of Foley approached us in 2012, the original initiative was a joint venture on sports tourism. The economy in Baldwin County was hit hard after the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill, but sports tourism was the only sector not affected. After a few discussions, it also came to light that many things were lacking for those tourists who come for sports tournaments, such as retail, dining and entertainment options close to the venue.

"That's when we saw the continued value of this development and said we're going to get fully involved and take it to a higher level by creating a mega sports and entertainment destination."

In conjunction with the integration of the sports fields and event center planned by the City of Foley, CIEDA's concept for the project is to create a family-friendly retail, dining and entertainment destination, targeting individuals of all ages. **It is anticipated the destination will attract visitors from a 400-mile driving radius who will choose to stay either overnight or plan a day trip.**

The development sits on more than 400+ acres at the intersection of the Foley Beach Express and Baldwin County



Road 20. The Tribe originally only provided the financial backing for the project, but the opportunity arose to take control of the entertainment piece of the project. The City of Foley retains sole ownership of the sports complex.

Martin describes the project as spectacular, reiterating that the Tribe knows the value in producing top-quality developments.

"Look at what we've done in the past," Martin said. "It will be that level of quality."

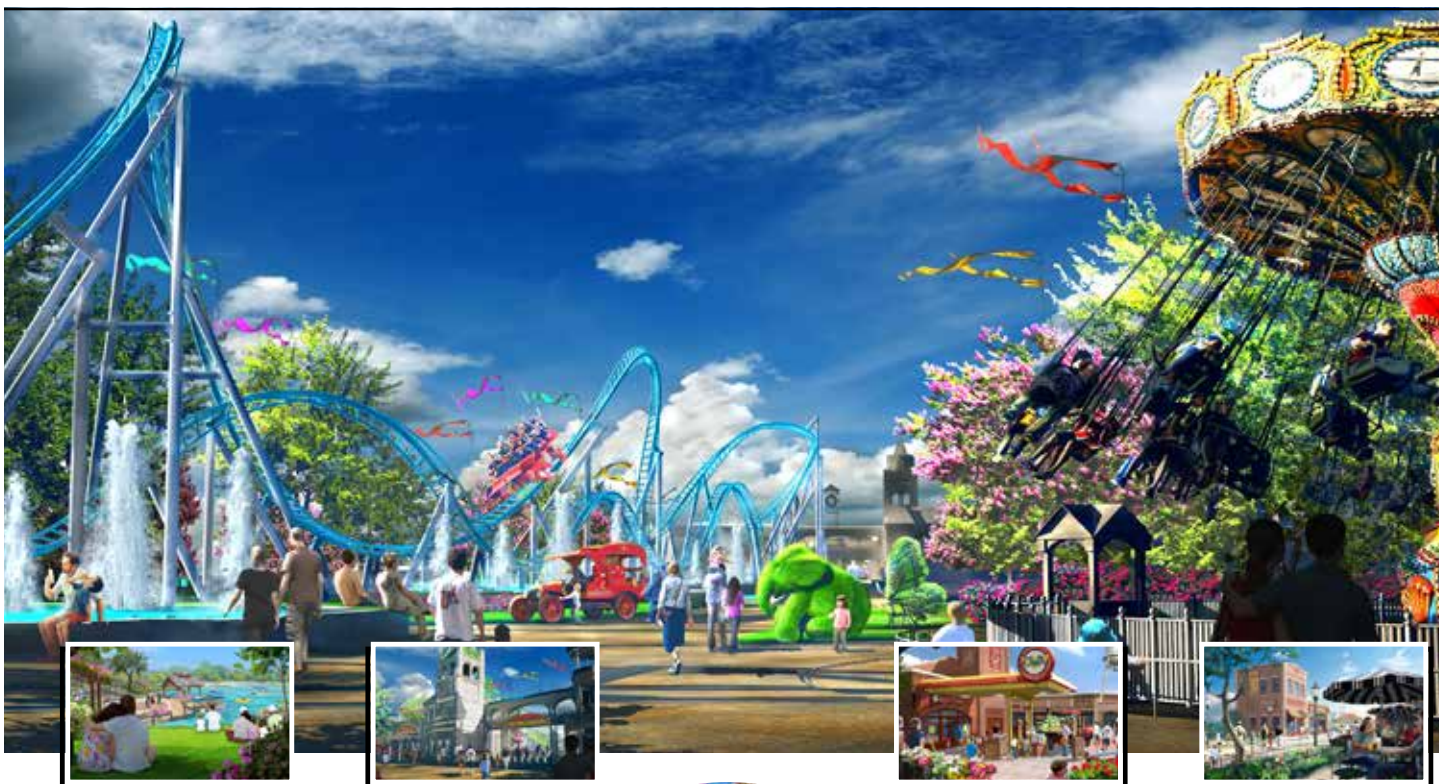
## Tourism and entertainment growth is positive

Proving the existing tourism market was viable was very easy. Numbers don't lie. **In the past year alone, Foley/Gulf Shores visitor spending reached \$3.5 billion.** Multiple feasibility studies performed for the Tribe by nationally known firms show the average visitor to the area has a high income and will spend accordingly.

Despite the oil spill initially affecting vacationers coming the beaches on the Gulf Coast, Alabama gained national and international attention as the place to vacation. However, even though tourism numbers continue to grow exponentially, the retail, dining and entertainment (RDE) opportunities for this region has not. The Foley/Gulf Shores area is currently an underserved market for family entertainment when compared to similar







destinations, such as Pigeon Forge, Tenn.; Destin, Fla.; and Myrtle Beach, S.C.

CIEDA sought out six nationally recognized research firms and had each one conduct an independent study of the market. All six returned the same results: **6.1 million people visit the Foley/Gulf Shores area every year and that number is projected to continue to grow.**

Based on the positive results, CIEDA was convinced and began to swiftly move to capitalize on getting the development started, beginning with a master plan design for the entire 400+ acre campus that would fully integrate the City's sports assets.

### Maintaining Poarch Creek standards

Because the Tribe has a history of developing high quality properties, CIEDA took every precaution with designing the layout and land-use possibilities. This involved working with many people to ensure a high-quality resort would be built. City and state officials were consulted and a public-private partnership was formed as a commitment to get the project incentives up and running.

The State of Alabama has provided funds for constructing roadways and widening existing ones for traffic to flow effortlessly. Foley Beach Expressway was completed as part of phase 1. It was expected the roadway would carry 8,000 to 9,000 cars per day, but **current estimates show traffic is already reaching 12,000 cars per day.**



"Once we realized the demands in our existing tourism market, along with the need for superior design plans to attract these visitors, a more refined retail, dining and entertainment plan was required," CIEDA Greg Rawls said. Therefore, CIEDA brought in additional firms to evaluate, study and validate a resort level destination.

These firms have worldwide experience, most notably Walt Disney World, Gaylord Entertainment, and Six Flags, and returned

the same data to confirm the concept for a 180,000 square foot space for retail, dining and entertainment.

"Through the feasibility studies, all consultants agreed visitors to the area are drawn here for specific reasons — to experience the beauty and culture of our area," said Kristin Roberson, marketing and PR rep for Foley Holdings. **"As a result, Foley Holdings will continue to hit the mark on these known consumer desires, making it a financially viable**



**See FOLEY, continued on next page**



### investment for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.”

#### Fast track to the future

In order to capitalize on the market, CIEDA and the City of Foley hit the ground running in 2015. The development was broken into three phases:

**Phase 1:** Completely funded and underway, with some parts already finished and operating. This phase laid the groundwork for the project. It calls for *16 outdoor sports fields* (open and tournaments are being played now, funded by the City of Foley), *a 90,000 sq ft indoor events center* (construction underway, funded by the city), *a 150-room Marriott TownePlace Suites hotel* (construction underway, funded by Foley Holdings) and *road expansions* (completed by the state, with a connector to I-10 and a newly built four-lane highway through the property that connects to Highway 59).

**Phase 2:** This phase is the heart of the master plan and the current phase CIEDA has begun. Foley Holdings will construct *180,000 square feet of RDE space* centered around a 14-acre lake. *A 14-acre themed amusement park* is being put together and will play a key part in fulfilling the entertainment needs of regional visitors. It will include 20 custom designed rides ranging from *major rollercoasters to high thrill teen rides to kiddie rides for small children*. Additional roadways will be constructed to accommodate the anticipated foot traffic and flow of guests. **This will be completed by May 2017.** *A downtown*

*district and warehouse district* will be built within the RDE space and will provide guests with a small-town, Southern-charm feel. **The entire RDE section will be fully constructed by winter 2017.**

**Phase 3:** This phase is for future expansions based on the current visitor demographics. It includes a *200+ space RV park, indoor and outdoor waterpark with a hotel and an expansion to the existing theme park.* **The entire development, with all three phases, is a five-year plan, based on market statistics for future growth and tourism in the Foley/Gulf Shores area.**

#### Putting South Alabama on the map

The beaches of South Alabama are the main draw for most vacationers to the area. Although the beach brings in a vast economic boom, there are very few other options to entice guests to spend time and money in the area.

Tanger Outlets is also a huge draw for local and regional visitors. But again, the closest waterpark or theme park is Waterville USA in Gulf Shores and The Track in Destin, Fla. Therefore, **the Foley Holdings resort development will be the only entertainment park of its size in the region, which further validates that this project will be successful.** Guests will easily be able to recognize the elevated family entertainment experience as a result of the sheer volume of rides and quality of options offered. Feasibility studies show

the development will be affordable and in current ranges of competition sites, such as Pigeon Forge or Six Flags.

“This development was thoughtfully and carefully planned,” CIEDA Chief Financial Officer Chad Klinck said. “It is not intended to compete with the beaches for tourism but actually to complement that market. We aren’t trying to keep people from going to the beach. We are trying to include a range of options for people who spend a good amount of time down here. Right now, people come to the beach and travel elsewhere for entertainment. We want them to stay in the region to occupy their time and keep them busy.

“When you look at places like Myrtle Beach or Destin, the people who go to these vacation spots are looking for more than just laying out on the beach all day, every day,” he said. **“They want good food, good shopping and good entertainment, to go along with a good few days at the beach. That’s what we are providing here in Foley.”**

The resort also will keep locals local. Visitors considered as “regional locals” include those within a two-hour driving distance.

“These people currently have to drive a considerable distance to experience anything of this magnitude,” Martin said. “We want to be the place people come to from Pensacola, Mobile, Fairhope, Brewton and all points in between. We want to put a big star for South Alabama on the map and provide guests with an experience they’ll love and want to come back to again and again.”







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# EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS STORY

## JACALYN K. HOPP, MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

---

Growing up, Jacalyn Hopp always knew that she wanted to help people and make the world a better place for everyone. The Tullis-McGhee First Generation Scholarship made all of this possible for her to achieve. Jacalyn recently earned her Masters Degree in Social Work from Boise State University with a 3.9 GPA. Jacalyn is extremely thankful to the Tribe and several members of the Education Department including Magan Weaver, Sheila Fisher and Monica Johnson.

“My passion is helping people with medical and mental health issues, and advocating for access to affordable health care,” Jacalyn said. Jacalyn is now able to put her degree into practice by working directly with clients in need. She is currently working full time as a Clinical Therapist in Madison, South Dakota.

While school and life in general got tough during her

educational journey, Jacalyn said she was fortunate to have a family that believed in her, often more than she believed in herself. “They gave me emotional, physical and spiritual support. This achievement would not have been possible without them,” added Jacalyn.

She is also thankful to have had amazing classmates and instructors to help when things got difficult. Jacalyn learned that teamwork and mutual support are critical to success – or at least make success easier to achieve.

The advice that Jacalyn would give to other Tribal Member students is that it is very important to balance home life with school. Getting to know your fellow classmates and working together is also important. If a student is struggling, reach out as soon as possible, there are people there who are willing and able to help you.



Jacalyn would especially like to thank her mother, Wanda Nilson, “For everything she has done for me and all of the love and guidance she has shown me.” Jacalyn would also like to mention her grandmother, Alice Lorene Tolin (Rolin), who would have been so proud and is missed terribly.

Congratulations Jacalyn on all of your achievements so far, and we all look forward to what is yet to come!

*By: Annie Nowak*

---

“Compassion is even more powerful than courage. Sure, with courage you can conquer a world - but only with compassion can you heal and build it.” Rasheed Ogunlaru



# These are our stories . This Is Diabetes.

This November we'll showcase real-life stories of friends, families and neighbors managing the day-to-day triumphs and challenges of diabetes.

Join us as we salute the **29 million Americans** with diabetes — as well as their loved ones — to raise awareness and to create a sense of urgency about this growing public health crisis.

As someone who understands this disease best, share your story. We invite the diverse diabetes community to **stand up and declare “This Is Diabetes!”**



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**2016**  
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— YOUR —  
STORY

American Indians are twice as likely to have diagnosed type 2 diabetes than any other ethnic group. People with diabetes can experience devastating complications, including heart disease, stroke, blindness, chronic kidney disease, and amputations. But people with diabetes, working with their support network and health care providers, can take steps to control the disease and lower the risk of complications. We encourage you to call Premier Family Eye Care at 251.446.3937 and schedule your dilated eye exam today!

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*#ThisIsDiabetes*



*Robert Lawrence McGhee  
1st Sergeant  
United States Marine Corps*

The United States Marine Corps instills esprit de corps in men and women like no other military services. Its motto "Semper Fidelis" is known worldwide. Those who make the grade as a Marine will tell you, "once a Marine, always a Marine!" This month's veteran can attest to the impact the Marine Corps has on a soldier's life during military service and after.

Robert L. McGhee, Bobby Lawrence to those who know and love him, served in the United States Marine Corps from July 7, 1964 until his retirement from active duty on June 30, 1986. He is the son of the late Roy Lee and Opal Faye Reeves McGhee. He was born in Providence, Rhode Island, when his father, a career U.S. Navy serviceman, was stationed at the nearby Navy base in Groton, Connecticut. Bobby has four sisters, Kathryn Lee Archer, Linda

Carole McGhee, Rose Marie McGhee Conlon, and Barbara Anne McGhee Stephens. He has one brother, the late Kenneth Roy McGhee.

Bobby was stationed at Parris Island, South Carolina, for 18 weeks of boot camp followed by advanced infantry training at Camp Lejeune North Carolina. He was an outstanding Marine recruit and completed boot camp as one of the top five recruits. He was promoted to Private First Class (E-2) and was awarded the Best Blue Award (free Marine Dress Blues). Bobby's next duty assignment was with the 2nd Marine Air Wing in Beaufort, South Carolina. He was soon promoted to Lance Corporal.

As did many of our young soldiers in the 1960s, Bobby was sent to Vietnam. He sailed to Vietnam aboard the USS Wipley. Shortly after arriving in Vietnam, he was wounded when he fell near an exploding hand grenade. He received a Purple Heart for wounds in both arms.

## VETERAN'S SALUTE

Bobby was sent back to Camp Lejeune but less than a year later, he was sent back to Vietnam. He was still in Vietnam when he learned of his father's death. He flew back stateside to attend his father's funeral; after the funeral Bobby was stationed at the Marine Aviation Detachment in Pensacola, Florida until he was released from active duty on July 5, 1968.

After his release he worked with his brother Kenneth, who was working in Charlotte, North Carolina. True to the saying "once a Marine, always a Marine" Bobby re-enlisted in the Marines in September, 1968. When he reenlisted he retained his previous rank and was assigned to the Marine Logistical Base in Albany, Georgia where he worked in the inventory section.

Bobby married Doris Daughtry from Poarch on December 3, 1968. Shortly after his marriage he was assigned to Hawaii; he and Doris spent the next three years there



*Vietnam June 6, 1967*



while he worked in supply support for a Marine air control squadron. Doris gave birth to their two sons while they were in Hawaii.

Bobby's other duty assignments included Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; New Haven, Connecticut; Okinawa; Mobile, Alabama; Camp Lejeune; and Camp Pendleton. Whenever possible Bobby's family joined him at his duty station. When they could not, they returned home to Poarch, Alabama. One of Bobby's favorite memories during his military service is dancing at the traditional Marine Corps Ball. He and Doris loved to dance!

While in the service, Bobby received the Purple Heart, the Combat Action Ribbon w/Medal, the Vietnam Service Ribbon w/Medal, the Vietnamese Campaign Ribbon w/2 Silver Stars, the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon w/Medal (2), the National Defense Ribbon w/Medal, and numerous Rifle & Pistol Expert Medals.

Bobby never stopped trying to improve himself. While in the service he earned his GED and

started college classes. After the service, he attended Faulkner State Junior College in Bay Minette on a scholarship and under the GI Bill. He graduated Cum Laude in June of 1987 with an Associate Degree in Science.

After his retirement, Bobby worked for the United States Post Office. He started as a part-time employee in Mobile before transferring to Atmore, where he served as a mail carrier until his retirement in 2009.

Bobby served on the Tribal Council for nine years; some of those years were during his active duty days and others after his retirement from active duty in 1986. We believe he is the only individual to serve on the Tribal Council while on active duty in the military.

Bobby and Doris had two sons, Robert Roy "Robbie" McGhee and Daniel Keith McGhee, and one daughter, Shawn Wells. They have four grandsons, Daniel Brice McGhee, Alexander Reeves McGhee, Daughtry Hayes McGhee, and Jamieson Keith



*Visiting The Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC. "Some gave all; all gave some. Semper Parati! You will never be forgotten!"*  
Bobby Lawrence McGhee

McGhee. Doris passed away suddenly on June 17, 2008. Bobby married his current wife, Sharon Cole McGhee, on June 2, 2009.

In his spare time, Bobby stays busy with traveling, fishing, woodworking, archery, scuba diving (he became a master diver PADDI), and bowling. He loves to play cards with his friends and will play an occasional game of chess; but his favorite pastime is to spend time with his grandsons and watch them play ball, whether it be baseball, softball, or football.

Robert L. "Bobby Lawrence" McGhee, 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.

*Portions of this article were taken from an article written by Lee "Lavan" Martin that was published in the Atmore Advance; publication date unknown.*



*Bobby & his sisters visiting the graves of their parents and grandparents in New Home Cemetery. Seated left to right is Kay, Bobby, and Linda. Standing left to right are Rose and Barbara.*

**Cloey & Olivia Powell**  
October 1, 2016

Happy birthday  
Cloey & Olivia!!



Two hearts beating as one!  
We love you so much!  
From your family.

**Michelle Pruitt**  
October 2, 2016

Happy birthday  
Michelle!



We love you!  
From your family.

**Sherry Crook & Jerry Walker**  
October 5, 2016

Happy  
birthday  
Sherry & Jerry!  
BTFF  
*Born together  
Friends forever!*



We love you!  
From your family and friends.

**Nikya Rolin**  
October 6, 2016

Happy 29<sup>th</sup>  
birthday!



We love you!  
From all your family and friends.

**Hannah Johnson**  
October 7, 2016

Happy 11<sup>th</sup>  
birthday!



We love you!  
Mama, Daddy, Claire, and Beckett.

**Eli McGhee**  
October 18, 2016

Happy 6<sup>th</sup>  
birthday Eli!!



We love you so much!  
Daddy, Mama, and Evan.

**Curtis L. Pate**  
October 23, 2016

Happy 32<sup>nd</sup>  
birthday!

May God bless you  
on this special day.



Curtis, we love and miss you dearly  
and await your return.  
Love, Darlene (Mother), Ernestine  
(Grandma) & Christine (Sister).

**Ashton Nelson**  
October 24, 2016

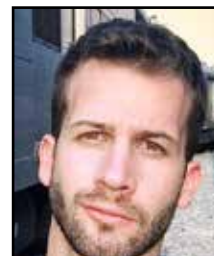
Happy 16<sup>th</sup>  
birthday!



You are a wonderful daughter and a  
great friend.  
I love you so much!  
Momma.

**Daniel Henson**  
October 29, 2016

Happy birthday  
Daniel!



We love you!  
From your family.

*Happy birthday to all those who are celebrating a birthday this month!*



**Katelyn Smith**  
November 1, 2016

Happy 9<sup>th</sup>  
birthday Katelyn!



We love you!  
Daddy and Mama.

**Ryan Schwender**  
November 6, 2016

Happy 17<sup>th</sup>  
birthday Ryan!



We love you!  
From your family.

**Denver Shuttlesworth**  
November 9, 2016

Happy 18<sup>th</sup>  
birthday Denver!



Wishing you the best ever!  
Love Mom, Darrell, Dad, Austin, &  
Anna Grace.

**Denisha Hutto**  
November 9, 2016

Happy birthday  
Denisha!



We love you!  
From your family.

**Willie Henson**  
November 9, 2016

Happy birthday  
Willie!



We love you!  
From your family.

**Nicole Priest**  
November 11, 2016

Happy 21<sup>st</sup>  
birthday!



We love you and are so proud of you!  
Mom, Dad, and Tyler.

**Denise Young**  
November 11, 2016

Happy birthday to  
the best big sister  
ever!



We love you!  
Rosalind and Amber.

**William Lee Vickery**  
November 13, 2016

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



We love you!  
From your sister Connie and the rest of  
your family and friends.

**Brooke McGhee**  
November 13, 2016

Happy 21<sup>st</sup>  
birthday Brooke!  
We are proud  
of your many  
accomplishments  
and the woman you  
have become.



We are thankful for your kind and  
loving heart in this world.  
Love, your family and friends.

*Happy birthday to all those who are celebrating a birthday this month!*

**Robert 'Robbie' McGhee**  
November 14, 2016

Happy birthday!



We love you and appreciate everything you do for your family and Tribe!  
From your family and friends.

**Gavin Snow**  
November 14, 2016

Happy 13<sup>th</sup> birthday!



We love you!  
From your family and friends.

**Stacy Lin Gregg III**  
November 18, 2016

Happy birthday  
Little Stacy!



We love you!  
From your family.

**Breiah Adams**  
November 18, 2016

Happy 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday Breiah!



We are so proud of the woman you have become and your many accomplishments.  
Love, Momma, Daddy, and Brittany.

**Marianna Rolin**  
November 21, 2016

Happy birthday Marianna!



We love you!  
Love, Kya, Chayton, and Nyla.

**Courtney Morris**  
November 24, 2016

Happy birthday Courtney!



We are so proud of your many accomplishments and thankful for your kind, and caring heart.  
Love, your family and friends.

**David Adams**  
November 25, 2016

Happy birthday David!



Thank you for all that you do for your family and community.  
We love you!  
Marissa, Brittany, and Breiah.

**Billie Sue Hutto**  
November 27, 2016

Happy birthday Billie Sue!



We love you!  
From your family and friends.



*Happy birthday to all those who are celebrating a birthday this month!*





Introducing

## KINZI-RAYE MAXINE PHILLIPS

September 6, 2016    🌸    7 lbs 12 oz    🌸    20 1/2 inches

*Kinzi-Raye's maternal grandparents are Rusty and Sonya Lassiter; paternal grandparents are Wendy Cox and the late Lane Phillips.*

*Kinzi-Raye is also the great-granddaughter of Russell & Maxine Lassiter; Melba Chalk; the late Jody and Sharon "Tut" Martin; and Frances Phillips, and the late Otis Phillips.*

Welcomed with love. Dad & Mom. Tanner Phillips & Cassie Lassiter. & big sisters Jalia and Kentleigh.

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Celebrating an Anniversary

**NIKYA & MARIANNA ROLIN**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2016**

Happy 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

I love you Kya!

From Marianna, your wife and  
best friend.



Celebrating an Anniversary

**JOHN & STACIE O'BARR**  
**NOVEMBER 2, 2016**

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

Thanks for the wonderful  
years we have shared; thanks  
for the happy moments and  
all the wonderful memories. I  
love you more and more each  
day.

Love, Stacie





Celebrating an Anniversary

**WAYLON & VALERIE ROLIN**  
NOVEMBER 13, 2016



Happy anniversary to my  
awesome husband.

It's been 4 years since I said "I  
do."

I love you with all my heart.  
Thank you for making me the  
happiest woman in the world.



Celebrating an Anniversary

**MYKE & DEVINEY SMITH**  
NOVEMBER 25, 2016



Happy anniversary Myke &  
Deviney!

We love you and wish you  
many more!

Your family.



## OBITUARIES

To better serve Tribal Members during their time of grief at the loss of a loved one, the Poarch Creek News is asking Tribal Members to add our contact information to the media list when completing the appropriate paperwork or planning the funeral of a loved one. The obituary will be published in the next issue of the newsletter after it has been received from the funeral home. Contact information: Poarch Creek News, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502 or via email to [gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov).

The family of the deceased may continue to submit family thanks/memoriams for publication in the Poarch Creek News at the time of their loved one's passing. The information will be published as long as information is submitted by the last business day of the second month immediately following the death. These submissions are limited to 300 words or less. Photos will be cropped to reflect deceased only.

In Memoriams may also be published the month before, the month of, or the month after the birthday of the deceased or the anniversary of the death of the deceased. These submissions are limited to 300 words or less. Photos will be cropped to reflect deceased only. In Memoriam submissions are limited to one submission per deceased individual per issue.

### In loving Memory of

## QUINTON PARKER

NOVEMBER 3, 1941 - AUGUST 21, 2016

Quinton was born in Nokomis, Alabama in 1941 to Tennie Mae and Talmadge Sterling Parker. He was his mothers "sweetheart", and known to his family as "Heart" and "Uncle Heart". He will be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and brother.

He is proceeded in death by his parents Talmadge Sterling Parker, Tennie Mae Adams Parker; brothers William Ray Parker, Thomas Martin Parker, and Lloyd Parker. He is survived by his brothers Claude and Danny Parker, and sisters Carolyn Annette Davis, and Bonnie (Jim) Garrett.

He is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Virginia Parker; his son Steve (Paula) Parker, his daughter Kaye (Nick) Guiste, and six grandchildren; Hadyn Guiste,

Tyler Parker, Sydney Parker, Logan Guiste, Nolan Guiste, and Addison Guiste.

Quinton started working in his early teens hitchhiking across the country harvesting tobacco, potatoes, and watermelons. In his late teens he began hanging sheetrock, continuing until the age of 54 when a construction accident cut short his working days.

The accident hobbled his legs, but did not extinguish his strong work ethic. He began a long and prolific hobby of carving canes and staffs of wood harvested from his treasured property in Munson, Florida.

Second only to his cherished family was his passion for riding his Harley Davidsons. He was an avid deer hunter, aspiring fisherman,



and loyal friend to many. He was a proud Tribal Member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. He will be forever missed.

Pall Bearers were Keith Parker, Marty Davis, David Cumbie, Gary Davis, Kenneth Shelby, and Christopher Shelby. Honorary Pallbearers were Bobby Freeman and Wayne Freeman.



# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Father's Day White Perch Fishing Tournament was held on June 18, 2016 at Holley Creek Landing.

First place paid \$1000 to Corey Flowers for the longest fish. Second place paid \$300 to Coley McGhee and third place paid \$200 to Peedy Bagwell. Jerry Colbert, the oldest father fishing in the tournament, was paid \$100.

A special thank you to Wind Creek Casino and Hotel and to all who participated.



*Shown left to right are Corey Flowers, Coley McGhee, David Morris, and Peedy Bagwell.*

---

"Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy."

*Norman Vincent Peale*

"You can have all the tools in the world but if you don't genuinely believe in yourself, it's useless."

*Ken Jeong*

---

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SEASON!

The 2016 Lady Creeks would like to thank all of our sponsors for their continued support throughout the years.

The Lady Creeks finished the season placing 1st in the Poarch Recreation Softball League, 1st in the Poarch Recreation League Tournament, 1st in the 2nd Annual One Pitch Tournament, and 3rd place at NASA in Cherokee, NC.

Pictured to the right are the Lady Creeks at NASA.

*Submitted by Jennifer Thomas*



*Front Row L-R: Kristin James, Kim McGhee, Sara Knighten, Carla Hammonds, Jennifer Thomas, Shawna Montgomery, Coach Brittani Peacock, and Sydney McGhee. Back Row L-R: Malori McGhee, Chelsey Ramer, Ali Martin, Beth McGhee, Keri McElhane, Samantha Miller, and Coach Hannah Flowers. Very Back: Coach Josh Thomas.*

# TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

## BEAUTY AND POISE HAVE NO AGE LIMIT



These beautiful ladies from Poarch Creek participated in the fashion show at the Elders Conference in New York. They are all regal and represent the Tribe well!

Great job ladies! You have set a high standard for those who follow.

Shown left to right are Blanche Thompson, Joyce Rolin Philyaw, Cora Voncile Peters, Eloise Rolin Hall, and Sarah Stacey.

*Submitted by Stephanie Bryan*

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For every beauty, there is an eye somewhere to see it. For every truth, there is an ear somewhere to hear it. For every love, there is a heart somewhere to receive it.

Ivan Panin

---



## TRIBAL SENIORS VISIT 9/11 MEMORIAL

The Poarch Creek Seniors travelled to Niagara Falls, New York for the 2016 National Indian Council on Aging Conference held September 12-15, 2016. After the conference, the group travelled to New York City. One of the places of interest visited was the 9/11 Memorial. Shown is a picture of the north “pool”, located in the spot where the north tower of the World Trade Center once stood. Notice on the top of the memorial the engraved names of those who lost their lives on that terrible day. The group placed a flag on top of the memorial as a memoriam.

Shown above left to right are: front row: Nicole Rolin, Rose Conlon, Carrie Martin, Cathy Langley, and Deno Rolin; back row: Jackie Smith, Martin Meckel, Charlotte Meckel, Kay Archer, Ken Langley, and Randy Martin.

*Submitted by Carrie Martin*



# COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

*Karla Martin, Division Director*

## CULTURAL DEPARTMENT

### CULTURAL DEPARTMENT OFFERS FINGERWEAVING CLASSES OCTOBER 30, 2016 - NOVEMBER 17, 2016

We invite all Tribal Members, 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Descendants, Tribal employees, and anyone living in a Tribal Member household to come join us.

All classes are free and will be held in the Cultural Department located on Hwy 21. All supplies will be provided.

You must pre-register for this class. To register or for more information contact: Margaret Baggett, Traditional Arts Demonstrator 251-368-9136 ext. 2648 / [mbaggett@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:mbaggett@pci-nsn.gov) or Jonathan Martin, Traditional Arts Assistant 251-368-9136 ext. 2537 / [jmartin@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:jmartin@pci-nsn.gov).

#### SCHEDULE

##### SENIOR CLASSES

Tuesday's 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

##### COMMUNITY CLASSES

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays  
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

##### PRINCESSES

Sunday's 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

### IF YOU HAD A SUPERHERO POWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

What would your superhero power be? Would you like to be like Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, the Incredible Hulk, Spiderman, etc.?

Send an email to [gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov) and let us know what your superhero power would be. We will publish this request in November and December newsletters and publish responses in the January newsletter.

I would like to be able to transport myself wherever I wanted to go! "Beam me up Scotty!" Might not exactly be a superhero power, but that is what I would like to do. (*Gayle Johnson*)



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# 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POARCH CREEK INDIAN THANKSGIVING POW WOW

## Golden Age 55+

Men's (Northern Traditional / Straight / Fancy / Grass)  
Women's (Northern Traditional / Southern Traditional / Jingle / Fancy)  
1st \$700 2nd \$500 3rd \$300 4th \$200

## Senior Adult Ages 35-54

Men's (Northern Traditional / Straight / Fancy / Grass / Chicken)  
Women's (Northern Traditional / Southern Cloth / Southern Buckskin / Jingle / Fancy)  
1st \$700 2nd \$500 3rd \$300 4th \$200

## Junior Adult Ages 18-34

Men's (Northern Traditional / Straight / Fancy / Grass / Chicken)  
Women's (Northern Traditional / Southern Cloth / Southern Buckskin / Jingle / Fancy)  
1st \$700 2nd \$500 3rd \$300 4th \$200

## Teen Ages 13-17

Boy's (Northern Traditional / Straight / Fancy / Grass)  
Girl's (Southern Cloth / Buckskin / Jingle / Fancy)  
1st \$400 2nd \$300 3rd \$200 4th \$100

## Junior Ages 7-12

Boy's (Northern Traditional / Straight / Fancy / Grass)  
Girl's (Traditional / Jingle / Fancy)  
1st \$200 2nd \$100 3rd \$75 4th \$50

## Tiny Tots Ages 0-6

### General Admission

Adults ages 11 & up are \$5.  
Children ages 10 & under are free.  
Gates open at 10:00 am.  
No pets, drugs, alcohol, weapons, or ice chests.  
Vendor Spacing is available (see web site).

### Grand Entry

November 24th 1:00 pm  
November 25th 12:00 pm  
Dancers & Singers must pay on Thursday; General Admission is your registration fee.

### Head Staff

Emcee- Joaquín Hamilton  
Arena Director- Dude Blalock  
Head Drum Judge- Alex Alvarez  
Head Dance Judge- Thomas Kolín

### Local Accommodations

Wind Creek Atmore  
Casino & Hotel  
(866) 946-3360

Magnolia Branch  
Wildlife Reserve  
Campgrounds  
(251) 446-3423

Muskogee Inn  
(251) 368-8182

Hampton Inn  
(251) 368-9090

Holiday Inn Express  
(251) 368-1585

Fairfield Inn  
(251) 368-1188

## NEW FOR 2016

SPLIT CATEGORIES  
ADULT, JUNIOR AND  
SENIOR DIVISIONS

## DRUM CONTEST 8 SINGER MINIMUM

Northern & Southern Combined  
1st \$12,000 2nd \$8,000 3rd \$6,000 4th \$4,000 5th \$2,000

## HAND DRUM CONTEST 5 SINGER MINIMUM

1st \$800 2nd \$500 3rd \$300

## OVER \$92,000 IN PRIZE MONEY



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



# 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POARCH CREEK INDIAN THANKSGIVING POW WOW

## ACTIVITIES ON THE MOUND

Activities will start at 10:00 am and continue until Grand Entry

The Poarch Creek Princess Contest  
will start at approximately 11:30 am

## General Admission

Adults ages 11 & up are \$5.

Children ages 10 & under are free.

Gates open at 10:00 am.

No pets, drugs, alcohol, weapons, or ice chests.

Vendor Spacing is available (see web site).

## Local Accommodations

Wind Creek Atmore Casino & Hotel  
(866) 946-3360

Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve Campgrounds  
(251) 446-3423

Muskogee Inn  
(251) 368-8182

Hampton Inn  
(251) 368-9090

Holiday Inn Express  
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Buford L. Rolin Health Dept.

Registration at 6:00 am • Race 7:00-9:00 am

For information call: 251 368-9136 ext. 2253

Thanksgiving Day

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**WIND CREEK CASINO BALLROOM  
DECEMBER 2  
7-10 PM  
AGES: 13-17**

JOIN us for a FUN filled night!  
Teens will be supervised in the banquet area **ONLY!**  
**Registration must be turned in by November 11th**

Teen's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Must be 13 by December 2, 2016

Please check ONE of the following: ☐ Tribal Member ☐ 1st Generation ☐ Tribal Household

Registration forms can be submitted to the following locations:  
mweaver@pci-nsn.gov ~ Fax (251) 368-0809 ~ 5811 Jack Springs Rd., Atmore, AL 36502  
Teens are not allowed to bring a guest & parents are not able to stay for the party!  
Event is sponsored by Tribal Court, Education and Tribal Council!

Education's Library will be **CLOSED**  
To the public each Tuesday and Thursday  
From 3:30 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

This will allow our teens from the Boys & Girls Club to  
utilize the library for tutoring and homework.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.



# OFFICE OF ARCHIVES & RECORDS MANAGEMENT

## ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM AT THE POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS: CREEK INDIANS ARE SURVIVORS!

“If not for the Episcopal Church back then, we wouldn’t of fared as good as we did. But we would have survived anyway!” Ms. Mable Jackson poignantly stated sitting beside her sister Ms. Martha Callie Jackson while being video recorded for our Oral History Program, “Creek Indians are Survivors!”



*Beloved elders Ms. Mable Jackson and Ms. Martha Callie Jackson answer interview questions about Creek history.*

Did you know the Poarch Band of Creek Indians has an active Oral History Program? Our Team at the Office of Archives and Records Management has interviewed sitting Tribal Councilmen: Robbie McGhee and Eddie Tullis; Tribal employees Rita Hall and Ellen Daughtry-O’Barr; Tribal families: Deloris Kelley and son Arthur Mothershed, Tawana and Kevin McGhee, Frank and Nell Rackard-Bass and daughter Teri McElhenie.

The Oral History Program was born under the Records Management Ordinance enacted by our Tribal Council in 2010. Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees was hired in 2011 to develop the Office and initiate the Oral History Program, along with thirty-year employee Ms. Ellen Daughtry-O’Barr. Ms. Wendy Martin-Cox joined in 2014 and serves—among her many roles—as videographer.

“The importance of oral history is to know where we came from,

how we got to where we are today and what we can do to preserve the institutional knowledge of our elders for generations to come,” said Tribal Council Secretary Ms. Charlotte McGhee Meckel, whose mother Ms. Ernestine Daughtry was interviewed.

What kinds of questions are asked in the Oral History Program? Dr. Dees said she follows questioning formats from her training at Cornell and Harvard, which begin with background questions: name of parents, grandparents, children, date born. “We look at successfully executed methodologies to capture the most salient data such as childhood experiences, Creek Indian identity, economic condition,” Dr. Dees said. Drawing from *The Art and Science of Portraiture* by Lawrence-Lightfoot and Hoffmann-Davis, Dr. Dees said she seeks to create a family portrait of corroboration, validity, illumination and never-before-

recorded family stories. This fills a void in the oral narrations and strengthens the historical record.

The Tribe has built up its oral history collections over the years through recordings by Ms. Wendy Davis, Ms. LaVerne Pohronezny, Dr. J. Anthony Paredes, and Attorney Hugh Rozelle. These recordings capture topic-specialized history and are available at our Research Station.

Would you like your family to be included in our Oral History Program so that a permanent record can be made of your family history? Contact Ms. Ellen Daughtry-O’Barr at 100 Brookwood/446-4941 to schedule your family interview. Your future grandchildren will be delighted that you made a legacy recording for posterity.

Mvto.

*Submitted by Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed.D.*

# Your Health Matters

## GATHER TOGETHER IN HEALTH



## Pick One (Yes, Just One!)

**BY ELISABETH WOLSTENHOLME**

*Advantage Training Health Culture Specialist*

***Ok, so you want to get healthy. Maybe you want to lose a few pounds, move the dial on your blood pressure or cholesterol, or lower your blood sugar. Maybe you want to have more energy to do all the things you love to do.***

The advice we get from the experts is usually: “start small,” “one step at a time,” or “small decisions make big things happen.” We’ve heard these phrases a lot, but what do they actually mean? How does this look in real life? Well, Let’s talk about that. I’ve got some ideas.

Here’s your challenge (don’t worry, it’s an easy one!): make the decision today to adopt one of the following habits. *Yes—just one!*

### **Drink ONE glass of water before every meal.**

Most of us need to drink more water. I know I’m always looking for ways to stay hydrated. Water gives us more energy, improves brain function, aids digestion, nourishes our skin, and helps prevent constipation. Here’s an added benefit: if you drink a full glass of water before you eat, you’ll already feel a little more full so you won’t be as likely to overeat and will be less likely to drink sugary beverages like sweet tea or soda.

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



# My PCI WELLNESS

***Start with just one of these new habits. Once you've incorporated that new habit into your life, add another. Every time you add something new you will have improved your health and fitness level...***

## **Eat ONE really healthy meal.**

Pick one meal a day, and focus on making it the healthiest meal possible. For example, if it's lunch, eat one portion of protein that fits in the palm of your hand, a large serving of vegetables, a serving of fruit, and a small handful of almonds. Breakfast is also a great time to practice this habit. Having a good breakfast always seems to make the whole day seem better. Scrambled eggs and traditional oatmeal with sliced almonds and fresh berries is a tasty and nutritious way to start the day. No matter how the rest of the day goes, you'll have this one important healthy accomplishment to feel great about.

## **Pack ONE healthy snack.**

If you find yourself craving a snack between lunch and dinner, you're in good company. Snacking can help you keep your energy up throughout the day and can add valuable nutrients to your diet. The trick to successful snacking is choosing the right foods and planning ahead so you don't grab the nearest chips or donut when the snack urge strikes. Focus on protein and fiber to keep your blood sugar stable and fuel your body and mind. Cottage cheese and almonds, almond butter and an apple, hard boiled egg and bell pepper strips, or mixed berries and cashews are all healthy choices.

## **Do ONE kind of exercise during your lunch hour.**

Here's my suggestion: treat your lunch hour like school recess! Start with a walk or do some stretching, push-ups, or sit-ups for 10-15 minutes before you eat lunch. It doesn't matter what you do—just do a little something. You'll burn some calories, work off some stress, and feel better when you get back to work. This one is a favorite of mine because I can add a little fitness to my day without

adding to an already packed schedule. And, I always feel energized after a lunchtime mini workout.

## **Do ONE fun new physical activity this week.**

Try something new—an activity that's not part of your usual routine. Or, try something you used to love to do but haven't tried in awhile, like swimming or taking the dog for a walk as a family. Tip: Pick something that's not just a yardstick. Walking a mile on a treadmill is a yardstick. Instead, walk a mile to a friend's house. Now that's an activity! Instead of riding a few miles on an exercise bike, ride to lunch with your family and then ride back home. Activities are fun things you've decided to do. Yardsticks are work, things you have to do.

Start with just one of these new habits. Once you've incorporated that new habit into your life, add another. Every time you add something new you will have improved your health and fitness level and are reminded that you are capable of doing some really great things. Once you know that you can do great things, you'll find all the motivation you'll need to make other positive changes. I guess there is some wisdom in those common phrases! So remember: small decisions make big things happen.



*SMALL DECISIONS MAKE BIG THINGS HAPPEN*

# RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## SWIMMING WITH A CHAMPION



*First row left to right: Karaghan O'Barr, Krislynn Lee, Maci McGhee, Natalynn Lee and Aubree Wiggins. Second row left to right: Kadence Bailey, Mason McGhee, Aiyannah McGhee, Mary-Ashlynn Williams, Cash Griffey, Kylee Langham and Marlie McGhee. Third row: Coach Sarah Allen, Tiffany Gookin, Kamryn Langham, McKenna Pettis, Hannah Johnson, and Megan Fonteno.*

There are three rules to swimming competitively:

1. Always give 101 percent
2. Encourage your teammates to give 101 percent
3. Have fun!

These rules started the Tribal Swim Team swim lesson on Tuesday, September 13, 2016. This practice had a special guest coach, champion swimmer Megan Fonteno. Megan swam at the 2012 Olympic trials and advanced to the finals, but she did not make the cut to attend the London Olympics.

Some of the swimmers were excited to see Megan again, having recently met her at a swim meet at Auburn University. The most frequently asked question: "Do you know Michael Phelps?" The answer: "Yes, and he is a really great guy!"

Megan spoke to the team about sportsmanship and team work and demonstrated several new stroke techniques.

Megan was born in Okinawa, Japan. Her parents were in the military so her family has moved around a lot. They have lived in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Georgia, and Florida. Both of Megan's parents served in the United States Marine Corps and her brother currently serves in the United States Air Force.

Megan was living in Georgia when she started swimming at age 6. She was on the Bolles School Sharks swim team when she was recruited to Auburn University to swim.

In 2015, Megan coached the Women's Swim Team at the Air Force Academy in Colorado. Megan is a student at Auburn University and has begun her studies toward a Doctorate of Pharmacy with plans to graduate in 2020.

*Gayle Johnson/Sarah Allen*



## YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Registration: Ongoing through November 28, 2016

Deadline for Coaches: November 21, 2016

Games will begin after completion of registration and selection of teams.

Ages: 4-15

Co-Ed Teams for ages 5-6

Boys Teams & Girls Teams for ages 7-15

Registration Fee: \$30.00

Registration and coaches applications for both leagues are available upon request at the Recreation Department or on the Recreation page of the Tribe's official web site, [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov).

For more information contact the Recreation Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2256.

## ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Registration: Ongoing through November 28, 2016

Deadline for Coaches: November 21, 2016

Games will begin after completion of registration.

Ages: 16 and up

Team Registration Fee: \$125.00

---

### FOR THE LOVE OF THE SPORT: BE HUMBLE IN VICTORY AND GRACEFUL IN DEFEAT

"Someone who doesn't make the (Olympic) team might weep and collapse. In my day no one fell on the track and cried like a baby. We lost gracefully. And when someone won, he didn't act like he'd just become king of the world, either. Athletes in my day were simply humble in our victory.

I believe we were more mature then...Maybe it's because the media puts so much pressure on athletes; maybe it's also the money. In my day we competed for the love of the sport...In my day we patted the guy who beat us on the back, wished him well, and that was it."

*Louis Zamperini, Devil at My Heels: A Heroic Olympian's Astonishing Story of Survival as a Japanese POW in World War II*

---



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[Ediejackson.OrigamiOwl.com](http://Ediejackson.OrigamiOwl.com)

## RECREATION UPDATE

The sports events and activities at the Recreation Department have been keeping us busy as we began our fall season.

Our football season has been in full swing throughout October, and our last home game was October 15<sup>th</sup>. The boys have had a great time playing this year; our cheerleaders have done amazing as well too! We look forward to seeing how successful they continue to be as the season comes to end, and we hope to see everyone again next year!

Following football, we will jump right into basketball season. Youth Basketball League registration began on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and will end November 28<sup>th</sup>. Registration for our Adult Basketball League began on October 4<sup>th</sup> and will also end November 28<sup>th</sup>. Registration forms for both leagues are available upon request at the Recreation Department front desk or on Recreation's page of the Tribal website [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov).



Our swim team has been working hard through the summer, and we are very excited to see how much fun the children will have this season. They kicked off their 2016 season October 7<sup>th</sup> in Auburn. We are so proud of how hard these kids have been working! If you want to come out and see how talented our young swimmers are, stop by the Recreation Department. We have swim meet schedules available upon request.

The Recreation Department provides everyone in the community with a wide variety of opportunities

to come out and get active, or just be a part of the community! No matter how young or old you may be, we have something for you here at the Recreation Department.

The pool closes on November 1<sup>st</sup>, bringing an end to our water aerobics class which was very popular with our seniors.

Other events we saw this past month were the Sports Banquet, held at the Wind Creek Casino on October 20<sup>th</sup>; the Kickin' Cancer Kickball tournament and Family Fun Night on October 21<sup>st</sup>; and our Fall Festival that just passed on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions or concerns about the different activities and programs we have at the Recreation Department please feel free to give us a call at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2256.





# FACILITIES DIVISION

*Westly L. Woodruff, Division Director*

## FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

### REMODELLING THE DANCE STUDIO AT THE GYM



The dedicated Facilities Construction Team is currently working on renovations to the Rising Stars Dance Studio located at the PBCI Recreation Department. We began construction for this project on September 1<sup>st</sup> with a scheduled completion date of October 31<sup>st</sup>. The Dance Studio and Foyer area are being updated with metal studded walls, sheetrock interior, painted walls, HVAC upgrade, acoustic ceilings, and flooring. This is Phase 1 of the remodel work Coach Middleton has planned for the Recreation Department to promote services.

*Westly L. Woodruff, CPP- Division Director*

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## FALL SPRUCE UP!



Facilities Custodial Team and Temporary Employment Program (TEP) workers are trying hard to spruce up the offices and work areas at the Tribal Complex. Hope you notice!!! If Tribal staff are in need of custodial services please call 521-368-5584.

Custodial staff shown above: back row left to right Randall Rolin, Peggy Williams, Kim Rolin, Dezmond Nguyen, and Sarah Hicks. Middle row left to right Donna Nobles, Stephanie Kendrick, Kaitlin Rolin, Malorie Cox, Bethany Crook, and Betty Peacock. Front row left to right are Laura Nelson, Linda Weaver, and Tina Schweiger. Not pictured: Chassidy McGhee, Tammy Gaffney and Nancy Rayborn.

*Westly L. Woodruff, CPP- Division Director*




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# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

## NEW ROAD - PARADES WAY UNDER CONSTRUCTION



When heading North on Jack Springs Road, if you look to the west just before you enter Reservation property, you'll notice a lot of heavy equipment and construction. This will be the new connector road from Jack Springs to Green Road. This new road will be called Parades Way in honor of the late Dr. Parades, who was instrumental in documenting and preserving our Poarch Creek Heritage.

The Parades Way Project is being constructed by the Land Management Team (a division of Public Works) under the supervision of Mr. Ron Marshall and in collaboration with the engineering firm Civil South East. This project is scheduled to be completed by May of 2017. At the current pace there should be no trouble meeting that completion date. The Land Management Team has hauled 4,891 cubic yards of cutout and 5,084 cubic yards of red base fill material to date. All of this cutout and fill equates to about 2000 feet of road base that is ready to be asphalted.

*Westly L. Woodruff, CPP- Division Director*

**trust**  
takes years  
to build,  
seconds to break  
and forever  
to repair.

[www.facebook.com/groups/  
PoarchCreekSpecialNeedsAutismAndLDGroup/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/PoarchCreekSpecialNeedsAutismAndLDGroup/)  
[www.autismspeaks.org/](http://www.autismspeaks.org/)

Follow *Poarch Creek Special Needs Autism & LD Support Group* on Facebook for information about autism and its effects on individuals, families, society, and our Tribal Community.



Visit *Autism Speaks* at [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org) for more information on autism.

# HEALTH & ELDER SERVICES DIVISION

*Edie Jackson, Division Director*

## LAVAN MARTIN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY (ALF)

The residents at the Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility sure know how to have a good time and dedicated staff are there to take the ride with them!

Buckle up and let's GO!!

LIFE is about adventure, and that's exactly what we give them. Weekly activities are planned to promote a healthy lifestyle and FUN! Take a look at the photo collage on the next page and you will see.....

If you are looking for peace of mind and want to embrace LIFE, 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.

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# HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## UNMASKING THE FUTURE

*A Masquerade Ball*

Join us for a night of mystique and fun as we celebrate National Diabetes Month.

Entertainment will include

- Diabetes scavenger hunt,
- Costume Contest
- Dancing

Wind Creek Ballroom @ Wind Creek Casino

Friday, November 4, 2016 @ 6:00 pm

This is a (free) ticketed event; active participants of the Tribal Diabetes Activities/Classes and their spouses will be given first opportunity to obtain tickets; any remaining tickets will be available to Tribal Members and Community Members.

Please contact Whitney Smedley at 251-368-9136 x 2326 or [wsmedley@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:wsmedley@pci-nsn.gov) for tickets.

Heavy appetizers will be served.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTACT NUMBER

The official contact number for the Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic is (251) 368-8630. This number for Health Department calls only.

The main contact number for Tribal offices of the Poarch Creek Indians is (251) 368-9136; all Tribal Government departments/programs can be reached by dialing this number.

If you choose not to use the automated system, please dial 0 and you will be connected with Thelma Williamson, Receptionist. Thelma will be happy to assist in connecting you with the appropriate person, department, or program.

***Tribal Health Department will close at 12:00 noon on Friday, December 2, 2016;  
Health Department will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 5, 2016.***

## ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS: LAB AND X-RAY SERVICES AVAILABLE TO YOU

We're striving to improve and give the best quality of healthcare here at the Health Department. We would like for you to remember the services that we offer right here in Poarch, at no additional cost to you.

We have a Laboratory that can perform almost any blood test that can be ordered.

Also, we have a Radiology department that performs X-RAYS and Ultrasounds. When you go to specialists and they order bloodwork and/or radiology services that we can offer here at the Health Department, kindly ask them if you can have them done here.

We'll be glad to fax them the results. The time it takes us to get results is fast, and we'll be glad to perform those services. We want your business and are here for you!

Call us at 251-368-8630 if you have questions.

Dr. Jamie McKinley

Chief Physician/Chief Medical Officer



## PRIMARY CARE CLINIC INITIATES 24-HOUR ANSWERING SERVICE

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians Primary Care Clinic now has a 24-hour answering service.

We have contracted with Dr. Shane Harigel and Dr. Sheldon Harigel for after-hours phone call services.

This service will be for urgent medical questions only outside of the normal business hours of Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. This service can be reached after hours by calling (251) 368-8630.

Please note that this service is NOT for medication refills, appointment requests, or lab results. Do not call the Answering Service and ask for a staff member to return your call. Those calls/questions should be made during normal business hours.

As always, if you have a potential life threatening emergency, call 911 immediately for emergency services.

We welcome all Tribal Members to utilize our healthcare services, and it is a pleasure to serve your healthcare needs at the Health Department.




*James E. "Jamie" McKinley, M.D., M.S.  
Chief Physician/Chief Medical Officer*

## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Nearly one in three adults has high blood pressure. Of that group, only about half have their blood pressure under control. High blood pressure is a major risk factor for heart disease and stroke, two of the leading causes of death nationwide. Many heart attacks and strokes, along with kidney failure, can be prevented if we get better control of high blood pressure.

The primary care clinic at the Health Department is offering blood pressure screening and routine checks to anyone who feels they are at risk, for anyone with a family history, and for anyone known to have blood pressure issues. Our Health Department will be holding screenings at various tribal facilities throughout this coming year. Our focus is on prevention, education and maintaining control for those living with high blood pressure. Early detection is the key and with monitoring, medications and lifestyle changes, there is hope.

Nancy Smith, MSN, Director of Nursing



### Health & Elder Services Purpose

Focusing on prevention and well-being through a variety of medical and educational programs, we guide our members to make choices that will enhance their quality of life and help them make healthy choices that are in their best interest.

We want all Tribal Members to feel their best so they can live life to its fullest.

Poarch Band of Creek Indians

## 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: Driver's License, Tribal ID, Insurance card, and medication list

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

# PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

*Bruce Lee, Division Director*

## TRIBAL COURT



### SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS PROGRAM

- In the United States, approximately 42,700 Americans kill themselves every year. That's one suicide every 12.3 minutes.
- In the United States, each year twice as many people die by suicide than by homicide.
- Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among young people ages 15-24, and it is the 10th leading cause of death among all persons.
- The suicide rate is higher among the elderly than any other age group.
- Altogether, people who abuse alcohol and drugs, attempt suicide nearly 6 times as frequently as people who don't abuse alcohol and drugs.
- Each suicide has devastating effects and on average intimately affects 18 other people; that's over 750,000 lives affected by suicide each year.

Tribal Court hosted a Suicide Prevention Awareness Program on September 7, 2016. They distributed Suicide Prevention Awareness T-shirts and encouraged Tribal staff to wear their T-shirt to support this cause. As you can tell from above, the participation was overwhelming!



# 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 Tip Line \* (251) 446-TIP \* (446-4847)**

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Rule 7.2(e) of the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct

# REGULATORY, GRANTS, & COMPLIANCE DIVISION

*Carolyn White, Division Director*

## TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

### 2016 RETURN WALK OF LIFE TO TUSCUMBIA

The 16th Annual Oka Kaposi Festival was held in Tuscumbia, AL on Friday and Saturday, September 9-10, 2016. This festival was recognized as one of the Top 20 events held in the Southeast in 2015. The Walk takes about an hour and ends at Spring Park in Tuscumbia. Oka Kaposi means "Cold Water" in the Chickasaw language; Tuscumbia was part of their native homelands.

Mary Risser, honored guest and Park Superintendent of the Natchez Trace Parkway, led the 2016 Walk of Life on Saturday, September 10th. "This was a Centennial Event of the National Park Service," Risser said, "this year the National Park Service will celebrate its 100th birthday." Not far behind were Poarch Creek Elder Princess Mary Alice Potts, and several members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

The Return Walk began at Tuscumbia Landing in Sheffield, which is a certified Trail of Tears site yet to be developed. Robert Thrower, Poarch THPO, began the ceremony and recognized members of the Chickasaw, Cherokee, Choctaw, Seminole, Creek, Shawnee, and Cree tribes. Robert Perry, Chickasaw Elder, passed prayer feathers out, first to Natives, then to others, to hang in the trees. Many were first-time participants;



*Mary Risser, Park Superintendent of the Natchez Trace Parkway, and Robert Thrower, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Poarch Creek Indians participate in the 2016 Return Walk to Life in Tuscumbia, AL.*

they asked, "Where?" He instructed them "You will know," and it was done.

The weather was warm and humid. About 125 walkers began the Trail of Tears procession, the very same road migrants were hauled to the keelboats and steamboats at the Landing. The first half of the walk was solemn as they meditated on what the ancestors endured. Then the musicians set a pace: Ralph Isaac, Mississippi Choctaw, beat his drum and David Walton played his flute. David flew in from California the previous day for this event.

Local Cub Scouts presented bottles of cold water to the walkers at the halfway point of the walk as well

as the entrance to the park. The walk ended at the center of the park for the Dance Circle. The Dance Circle was led traditionally by the Chickasaw and Choctaw leaders, and dancers enter the Dance Circle counter-clockwise. The event was closed with the singing of "Amazing Grace" in their language and then, in English, as the public joined in.

The Festival lasted until 6:00 p.m., giving everyone an opportunity to watch traditional dances, enjoy Indian Tacos, and learn Native Culture.

*Submitted: Robert Perry, Chickasaw Elder,  
Edited by Robert Thrower, THPO, and  
Gayle Johnson, Editor*

Annie Perry is the founder and event coordinator for the Return Walk of Life since its inception in 2000. The event is funded by the Tuscumbia Landing Trust. Vendors must present Federal Indian cards to demonstrate tribal culture or to sell wares.



# TRIBAL MEMBER SERVICES DIVISION

*Martha Gookin, Division Director*

## FAMILY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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

### KATHY LEDKINS CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

On September 27, 1991, Kathy Ledkins began working with the Poarch Creek Indians. She is one of the few employees that has remained in the same department and same area as when she began. Kathy started working with the Poarch Creek Indians Social Services Department in 1991 under grant funding.

She has a love for people and a heart for helping others. Her caring spirit flows throughout her family, friends, coworkers, clients, and Tribal members.

We are truly blessed to have Kathy as a part of the Family Services Department and as a treasured employee for the Poarch Creek Indians.

Congratulations to Kathy on 25 years of outstanding service!!



*Kathy Ledkins, seated, with Family Services Director Amanda Montgomery.*

### REGISTER NOW FOR 2016 KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Family Services Department will host the 2016 Kid's Christmas Party at the Wind Creek Cinema on Thursday, December 8, 2016 starting at 5:30 p.m.

- The theater has been reserved for this event.
- The times for the movie to start will be staggered to allow everyone a chance to see the movie.
- Seating in each theater room is limited. Once a theater room is filled, the remaining participants

will go to the next theater and so on. The movie will start as soon as the theater is full.

- Free food. A hot dog, candy, and a drink will be served prior to the movie starting.
- Each participant will be able to see the movie one time and then will be given an opportunity to take a picture with Santa and receive a Christmas gift.

Plan to join us for this event and also take time to enjoy the beautiful Christmas lights in the Wind Creek Casino's amphitheater area!

Please complete the Kid's Christmas Pre-Registration and return it to Michealine Deese or Jennifer Reynolds by Friday, November 11, 2016.

For your convenience a copy of the Pre-Registration Form is included in this issue of the newsletter and is available on the Tribe's web site [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov) and the Family Services Department.

Contact Family Services at (251) 368-9136 x 2600 if you have questions or need more information.

# 2016 Poarch Creek Indians Kid's Christmas Party

Will be held at the Wind Creek Cinema on December 8, 2016 @ 5:30 p.m.

## \*Pre-Registration for eligible children and requirements:

- ◆ Tribal , 1st generation (must provide 1st generation letter) and children who live in a PCI Tribal Member's household
- ◆ Children must be between the ages of birth through 12 years of age
- ◆ Each child must be pre-registered to attend
- ◆ Pre-registration will not be accepted over the phone

\*\*If you pre-registered your child (ren) last year you Do Not need to turn in verification. But if there are any changes in your household members then verification will be required.

\*\*If you did not register your child (ren) last year please submit this pre-registration form, Tribal member ID, verification of residency for the child which could be a daycare enrollment, school enrollments etc.

\*\*This Pre-registration form MUST be turned in to the Family Services Department front desk, by mail, or by email to Michealene Deese at [mdeese@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:mdeese@pci-nsn.gov) or Jennifer Reynolds at [jreynolds@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:jreynolds@pci-nsn.gov) on or before Friday, November 11, 2016\*\*

## 2016 Tribal Kid's Christmas Party Pre-registration Form

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll #: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

How many guests will be attending? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please list child's name, date of birth, age, gender, and number of guests that will be attending.

You must include a copy of the Tribal Member ID card and verification if applicable to your child (ren) pre-registration form.

Name	Date of Birth	Age	Male/ Female	Tribal Member #





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*Visit to find out more about our story, our values, our people, and our neighbors*



## OUR STORY

OUR ANCIENT CULTURE SHAPES OUR IDENTITY.  
TRADITION INSPIRES US TO KEEP OUR HISTORY ALIVE.  
WE ARE A RESILIENT PEOPLE WHO HELPED EACH OTHER  
OUT THROUGH TRYING TIMES TO BECOME THE ONLY  
FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBE IN ALABAMA.  
TODAY, WE JOIN OUR NEIGHBORS' EFFORTS TO HELP  
IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL.

## POARCH VALUES

LOVE & COMMITMENT TO FAMILY  
SELF-DETERMINATION & SELF-RELIANCE  
FAITH & COMMITMENT TO DO  
WHAT IS RIGHT FOR THE TRIBE  
RESPECT FOR ELDERS  
INTEGRITY: BEING TRUE TO WHO WE ARE  
PROSPERITY

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*www.youtube.com/channel/UCpPKy0-WEMlc\_OV4-cMc3BA*



## IT'S TIME TO UPDATE FOR THE TAHO PROGRAM

---

Tribal Members 21 years of age or older, interested in a new house, must come into the PCI Housing Department and submit a new application even if you already have an application on file.

Listed are some of the items you will need to provide:

- A copy of 2015 tax returns;
- Social Security card(s) of all persons listed on the application;
- Tribal ID card(s);
- Letter of First Generation Indian Descendant if applicable;
- Custody verification; homeless verification; substandard living verification;
- Must have a credit score of 550 or higher;
- Must live in the Tribe's service area: Monroe, Mobile, Elmore, Montgomery, Baldwin, and Escambia County Alabama and Escambia County Florida;
- Must not have participated in any homeownership program for five (5) years;
- Must qualify for very low income, low income, or over income;
- Must not have withdrawn for the TAHO Program or declined in the past twelve (12) months;
- Plus other required documents.

## LAST DAY TO UPDATE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2016

Questions? Contact Wendy Davis at (251) 368-9136 x 2257 or [wdavis@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:wdavis@pci-nsn.gov).

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# TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS DEPARTMENT

## NOTICE TO TRIBAL MEMBERS

The Direct Deposit Form currently being used has been updated with a Benefits Card option. This option will be used for the direct deposit of your DBS Health and Utility reimbursements. This form has been included in this issue and has been posted in the Tribal Member Only Portal of the Tribal web site, [www.pci-nsn.gov](http://www.pci-nsn.gov).

If you do not have a Burial Assistance Form on file, please contact the Tribal Member Benefits Department at 251-368-9136 ext. 2209 and one will be mailed to you.

In order for annual Tribal Member distributions and benefits to be processed accurately, Tribal Member Benefits must be informed of any changes you may have to your address, phone number, banking information, and/or other personal information. Numerous newsletters and other Tribal correspondences have been returned by the Post Office marked 'undeliverable as addressed', 'insufficient address', 'unable to forward', etc. Contact Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 to update your information.

## NOTICE TO TRIBAL MEMBERS WITH MARKETPLACE INSURANCE ONLY

In order to process all of your information correctly and in a timely manner, Tribal Member Benefits **MUST** be given:

- Completed DBS Enrollment form
- Insurance Policy # (*may be found on the insurance card or billing statement*)

- Correct premium amount
- Correct premium due date
- Payment Processing Address must be called to be confirmed by the Tribal Member. (*This address is not always the address on the back of the card*)

"Life without thankfulness is devoid of love and passion. Hope without thankfulness is lacking in fine perception. Faith without thankfulness lacks strength and fortitude. Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed and limps along the spiritual road." John Henry Jowett



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**Poarch Band of Creek Indians**  
**Direct Deposit Agreement Form**



Roll #: \_\_\_\_\_

Tribal Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Per-Cap \_\_\_\_\_ Elder \_\_\_\_\_ Benefits Card \_\_\_\_\_

---

***Authorization Agreement***

I hereby authorize the Poarch Band of Creek Indians to initiate automatic deposits to my account at the financial institution named below. I also authorize Poarch Band of Creek Indians to make withdrawals from this account in the event that a credit entry is made in error. Further, I agree not to hold Poarch Band of Creek Indians responsible for any delay or loss of funds due to incorrect or incomplete information supplied by me or by my financial institution or due to an error on the part of my financial institution in depositing funds to my account. This agreement will remain in effect until Poarch Band of Creek Indians receives a written notice of cancellation from me or my financial institution, or until I submit a new direct deposit form to the Tribal Member Benefits Department.

---

***Account Information***

Name of Financial Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Financial Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Routing Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Money Market Account      \_\_\_\_\_ Checking Account      \_\_\_\_\_ Savings Account

---

***Notarized Signature***

Authorized Signature (Primary): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature (Joint): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Notary: \_\_\_\_\_

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

My Commission Number: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please attach a voided check for payments to checking accounts and return this form to the Tribal Member Benefits Department.***





### TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS

The Tribal Member Benefits Department welcomed two new staff members, Taylor Wiggins, Receptionist, and Nikole Higdon, Benefits Information Clerk. Welcome aboard Taylor and Nikole!

Shown on the bottom row left to right are Anna Wilson, Tabatha Davis, Carolyn Rackard, Elaine Sheets, and Nikole Higdon. Shown on top row left to right are Denise Young, Marlene McNairn, and Taylor Wiggins.

### URGENT NOTICE TO ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS REGARDING HOLIDAY PER-CAPITA DISBURSEMENT

If you want to receive your Holiday Per-Capita disbursement, you **MUST** make sure your address and banking information is **CORRECT**.

Please remember that banking information cannot be updated by telephone. Please contact the Tribal Member Benefits Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 to make any changes or corrections to your information.

**ALL CHANGES MUST BE MADE BEFORE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2016.**



# Change of Address Form

Tribal Roll Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

**PREVIOUS Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

*Are there any other Tribal members living with you? Roll#’s* \_\_\_\_\_

*Do you receive:* ☐ Tribe’s Benny Medical Health Card

☐ Mail Order RX

☐ Tribe’s UtilityCard\*

*\*Your utility card will be frozen until you provide a current utility bill showing your “primary” service address.*

**TMB Staff Only:**

**Address changed in: CRM / DBS Benny / Rx Program / Utility?**

**Staff initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

Revised August 16, 2016(aw)



# NON-DIVISIONAL DEPARTMENTS

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

### TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSURES

*Friday, November 11, 2016* Government offices, including Boys & Girls Club, gym, and Museum, will be closed in observance of Veterans Day.

*Thursday & Friday, November 24-25, 2016* Government offices, including Boys & Girls Club, gym, and Museum, will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

*Friday, December 2, 2016* Tribal Health Department will close at 12:00 noon; will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 5, 2016.

Please remember these closures when planning your visits to the Tribal Complex, Pharmacy, Health Clinic, gym, Museum, or other Tribal Governmental offices.

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### 2016 CHRISTMAS PARADE AND CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

This year's Christmas Parade has been scheduled for Friday, December 9, 2016. The theme for this year's parade is "A Colorful Christmas." Each float will be decorated in their selected color scheme.

The parade will begin at 5:30 pm and will start at Building 300 and take a left on Martin Road. The route will then take a right on Green Road followed by a left on Lynn McGhee Drive. The parade will end at the gravel entrance to the parking area across the road from Arrowhead Park.

The Poarch Creek Christmas Festival will begin immediately after the Christmas Parade. The Christmas Festival will be located in the parking lot of the Wellness Center (Gym).

There will be no vehicle parking along Lynn McGhee Drive. Handicapped parking will be available. Tribal Police will be blocking off sections of Lynn McGhee Drive; please pay close attention to their directions as they direct you to the proper areas for parking.

Watch the newsletter, Tribal web site, and social media for further details and information about the parade and Christmas Festival.

Tribal Members interested in having a booth at the Christmas Festival should contact Sehoy Spence, Employee Events Coordinator, at (251) 368-9136 x 2260 or [sspence@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:sspence@pci-nsn.gov).



The beauty of the trees,  
The softness of the air,  
The fragrance of the grass speaks to me.  
The summit of the mountain,  
The thunder of the sky,  
The rhythm of the sea, speaks to me.

The faintness of the stars,  
The freshness of the morning,  
The dewdrop on the flower, speaks to me.

The strength of the fire,  
The taste of salmon,  
The trail of the sun,  
And the life that never goes away,  
They speak to me and my heart soars.

*Chief Dan George*

# TRIBAL GAMING COMMISSION

## TRIBAL GAMING COMMISSION RECOGNIZED BY NATIONAL TRIBAL GAMING COMMISSIONERS AND REGULATORS



*Seated left to right Commissioner Tami Manning, TGC Chair Sharon Smiley, and Commissioner Raymond Rolin. Standing- TGC Administrator Daniel K. McGhee.*

The Tribal Gaming Commission (TGC) attended the Fall Session of National Tribal Gaming Commissioners and Regulators (NTGC/R) Conference held September 20-22, 2016 at the Seneca Niagara Resort Casino located in Niagara Falls, NY.

The event, held in the spring and fall of each year, is one the TGC strongly supports because of the training and networking opportunities for TGC staff and Commissioners. NTGC/R strives to create learning opportunities for tribal gaming regulators and focuses on the latest developments and changes within the industry.

During the closing ceremony of the Fall Conference, NTGC/R Chairman Jaimie Hummingbird presented TGC Administrator

Daniel McGhee with a plaque recognizing the PCI TGC for their continued support and dedication to NTGC/R for approximately fourteen years.

Chairman Hummingbird commented that the PCI TGC has consistently sent the most delegates to each conference, year after year, demonstrating their support and dedication to regulatory issues, as well as promoting the organizations efforts nationally. The plaque was given as a symbol of appreciation for the consistent dedication & support to the NTGC/R.

*Submitted by Chris Gibson, TGC Liaison*



# TRIBAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Hustle, hustle, hustle! PCI Utilities has been working vigorously over the past several months; this month is no different. Now that Operating Budgets for FY2017 have been prepared and presented for PCIUA and ECU, its back to administering the multiple construction projects that we manage in-house in addition to the normal daily operations that allow us to provide the premium water, sewer, and solid waste services that we are fortunate to be able to offer to many communities.

While Escambia Community Utilities continues to experience an abundance of leaks in the Canoe community, we anticipate that the start-up of the Canoe Improvements Project will replace 5 segments of water mains in that system and will reduce service interruptions considerably. We are hopeful that

the upgrades this project will include will have a significant impact on the after hour call outs for water line repairs that are already in excess of 110 call outs this year. We humbly ask customers to be patient with our progress.

In addition to the Canoe Improvement Project we have finalized the bid documents for the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project that will enable us to expand our administrative facilities and make improvements to our testing lab. This is an extensive project that is not scheduled for completion until the summer of 2018. However, this addition will make staff and payment options more accessible for our customers.

Additionally, Utilities continues to replace the old meter assemblies with

new Neptune Radio Read meters, approved backflow prevention devices, and fire hydrants in the rural communities that we serve.

For the Utilities Authority, there are always countless utility projects that we administer. Should you ever have any questions or concerns regarding the Utilities Authority, the services that we provide, or need assistance from us, please feel free to contact our office Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at (251) 446-1617.

We continue to strive to provide the best services possible, as well as improving our systems for reliable utility services.

334-514-2700



**Holiday travel tips**

**INTERSTATE CCS WETUMPKA**

Prepare for traveling during the holidays with these tips from Creek Convenience Store Wetumpka.

89 River Oaks Drive, Wetumpka, AL 36092



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We can accommodate tour buses, RV's and many other large vehicles at Creek Travel Plaza!



# CIEDA

SMALL BUSINESS

## Loan Program



If you are a Tribal Member who owns a business or is considering starting a business and are interested in obtaining a small business loan, you may request additional information or schedule an appointment by calling the CIEDA offices at 251-368-0819. Please ask for Ed Powell, Business Development Analyst (epowell@pcicie.com) or Chad Klinck, CIEDA CFO (cklinck@pcicie.com).

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

**Getting your loan request approved depends on how well you represent:**

- Yourself
- Your business
- 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.

## Lending Guidelines

**Are you or have you...**

- At least 18 year of age?
- An enrolled member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians?
- Established a one year period of residency at your current address?
- Have a credit score of at least 650?
- Have had the same job or worked in the area of business in which the loan is being requested for atleast one year?
- Own atleast 51% of the business that the loan is being applied for?
- Providing real value for your stated ownership in the business?
- Receiving a percentage of all profits that are equal to your ownership stake in the business?

**If so, you are a good match for the loan program!**

### **Will I have to disclose personal information?**

Yes, personal information, such as tax returns, credit score and a personal financial statement, are required.

### **How do the rates compare to banks and financial institutions?**

Often the CIEDA loan program lending rates are more competitive than traditional banks.

### **How successful is the CIEDA loan program?**

To date this program has a 95 percent success rate.



# What is vaping?



An alternative to smoking cigarettes, vaping is becoming a viral habit of many who want a healthier option and for those who can't seem to kick the butts to the curb.

Creek Convenience Store Atmore sells a variety of e-cigarettes and vapor liquids.



By Jen Peake | CIEDA Marketing Specialist

Vaporizers and e-cigarettes involve inhaling water vapor through various devices. The vapor contains nicotine and can be customized based on the desired nicotine level. Vapor poses no apparent concern from secondhand smoke and can be relatively odorless. Individuals are increasingly turning to e-cigarettes and vaping products as an alternative to traditional cigarettes and as a means to quit smoking.



## The benefits

- No real smoke from vapor, but still get the nicotine fix you need
- No bad breath
- No dirty ashtrays and cigarette butts
- More cost effective in the long run
- Might help you fully stop smoking
- A plethora of flavors to choose from

Stop by Creek Convenience Store Atmore and check out our selection of e-cigs!



Creek Convenience Store Wetumpka (CCSW) wants to help you plan your trip so you remain safe and prepared during the holidays. Here are a few holiday travel tips to get you started:

## Holiday travel tips

### Travel with your own snacks

Failure to eat or drink can do more than lead to hunger pains and dehydration. It can make the body sluggish and might affect your ability to deal with minor, or major, aggravations. **Pack nutritious snacks and take breaks to refuel your body.** Whether you are leaving or arriving in Wetumpka, let us at CCSW be your one-stop shop for supplies and fuel.



### Research thoroughly



Study your travel options to determine the best way to get from point A to point B.

**Weigh the cost of your trip** as well as the time involved in traveling. Planning well in advance also enables you to get the best prices possible. A study by CheapAir.com found that those who booked airline tickets for domestic travel 49 days before departure saved the most money. And **by watching the ebb and flow of gas prices** for a few months, you can squirrel away a few bucks

here and there to offset the cost of fuel when you are set to go.

### Develop a contingency plan

Even the best laid plans can go awry. Know what to do in the event a particular rest stop or scenic spot along the way is closed or if travel plans get delayed or rerouted. Certain travel apps provide real-time updates on delays or construction projects. Other apps, such as **Gas Buddy**, indicate which gas stations have the lowest prices or which rest stops offer the cleanest bathrooms. **CCSW is always up to date on Gas Buddy.**



### Take your car in for a tune-up

Drivers should make sure their vehicles are in good working condition before departure. More cars are on the roads during holidays, and that means a greater potential for stop-and-go traffic, which can put added stress on the vehicle. Air up your tires at CCSW or purchase new wiper blades and other car accessories, such as oil, to avoid flat tires and other calamities, which can delay your trip.



### Travel off-peak

It's often quicker and less stressful to travel during

off-peak hours when roads are less crowded.

Off-peak hours include overnight, early morning or late evening. **You can always pay at the pump at CCSW after hours with a credit or debit card, and our store is open until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and until 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays.**



Travelers looking to avoid crowded roadways or airports may also want to avoid especially popular travel days, such as the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Leave a few days before a major holiday or arrive a day after to avoid the crowds.

Holiday excursions can be exciting, but they might require some extra planning and patience. Larger crowds at airports and more cars on the roads can make holiday-timed travel challenging. But if you follow these tips and take a little more time to plan, your trip will be successful.

By Jen Peake | CIEDA Marketing Specialist





Paul G says: Good place to get fuel for the car and the family. Good hamburgers and fries, served quick, hot and tasty. Clean. Fair prices.



Lucy Byars says: Stopping for the best breakfast burrito on I-65!!!!



Ericka Scott says: I think this is one of the best places I've ever stopped. Clean, friendly, meets all your needs, lots of pretty stuff for sale, too.

LoveTravelingOn says: A rare gem off I-65! The first thing we noticed was how clean it was and how friendly the staff was. The next thing that was surprising was how low the menu prices were. We sure were glad we stopped here.

D. Coop says: Got a lot more than I expected. Service was really good. Food was fresh, cooked well and the fries were really special. Totally unexpected. If you're looking for something different, check out the gas station.



# REVIEWS



What are people saying?



From checking in to thumbing up, customers are happy

Keith Lawson says: Nice, clean place. Plenty of truck parking. The restaurant has good food and nice servers. Also the store clerks were nice and friendly.



Kim Shelton says: Love this place, lots of Indian stuff, also the food is good!

Joyce N Billy Lambert say: Fair prices, fast service, good food. Spotless!! Will definitely go back.



Daniel Magana says: My favorite truck stop: clean parking lot, free wifi, clean showers and restrooms, good food at good prices. Not many places like this for us truckers.



# GET READY FOR CAMPING SEASON

Magnolia Branch  
Wildlife Reserve

Camping is a popular outdoor activity that attracts many enthusiasts year after year. Some people camp every month while others only have time for one great excursion into the wilderness each year.

Preparation is key to a successful camping trip. Whether campers plan to spend one night or several in the great outdoors, there are certain tips to follow to ensure your trip is fun and safe.

## Gear

In order to be comfortable, stock up on camping gear. Tents, sleeping bags and other items don't have to be expensive. With care and maintenance, camping gear can last for several years. Or maybe you like an RV instead of a tent. **Many campgrounds have spaces for RVs and tents. Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve is such a place.**

Invest in a pad to place on the floor of the tent to shield you from the hard ground. The pad will make sleeping more comfortable. If you will be sleeping during warm-weather months, you don't



have to worry about an expensive sleeping bag. An average-weight one will be just fine. Don't forget to pack a pillow.

A cooler filled with foods and drinks will tide you over for the trip. If you plan to cook, you will need to bring the ingredients for meals and cookware to prepare it.

## Where to camp

Now that you have decided to go camping, where do you go? Campsites all across America can be public or private. Public campgrounds generally are maintained by parks departments or government offices. They could be free to enter or charge a nominal fee for use.



By Jen Peake | CIEDA Marketing Specialist

Private campgrounds, such as Magnolia Branch, are run by private companies or individuals and also can feature RV hookups. At Magnolia Branch, you will find **47 RV sites with full hook-ups, 20 RV sites with water and electric only and 13 large pull-through RV sites. For tents, 15 sites have water and electric, and there are unlimited primitive tent sites.**

Private parks also might have more amenities than public campsites. Magnolia Branch offers tubing, canoeing, kayaking, zip lines, a water blob, bike riding, hiking, horse riding, volleyball, fishing and other awesome features that many public parks do not have.

## Avoid critters

Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve is just that — a wildlife habitat. Animals and insects are part of the camping experience, but at Magnolia Branch, various wildlife, such as deer, exotic migrating birds and other animals roam freely.

**Keeping a clean campsite is perhaps the most effective animal and insect deterrent.** Ants and animals are attracted to food bits scattered around the site, so be sure to gather trash and dispose of it properly each day. **Try not to store food on the ground.** To avoid insects, steer clear of perfumed products. Keep lights dim at night, as bright lights attract

mosquitoes and other biting bugs. **Use appropriate insect repellents to help further repel bugs.**

## Closer isn't always better

Many new campers make the mistake of choosing campsites that are in close proximity to bathrooms and clubhouses and other reminders of civilization. Although these amenities are there for your enjoyment and comfort, these areas tend to feature heavy foot and car traffic and can make for a noisy experience. You might need to walk a little farther, but you will likely enjoy a more peaceful camping experience.



## Carry in and carry out

Part of the magic of camping is being able to enjoy and experience the great outdoors. **It is crucial to protect natural landscapes as much as possible and to exercise caution around plant life.** Magnolia Branch takes great care of Mother Nature, and visitors should be respectful of that. What you bring to the campsite, including trash, should be removed. **Do not leave a mess behind.**

Camping can be an enjoyable and inexpensive vacation option. Learning the ropes and heeding advice can make camping an enjoyable getaway.



# Behind the scenes



By Jen Peake | CIEDA Marketing Specialist

## with Leroy Tullis

From basic repairs to remodeling rooms, the maintenance team at Muskogee Inn does it all. They are not your average crew, either. This team of three tackles everything that needs addressing and then some.

As team leader of the crew, Tribal Member Leroy Tullis is the longest standing employee of the maintenance department at

Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA).

**“Being able to give back and work for my Tribe is beyond words. I wouldn’t want to be anywhere else.”**

— Leroy Tullis

“I’ve been at this now for 30 years,” Tullis said. “I love it. Every aspect of my job is rewarding, and I am blessed to be here.”

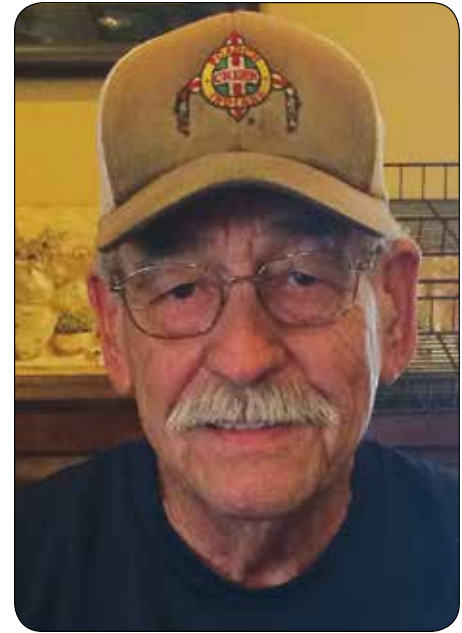
Muskogee Inn is the only CIEDA property that has an in-house maintenance team. The CIEDA maintenance department as a whole takes care of all the economic businesses as

projects arise, but the team stationed at the hotel is a special one.

**“This team gels very well together in addressing the needs of Muskogee Inn,”** Procurement Officer Billy Hunt said. “And I can’t say enough about them. **Mr. Leroy is knowledgeable of every inch of Muskogee Inn.** He brings years of irreplaceable experience not only about Muskogee Inn but of several other Poarch and CIEDA properties as well.

**“He is a valuable asset to CIEDA and Muskogee Inn.”**

Tullis said his crew does work at other locations from time to time, but their first priority is the hotel grounds.



“We help out in a pinch at a couple different businesses, but we are specifically here because there is just so much to do ... every day, there is something new,” Tullis said. “It’s not always big stuff, though. It’s the small things that keep us busy. Things that happen over and over that the other businesses don’t have to deal with.”

Hunt speaks fondly of each of his employees at Muskogee Inn, saying they are all in sync and handle every situation quickly and responsibly.

“Brent Bell is our ‘skills’ maintenance technician under Mr. Leroy’s direction,” Hunt said. “And James ‘Shelton’ Sells is our ‘muscle’ when the job requires a little more grip and hands on action. **These men are one of a kind, and we are lucky to have them at Muskogee Inn.**”

Hunt’s construction crew was recently at the hotel building a wall along the top of the parking lot and having the hotel’s name predominantly placed with the Poarch Creek logo so guests can see it when they pull in.

General Manager Rochel Martin also praised her team for their hard work.

“They are constantly on the go. They take pride in making Muskogee Inn succeed for the Tribe,” Martin said.

“Mr. Billy and Mrs. Rochel are good managers to work for,” Tullis said. “Being able to give back and work for my Tribe is beyond words. I wouldn’t want to be anywhere else.”

# Understanding WIND ENERGY

## BLADES

Blades act like an airplane wing. When the wind blows, low-pressure air forms on the downwind side of the blade.

## NACELLE

The nacelle is where all the gears are housed, as well as the generator. The rotor is located here, and Muskogee Technology recently manufactured a rotor support ring for a wind farm in North Dakota.

## TOWER

Towers come in variable heights and are available in three styles: tilt-ups, guyed lattice and freestanding. The most commonly used towers are tilt-ups because of its added stability.

## MUSKOGEE TECH

Muskogee Technology is investing in the wind energy technology. MT recently manufactured transport frames for blades and towers, called an elephant foot. The e-foot is used to mount the blades to the hubs to erect them in the field.



By Jen Peake  
CIEDA Marketing Specialist

Power generated from wind is not a new concept. Humans have been harnessing wind power for centuries, and wind energy is a viable option for generating electricity that can be harnessed by businesses and homes.

The National Resource Defense Council asserts that wind power is an affordable, efficient and abundant source of domestic electricity. Because it does not produce pollution, wind power also is beneficial for the environment. The United States Department of Energy says the United States is home to one of the largest and fastest-growing wind markets in the world, and the department has made wind industry a critical part of their plan for clean energy technologies.

What's exciting is Muskogee Technology (MT) is capitalizing on this industry and is involved with General Electric and Siemens to produce parts needed to transport, lift and install wind turbines.

## How does wind energy work?

Today's wind power is harnessed through wind turbines instead of smaller windmills. The turbines are mounted 100 feet or more above the ground on towers and can work with the faster, less turbulent winds at this height. The blades on a wind turbine act like an airplane wing. When the wind blows, low-pressure air forms on the downwind side of the blade. This low pressure pocket pulls the blade toward it, causing the rotor to turn, called lift. The force of the lift is actually much stronger than the wind's force against the front side of the blade, which is called drag. As the rotor continues to spin, it also spins a generator to produce electricity.

Turbines may be connected to a power grid to power larger areas or be stand-alone units for personal use.

Muskogee Technology recently manufactured transport frames for blades and towers. The elephant feet MT produced is used to mount the blades to the hubs to erect them in the field. Muskogee Technology also is produced a prototype tip rotator stand, which will aid in flipping the blades in the field, as well as manufacturing adapter plates for different styles of blades for transport.

## Powering your home

Consumers who want to try wind power can have small wind turbines installed. This enables them to generate their own power and cut energy bills. Depending on where you live and the regulations in place, a wind turbine can be suitable for use on a property of one acre of land or more.

Homeowners should find out if local zoning allows for wind turbine installations.

If installing a wind turbine on your own is not practical, consult with electric energy providers to find out if any programs are in place to offset energy production by working with wind plants. Green programs are in effect all over the country. Wind power can be a clean and renewable way to power your home.





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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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# November (Eholē) 2016

## **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

## **Quilting Classes** - Ongoing

Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays  
1:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
Cultural Department/Hwy 21

## **Fingerweaving Classes**

Ongoing through November 17, 2016  
Must be pre-registered for classes

## **Youth & Adult Basketball League**

Registration  
Ongoing through November 21, 2016

## **Applications for TAHO Program**

Deadline to submit new/updated applications for TAHO program ongoing through Friday, December 16, 2016

## **Friday, November 4, 2016**

Unmask the Future / Diabetes Awareness  
Wind Creek Hospitality Ballroom  
6:00 pm Limited Ticket Event

## **Monday-Tuesday November 7-8, 2016**

Museum Gift Shop closed for inventory

## **Monday, November 7, 2016**

Deadline to submit information for publication in the **December 2016** issue of Poarch Creek News

## **Friday, November 11, 2016**

Deadline to submit registration form for Teen Christmas Party scheduled for December 2, 2016.

## **Friday, November 11, 2016**

Deadline to submit registration form for Kids Christmas Party scheduled for December 8, 2016

## **Friday, November 18, 2016**

State of the Tribe Presentation  
Wellness Center/Gym  
6:00 pm

## **Thursday & Friday, November 24-25, 2016**

Tribal Offices will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

## **Tribal Council Meetings**

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

## **Tribal Court Sessions**

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

## **Tribal Regulatory Commission Meetings**

Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Building 500 Auditorium 9:00 am

## **Tribal Grievance Board**

Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>  
Building 500 Auditorium 1:00 pm

## **Calvin McGhee Cultural Advisory Committee**

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

## **Education Advisory Committee**

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

## **4-H Club**

Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>  
Education Department  
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

## **Utility Authority Board Meeting**

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

## **Thursday, December 1, 2016**

Deadline to submit information for publication in the **January 2017** issue of *Poarch Creek News*  
New submission deadlines and other applicable changes begin with the **January 2017** issue.

## **Friday, December 2, 2016**

Tribal Health Department will close at 12:00 noon; will reopen 8:00 am on Monday, December 5, 2016.

## **Friday, December 2, 2016**

Teen Christmas Party Ages 13-17  
Wind Creek Hospitality Ballroom  
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
Must pre-register for this event

## **Thursday, December 8, 2016**

Kids Christmas Party Ages 0-12  
Wind Creek Cinema 5:30 pm  
Must pre-register for this event

## **Friday, December 9, 2016**

Tribal Christmas Parade 5:30 pm  
Parade starts at Building 300  
Christmas Festival in gym parking area immediately following parade

**Tribal Member Benefits Open Enrollment ends November 30, 2016. You must make your benefit selections by November 30 in order to receive benefit funding in January of 2017.**

**You can visit [www.mytmbp.com](http://www.mytmbp.com) to enroll or call 1-844-969-8627 for additional information.**

## Newsletter Contact Information

### *Poarch Creek News*

*The Poarch Creek News is the official newsletter of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.*

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