POARCH CREEK NEWS MARCH 2017 VOLUME 35 ISSUE 3

# Cokv-Lulyme (cho-ka-da-la-mi/newspape)

#### **INTRODUCTION**

A Moment With The Tribal Chair

Hesci! February was an informative and busy month. Our Tribe had Tribal Council representatives at USET (United South and Eastern Tribes) and NCAI (National Congress of American Indians) both of which were held in Washington, D.C. Conferences such as these are critical for the Tribe and allow us to maintain good relations with others throughout Indian Country and lawmakers.

These times away from my home are far from glamorous (I definitely got in my 10,000 steps and my feet were aching from walking up and down Capitol Hill!), but I've realized since being elected to Tribal Council in 2006 just how important these meetings are to our success as a sovereign nation. Especially now that we have a new President, it is of the utmost importance that we commit to educating new staff and members within his administration about Native issues. Further, we must continue strengthening the relationships that we have made over the years with those in D.C. who decide on laws that directly affect us as Tribal Members of a federallyrecognized Tribe.

The Poarch Creek Indians have had our share of struggles, fights, and hard times that we endured to attain our federal recognition and sovereignty. We will always experience challenges, but please know that I, along with other Tribal Council Members, fight to protect our rights as Native Americans.

March is a month that is very near and dear to my heart for several reasons. Not only is March the month of my birth, but it is also considered National Women's History Month. Additionally, International (Working) Women's Day is celebrated on the 8th and focuses on women workers and advancing women's rights in politics, society, and the workforce.

As a woman who has worked in business and now in politics as the first woman Tribal Chair for the Poarch Creek Indians, I can attest to the struggles and challenges that occur in both settings. Unfortunately, there are many double standards that still exist in these worlds. However, I have found that the best solutions come from a setting that is balanced and considers many varying viewpoints and perspectives regardless of gender. And, I for one really do enjoy working with my fellow Council Members both male and female. But. always remember, it's not just one person's decision that creates change - it takes a majority. Change happens teamwork through and by everyone working together for the betterment of the Tribe.

In more recent years I have noticed an upward trend in the amount of women within leadership, and it is encouraging



Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair/CEO sbryan@pci-nsn.gov

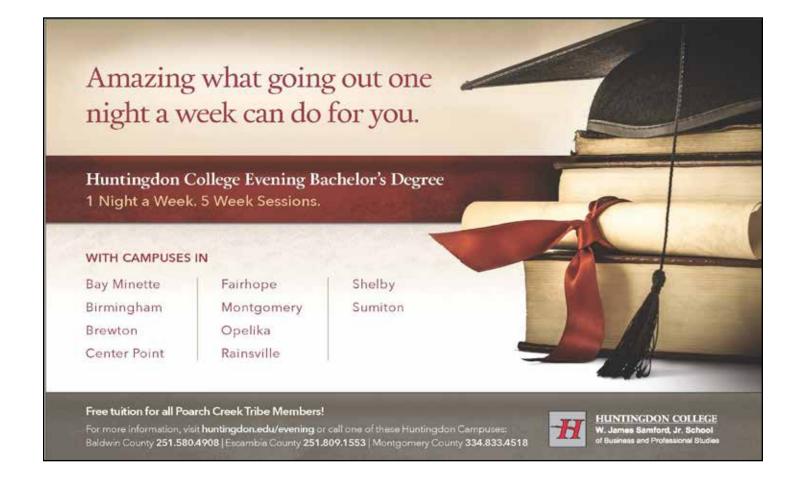
and refreshing to see the number of women leaders that are emerging in many different fields. I encourage everyone regardless of your gender or background to continually strive towards your purpose and passion in life.

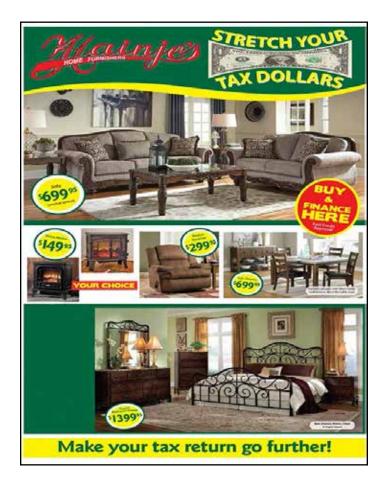
In closing, I ask that you all remember your leaders at all levels, your community, and your Tribe in your prayers.

May God continue to bless you and the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

In love,

Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair/ CEO





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#### INTRODUCTION

## Enrolled Tribal Members: 3017











A Moment With The Tribal Chair

Primary Care Physicians CAMO Wheelin Veteran's Salute Poarch Creek News, keeping the family and friends of Poarch informed

Rirth Announcement

### **Regular Features**

2	A Moment With The Tribal Chair	21
4	Contents	22
5	Submission Criteria	23
6	2016–2017 Tribal Council	24
8	Tribal Council Update	56
9	Congressional Update	50

## Programs & Services

- 25 Archives & Records Management 45 Assisted Living Facility 26 48 28 Boys & Girls Club 49 30 Cultural Department 50 31 Education Department Environmental Department 35
- 37 Family Services Department
- 40 Health Department

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.

10 Veteran's Salute

- Birth Announcements 3 Anniversary Tribal Member Submissions
  - Monthly Calendar of Events
- 43 Housing Department Recreation Department TERO Office Tribal Police Department Tribal Utilities Authority

### News & Information

- Primary Care Physicians 12 2017 Elections Notice
- 15 CAMO Wheelin'
- Mitchell-McPhearson Lecture 16
- 19 IHS Employees of Year
- 20 Why Birthdays Are Not In Newsletter

## Wind Creek & CIEDA

51 CIEDA

On the cover:

Dr. Jamie McKinley with patient Vera Ramer.

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 www.pci-nsn.gov (251) 368-9136 x 2210

Regular Office Hours Tuesday - Friday 7:00 am - 6:00 pm

Direct Dial # 251 446-5210

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

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

#### **INTRODUCTION**

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

#### Submission Criteria

Tribal Member submissions for publication in the *Poarch Creek News* are limited to Tribal Members & spouse, first generation, and those living in Tribal Member households unless an 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.

#### Photo Submissions:

One per article submission; photos will be cropped to fit available space. High resolution .jpg or PDF format. *Head sbots are preferred*. Individuals in the photos are to be appropriately dressed; for example, men must wear a shirt, no swim suits except for swim team photos, no photos with cigarettes or alcohol, etc. We will do our best to publish submitted photos, but we cannot fix blurred or distorted photos.

#### Birthday Wishes

Birthday Wishes will be accepted for the month before, the month of, or the month after the birthday. However, Birthday Wishes will no longer be published in the newsletter. A list of Tribal Member birthdays will be obtained from Tribal Enrollment each month; these birthdays will be posted on the Tribe's web site at pci-nsn.gov/birthdays and from a link on the Community Page. Birthday Wishes will also be posted on the Tribe's official social media pages.

Tribal Members may continue to submit individual birthday wishes as in the past for Tribal Members and spouses, First Generation Descendants, and those living in a Tribal Household. These wishes will also be posted on the web site and social media.

#### SUBMISSION DEADLINES

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

Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m. (CST) the first business day of the month prior to the month of publication.

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.

#### The Tribal Members Only Portal (TMOP),

for Tribal Members only 10 that (Throty), for Tribal Members age 18 and above, is located on the left sidebar of the website's home page, www.pci-nsn.gov. Information such as Tribal Council Minutes, Tribal surveys, proposed ordinances, and other confidential information will be posted in this area that is accessible to Tribal Members only.

The TMOP is not an automated site; it will be up to individual users to resolve

issues they have if they are unable to login to the TMOP. We are unable to provide assistance beyond confirming that you have the correct username and password to access this area of our website. Confirmation of correct username and password may take up to 24 hours.

You can receive updated news and information via the Tribe's social media pages at facebook.com/ PoarchBandofCreekIndians; twitter.com/

#### Anniversary Wishes:

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

#### **Obituaries:**

Tribal Members are asked to add *Poarch Creek News* 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.

Tribal Members may continue to submit obituaries/thanks, and other applicable submissions by the last business day of the <u>second month</u> immediately following the death. *Photos will be cropped to reflect deceased* only.

#### In Memory:

Can 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. *Photos will be cropped to reflect deceased only.* In Memory submissions are limited to one 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.

#### Corrections:

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

#### WORD LIMITS

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

PoarchCreek; and www.instagram.com/ poarchbandofcreekindians/.

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The Tribe's website and social media accounts are maintained by the Government Relations Department.

Please contact Kim Philyaw, Social Media Manager, at (251) 368-9136 x 2169 or *kphilyaw@pci-nsn.gov* if you have any questions or concerns.

#### **TRIBAL COUNCIL**



Robert R. McGhee, Vice Chairman rmcghee@pci-nsn.gov



Charlotte M. Meckel, Secretary cmeckel@pci-nsn.gov



Eddie L. Tullis, Treasurer etullis@pci-nsn.gov



Sandy Hollinger, At-Large shollinger@pci-nsn.gov

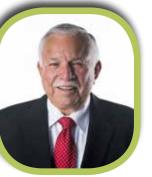


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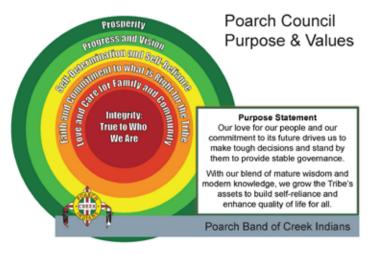
Keith Martin, At-Large kmartin@pci-nsn.gov

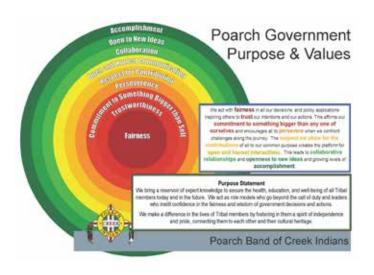


Garvis Sells, At-Large gsells@pci-nsn.gov



Stephanie A.Bryan, Tribal Chair/CEO sbryan@pci-nsn.gov





POARCH CREEK NEWS



## www.poarchneighbors.com

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

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/POARCHNEIGHBORS/ TWITTER.COM/POARCHNEIGHBORS plus.google.com/u/0/+Poarchneighbors www.youtube.com/channel/UCpPKy0-WEMIc\_0V4-cMc3BA

#### **TRIBAL COUNCIL**

The new year of 2017 is already off to a busy start with many changes happening every day. Some, if not all, of the changes will directly affect us as a Tribe such as the new GWE program and our new President and his Administration.

We realize that you have had copious amounts of information given to you about the GWE program, but there is a very small chance that our Elders will be audited. I want to remind each of you that we as Tribal Leaders cannot control the actions of the Federal Government. Since we are the only Tribe in Alabama implementing this program, I strongly encourage each of you to keep your receipts.

I also want to reiterate that with the new President we, as Tribal Leaders, assume responsibility to educate Congress, the Senate, and the new Administration about the operations of our Tribal Government as a whole. You will see a lot of travel in the upcoming months by the Tribal Council but please understand that with the new Administration comes much work on our part to ensure that you, the Tribal Members, are



Eddie L. Tulllis, Treasurer etullis@pci-nsn.gov

not left out of the process and its impending changes.

I want to also encourage all Tribal Members not living in the community to closely observe the day-to-day operations through the correspondence that is provided to you.

Read all reports and communications that are made available to you from all the entities.

Be aware of major physical changes taking place as well as all of the benefits that we currently provide to you. We as a Tribe are getting to be an operation so big that we seem to somewhat be losing perspective as to our Federal Recognition and what it means, such as being bound by Federal Law to provide services to all Tribal Members and not just forge ahead to be a powerful economic engine.

In closing, I want to reiterate that there is an election coming in June and each Tribal Member has an obligation to participate. You have an obligation to the Tribe to step up whether it be as a candidate or to simply exercise your God given right and privilege to vote. We have been fortunate in the past to have great participation by candidates as well as you, the General Council.

As always my phone is always on and my door is always open to you.

May 2017 be the year of bigger and greater things to come for each and every one of you.

Eddie L. Tullis

If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude.

Maya Angelou

The road that is built in hope is more pleasant to the traveler than the road built in despair, even though they both lead to the same destination. Marian Zimmer Bradley

### **Congressional Update - March, 2017**

### **TRIBAL COUNCIL**

### Committee Assignments Reflect Top Priorities

When I am not casting a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives or visiting with groups in my office, a large percentage of my time in Washington is spent serving on committees.

There are currently twenty standing committees in the House, and each member of Congress serves on at least one committee. These committees are where much of the legislative work is actually done.

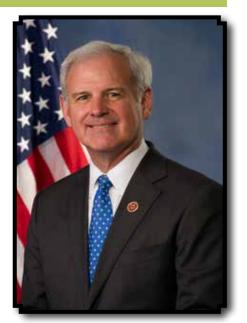
I am honored to serve on three committees: Armed Services, Education and the Workforce, and Rules. I want to briefly take a look at each of these assignments and outline our top priorities.

The Armed Services Committee has jurisdiction over the entire U.S. military. We focus on everything from procurement of new military equipment to the health care benefits of service members to overall defense strategy.

A top priority of mine on the Armed Services Committee is seapower issues, including building up our nation's naval fleet. I believe a strong Navy is critical in terms of keeping the sea lanes open for commerce and ensuring the American people remain safe and secure. I also use my position on the Armed Services Committee to support the important military shipbuilding projects based on the Gulf Coast.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I get to work on policies relating K-12 education, higher to education, workforce training, labor, employment, and pensions. I am especially excited that Chairwoman Virginia Foxx selected me to serve as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections. I really look forward to using this Chairmanship to advance policies that make life easier for our nation's workers.

Finally, I serve on the House Rules Committee. The Rules Committee is different than every other committee in the House, and it is actually one of the oldest and most powerful committees. It is the job of the Rules Committee to prepare bills for debate on the House floor. The Rules Committee is an especially busy committee, but it gives me a



Representative Bradley Bryne (251) 690-2811 Byrne.House.Gov

unique opportunity to have an input on almost every bill that comes up for a vote in the House.

All told, I believe these committee assignments put me in a strong position to advocate for policies and legislation that are important to families, workers, students, teachers, service members, and small businesses in Southwest Alabama.

I think there's no higher calling in terms of a career than public service, which is a chance to make a difference in people's lives and improve the world. Jack Lew

Ostvpaken

March (Tasahcuce) 2017



Primary Care Physicians left to right are Dr. Jamie McKinley, Dr. Karen Flanagan, Physician's Assistant Kendi Kirby, Dr. Stella Von Troil, and Dr. Ted Woods.

This month we feature the Primary Care Physicians from the Tribal Health Department. The Primary Care Physicians include Dr. Jamie McKinley, Dr. Karen Flanagan, Dr. Ted Woods, Dr. Stella Von Troil and Physician Assistant Kendi Kirby.

"As your physicians, we welcome all Tribal Members to the Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic." states Dr. Jamie McKinley, Chief Physician/ Chief Medical Officer.

The Primary Care staff is pleased to serve the medical needs of Tribal Members and other authorized patients. A wide variety of medical services including, wellness checks, chronic medical care, acute sick visits, pediatric services, immunizations, and minor procedures are offered through the Primary Care clinic.

At the Health Clinic, Primary Care Physicians have access to inhouse radiology, laboratory services, physical therapy, behavioral health, pharmacy, and an eye clinic. Our physicians work with these services to bring the best primary health care in the area.

Dr. McKinley, and the other Primary Health Care Physicians, work daily to see that their patients' medical needs are accomplished. When necessary they may have to refer a patient out to a specialist or have testing that is not offered in the Health Department. To do that, they adhere to the Indian Health Services Medical Priority Levels. These levels are managed by the Chief Medical Officer of IHS. Priorities 1 & 2 are paid using IHS funding that is budgeted each year. These include life or limb urgent cases (Priority 1) and preventative management (Priority 2). Priorities 3, 4, & 5 are not covered by IHS and would be your responsibility for co-pay. The priority system does not mean you will not be able to get a referral. It is only used for priority for payments.



3.

Our physicians and physician assistant bring many years of experience in the field of primary care to the Health Department. They look forward to continuing care for the medical needs of the Tribe.

#### 1. DR. JAMIE MCKINLEY

Dr. Jamie McKinley is the Chief Physician/Chief Medical Officer. Dr. McKinley joined the Health Department in November of 2015. He is an Atmore native and is board certified in Family Medicine. He attended residency at UAB-Huntsville.

#### 2. DR. TED WOODS

Staff Physician Dr. Ted Woods is a First Generation Descendant of the Poarch Creek Indians. Dr. Woods has worked with the Tribe since November of 2014. He is a graduate of Ross University and is trained in Preventative Medicine.

#### DR. KAREN FLANAGAN

Staff Physician Dr. Karen Flanagan is from Brewton. She is a graduate of Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine and is trained in Pediatrics and Geriatric medicine. Dr. Flanagan has also been with the Health Department since November 2015.

#### 4. DR. STELLA VON TROIL

Dr. Von Troil is our newest Staff Physician; she came on board in January of 2017. She is originally from Finland and is a graduate of the Medical Faculty University of Ulm. She is trained and board certified in Family Medicine.

#### 5. KENDI KIRBY, P.A.

Our Physician Assistant, Kendi Kirby, P.A., is a graduate of the University of South Alabama Allied Health Studies Physician Assistant Program. Kendi takes care of the pediatric population. Kendi has been with the Health Department since January of 2016.

## 2017 Tribal Council Election Notice

WHEN: June 3, 2017

LOCATION: PCI Community Resource Building (old SAIL Center)

<u>TIME\*:</u> 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

**PURPOSE:** To elect the following: Tribal Chairman (3 year term) and 2 At-Large Council Member (3 year term)

#### **DEADLINE TO DECLARE CANDIDACY:**

5:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, 2017 Deadline to have name printed on official ballot.

5:00 p.m. Thursday, May 4, 2017 Deadline to be included as a Write-in Candidate

#### DEADLINE TO PUBLISH BIO & PHOTO IN POARCH CREEK NEWS:

Candidates wishing to publish a biography and photo in the May newsletter must submit their biography and photo to the Election Board, by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, 2017.

Biographies are limited to 500 words or less and cannot contain political platform or views. Digital copies of biographies and photos are preferred and may be submitted by email to Elections@pcinsn.gov. Any portion of the biography which seems to contain political views, as determined by the Election Board, will be stricken from the biography.

Contact Edie Jackson, Election Board Chairman, at (251) 368-9136 x 2231, (251) 446-5231 or ejackson@pci-nsn.gov if you have any questions or need more information.

## 2017 Tribal Council Election Calendar

**TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017** – Deadline to submit Candidate Fee and Letter of Candidacy to Election Board for name to be included on official ballot.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017** – Deadline to submit biography and photo for publication in May 2017 issue of *Poarch Creek News*.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2017** – Names of candidates and any proposed constitutional amendments, ordinances and/or resolutions will be posted.

MAY 4, 2017 – Last day to submit Candidate Fee and Letter of Candidacy for Tribal Council to be a Write-in on Ballot. Any additional names of candidates will be posted within 10 days.

**MONDAY, MAY 22, 2017** – Walk-in voting starts and continues through Friday, June 2, 2017. Open daily from 9:00\* a.m. to 6:00 p.m. except for Sunday, May 28, 2017 and Monday, May 29, 2017.

**TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017** – Last day to request Absentee Ballot to be mailed out.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2017 – Walk-in voting ends at 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2017 – Deadline to receive Absentee Ballots at 5:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017** – Tribal Election Day. Polls open 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at PCI Community Resource building (old SAIL Center). Results will be announced at the Pow Wow Grounds during the Calvin McGhee Memorial, and will be posted at the PCI Community Resource Building (Old SAIL Center) back door, on the Community Bulletin Board, and will be printed in the July issue of the *Poarch Creek News*.

\* All times are Central Standard Time (CST)



POARCH CREEK INDIANS

## WRITTEN STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

For the Tribal Election of the Poarch Creek Indians to be held Saturday, June 3, 2017, I, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_, declare my candidacy for [ ] Chairman of the Tribal Council, or [ ] an at large

Tribal Council position. I am enclosing my fees of [ ] \$250 for an Officer position or [ ] \$100 for an at large position.

Name as you desire it to be listed on the official Election Ballot: Must be legal name or nickname. No Slogans.

## Please Print <u>Consent for Background Verification</u>

I authorize the Tribal Election Board of the Poarch Creek Indians to investigate and verify my eligibility, as established in the Tribal Election Procedures, to be a candidate for a position on the Tribal Council, in the Tribal Election of the Poarch Creek Indians to be held on Saturday, June 3, 2017.

Tribal Roll No: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be at least twenty-one (21) years of age on the date of the Election and have never been convicted of a felony. I agree to make public, in writing to the Election Board, any contributions to my campaign in accordance with the Election Code.

Signature

Date

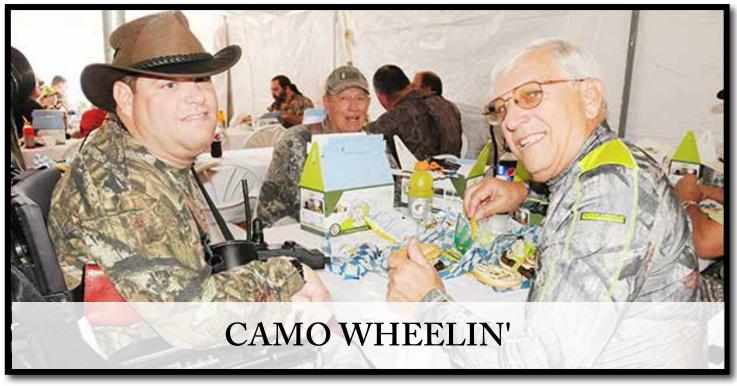


hen it comes to great times, Wind Creek Atmore has everything you need and more! Catch a Hollywood blockbuster or hit Strikes for some real bowling competition. Video games sound good? Then Arcade is the place for you. Try Yo•Joe for a sweet treat. Or for big appetites, grab a burger at Grill or try TASTE Buffet where we take all-you-can-eat to a new level. So stop waiting and make Wind Creek Atmore your one stop destination for fun.



FIND YOUR WINNING MOMENT.

303 Poarch Rd., Atmore, AL 36502 WindCreekAtmore.com © 2017 Wind Creek Hospitality



Hunters Mark and Paul Christensen pose for a photo during lunch at the Poarch Creek Indian Hunting Club on Jan. 20. Andrew Garner/Atmore Advance

While the weather wasn't perfect for hunting, that didn't stop some 30 disabled hunters from doing what they love last weekend at the Poarch Creek Indian Hunting Club.

Wheelin' Outdoor Adventures of Flomaton sponsored the hunt, which is an annual event. There is on average, a couple hunts per year.

In fact, last year was the first year the disability hunt was held, and several hunters sported their best camo for the event.

Wheelin' Outdoor Adventures President Gene White said he decided to get a disability hunt together because it was rare in this neck of the woods. "We thought about trying to help people in this area to have the opportunity to get out and hunt," White said. "We have a couple to three hunts a year."

"We talked to them at Wind Creek, and they stepped up real good and let us come over here," he said. "They decided that they were going to feed everybody."

Hunters hunt based on their level of disability. Some hunters have gun rests.

Around 40 volunteers were on hand to assist the hunters. Hunters from South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Florida and Alabama participated in the disability hunt. White said this group has grown from its origin.

"We started off small with three or four hunters, and the next day, it got bigger and bigger," he said. "We wanted to get people in the area in it."

In addition to providing the hunting ground, Wind Creek Atmore treated the hunters to a free lunch from its food truck.

Andrew Gardner, Atmore Advance

Original article, with photo, published in January 25, 2017 issue of Atmore Advance. Reprinted with permission



Dr. Deidra Suwanne Dees speaking at Troy as the 2017 Mitchell-McPherson Lecture

With stomp dance regalia ablaze in the colors of fire against the backdrop of the color of night, Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees spoke from her heart about her own experiences in education to over one-hundred students and faculty in the Claudia Crosby Theatre at Troy University on January 19. Standing with her Harvard dissertation in hand, she said, "You can stand here with your own dissertation one day." She explained how she overcame financial struggles and difficulties involved with obtaining her academic degrees, and encouraged students to work hard and stick with it.

As the Director/Tribal Archivist of the Office of Archives and Records Management, Dr. Dees was selected as the 2017 McPherson-Mitchell Lecturer in Southern History by Troy University. She provided an archival presentation on the history of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. She was joined by Tribal Artisan Ms. Carolyn Peterson who displayed her award-winning art pieces in front of the stage. "I personally feel it was a privilege to have been invited to participate in this representation of our Tribe," said Ms. Peterson.

Troy University Professor Dr. David Carlson said, "It is important, as Alabama begins its bicentennial celebrations, to recognize the contributions the region's indigenous peoples have made to this state's history." This was the first time a Native American was named as the McPherson-Mitchell Lecturer, he said.

Dr. Dees presented the audience with some of the rich history of the Tribe from a personal and professional perspective, utilizing archival documents and records in a slideshow. She was able to do this so thoroughly because of her in-depth study and personal

interviews with our elders in writing her dissertation. She interviewed Marie and Otha Martin, Roberta McGhee Sells, Eddie Tullis, Buford Rolin, Ruby Barnhill, and Gail Thrower.

Dr. Dees pointed out the significance of Tribal leaders cultivating political relationships with American Presidents from the time of Chief Alexander McGillivray, to Chief Calvin McGhee, and to current Tribal Chair Stephanie A. Bryan.

Ms. Peterson pointed out, "Dr. Dees used her gifts not to elevate herself but to elevate the Tribe."

Dr. Dees dazzled the audience with pictures from our Archives of Chief Calvin McGhee with President John F. Kennedy and of Tribal Chair Stephanie A. Bryan with President Barack Obama.

Our Tribal Chair expressed her sentiments to Dr. Dees saying, "Great job and congratulations!"

Written by Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed.D. and Carolyn Peterson

Great leaders don't set out to be a leader...They set out to make a difference. It's never about the role-always about the goal. lisahaisha.com



Palen Kolvpohkaken





Whether you are looking for someone to help an aging parent a few hours a week or need more comprehensive assistance, Home Instead can help.

Home Instead CAREGivers can provide a variety of services. Some include:

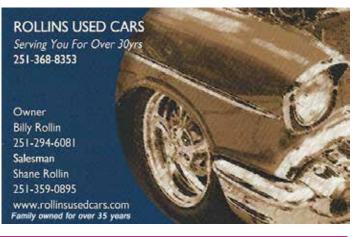
- Companionship Care
- Personal Care
- Meals & Nutrition
- Transportation
- Household Duties
- Respite Care



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POARCH CREEK NEWS

Palen Cenvpohkaken



Left to right are Jarrell Hollinger, Lisa Parker, and Dr. Ted Woods

Three employees of the Tribal Health Department were recognized for their outstanding service to Tribal Members by the Nashville Area Indian Health Service. The recipients were honored at an Awards Ceremony held in Nashville on January 12, 2017.

Jarrell Hollinger was awarded the "Employee of the Year-Outstanding Customer Service"; Lisa Parker was awarded the "Employee of the Year-Administrative Support"; and Dr. Theodore (Ted) Woods was awarded the "Employee of the Year-Medical Provider".

Poarch Creek is blessed to have such outstanding employees working for the Tribe and it's Tribal Members.

Submitted by Edie Jackson, H&ES Division Director

### Why Birthday Wishes Are No Longer Published In The Poarch Creek News

Over the past few years the newsletter has grown from just a few pages to several issues that have exceeded 90 pages. As the newsletter has grown, so has the number of birthday wishes submitted, some issues having as many as four to six pages of birthday wishes.

We attempted to design the pages to accommodate the number of wishes received. To get the maximum number of wishes on a page, the space available for each birthday was minimum and the accompanying photos were sometimes difficult to see with clarity. To remedy this, we redesigned the birthday wish layout, allowing more photo space and increasing the word count. This change also contributed to the number of pages of birthday wishes.

In an effort to reduce the ever increasing cost of the newsletter, several changes were made beginning with the January 2017 issue. We changed the submission deadline from the  $5^{\text{th}}$  of the month to the first business day of the month; we have limited the total number of pages per issue, and we have removed the Birthday Wishes from the newsletter.

Although we no longer publish the birthday wishes in the newsletter, we wanted to continue the publication of birthday wishes. Our solution? Post them on the web site and official Tribal social media accounts.

Tribal Members may visit www.pci-nsn.gov/ birthdays each month to see who is celebrating a birthday. The Birthday List will include the names of all Tribal Members who will be celebrating a birthday that month, not just those whose information has been submitted by family or friends.

The Birthday List will be posted on the web site at the same time the latest issue of the newsletter is posted, customarily on or around the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the month of publication.

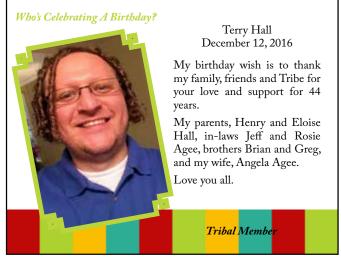
If a birthday wish has been submitted, an icon will appear beside their name. If you click on the icon, it will take you to their Birthday Card. This Birthday Card may be printed, saved to your computer, or shared on social media.

If a birthday wish has been submitted for a Tribal Member spouse, First Generation, or someone living in a Tribal household, this submission has been included and a Birthday Card has been generated as well.

The birthday information is also posted on the official Tribal social media accounts: facebook. com/PoarchBandofCreekIndians; twitter. com /PoarchCreek; and www.instagram.com/ poarchbandofcreekindians.

Tribal Members are still encouraged to submit Birthday Wishes, they will simply be posted on the web site and social media instead of being published in the newsletter.

As always, Birthday Wishes may be submitted the month before the birthday, the month of the birthday, or the month after the birthday. Please keep established deadlines in mind when submitting your birthday wish.



First Birthday Card to be posted on web site and social media

#### Veteran's Salute -March 2017

#### **TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS**

This month we salute the late Otis Gibson. Otis served in the United States Navy from August 1949 until his retirement in June of 1967. Otis was a Hospital Corpsman, retiring at the rank of HMC E-7.

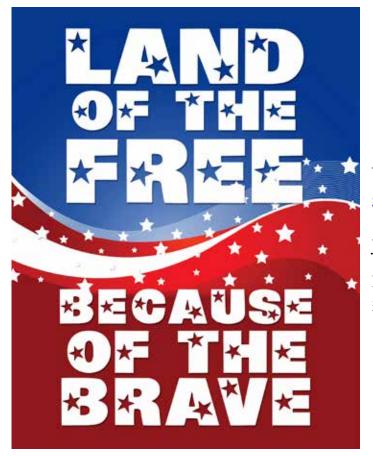
During his time in the Navy, Otis served on the USS William C Lawe DD-763. His last duty assignment was at the U.S. Naval School of Aviation Medicine, NAS Pensacola.

While in the service, Otis attended the CPO Academy, the Advanced Hospital Corps School, and the Medical Administration School. Otis was awarded the Korean Service Medal w/1 star, the United Nations Service Medal, the Fleet Marine Force Combat Insignia on Korean Service Medal; the Korean Presidential Unit Citation Medal; the National Defense Services Medal (2), the Navy Unit Commendation, and the Good Conduct Medal (6).

Otis Gibson, just one of many Tribal Members who have proudly served for their family, their Tribe, and their country. Because of his service and sacrifices, we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.



Otis Gibson HMC E-7 United States Navy



### Honoring Our Veterans

You may submit a veteran's information via email to gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov, via hand delivery to the *Poarch Creek News*, or via US Mail to *Poarch Creek News*, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502.

Please be sure to include return address and contact information.



#### **TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS**

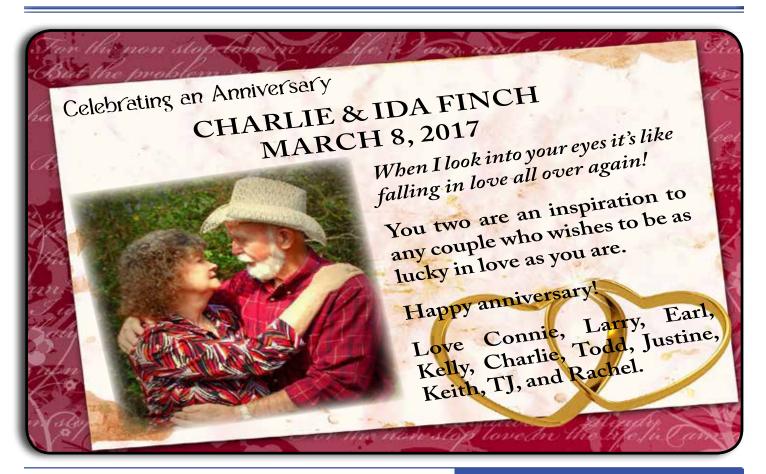


January 24, 2017 🛛 💥 8 lbs

8 lbs 4 oz 🛛 💥 20 1/2 inches

Teagan Ryleigh Manac, daughter of Calvin Manac and Summer Bennett, was born January 24, 2017. Teagan is the granddaughter of Dewayne & Felicia O'Berry and Joe & Pam Bennett. She is the great granddaughter of the late Calvin Manac; Howard & Wanda Terry; Donald & Mozell O'Berry; Mary & Gerard Jusseaume, the late David Terrell; and the late Hershel & Ruby Bennett.

Welcomed with love. Dad & Mom. Calvin & Summer. Noni & Puca O'Berry. and Gigi & PaPa Bennett.



Pale-Hokkolen Tuccenohkaken

### WHO'S CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY?

Birthday Wishes are no longer published in the newsletter. They are now posted on the Tribal web site at http://pci-nsn.gov/birthdays and will be featured on the Tribe's social media pages the day of their birthday. The birthday link is a new and exciting addition to the web site!

Please visit www.pci-nsn.gov/birthdays each month to see who is celebrating a birthday. Each month the Birthday List will include the names of all Tribal Members who will be celebrating a birthday that month.

The Birthday List will be posted on the web site at the same time the latest issue of the newsletter is posted, customarily on or around the 17<sup>th</sup> of each month.

If a birthday wish has been submitted, an icon will appear beside their name. Click on the icon and it will take you to their Birthday Card. This Birthday Card may be printed, saved to your computer, or shared on social media. If a birthday wish has been submitted for a Tribal Member spouse, First Generation, or someone living in a Tribal household, this submission has been included and a Birthday Card has been generated as well.

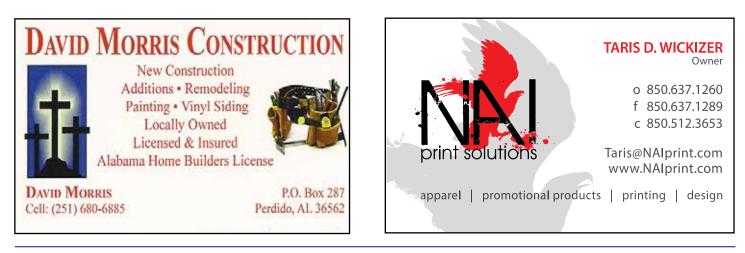
If you wish to submit a birthday wish, the criteria remains the same with the exception that submission deadlines are the first business day of the month prior to the month of publication.



## Thank You

The family of Larry and Carmine Gibson would like to say a heartfelt thanks to the Gospel Lighthouse Church, the Tribal Council, Wind Creek Hospitality, and all others who participated or donated during the recent benefit for cancer victim Carmine Gibson. We cannot say the words sufficient enough to express our gratitude for the love and kindness that has been shown to us.

Poarch is so much more than a community, it is a family and we are proud to be a part of the family.



POARCH CREEK NEWS

The Office of Archives and Records Management at the Poarch Band of Creek Indians invites you to our

## Conference on Lost *Trail of Tears* Film Featuring Newly Discovered Soundtracks!



Saturday, March 4, 2017

#### 9:00 a.m. Breakfast & Slideshow

Wind Creek Theatre

~Bring your pictures from the filming to share with others~ Conference is free and open to everyone





Alabama A&M University filmed the "Trail of Tears" documentary on Creek history at Creek Nation East of the Mississippi in 1978, featuring reenactments by our own Tribe. Over time, the film was lost but newly discovered soundtracks and photographs were just found! Hear from participants and University professionals who assisted in the 39-year search. Mvto.

Ms. Ellen O'Barr @ 446-4941, Ms. Wendy Martin-Cox @ 446-4942, Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees @ 446-4940

### FREE Tax Preparation Program South Alabama RSVP Volunteer Program IRS Trained Volunteers on Site

Free Tax Preparation and Counseling Mondays & Wednesdays/Brewton Public Library

Tuesdays/Poarch Creek Indian Reservation @ Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility Thursdays/Atmore City Hall Auditorium

Fridays/Flomaton Public Library

- Free Tax Prep is provided through a Federal Grant from the IRS.
- All RSVP Volunteers are IRS Trained and Certified.
- Federal and State Tax Returns are Electronically Filed.
- By Appointment only: Call 251-867-0255 for an Appointment.
- Combined Household Income must not exceed \$54,000.

Please know that taxpayers claiming Earned Income Credit (EITC), Additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC) and Opportunity Tax Credit (OTC) will have delayed refunds until after February 15, 2017 due to the Congressional PATH ACT.

#### WHAT TO BRING!

- Both spouses must be present if married filing jointly.
- All forms W-2 and 1099 and information on any other income.
- Social Security Cards & State Drivers License/State ID.
- Birth dates for you, spouse and/or dependents on the return.
- Information for all deductions and credits.
- Forms 1095-A, B or C (ACA Statements).
- A copy of last year's tax return.

Call for Appointment: 251-867-0255





# Fresh Picks For Your Home



Uhland Granite Power Group with Power Headrest



Sommerford Reclaimed Wood Dining Group



Willenburg Bedroom Group

## NEW Exclusive Styles Arriving Every Week!



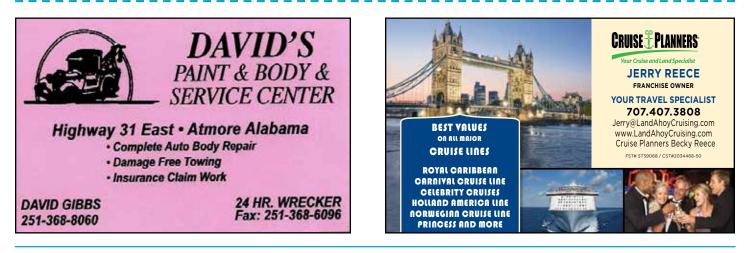
URNITURE

Boys & Girls Club



Congratulations to the Boys & Girls Club February Youth of the Month winners!

PK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade division winner - Levi McGhee, top left; 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade division winner Tanna Spence, top right; and Teen Center division winner - Tanner Jackson, bottom right. These youth were nominated for their outstanding demonstration of good behaviors and leadership. Congratulations Levi, Tanna, and Tanner!



POARCH CREEK NEWS



Mentors from left to right: Christopher Carnley, Selina Steele, Donna Koehrsen, Carolyn Bodiford, Krystie Jackson, Debra Ramer, Arelene Mack, Krystal Rolin, Stephanie Agerton, Janet Shultz, Shaun Livermore, and James Ramer. Mentors absent from the picture include Blakelee Hendrix, Paige Findley, Cade White, William Bailey, and new mentor Candace Fayard.

Hello everyone. My name is Donna Koehrsen. I am the Community/ Mentor Coordinator for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Boys & Girls Club (B&G Club). January was National Mentoring Month and every year we hold an event to honor our mentors. This year we held a Mentor Banquet on January 27th at the Wind Creek Casino ballroom. We were recognizing the people who had mentored during 2016 and are still currently mentoring in 2017. We had 15 active mentors during 2016 but have had two more mentors sign up since the first of this year. We had 40 active mentees and the numbers are constantly increasing.

At the 2017 Mentor Banquet I gave a little speech about our Native American Mentor program, then called up the Mentors to give them a certificate of recognition for their dedication to the program. Mrs. Arelene Mack and Mrs. Stephanie Agerton were recognized for five years of dedication to the program. They have been a part of the program since the B&G Club first opened in

#### 2011.

The National Native American Mentoring Program is a site based program that takes place through the Tribe's B&G Club. This program allows Mentors/Mentees (Matches) to participate in fun and engaging activities in a supervised and safe environment. Matches meet for an average of one hour a week. Most meetings take place at the Mentor portable located behind the Teen Center. All Mentors are members of the community. Several of our Mentors are staff of the B& G Club and the others are Tribal Government staff. They all generally meet with their mentees from 4:00 pm- 5:00 pm during our club hours. Some of our staff at the club mentor through the archery program, some mentor at the Old Sail Center, the Old School House and in the Pickrell House office. During our meetings with our mentees we talk, play games, do crafts, listen to music, play sports, but most importantly we bond with each other. It is such a great program and it allows us to spend a little one-on-one time with some of the children from the club. Some mentors have just one mentee and others mentor a small group of children. The average mentor signs on for a year but many matches last longer and some may last less due to people's schedules. Either way, the mentees really enjoy their time spent with their mentor.

The National Native American Program was started in 2011 when the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Boys & Girls Club first opened. This program is funded by two OJP grants that are awarded yearly. The Tribe helps fund any additional needs for the program.

If anyone is interested in our Native American Mentoring Program they can contact me by cell phone at 251-359-6890, or by email at dkoehrsen@ pci-nsn.gov or in the office at 251-368-9136 ext. 2112. We are always in need of more mentors, especially male mentors.

Submitted by Donna Koehrsen

**Cultural Department** 



## **The Fred L. McGhee Early Learning Center**

## 2017-2018 School Year

## Applications will be accepted the week of <u>April $17^{\text{th}} - 21^{\text{st}}$ ONLY</u> from <u>8:00 AM-5:00 PM!</u>

No Applications will be accepted before April 17<sup>th</sup> or after April 21<sup>st</sup>.

CHILD MUST BE 4 YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPT. 1, 2017.

Applications are available on Education's page of the Tribe's web site (<u>www.pci-nsn.gov</u>), the Learning Center, and Education Department. Applications will only be accepted for PCI Tribal Members, first and second generation Indian descent students.

Complete application <u>MUST</u> include:

- Certified Birth Certificate
- Shot Record (Alabama Blue Card)
- Social Security Card
- Proof of Tribal Enrollment –OR- Indian descent letter for the child



## PARENTS OF FIRST & SECOND GENERATION INDIAN DESCENT STUDENTS PLEASE NOTE:

If your child does not have a first or second generation Indian descent letter you must contact Tribal Member Benefits @ 251-368-9136 ext. 2281 as soon as possible. Your child will be required to undergo DNA testing, which is scheduled two times per month on a first come first served basis. We cannot accept students who do not have a letter at the time of registration.

If you have questions about registration you may contact Fran Southard at (251) 446-4885 or Magen Weaver at (251)368-9136 extension 2021.

#### **Education Department**

Tribal Students Participate in Huxford Elementary's Spelling Bee Competition



From left to right: 3<sup>rd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> grade winners Mari'Yuana McCaster, Daygen From left to right: 5<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> grade winners Thomas Stevens, D'Ayala Slate, and Regan McGhee. Simmons, and River Ramer.

On January 6, 2017, Huxford Elementary hosted their annual school Spelling Bee for grades 3–6. A total of 15 students participated in the Spelling Bee; of those 15, 10 were Tribal students. Those placing were:

• Mari'Yuana McCaster

Thomas Stevens

- Daygen Slate
- Regan McGhee
- River Ramer
- Tribal Member 1<sup>st</sup> Generation

2<sup>nd</sup> Generation

- 1<sup>st</sup> Generation
- Tribal Member
- 1st place $3^{rd}-4^{th}$  grade division $2^{nd}$  place $3^{rd}-4^{th}$  grade division $3^{rd}$  place $3^{rd}-4^{th}$  grade division $1^{st}$  place $5^{th}-6^{th}$  grade division $3^{rd}$  place $5^{th}-6^{th}$  grade division

Education staff members Kimberly McGhee and Tanya Kent were on hand to support the students. The Education Department is very proud of each of these young students.



CI Tribal Members or 1 <sup>st</sup> Generation Indian Descent Graduates who have obtained their High School Diploma, GED, or College Degree are invited to attend the 2017 Graduation Banquet! Out must be a 2016-2017 graduate to attend. Graduation must take place before the date of the banquet. If your graduation is after the date of the banquet you will be invited to the 2017-2018 banquet. Date: Friday, June 2, 2017 • Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Place: Wind Creek Casino Coosawada Ballroom Graduates must RSVP by May 19 <sup>th</sup> to attend.  Full Name:  Mailing Address:  Gity: State: Graduation Date: Please check one: Tribal Member First Generation:  Con ONOT have to attend the banquet to get your graduation gift but you must submit this form by the deadline. Please indicate if you will be attending the banquet? Yes No  Hease indicate family. You are allowed to bring a maximum of 4 guest with you to the sungue. Number: Hosted by: Tribal Council, PCI Education Department and Education Advisory Board		Honorin	g ALL (	Gradu	ates 🥿
PCI Tribal Members or 1 <sup>st</sup> Generation Indian Descent Graduates who have obtained their High School Diploma, GED, or College Degree are invited to attend the 2017 Graduation Banquet! You must be a 2016-2017 graduate to attend. Graduation must take place before the date of the banquet. If your graduation is after the date of the banquet you will be invited to the 2017-2018 banquet. Date: Friday, June 2, 2017 ◆ Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Place: Wind Creek Casino Coosawada Ballroom Graduates must RSVP by May 19 <sup>th</sup> to attend. Full Name: Email Address:	7	Grad	uation <b>E</b>	anduet	7
Place: Wind Creek Casino Coosawada Ballroom         Graduates must RSVP by May 19 <sup>th</sup> to attend.         Full Name:         Email Address:         Mailing Address:         Mailing Address:         City:       State:         Zip Code:         Phone Number:       Graduation Date:         Please check one: Tribal Member       First Generation:         School Graduated From:       Degree Received:         You DO NOT have to attend the banquet to get your graduation gift but you must submit this form by the deadline.         Please indicate if you will be attending the banquet? Yes       No         Please indicate how many guest you will be bringing, not including yourself. This is a celebration for you and your immediate family. You are allowed to bring a maximum of 4 guest with you to the banquet. Number of Guest:	their I You mu	al Members or 1 <sup>st</sup> Gene ligh School Diploma, GE st be a 2016-2017 gradu <sup>t</sup> the banquet. If your gr	eration Indian De ED, or College De Graduation Ban uate to attend. G raduation is after	escent Graduate egree are invited quet! raduation must the date of the	es who have obtained d to attend the 2017 t take place before the
Graduates must RSVP by May 19 <sup>th</sup> to attend.         Full Name:         Email Address:         Email Address:         Mailing Address:         City:       State:         Zip Code:         Phone Number:       Graduation Date:         Please check one: Tribal Member       First Generation:         School Graduated From:       Degree Received:         You DO NOT have to attend the banquet to get your graduation gift but you must submit this form by the deadline.         Please indicate if you will be attending the banquet? Yes       No         Please indicate how many guest you will be bringing, not including yourself. This is a celebration for you and your immediate family. You are allowed to bring a maximum of 4 guest with you to the banquet. Number of Guest:	Date	: Friday, June 2,	2017	Time: 6:	00 – 8:00 p.m.
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Email Address:	Full Nor		•	•	
Mailing Address:	Email A	ddress:		<u> </u>	
City:       State:       Zip Code:         Phone Number:       Graduation Date:         Please check one: Tribal Member       First Generation:         School Graduated From:	Mailing	Address:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Phone Number:       Graduation Date:         Please check one: Tribal Member       First Generation:         School Graduated From:	City:		State:	Zip Co	de:
Please check one: Tribal Member First Generation:         School Graduated From:         Degree Received:         Vou DO NOT have to attend the banquet to get your graduation gift but you         must submit this form by the deadline.         Please indicate if you will be attending the banquet? Yes No         Please indicate how many guest you will be bringing, not including yourself. This is a celebration for you and your immediate family. You are allowed to bring a maximum of 4 guest with you to the banquet. Number of Guest:	Phone N	umber:	- Grad	uation Date:	
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Address: Magen Weaver, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502 Fax: (251) 368-0809 ~ Email: mweaver@pci-nsn.gov



Kevin McGhee

McGhee's Kevin educational goals started out simple. His plan was to complete a Certificate in Accounting Technology. He was very proud of that accomplishment and decided he wanted to continue his education.

Educational funding was made available to the Tribal Members, so Kevin decided to go for it. He completed his Associates Degree in Science (Cum Laude) at Jefferson Davis Community College in 2011, his Bachelor of Business Administration Faulkner at University in 2012, and his Master

### Kevin McGhee, A Determined Man

University in 2016. Faulkner "Funding from the Tribe made it easier and financially stress free for me to continue my education," said Kevin.

Kevin is currently the Entertainment Center Director at Wind Creek Atmore. His goals are to use his skills and knowledge daily in his work life to better serve the Tribe and Tribal family, with possibly one day serving as Tribal Chair. Kevin served on the Tribal Council from 2013-2016.

Attending school as an adult can be challenging and a bit overwhelming. Sitting in a classroom setting with fellow students who are recent high school graduates was somewhat intimidating for Kevin.

He had to question himself, if he should really be in school or should he just be working to make ends meet. Kevin chose to focus his efforts on the future and push forward to greater goals, overcoming these moments of insecurity.

Tawana McGhee, Kevin's wife, was his rock through his educational

of Business Administration from journey. According to Kevin, she was always willing to give him the time to put towards his work and school assignments; she was always there to cheer him on at the completion of each goal and degree.

> Raising a family, working full time, and attending school can be stressful on an individual and on a family. Having her support made all of this possible.

> Kevin wants to encourage anyone who is currently working towards a degree, thinking of returning to school, or beginning school as an adult student.

> "You may feel overwhelmed and frustrated, and feel that you are not doing as well as you think you should. Just hang in there and you will be greatly rewarded and have a feeling of accomplishment when you have the opportunity to walk across the stage of your College/ University, earning the degree you worked so hard for."

> Thank you Kevin and congratulations on your MANY successes!

> > By Anne Nowak

If you would like to share your educational accomplishments and success, please contact Anne Nowak at (251) 368-9136 x 2022 or anowak@pci-nsn.gov. An Educational Success Story Form has been posted on Education's page of the Tribal web site, www.pci-nsn.gov, to assist students who are interested in sharing their educational journey. This form may be completed and submitted directly from your computer browser. For your convenience, the form may also be downloaded and printed for completion and submission.

Anne would also like to hear about the educational success of our Tribal Member and 1st Generation students in grades Pre-K-12. We want to share these accomplishments as well.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

## SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2017 8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

#### Sponsored by Poarch Creek Indians Environmental Department 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore AL, 36502 (251) 368-9136 x 2683

#### THIS COLLECTION IS FOR HOUS<mark>EHOLDS ONLY</mark> Large quantities from businesses, farms, or commercia<mark>l operations will not be accepted.</mark>

ACCEPTING: Paints Automobile Batteries Motor Oil Antifreeze Household Cleaners Household Chemicals Pesticides Flammables Corrosives Fluorescent bulbs Electronic waste such as: Computers Monitors Printers ScannersIPalm AccessoriesIPower SuppliesIBattery BackupsIBattery BackupsICablesIToner/Ink CartridgesIHard DrivesICD RomsISpeakersIVCRsIDVD PlayersIStereo EquipmentTVsGame ConsolesI

Digital Cameras Audio or Video Equipment Networking Equipment Tape Drives Test Equipment Fax Machines Keyboards Voice/Tape Recorders Radios Walkman Products Calculators Cellular Phones Phone Accessories Other hazardous household & electronic waste products

PROHIBITED Infectious & Medical Waste Medications Biological Materials Radioactive Materials Compressed Gas Cylinders Ammunition Fire Extinguishers Smoke Detectors Explosives

. . . . . . . . .

#### THIS IS A FREE SERVICE!

Please utilize this opportunity to keep these hazards out of our waterways and natural environment.

## POARCH CREEK FIRE STATION # 5811 JACK SPRINGS ROAD ATMORE, AL

OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS OF POARCH AND SURROUNDING AREA



Spay/Neuter Event Update

The Environmental Department began handing out Spay and Neuter Vouchers on January 23, 2017.

- Vouchers will be available for pick up until <u>March 31, 2017 or</u> before if funding is exhausted.
- Vouchers will be given out from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Environmental Department located Building 300.
- Spay and Neuter Vouchers are available to Tribal Members only.
- Only 1 Voucher per Tribal household will be allowed.
- Vouchers must be picked up in person with a Tribal ID.
- Vouchers will expire on <u>June 2, 2017</u>.
- Vouchers are only valid for the following locations in Atmore, Alabama:
  - o Lee Veterinary Clinic (251) 368-8668
  - o Atmore Animal Hospital (251) 368-9103



Environmental Department, Building 300 5811 Jack Springs Road Atmore, Al 36502 Family Services Department

### **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

## 2017 Easter Egg Hunt

Date: March 25, 2017 Time: 10:00 a.m. Location: Pow Wow grounds Ages: Birth-12 years

# 

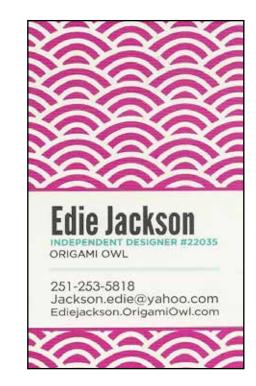
Lighting Your Way to Better Living

We provide a variety of services to Baldwin & Escambia County areas

- Light Housekeeping
- Bathing and dressing
- Laundry
- 24 Hour Customer Service
- Activities

- Meal Preparation
  Transportation
- Madigation Domi
- Medication Reminders
- er Service Flexible Schedule
  - Companionship
- Office: 251-359-0562 / Cell: 251-504-0940

www.CandleLightCompassions.com



Department



ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF TRIBAL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

### The Family Services Department Announces 2017 WINTER LIHEAP INFORMATION (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

### **DISTRIBUTION DATES:**

February 21, 22, 23 March 7, 8, 9 March 21, 22, 23

#### **\*\*General Information\*\***

- Applications will be accepted in the Family Services Department.
- No appointments are necessary. Services are offered on a first come, first served basis.
- Note the various dates and come in according to your household composition.
- Priority is given to Senior Households, clients receiving Disability Income, Households with children under the age of 5, and Households receiving Food Stamps or TANF benefits.
- LIHEAP does NOT pay for any additional fees or services such as late fees, connection fees, outside lights, etc.
- Approval amounts range from \$250-\$325. You will be responsible for any charges that are not covered by LIHEAP. If your bill is less than the awarded amount, only the total amount of the bill will be paid.
- <u>ALL PER CAPITA WILL BE COUNTED AS INCOME.</u>

#### **\*\*Required Documentation for All Applicants\*\***

- Current energy or gas bill.
- <u>Social Security cards for ALL members of the household</u>. There will be no exceptions or approvals without SS cards. This is a federal requirement.
- Tribal ID for applicant/head of household.
- Current income verification for all household members that are over the age of 19, such as paystubs, paychecks, letters of salary verification, etc...
- If anyone in the home over 19 is unemployed, you must bring a statement verifying they are not working. The statement must be signed by three people who do not reside in your household and must include their phone numbers.
- Current verification if receiving state unemployment benefits.
- Current verification if your household is receiving Food Stamps benefits.
- CURRENT Social Security or Disability Income Verification. We must have current income verification on file for all 2017 applications and services.

\*Please call the Family Services Department if you have any questions.

The Family Services Department 5811 Jack Springs Rd. Atmore, AL 36502 Phone: (251)-368-9136, ext. 2600 Fax: (251)-368-0828

### Family Services Department

### 2017 LIHEAP Information Continued

#### ESTIMATED STATE MEDIAN INCOME, BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE AND BY STATE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2017

State	Estimated State Me- dian In- come (4 person House- hold)	60 % of the esti- mated SMI for 4 person household	1-Person House- hold	2-Person House- hold	3-Person House- hold	4-Person House- hold	5-Person House- hold	6-Person House- hold
Alabama	\$67,621	\$40,573	\$21,098	\$27,590	\$34,081	\$40,573	\$47,065	\$53,556
Florida	\$67,643	\$40,586	\$21,105	\$27,598	\$34,092	\$40,586	\$47,080	\$53,574

Please note income guidelines have changed due to changes in federal guidelines.

\*\* Please be aware of household income adjustments \*\*

\*\* LIHEAP applicants must meet above listed income guidelines to qualify. \*\*

\*\* 2017 PER CAPITA TOTAL- \$3,500\*\*

### 2017 Winter LIHEAP Dates and Times. \*WINTER APPLICATION DATES\*

DAY	DATE	TIME	PRIORITY SCHEDULE
Tuesday	February 21, 2017	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	SENIORS & DISABILITY INCOME ONLY
Wednesday February 22, 2017		9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Senior Households; Households with Children Under 5 years; and Households receiving Food Stamps and TANF benefits
Thursday	February 23, 2017	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	All Types of Households
Tuesday	March 7, 2017	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	All Types of Households
Wednesday	March 8, 2017	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	All Types of Households
Thursday	March 9, 2017	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	All Types of Households
Tuesday	March 21, 2017	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	All Types of Households
Wednesday	March 22, 2017	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	All Types of Households
Thursday	March 23, 2017	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	All Types of Households

The Family Services Department 5811 Jack Springs Rd. Atmore, AL 36502

Phone: (251)-368-9136, ext. 2600 Fax

### **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

### Health Department

### HOW TO ACCESS YOUR PERSONAL HEALTH RECORD

Personal Health Record is now available at Poarch Creek Indians Health Department.

### STEP 1:

- 1. Go to the Web site https://phr.ihs.gov.
- 2. Click the button labeled "Register to use PHR".
- 3. Choose a username and password
- 4. You will be asked to enter some information about yourself. When you are finished, you will get a message asking you to go to your health clinic to finish the registration process.

### STEP 2:

- 1. Meet your PHR Registrar (Patient Registration)
- 2. You will need to meet with the Health Department's PHR Registrar (Patient Registration). This person will activate your account.
- 3. Please bring a photo ID.

k STEP 3: After you talk with the PHR

- After you talk with the PHR Registrar, your PHR account will be ready.
- 1. Go to https://phr.ihs.gov
- 2. Enter your username and password.
- 3. Select the health record you would like to view.
- 4. You can now view your health information.

What can you do with PHR?

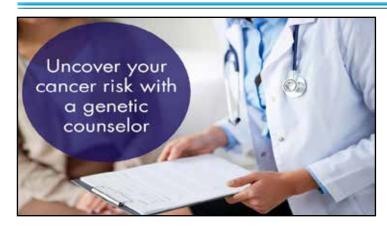
- 1. View your lab results
- 2. Learn about your medication
- 3. Keep track of your health issues
- 4. View a list of your medication
- 5. Save a copy of your health information
- 6. Send an e-mail message to your health care team.
- 7. Make sure the information in your medical record is correct.
- 8. View a record of your immunizations
- 9. Share your health information with a caregiver or family member.

### IS YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION SAFE?

Yes, your health information is secure. Be cautious when viewing or downloading your health information to a public computer. Always log out when you are finished looking at your PHR.

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

Poarch Creek Indians Health Department 251-368-9136 Sheila Odom, Senior Health Information System Manager, x 2311 Stephanie Franklin, Clinical Application Coordinator, x 2340 Shannon Skaggs, Patient Registration Clerk, x 2306



The Tribal Medical staff will soon be meeting with a genetic counselor from Mitchell Cancer Institute to discuss the options of patients who may be at risk for cancer to receive education and testing.

More information to follow in the next newsletter.

POARCH CREEK NEWS

### March 2017 Diabetes Self-Management Classes

- March 7 & 8, 2017 Diabetes Self-Management Education Classes
   1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.
   Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic, room to be announced.
   Attend both days to receive a foot care scale.
- March 14, 2017 "Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food." *Hippocrates. A realistic series on healthy eating.*11:30a.m. until 12:00 p.m.
  S.A.I.L. Center, located in the Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility.
- March 15, 2017 Diabetes medications and how they work.
   1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.
   Upstairs conference room of the Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic.
- March 20, 2017 Spring Celebration
   2:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.
   Atrium of the Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic.
   Come and get literature on starting your spring garden and try your luck at spinning the wheel.
- March 22, 2017 No Place To Plant: No Problem- Planting in small spaces 11:00a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided at noon. Class in Pensacola at the Hyatt Airport.

Please call Marsha Fendley or Donna Johnson for reservations or other questions. 251-368-9136 ext. 2354 or 2332.

### **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

### Health Department

### New "No Show" Policy Effective March 1, 2017

To help ensure that appointments are available for all patients in need of care the Health Clinic has implemented a policy to deter "No-Shows".

Any patient with three (3) No-Shows within a six (6) month time period will be placed on a "same-day call status" for a period of six (6) months. Any patient on "same-day call status" will not be allowed to schedule appointments in advance, and must call the day they want to be seen by the physician and ask if there is an available appointment. If there is no available appointment, then the person would have to call the next day, and so forth, until there is an available same day appointment.

At the end of the "same-day call status", a patient will be eligible for scheduling appointments in advance, and the number of No-Shows for the patient will reset to zero.

### PHARMACY REMINDER:

When calling the pharmacy for your medications to be refilled, PLEASE have the following ready:

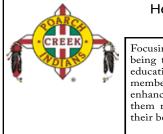
- 1. The name of the drug OR
- 2. Your prescription number -OR
- 3. What the medication is being taken for (example Blood pressure, diabetes)

This is for your safety. We want you to be receiving the medications that you currently take.

QUESTIONS? Please call (251) 368-9136 ext. 2304.







#### Health & Elder Services Purpose

Focusing on prevention and wellbeing 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



# AMERIND 2017 Safety Poster Contest

Deadline for Posters: April 5, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Posters must be turned in to the

Poarch Creek Indian Housing Office

Category Grades K-3rd, 4th-6th, & 7th-8th

Entry form must be filled out completely and attached to the back of the poster using tape or glue.

All submitted posters must illustrate a "SAFETY" theme.

Children in kindergarten through the 8th grade during the 2016-2017 school year are eligible to participate. (Only one entry per child.)

All entries must be original and created by the child using crayons, markers, colored pencils or paint.

PLEASE DO NOT USE LEAD PENCILS.



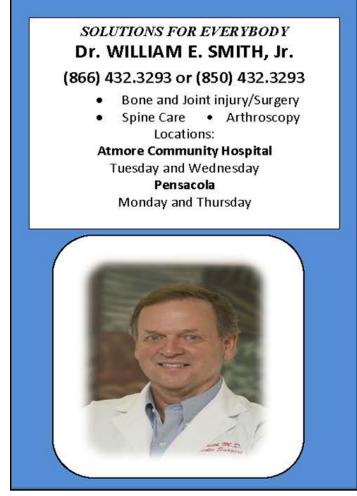
All posters must be drawn horizontally on 8.5" x 11" paper.

### **Qualified Participants Are:**

Families living in the Rental Units, TAHO Homes, and

### **Emergency Transitional Trailers**









POARCH CREEK NEWS

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44

### **Recreation Department**

### Swim Team Competes in 2017 SE GPAC Winter Invitational

The Poarch Creek Swim Team recently competed in the 2017 SE Greater Pensacola Aquatic Club (GPAC) Winter Invitational in Pensacola, FL. The swimmers did amazing, dropping time and setting personal best times in all of their events. Among the swimmers were Kylee Langham, Kamryn Langham, Cash Griffey, and Karaghan O'Barr. Please take the time to congratulate these swimmers on an outstanding job.

Kylee Langham set new personal best times in the 100 yard Freestyle, 25 yard Backstroke, 50 yard Breaststroke, 25 yard Butterfly, 100 yard Individual Medley, 25 yard Freestyle, and 50 yard Freestyle events. She placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 8 & Under 50 yard Butterfly, and 25 yard Butterfly; and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 8 & Under 100 yard Freestyle, 100 yard Individual Medley, 25 yard Freestyle, and 50 yard Freestyle. Kylee would go on to finish second overall in the 8 & Under Girls age group category. Kamryn Langham had an amazing weekend winning heats in most of her events. She finished in the top 8 in the 9-10 year old Girls age group category that included 50 swimmers from all different swim clubs. She dropped in time and set new personal best times for herself ,and is getting closer to qualifying for Southeastern in Auburn, AL at the end of February.

Cash Griffey zoomed through his events placing in the top 7 in the 8 & Under Boys 25 yard Freestyle and 50 yard Freestyle and dropped time on both of them. "He has the drive and commitment in his swimming that every swimmer should have. Cash has been swimming since he was 5 years old and has gotten better with each new swim season," Coach Sarah Allen said.

Karaghan O'Barr is a new swimmer and has shown that with a little hard work anything is possible at just 5 years old. Karaghan dropped time on both of the events that she swam at the meet.

Our team also placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall in the 10 & Under Girls 200 yard Medley Relay which included; Kamryn Langham, Kylee Langham, Callie Kent, and Karaghan O'Barr.

If you see these young swimmers, congratulate all of them and let them know how proud we are of them!

The Team's next meet will be March 3-5, 2017 in Pensacola, Florida. At the University of West Florida Aquatic Center. This meet will host the Region 4 Championships and will also serve as the 8 & Under Southeastern Championship meet.

Please come out and support the Poarch Creek Swim Team!

### Tribal Team Participates In NASA Basketball Tournament

The NASA Basketball Tournament was held in Philadelphia, Mississippi December 13 & 14, 2016. The Tribe had one men's team that traveled and participated in the tournament.

The Tribe's team finished in the top 10 out of a total of 32 teams. The Tribe's team was made up of 13 players Tribal and First Generation members from the Poarch area.

Team members included:Bryan GregsonAaron GregsonDakota BarlowMarshall RolinQuentin SmedleyJosh PeeblesDarren McGheeJames WhiteBlake PearsonMichael HippaJake ThomasMichael RolinJustin DavisJames White

It seems like just yesterday these guys were playing on the NAYO teams!

# Your Health Matters GATHER TOGETHER IN HEALTH

# WHAT IS VISCERAL FAT?

**BY SPENCER TATUM** Advantage Training Director of Training

# If your waistband feels a little tight right now, this article is for you. The thing is, that tugging feeling is more than just annoying and uncomfortable. It's also a big indicator of your overall health and a predictor of major health risks.

What exactly are we talking about here? We're talking about visceral fat.

#### What, exactly, is visceral fat?

**Mv PCI WELLNESS** 

**ADVANTAGE** 

It's a form of gel-like fat that's wrapped around major organs, including the liver, pancreas and kidneys. If you have a protruding belly and large waist, that's a clear sign you're storing dangerous visceral fat. While it's most noticeable and pronounced in some individuals, anyone can have visceral fit, many without even knowing it. Completing an InBody at Poarch Recreation will help you know your personal visceral fat score.

We know storing excess fat is unhealthy, but visceral fat is especially dangerous to your health. These fat cells do more than just sit in your belly and cause

### www.mypciwellness.com

# **My PCI WELLNESS**

"Visceral fat is just as damaging for your heart as high blood pressure and smoking". - John Hopkins University

your pants to feel tight — they also change the way your body operates.

These are some of the risks associated with having high visceral fat:

- Higher Risk for Heart Disease
- Higher Risk for Diabetes
- Higher Risk of Alzheimer's
- Certain types of cancers -- like colorectal and breast cancer
- More likely to develop Dementia and Depression

#### How can you reduce visceral fat?

Just Move: Studies have shown that you can help trim visceral fat or prevent its growth with both aerobic activity (such as brisk walking) and strength training (exercising with weights). In a study at the University of Alabama, Birmingham, dieting women lost an average of 24 pounds and reduced both visceral and subcutaneous fat, with or without aerobic or strength-training exercise. However, in the following year, those who maintained an exercise program maintained their visceral fat loss, while those who didn't exercise showed a 33% average increase in visceral fat. Exercise is the fastest way to lower visceral fat. Engage in at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity activity most days and you'll see your visceral fat go down.

Limit Sugar: According to the American Heart Association the maximum daily allowance for sugar is 36 grams per day for men and 24 grams per day for women. By lowering your sugar intake and staying close to this daily limit, your body will look for other sources of energy and start to break down your stored fat and use it for fuel. **Sleep.** When you sleep 7-8 hours each night, you are helping your body to speed up the visceral fat burning process. When you sleep less than this, your body will produce higher levels of cortisol, which contributes to stored visceral fat. So rest up.

**Meditate.** Visceral Fat and stress are undeniably linked. Breathe, relax, and spend 10 to 30 minutes a day getting your mind as far away from your worries as you can. Practice this. Like most things, it won't come easily at first. Spending time not thinking about your worries doesn't mean you are ignoring them. It means you will come back to them with a clearer mind and more energy to solve them. Having this time will help regulate the stress hormones that negatively effect visceral fat.

A few small shifts in your exercise, nutrition and stress management patterns will affect your visceral fat in a positive way. Try adopting these habits and build from there. Focusing on visceral fat loss will mean big shifts in your overall health and wellbeing. Before you know it, you'll have decreased your risk of disease, your pants will feel looser, and you may find yourself inspired to do the things you've always wanted to do. - *Spencer* 



### SMALL DECISIONS MAKE BIG THINGS HAPPEN

### TERO Meets With OFCCP

The TERO Office met with the Office of Federal Contracts Compliance Programs (OFCCP) on January 12, 2017. Our meeting with OFCCP was an update on the Federal Courthouse being built in Mobile, Alabama. During the meeting we also discussed the importance of giving notice of federal contracts awarded as soon as possible to give Tribal members laborer opportunities and Tribal member owned businesses bid opportunities.

We also had a meeting with the University of Alabama on January 12, 2017. The meeting's focus was "How to start a new business". We encourage anyone who is interested in starting a new business to give us a call. We can provide resources that will help you determine if a new business is a feasible option for you and we can also provide resources on how to start a new business.

We are also considering developing a TERO Preferred Business List for Tribal Members who own at least 51% of a business. Please note, this list would not provide your business with 10% preference (like TERO certification), but we are trying to gauge the interest in such a list in order to increase Tribal bid opportunities for non-certified Tribal member owned businesses. So if you are a Tribal member that owns at least 51% of a business and you are not interested in being TERO certified, but would like an opportunity to receive bid opportunities in your area of expertise, we would like to know who you are and the services you can provide and most importantly if you would like TERO to create such a list. We also encourage any Tribal member who owns at least 51% of a business to call us and inquire about the benefits of being TERO Certified and being on the TERO Certified Business List.

Lastly, we have more details regarding upcoming employment opportunities at OWA in Foley, Alabama. (Note the staffing numbers have not been finalized and are subject to change at any time) The majority of OWA positions will not come until late February, March, and April time frame. It's all dependent on the construction timeline. OWA anticipates around 450 positons to begin with about a 60/40 split of full-time and part-time employees. The majority of openings will consist of ride operators, retail clerks, and food & beverage positions.

Current OWA employment opportunities can be found at http://visitowa.com/employment/.

You can also use the links below to check for other current employment opportunities at Wind Creek Hospitality (Corporate), Wind Creek Casino Atmore, Wind Creek Wetumpka, Wind Creek Montgomery, Tribal Government, Creek Indian Enterprises (CIE), and the Tribal Gaming Commission.

https://www.windcreekhospitality.com/Careers

http://pci-nsn.gov/westminster/human\_resources. html

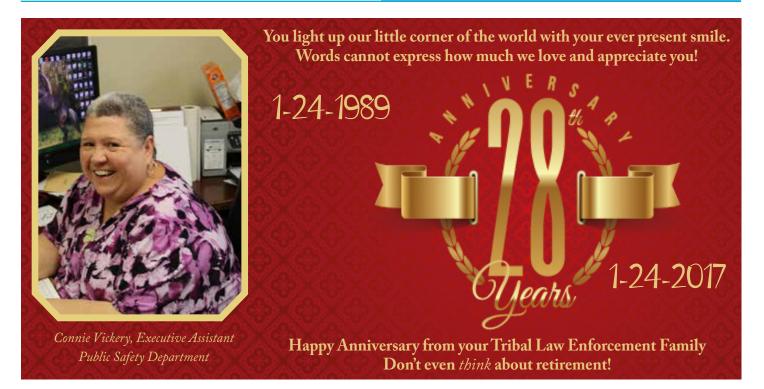
http://www.creekindianenterprises.org/westminster/ employment.html

https://www.pci-tgc.org/pages/jobs/

For all questions and/or comments, we can be reached at 3480 Hwy. 21 Atmore, Alabama. We can also be reached at tero@pci-nsn.gov or 251-368-0606. Ask to speak with Wesley Manning, Steven Ledkins, or Jennifer Colbert.

### **Tribal Police Department**

### **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**



### **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)

#### **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

**Tribal Utilities Authority** 

Stop and think for a minute about how much water you use in a day. From brushing your teeth, to washing your hands. Each person uses about 80-100 gallons of water per day. Replacing your kitchen and bathroom water faucets and toilets with water-efficient fixtures will greatly reduce your family's water consumption. Flushing the toilet uses the largest amount. Many older toilets can average 4-6 gallons per flush. The newer water efficiency toilets use around 1.6 gallons per flush. If and when you decide to replace your faucets, look really close at the head. You might see something like "1.0 gpm", which means that this faucet head will allow water to flow at a maximum of 1.0 gallons per minute. Some states have laws that specify that water faucets, toilets, and showers only allow a certain amount of water flow per minute. Changing out fixtures and toilets in your home is a wonderful way to conserve water and reduce your water bill with little effort on your part.

Site work has begun on The Safe Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project. PCI Utilities was pleased to receive grant funding to construct a new administration building for Utilities staff with a design that is more customer friendly for making or dropping off utility payments. Unsuitable soil conditions were encountered at the building pad site and required additional excavation but has been remedied. The renovations to the existing lab have been completed as well as the civil work for the building pad. Construction of the building is underway.

The Canoe Water Improvements Project is nearing completion. We are replacing 5 sections of failing water lines in the Canoe community. The Contractor is on site daily and we forecast project completion by the end of March 2017.

Grant funding has been obtained for the Sanitary Sewer Structure Lining Project (Manhole Lining Project). 12 to 15 deteriorating manholes have been identified that will be repaired and lined in an effort to reduce Inflow and Infiltration. The lining of these man holes will result in a significant reduction of maintenance and operational while requirements extending the service life of existing sewer infrastructure. IHS is in the process of finalizing the specifications to prepare bid packages.

A UV system was installed at Tullis Manor in the 2nd quarter of 2016 for the treatment and disinfection of water. We recently completed the connection from Tullis Manor to the PCI water system making Tullis Manor fully supplied by PCI water and no longer dependent on Freemanville.

The PCI Utilities Authority would like to remind all of our garbage customers to please remember the new garbage disposal policies and fines that were implemented February 1, 2017. A customer may be penalized for improper disposal or the placement of bags and unauthorized items in or around the carts and dumpsters. Unauthorized items are medical waste, industrial material, construction material, large items, electronics, or flammable material.

PCI Utilities is excited to announce that Mr. Timothy 'Bo' Slate has been promoted to the position of Maintenance Technician. Bo is a longtime employee of the Poarch Creek Indians with extensive knowledge of our current utility systems. Please assist us in congratulating Bo for attaining this well-deserved professional accomplishment.

Should you have questions or need assistance, please contact our office Monday through Friday from 7a.m. to 4p.m. at 251-446-1617.

### **CREEK INDIAN ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CIEDA)**



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

*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 finanical 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. 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 collaterialization 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!

# Plan a weekend road trip and stay with us

A long weekend provides the perfect opportunity to hop into the car and embark on a road trip. Sometimes it doesn't take an extended vacation to recharge your batteries. A brief change of scenery and venue can make for quite the respite as well. And with many small towns within a decent driving distance in South Alabama, Atmore seems to be the perfect place for a mini vacation.

Muskogee Inn is Atmore's budget motel of choice for many South Alabama locals. A quick drive over from Fairhope, Foley or even from Pensacola, Fla., Muskogee Inn has all you need to relax and enjoy a long weekend.

Sometimes it's just nice to lounge in a hotel room and watch movies for a day. But there's plenty to do outside the hotel as well. Here are some road trip tips to get you started:

\* **Plan before you drive.** Grab a map or GPS and stick to locations that are within reasonable driving distance from home. If you roam too far, you will spend more time behind the wheel than you will enjoying your destination. Locations no more than five to six hours away should suffice, which puts Muskogee Inn in the perfect radius for many in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi.

\* Get your vehicle in road-trip shape by ensuring it is in good working condition. If your car is scheduled for an oil change, get one before leaving. Top off fluids and be sure that tires are properly inflated. And don't forget the gas! Creek Convenience

By Jen Peake CIEDA Marketing Specialist Store Atmore and Creek Travel Plaza have low-cost fuel and can accommodate large vehicles.

\* Make your long weekend a
 Saturday through Monday affair. You might find the roads are more congested Friday through Sunday. Simply starting your trip on Saturday and returning on Monday could save you the headache of driving in heavy traffic.

\* Scope out low-cost activities at your destination. For example, Magnolia Branch has many inexpensive activities that are fun for families and groups. And the entertainment center at Wind Creek Atmore has an arcade room, a full bowling alley and a movie theater that can provide hours of fun and excitement, all for reasonable prices.

Take advantage of cooler temperatures by planning a weekend road trip.



To book a reservation: muskogeeinn.com

Poarch Creek News

### **CREEK INDIAN ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CIEDA)**

# CTP's Diner now open 24/7

The trucking industry is a 24/7 job, and it's one that often gets under appreciated. Truckers are in need of the basics, just like everyone else who is employed in any profession.

At Creek Travel Plaza (CTP), we recognize that and have expanded our diner hours to be open all day, every day. That's right, the diner is now a 24-hour restaurant.

Diner

Truckers come in to CTP at all hours — some arrive at 1 a.m., 2 a.m., 3 a.m. — and they are hungry. Until recently, if they stopped at our truck stop "after hours," their only food options were snacks from the convenience store side. Now they can sit down and have a good Southern cooked meal as they rest and refuel before getting back out on the road.

"We have been toying with this idea for quite some time," Diner Manager Candy Stuckey said. "Truckers and travelers of all kinds have told us they wished we stayed open all night, or at least later than 9 p.m. We did a small test run to see how it goes, and the response has been fantastic."

According to the 2015 Rise of Food Tourism Report, more than a third of tourist spending is on food alone. Night-time driving is increasing for those looking to get a jumpstart on vacations, and for a trucker, practically every meal comes from a truck stop restaurant, even if it's just fast food, such as Chester's Chicken. Chester's can be grabbed quick at Creek Travel Plaza for those in a hurry. But for the truckers who are on a layover, the diner is a more appealing option.

"It's nice to provide this service to our customers," Stuckey said. "They are already thanking us and spreading the word that we are open 24 hours. If we can help make their journey more comfortable, then I'll gladly stay open for them." By Jen Peake CIEDA Marketing Specialist

hours

HAIR OF THE DOG BURGER

> BOB TAIL BREAKFAST ENTREE

> > LOADED INDIAN NACHOS



### **CREEK INDIAN ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CIEDA)**



Muskogee Inn

By Jen Peake CIEDA Marketing Specialist

### CIEDA highlights its women managers

The workforce in the United States is large, and finding where you fit in often is challenging. For women,



it might seem daunting at first, but in recent years, the number of women in the workforce has grown and continues to increase tenfold.

At Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority, we are happy to employ a vast number of women and are proud to have many women as managers in various departments. However,

SUSIE McCANN

and Muskogee Inn.

At Creek Convenience Store Atmore, Susie McCann runs the everyday operations and oversees

three businesses under the CIEDA umbrella have women as general

managers: Creek Convenience Store Atmore, Creek Travel Plaza



ROCHEL Martin



ANGEL Caraway

12 fulltime employees. McCann is also a Tribal Member and has been at CCSA for about 12 years.

Creek Travel Plaza actually has two female managers. General Manager Tammy Smith is over the entire truck stop, which has 49 employees, but Diner Manager Candy Stuckey oversees the restaurant portion of the business. Stuckey has 26 employees under her management.

General Manager of Muskogee Inn Rochel Martin is the spouse of a Tribal Member and has been running the hotel for eight years. She has been with the hotel for 11.5 years and cares for 22 employees.

Assistant Manager Angel Caraway is a Tribal Member and has been at Muskogee Inn for 18 years.

"We are very proud to have such high level managers be women in our businesses and to be role models for others who aspire to be in leadership roles," Director of Retail Operations Leo Hammons said. "CIEDA and its businesses are nondiscriminatory enterprises and our diverse employment record reflects that. First and foremost, we want to employ our own Tribal Members, and with operations continuing to grow, we have many opportunities for Tribal Members right here at our enterprises." To see a list of jobs and to apply, go to **ciejobs.com**.



TAMMY SMITH



CANDY Stuckey

### **KEEP YOUR INFORMATION UPDATED**

In order for annual Tribal Member distributions and benefits to be processed accurately, Tribal Member Benefits <u>must be informed</u> of any changes you may have to your address, phone number, banking information, and/or other personal information. Contact Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 to update your information.

The following February newsletters have been returned by the Post Office:

William Daughtry/Unable To Forward Rebecca Hubbird/Not Deliverable As Addressed Joe Mitchell/Not Deliverable As Addressed Kristen Ramieri/No Mail Receptacle Brandy Rolin/Not Deliverable As Addressed Charles Smedley/Not Deliverable As Addressed

Spring Forward! Daylight Saving Time starts at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 12, 2017. Be sure to set your clock ahead one hour!



Spring Forward!

Ask about our \$50.00 CASH referral bonus

(251)621-1900



Companionship Homemaking Medication Reminders Meal Preparation Personal Care Errands & Appointments Trained & Insured Background Checked

### \*We accept Flex Card

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Pale-Cahkepen Cahkepohkaken

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS MARCH (Tasahcuce) 2017

### Wednesday, March 1, 2017 5:00 pm (CST) Deadline to submit information for publication in April, 2017 issue of Poarch Creek News

### Health Clinic No Show Policy Effective March 1, 2017

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March 6 & 7, 2017 Monday & Tuesday Museum gift shop Closed for monthly inventory	<b>Tribal Council Meetings</b> Thursday, March 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> Building 500 Auditorium 4:00 pm	<i>Education Advisory Committee</i> Monday, March 13 <sup>th</sup> Family Services Conference Room Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic 3:00 pm	
<i>Winter LIHEAP</i> March 7-9, 2017 & March 21-23, 2017 Family Services Department	<b>Tribal Court Sessions</b> Monday, March 14 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> Tribal Courtroom 9:00 am	Utilities Authority Board Meeting Thursday, March 16 <sup>th</sup> Utilities Office 1:00 pm	
Ongoing Free Tax Preparation Program RSVP Volunteer Program Assisted Living Facility (251) 867-0255 for Appointment	Tribal Regulatory Commission Meetings Tuesday, March 14 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> Building 500 Auditorium 8:00 am	<i>4H Club Meeting</i> Monday, March 13 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup> Education Department 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	
Saturday, March 4, 2017 Evening With Elders Trail of Tears Presentation Wind Creek Cinema 9:00 am	<b>Tribal Grievance Board</b> Tuesday, March 14 <sup>th</sup> Building 500 Auditorium 1:00 pm	Monday, April 3, 2017 5:00 pm (CST) Deadline to submit information for publication in May, 2017 issue of Poarch Creek News	
Saturday, March 25, 2017 Easter Egg Hunt Pow Wow Grounds 10:00 am Ages: Birth - 12 years old	Calvin McGhee Cultural Advisory Committee Monday, March 13 <sup>th</sup> Cultural Building on Hwy 21 4:00 pm	<i>Tuesday, April 4, 2017</i> Last day to submit Letter of Candidacy and Bio to Election Board for name to be on Ballot and for Bio to be published in May newsletter	

<u>Newsletter Contact Information</u> Poarch Creek News

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

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