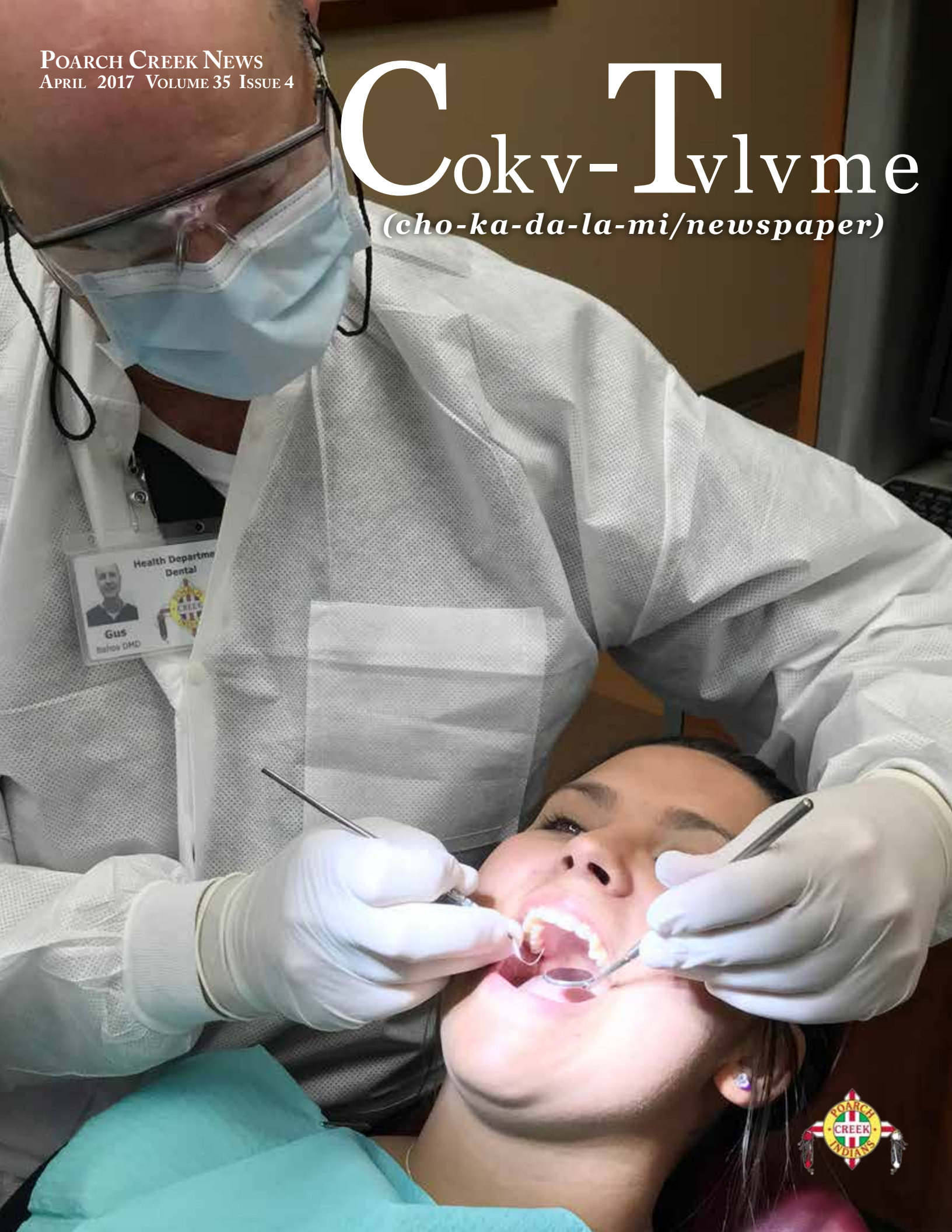


POARCH CREEK NEWS
APRIL 2017 VOLUME 35 ISSUE 4

Cokv-Tylvme

(cho-ka-da-la-mi/newspaper)



Daily, I strive to facilitate an environment that fosters “collaborative relationships, openness to ideas, and growing levels of accomplishment” as outlined in Tribal Government’s Purpose. Accordingly, I issued a survey to all Tribal Government employees which contained only two questions: (1) What do you like most about your job? and (2) What do you like least about your job? I received over 150 responses to the survey and read each and every one! I will be the first to say that our employees represent an amazing resource that is full of innovative ideas and critical insights. I really appreciated the thoughtfulness and honesty that was presented in the feedback I received.

The surveys reaffirmed some truths for me. First, I was reminded that people want to know they are being heard and that their voice matters to someone. Secondly, our organization, even with all of its unique qualities, is still similar to many major companies in that one of the key concerns identified was effective communication. So, to address some of these concerns, I have worked with my team on some initiatives that I believe will create solutions not only for employees of Tribal Government, but also for our constituents as well.

For example, if you have an idea, suggestion, or feedback that you would like to share with Tribal Government, you can now send that to: feedback@pci-nsn.gov. The feedback you provide will be shared with the appropriate individuals and will be used to improve our organization and address concerns you might have. While we cannot solve every problem, we strive towards that end. By your sharing



Pictured from left to right: Nancy Smith, Brandy Chunn, Christy Huskey, Stephanie Bryan, Tamaniek McGhee, Heather Weaver, Thelma Williamson, Gloria Weaver, and Stephanie Gatlin.

with us, you help us become a better organization. Oftentimes, unless someone brings something to our attention, we may not be aware that a problem exists. So, please share your thoughts with us so we can continue to improve.

Additionally, I believe that it is important to set aside time for face-to-face communication with those individuals who actually have their “boots on the ground” and are involved with the daily operations. Therefore, I have created a monthly luncheon with employees to engage with each facet of our Tribal Government operations. The lunch creates an informal setting which sets the tone for real conversations in which concerns and ideas are freely shared. The first lunch was held in February and I really enjoyed the time I spent with everyone. We shared a lot of laughter and heard wonderful stories. One notable experience shared was from Mrs. Thelma Williamson who said she “went from slinging mops to answering phones” and has been here ever since!

In closing, I encourage you to really take the time to digest the information presented in this month’s edition of the Poarch Creek News. You’ll find everything from Boating Safety Tips to a feature story on Mr. Carl “Buster” McGhee’s 100th Birthday to information about April being National Autism Awareness Month. There’s a lot going on that you will not want to miss!

As always, I pray for you, our Tribe, and our Country and ask that you join me in doing the same. I hope all of you have a wonderful Easter!

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

In love,

Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair/
CEO

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A Moment With The Tribal Chair



Dental Clinic



Celebrating 100!



Veteran's Salute



Obituary

Poarch Creek News, keeping the family and friends of Poarch informed

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*On the cover:
Dr. Gus Babos, Chief Dentist, with patient Kennedy McGhee*

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

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

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

Gayle Johnson, Editor
Poarch Creek News
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502

gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov www.pci-nsn.gov

(251) 368-9136 x 2210

Direct Dial # 251 446-5210

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

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

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 shots 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 Andre accessible via 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.
- **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 second month 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*.

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.

WORD LIMITS

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

The ***Tribal Members Only Portal (TMOP)***, 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/

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

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



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rmcghee@pci-nsn.gov



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



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



Dewitt Carter, At-Large
dcarter@pci-nsn.gov



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



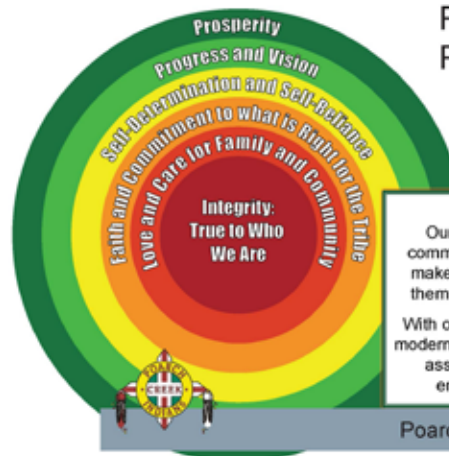
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Stephanie Bryan, Tribal Chair/CEO
sbryan@pci-nsn.gov

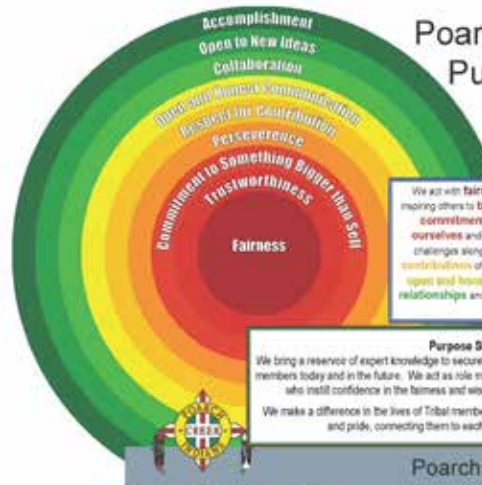


Poarch Council Purpose & Values

Purpose Statement

Our love for our people and our commitment to its future drives us to make tough decisions and stand by them to provide stable governance. With our blend of mature wisdom and modern knowledge, we grow the Tribe's assets to build self-reliance and enhance quality of life for all.

Poarch Band of Creek Indians



Poarch Government Purpose & Values

We act with **fairness** in all our decisions, and policy applications inspiring others to trust our intentions and our actions. This affirms our commitment to something bigger than any one of ourselves and encourages all to persevere when we confront challenges along the journey. The respect we show for the contributions of all to our common purpose creates the platform for open and honest interactions. This leads to collaborative relationships and openness to new ideas and growing levels of accomplishment.

Purpose Statement

We bring a reservoir of expert knowledge to secure the health, education, and well-being of all Tribal members today and in the future. We act as role models who go beyond the call of duty and leaders who instill confidence in the fairness and wisdom of government decisions and actions. We make a difference in the lives of Tribal members by fostering in them a spirit of independence and pride, connecting them to each other and their cultural heritage.

Poarch Band of Creek Indians



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/

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A Few Legislative Priorities

I wanted to share with you some of the bills I have thrown my support behind in the House of Representatives. These bills reflect a few of my top legislative priorities.

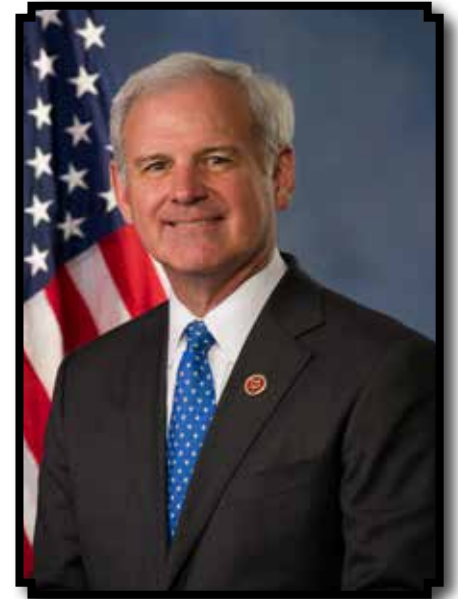
First, I have introduced a bill to give veterans greater access to private medical care. My bill, the Full Choice for Veterans Act, would change the law to ensure every veteran eligible for VA care is also able to seek medical care from private doctors, specialists, and hospitals in their local community.

In other words, my bill would give veterans access to private, local medical care instead of forcing them into the broken VA system. Giving veterans the choice of private care will allow them to receive more timely access to better care. By doing this, I think we will get better, and more timely, care for our veterans while also saving taxpayer money by cutting back on the bloated VA bureaucracy.

Second, I have introduced a bill proposing a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution. With the national debt over \$19 trillion dollars, it is no secret the federal government has serious spending issues. Requiring balanced budgets is not a far flung idea. Already, most states are required to have a balanced budget, and families and small businesses face the challenge of living within their means every single day. The federal government should have to play by the same rules.

Additionally, I have introduced a bill to block a burdensome regulation left over from the Obama Administration. My bill, which has already passed the House, would stop an unlawful rule from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). OSHA's focus should be on proactive policies that help keep employees safe instead of reactive, punitive measures.

On another important issue, I have co-sponsored legislation that would establish term limits for all Members of Congress. Seats in



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

Congress are owned by the people, not the elected officials. Our Founding Fathers never expected individuals to make a career out of Congressional service, and term limits will allow us to keep fresh blood and ideas in the halls of Congress.

These are just a handful of areas I have focused my attention on, in addition to the larger national priorities like building up the military, fixing our health care system, and securing the border.

We have plenty of work to do!

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



Keeping A Happy, Healthy Smile...It All Starts With You!

Sitting left to right are Kristin James, Dental Assistant, and Selina Steele, Dental Hygienist. Standing left to right are Linda Martin, Dental Hygienist; Dr. Gus Bahos, Chief Dentist; June Fulmer, Dental Assistant; Dr. Paul Dirkes, Dentist; and Michelle Fitzhugh, Dental Assistant. Not pictured is Janet Rodriguez, Patient Registration Specialist.

This month we feature the Dental Clinic Team from the Tribal Health Department.

Here, at the Poarch Creek Dental Clinic, we try in every way to help you obtain and maintain good oral health. Through the work of our staff and you at home, we want to get and keep happy, healthy smiles. It all starts with you.

You are responsible for making the call and following the recommended treatment. Once you reach out to our staff, our team will begin to assess your individual

needs and plan the appropriate treatment.

We have a team that consists of 2 dentists, 2 hygienists, 3 assistants and 1 front office personnel. We like to first see every patient for x-rays, cleaning, and exam. The dentist will then develop a treatment plan to address your needs and we can schedule you to come back and get the necessary treatment.

We do oral health education, cleanings, sealants, x-rays, fillings, extractions, crown and bridge work, root canals, partials, dentures, and

the occasional occlusal guards. We have a variety of treatments to offer our patients to serve your needs.

We will be using light technology to do Oral Cancer Screenings April 10-20 on a walk in basis. NO appointment necessary. Hope to see you there.

The Dental Clinic will host a Lunch and Learn on Wednesday April 26th, from 12:00 noon -1:00 p.m. Dr. Steven Todd will be onsite to talk about treating SLEEP APNEA and SNORING with dental devices.

Oral Cancer Fact Sheet

PREVALENCE

- Estimated 35,000 new cases each year
- Will claim 7,600 lives annually
- 60% will survive more than 5 years
- Affects 2 x more men than women

RISK FACTORS

- 25% of oral cancer patients have no known risk factors
- Tobacco and alcohol are the greatest risk factors
- Infection with HPV virus has been linked to a subset of oral cancer
- Prolonged sun or tanning bed exposure is a risk factor for lip cancer
- Smokeless tobacco is not a safe alternative to cigarettes – users face a 400% greater chance of oral cancer than non-users

POSSIBLE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Sore on the lip or in the mouth that does not heal
- White or red patch on the gums, tongue, tonsils or lining of the mouth
- Bleeding, pain or numbness in the lip or mouth
- Change in voice
- Loose teeth or dentures that no longer fit well
- Trouble chewing or swallowing or moving the tongue or jaw
- Swelling of jaw
- Sore throat or feeling that something is caught in the throat

EARLY DETECTION

- Performing self-examination regularly increases the chance of identifying changes or new growths early
- Visit your dentist for an oral exam at least annually
- The earlier cancer is detected, the easier the treatment and the greater the chance of a cure.

TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

The Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) is jointly administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

The Public Works Department, as part of the Facilities Division, has drafted the FY 2017–FY 2020 Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP).

The TTIP identifies all Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) funded projects and activities that

are planned to be carried out over the next four years as well as the projected costs and all other funding sources that are expected to be used on those projects.

Public involvement is always welcomed as we strive to improve the transportation facilities on our reservation and in our surrounding community. If you would like to review the TTIP, it is posted in the Tribal Member Only Portal (TMOP) of the Tribe's web site, www.pci-nsn.gov. Tribal Members

can access the TMOP using their assigned username and password. Tribal Members may also obtain a copy of the proposed TTIP by contacting Ms. Teresa "Shada" Thomas, Transportation Coordinator, at 251-368-9136 ext. 2637 or tthomas@pci-nsn.gov.

Please contact Ms. Teresa "Shada" Thomas at Public Works by 5:00 p.m. (CST) Monday, May 1, 2017 with any questions, comments, or suggestions you may have regarding the TTIP.

2017 Tribal Council Election

Notice

WHEN: June 3, 2017

LOCATION: PCI Community Resource Building (old SAIL Center)

TIME*: 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
To have name printed on official ballot.

5:00 p.m. Thursday, May 4, 2017
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@pci-nsn.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 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

Consent for Background Verification

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

where
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are waiting
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ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST

2017 POARCH CREEK INDIAN TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017



I, _____, am an enrolled member of the Poarch Creek Indians, and will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before June 3, 2017.

When requesting a ballot one will be mailed to you for the following elections: June 3, 2017 and Run-off election if applicable.

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

FIRST MIDDLE MAIDEN LAST

STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP CODE

()
TELEPHONE NUMBER DATE OF BIRTH TRIBAL ROLL NO.

Each person requesting an absentee ballot “MUST” fill out this form completely and sign his/her own request.

SIGNATURE: _____

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

RETURN THIS FORM BY MAIL TO: POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS
TRIBAL ELECTION BOARD
5811 JACK SPRINGS ROAD
ATMORE, AL 36502
BY FAX: (251) 368-2944
OR EMAIL: ELECTION@PCI-NSN.GOV

Requests for Absentee Ballots must be received by the Election Board no later than the close of business (5 p.m. CST) on Tuesday, May 23, 2017. Requests received after the deadline will not be honored.

Should you have any questions pertaining to the 2017 Tribal Council Elections, please feel free to contact Edie Jackson at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2231 or Carolyn Rackard at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2501.

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CELEBRATING 100TH BIRTHDAY

Tribal Chair Stephanie A. Bryan celebrates with the Carl "Buster" McGhee, Sr. family.

Left to right are Tribal Chair Stephanie A. Bryan, Carl, Jr., Gilbert, Buster, Harold, Robert, Glenn, Larry, and Sharon.

In 1917 Woodrow Wilson was President and the United States entered World War I, the war to end all wars. There was electricity and indoor plumbing, but these were considered luxuries that the majority of citizens could not afford. A quart of milk cost 10¢, a loaf of bread was 9¢, and a gallon of gas was 4¢. There were a lot of changes in America in 1917, but one thing happened that still impacts us today, Carl "Buster" McGhee was born on February 9, 1917.

Carl is the son of Littles and Ellen Colbert McGhee. He has four brothers, Travis, Luther, Eubie, and Frank, all of whom are now deceased. He has two sisters, Thelma McGhee Henson, and the late Girlie McGhee Henson.

The week of Buster's 100th birthday was one of celebration. Buster resides at the Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility in Poarch. The Assisted Living staff hosted a party for him on his birthday. Family, friends, and Tribal staff members came by to wish him a happy birthday.



Blowing out the candles.... or at least attempting to blow them out... they were trick candles that would not blow out!

As part of the celebration, the staff requested birthday cards be sent to Buster; their goal was to collect 100 birthday cards. Buster received over 160 birthday cards! Buster's family hosted his 100th birthday party on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Friends and family gathered to share his birthday, some of them coming from as far away as Frostproof, Florida. As always, the atmosphere of the day was one of love and family togetherness. Buster truly enjoyed himself as he got hugs and kisses from all the pretty ladies and giggles and tickles from his great grandchildren.

Happy birthday Buster! We wish you the best in health and happiness and look forward to celebrating your 101st birthday in 2018!



WGYJ-LP On The Air!

On Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 1:00 p.m., the National Anthem became the first broadcast of the brand new 93.5 FM, WGYJ-LP. Located in Atmore, WGYJ-LP is now broadcasting 7 days week, 6am – 6pm. WGYJ-LP is serving the greater Atmore area including Poarch, Walnut Hill, Perdido, and Huxford. Depending on your radio tuner it has been received even further. Listeners have responded from Stockton and Bay Minette in Baldwin County, over to Pollard, Flomaton, and areas like Dogwood Park near Molino.

WGYJ-LP is a low power, non-commercial FM radio station. The FCC created a very short window of opportunity to seek a license for a limited coverage FM radio station. WGYJ-LP is just that...a low power FM radio station. Hence the LP designation when you hear the WGYJ-LP id. As a non-commercial radio station, you will not hear typical radio commercials, but you will hear similar messages recognizing businesses

or individuals that contribute to underwrite the programming expenses on WGYJ-LP.

WGYJ-LP began as a desire by former Tribal Council Treasurer – Secretary Dale Gehman. Dale served 13 years on the Tribal Council in various positions including Treasurer and Secretary. Dale was a licensed Broadcast Engineer and Inspector. From early on Dale had a passion for broadcasting. In high school Dale excelled in Radio & TV Electronics, and eventually placed 8th nationally in the VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) Skill Olympics. Dale began his broadcasting career working with Tom and Ernestine Miniard at WATM Am & FM, and led his younger two brothers, Jerry and David, into radio at WATM. On Nov. 12, 1981, the Gehman family opened WASG-AM 1140, and later WYDH FM 105.9. Both stations served the greater Atmore area until the early 90's. Dale and his wife Darlene moved their family to Pennsylvania, where

Dale became involved with multiple state broadcasting associations and served on panels at the FCC, in particular the Emergency Alert System. When the FCC opened the window of opportunity for LPFM's, Dale began applying, and was successful in acquiring a license for Atmore, and even had two construction permits granted for the Tribe to build a station in Poarch and also at WindCreek Atmore. While those two stations were never built, Dale encouraged his family to build WGYJ-LP.

Dale suddenly fell ill early in November, possibly a result of his cancer treatment, and passed away November 22, 2016. While at the funeral in Pennsylvania the question of what to do with the construction permit was discussed by the family. The deadline to be on the air was January 31, 2017, and that date was fast approaching.

At the memorial service for Dale on Sunday, December 11, 2016 at Gospel Light Church, several area broadcasters were in attendance. Wilbur Goforth, owner of WBHY – Power 88 in Spanish Fort, strongly encouraged the family to build the station and offered assistance.

The effort to build WGYJ-LP really jumped forward when Goforth offered to loan a standby transmitter,

coax and antenna to help meet the January 31st FCC deadline.

Financial support in the form of a loan by Martin and Vernie Gehman allowed work to begin immediately to construct the radio station, temporary studio, and network. David Gehman has led the construction and development of the radio station, along with Ernie Zeimke leading the facility renovation. Many thanks to Joe Gibson and his wife for coming and taking down a large oak tree. Huxford Pole and Timber graciously donated a 50' pole on which the antenna mast is mounted. Southern Pine Electric Co-op graciously installed the pole and antenna. G&H Systems has provided audio supplies and network cabling. Mayor Jim Staff has worked with the City Planning Commission to grant a variance for a 100' tower to be constructed. Wilbur Goforth of Goforth Ministries and Power 88 graciously loaned the antenna system. Chief Engineer William Arnold has assisted in the fast-paced development. Broadcast Attorney M. Scott Johnson has provided legal support working with the FCC, assisting this very fast project.

Temporarily, the studios are in the audio-visual control area in the sanctuary of Gospel Light Church. Renovation of the 2nd floor in

the church educational building is underway now and will become the permanent on-air studios and offices of WGYJ-LP. We hope to soon be announcing a grand opening event.

Early each morning, Monday through Friday, David, Jerry and Martin Gehman provide news, weather and discuss local events during the morning drive, 6:00 am–8:00 am. Pastor Martin and Vernie Gehman present Mom & Pop's Suppertime Gospel each evening from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm, often produced by their grandsons, Stephen or Frisco. The music you will hear is a smooth blend of Christian music.

A new web site will be online soon and provide a direct way for you to send messages and announcements. WGYJ-LP wants to "stream-live" on-line, but it will take financial support to make that possible. WGYJ-LP..."We Give You Jesus" – "The Light" is a non-profit ministry, and as such the work is all voluntary. There will be opportunities for high school & college youth to go behind the scenes of a broadcast station and learn.

For information, contact David Gehman at david.gehman1260@gmail.com or 251-253-8219.

By: David Gehman





OWA'S USED MATERIALS DONATED FOR ARTIFICIAL REEF

AL Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Reef Building” – ADNCR prepares materials for artificial reef building off the Alabama Gulf Coast. (Photo Credit: Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources)

OWA and Cunningham Delaney Construction donate materials for artificial reef. Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will use donation to build a reef in the Gulf of Mexico off Gulf Shores.

Foley’s new entertainment destination, OWA, has partnered with one of its contractors to donate used construction materials to be recycled for the building of an artificial reef in the Gulf of Mexico.

OWA has contacted the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) and gotten its approval for the donated materials. The ADCNR has inspected the concrete materials and deemed them eco-friendly for use in the reef. Cunningham Delaney Construction LLC has gathered the discarded construction items from the OWA site and delivered them to the ADCNR. These materials will be combined with items from other donors to build an artificial reef this year off Alabama’s coast, a few miles out from the Gulf Shores coastline.

“When we heard an artificial reef was being constructed in the Gulf, we knew that was the perfect place to recycle our items and help the ecosystem as a whole,” OWA Director of Marketing/PR Kristin Hellmich said. Cunningham Delaney delivered the materials to the staging site in Gulf Shores on January 23, 2017. As OWA collects more used construction items, it will send them to the site to be added to the collection.

Craig Newton with the Alabama Marine Resources Division said there are several benefits of having artificial reefs in the Gulf. Newton said one of the best attributes for constructing these reefs is the increase in fish production and diversity of fishes and other wildlife that migrate through our waters.

“The natural bottom of the Gulf lies flat with sand, which means natural reefs are few and far between. Certain types of materials make it perfect for artificial reefs to be built,” Newton said. “Alabama has one of the largest reef programs, and our goal is to provide a more productive ecosystem and stability for the various industries along the Gulf Coast. We are grateful to OWA and Cunningham Delaney for donating these unique items to include in our efforts.”

For full details on OWA, go to VisitOWA.com.

Summary of OWA Press Release dated 2-19-17.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR TAX PREPARATION AND HEALTH INSURANCE

IF YOU WERE ON THE TRIBAL INSURANCE PLAN IN 2016 AND MOVED TO A MARKETPLACE INSURANCE PLAN, PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND PLEASE SHARE IT WITH YOUR TAX ADVISOR.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR YOUR 1095's!

1095's are issued to verify health insurance coverage. 1095-A's will be issued by marketplace insurance plans. The Tribe is not required to issue 1095's for the time that Tribal Members were covered by the Tribal plan in 2016. Tribal Members are exempt from showing such coverage. Exemptions for Tribal membership are noted on the Form 8965 (Health Coverage Exemptions). The exemption code is "E".

HOWEVER, IF YOU RECEIVED A PREMIUM CREDIT FOR YOUR MARKETPLACE PLAN, PLEASE CONSULT YOUR TAX ADVISOR ON HOW TO PROPERLY COMPLETE THIS FORM.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT FORM 8965!

If you received a premium tax credit for your marketplace insurance plan, please make sure you complete form 8965 (Health Coverage Exemptions). If you were on the Tribe's insurance plan for a portion of 2016, please consult your tax advisor on how to properly document this form.

WOW!

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Brenda Steeley Johnson

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New Voice
New Vision
New Leadership

I will advocate for:

- Affordable Tribal Member Healthcare Coverage.
- Tribal Council Term Limits.
- Shifting the power back to General Council.
- The future of our Disabled Tribal Members & First Generation Descendents.
- Implementing a plan to add First Generation without reducing our current benefits.
- Better Communication between Tribal Council & Members.
- Equal treatment for all Tribal Members and families inside and outside of the 5-County service area.



SHARING THE HOLIDAYS WITH OUR ELDERS

The end of each year is always filled with activity. First comes Thanksgiving, which brings Pow Wow to our community, closely followed by the Tribe's annual Christmas parade. In the meantime, Christmas is on the horizon followed by various New Year's celebrations. Amongst all this hurry and scurry was the annual Elder's Holiday Luncheon hosted by Office of Archives and Records Management.

This luncheon is an annual event that our Elders, and Tribal staff, look forward to all year long. Not only was there great food, but guests were treated to a slide show of slides from the newly acquired Elloie Bradshaw Collection.

The guest speaker for the luncheon was Mr. Jim Robison. Mr. Robison was a professor in the Telecommunications Department of Alabama A&M University in the late 1970s when the University reached out to the Tribe to film a Trail of Tears documentary. He shared that he actually met the beautiful and talented young lady who would eventually become his wife during the filming process. He did regret however that he was not able to stay with the Trail of Tears project to the end. *(Slides and audio tapes from the documentary was featured in the Trail of Tears Conference hosted by the Office of Archives and Records Management on March 4, 2017.)*

I mentioned earlier that Tribal staff looks forward to the annual

Elder Holiday Luncheon as well. The staff and participants of the Education Department presented each guest with a little Christmas goody bag with little homemade gifts lovingly made by the 4-H and Afterschool Program participants. The Boys and Girls Club also presented gifts to each guest; their gifts included handmade snow globes from the Teen Center and mini Pecan Pies baked by the younger Boys & Girls Club participants.

The luncheon ended with prayer, a gospel song sang in the Muskogee language by Clarence Rolin and a heartwarming message from Tribal Chair Stephanie Bryan.

*By Gayle Johnson, Editor
Article erroneously omitted from previous issue.*



BOAT SAFETY TIPS

As deer season ends and warmer weather approaches we, as sportsmen and sportswomen, start gearing up for fun on the water.

Living in South Alabama we have a variety of lakes, rivers, and creeks to play in and explore. In the upcoming months many people will begin to pull out the boat and get it ready for fishing, skiing, or just cruising. Safe Boat Operation begins by making sure your boat and required equipment are together and in good working order before you get out on the water.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the United States Power Squadron will provide a free boat safety check for any recreational boat. To keep you within the law, please see the below requirements for Alabama:

Alabama's minimum requirements for specific equipment and documents to carry on board while the vessel is in use include:

- Your Alabama Boater's Certificate / Card (For all boaters - other approved certificate / card is acceptable)
- Certificate of Registration Number (To deter theft, don't leave it on the boat)
- Personal Flotation Devices (PFD): Coast Guard approved Type I, II and III in appropriate sizes for all on board.
- PFDs Type IV - Cushions & Life Ring Buoys are only required to be aboard boats longer than 15' 11".
- PFDs Type V - Inflatable life jackets are not for use by children or Personal Watercraft riders.
- Ignition Safety Switch must be installed on all PWCs
- Type B-1 Fire Extinguisher for boats less than 26' long. (Requirements differ for boats over 25' 11")
- Flame Arrestor on each carburetor (For gas-powered motors excluding outboards)
- Ventilation System – at least 2 ventilation ducts fitted with cowls must be properly installed
- Muffler – all engines must have a working muffler. (Boat noise must not prevent sound signals from being heard)

- Horn, Whistle or Bell – Must be audible for ½ to 1 ½ miles depending on the size of your boat.
 - Daytime Visual Distress Signals for boats over 26' 11" on federally controlled waters (Pyrotechnic devices and an orange flag)
 - Diver Down Flags (Boaters must not get within 100 feet of a Diver Down flag)
 - Night Time Visual Distress Signals required for boats over 16' on federally controlled waters (Flares, meteors, electric lights)
 - Navigation Lights (Required to be used from sunset to sunrise and in low visibility)
- Specifically, it is illegal to be in physical control of any vessel (including personal watercraft), water skis, or any similar device if the operator:
- Has a concentration of alcohol in his or her blood of 0.08% or more or
 - Is under the influence of:
 - Alcohol, any controlled substance or drugs
 - Any combination of alcohol, controlled substances or drugs
 - Any substance which impairs the operator's mental or physical faculties.
- Stay safe on the water this Spring/Summer and ALWAYS wear your PFD!

Reminder - Just as Alabama law bans anyone from drinking and driving a vehicle (DUI), the law also prohibits anyone from boating under the influence (BUI).

Barnie White, Environmental Health Specialist

TRIBAL COUNCIL ANNOUNCES COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Tribal Council has announced vacancies on the Enrollment and Endowment Committees.

The Tribal Council will be taking applications for two (2) vacancies on the Enrollment Committee and one (1) vacancy on the Endowment Committee through 5:00 p.m. (CST), Friday, April 28, 2017.

If you are interested in applying for any of these positions, an application is available on the Tribal Council page of the Tribe's official web site, www.pci-nsn.gov; the application may be completed and submitted directly from the web site.

You may also pick up an application at the Tribal Chair's Office in the Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility located at the Tribal Complex, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore AL or contact Kelli Ramer, Tribal Council Office Director, at (251) 368-9136 x 2110.

All applications, and resumes if applicable, should be returned to the Tribal Chair's Office by close of business Friday, April 28, 2017. Applications may be submitted via online submission, U.S. Mail, hand delivery, or email to boards-committees@pci-nsn.gov.

Once the April 28, 2017 deadline has passed, a list of all applicants will be published for your review. Please review to ensure that your name is listed if you applied for any of these vacancies. If your name is not listed, please contact the Tribal Chair's office immediately at (251) 368-9136 x 2110.

For your convenience, the list will be posted on the outside bulletin board at the main entrance to the Tribal campus, the Receptionist/Front Desk in the Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility, the Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic, and the Tribal Council page of the web site, www.pci-nsn.gov.



2017 TRIBAL MEMBER CENSUS UPDATE


Census information provided by Tribal Enrollment Department

On January 1, 2016, there were 3,052 enrolled members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. On December 31, 2016, there were 3,018 enrolled members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Of the 3018 Tribal Members on roll on December 31, 2016 1,889 were male; 1,129 were female.

The oldest male member of the Tribe is Carl "Buster" McGhee; he turned 100 years old on February 9, 2017. The oldest female member of the Tribe is Bernice Morgan; she turned 94 on December 23, 2016.

TRIBAL MEMBER STATISTICS:

- 1,888 Reside in the five county service area
- 1,130 Reside outside the five county service area
- 105 Age 80 and older
- 481 Age 65-79
- 833 Age 50-64
- 992 Age 30-49
- 350 Age 18-29
- 97 Age 13-17
- 160 Age 12 and under




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THOSE WE LOST IN 2016

JANUARY

Velma Alice Amos	January 9, 2016
Wade Steverson	January 17, 2016
Shirley Pierce	January 23, 2016
Mildred Coppock	January 28, 2016

FEBRUARY - NO DEATHS

MARCH

Jim Roberts	March 6, 2016
Margaret Maynard	March 27, 2016

APRIL

Atricebea Gibson	April 1, 2016
Gladys Johnson	April 4, 2016
George D. Taylor	April 12, 2016
Joe McGhee	April 14, 2016
Aubrey Walden	April 27, 2016

MAY

Otha Martin	May 8, 2016
Patricia Rackard	May 30, 2016

JUNE

Curtis Colbert	June 5, 2016
Myrtis Kinman	June 6, 2016
Aubrey Smith	June 8, 2016
Berman Leonard	June 14, 2016
Hazel Brice	June 15, 2016
Roy F. Davis, Sr.	June 16, 2016
Gregory Malone	June 17, 2016
Ernest Vickery	June 19, 2016
Silas Hathcock	June 22, 2016

JULY

Vernon McCraney	July 3, 2016
Harold Sells	July 9, 2016
Cameron Castleberry	July 12, 2016
Hubert Rolin	July 17, 2016
Roger Dale McGhee	July 22, 2016
Clois Reid	July 24, 2016

AUGUST

James E. Barnhill	August 8, 2016
Paul Parker	August 8, 2016
A.C. Lee	August 17, 2016
Quinton Parker	August 21, 2016

SEPTEMBER

Barbara Wilson	September 11, 2016
Berry Ross	September 12, 2016
Joe Ann Deriemacker	September 13, 2016
Billy Crawford	September 22, 2016

OCTOBER

Evelyn Cofield	October 14, 2016
Catherine Dees	October 22, 2016

NOVEMBER

Eric L. Rolin	November 5, 2016
Viola Mayton	November 13, 2016
Roy Steadham	November 16, 2016
Charles Williams	November 18, 2016
Obie Lee McGhee	November 19, 2016
Randy Dale Gehman	November 22, 2016
Gerald Woods	November 23, 2016
Cecil McGhee	November 30, 2016

DECEMBER

Almie E. Smith	December 10, 2016
Walter L. Lambert	December 10, 2016
Eddie E. Jackson	December 11, 2016
Kenneth Steadham	December 11, 2016
Mary Mugnier	December 22, 2016

If your loved one passed in 2016 and is not included on this list, please contact Rebecca Mills at (251) 368-9136 x 2262 or rmills@pci-nsn.gov.

Please know that the Tribal Enrollment Department has moved to the Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility; all contact information remains the same. When visiting the Tribal Enrollment Department, please check in with the Front Desk Receptionist as you enter the facility.



*Joseph Charles Madison
MSgt.
United States Air Force*

MSgt (USAF Retired) Joseph "Joe" Charles Madison is the eldest son of MSgt (USA, Retired) Charles Coley and Mary Angela Madison. He is the brother of John Thomas and Roland Franklin Madison. Joe graduated from Escambia County High School in May, 1966.

After receiving his draft notice, he enlisted in the United States Air Force (USAF) on August 3, 1966. After Basic Training Joe was sent to Lowery AFB, CO for Aircraft Munitions Load training; at the completion of training he was assigned to the 27th Tactical Fighter Wing, Cannon AFB, NM where he worked on the flight line training

to load munitions on the F-100 and T-33 aircraft. After a year on the flight line he was transferred to the 27th Tactical Fighter Wing Weapons School as an instructor to other airmen in weapons loading procedures for the F-100, T-33 and F-111A aircraft.

Joe was honorably discharged on August 3, 1970 and entered civilian life as a Co-Manager for TG&Y Stores in Clovis, NM and Amarillo, TX. After a year and a half, he re-entered the USAF as Administrative Technician and was assigned to 4900th Test Group Kirkland AFB, NM as the Non Commissioned Officer (NCOIC) in charge of the Test Group administrative office. After a year at Kirkland AFB he was transferred to Karamursel, Turkey on Postal Duty as NCOIC of the Postal Registry Office for the base.

In July 1975 after the tour in Turkey, Joe was assigned to Colorado State University, CO as an instructor for Air Force ROTC Detachment 90 as NCOIC the ROTC cadet flight program and ROTC scholarship funding. In June 1979 he was assigned to the Civil Air Patrol Headquarters, Maxwell AFB, AL as NCOIC of Civil Air Patrol cadet programs setting up National Civil Air

Patrol cadet competitions and managing cadet awards from National Headquarter. On July 1, 1982 the Headquarters Air University commander selected MSgt Madison to a position within the Headquarters as NCOIC of the Command Section. While assigned to the command section he assisted the Air University Chief of Staff and the Air University Commander in meetings, correspondence, and daily activities.

Joe retired from active duty on July 3, 1987. During his military service he received the following awards: Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with 1 Oak Leaf, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Training Ribbon, NCO Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon with 1 Oak Leaf, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 1 Oak Leaf, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with 1 Oak Leaf, and Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Award.

After retirement Joe entered the USAF's Civil Service Civil Engineering as an Environmental Protection Specialist at Maxwell AFB AL, where he was responsible for managing the base's Hazardous Waste, Pollution Prevention Program, Asbestos, Lead Based Paint Programs, and the Environmental Budget associated with each program. He supervised a team of USAF civil servants who removed tons of Asbestos and Lead Based Paint from facilities on Maxwell AFB and Gunter AFB, AL.

Joe received Supervisor and Inspector certifications for asbestos and lead based paint removal from the University of Alabama. He received Alabama Emergency Response and Remediation Training (HAZMAT Tech) at the University of Alabama Birmingham; and certifications for inspecting buildings for asbestos and lead based paint from Georgia Tech University.

Joe was later selected by the USAF, in conjunction with Oak Ridge University, TN, to teach other USAF Civil Engineering personnel from bases throughout the U.S. and overseas on the abatement of asbestos and lead based paint.

After spending more than 14 years in the Civil Engineering Environmental field he transferred to Gunter AFB in Alabama to work for the USAF as a Civil Engineering Specialist assigned to the Automated Civil Engineering System office. He supervised a team of computer programmers and functional specialist developing an Incident Reporting System to be used by the USAF, Army, Navy and Marine Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) teams.

After more than 40 years of serving the United States Air Force as an Airman and civilian he retired on January 30, 2014 and is enjoying life as a spouse to his loving wife Karen, a father to his son Billy and daughter in-law Ashley, and grandfather to his granddaughter Ella. He enjoys hunting, fishing, and playing golf.

Joseph Charles Madison, 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.

Submitted by Joseph Charles Madison

Edited by Gayle Johnson

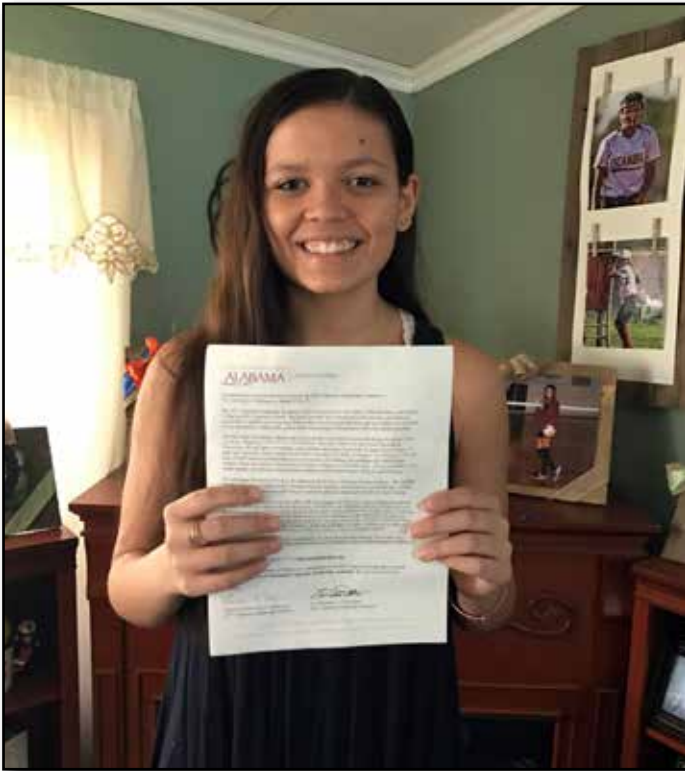


Honoring Our Veterans

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.

HOLLINGER ACCEPTED INTO 2017 CAPSTONE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY AT UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

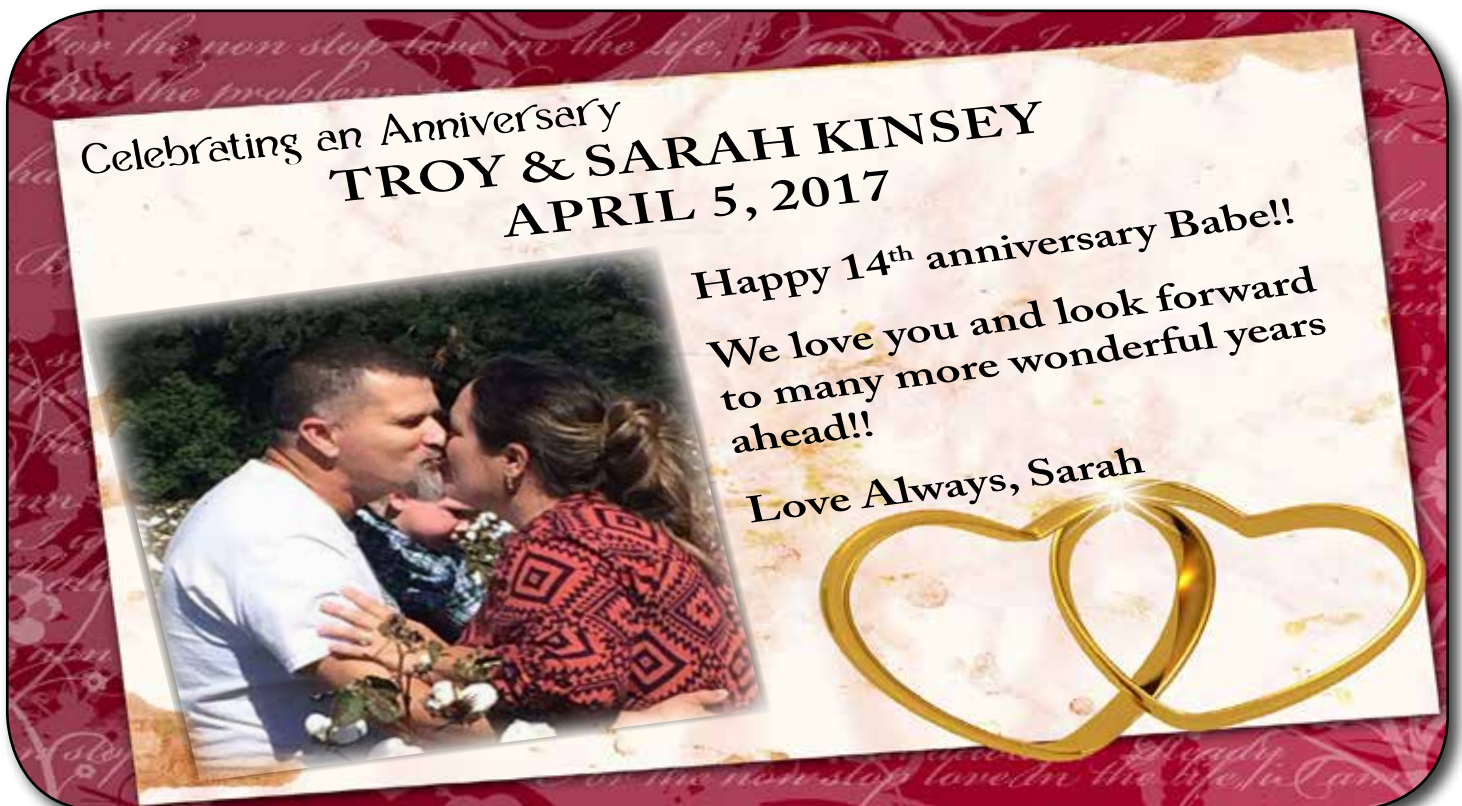


Lexie Ann Hollinger was nominated by her English/Literature teacher to be a recipient of a Leadership Award through the University of Alabama.

As a result, Lexie has been accepted into the 2017 Capstone Leadership Academy which is sponsored by the Office of the President at the University of Alabama. She attended a leadership seminar and worked on a service project for the United States Military on March 2-3 in Tuscaloosa.

Lexie is the daughter of Jarrell and Angel Hollinger and the grand daughter of Alex "Buster" Hollinger and the late Patricia Woods Hollinger.

Submitted by Jarrell Hollinger



Birthday Wishes are no longer be published in the newsletter. They are now posted on the Tribal web site 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 17th 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.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF JOHN T. MADISON MARCH 21, 1949 - JANUARY 17, 2017

On the 17th day of 2017 we lost John T. Madison, a loving husband and father who was a mentor to many, both personally and professionally.

John was always eager to share and educate those willing to listen and learn from his own life experiences. John is known for his humor, the safety of those around him, and for getting things done the right way.

His life had an impact on many and he will be greatly missed.

Submitted by Geraldine Madison



Perhaps they are not the stars, but rather openings in Heaven where the love of our lost ones pours through and shines down upon us to let us know they are happy.

Unknown

Love is stronger than death even though it can't stop death from happening, but no matter how hard death tries it can't separate people from love. It can't take away our memories either. In the end, life is stronger than death.

Unknown

**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



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cmartin47190@marykay.com
www.marykay.com/cmartin47190

Contact me for a complimentary makeover

MARY KAY



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

PK-2nd Grade division winner - Layla Pettway, top left; 3rd-6th Grade division winner - Mason McGhee, top right; and Teen Center division winner - Topanga Rolin, bottom right. These youth were nominated for their outstanding demonstration of good behaviors and leadership. Congratulations Layla, Mason, and Topanga!

Tribal Elite Archery Team Member Places 1st At Pro-Am Competition



The Boys & Girls Club Elite Archery Team competed in the National Foley Hoyt ASA Pro-Am Competition the weekend of February 18, 2017.

Tribal Elite Archery Team member Tucker Spence took first place in the competition! We are proud of all of our team members for trying their best and look forward to a great season!

Congratulations to Tucker Spence for all of your hard work and dedication.

Left to right are Cody Adkins, 2nd place, Tucker Spence, 1st place, and Taylor Bell, 3rd place.

Southeastern Indian Festival

April 6th– 8th, 2017

Learn about Southeastern Indian Culture
through:

Song & Dance

Storytelling

Living History

Stickball Game

Arts/Crafts Demonstrations

Authentic Indian Foods

Hands on Activities for Kids



Oklahoma Creek Stomp Dancers



Warriors Of AniKituhwa

♦ Thursday ~ 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (School Day)

♦ Friday ~ 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (School Hours)

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm (Open to the Public)

♦ Saturday ~ 10:00 am – 5:00 pm (Open to the Public)

FREE ADMISSION!

For more information, contact
Chris Blackburn at
251-368-9136 ext. 2052 or email at
eventsstaff@pci-nsn.gov



Mississippi Choctaw Social Dancers



Living History

Schools will need to notify the Cultural
Department in advance if planning to attend.

Guided tours will be available at the Kerretv Cuko ~ Poarch Band of Creek Indians Museum on Thursday & Friday, but must be scheduled in advance. (Please contact Brandy Chunn, ext. 2413, for information concerning guided tours.)

Poarch Band of Creek Indians ~ 5811 Jack Springs Road ~ Atmore, AL 36502

The Fred L. McGhee Early Learning Center

2017-2018 School Year

**Applications will be accepted the week of
April 17th – 21st ONLY from 8:00 AM-5:00 PM!**

No Applications will be accepted before April 17th or after April 21st.

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 (www.pci-nsn.gov), the Learning Center, and Education Department. Applications will only be accepted for PCI Tribal Members, first and second generation Indian descent students.

Complete application MUST 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.

2016-2017 GRADUATION BANQUET HONORS ALL GRADUATES

Friday, June 2, 2017

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Wind Creek Casino Coosawada Ballroom

Graduates must RSVP by May 19, 2017 to attend.

PCI Tribal Members or 1st 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.

You DO NOT have to attend the banquet to get your graduation gift but you must submit the 2016-2017

Graduation Banquet form by the deadline. The form was published in the March issue of the newsletter. It can also be obtained from the Education Department or downloaded from Education's page on the Tribal web site, www.pci-nsn.gov.

This is a celebration for graduates and their immediate family. Each graduate is allowed to bring a maximum of 4 guest to the banquet.

For questions please contact Magen Weaver at (251) 368-9136 x 2021 or mweaver@pci-nsn.gov.

Hosted by: Tribal Council, PCI Education Department, and Education Advisory Board

 <p>FREE PLAY with EVERY STAY 251-368-8182</p>  <p>It is almost pool time!</p> <p>6141 Highway 21, Atmore, AL 36502 I-65, exit 57 muskogeeinn.com</p>	 <p>Inside Creek Travel Plaza I-65, exit 54</p>  <p>Atmore's Best Burgers!</p>	   <p>Don't forget your snacks, drinks, convenience store and discount tobacco items</p> <p>Call for tobacco pricing: 251-446-8801 Next to Wind Creek Casino</p>
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2017 Summer Leadership Program 13-15 Years Old

EACH SESSION IS CAPPED AT 40 STUDENTS DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS. PREFERENCE SHALL BE GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 33 (TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS) OF THE TRIBAL CODE.

The Summer Leadership Program is an opportunity for young adults to learn to rise above the challenges of today and make a positive impact in their community. Inspiring activities and lessons to encourage youth to shatter social boundaries and gain abilities to resolve conflicts. It prepares them for the future by teaching job skills, career development, teamwork, leadership skills, and cultural education.

Program will be Monday thru Thursday from 8:00 – 5:00

Participants will earn \$5.00 per hour.

Session 1: June 5 – June 22

Session 2: July 10- July 27

Applications can be obtained from Tribe's website (www.pci-nsn.gov) or from the Education Department. Applications are due by 5:00 pm May 19th.

All of the following requirements must be met:

- Age 13-15 by June 5th, 2017
- Enrolled in 2017-2018 School Year
- Tribal Member, First Generation or reside in a Tribal Member Household
- Submit a completed application and copy of birth certificate by May 12th
- Successfully PASS drug test prior to starting & randomly throughout program

For additional information contact Tawana Parham at (251) 253-3456 or tparham@pci-nsn.gov.



2017 Leadership Program

13-15 years old

Deadline: May 12th

**Each session is limited to 40 students
Preference shall be given according to Title 33
(Tribal Employment Rights) of the Tribal Code**

Applicant Information

Full Name:					Date:			
Address:								
City:			State:			Zip Code:		
Phone:				Email:				
Date of Birth:			Age:			Social Sec. Number:		
Please indicate your Tribal Affiliation			Tribal Member Roll #:	First Generation (Letter must be submitted)		Reside in TM Household (Must submit proof of resident)		
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Have you participated in this program in the past?			YES <input type="checkbox"/>			NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
Do you have relatives that work for the Tribe? (Includes PCI, CIE, Gaming, Etc.)						YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
If yes, please list their name and department:								

Education

Are you currently attending school?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Last Grade Completed:		
Name of School Attending:					
Cultural classes you are interested in (Check only 3):	<input type="checkbox"/> Basket <input type="checkbox"/> Pottery <input type="checkbox"/> Moccasins <input type="checkbox"/> Copper Tooling <input type="checkbox"/> Gourd <input type="checkbox"/> Finger Waving <input type="checkbox"/> Beading <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing				

Parent/ Guardian Information

Parent/ Guardian Name:			
Home Phone:			Cell Phone:
Please list any information pertaining to your child that we should be aware of such as allergies, etc.			
Does your child have any health problems that should be taken in consideration?			YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Please provide a signed doctor's statement if any special accommodations are required.			

Notification and Signature

All applicants will be drug tested prior to program start date and may be randomly tested at any time thereafter. A positive result excludes participation in this program. This application must be returned to the Poarch Creek Indians Education Department no later than 5:00 pm on May 12, 2017. This program is for students 13-15 years old. Participant must be 13 years of age by June 5, 2017. Applicant must submit copy of their birth certificate and be enrolled in school. If you have any questions, please call Tawana Parham at (251) 253-3456 or Magen Weaver at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2021.

Participant
Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian
Signature: _____ Date: _____

POARCH PARTICIPATES IN NBA MATH HOOPS TOURNAMENT



Back row left to right are Kimberly McGhee, Josh Burkett, Brionna Slate, Jayla Brown, Dylan Rolin, D.J. Rolin, Ashkia Weaver, Macie Chunn, and Jerry Sanchez. Front row left to right are Logan Brown, Aron Chavira, Benjamin Moye, Daygen Slate, and Anthony Jordan.

On February 17, 2017 the Education Department traveled with a group of 12 students to New Orleans for the NBA Math Hoops Tournament. Math Hoops is a curriculum, which is built to engage 4th-8th grade students through the game of basketball and the statistics of their favorite NBA/WNBA players. This year's tournament was held at Success Preparatory Academy with four different districts participating including the Poarch Creek Indians.

Aron Chavira and Logan Brown took home second place; we couldn't be more proud of them and the other participants. The Community Services Division is proud of each participant; they represented the Tribe well.

Creating Math Champions, one game at a time.

Nationwide, 82% of low-income eighth graders are not proficient in math. Failing a math class in middle school is a key indicator for dropping out of high school, which leads to a lifetime of struggle.

Students are more motivated and successful when they are provided with educational experiences that closely relate to their lives and keep them engaged. NBA Math Hoops is literally a game-changer.



2017 Summer Internship Program

16-18 Years Old

The Summer Internship Program is an opportunity to gain work experience through on-the-job training that will provide the participant with the skills, experience, and insights to allow for enhanced and gainful employment.

Program will be Monday thru Friday from 8-5.

Participants will earn \$7.25 per hour.

Program begins June 5th -July 28th.

There will be a mandatory meeting with the selected Interns, their parents, and Education staff on June 5th at 8:00 AM in the Education Library.

PREFERENCE SHALL BE GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 33 (TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS) OF THE TRIBAL CODE.

Applications can be obtained from the Tribe's website (www.pci-nsn.gov) or from the Education Department. Applications are due by 5:00 pm May 12th.

All of the following requirements must be met:

- Age 16-18 by June 5, 2017
- Currently attending high school or a recent high school or GED graduate
- Tribal Members, First Generation, and Tribal Member Household students
- Submit a completed application and all supporting documents by May 12th
- Successfully PASS drug test prior to starting & randomly throughout program

For additional information contact Billie McGhee at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2243 or bmcghee@pci-nsn.gov.



2017 Summer Internship Application

Ages: 16-18

Deadline: May 12th

**Preference shall be given according to Title 33 (Tribal
Employment Rights) of the Tribal Code**

Applicant Information

Student's Full Name:			Date:		
Address:					
City:		State:		Zip Code:	
Phone:			Email:		
Date of Birth:		Age:		Social Sec. Number :	
		Tribal Member <input type="checkbox"/>		First Generation <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Reside in TM Household <input type="checkbox"/>			
Please indicate student's Tribal Affiliation?		Roll #:		(Letter must be submitted)	
				(Must submit proof of resident)	
Do you have your own transportation?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>		NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you participated in the Summer Internship Program in the past?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>		NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you have any health issues or allergies?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>		NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, please explain your condition:					
Do you have relatives that work for the Tribe? (Includes PCI, CIE, Gaming, Etc.)		YES <input type="checkbox"/>		NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, please list their name and department:					

Education

Are you currently attending school?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>		NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
				Last Grade Completed:	
Name of School Attending:					
Career areas are you interested in (List at least 3):					

Parent/ Guardian Information

Parent/ Guardian Name:	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:

Participant's Signature

All applicants will be drug tested, a positive result will result in denial/termination from the program. This application must be returned to the Poarch Creek Indians Education Department. Participant must adhere to all Poarch Creek Indians policy and procedures and uphold the Tribe's confidentiality policy. Participant swears and affirms that the information contained in this application is true and correct. If you have any questions, please call Billie McGhee at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2243.

Participant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

My child, _____, has my permission to participate in the Poarch Creek Indians Summer Internship Program and will abide by all the policies and procedures set forth by the Poarch Creek Indians.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Required documents: ☐ Social Security Card ☐ Driver's License ☐ First Gen. Letter or Proof of TM Household

2017 CLOSE UP PROGRAM



A group of 13 Poarch Creek Tribal Members and 1st Generation students recently spent 6 days in Washington, D.C. meeting with members of other Native American tribes and their Tribal Councils. They discussed key issues and pondered solutions to challenges facing tribes in Indian country today.

In Washington, this group successfully completed the demanding “Close Up” student program. This included spending over 80 hours with students from other Native American tribes and seeking improvement and solidarity among these tribes.

Tribal participants at Close Up were: Dillon Lowrey, Dakota Rolin, Anna Kathryn Rolin, Breanna Hall, Charleigh Parham, Bailey Spann, Xavier Brooks, Jude Parham, Halle Rae Peebles, Brianna Bailey, Chaz McGhee, Jade McGhee, and Lukas Presley.

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

Jon Bon Jovi

Miracles happen everyday, change your perception of what a miracle is and you'll see them all around you.

Jon Bon Jovi

Brenda Steely Johnson: Determined Educational Success

"The McGhee-Tullis education scholarship is a gift that is offered to each Tribal Member. Without that, I would have never been able to financially afford to graduate with two degrees," said Brenda Steely Johnson. Brenda entered college immediately after high school at the age of 18; however working full time was of a higher priority. Years later, as an adult, she realized the importance of a college degree and that goal then became her priority.

Brenda earned her Associates of Science in Healthcare Administration from Bossier Community College in Bossier City, LA and her Bachelors of Science in Business from Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA. She is currently enrolled at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in the Native American Leadership Master's program.

As an adult returning to school, Brenda was more determined than ever to finish. As Brenda stated, "I started back to college at the age of 46. It had been 28 years since I had stepped foot into a college

classroom. I will never forget the night I went to my first class. My first semester I experienced test anxiety, which raised my blood pressure to the point that I had to take medication to control it. My first degree required me to take a public speaking class. As an introvert, this was also extremely stressful. However, I learned to volunteer to go first. I realized that the younger students actually paid attention to my presentations and respected what I had to say. Attending school at night allowed me to be in a classroom with other adults. My daughter graduated from high school the same year I started back to college. We attended college at the same time, taking Chemistry together. My children had the privilege of watching their mother get inducted into Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, at the same time as some of their classmates. Spending my weekend writing a 30 page paper or business plan was never how I wanted to spend my time, but I did it. I have no regrets and am so thankful for the education benefit."



Brenda Johnson

Brenda has many people to thank for her success including her fellow employees and her employers. Brenda's family members are her number one supporters. She also knows that if her father were still alive, he would be proud as well, considering he only received a 7th grade education.

Congratulations Brenda!

Submitted by Annie 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 HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

Large quantities from businesses, farms, or commercial operations will not be accepted.

ACCEPTING:

Paints
Automobile Batteries
Motor Oil
Antifreeze
Household Cleaners
Household Chemicals
Pesticides
Flammables
Corrosives
Fluorescent bulbs
Electronic waste such as:
Computers
Monitors
Printers

Scanners
Palm Accessories
Power Supplies
Battery Backups
Rechargeable Batteries
Cables
Toner/Ink Cartridges
Hard Drives
CD Roms
Speakers
VCRs
DVD Players
Stereo Equipment
TVs
Game Consoles

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 #1
5811 JACK SPRINGS ROAD
ATMORE, AL**

**OPEN TO ALL
RESIDENTS OF
POARCH AND
SURROUNDING AREA**

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION TRAINING WAS A SUCCESS



A total of 62 landscapers, [Tribal Members], Tribal staff, high school Ag teachers, ALDOT DBEs and college instructors watch an exterior tree planting as the Alabama Urban Forestry Association's Arbor Day/ACT Trees/Boise Paper grant supplies demo trees for the class and Tribal Senior orchard.

There was a great turnout for the Landscape Management Certification Training January 31, 2017 through February 1, 2017 in the Tribal Council Auditorium. The Creek Community Garden Program hosted the event.

Darrell Hollinger, Garden Supervisor, and I would like to express our appreciation to those that were interested and participated in the training provided by Mr. Fred Kapp of Green Industries, a great partner with the Tribe.

We appreciate the very professional and supportive PCI staffers for lunches, refreshments, program management and hosting the event. We look forward to more programs in the future.

Mr. Kapp was also very appreciative of the response to the class "Thanks to everyone for helping with our on-going Green Industry Web Portal classes at Poarch."

*Submitted By:
Carolyn M. White, Regulatory Affairs Division Director
Darrell Hollinger, Community Garden Supervisor*

One of the most tragic things I know about human nature is that all of us tend to put off living. We are all dreaming of some magical rose garden over the horizon instead of enjoying the roses that are blooming outside our windows today.

Dale Carnegie



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

This is a time to recognize that we can play a part in promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in our community.

- 44.2 % of children who die from child abuse are under the age of 1!
- More than 4 children die from child abuse and neglect every day.
- 3.6 million children abuse cases are reported each year involving 6.6 Million children
- Every 13 seconds a child is abused
- Almost 1,600 children die unnecessarily from child abuse and neglect each year

Information from the Children's Bureau 2014

STEP UP. SPEAK UP. STOP IT. REPORT IT!

Should you need to report reasonable suspicions of abuse or neglect please contact Michealine Deese, Child and Welfare Coordinator, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2603 or you can contact the Poarch Police Department at any time (251) 368-5011 for non-emergencies or dial 911 for emergencies. Remember all reports made are confidential.

PCI Family Services Department (251) 368-9136 Ext. 2600

Indian Health Care Funds-Payor Of Last Resort Rule

When you come to the Health Department or Pharmacy, why do we ask for your health insurance? Why do we require you to apply for All Kids or Medicaid or Medicare before paying health bills or stamping a prescription to be filled?

First, insurance and alternative resources, like All Kids, Medicaid, and Medicare, help the Tribe stretch its health dollars. When third parties pay, the Tribe conserves the funds it receives from Indian Health Service and from the Tribal Council. That allows the Tribe to invest more money into the health care of Tribal Members.

Second, our federal dollars which come from Indian Health Service should be spent only after payments have been received from alternative resources, like insurance, All Kids, Medicaid, and Medicare. In Indian Healthcare, this is known as the “payor of last resort” rule. Indian Health Service dollars are spent last. Again, that allows the Indian Health Service and the tribes to stretch the money and provide more health services.

Next time you are at the Health Department or Pharmacy and you are asked for your health insurance, remember you are being asked for a good reason.



April is
NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Did you know?

- Every 20 minutes someone is diagnosed with autism
- Autistic individuals (speaking and non-speaking) may use a variety of different and unique ways to communicate
- Many individuals on the spectrum stay in school until they are 21
- People with autism have very special gifts and talents!

The Autism Society has a resource for support called Autism Source.
To reach us call: 800-3Autism

#AutismFriendly #NAAM16

AUTISM SOCIETY

Light It Up Blue

Each April 2nd, Autism Speaks celebrates the start of its signature campaign, Light It Up Blue, along with the international autism community in recognition of UN sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day and April, World Autism Month.

Thousands of iconic landmarks and buildings join the hundreds of thousands of homes and communities around the world to “light blue” in support of people living with autism. Autism-friendly events and educational activities take place all month to increase understanding and acceptance and further support people with autism.



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.

STEP 3:

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

GENETIC COUNSELLING

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 a future issue of the newsletter.



Health & Elder Services Purpose

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

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

Poarch Band of Creek Indians

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.

Please keep in mind prescriptions that are not picked up within 14 days are returned to stock.

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



Poarch Creek Indians

Cancer Support Group Meeting

Open to Public

Wednesday, April 18, 2017

Wind Creek Casino Ballroom

6:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Jessa Blount, Genetics Counselor with Mitchell Cancer Institute. Ms. Blount will discuss genetic testing which is being done to determine if an individual has the genetic gene for cancer. Contact Carrie Martin (251) 368-9136 x 2374 or cmartin@pci-nsn.gov for more information.



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**



Entry Forms available in the Housing Department
or can be downloaded from www.amerindrisk.org,



Liquid Laundry Packet Safety Tips

Everything you need to know to keep your kids safe around liquid laundry packets.

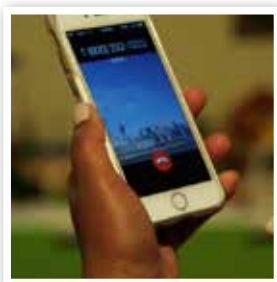
Young children are explorers, and as they develop, they often learn by touch and by putting things into their mouths. Liquid laundry detergent packets are designed to dissolve in water, so when they come in contact with wet hands or mouths, they start to dissolve and might release the concentrated liquid inside. We want to encourage our kids to explore and discover new things, we just need to be careful to keep them safe. Here are a few tips to show you how.



- Keep liquid laundry packets out of children's reach and sight.



- Keep packets in their original container and keep the container closed.



- If a child gets into them, call the Poison Help number immediately: 1-800-222-1222.



**More than 33,000
calls were made
to poison centers
for laundry packet
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Tribal Member Margaret Johnson moved into her New TAHO home in Poarch on February 17, 2017. Congratulations Margaret!

EMERGENCY REHABILITATION PROGRAM AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM ARE TWO SEPARATE PROGRAMS

*The **EMERGENCY REHABILITATION PROGRAM** is designed to assist elderly or disabled Tribal Members with emergency situations in regards to the threat of health and/or safety of the residence. This program is available both inside and outside the service area.*

The Housing Department completed fifteen (15) projects in the months of November, 2016 through January, 2017 through this program. Three of which were outside of the service area. The projects consisted of roof repair, heating and cooling, wheelchair ramps, and handicap bathrooms.

*The **REHABILITATION PROGRAM** is for Tribal Members who live inside the service area and have health or safety issues in their homes.*

Examples: roofs, windows, bathrooms, insulation, ramps, unsafe flooring, plumbing and electrical problems.

Applications for the Rehabilitation Program are taken year round.

See, when you drive home today, you've got a big windshield on the front of your car. And you've got a little bitty rear-view mirror. And the reason the windshield is so large and the rearview mirror is so small is because what's happened in your past is not near as important as what's in your future.

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Monday and Thursday



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

www.autismspeaks.org/

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



Visit *Autism Speaks* at www.autismspeaks.org for more information on autism.



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Swim Team Makes A Splash at 2017 PNY Polar Bear Meet

The 2017 Pensacola Navy Youth (PNY) Polar Bear Meet was held in Gulf Shores, Alabama February 3-5, 2017. The Tribal swim team made quite a splash as you can see in the photos below.



1. Girls 11-12 200 yard Medley Relay Team: Tiffany Gookin, Caroline Williamson, Kinsley Byrd, and Kamryn Langham
2. Kylee Langham, 25 yard Breaststroke /3rd place
3. Mary-Ashlynn Williams, 50 yards Breaststroke /3rd place
4. Tiffany Gookin, Backstroke
5. Kamryn Langham, Backstroke
6. Smiling with ribbons & medals!
 - Mary-Ashlyn Williams: Placed top 3 in 4 of 10 events; ribboned in 6 others.
 - Kamryn Langham: Placed top 3 in 5 of 10 events; ribboned in other 5 events
 - Kylee Langham: High Point winner in 8 & Under Girls; placed top 3 in 9 of 10 events





BIKE-A-THON



Community Family Day!

Help us raise awareness for Elder & Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Saturday, April 29, 2017

Buford L. Rolin Health Department Parking Lot

Time: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Grab your bikes and wagons and join us for a bike-a-thon and walk from the Health Department to the Senior Sub-Division and back.

We will also provide Bouncy Houses, DJ & a light lunch.

Contact Megan Argueta at the Recreation Department for more information ext. 2256.

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Your Health Matters

GATHER TOGETHER IN HEALTH



DO YOU DESERVE TO BE HAPPY?

BY ELISABETH WOLSTENHOLME
Health Culture Specialist

This is not a trick question. To some of us, the answer seems obvious. We all deserve to be happy. Or maybe you think there are certain things you must fix or change before you can be happy. We all have struggles.

We all have rough days that sometimes turn into weeks, leaving us feeling anxious and unsure.

Finding happiness during tough times seems to require super human strength. What if all it took was a small shift in our thinking? We tend to think of happiness as a future goal. Once some event takes place, we will be happy. "I'll feel really happy once I lose weight." for example, or "I just need a

bigger house and/or a bigger paycheck, then I'll feel settled." Happiness can be felt right now, in the moment, no matter what is going on around you. Just like electricity, we can plug into it no matter what is going on in our lives. Happiness truly can help light the way forward.

Here are some easy shifts that will help, right now, to boost your happiness and well-being:

www.mypciwellness.com

My PCI WELLNESS

Write down three things you're thankful for, right now. This simple act could lower your blood pressure, decrease feelings of loneliness and help you sleep better.

1. Decide the world is a friendly place.

This view allows you to take something super annoying, like a driver cutting you off in traffic, and assume a charitable attitude: Decide to believe this person was simply in a hurry and not trying to frustrate you. Taking this view of the world leads to more peace and less stress. Happiness researchers say that about 40% of our happiness is in our control and directly affected by our thoughts and actions. Living in a happy world, therefore, is a choice that you have at your disposal at any time.

2. Decide that you're grateful for three specific things.

Write down three things you're thankful for, right now. This simple act could lower your blood pressure, decrease feelings of loneliness and help you sleep better. The peaceful feeling of knowing that your glass is "half full" will change the way you view your day and begin to change the way you view your life and how you respond to hard times. Learning to find a moment of kindness here and there is a happiness game-changer. Remembering how good it felt when someone held the door for you with a smile will honor the moment and inspire you to return the kindness.

3. Decide to be kind to yourself.

Decide right now to sweep away negative thoughts about yourself and replace them with positive ones. Think positive thoughts about you, your appearance and the specific gifts you bring to the world. Talk to yourself with words as kind as the ones you'd say to a friend. Extending love will boost positive emotions and it starts with extending love to yourself.

4. Decide to forgive.

Start with yourself. Sure, we all struggle with feelings of regret. Everybody does from time to time. We can choose to let our mistakes guide us in a new direction and be a part of our past instead of continuing to stress about them in the present. Pinpoint a few mistakes that are bugging you right now and forgive yourself. Instant happiness boost. Once you have extended that grace to yourself you'll find yourself empowered to give it to others. This exchange will allow you to feel lighter and happier.

Making the effort to get a happiness boost every day will bring you many smiles in return. Your happiness and health are important. You are important. Try these small shifts today, feel the glow now, and notice the big changes in your health and well-being.

So, do you deserve to be happy? **Yes.**



SMALL DECISIONS MAKE BIG THINGS HAPPEN



2017 SAIL Center King & Queen Crowned At Valentine's Banquet

SAIL CENTER Valentine's Banquet was held on Thursday, February 9th. SAIL CENTER Valentine's court include: James "Chief" Peters and wife Linda Peters; Ronnie "Lefty" Cochran and wife Judy Hollinger Cochran. The winner of Valentine's King and Queen was Ronnie "Lefty" Cochran and wife Judy Hollinger Cochran. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2017 SAIL CENTER King and Queen.



SAIL Center Celebrates Fat Tuesday!

Poarch Creek SAIL CENTER celebrated Fat Tuesday with Mardi Gras Contest. The contestants included left to right: Annette Lane (1st place), Voncille Peters, Myra King (2nd place), Joyce Rolin, Dannie King, and Harold Rolin (3rd place).

2017 Senior Road Trip

***Memphis, Tennessee To Branson, Missouri
September 17, 2017 - September 24, 2017***

SIGN UP DATES:

SAIL Center **May 29, 2017 - June 2, 2017**
Monday - Friday **8:00 a.m. - 5:00 pm**

Health Fair/Wellness Center
June 3, 2017 **8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

FEES:

\$100.00 **Senior Tribal Member
(55 & Older)**

\$200.00 **Non-Tribal Member Spouses***

**All fees must be paid no later than 5:00 pm
(CST) Tuesday, June 13, 2017.**

**Non-Tribal spouses must be accompanied by their
enrolled Tribal Member husband/wife.*

Please come by to sign up, call, or email.

Poarch Band of Creek Indians SAIL Center

251-368-9136 x 2289, x 2617, x 2801

cwalker@pci-nsn.gov,

cwright@pci-nsn.gov,

mshiver@pci-nsn.gov

***Must meet at SAIL Center in Poarch for departure
Time TBA***



Medstar Emergency Medical Services

Emergencies can happen without warning. Are you prepared? Recently a new air ambulance service has opened to serve our area. Med-Trans Corporation, a national air medical transport leader, has based a Bell 407 GXP air ambulance helicopter in Baldwin County, Ala. in partnership with Medstar Emergency Medical Services.

Flying with the name Medstar Air Care 1, Medstar EMS provides paramedics for the crews, while Med-Trans provides the helicopter, pilots, and nurses. The new community resource will provide quicker access to severely injured and critical care patients needing airlift to the hospital. "I am very proud to be a part of this new opportunity," said Chad Jones, Program Manager for Medstar Air Care 1. "We are committed to providing this community with the highest level of patient care, and we believe the partnership between air and ground can elevate the level of service by creating a one team

approach through coordinated training and other joint initiatives.

"Initially, the Medstar Air Care 1 helicopter will be based at the Stapleton Fire Station in the northern part of the Baldwin County. It will service area towns and also be accessible within a matter of minutes to some coastal Alabama communities.

Medstar 1 has visited Tribal Emergency Services to share how community members can become a member, to help reduce cost if their services are needed. Below are a few questions and answers about the program.

OVERVIEW AND MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

How did the AirMedCare Network membership program get started?

Our Network of Providers were among the first air ambulance services to offer a membership program, similar to the ground ambulance

and rural fire department programs throughout the United States. The founders knew that for the service to survive in a rural area, they would need other sources of funding besides the traditional fee-for-service billing. Additionally, the founders knew that the service would be costly, and therefore offered a membership program to assist families with the cost and alleviate the financial burden associated.

What is the benefit of membership to you?

Although you do not have to be a member to be transported, membership offers several important benefits:

- First, as one of more than 2.6 million members, AirMedCare Network Providers will work on your behalf with your benefits provider to secure payment for your flight, with any uncovered amounts considered to be fully prepaid. As such, members who

are transported by AirMedCare Network will not receive a bill for the flight. Importantly, your membership is valid in all of our service areas so you are covered while traveling in those areas. If they determine air medical transport is needed, they will dispatch one of our ambulance providers.

- Second, becoming an AirMedCare Network member is a good way to support the health care needs of your local community. Our membership base - the largest of its kind in the United States - helps us operate in rural areas where having a quick response time to critical medical situations can save lives.

How can a membership be so inexpensive and yet still be able to cover the costs of the flights?

An individual's membership fee covers only a small fraction of the cost of a flight. Our membership support helps subsidize our program, but our primary revenue is derived from our transports, the vast majority of which are non-members; only a fraction of the patients we fly are AirMedCare Network members.

What is included in my membership?

Members are entitled to transport (when available) by an AirMedCare Network provider to the closest appropriate medical facility for medical conditions deemed by an attending medical professional to be life- or limb-threatening, or that could lead to permanent disability.

Members also receive a welcome packet complete with auto stickers and membership cards. Members have the peace of mind knowing that they will receive no out-of-pocket expense for their flights.

Can I cover all of my family on the membership?

With an AirMedCare Network household membership, any person or persons who reside under one (residential) roof can be covered. In the event we have a member who lives in a duplex or apartment complex, we designate the primary member's residence/address, and that is considered the "one roof". Undergraduate college students can be covered under their parent's membership as well as anyone previously residing in the household who is then moved to a permanent care facility.

Is there a limit to the number of transports a member can have in a year?

There is no limit to the number of transports a member may take in a year. Each transport is handled the same way and must be a life-or-limb threatening emergency.

If I am a member and end up being transported by a ground ambulance or another air ambulance service, who is responsible for the bill?

If an AirMedCare Network Provider does not transport you, you will be responsible for payment of the bill. Our membership program only covers transports provided by our affiliates.

Is an AirMedCare Network membership considered insurance?

No. AirMedCare Network is not an insurance company. An AirMedCare Network membership is not an insurance policy and cannot be considered as secondary insurance coverage or as supplemental coverage to any insurance policy. Membership provides prepaid protection against covered AirMedCare Network provider transportation costs that exceed a member's health insurance or medical benefits.

If I have Medicaid, do I need a membership?

No. Some state laws prohibit Medicaid beneficiaries from being offered membership or accepted into membership programs. As part of our application process, members certify to AirMedCare Network that they are not Medicaid beneficiaries, with AirMedCare Network providers accepting Medicaid as full payment for services rendered.

Medstar1 plans to have team members available on Tribal Election Day to sign individuals up or answer more questions. Any questions before Election Day can be directed to Tribal Emergency Services Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2293 or asells@pci-nsn.gov.

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)

Lowering The Tribal Flag When A Tribal Member Passes

In order to make sure the Tribal Flag is lowered to show respect for the unfortunate passing of a TRIBAL MEMBER we request that the family notify the Poarch Tribal Police Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2621 or email Connie Vickery at cvickery@pci-nsn.gov.

We would like to lower the Tribal Flag for the wake and funeral, therefore when calling please leave the name of the Tribal Member and funeral arrangements.

We will also show our respect through prayer for the family and friends during their time of sorrow.

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The PCI Utilities Authority is committed to educating our Tribe and our customers about water conservation. In the coming months we hope to give you helpful insight and tips on potential leaks and drips in or around your home. Easy ways to fix your problems, or just simple ways to cut down on waste.

LET'S TALK ABOUT LEAKS:

The average household's leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year, or the amount of water needed to wash 270 loads of laundry.

- Ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.
- Household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons annually nationwide. That's equal to the annual household water use of more than 11 million homes.
- Common types of leaks found in the home include worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves.

LEAK DETECTION:

A good method to check for leaks is to examine your winter water usage. It is likely that a family of four has a serious leak problem if the water use exceeds 12,000 gallons per month.

- Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak.
- One way to find out if you have a toilet leak is to place a drop of food coloring in the back of the tank. If the color shows up in the bowl within 10 minutes without flushing, you have a leak. Make sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.

Toilets are silent water consumers. Most times when your toilet has a leak it goes unseen. Often the cause of a leaking toilet will be an old, faulty toilet flapper. Over time, this inexpensive rubber part decays, or minerals build up on it. It's usually best to replace the whole rubber flapper – a relatively easy, inexpensive do-it-yourself project that pays for itself in no time.

If you need to replace the entire toilet, look for a WaterSense labeled

model. If the average family replaces its older, inefficient toilets with new WaterSense labeled ones, it could save 13,000 gallons of water per year. Retrofitting the house could save your family nearly \$2,400.00 in water and wastewater bills over the lifetime of the toilets.

We continue to move forward and are working diligently on our on-going projects.

- Safe Drinking Water Revolving Fund (new administration building)
- Canoe Water Improvements
- Sanitary Sewer Structure Lining (Manhole Lining)

The PCI Utilities Authority Board and Staff would like to wish you a Happy Easter. May your heart and your home be filled with the Blessings of Easter.

Please contact our office Monday through Friday should you need assistance or have questions 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at (251) 446-1617.

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

Applications for Service with the Utilities Authority are available at the Utilities Department and have been posted on the Utilities Authority page of the Tribal web site, www.pci-nsn.gov. Applications must be downloaded, completed, signed, and returned to the Utilities Authority. Signed applications must be hand delivered or mailed to Poarch Creek Indians Utilities Authority at 263 Aplin Road, Atmore, AL 36502.

Wind Creek Thrives Through Giving Back

By: Kristen Gehman, *WCH public relations specialist*
April 2017

It's no secret that Wind Creek Hospitality (WCH) is dedicated to giving back. What may not be known is where and how WCH gives back. Wind Creek properties are making a difference in their communities and the impact is seen well beyond Atmore, Wetumpka and Montgomery.

At the annual Artys awards on January 27, Wind Creek Hospitality was recognized as most outstanding business partner of the year by the Mobile Arts Council. The award is given to a business who, through financial support, demonstrated dedication to furthering arts programs in the Mobile area.

In 2016, Wind Creek donated to nearly every organization that is a member of the Mobile Arts Council. WCH was also the presenting sponsor for the awards event. For this reason, Wind Creek was chosen to receive the award over two other exceptional nominees, PNC Bank and Hargrove Engineers.



Pictured in photo above: (left to right) Zach Cutler, Kristen Gehman, Jennifer Sanders, Magi Williams, Danielle Sanspree, Jerry Janes, Daniel Etheridge
Photo credit: Forrest Funk

Wind Creek Atmore (WCA) was honored recently as Business of the Month by the Atmore Chamber of Commerce. The award is given to one business whose operations positively impact and grow the community. Recipients are often active in local events and charities; Wind Creek Atmore is no different. In 2016, WCA was a Corporate Diamond sponsor of the Atmore Chamber and also contributed nearly \$130,000.00 to local schools and organizations through its TITO program.

The TITO (Ticket In Ticket Out) program allows guests to donate unwanted cash-out tickets to a designated organization each month. One requirement for recipients is that the funding is used within the local community. Tickets are often worth just a few cents in change, but the totals add up to thousands of dollars. For groups that receive TITO funds, the donation makes a huge impact.



Pictured in photo above: Atmore Chamber of Commerce presents Business of the Month award to Assistant Property Manager Terri Morris and property staff.
Photo credit: Andrew Garner, Atmore Advance

Wind Creek Wetumpka (WCW) has an active TITO program. In September of 2016, WCW donated to The American Red Cross. After the August flooding in Louisiana, Nola.com reported an estimated 60,646 homes were damaged and nearly 110,000 people applied for FEMA relief. WCW guests rallied for the cause and team members also contributed. In total, \$6,732.68 was raised to help families rebuild their lives.

In October, WCW came together again to benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama. Team members and guests were able to purchase pink ribbons, pens, bracelets, and tote bags with funds going to the cause. Team members organized various fundraisers including a womanless beauty pageant and guests were able to donate money through the TITO program. The total amount donated was \$10,338.51! All proceeds will be spent in the state of Alabama for cancer research at the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center in Birmingham.

Since its TITO program began in 2016, WCW has contributed nearly \$33,000 to local nonprofits and schools.



*Pictured in photo above: (left to right) Property Manager Kay Simmons presents over \$10,000 to Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama.
Photo credit: Jacqueline Klein*

Wind Creek Montgomery's (WCM's) TITO program has seen similar success. With the help of guests and team members, WCM donated over \$40,600 to local nonprofits and schools. Past TITO recipients have included four schools, theater programs, family and youth resource centers, and breast cancer research organizations.

The generosity extends beyond monetary donations through TITO. WCM provides volunteer opportunities to its team members through the Go Team program. With this program, team members apply for acceptance each year. Those who are welcomed to the

Go Team are given leadership and service opportunities both on property and in surrounding communities. Wherever they go, these team members represent Wind Creek's heart for giving back. One example of this program's impact happened in late 2016. WCM's Go Team traveled to flooded areas of Louisiana to provide water and cleaning supplies as well as physical labor to help clean up neighborhoods.

With such great programs like TITO and Go Team, Wind Creek Hospitality has an ongoing impact in local communities and distant communities. While WCH has received awards for its service and generosity, one thing is certain – Wind Creek won't continue giving back because of the awards; Wind Creek Hospitality will continue giving back because it's the best way to build a brighter future for Tribal Members and their neighbors.



*Pictured in photo above: (left to right) Jessica Milton, Property Manager Jake Carlton and Assistant Property Manager Chad Cochran present over \$3,500 to AMBUCS to purchase tricycles for local disabled children.
Photo credit: Jennifer Sanders*





CIEDA

SMALL BUSINESS

Loan Program

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

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

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

- Yourself
- Your business
- Your financial needs

The lending limit may extend up to \$100,000 in aggregate to any Tribal Member.

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

Lending Guidelines

Are you or have you...

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

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

Will I have to disclose personal information?

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

How do the rates compare to banks and financial institutions?

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

How successful is the CIEDA loan program?

To date this program has a 95 percent success rate.

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

Tribal Members whose newsletters have been returned by the Post Office two times will be removed from variable data mailing list until address has been update.

The following newsletters have been returned by the Post Office for two consecutive months and address remains the same in variable data:

Cagle, Sara	Returned January & February	Address not updated on variable data	Removed from mailing list
Gingerich, Jonathan	Returned January & February	Address not updated on variable data	Removed from mailing list
Rolin, Brandy	Returned February & March	Address not updated on variable data	Removed from mailing list



HELP US IMPROVE...WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

Do you have an idea that you would like to share with Tribal Government?

Do you have a suggestion to help us improve? We would like to hear from YOU!

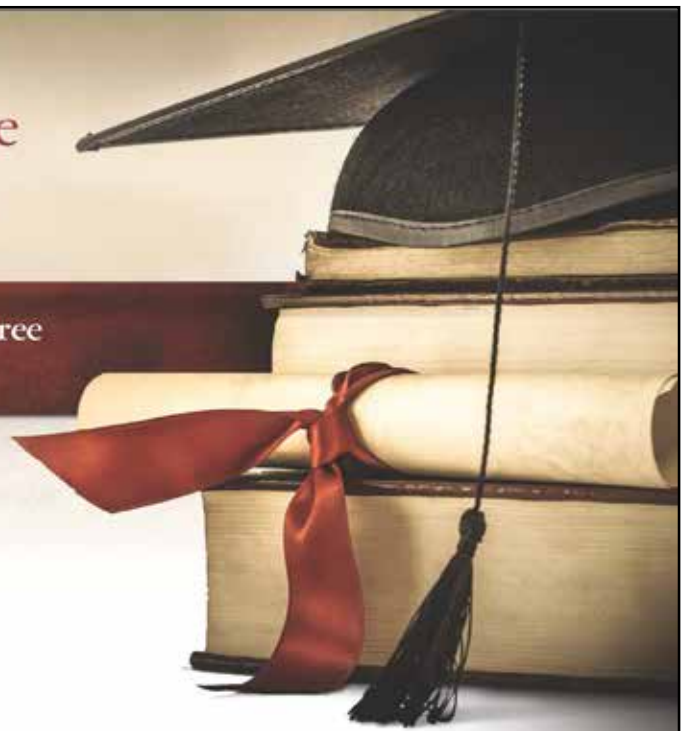
Please email your ideas, suggestions, and feedback to: feedback@pci-nsn.gov.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL (Tasahce-Rakko) 2017

Monday, April 3, 2017

5:00 pm (CST)

Deadline to submit information for publication in May, 2017 issue of Poarch Creek News

<p>April 3 & 4, 2017 Monday & Tuesday Museum gift shop Closed for monthly inventory</p> <p>Tuesday, April 4, 2017 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</p>	<p>Household Hazardous Waste Collection Saturday, April 22, 2017 Fire Station #1 /Jack Springs Road 8:00 am - 12:00 noon</p> <p>Wednesday, April 26, 2017 Lunch & Learn/ Dental Clinic 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic</p>	<p>Education Advisory Committee Monday, April 10th 3:00 pm Family Services Conference Room Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic</p> <p>CMCA Committee Monday, April 10th 4:00 pm Cultural Building on Hwy 21</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 5, 2017 Last day to submit entry for Amerind Poster Contest</p> <p>Southeastern Indian Festival April 6-8, 2017 Pow Wow Grounds</p>	<p>Friday, April 28, 2017 Last day to submit application for Enrollment & Endowment Committee Vacancies 5:00 pm (CST)</p> <p>Saturday, April 29, 2017 Community Fun Day Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic Parking Lot 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Tribal Grievance Board Tuesday, April 11th Building 500 Auditorium 1:00 pm</p> <p>Utilities Authority Board Meeting Thursday, April 20th Utilities Office 1:00 pm</p>
<p>April 10-20, 2017 Oral Cancer Screenings No Appointment necessary</p> <p>Friday, April 14, 2017 Name of candidates will be posted</p> <p>Early Learning Center Registration April 17-21, 2017 8:00 am - 5:00 pm</p> <p>Cancer Support Group Meeting Tuesday, April 18, 2017 Wind Creek Ballroom 6:00 pm</p>	<p>Tribal Council Meetings Thursday, April 6th & 20th Building 500 Auditorium 4:00 pm</p> <p>Tribal Court Sessions Monday, April 10th & 17th Tribal Courtroom 9:00 am</p> <p>Tribal Regulatory Commission Meetings Tuesday, April 11th & 25th Building 500 Auditorium 8:00 am</p>	<p>4H Club Meeting Monday, April 10th & 24th Education Department 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm</p> <p>Monday, May 1, 2017 5:00 pm (CST) Deadline to submit information for publication in June, 2017 issue of Poarch Creek News</p>

Newsletter Contact Information

Poarch Creek News

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

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