

Cokv-Tylvme

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



Mvto! Thank you to everyone who voted in this year's Tribal election. I cannot thank you enough for the support you've shown by re-electing me as your Tribal Chair. I am grateful and humbled by your confidence in my leadership, and I will continue working very hard and diligently alongside you and Tribal Council for an elevated quality of life for all Tribal Members as well as the betterment of the Tribe. I also want to congratulate Arthur Mothershed and Garvis Sells on their re-election to Tribal Council, and look forward to working with them and the entire Tribal Council as we continue to forge forward into the future.

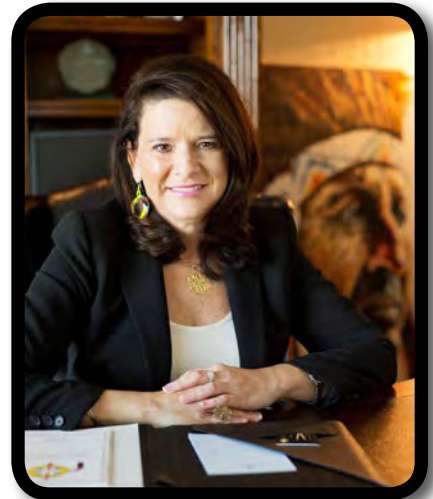
To all of the candidates who ran in this year's election, thank you. I respect and appreciate each of you for making the decision to run for a position on the Tribal Council. Campaigning requires sacrifice, hard work, and time away from your family. Though election season is probably not everyone's favorite time of year, it is an essential time for the Tribe and provides an opportunity for Tribal Members to voice their opinion. There were many candidates running this year, and to me, this demonstrates the love, care, and

concern that so many have for our Tribe.

Wonderful things have happened in these past three years, and I am excited to see what the next three years hold for us as a Tribe. We've embarked on many endeavors – gaming ventures, economic developments, and campus improvements – that will more fully come to fruition in the next couple of years. These are exciting and gratifying times for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and I could not be prouder to be part of this progress.

Although the rain steadily fell on Election Day, it did not dampen voters' determination to let their voices be heard. The voter turnout was phenomenal with a total of 1,471 voters! 2,754 Tribal Members were eligible to vote in the Tribal election, so this means 53% of our Tribal constituency participated in the 2017 election – this is perhaps one of the best voter turn-outs to date for the Tribe! I appreciate everyone who exercised their right to vote, and encourage everyone to participate in your Tribal Government by voting.

Voting is a freedom that many fought for that we might enjoy.



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

This July 4th, I hope everyone fully enjoys the freedoms we are afforded. I want to offer my personal thanks to those who have fought on behalf of our country, as well as to those who stand ready to defend our nation should the time come. We are a privileged and blessed nation, and I am so grateful to be a citizen of the United States.

I pray that everyone has a safe July 4th and that you spend precious time with your families and friends. As always, may God continue to bless you and our Tribe.

In love,

Stephanie A. Bryan
Tribal Chair/CEO

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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' effort to help improve
quality of life for all.

Poarch Values

Love & Commitment to Family
Self-Determination & Self Reliance
Faith & Commitment to do what is right for the Tribe
Respect for Elders
Integrity: Being true to who we are
Prosperity

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twitter.com/PoarchNeighbors

plus.google.com/u/0/+Poarchneighbors
www.youtube.com/channel/UCpPKy0-WEMlc_0V4-cMc3BA



A Moment With The Tribal Chair



Behavioral Health



Election Results



Veteran's Salute



In Memory

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

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*On the cover:
Life's Issues*

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



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



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



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



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



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



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



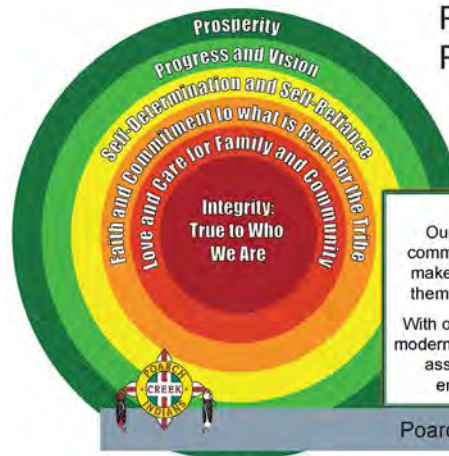
Arthur Mothersbed, At-Large
amothersbed@windcreekhospitality.com



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



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

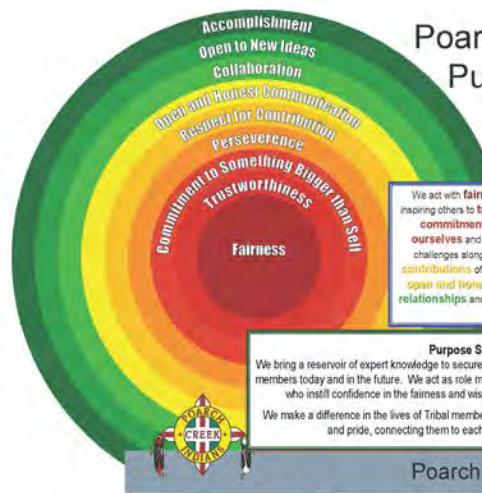


Poarch Council Purpose & Values

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 communication**. 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



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DISCOVER THE FUN!

A WORLD CLASS
DEVELOPMENT BY 

The first thing that always comes to my mind during the month of July is the founding of the United States of America and the 4th of July.

The 4th of July holiday is always about spending time with friends and family, and many of us spend time on the water or cooking out at barbeques. We should also take time to reflect on what it means to be an American.

In 1776, some very brave men put their signatures on a piece of paper that not only declared independence from Great Britain, but it also declared the essential values that make us Americans.

These values include the frank statement that we are all created by God as equally important people; that we have rights given to us by God which can't be taken away, like the rights to our lives, our individual liberties, and our individual pursuits of what makes us happy. Our government exists to protect these rights. Indeed, our government only has the powers which we the people consent to give it.



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

These values have helped our nation through the good and the bad during the course of the American story.

As we celebrate our nation's founding, we must also think about the people throughout history who fought to protect the values we hold dear. People who choose to put country above self. People who turn and run into the fire. People who constantly go above and beyond the call of duty.

You see, we Americans are too often forgetful of our own history. If we remembered it better we would know of the terrible difficulties faced by our forefathers and the wisdom and fortitude they demonstrated in overcoming their challenges every time. Looking back on our history should make us optimistic about our future.

Over the course of our history – from Lexington and Concord to Gettysburg to the shores of Normandy to the streets of Afghanistan – men and women have paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of the United States of America and the freedoms we all hold dear.

So throughout the month of July, as we celebrate our birth and those who help keep us free, let us renew the promise made by our forefathers to one another and mutually pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor. And let us look to the future with determination and confidence.

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

The Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA)

The Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) announced today that it would participate in a financial incentive program for incoming freshmen for the fall 2017 semester that will reward students for attaining their bachelor's degree in four years (eight semesters) or less. Students who accomplish this will be rebated tuition for their senior year, earning a 25% savings on their tuition. Because IAIA includes books in tuition costs, the books required for their senior year classes will also be free if they meet the criteria of the program. To qualify, full-time, degree-seeking freshmen students will need to take a minimum of 15 college credit hours each semester, meet the program requirements, remain in good academic and disciplinary standing, and sign an agreement for admission into the program.

The IAIA Program is based on a national program known as "15 to Finish," and has been implemented in a number of colleges across the country. Participation in the program saves the student and parents' money and has the student entering the workforce at a faster rate.

The Institute offers Associate's and Bachelor's Degree Programs in Studio Arts, Creative Writing, Museum Studies, Cinematic Arts and Technology, and Indigenous Liberal Studies. A description of these programs is available at <https://iaia.edu/academics/degree-programs>.

A Master's Program is available for Creative Writing. Students can live and work at their hometowns, but are required to meet twice a year with the IAIA staff for an intensive week of workshops, classes, lectures, readings, and individual conferences. Each student of the Master's program is assigned a mentor.

Art by Cher

www.artbycher.50webs.com



Cher Christensen
(505) 296-7723

- * *Sculptures*
- * *Portraits From Photos*
- * *Oil & Watercolor Paintings*
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Shown: Dancing Flower's Sterling Silver Spiney Oyster Ring & Bracelet designed and created by Cher Christensen

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Mental Health Plays A Major Role In Your Life, Let Us Help You!

Behavioral Health staff shown are Dr. Todd Luellen, Psychiatrist; Tori Madden, Behavioral Health Coordinator; Kim Snow, Behavioral Manager; and George Hamilton, Licensed Professional Counselor. Not shown is Dr. David Formwalt, Clinical Psychologist.

Your Behavioral Health Department feels that it is very important for Tribal Members to know exactly what services the department can offer you. They are here to see Tribal Members for a variety of issues and strive to do their very best.

The Behavioral Health staff includes Tori Madden, Behavioral Health Coordinator; Kim Snow, Behavioral Manager; George Hamilton, Licensed Professional Counselor; Dr. Todd Luellen, Psychiatrist (Contracted); and Dr. David Formwalt, Clinical Psychologist (Contracted).

The Behavioral Health Department is located in the Buford L. Rolin

Health Clinic. You can access the department in two different ways; through the main entrance or by private entrance. When coming through the main entrance, come all the way to the end of the lobby and turn right; Behavioral Health is located down the hallway across from the Dental Department. To enter through the private entrance, drive to the right side of the building and come all the way around. You will see parking spots that say *RESERVED*; these reserved parking spots are for patient parking only. The Behavioral Health Department is located to the right just inside the glass door.

Upon entering the department, you will see a private waiting area and will be greeted by Tori Madden. Tori has been employed with the Tribe for four years; she has a variety of different roles here, one is coordinating appointments for patients with the appropriate provider trained to assist with your issue.

Kim Snow has been with the Tribe for almost seventeen years. Mr. Hamilton has been with the Tribe for the past three years but has over 35 years of counseling experience.

Dr. Todd Luellen has been with the Tribe for over 20 years. Dr. Luellen is here on average eight days a

month and sees any age however he specializes in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Clinical Psychologist Dr. David Formwalt has recently been hired and will be at the clinic approximately once a week. He will be able to complete psychometric testing. This type of testing will help the clinicians diagnose more accurately. Some of the testing that we can administer include Learning Disabilities, Memory, IQ, Personality, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Substance Abuse, and Depression.

One of the main things the Behavioral Health staff would like for everyone to know is that Behavioral Health is for everyone. We all have situations in our lives that we struggle with. We ask that you please give us the chance to partner with you to assist you work through life's issues together.

Frequently, we don't want to admit it but a person's mental health plays a large roll in their life. When we are stressed it can lead to some serious health issues such as weight problems. Stress and weight problems can often go hand in hand. That's because when we are feeling stressed and anxious we

may look for comfort foods that are normally unhealthy.

Stress can also affect your sleep. It can make it difficult for you to turn your mind off or even to relax and go to sleep. Extended periods of stress can lead to blood pressure problems. Stress hormones can increase the activity of the heart and, over time, this can lead to constricted arteries which could lead to a heart attack or stroke.

Ongoing stress can lead to feelings of depression. Some people feel trapped which leads to feelings of being helpless, hopeless, and anger. This can result in being unable to make decisions, worrying about everything, feelings of being burned out, and can ultimately damage relationships personally and professionally.

We can't stop all of the stress in your life; however, Mr. Hamilton can teach you the tools to be able to deal with them.

There are several other types of counseling that we offer including: problems with Family Life Issues, Substance Abuse, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Co-Dependency, and of course Anxiety and Depression. Mr. Hamilton will soon

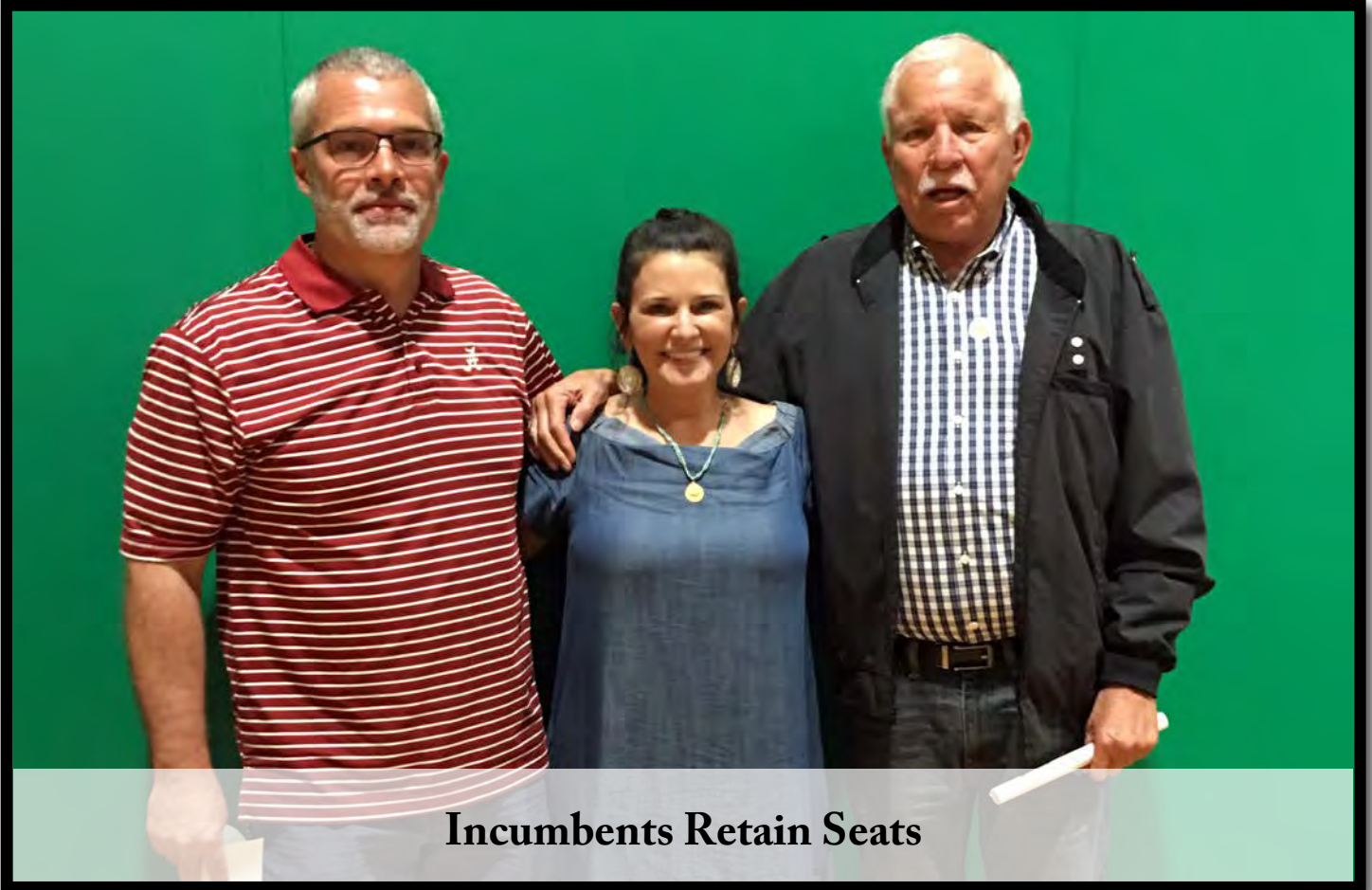
be offering Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). During this type of therapy patients can learn specific skills that they can use for the rest of their lives. CBT helps you become aware of inaccurate or negative thinking so you can view challenging situations more clearly and respond to them in a more effective way. Not everyone who benefits from CBT has a mental health condition. It can be an effective tool to help anyone learn how to better manage stressful life situations.

Substance Abuse is a major area of concern that we deal with on a daily basis. We do recognize this as a large source of pain, anxiety, and depression for everyone involved. We do offer options for the individual with the addiction but also for the family. The family does not have to wait until the individual is ready, they can come in and work with Mr. Hamilton and receive support services.

If you know someone that has an addiction problem, or you yourself are struggling with an addiction, please give us a call at (251) 368-9136 x 2384 and we can discuss the different options available for you.

NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE

Tribal Government Offices will close Tuesday, July 4, 2017 in observance of Independence Day. Office will open with regular hours on Wednesday, July 5, 2017.



Incumbents Retain Seats

Shown left to right are Arthur Mothershed, At-Large Council Member, Stephanie Bryan, Tribal Chair, and Garvis Sells, At-Large Council Member

Saturday, June 3, 2017, Tribal Election Day. Tribal Members once again turned out in record numbers to let their voices be heard. There were 1,471 votes cast in the 2017 election, 128 more votes than were cast in 2016.

Once all ballots were cast, counted and verified, the three incumbents retained their seats.

Stephanie Bryan was re-elected as Tribal Chair for her second 3 year term in that position. Arthur Mothershed and Garvis Sells were also re-elected for another 3 year term each.

Congratulations Stephanie, Arthur, and Garvis.

We encourage those who were unsuccessful in this year's campaign to try again in the future.

The Calvin McGhee Memorial was also held on Saturday June 3, 2017. The graveside service held at 10:00 a.m. was well attended. Both Raymond Rolin, Calvin McGhee Cultural Advisory Committee Chair, and Stephanie Bryan, Tribal Chair/CEO, had inspirational words of wisdom and encouragement about our past leaders and their hopes and dreams for their people.

The festivities began at the Pow Wow Grounds at 11:00 a.m., but the weather was not favorable this year. In spite of the weather, a good time was had by all. The past few years the event has closed with a concert by the gospel group, The Bowling Family, followed by the announcement of the election results. Due to the weather, the concert was moved to the gym.

Photos of the day have been posted on the Tribe's Facebook page facebook.com/PoarchBandofCreekIndians.

2017 Tribal Election Results

TRIBAL CHAIR	<u>Stephanie A. Bryan, Incumbent</u>	824 votes
	Eddie L. Tullis	594 votes
	Anthony G. Peebles	43 votes

AT-LARGE (2 POSITIONS)

<u>Arthur Mothershed, Incumbent</u>	665 votes	Wesley Manning	148 votes
<u>Garvis Sells, Incumbent</u>	477 votes	Anita McGhee Tuel	132 votes
Clayton Coon	293 votes	Carrie McGhee Martin	112 votes
Steven Ledkins	256 votes	Randay Adams	58 votes
Kevin D. McGhee	220 votes	Rodney Exum	51 votes
Gloria Sells Krafka	203 votes	Eialeasha Elizabeth (Leasha) Martin	39 votes
Brenda Steely Johnson	200 votes	Ed Jarman	15 votes



TRIBAL EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

National Day of Prayer was observed across the nation on Thursday, May 4, 2017. The day started a little on the cool side with a slight drizzle, but Tribal employees, Tribal Council Members, and community members still met at 7:30 a.m. to speak freely of their belief in God and to pray together for our Nation, our Tribe, and our families.

It was very touching to stand beside someone you work with and hear them speak of their faith and what God has done for them. It was truly inspirational to hear them quote Scripture from the heart; to watch their face as they speak; to know they truly believe what they are saying.

Gayle Johnson, Editor & Participant

Meet The Team!

The Tribal Executive Staff Team acts as an advisory body to the Tribal Chair, Executive Committee, and Tribal Council. The Executive Team consists of Tim Speegle, Chief Financial Officer, Terry Sweat, Chief of Staff, Lori Stinson, Attorney General/Chief Legal Officer, and Robbie McGhee, Chief Governmental and Public Affairs Officer. These positions are responsible for the day-to-day enforcement and administration of Tribal and applicable federal and/or state laws, and in addition shall exercise any other duties and/or responsibilities as set out in the Constitution or other ordinances or resolutions.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the members of the Executive Team to you.

TIM SPEEGLE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Tim has been with the Tribe for almost two years. He began his employment with the Tribe on October 12, 2015. Tim has over 36 years of accounting and financial management experience; this background and experience is a great asset for the Tribe.

Prior to coming to the Tribe Tim was employed with Sterne, Agee & Leach, one of the nation's largest and oldest privately-owned financial services companies outside of Wall Street. He says he was drawn to the Tribe because he saw it as a unique challenge with a rapidly growing organization.

Tim says that he is very passionate about his work and absolutely loves being at Poarch, "It is fun and rewarding to see the progress



we are making, and I can't wait to get to work every day."

Tim and his wife Jeanna relocated from Birmingham to the Loxley area after Tim accepted his position with Poarch Creek. Tim and Jeanna have two children and one grandchild. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama with a degree in Accounting. He is also a Certified Public Accountant.

In our questionnaire, we asked for some fun facts. His favorite holiday is Christmas. He says he really enjoys spending time with family and friends and seeing the excitement in children's eyes.

If he were snowed in at an isolated mountain cabin, he could survive if he had a Bible to read, the movie *Caddyshack* to watch, and a big bag of BBQ Pork Skins to eat!

Who are three people he would like to have lunch with, living or dead? "Two would be my grandparents. They passed away when I was very young so I never got to know them. The other would be my father, who passed away several years ago. I would like to just sit down with him to catch up on what I am doing now."

"Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts."

Albert Einstein

TERRY SWEAT CHIEF OF STAFF

Terry has been with the Tribe for almost a year; he was hired on August 22, 2016. Prior to working with the Tribe, Terry was employed with the Seminole Tribe for Florida as Senior Director of Administration for ten years.

He pursued employment with the Tribe because he saw it as opportunity to work with a diverse spectrum of government operations including direct and indirect services to Tribal Members, where his experience and education would benefit those served.

Terry says "It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the Chief of Staff here at PBCI. The warm welcome and assistance provided to me by Tribal Members and the employees have been amazing and heartfelt. During my short time here at PBCI, where life is a bit slower than South Florida, I have been reminded of the importance of family, the simple task of taking time to be courteous, respectful,



and appreciative, and how truly blessed we are. I look forward to the work ahead and working with an amazing team to provide the best services to Tribal Members and their families."

Terry possesses a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science; a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work; a Master's Degrees in Social Work; a Master's Degree in Business Administration; and a Ph.D in Organization Leadership-Candidate-in 2017.

Terry resides in Pace, Florida. He is not married and has three children; two daughters age 12 and a son age 8. He says that this position has afforded him the opportunity to be close to his parents and extended family members, which has been immeasurable.

Terry's favorite holiday is Christmas, "I love spending time with my family and seeing the joy in my children's eyes."

If he were snowed in, he could survive with a Bible, the movie *The Grinch*, (his children's favorite movie), and chips and salsa.

He would love to have lunch with "Eleanor Roosevelt, because of her strength and ability to engage with the average citizen; Buford Sweat, my late paternal grandfather. He was a great man that led a life of good and unconditional generosity; and lastly, my children; I get to eat a bit of junk food occasionally!"

"Successful leaders see the opportunities in every difficulty rather than the difficulty in every opportunity."

Reed Markham

"The quality of a father can be seen in the goals, dreams and aspirations he sets not only for himself, but for his family."

"Being a great father is like shaving. No matter how good you shaved today, you have to do it again tomorrow."

Quotes by Reed Markham

LORI STINSON
**ATTORNEY GENERAL/
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

Lori has been with the Tribe since 2007. She was hired as Assistant Attorney General in January of 2007; she became Attorney General in 2014. Lori has a BA from Samford University and a JD from Faulkner University's Jones School of Law. She has been practicing law for 13 years.

Before coming to work with the Tribe, she and her husband Brad had their own private practice, The Stinson Firm, LLC, in Enterprise, AL. Their family relocated to Atmore once she and Brad became employed with the Tribe.



She states that she was excited when the employment opportunity became available with the Tribe. "This position allowed me to move home and serve my Tribe. It is a privilege to serve the Tribe and to work on protecting the Tribe and its sovereignty. My job is challenging and interesting. We often encounter issues daily that you will not in a law firm."

Christmas is Lori's favorite holiday. "I love all the traditions!" If she were snowed in she says she would not be reading or watching a movie. "I would be sleeping! I never get to sleep late or take naps anymore; I always have something to do or somewhere to be. The food part is easy - I would have chocolate dusted almonds!"

Lori said that she would like to have lunch with four people, her grandparents. "They are all deceased now. The last one passed just before my youngest child was born. There are lots of things I didn't get to ask them about their lives because I did not appreciate it at the time."

ROBERT "ROBBIE" MCGHEE,
**CHIEF GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC
AFFAIRS OFFICER**

Robbie is a Tribal Member; he was living and working in Washington DC when he accepted the job of President of Creek Indian Enterprises (CIE) in June of 2003.

Since returning to the Tribe he has served as President of CIE, Tribal Administrator, and now serves in his current position, Chief Governmental and Public Affairs Officer. Robbie has over 25 years of experience in his field. Prior to returning to the Tribe he worked in Washington D.C.

with the Department of Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs; the United States Senate-Committee on Indian Affairs, and Troutman Sanders, L.L.P.

Why leave Washington for a position with the Tribe? Robbie's answer: "I enjoy being an advocate and ambassador for the Tribe at all levels of Government."

Robbie is the son of Bobby Lawrence McGhee and the late Doris Daughtry McGhee. Robbie's father was in the U.S. Marine Corps. After serving in Vietnam he was stationed at various duty sites across the country; his family always traveled with him. Robbie says that both

of his parents are from the Atmore area and that no matter where they were stationed, Atmore was always home. Robbie feels that his love for everyone was instilled in him by his mother and father.

Robbie possesses a Bachelor's of Arts Degree from the University of South Alabama; a Bachelor's of Social Work from the University of Alabama; a Master's of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and an Executive MBA from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

One thing that many people may not know is that after undergraduate school Robbie worked at the Tribe in Tribal Court with Donna McGhee White and Social Services with Georgia Griffey, Carolyn Dortch, and Kathy Ledkins (who is still employed in that department).

"I enjoyed working with the youth of our Tribe. My parents were foster parents, as were several of the staff within the Social Services Department, to many of the children who are now adults and reside in the Poarch community. These women, and those jobs, had a tremendous impact on my life and the man I am today. My goal when I was 25 was to come home after obtaining my



Master's in Social Work (encouraged by Georgia Griffey and Carolyn Dortch) and become the Social Services Director and purchase or build a large group home, because I truly felt in my heart that all of the children and teens in our foster care system here at the Tribe just wanted to have a safe protected place to live and to know that they were loved. I wanted to provide them with that place."

Robbie states that it is an honor and a privilege to be able to work for his people. "I have known my entire life that I would one day have this opportunity. I always knew that I wanted to be in a leadership position, I just wasn't sure of when and in what capacity.

Robbie says that he does not necessarily have a favorite holiday, he just enjoys any day that allows him to spend time with his family and friends. If he was snowed in at a mountain cabin? "Well it would probably be the best use of time if it was the Bible, so I can dedicate the time to read the entire book... or a survival guide book! Movie? The complete set of *North and South*. It was a great miniseries on TV in 1985. One food item...Does wine count?"

The three people he would like to have lunch with? His great grandfather Calvin McGhee, his grandfather Roy Lee McGhee, and his grandmother, Inez Daughtry. "They all passed away before I was born. I would have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know them and witness firsthand what they were like."

Robbie is also a Tribal Council Member, he has served on the Tribal Council since 2004. He has served as an At-Large Member, as Treasurer, and currently serves as Vice Chair.

"We only have one life to live, so I believe in living it to the fullest, but while living your life do it an accordance to the golden rule."

Robbie McGhee



*James C. Peacock
Sergeant E-5
United States Army*

Our veteran this month is James C. Peacock. James is the son of Alfred James and Jeanette Peacock.

James joined the United States Army in September of 1967. He received his basic training at Ft. Benning and was stationed at Ft. McClellan for Advanced Infantry Training (AIT). After completing his AIT he was deployed to Vietnam. He served in the Republic of Vietnam from 1968 through 1969.

After his tour in Vietnam James served as a Drill Instructor at Fort Ord, California. He was discharged from active duty in September 1970; his rank at time of discharge was Sergeant E-5.

After his military service James co-founded GK Skipper Construction Company. The company obtained major contracts with telephone, cable, and power companies in Pensacola, Panama City, Melbourne, Cocoa Beach, and other locations throughout Florida.

After leaving GK Skipper, James worked as a Contract Engineer with Utility Consultant, Inc. completing numerous projects throughout the United States. He retired in September of 2011 and now works as a "Professional Beach Bum" in Pensacola, Florida.

James is the father of three children, Guy, Jay, and Deirdre; he is the proud grandfather of 8 grandchildren.

James loves fishing, going to the beach, mud riding ATVs, and watching his grandkids play sports.

"I love being a Professional Beach Bum" he states. "Call me at 850-549-7567 anytime you want to bum around on the beach!"

James C. Peacock, 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 James C. Peacock
Edited by Gayle Johnson*



*Professional Beach Bums!
Guy, James, and Jay.*

Medals and Awards Received

- Bronze Star for Valor
- Good Conduct Medal
- Air Medal
- Army Accommodation Medal
- Purple Heart
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- National Defense Medal
- Combat Infantry Badge
- Expert in M-14 & M-16 Rifle
- Sharpshooter in M-60 machine gun and 45 Pistol

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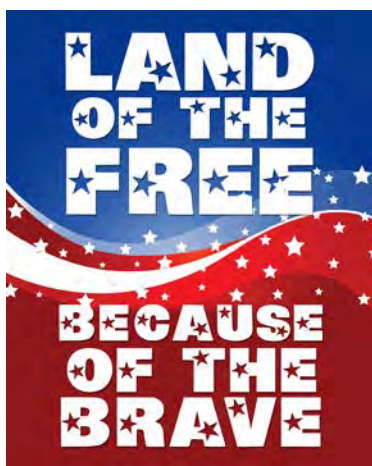


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You may submit a veteran's information via email to gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov, via hand delivery to the *Poarch Creek News*, or via US Mail to *Poarch Creek News*, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502.

Please be sure to include return address and contact information.

William Hosea Presley
Family Reunion
Saturday, August 19, 2017
11:30 a.m.

Food Pavilion @
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Bring a covered dish &
A \$5-\$10 gift for game
All extended family is invited.
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Families are the compass that guides us. They are the inspiration to reach great heights, and our comfort when we occasionally falter.

Brad Henry

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOTE

Fellow Tribal Members,

Thanks for your support in the recent election. Our Tribe is in the midst of some exciting and yes challenging times. Our financial success continues, but that alone will not solve the discord among Tribal Members. We must remember that despite our differences, we are all one Tribe working towards a common goal, self-sufficiency for all. Where you live and from whom you descend does not make you better or worse than any other member of this Tribe. We are all members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. I will continue to work to make our Tribe one of the most successful and prosperous Tribes in

the nation. We will never be perfect. We will disagree, but through respectful communication, we will move forward. We will become the nation that our leaders and elders who came before us envisioned us to be. They worked tirelessly, shedding blood, sweat, and tears for our Tribe. We must continue their work. As always, my door is open. I look forward to serving you for the next three years. Thanks again.

Arthur Mothershed



GOD'S GRACE & BEAUTY SURROUNDS US

As evidenced in the photo above, God's grace and beauty surrounds us in the simplest of ways every day.

Shown above are sisters Judy McGhee and Deloris Kelley enjoying fishing and a beautiful sunset. This photo was taken during the Elder's annual fishing trip to Lake Eufalua in May, 2017.

Judy and Deloris would like to say "hats off!" to Cyndi Wright, Senior Services staff, and volunteers for another fun filled trip.

Submitted by Deloris Kelley

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOTE

I, Carrie Martin would like to thank you for your vote during our recent Tribal Election. MVTO!

Submitted by Carrie Martin





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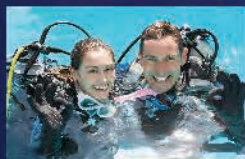
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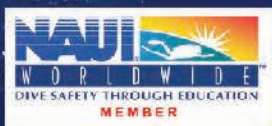
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FOLEY COMMANDER MCGHEE REELECTED FOR 6TH CONSECUTIVE TERM

Foley's Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Unit 6 Commander Leon McGhee has been reelected to a sixth consecutive term. His duties and responsibilities include assisting veterans and their spouses in obtaining VA benefits as a certified service officer, visiting veterans in hospitals, and performing funerals and weddings for all veterans throughout the state.

He is at Unit 6's office in Foley every Monday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. providing VA claims assistance to veterans and their spouses. McGhee serves as "Adjutant-At-Ready" 24/7 to veterans and their families and can be contacted at (251) 979-6581.



McGhee, a two-tour Vietnam veteran, is a member of VFW Post 5658 in Elberta, and American Legion Post 99 in Foley, where he has been a member for over 31 years. He has served as Commander,

District 33 Commander, and District Chaplain. He currently serves as "VA Certified Claims Officer" for Unit 6 and Post 99 and is Chairman of Post 99's Executive Committee.

McGhee continues to promote patriotism throughout the state as a guest speaker at public schools, special events, Veterans' and Memorial Day ceremonies, and is quoted as saying, "If you cut me, I bleed red, white, and blue! Our veterans, my church, and my proud heritage as a member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, these are my priorities."

Congratulations Leon!

Submitted by Sara Dalrymple

LAMBERT PROMOTED TO STAFF SERGEANT

Joshua Tyler Lambert, shown in center of photo to the right, joined the Air Force in July of 2013, completed technical training in January of 2014, and was stationed at Eielson AFB, Alaska as a Contracting Specialist.

Since that time he has earned several awards and been promoted early three times. He officially earned the rank of Staff Sergeant on April 28, 2017.

Tyler is the son of Daniel and Tammy Lambert, and is the grandson of Mabel (Rolin) and Sherrel Lambert.

Congratulations Tyler! Keep up the good work. Your family is proud of you!



Submitted by Tammy Lambert

HONORING OUR GRADUATES AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Due to varying high school and/or college graduation dates, graduation or educational achievement information for the 2016-2017 academic year may be published through the October 2017 issue of the Poarch Creek News.

Graduation and or achievement award dates outside of this period may be published if information is received by the last business day of the month immediately following graduation or award. Please keep monthly submission deadlines in mind when submitting information for publication.

BROOKS GRADUATES FROM FIRST ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Miss Sarah Grace Brooks, First Generation, graduated from First Assembly Christian School (Homeschool) on May 21, 2017.

Sarah Grace will be 18 on October 19; she plans to continue her education at Coastal Alabama Community College, Bay Minette, AL.

Sarah is the daughter of Elton and Traci Brooks of Perdido, AL. She is the granddaughter of Lillie Brooks from Poarch, AL and the late Gene Brooks from Atmore, AL. She is also the granddaughter of Danny Ray and Flossie Taylor, of Rabun, AL. (Gopher Hill)



Congratulations Sarah! We are very proud of you and all your accomplishments.

Always cherish your favorite scripture, Psalms 16:1, *Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust,* and you will go far in life.

Let Jesus be your Leader and you be the follower and you will accomplish much. May God encamp angels round about you all of your life.

Love Dad, Mom, Codey, Zeph, Rory, and the rest of the family.

Submitted by Elton Brooks

America's future will be determined by the home and the school. The child becomes largely what he is taught; hence we must watch what we teach, and how we live.

Jane Addams

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

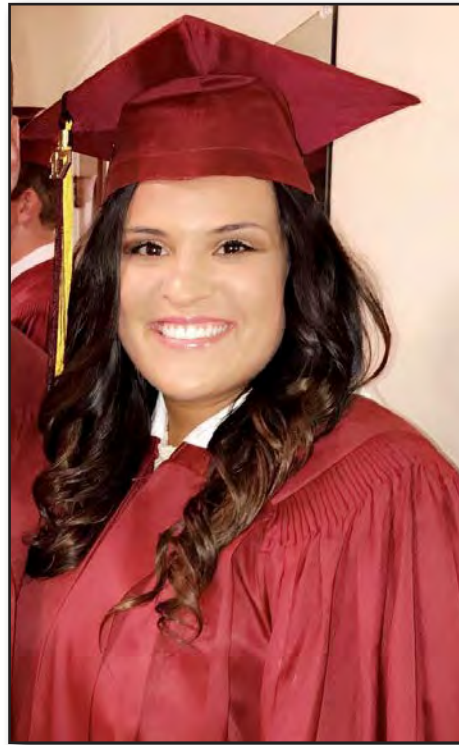
Jon Bon Jovi

HILL GRADUATES FROM ESCAMBIA ACADEMY

Trista Sierra Hill graduated from Escambia Academy on May 18, 2017. She will be attending Coastal Alabama Community College in the fall.

Congratulations Trista on all your accomplishments!

We are beyond proud and full of joy at the young woman you have become.



Your future is as bright as the beautiful smile you carry around daily!

Trista is the daughter of Tabatha Daughtry Davis and Nicholas Hill.

We love you!

Your Family

Submitted by Tabatha Davis

DAUGHTRY GRADUATES FROM FLOMATON HIGH SCHOOL

Katelyn Alexis Daughtry (Lexi) graduated from Flomaton High School on May 23, 2017.

Lexi is the daughter of Trenton and Crystal Daughtry.

She will be attending Coastal Alabama Community College in the fall where she will complete her basic studies. She then plans to transfer to the University of South Alabama to obtain a degree in Physical Therapy.



Congratulations Lexi! We are so proud of you and all your accomplishments!

We love you so much... Mom, Dad, Jaylan and Josie

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

Submitted by Crystal Daughtry



LEE GRADUATES EARLY FROM COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE WITH DOUBLE DEGREES

Congratulations to Morgan "Skye" Lee on her early graduation from Coastal Alabama Community College with an Associates of Liberal Arts Degree and an Associates of Science Degree!

Skye will continue her education at Auburn University.

We are all so very proud of you for focusing on your dreams and working hard to achieve them. You have such a bright future ahead of you and you can accomplish anything that you put your mind to.

Always put God first and the rest will fall into place. We are beyond proud of the young lady you are becoming and we look forward to watching your bright future unfold.

We love you bigger than a dinosaur!

Mom, Dad, Chris, Somer, Nana, and Papa.

Submitted by Shavon King



ROLIN GRADUATES FROM HUNTINGDON COLLEGE WITH BACHELORS OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Krystal graduated from Huntington College in Montgomery, AL on May 6, 2017 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management.

She will be attending graduate school in the fall of 2017 to obtain her master's degree in Public Administration.

Submitted by Krystal Rolin

WATSON GRADUATES FROM AUBURN UNIVERSITY IN MONTGOMERY WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ACCOUNTING

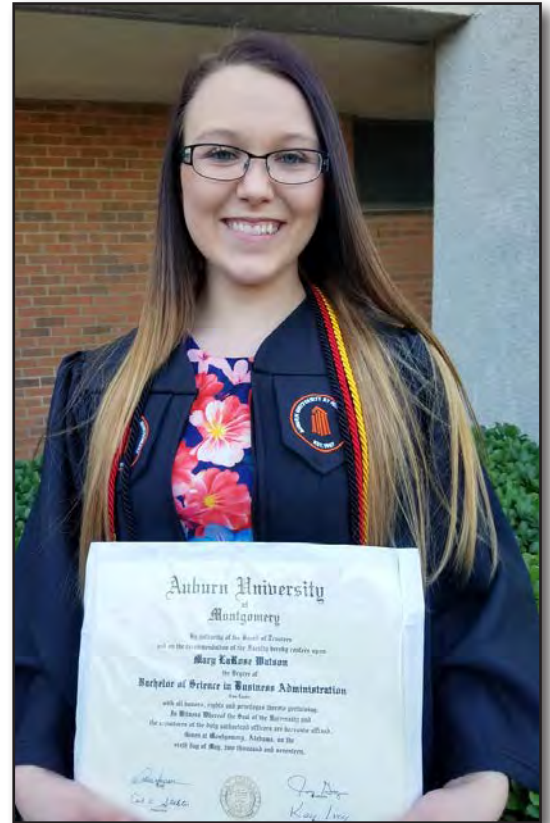
Congratulations to Mary LaRose Watson on the completion of her Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Auburn University at Montgomery. LaRose has started her journey for her Master's Degree and is pursuing her CPA license.

She is the daughter of Rosemary Powell and the late Wayne Powell and the granddaughter of Mary Stella Gibbs and the late Rev. Fred Gibbs.

She is married to Mark Watson and has 2 children, LaReya and Marcus.

She wishes to thank the Tribe for providing the chance to further her education and a special thanks to Shelia Fisher in the Education department for her assistance.

Submitted by Rosemary Powell



ROLIN GRADUATES FROM FAULKNER UNIVERSITY WITH BACHELOR'S IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Brooke Rolin graduated from Faulkner University on April 28, 2017 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration.

Congratulations Brooke!

The perseverance you have shown this past year, while working and raising a family, has been amazing.

As parents we could not be more proud of your accomplishments and the woman you have become.

We love you!

Mom, Dad and Brent.

Submitted by Althea Bell





TULLIS GRADUATES WITH MASTER'S IN SOCIAL WORK FROM UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

The family of Dimond "Brooke" Tullis is proud to announce she has graduated with her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Alabama.

"There are no shortcuts to any place worth going." - Beverly Sills

This quote is so true, there are no shortcuts on anything worth having. Brooke had her mind set on getting her Master's and she was not going to stop until she did. We are very proud of her hard work and dedication.

We would like to thank the Tribe for helping make this possible for Brooke. Her family is extremely grateful for the scholarship funds she received.

Brooke is the daughter of Bodie and Emily Tullis. Her maternal grandparents are Debbie Barlow and the late Billy Joe Gibson; her paternal grandparents are Leroy and Ruth Ann Tullis.

Keep striving for excellence and enjoy life along the way. God Bless!

Submitted by Emily Tullis

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Introducing

JENNI LYNN ALONZO JACKSON

April 26, 2017 🌸 7 lbs 3 oz 🌸 19 inches

Jenni is the granddaughter of Linda and Fonzie Hall and Susan and Archie Jackson.

Her great grandparents are Margaret Milstead and Carl Ben Adams and Lillian and Royce Jackson.

Welcomed with love.

Dad & Mom, Kenny & Jenni Jackson



IN LOVING MEMORY OF BARBARA LEE SHIRLEY REED

MARCH 14, 1934 - JUNE 10, 2009

She is so missed, and so loved, by those who were blessed to know her and have her in their life.

In memory of a beautiful woman with a beautiful heart. Not a day goes by we don't miss her beautiful loving soul who did nothing but love and care for her family and friends unconditionally.

We miss her phone calls, her kisses and hugs, and her comforting words. She was a brilliant woman with a gift of giving love to all.

We love you and miss you so much Mom!

From Vada, Sandy, Rona, Steve, and Laurette. All 11 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

"No person is ever truly alone. Those who live no more, whom we loved, echo still within our thoughts, our words, our hearts."



For the non stop love in the life, I am, and I will.
But the problem is, I am not alone.

Celebrating an Anniversary

WILLIAM & KAREN WALKER
JUNE 13, 2017



What started out as high school sweet hearts led to 50 amazing years of love, and happiness. Thanks for showing us year after year what a marriage centered on faith looks like.

A lasting love like yours is the world's most beautiful thing.

Love, your kids, grandkids, and great grandkids.



For the non stop love in the life, I am, and I will.
But the problem is, I am not alone.

Celebrating an Anniversary

JAKE & LIESL BAILEY
JULY 18, 2017



Liesl - We've survived life's thunderstorms and enjoyed sunny days together - here's to a lifetime of new adventures!

Happy 6th anniversary, I love you!

Jake



where
GREAT TIMES
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The Colonized Helps the Colonizer: Muscogeas Care For Outcast White Women

By Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed.D

Quoting Tribal Elder Mrs. Roberta McGhee Sells¹

"The white people always thought their self— *you know, they didn't do no wrong*. If any of their girls went wrong in the family, they'd put her out. It wasn't nothing but Indians around here 'cause back in them times, white people didn't mess with us; unless it was white people that was so down and out that the white people didn't have nothing to do with them. When a white family put someone out, then they would come to the Indians and Indians wouldn't turn them down. They would always take them in and see what they could do for them.

White people thought it was a disgrace. A woman better not get pregnant if she ain't married. *She had to go*. She was just a *outcast* among the whites, but not the Indians. Indians always knew there was nothing they could do about it then, so they didn't mistreat them in that way. The Indians would always take them and treat them like good people.

I remember one white woman had a little boy. She lived back in one of these shacks in the woods. I don't know how she made her living, but she got sick and the Indian people found her. She was real sick when they found her. They went and took care of her. She knowed she wasn't gonna live. That's what white people did — they had thrown her out because she was gonna have that baby. Our people knew a white man, a Wainwright, and asked him



Barefoot, easing toward 83, Ms. Roberta McGhee Sells shares Creek history with then Harvard graduate student Deidra Suwanee Dees in 2001. Note the camera recording equipment between the two rocking chairs.

if he would take that child. (Not the daddy; nobody knew who the daddy was). What the woman wanted was him to get on his horse with the baby, and let her see him ride away with the baby. And that's what he done. Nobody ever knew where she came from or nothing about her. She was just somebody put out . . . in a shack in the woods. When she passed away, the Indians buried her.

You know, back in those days if something like that happened, everybody would help. That's always the way it was with the Indians. Our people was always taking in somebody that needed help. Most of the time the Indians would take them in, and when they got to where they could do better, they was out and gone. *That's just the way it was*.

That's how we got mixed up with the whites and the Blacks too. The Indians never hurt nobody that way. They always had a soft heart for people in that kind of way. I know several white that our people took care of. You can't help what people do. You're gonna have to face all of that one day — how you treat people. If you do it today, you may not face it tomorrow, but there will come a day when you will face it — before the Creator.

Some people has a lot of repenting to do. That's one thing we don't know, ... if they'll be allowed to repent."

¹Dees, Deidra Suwanee. *Vision Lines: Native American Decolonizing Literature*. (Minneapolis, MN: TA Publications, 2004), p. 3.

Archival Records Teach Us the Moral of the Story

“White people thought it was a disgrace. They had thrown her out because she was gonna have that baby,” Ms. Carolyn White said, reading the words of former Tribal Council Secretary Ms. Roberta McGhee-Sells (Aunt Bert) (1917–2003) to a spellbound audience at the Alabama Writers Symposium in Monroeville on April 21. Creeks took care of the unwed teenager whom they discovered was close to death in a shack in the woods. “When she passed away, the Indians buried her.” But the orphaned baby survived/lived.

Creeks found a white man named Wainwright to take the baby to raise as his own; a fragile life saved by the kindheartedness of Indians who could barely take care of themselves because of generational discrimination and poverty.

“You’re gonna have to face all of that one day—*how you treat people*—before the Creator,” Ms. White said, emphasizing Aunt Bert’s moral of the story to the attendees.

The story seemed to come alive among the listeners as Ms. White read Aunt Bert’s powerful words. She then turned it over to Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees who gave the presentation with her, along with Ms. Ellen O’Barr, representing



Ms. Ellen O’Barr, Ms. Carolyn White, and Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees attend the Alabama Writers Symposium on April 21, 2017.

the Office of Archives and Records Management.

As onlookers listening intently, Dr. Dees said she received a telephone call transferred to her office. “Can you help me find out how we are related to Creek Indians?” the young man asked “For years I have heard family rumors that we are somehow connected to Creeks,” he explained.

Dr. Dees told the audience she collected data from the caller on family names, dates, birthplaces, and—unexpectedly—the almost-100-year-old story became clear. She realized she was speaking to Mr. Wainwright, the apparent grandson of the child whom Aunt Bert said Creeks had given to the Wainwright man to raise. “*That was his connection*

to Creek Indians!” she exclaimed to attendees.

Dr. Dees said she relayed the story to Mr. Wainwright who was overjoyed to find an answer on his long lost family connection to Creek Indians. She mailed him a photocopy of Aunt Bert’s story that she had published in her book *Vision Lines*¹, thinking anew of how important it was to record Aunt Bert’s stories on Creek history.

This evocative presentation on morality generated positive dialogues between presenters and attendees, most of whom lingered in discussions long after the session had ended.

Mvto.

Submitted by Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed.D.

¹Dees, Deidra Suwanee. *Vision Lines: Native American Decolonizing Literature*. (Minneapolis, MN: TA Publications).

B&G Club To Participate in Summer Food Service Program

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians Boys and Girls Club is participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Meals will be provided to all children without charge.

Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all SFSP activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.



Breakfast and lunch will be served beginning Thursday, June 1, 2017 until July 31, 2017, Monday through Friday. No program on July 4, 2017 due to national holiday.

Breakfast will be served 7:30-9:00 am.

Lunch will be served 11:00 am-1:30 pm.

Location of service:
444 Lynn McGhee Drive
Atmore, AL.

Contact Genia Boutwell at (251) 368-9136 X 2242 for additional information.



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

PK-2nd Grade division winner - Kintley Flowers, left; 3rd-6th Grade division winner - Madison Hayles, center; and Teen Center division winner - Daphne Tucker, right. These youth were nominated for their outstanding demonstration of good behaviors and leadership. Congratulations Kintley, Madison, and Daphne!

AGE REQUIREMENTS:

- Little Miss: Ages 4-7
- Elementary: Ages 8-12
- Junior: Ages 13-16
- Senior: Ages 17-22
- Elder: Ages 55 & up

APPLY NOW:

- Kerretv Cuko - PCI Museum Front Desk
- Cultural Office on Hwy 21
- www.pci-nsn.gov

HELPFUL INFORMATION:

- Required Traditional Arts Classes now offered during the summer; check for availability
- Must be a Tribal Member



CONTACT:

- **Mindy Jackson**
(mjackson@pci-nsn.gov)
(251)368-9136 ext. 2293
- **Mallory Rolin**
(mcrolin@pci-nsn.gov)
(251)368-9136 ext. 2538

MANDATORY MEETING:

- August 1, 2017
(additional info TBA at a later date)


2017 PRINCESS CONTEST

APPLY BY JULY 28, 2017 AT 5PM



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Cultural Department Offers Summer Classes

Gourd Painting Classes

July 3, 2017 – July 27, 2017

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays

You must submit an application for this class.

Only 10 slots are available

Beginning Pottery Classes

July 3, 2017 – July 27, 2017

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays

You must submit an application for this class.

Only 10 slots are available

OPEN TO

Tribal Members,
1st Generation Indian Descent,
Tribal Members household &
Tribal Employees

TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE
INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Jonathan Martin, Traditional Arts Planner,
(251) 368-9136 Ext. 2537,
Email: jmartin@pci-nsn.gov or
traditionalarts@pci-nsn.gov

Applications can be found at:

<http://pci-nsn.gov/westminster/cultural.html>

*Save
The
Date*

Saturday, October 7, 2017

State Of The Tribe

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Watch the newsletter, web site,
and social media for more information.**

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2017-2018 School Supply Reimbursement Program

School Uniform and Supplies:

- \$300.00 Reimbursement Per Child (Receipts are not required)
- Must be Tribal Member Student or First Generation Student who is entering 4K-12th Grade in the 2017-2018 school year.

Computer Reimbursement

- Households with a Tribal Member Student or First Generation Student who is entering 4K-12th Grade is eligible to be reimbursed up to \$600 for a computer device every 4 years (receipt and bank form is required)
- Computer Reimbursements will be electronically transferred into your account in 45 days or less

- Program will start July 1, 2017 and end on September 30, 2017
- Must be a Tribal Member Student or First Generation Student in 4K-12th Grade
- Proof of school enrollment is required for each student. Example: Current school bill, letter from the school, copy of child's report card from school year 2016-2017.
- Applications can be faxed, emailed, mailed, or dropped off at the Education Department. If you have any questions please call the Education Department at (251) 368-9136 Extension 2021.
- If custody is an issue please furnish current documentation. Award of benefit will be determined on a case by case basis.

Applications and supporting documents can be submitted to Magen Weaver via the following methods:

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

SUMMER CAMP REIMBURSEMENT

MAY 1- SEPT. 29

Tribal members and First Generation students in PreK thru 12th Grade are eligible to attend up to 2 summer camps per summer!

Tribal Member students are eligible for \$500.00
First Generation students are eligible for \$250.00

Parents are responsible for making all arrangements and paying all fees.
Travel expenses are eligible to be reimbursed if receipts and mileage is submitted with the application and is within the student's allotted amount.
This program is reimbursement only!

Applications and receipts can only be submitted and processed after the student has attended the camp.
The deadline to submit applications for this year is September 29, 2017.

For questions and inquiries call Kim McGhee at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2662.

Applications can be obtained from the Tribe's website: www.pci-nsn.gov or from the Education Department.

Applications can be submitted to the following locations:

Fax: (251) 368-0809

Email: ksmcghee@pci-nsn.gov

Mail: Kim McGhee, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502

Young Student Dreams Of Studying Animation

Savannah Castleberry is a 9th grade student at Grace Community School in Tyler, Texas. Her artwork recently won many awards at a statewide Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Competition.

Savannah earned a 7th place award for her Mixed Media self-portrait and her on-site drawing of a glass bowl earned her a 6th place award for the see-and-sketch competition. Places were awarded 1st-9th, and 10th is Honorable Mention.

Twenty three high schools participated in the competition in Waco, Texas on April 3 & 4, 2017.

She has enjoyed art from an early age, learning tips and ideas from watching YouTube videos



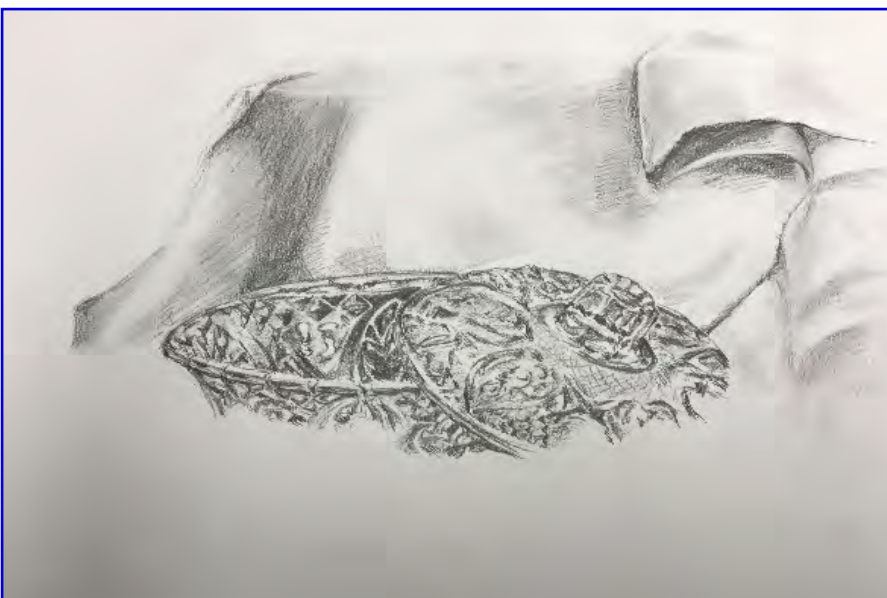
and sketching Anime characters and sculpting miniature clay figures. Savannah also has a twin sister, Isabel, who is also very artistic. Both sisters plan to attend a week long session at the Savannah College of Art and Design this summer, a program that will allow them to stay on

campus. Savannah hopes to eventually major in Animation at the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) in Savannah, GA.

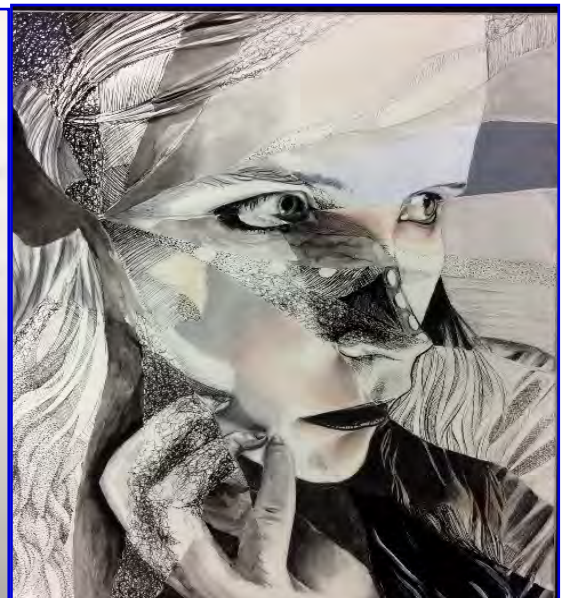
Savannah, a First Generation descendant, is the daughter of Sara Weis and the late Cameron Castleberry of Garland, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Tom and Rhonda Howard, and the late John Castleberry and Glenn and Mozella Dundas.

Congratulations, Savannah! As the old song goes, "Your future is so bright you got to wear shades!" You have accomplished so much in your young life. We can't wait to see what you will do next!


Submitted by Annie Nowak



On-site sketch of Candy Dish




Multi-Media Self Portrait



2017 SUMMER TUTORING

Summer Tutoring is designed to be fun and engaging for students while giving them the help they need to keep their mind sharp and active throughout the summer months. Students have an opportunity to have one on one sessions or small group sessions with experienced tutors. Student must be a Tribal Member, 1st Generation, or 2nd Generation student in K-12th Grade. Transportation to and from the Boys & Girls Club will be arranged by the Education Department pending your child's registration is complete. Preference shall be given in accordance with Title 33 (Tribal Employment Rights) of the Tribal code.



Tutoring will take priority over other summer programs.

Areas of focus:

-Math Skills	-Language Arts Review
-Fluency	-Handwriting Practice
-Enrichment	-Reading Comprehension
-Skill Building	-Phonics/Decoding

Contact Kim McGhee to register your child!

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*All loans subject to credit approval, verification and collateral evaluation. 184 Program is only offered to members on active tribal roll and in designated geographic areas. See a United Bank representative for complete details. United Bank NMLS# 494759



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[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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Submitted by: Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Environmental Department, Kristi Weatherford

Family Services Community Child Care Program Updates

Attention: Program Participants in the CCDF and Tribal Child Care Program

There are two childcare programs provided through Family Services Department including a federally-funded program and the Tribal child care program. The federally-funded Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) program is available to Tribal Member families living within the Tribe's service area and is based upon the income of the household. The Tribally-funded Tribal Child Care Program (TCCP) program is for families exceeding the CCDF income guidelines and who live in the Tribe's service area or for those Tribal families who live outside of the Tribe's services area.

Child Care Renewals are DUE by September 15, 2017. The Family Services Department will begin taking applications on September 1, 2017 for families who are currently participating in CCDF or in the Tribal Child Care program, or who are families needing assistance with daycare services. The new fiscal year and certification period will begin on October 1, 2017 and end September 30, 2018.

Current participants and new applicants must:

- Schedule an appointment with the Community Services Child Care Coordinator and complete a new current application. Please call (251)-368-9136, ext. 2600 to set up your appointment time.
- BOTH parents must be able to provide documentation verifying they are both working a minimum of 20 hours per week or that they are attending at least 20 hours in an educational training program or a job training program.
- Parent(s) must be **attending** fulltime or be a part-time student of an institution of higher education. Child care payment is determined on part-time or full-time status.
- Provide documents to verify all the household income.
- Provide copies of Social Security cards for all household members.
- Provide copies of Tribal I.D. for Tribal Members or Letters of Indian Descent for First Generation Children.
- Provide verification from the daycare or afterschool care provider to confirm that your child is enrolled in the program and the weekly rate of their program.

MUST ALSO HAVE A COPY OF THE DAYCARE LICENSE AND W-9 FORM.

** No existing child care participants will be automatically renewed.

** Renewal must be completed by September 15, 2017 or child care payments will be terminated as of October 1, 2017.

2017 SLIHEAP

General Information

- Distribution Dates: May 1, 2017 - July 31, 2017
- If you previously participated in the 2017 Winter LIHEAP program, you do not need an appointment for Summer LIHEAP. You will need to fill out a one page application and present your current energy bill and current income to Family Services Department. You will not be allowed to turn in your application without this information attached.
- If you did not participate in Winter LIHEAP, you will be required to fill out a full application and will be required to complete the interview process and submit all required documentation.
- All 2017 PER CAPITA will be counted as income. (\$3,500)
- Priority is given to Senior households, clients receiving Disability Income, households with children under the age of 5, and households receiving Food Stamps or TANF benefits.
- LIHEAP does NOT pay for any additional fees or services such as late fees, connection fees, outside lights, round-ups, etc.
- Approval amounts range from \$250-\$325. You will be responsible for any charges that are not covered by LIHEAP. If your bill is less than the awarded amount, only the total amount of the bill will be paid.

Required Documentation

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

State	Estimated State Median Income (4 person Household)	60 % of the estimated SMI (4 person Household)	1-Person Household	2-Person Household	3-Person Household	4-Person Household	5-Person Household	6-Person Household
Alabama	\$67,621	\$40,573	\$21,098	\$27,590	\$34,081	\$40,573	\$47,065	\$53,556
Florida	\$67,643	\$40,586	\$21,105	\$27,598	\$34,092	\$40,586	\$47,080	\$53,574



Edie Jackson
 INDEPENDENT DESIGNER #22035
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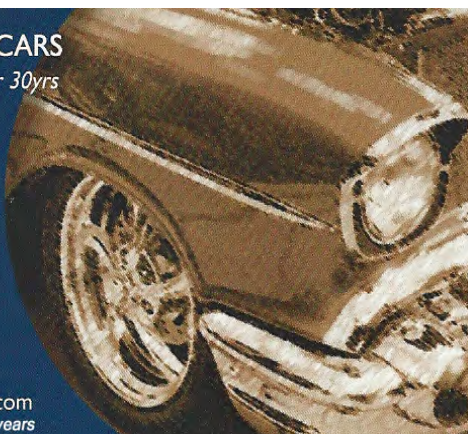


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PHARMACY REMINDER:

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.

Please pardon the progress in existing clinic areas as renovations are taking place to relocate the Pharmacy and Eye Clinic in-house.

Watch the newsletter, web site, and social media for more information

	<p>Health & Elder Services Purpose</p> <p>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.</p> <p>We want all Tribal Members to feel their best so they can live life to its fullest.</p> <p>Poarch Band of Creek Indians</p>
--	---

	<p>Poarch Creek Indians</p> <p>Cancer</p> <p>SUPPORT GROUP</p> <p>July 18, 2017</p> <p>6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Refreshments will be served.</p> <p>Wind Creek Ballroom</p>
--	--



ANOTHER FIRST TIME TRIBAL HOMEOWNER!

Tribal Member Earline Rivers and family moved into their new TAHO home in Mount Vernon, Alabama on May 9, 2017. Congratulations Earline and family!

PCI Rental Housing Program Now Accepting Applications

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians Housing Department is currently taking applications for:

SENIOR UNITS:

- Two (2) bedroom

LOW-INCOME SINGLE FAMILY UNITS

- Two (2) bedrooms
- Three (3) bedrooms
- Four (4) bedrooms
- Five (5) bedrooms

MONIAC TOWNHOUSES:

- Two (2) bedrooms

In order to apply for the rental program, you must be at least nineteen (19) years of age and complete an application which includes:

- Proof of household income
- Tribal identification
- Social security cards
- Marriage certificate
- Divorce decree
- Child custody information if applicable
- All other documentation requested by the Housing Department's staff.

If the applicant is married, his/her spouse's information must be included, and the spouse must also sign the application.

All adults eighteen (18) years of age and above listed on an application as a resident must successfully pass a criminal background check through the Tribal Police Department before occupancy.

Applications are available on the Tribal Web site.

If you are interested in rental housing or have questions, you may call 251-368-9136 ext. 2251.

2017 Football & Cheerleading Registration

Registration Dates
May 1, 2017 - July 1, 2017

Ages 5-12
(Must be 5 before August 1, 2017)
Registration Fee: \$50.00

To register for football you must bring:
Birth Certificate
Proof of Residence or School Enrollment

For more information contact the Recreation Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2256. Applications are available at Recreation Department or on Recreation's page of the Tribal web site, www.pci-nsn.gov.

Recreation Offers Water Aerobics Classes

Water Aerobics classes are open to :

- Tribal Members & spouses
- First Generation Descendants & spouses
- Tribal Government employees
- Tribal Gaming Commission employees
- Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA) employees

Class Time And Day

Monday & Friday
10:00 a.m.

Tuesday & Thursday
9:30 a.m & 12:00 noon

No registration required!

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

Summer Swim Team Season May 30, 2017 - July 31, 2017

Early Bird Practice May 15-26, 2017
Monday-Friday 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Wellness Center

Summer Season Practice
Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am - 9:15 am
Wellness Center

For more information contact the Recreation Department at 251-368-9136 ext. 2256. Applications are available on Recreation's page of the web site, www.pci-nsn.gov.

Swimming Lessons - Open to Community

Summer Lessons Session II - Fee \$20

Registration April 24, 2017 - June 23, 2017

Lessons June 26, 2017 - July 13, 2017

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

Parent/Child Swim Lessons 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Pre-School Swim Lessons 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm
5:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Youth Swim Lessons 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Adult Swim Lessons 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

For more information or to register for swimming lessons, contact the Recreation Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2256.

Applications are available at Recreation Department or on Recreation's page of the Tribal web site, www.pci-nnsn.gov.

SPLASH PAD & PLAYGROUND

Open to Tribal Members/Spouse & one guest each

First Generation/Spouse & one guest each

Non-Tribal Member Spouse/First Generation Spouse and One Guest

Must Sign in at Recreation Front Desk

Mondays: 12:00 pm - 7:45 pm

Tuesdays - Fridays: 10:00 am - 7:45 pm

Saturdays: 10:00 am - 3:45 pm

Sundays: CLOSED

PAVILION & PLAYGROUND LOCATED BESIDE NEW BASEBALL FIELD

The Pavilion is open to all First Come First Serve

No Reservation Needed No Set Time for Usage

For more information about summer operating hours for playgrounds, Splash Pad, or pavilion, please contact the Recreation Department at 251-368-9136 ext. 2256.



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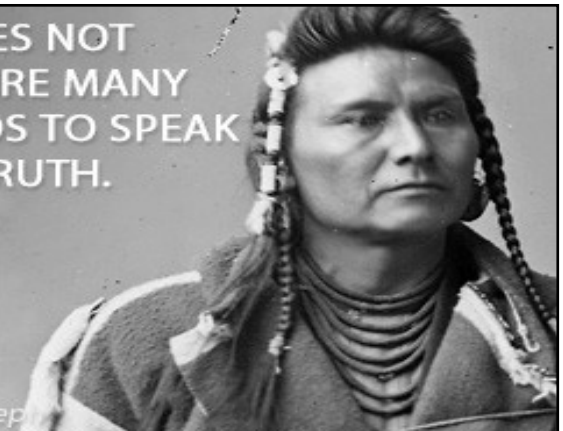
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YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

GATHER TOGETHER IN HEALTH

If you've been thinking about how to contribute to the strength of the tribe, consider starting with your health. The 2017-2018 My PCI Wellness Rewards Program has begun! Participating in the program is a fun way to improve your health and can also be a meaningful way to invest in Poarch Creek sustainability for the future.

"A single reed alone is weak but woven together it gathers strength."

What a beautiful opportunity to strengthen our reeds together!

The program this year starts with three quick and easy steps. This past year, Reward Program participants who completed these steps lost more Percent Body Fat (PBF) and earned more points and rewards throughout the year!

1. Complete *Personal Health Assessment*

This 15-minute assessment is totally private, and reveals the best ways to improve your health. It identifies risk factors and shows you how to improve your wellness score.



I was a smoker for 10+ years. As I continued to smoke and exercise, I noticed how hard it was for me to catch my breath. With the help of the My PCI Wellness Program and submitting my desire to quit to God, I was able to kick the habit. 5 weeks smoke free!

Krystal Rolin



2. Complete *Lifestyle & Goals Questionnaire*

The 15-minute *Lifestyle & Goals Questionnaire* is an easy way to jump-start your success! Your Poarch Recreation fitness trainers will use your questionnaire to provide you with tailored support and advice to help you reach your goals.

3. Complete *InBody Composition Analysis*

Completing your 15-minute InBody is simple! By stepping on the machine at Poarch Recreation you'll learn a wealth of information about your body, including your Percent Body Fat (PBF).

Starting now, you have the chance to continue to build and enhance your health. How do you want to affect the future? Your future? This new reward year is an exciting time for change, and these tasks are the best way to get moving toward your goals—that's why we're rewarding you with \$150 just for completing these three tasks!

However we may assist in your wellness journey, it would be our deepest privilege to be of service. Together, we will continue to enhance your well-being and your healthy future. We're in this together.

The My PCI Wellness Team
powered by Advantage Training

SMALL DECISIONS MAKE BIG THINGS HAPPEN

2017-2018 Reward Year

THE JOURNEY STARTS NOW

July 1 - September 30



\$150

1000 2345 6000 7890

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BE HEALTHY

VISA

GET \$150 BY COMPLETING THREE TASKS

1. *Personal Health Assessment* ☐ 15 MINUTES TO COMPLETE
2. *Lifestyle & Goals Questionnaire* ☐ 15 MINUTES TO COMPLETE
3. *InBody Composition Analysis* ☐ 15 MINUTES TO COMPLETE

All Get Started tasks must be completed by September 30, 2017 to earn your Gift Card.

MORE REWARDS AVAILABLE!

Review your 2017-2018 Rewards Booklet

- ☐ Online www.mypciwellness.com
- ☐ Poarch Recreation



15 MINUTES
TO COMPLETE
EACH TASK

QUESTIONS?

Contact Poarch Recreation
(251) 368-9136 ext. 2256

www.mypciwellness.com

TERO Relocates

Effective March 27, 2017, the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) relocated to the Tribal Government Complex with the Regulatory Affairs Division Office in Building 500, at 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502.

You may reach TERO temporarily at the old phone number (251) 368-0606 or contact TERO Clerk, Jennifer Colbert at (251) 368-9136 x 2029.



The old TERO fax number of (251) 368-9312 has been disconnected; TERO's new fax number is (251) 368-4502.

If you have questions, please contact Wesley Manning, TERO Director, at (251) 368-9136 x 2027 or wmanning@pci-nsn.gov.

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Sofa \$799.95 - Loveseat \$249.95

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Dresser, mirror, chest, bed, and night stand
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Atmore Vision Center 166 Lindberg Avenue Atmore, Alabama 36502 251-368-8767	Monroeville Eye Care 3016 S Alabama Avenue Monroeville, Alabama 36460 251-743-3305
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"We have glasses to fit your budget."

SMART Recovery Family & Friends



for people affected by the
addictive behavior of a loved one

WHEN: First Tuesday of Every Month at 6:00 pm

WHERE: Tribal Court Lobby

The meetings have two goals: 1) providing self-management and life-skills tools to those struggling with the challenges of living with, and caring about, a loved one who has an addiction; 2) supporting family & friends in their goal of interacting with their loved ones in ways that would maximize the possibility that their loved ones would choose recovery.

If you have questions, please call 251-368-9136 ext. 2660

Hurricane Preparedness

The Atlantic Hurricane Season began June 1st and continues until November 30th.

BASIC PREPAREDNESS TIPS

- Know where to go. If you are ordered to evacuate, know the local hurricane evacuation route(s) to take and have a plan for where you can stay. Contact your local emergency management agency for more information.
- Put together a disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, and copies of your critical information if you need to evacuate.
- If you are not in an area that is advised to evacuate and you decide to stay in your home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for several days and you are not able to leave due to flooding or blocked roads.
- Make a Family Emergency Communication Plan. (See below for details.)
- Many communities have text or email alerting systems for emergency notifications. To find out what alerts are available in your area, search the Internet with your town, city, or county name and the word “alerts”.

FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Three steps to developing a family emergency communication plan:

1. *COLLECT*:

Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family and other important people/offices, such as medical facilities, doctors, schools, out-of-town contacts, or service providers.

2. *SHARE*:

Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator or family bulletin board. Also, if you own a mobile phone, a text message may get through when a phone call will not. This is because

a text message requires far less bandwidth than a phone call. If service is not available, text messages automatically save and send automatically as soon as service becomes available.

3. *PRACTICE*:

Have regular household meetings to review and practice your plan. Establish emergency meeting places indoors, in your neighborhood and outside of your neighborhood. Practice texting and calling, but make sure you discuss what information you should text. Short messages like “I’m OK. At the library” are good.

TGC Attends NIGC Consultation at Southern Gaming Summit

Representatives from The Tribal Gaming Commission (TGC) recently attended the Southern Gaming Summit held May 2-4, 2017 in Biloxi, MS. During this conference, TGC representatives attended various Legal and Regulatory discussions related to Tribal Gaming regulation. The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) was represented at both the NIGC staff level as well as Commission level.

All three current NIGC Commissioners were in attendance which included Chairman Jonodev Chaudhuri, Vice-Chair Kathryn Isom-Clause, and Associate Commissioner Sequoyah Simermeyer. All three Commissioners, as well as other NIGC staff members, participated on various discussion panels throughout the event.

On Thursday, May 4th, the NIGC hosted a roundtable to discuss some of the current initiatives being promulgated by the agency. Such initiatives include



*Pictured left to right– NIGC Chairman Jonodev Chaudhuri, NIGC Vice– Chair Kathryn Isom-Clause, PCI TGC Commissioner Justin Stabler, PCI TGC Administrator Daniel K. McGhee
Front Row: PCI TGC Vice– Chair Vicky S. Burns, PCI TGC Chair Sharon Smiley.*

Grandfathered Class II Gaming Systems, Developing a strong work force through training, Rural Outreach Services, NIGC Fees, Management Contracts, and Technical Standards for Mobile Devices. The NIGC is currently holding similar consultations throughout Indian Country as these initiatives are being introduced. Poarch Creek Indians'

TGC Chair Sharon Smiley, Commissioner Justin Stabler, TGC Administrator Daniel McGhee, TGC IT Director Mark Field, and Commission Liaison Chris Gibson attended this NIGC roundtable discussion. Other East Region Tribe's represented included the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and the Tunica- Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana.

There are seven things that will destroy us: Wealth without work; Pleasure without conscience; Knowledge without character; Religion without sacrifice; Politics without principle; Science without humanity; Business without ethics.

Mahatma Gandhi

Happy 4th of July!! The Utilities Authority has had a busy and productive year thus far. PCI Utilities constantly seeks out ways to make improvements to our system(s). Thank you for your patience and understanding during these times of improvements and construction.

Completed 2017 Projects to date include:

- Tullis Manor connection from Freemanville water system to PCI.
- The Canoe Water Improvements Project – this accomplished task included the installation of 5 sections of new water lines to replace failing infrastructure in the Canoe community.
- Upgrading all old meters within the Escambia Community Utilities Systems to new radio read meters – this upgrade increases the protection of contamination for our customers and provides a more accurate account of water usage.
- The Safe Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project – the completion of this grant funded

expansion that enables us to accommodate our growing staff, provides adequate record keeping and storage space for all of our systems, and afforded us the opportunity to enhance our testing and sampling lab for better quality control and processing.

We hope you have the opportunity to celebrate Independence Day with family and friends to enjoy the very freedoms that our service members, past and present, fight for every day.

To our veterans, active service members, and the heroes that made the ultimate sacrifice, THANK YOU! Thank you for your bravery and selflessness.

Please contact our office between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday should you need assistance or have questions at 251.446.1617.

“This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.” – Elmer Davis

UPCOMING PROJECTS:

- The Sanitary Sewer Structure Lining Project – the mission of this grant funded project is to install coated linings in deteriorating manholes to extend the life of the manholes and minimize the intrusion of groundwater during rain events in an effort to reduce treatment cost.
- Canoe Upgrades – these continued upgrades will include the installation of new fire hydrants, as well as the replacement of inoperable hydrants, to offer better fire protection and improve water quality.

As we celebrate our nation's freedom, we honor the courageous men and women dedicated to preserving it.

Happy Independence Day - dgreetings.com

Cook, Eat and Repeat at Wind Creek

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

Music Playing; lights flashing; people buzzing - there is plenty of excitement to be found on the gaming floor at a Wind Creek property. It's an atmosphere that draws thousands of visitors each month. What makes the visitors come back, however, is that the excitement doesn't stop away from the gaming floor - it just takes a different form. Culinary venues at Wind Creek are worth a visit of their own and have collected recognition throughout the state and the Gulf Coast.

A notable inclusion at Wind Creek Atmore (WCA) is the cooking studio. KITCHEN at Wind Creek offers guests a hands-on culinary experience or an equally entertaining cooking demonstration.



Pictured above: Specialty Chef Brandon Thrash inside cooking studio for KITCHEN at Wind Creek

Studio classes and demonstrations at WCA are led by Brandon Thrash, the new Specialty Chef at KITCHEN. Thrash, a native of Arkansas, graduated from Sullivan University and shortly after began his career as a chef in Tulsa, Oklahoma for AAA Four Diamond restaurant Polo Grill. Thrash has 15 years of experience as a teacher and has most recently worked with students at Coastal Alabama Community College. Adding to his experience as a teacher, Chef Brandon also enjoyed the honor of cooking in the prestigious James Beard House in New York.

Chef Brandon's goal is, "... to help guests experience 'Aha!' moments - where they realize they can actually cook an amazing dish from home for themselves and their families." Brandon's passion for teaching drives him to help guests understand the ingredients and the techniques that go into gourmet cuisine of all types.



Pictured in photos above: Top-left are popular entrées from FIRE; Bottom-left is the interior of FIRE at WCA; Right is WCM's Chef Kelly Hargroves

KITCHEN isn't the only venue serving gourmet cuisine at Wind Creek. In fact, FIRE Steakhouse is perhaps the best-known culinary offering. Often recognized as one of the top steakhouses in the state, FIRE now has the title of best restaurant in Escambia county according to AL.com. The statewide news site released its list of best restaurants in April 2017. Findings were based on multiple metrics including reviews on TripAdvisor, Yelp, Zomato, Google and Facebook.

While the recognition was for FIRE Steakhouse at WCA, the location at Wind Creek Wetumpka (WCW) was also mentioned in the article. WCW's FIRE Steakhouse sits along the north edge of the property with scenic views of the Coosa River. The menu differs from WCA's FIRE, but the customer service does not. At the end of a meal guests are treated to decadent bon bons served over dry ice; it's an impressive gesture followed by the gift of long-stemmed roses for the ladies. These little touches, award-winning chefs and delightful cuisine are what truly turn FIRE dining into FINE dining.

With the variety of culinary venues at Wind Creek, it's no surprise the caliber of chefs at each property. To showcase his expertise, Room Chef Kelly Hargroves of Wind Creek Montgomery (WCM) was invited to the Alabama Seafood Cook-Off (ASCO) that takes place each year at The Wharf in Orange Beach, Ala. Participants compete for an invitation to cook in the Top-4 event. The winner gets a ticket to New Orleans to compete in The Great American Seafood Cook-Off and the World Food Championship in November. This year's 3rd Annual Top-4 competition will take place June 26th and will feature Chef Kelly preparing Okra Crusted Grouper over roasted Carolina gold rice grits pirlou in a ham dashi and topped with heirloom tomato and Conecuh sausage jam.

Wind Creek properties may be known for the excitement of the gaming floor, but the excitement doesn't stop there. Each property offers guests a culinary escape worth trying for the first time... or the 100th time.



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.

Making the Grade



Recognized for 6 years of excellence

We are pleased to announce that the Muskogee Inn has once again received recognition as Atmore's Best Motel for the sixth consecutive year.

The Award Program honors small businesses that demonstrate excellent marketing success, community involvement, and innovative business practices in the marketplace.

The Atmore Award Program is an annual awards program honoring the achievements and accomplishments of local businesses throughout the Atmore area. Recognition is given to those companies that have shown the ability to use their best practices and implemented programs to generate competitive advantages and long-term value.

"Our staff works very hard to ensure each guest experience is the best we can offer. We are pleased to receive this distinction once again," stated Rochel Martin, General Manager.



By CIEDA Marketing Department

Home away from Home



TownPlace Suites at Redstone Gateway opened its doors on February 17, 2017. This opening marked Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority's (CIEDA) second hotel venture with Yelda Management Company, Inc. This also constitutes the Tribe's first business venture in the Huntsville market.

"This is a tremendous economic development opportunity, and we are proud to be a partner with the Yelda Company on this project. As the business development arm of the Tribe, we are always looking for ways to create jobs, and we are proud that we will be able to do that here in North Alabama," said James T. Martin, CIEDA President and CEO.

Mike Amaral, the Executive Vice President for Yelda Management Company, stated, "We are very excited about how the property has been received by the market and are looking forward to being a part of the area's economic growth and success."

TownPlace Suites is a 120-room, four-story hotel located on the south side of a six-acre lake with access from Market Street. It is situated near the recently opened retail development, giving hotel guests the option to walk to the restaurants at the new center. The extended stay business model provides spaces for both working and relaxing and helps visitors acclimate to the neighborhood through the TowneMap® map wall, which displays favorite local restaurants, services, and attractions. As a moderately priced brand, TownePlace Suites offers a tiered rate structure based on length of stays for travelers who are on the road for extended periods of time.

On April 18, 2017, the hotel held their official grand opening and ribbon cutting event. You can view video of the event activities at <https://www.facebook.com/pci.cieda/>



Photo courtesy of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce

By: CIEDA Marketing Department

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; their address has been removed from variable data. Please update your information.

Helen Boatwright
Sarah Cagle
Adam Contryman

Clinton King
Kyle Lage
Joe Mitchell

Michelle North
Katelyn Rondeau
Cecil Stanley

Jarrad Tew
Ralph Turner



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.

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)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR KVCO-HVSE (JULY) 2017

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINES	Monday, July 3, 2017	5:00 pm (CST)	August 2017 Issue
	Tuesday, August 1, 2017	5:00 pm (CST)	September 2017 Issue

ONGOING PROGRAMS	Museum Gift Shop	Closed for inventory	July 5 & 6, 2017
	B&G Club Feeding Program	Ongoing	Ends July 31, 2017
	SLIHEAP	Ongoing	Ends July 31, 2017
	Summer Camp Reimbursement	Ongoing	Ends Sept. 29, 2017
	School Supply Reimbursement	Ongoing	Ends Sept. 30, 2017

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS

Tribal Council Meetings
Thursday, July 6th & 20th 4:00 pm
Building 500 Auditorium

Tribal Court Sessions
Monday, July 10th & 24th 9:00 am
Tribal Courtroom

Education Advisory Committee
Monday, July 3rd 3:00 pm
Family Services Conference Room
Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic

CMCAC
Monday, July 10th 4:00 pm
Cultural Offices /Highway 21

4H Club Meeting
Wednesday, July 12th 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Perdido River Farms
Please note this is a date and location change

Tribal Grievance Board
Tuesday, July 11th 1:00 pm
Building 500 Auditorium

Tribal Regulatory Commission Meetings
Tuesday, July 11th & 25th
Building 500 Auditorium 8:00 am

Utilities Authority Board Meeting
Thursday, July 20th 1:00 pm
Utilities Office

MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR THIS MONTH

Saturday, July 1, 2017
Last day to register for
football or cheerleading

Cultural Classes
July 3-28, 2017
Contact Jonathan Martin for more
info at 251 368-9136 x 2537 or
traditionalarts@pci-nsn.gov

Tuesday, July 4, 2017
All Tribal Government Offices Closed
In Observance of Independence Day

Tuesday, July 18, 2017
Cancer Support Group Meeting
Wind Cheek Hospitality
6:00 pm

Friday, July 28, 2017
Last Day to submit application for
2017 Princess Contest

Child Care Program Renewal
September 1-15, 2017

Save The Date
Saturday, October 9, 2017
State of Tibe

Newsletter Contact Information

Poarch Creek News

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



Poarch Creek Indians
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502

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Gayle Johnson, Editor

(251) 368-9136 x 2210

Direct Dial # 251 446-5210

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