

POARCH CREEK NEWS
Cokv-Tvlvme
(cho-ka-da-la-mi/newspaper)



Dr. Anthony “Tony” Paredes is a name that many of us recognize, but his important contributions to our Tribe may not be widely known by generations who have grown up years after he worked to record our history and culture. At a time when we have opened the road that bears his name, “Paredes Way”, I would like to take a moment to remember and appreciate this great man.

An anthropologist from Florida, Tony began working closely with the Tribe in 1971 and played an integral role in helping us achieve federal recognition. Even today, we often hear his voice at the “Evening with the Elders” events because he was usually the individual recording and interviewing our people. He listened to stories, recorded personal histories, researched our past, and perhaps most important, did his work with deep caring and respect for our people.

Though unaware of it at the time, Tony helped build a road to prosperity for the Tribe because, without federal recognition, we would not be as successful as we are today. The figurative road that he helped build has led to a more prosperous, sustainable future for our children and our children's children as well.

As such, it was appropriate to name our newly constructed road “Paredes Way.” This road connects Jack Springs Road to Green Road. And, located on Green Road is the Poarch Creek Community Center – a place where our people will be learning and growing their cultural knowledge just as Dr. Paredes did all those many years ago.

Paredes Way, which is 3600 feet long and 24 feet wide, would not have been possible without the outstanding efforts of the Facilities Division and especially

our Public Works Department. 2,023 loads of dirt were hauled and used for Paredes Way and the connector road which leads to the Assisted Living Facility. When asked about the reason so much dirt had to be hauled, Mr. Ron Marshall explained, “You gotta start with a firm foundation.” As it turns out, the existing soil where the road was to be laid was not suitable for road construction.

Although 65 inches of rain dampened the progress of the project, Public Works persevered and completed the project in 4 months and 1 day. Because the department chose to do the work in-house, the Tribe saved \$800,000! (Thank you to Ron Marshall for the information and statistics!)

Another big accomplishment for Public Works is the construction of the pharmacy drive through. Ultimately, these projects provide elevated service and safer routes. I’m very proud of the entire Facilities Division, especially our Public Works Department, and all of their accomplishments – keep up the fantastic work!

Your Tribal Council works very hard on your behalf, truly listens to your concerns, and does its very best to implement programs and changes that are beneficial to the Tribe. At the November 2, 2017 Tribal Council Meeting, two programs were approved: the Medicare Reimbursement for Tribal Elders and the Burial and Bereavement Assistance Program. Presentations outlining these two benefits are available on the Tribal Member Only Portal (TMOP).

In short, the Medicare Reimbursement Program will reimburse our PCI Tribal Elders for the cost of Medicare related health insurance premiums. Any questions about this benefit should be



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

directed to the Tribal Health Business Office. The Burial and Bereavement Assistance Program ensures that your full benefit is received if you choose to take your GWA monies monthly. Questions about this benefit should be directed to the Tribal Member Benefits department. These are great benefits to our Tribal Members and I’m proud of the work of our staff and Tribal Council.

In closing, I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. May we be reminded that the most precious gifts aren’t bought with money, but are those that are selfless and from a heart full of love. I pray that God blesses you this season and that you make memories to cherish for a lifetime.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)

In love,
 Stephanie A. Bryan
 Tribal Chair/CEO



Celebrate

BIG THIS SEASON.
STAY, PLAY, SHOP & DINE.



OWA™



Foley, AL | VisitOWA.com | 251-923-2111

A WORLD CLASS
DEVELOPMENT BY



DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

NOW OPEN



OPENING SOON





A Moment With The Tribal Chair



Laboratory



Fire & Rescue Donate Equipment



Veteran's Salute



Tribal Member Submissions

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

Regular Features

2	<i>A Moment With The Tribal Chair</i>	22	<i>Veteran's Salute</i>
4	<i>Contents</i>	24	<i>Wedding Announcements</i>
5	<i>Submission Criteria</i>	26	<i>In Memory</i>
6	<i>Tribal Council</i>	27	<i>Birth Announcement</i>
8	<i>Tribal Council Update</i>	62	<i>Returned Newsletters</i>
12	<i>Meeting All Your Laboratory Needs</i>	68	<i>Monthly Calendar of Events</i>

News & Information

7	<i>Holiday Wishes From Tribal Council</i>
10	<i>Survey Results-Tribal Chair Report</i>
13	<i>Holiday Office Closures</i>
14	<i>Fire & Rescue Donate Equipment</i>
16	<i>SDPI Reauthorization</i>
18	<i>B&G Club YOY & Awards Banquet</i>
20	<i>Smoking Ban</i>
21	<i>Save The Date</i>
63	<i>Poarch Creek News Survey</i>

Programs & Services

28	<i>Archives & Records Management</i>	40	<i>Health Department</i>
30	<i>Boys & Girls Club</i>	44	<i>Housing Department</i>
32	<i>Cultural</i>	46	<i>Recreation Department</i>
33	<i>Education Department</i>	50	<i>Tribal Court</i>
38	<i>Environmental Department</i>	52	<i>Tribal Police</i>
39	<i>Family Services Department</i>	53	<i>Tribal Utilities Authority</i>

CIEDA/Wind Creek

54	<i>CIEDA</i>
60	<i>Wind Creek Hospitality</i>

*On the cover:
Jennifer Jones, Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS)*

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

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

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

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

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

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 and 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/](https://twitter.com/PoarchBandofCreekIndians/)

[PoarchCreek](https://www.instagram.com/poarchbandofcreekindians/); 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



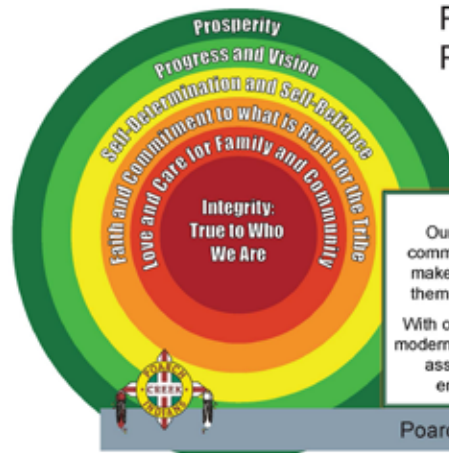
Arthur Mothersbed, At-Large
amothersbed@windcreekhospitality.com



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



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

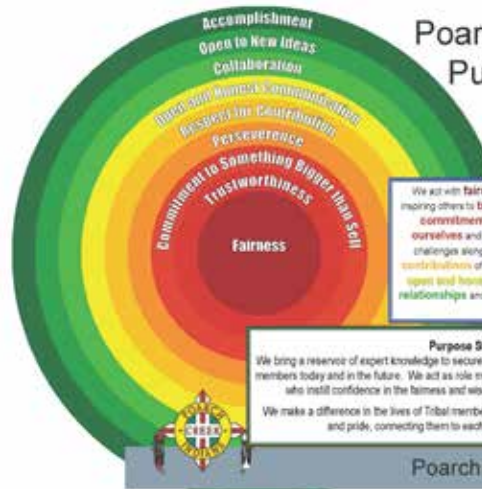


Poarch Council Purpose & Values

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 interactions. This leads to collaborative relationships and openness to new ideas and growing levels of accomplishment.

Purpose Statement

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

Poarch Band of Creek Indians

*Sending Each Of You
Love And Best Wishes
Throughout The Holiday Season*



From Your Tribal Council

I hope that everyone enjoyed the annual Thanksgiving Pow Wow and had the opportunity to make great memories with family and loved ones. It's during these cherished moments we must always remember how blessed we truly are. Our Tribe has made the most of its opportunities and that has allowed us to experience great benefits. However, continued success is dependent on our sovereignty.

An important election will be held this month in Alabama. The outcome may have a direct impact on our sovereignty. Each of us must decide who to vote for in the United States Senate Special Election on December 12. I wanted to let you know who I have decided to support. Hopefully, my reasoning will assist you when determining who will gain your support.

Prior to the latest allegations, I understood why many individuals were supportive of Candidate Roy Moore. He is an emphatic believer in our rights as Christians, he is a man that believes in those Christian rights and that we should be able to express them wherever and whenever we want. I believe all individuals, no matter their religious background, have the right to practice the moralities expounded by our religious beliefs.

I also know where Candidate Roy Moore stands on the Poarch Band of Creek Indians' rights as a Sovereign nation. As Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, he referred to sovereign immunity as "a sword tribes may wield to victimize outsiders."

Over the years, the court system has consistently addressed tribal sovereignty, and only Congress has the power and ability to restore those sovereign rights. With that power, Congress also has the power to limit the rights of tribes as



Robert "Robbie" McGhee, Vice Chair
rmcgee@pci-nsn.gov

sovereign nations. In 1987, the Supreme Court ruled that states did not have the authority to regulate gaming on tribal lands. It was a big win for tribal sovereignty. Congress immediately moved to limit that sovereignty by passing the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act which gave states some authority to regulate gaming within state borders. The passage of that act still effects our Tribe today. We cannot expand our gaming operations without the consent of the state via a compact. The state could also repeal all bingo amendments, which would affect our current operations. This is only one example of how important it is to elect someone who can be a champion of sovereignty for tribes instead of someone who might advocate for limiting the inherent rights of tribal nations.

Many of you may not be aware that all issues pertaining to American Indians fall under the jurisdiction of the United States Committee on Indian Affairs, where I had the opportunity to work under the leadership of Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, a strong

Republican who championed the rights and legislation of American Indians everywhere. When I cast my vote on December 12th, I will vote for the individual who I believe will take our concerns as a United States Federally Recognized Tribe to the Senate and will champion and defend our rights as a Nation. To me, it is not about whether the candidate is Republican or Democrat, but who can best accomplish that mission. If elected, I personally don't believe that Mr. Moore would champion our issues within the United States Senate, but instead may do the exact opposite.

As an attorney who prosecuted two of the Klansmen who killed four young girls in the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing, I believe Candidate Doug Jones is a strong advocate that can be a leader for our issues and would be willing to work with us to accomplish our goals. It is clear that he will not back down under pressure and respects the rule of the law.

We must sometimes make tough decisions when choosing leaders who will be charged with defending the rights of us as American Indians, rather than our biblical beliefs and rights. We must continuously defend our rights as Christians, but I believe those challenges are better debated and defended at home- in our schools, communities, and unfortunately in the courts- not in the United States Senate.

Let me close by saying: this is the time of year to give and thanks and reflect. I am thankful for my health, my family, my friends, my tribe, the time I get to spend with my family, the talks that I get to experience with my father, those intimate private chats that I get to have with my late mother, and I am thankful for serving each of you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



We're sorry,
but Hurricane Nate
rained on our parade.

OCTOBER 7TH EVENTS

Hurricane Nate managed to cancel three Tribal events planned for October 7th: the Community Meeting, Annual Sovereignty Celebration, and Tribal Member Day at OWA.

Unfortunately, Nate's timing could not have been worse, as it is not possible to reschedule them. We are glad Hurricane Nate did not do more damage, and we look forward to seeing you at our next event.



COMMUNITY MEETING

After reviewing multiple scheduling conflicts and the desire to provide the information to you as soon as possible, arrangements have been made to share the information prepared for the Community Meeting via the Tribal Member Only Portal (TMOP). A notification will be shared via Facebook once the presentation is available.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Our Cultural Department does a fantastic job coordinating this event each year. However, with the Thanksgiving PowWow just weeks away, as well as the Youth Sobriety PowWow, there isn't ample time to schedule another important event. However, accommodations have been made for Tribal Members to pick up their Annual Celebration gift.



TRIBAL DAY AT OWA

The use of tickets and food vouchers have been extended through December 31, 2017. We hope this gives everyone an opportunity to enjoy OWA with their vouchers from now until the end of the year.

TRIBAL CHAIR'S REPORT TO GENERAL COUNCIL



SURVEY RESULTS

13

TOTAL RESPONSES

A total of 13 survey responses were received.

13

HARD COPIES

To date, 13 hard copies have been requested and mailed out.

3

MONTHS

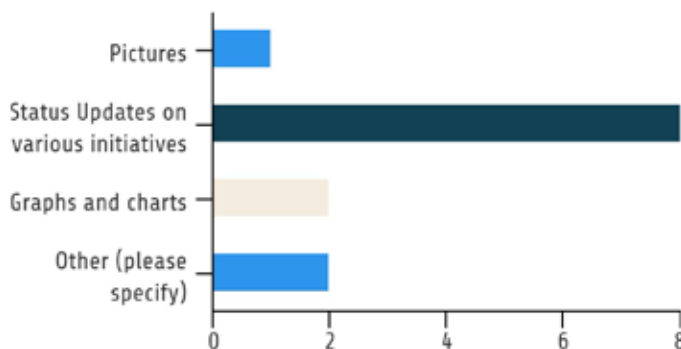
The survey was open from July–September 2017.

Question #1: On a scale of 1–5, how useful was the information in the report?

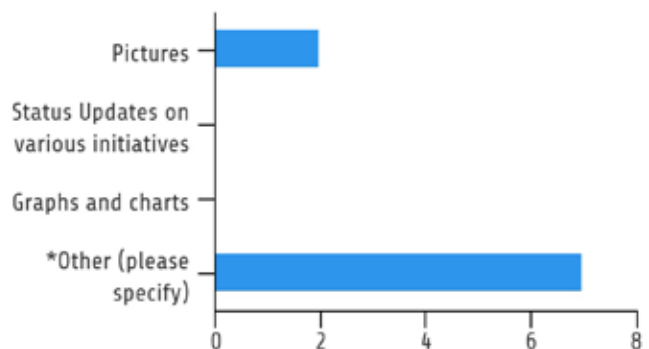
69% responded very useful,
31% responded useful

QUESTIONS #2 AND #3

Question #2: What did you like MOST about the report?




Question #3: What did you like LEAST about the report?




**Most responses on what did you like least about the report included changing nothing and adding specific items related to other initiatives.*


COMMENTS REGARDING THE REPORT



There wasn't anything that was lacking. The information provided is something that has been requested via social media for a long time. Great job!!



The Tribe owns land all over the place. I would like to know how many total acres the Tribe owns to date. Maybe a breakdown showing what the land is used for and an estimated amount of what the land is worth.




I think this was a great report to share with Tribal Members. I am sure others will be upset that more specific return on investments is not included and that may be something to consider in the future. I think it was a great idea to post to TMOP with the option to request a hard copy.



This was my first time viewing the report and I have no complaints on it. In fact I found a lot of information I have been looking for.



Since this report is new, I do not have any suggestions now. Just keep them coming!



Good job on the report but more information is better.

Questions or Comments? Contact:

Megan Young

Office Phone: (251)-368-9136 ext. 2205

Cell Phone: (251)-359-1785

E-mail: myoung@pci-nsn.gov

Justin Stabler

Office Phone: (251)-368-9136 ext. 2938

Cell Phone: (251)-359-1666

E-mail: jstabler@pci-nsn.gov



Tribal Health Department Laboratory: Providing All Your Laboratory Needs

Laboratory staff left to right are Virginia Provencher, Certified Medical Technologist/Laboratory Director, Deborah Lewis, Certified Medical Technologist/Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS), and Jennifer Jones, MLS.

The Poarch Creek Indian Health Department Laboratory (Lab) is located on the first floor of the Buford L. Rolin Health Department and provides various laboratory testing to the Poarch Band of Creek Indians community.

The Lab has state of the art machines for chemistry, hematology and urinalysis testing. They offer a wide variety of laboratory tests such as: complete blood work, liver, thyroid, diabetes evaluation, urine testing, flu, strep throat, pregnancy test and

checking blood in the stools to rule out colon cancer.

They are currently working with the American Esoteric Laboratory (AEL) for all reference laboratory referrals located in Montgomery, Alabama and Memphis, Tennessee.

The Lab welcomes all outpatient providers who care for our patients. If you would like to have your outside physician order blood work for you to have done at the laboratory, they will need a physician order.

Once a year the Lab provides a courtesy blood draw for our Poarch Creek Indian Fire Department's annual health screening. They also participate in sponsoring and mentoring new Phlebotomy students from Reid State Technical College (RSTC).

The Lab staff looks forward to serving all your laboratory testing needs. You can call the Lab at 251-368-9136, extension 2298 to schedule an appointment or for questions.

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE CLOSURES THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

December 15, 2017

Tribal Government Offices will close at 12:00 noon
For the Employee Christmas Party

December 25 & 26, 2017

Tribal Government Offices will be closed for Christmas Holidays

January 1, 2018

Tribal Government Offices will be closed for New Year's Holiday

*I wish you joy all through your holidays
I wish you good luck that forever stays
I wish you the love of family & friends
I wish you happy days that never ever ends.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

Robbie McShee

*From our house to yours
Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*



Charlotte & Martin Meckel

*I would like to take this opportunity
to wish everyone a wonderful holiday
season. Spend this time with family
and friends and reflect on how fortunate
we are. I hope everyone has a
Merry Christmas and a prosperous
New Year.*

Arthur Mothershed



POARCH FIRE & RESCUE DONATES EQUIPMENT TO LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY STUDENTS

Poarch Fire & Rescue donates equipment to the Escambia Career Readiness Center

The Law and Public Safety Program (LAPS) at the Escambia Career Readiness Center could not wait to dig into the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) donated to them by Poarch Fire and Rescue. The Personal Protective Equipment is an essential component to the LAPS program. It helps instruct students on firefighter safety and operations.

The number of students participating in the LAPS program is steadily increasing. When the program first started, there were only 13 students. Fast-forward to year four... there

are 34 students in the program and many are still trying to enroll in the program.

The donation of the 16 sets of Personal Protective Equipment by Poarch Fire and Rescue allows each student to have his/her own gear. The instructor, Mr. Branden Barlow, is able to teach the students discipline and responsibility and instill in them a sense of pride in having their own gear.

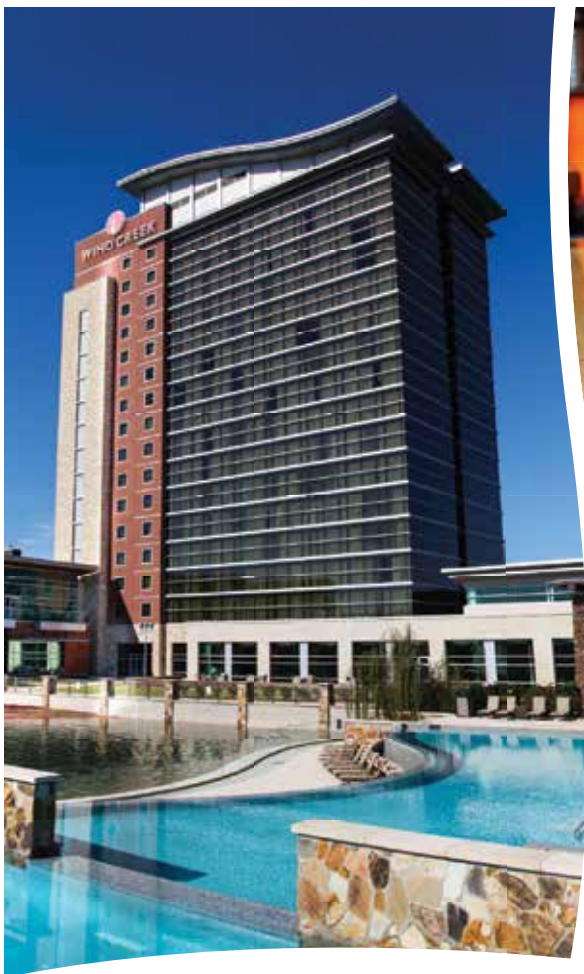
The instructor recently used the PPE to set up skill stations to perform evolutions to teach donning and

doffing personal protective clothing, donning and doffing Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, maneuvering through confined spaces, and emergency exit of a structure after locating a hand line.

The students are truly grateful for the opportunity to get hands on experience using this equipment. The school's administrator, Mr. Todd Williamson, also sends a heartfelt thank you to the department for helping to meet the needs of the students.

Submitted by Heather Weaver

Law and Public Safety provides the opportunity for students to learn and develop the skills necessary for a career in Fire Fighting, Law Enforcement, or Emergency Medical Services. Skills include personal protective equipment, CPR/AED, First Aid, and self-defense tactics. Students will also have the opportunity to learn soft skills necessary for employment such as job application and interview processes, leadership skills, time management skills, and self-motivation.



YOUR ALL-ACCESS PASS TO ENTERTAINMENT

When it comes to good times, Wind Creek Atmore is your ticket! Get front and center at the Amphitheater for music's biggest acts, catch big screen excitement at a Hollywood blockbuster, or bowl for bragging rights at Strikes. Like to play games? Then Arcade is the place for you. And when great food is the only way to go, slide into Grill or TASTE Buffet and satisfy your appetite for more!



WIND CREEK®
CASINO & HOTEL

303 Poarch Rd., Atmore, AL

FIND YOUR WINNING MOMENT.®



WindCreekAtmore.com

©2017 Wind Creek Hospitality.



SPDI and CHIP Clear The House, Senate Future Uncertain

On Friday, November 3, 2017 the U.S. House of Representatives advanced a 2-year renewal of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) at current funding levels (\$150 million/ year). Current authorization for the program expires on December 31, 2017. The legislation also contained a 5-year renewal for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Funding for that program ended on September 30. States have noted that they are quickly running out of funds to run the program. The bill passed on a party-line vote due to Democratic opposition from how the bill would be paid for.

The legislation now awaits consideration by the U.S. Senate. However, the future is anything but certain. Given the partisan nature of the House legislation, it is unlikely that such a bill would pass the Senate.

The Senate Finance Committee did advance a bipartisan CHIP proposal but it does not contain offsets, and does not contain SDPI renewal. There are few legislative days left before the end of the year, so Congress will be on a tight deadline to advance this legislation.

NIHB encourages you to contact your Senators and "Request that SDPI be renewed quickly and that is it part of any CHIP legislation moving through the Senate."

You can view SDPI talking points and fact sheets by visiting www.nihb.org/sdpi. To find your Senators please visit www.senate.gov.

For more information on SDPI renewal contact Deputy Director for Congressional Relations, Michelle Castagne at mcastagne@nihb.org.

CONTACT YOUR SENATORS TODAY

It is important that the voice of Tribal Nations is heard in the Senate during the next several days. Tribal leaders, members, and SDPI allies, should contact Congress immediately to urge them to focus long-term renewal of SDPI.

Please contact your Congressman to urge support for the reauthorization of the SDPI. Follow this link to the SDPI Support Tribal Template Letter and use this template when contacting your Congressman. [https://www.usetinc.org/wp-content/uploads/LizMalerba/SPF Alerts/SDPI 2017 Reauth Tribal Template Support Letter October 2017.docx](https://www.usetinc.org/wp-content/uploads/LizMalerba/SPF%20Alerts/SDPI%202017%20Reauth%20Tribal%20Template%20Support%20Letter%20October%202017.docx).

Indian Health Service (IHS) Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) Changing the Course of Diabetes



Established in 1997 by Congress
to address the diabetes epidemic in
Native Americans

301 Grantees
252 Tribal
20 IHS
29 Urban
in 35 States

\$150 million
Per year since 2004

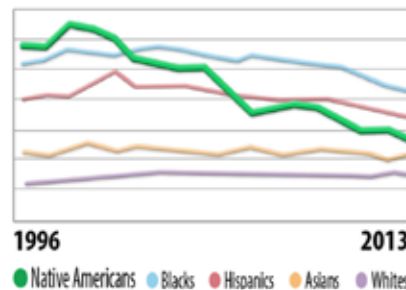
780,000
People served each year

Diabetes and Costly Complications Reduced



**Diabetic eye
disease rates
decreased 50%**
reducing vision loss
and blindness²

Kidney failure from diabetes in Native Americans
has dropped more than any other race or ethnicity³



Kidney failure rates decreased 54%
reducing the need for dialysis³

**Obesity and
diabetes rates in
youth** have not
increased in more
than 10 years¹

**Diabetes rates
in adults** have
not increased
since 2011¹

“SDPI is the most effective federal initiative for combating diabetes in our AI/AN communities. Thanks to SDPI, our people are healthier - now and in future generations.”

Lincoln Bean (Tlingit)
Alaska Area Representative
Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee



¹IHS National Data Warehouse | ²IHS Teleophthalmology Program Data | ³CDC Vital Signs <https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/ai-an-diabetes/index.html>



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Indian Health Service
July 2017



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB RECOGNIZE YOUTH OF YEAR

Melanie Hendrix presents 2017 Youth of The Year Award to Kiah Parker, daughter of Natalie Parker and Chris Lee.

Connie Crews presents 2017 Junior Youth of The Year Award to Josh Burkett, Jr., son of Josh and Vickey P. Burkett.

Since 1947, Youth of the Year has been Boys & Girls Club of America's premier recognition program celebrating the extraordinary achievements of Club members. Each year one exceptional young person from the Boys & Girls Club of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians is chosen to represent our Club.

Kiah Parker, daughter of Natalie Parker and Chris Lee, was named as the 2017 Youth of the Year. During the introductory speech for the 2017 Youth of the Year, Melanie Hendrix, Teen Center Manager, stated she has known the Youth of the Year since 2015 and can say with great confidence that she is a young lady that has consistently proven to be a loyal and dedicated individual in

both her personal and academic life. Kiah is a junior at Escambia Academy and has been a member of the Club since 2012. She is an A honor roll student, as well as a three year member of the National Beta Club. As her mathematics teacher, Caroline Smoak, explained in the recommendation letter, "she demonstrates a love of learning and a level of commitment necessary to succeed in life, college, and beyond."

The Junior Youth of the Year Program seeks to develop junior leaders ages 10-13 within the Club environment. The program fosters Club members' emerging leadership abilities while preparing them for later participation in the Youth of the Year program.

In addition to recognizing the leadership achievements of Club youth, Junior Youth of the Year also cultivates their leadership potential, providing the foundation they need for advanced leadership development, academic excellence and postsecondary success. Through this program, Club youth become motivated to seek opportunities for leadership and to act as responsible citizens and change agents.

Joshua Kahne Burkett, Jr. was named Junior Youth of the Year. Josh is the 12 year old son of Joshua and Vicky P. Burkett. Josh has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club since the Club opened in May of 2011. He served as President of the PCI Torch Club

during 2016/2017 and was also selected as the January 2017 Youth of the Month. Outside of the Boys & Girls Club, Josh is a 7th grade student at JU Blacksher. He is also a member of the school's Beta Club and is a straight A student. Josh is very athletic and plays junior varsity football, basketball, and baseball for JU Blacksher.

In addition to recognizing the Youth of the Year and the Junior Youth of the Year recipients, the monthly Youth of the Month recipients were also recognized. Recipients are selected from three age categories, PK-2nd grade, 3rd-6th grade, and Teens. Recipients for 2017 included Josh Burkett, Isabella Rolin, Phenix Crews, Levi McGhee, Tanna Spence, Tanner Jackson,

Layla Pettway, Mason McGhee, Topanga Rolin, Kyndal Hadley, Colby Lisenby, Rylee Huskey, Seth Hammonds, Cheveyo Bingham, Tucker Spence, Kintley Flowers, Madison Hayles, Daphne Tucker, Ariea Stephens, Isaiah Madison, Riley Baggett, Fred Barnhill, Sophia Ikner, and Jayce Sells. Congratulations to each of these up and coming leaders.

Blakelee Hendrix presented awards to the members of the Elite and Intermediate Archery Teams. This is one of the Boys & Girls Club's most successful programs.

Two new programs at the Boys & Girls Club are the Keystone Club, a leadership program for teens, and the Torch Club, a leadership

program for ages 10-13. Donna Koehrsen presented awards for the Keystone Club and Connie Crews presented awards for the Torch Club.

Janet Shultz presented awards to the winners of the General Health and Wellness In Indian Country (GHWIC) poster contest. Winners were Colby Lisenby, Alliyah Burks, and Kelsey Koehrsen.

The event ended with comments from Stephanie Agerton, Boys & Girls Club Director. She recognized the staff of the Boys & Girls Club and thanked the parents for allowing the Boys & Girls Club to be involved with their children.



www.poarchneighbors.com

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



<h3 style="text-align: center;">Our Story</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">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.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Poarch Values</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">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</p>
--	---

www.facebook.com/poarchneighbors/
twitter.com/PoarchNeighbors

plus.google.com/u/0/+Poarchneighbors
www.youtube.com/channel/UCpPKy0-WEMic_0V4-cMc3BA

SMOKING PROBITED ACROSS ENTIRE CAMPUS

'NO SMOKING WITHIN 100 FT OF ENTRANCES' SIGNS TO BE POSTED ACROSS CAMPUS

During the Tribal Council meeting held on Thursday, November 2, 2017, the Tribal Council passed a resolution to prohibit smoking within 100 feet of the public entrances to all public entrances to the Tribal Government buildings and to prohibit smoking on the Tribal Government Campus except in designated areas.

No Smoking With 100 Feet of All Building Entrance signs will be posted around the campus. Designated areas for smoking will be identified and will be clearly marked. Enforcement of this smoking ban will be strictly enforces

If you or a family member needs help to quit smoking, please contact Kay Thomas at 251-368-9136 ext. 2328.



Pierce Construction Services LLC

Tom Pierce-Owner

Free Estimate

5101 Chaudron Rd. Molino, Fl. 32577

Cell: (850) 791-4189 Email: wtpierce_64@yahoo.com

Steel Erection: Metal Buildings (All Sizes) Pole Barns. Commerical
and Residential

Pressed Concrete Erection- Tilt Panels to Roof Panels

Certified Rigger and Signal Person

Licensed and Insured in Florida and Alabama



INJURED?

CALL THE
SANSFREE
LAW FIRM, PC

334-262-1001

HANDLING PERSONAL INJURY
CLAIMS FOR OVER 18 YEARS

www.sanspreelaw.com

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

WOW!

Prescription lenses for
Costa and Maui !!



PRESCRIPTION SUNGLASSES! How Convenient is THAT?



< Is this you?

Get Sunglasses >
with Prescription >



Atmore Vision Center
(Between Verizon and Dirt Cheap)

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

"We have glasses to fit your budget."

SAVE THE DATE

Please mark your 2018 calendars and plan to attend each of these important meetings.

Tribal Members only, Tribal ID required.

Saturday, January 20, 2018	Community Meeting	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Buidlding 500
Saturday, May 5, 2018	Community Meeting	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Building 500
Saturday, July 28, 2018	State Of The Tribe	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Building 500
Saturday, September 22, 2018	Community Meeting	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Building 500

Date & times are subject to change.



Carmen Frazier McGhee

Our veteran this month is the late Carmen Frazier McGhee who passed away in September of 1942.

Frazier McGhee is the son of John F. and Polly Louise Gibson McGhee. He is the grandson of Richard and Elizabeth Hinson McGhee, and great-grandson of Lynn and Hettie Semoice McGhee.

Frazier, referred to as "Poppa", had 8 children of his own and one stepdaughter.

His first wife was Josephine; his 4 children with her were Noah McGhee, Ed McGhee, Riley McGhee, and Maybelle McGhee.

After Josephine passed away Frazier married Mary Louise Jernigan. At the time of their marriage, Mary Louise had a daughter, Reva, by her first husband, Sam Crawford. Frazier and Mary Louise had 4 children together, Gertrude Lynn McGhee, Thelma Sue McGhee, Claudia Louise McGhee, and Dena Pauline (Polly) McGhee.

There is no information on Frazier's military service, but he was a proud veteran, a loving husband, father, and grandfather.

Frazier McGhee, just one of many Tribal Members who have proudly served for their family, their Tribe, and their country.



Frazier with his youngest daughter Polly.

Because of his service and sacrifices, we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.

*Submitted by Kimberly Bragg &
Cher Christensen Hansen
Article by Gayle Johnson*

CORRECTION

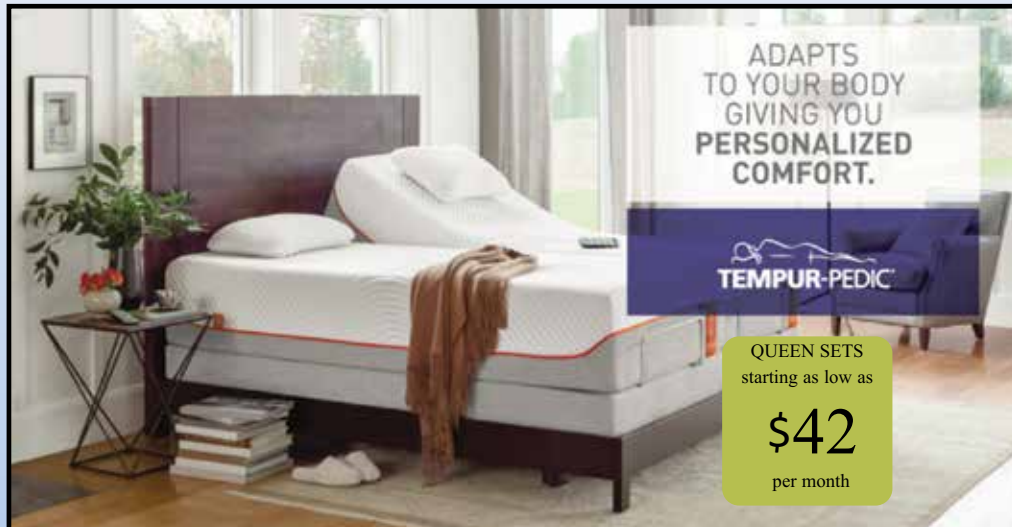
In last month's issue we featured N.L. Rackard. In listing his siblings, we erroneously stated that all of his siblings had passed except for his sister, Lois Rackard Amos. N.L.'s sister Warnice Juanita Rackard McGhee Anderson has not passed. Mrs. Anderson is still living and resides in the Poarch community. The Poarch Creek News apologizes to Ms. Anderson and her family for this error and any confusion or misunderstanding it may have caused.



MATTRESS DEPOT

www.MattressDepotSouth.com

HUGE SELECTION! FREE DELIVERY!!



QUEEN SETS
starting as low as
\$42
per month

STEARNS & FOSTER



**SLEEP ON IT.
YOU'LL SEE WHY.**



SEALY HYBRID
starting as low as
\$33
per month
Queen 2-pc set



100's OF SETS IN STOCK

ADJUSTABLE SETS Special Purchase

	<u>Reg.</u>	<u>Sale</u>
Twin Set.....	\$1499.....	\$899
Full Set.....	\$1699.....	\$999
Queen Set.....	\$1899.....	\$1099
King Set.....	\$2299.....	\$1499

**TRIBAL MEMBERS
and EMPLOYEES take
an additional
5% OFF all sale prices!**

MATTRESS DEPOT 15" Plush Pillowtop

	<u>Reg.</u>	<u>Sale</u>
Twin Set.....	\$699.....	\$499
Full Set.....	\$749.....	\$549
Queen Set.....	\$799.....	\$599
King Set.....	\$1099.....	\$799

0% AND NO CREDIT CHECK FINANCING!

**Open Monday-Saturday
9:30-5:30**

**Karl Robinson-Owner
Chris Bennett-Store Manager**



251-368-2161

**ATMORE STORE
1509 S. Main St.**



CHRISTENSEN AND HANSEN WED

Cher Christensen and Dave Hansen were married on August 26, 2017, with Reverend Steve Stucker officiating. Kimberly Bragg served as Maid of Honor and Gene Hudson served as Best Man.

Shown left to right are Kimberly Bragg, Cher Christensen Hansen, Rev. Steve Stucker, Dave Hansen, and Gene Hudson.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Submitted by Cher Hansen

*The Most
Trusted Name In
Home Care*



Ask about our \$50.00 CASH referral bonus

(251) 621-1900



**SYNERGY[®]
HomeCare**

www.synergyhomecare.com

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

***We accept Flex Card**

© 2015, SYNERGY HomeCare, All Rights Reserved

OVERSTREET AND DESAI WED

Nicole Overstreet and Sam Desai of Las Vegas, NV were married on September 23, 2017.

Nicole is the daughter of the late Ralph Overstreet, the granddaughter of the late Lucille McGhee-Hartshon, and the great-granddaughter of the late Elizabeth Colbert.

Congratulations Nicole and Sam! We love you!

From your entire family.



One man, one woman, with hearts so true
Come before you to say I do

A love so fair, a dream come true
A couple shares what they are destined to do

He takes her hand to have and hold
Their hearts embrace and never let go



A touch so pure, a smile so real
She closes her eyes so she may feel

The love of one man, the love of her life
They join as one, as Man and Wife

JACKSON AND BAKER WED

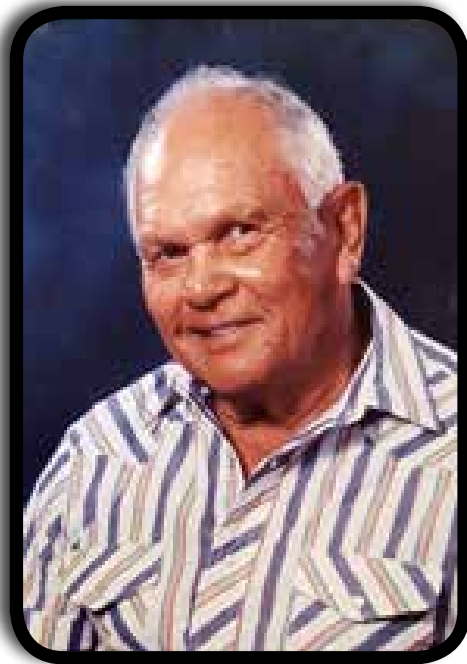
Edie Tullis Jackson and Scottie Baker exchanged wedding vows on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at the Atmore First Assembly of God Church with Youth Pastor Johnny Rolin officiating.

Edie is the daughter of Eddie and Mary Jane Tullis and the granddaughter of the late Volt and Florence Walker Tullis and the late Willis and Arentha McGhee. Scottie is the son of Wayne and Diane Baker of Bratt, FL.

Edie has worked for the Tribe for 26 years and currently serves the Tribe in the role of Health and Elder Services Division Director. She also serves as the Chairman of the Tribal Election Board.

Submitted by Edie Tullis Baker





IN LOVING MEMORY OF
OBIE LEE "SHOT" MCGHEE
FEBRUARY 12, 1928 - NOVEMBER 19, 2016



Dad, remembering you is easy,
We do it every day.
Missing you is the heartache
That never goes away.
We love and miss you.
Your loving family.

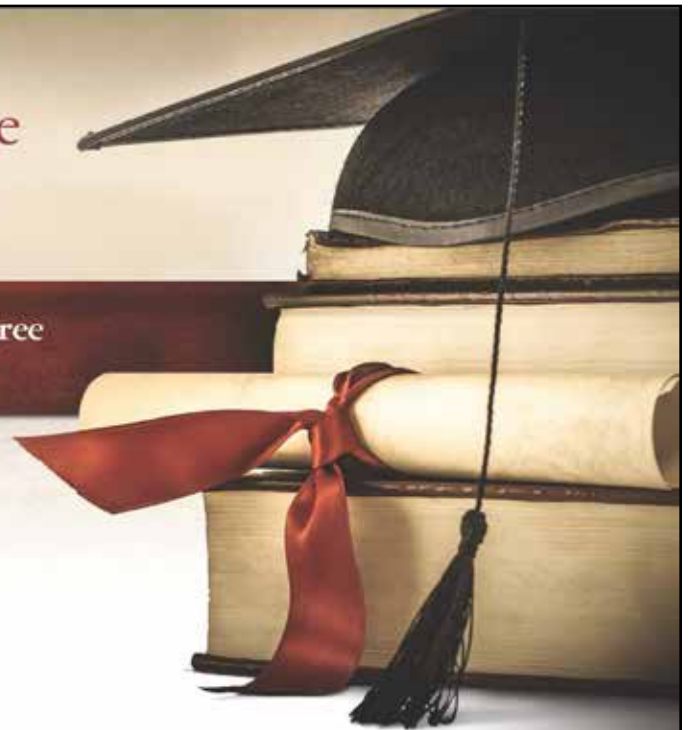
This In Memory was published in the November 2017 issue of the newsletter. The birth and death dates were incorrect; we apologize to the family for any confusion or misunderstanding this may have caused.

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

Huntingdon College Evening Bachelor's Degree
1 Night a Week. 5 Week Sessions.

WITH CAMPUSES IN

Bay Minette	Fairhope	Shelby
Birmingham	Montgomery	Sumiton
Brewton	Opelika	
Center Point	Rainsville	



Free tuition for all Poarch Creek Tribe Members!

For more information, visit huntingdon.edu/evening or call one of these Huntingdon Campuses:
Baldwin County 251.580.4908 | Escambia County 251.809.1553 | Montgomery County 334.833.4518



HUNTINGDON COLLEGE
W. James Samford, Jr. School
of Business and Professional Studies



Introducing

BENJAMIN WARREN JOHNSON

September 30, 2017 ✨ 6 lbs 3 oz. ✨ 19.5 inches

Chad & Monica Johnson would like to announce the birth of their son, Benjamin Warren Johnson, on September 30, 2017.

Welcomed with love by Dad & Mom, his sisters Hannah and Claire, and brother Beckett.



Delivering service with a smile, each and every day!

Call for tobacco pricing: 251-446-8801
Next to Wind Creek Casino

BEAR HUGS
4 kids **Only \$25**

Buy 1 and donate 1
or donate both!

**THESE BEARS ARE DONATED
TO LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS
WHO THEN DISTRIBUTE
THEM TO KIDS DURING
EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.**



Creek Indian Enterprises
Development Authority

CIEJOBS.COM



Go to ciejobs.com to see listings of
open job positions in
Huntsville, Atmore and Wetumpka.
Or call 251-368-0819.

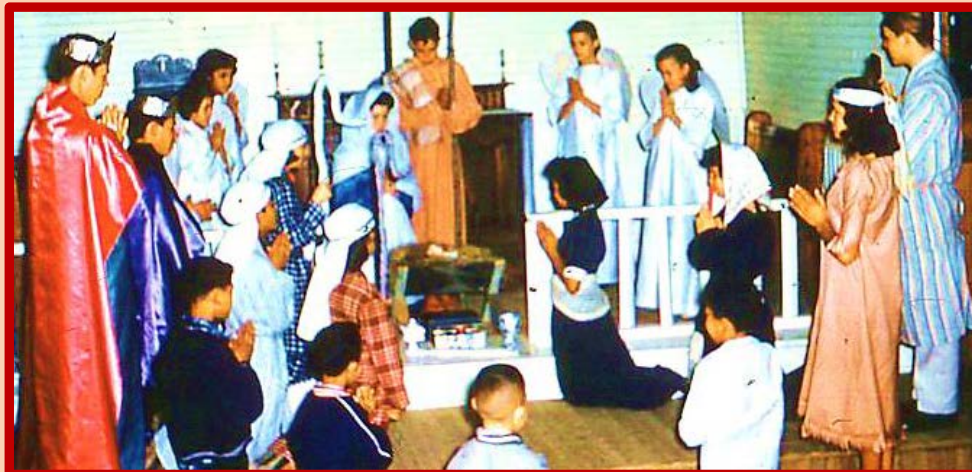
The Office of Archives and Records Management at the Poarch Band of Creek Indians invites you to our



HOLIDAY LUNCHEON WITH THE ELDERS

Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 12:00 noon

SAIL Center



Who is invited? Elders age 55 and older

**Limited Seating - Must RSVP by December 1
at (251) 368-9136 extension 2289 or 2617**

Our Elders are invited to share a holiday meal together along with stories about family and Tribal history. Our Tribal Council is invited to join us.

Ms. Ellen O'Barr @ 446-4941, Ms. Eialeasha Martin @ 446-4961, Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees @ 446-4940

Photo Contest: Do You Know These Poarch Creek Women?



Do You Know Either Or Both Of These Two Poarch Creek Women? Photo courtesy of Office of Archives & Records Management

This photograph in the Office of Archives and Records Management shows two strong Poarch Creek women having a conversation beside what appears to be building materials. They are two women that you should know about who contributed to our community in extraordinary ways.

We are holding a Photo Contest to see who can answer the most questions about the women and this photograph. What are their names? What ways did they contribute to our Tribe? What is the date? What were the building materials used for? What could they be talking about? If you would like to answer these

questions, you could win a special prize, but it is a secret! Please write the answers on a piece of paper, along with your contact information, and mail the paper (or hand-deliver it) to the below address by the Contest deadline of Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Office of Archives and Records Management
CIEDA Corporate Complex
100 Brookwood Road
Atmore, Alabama 36502

If you prefer to respond by e-mail, please send the answers to this e-mail address by the same deadline:

ddees@pci-nsn.gov and we will enter you into the Photo Contest.

Our Team at the Office of Archives and Records Management will enter all correct responses into the Contest drawing and select a winner. We will announce the lucky winner and answers to these questions in the next issue of the Poarch Creek News. If you have questions about this Photo Contest, please call us at (251) 446-4940. We look forward to receiving your answers. Mvto.

*Submitted by Director/Tribal Archivist,
Deidra Surwantee Dees, Ed.D*

Members of Boys & Girls Club Archery Teams Ranked Top Three At S3DA Collegiate Tournament



*Jordan McCloskey
1st Place Male/Elementary Pin*



*Daygen Slate
3rd Place Male/Elementary Pin*



*Major Thomas w/Peyton Findley &
Blakeley Hendrix, Archery Instructors
3rd Place Male/Elementary Pin*



*Ashkia Weaver
2nd Place Female/Elementary Pin*



*Riley Baggett
2nd Place Male/Middle School Pin*



*Lauren Jordan (right)
1st Place Female/Middle School Pin*

Congratulations to these Boys & Girls Club Elite and Intermediate archery team members that ranked top 3 at the 2017 Scholastic 3D (S3DA) Collegiate Tournament in Foley, Alabama on October 28, 2017.

Elementary Pins (Male)

1 st Place	Jordan McCloskey
2 nd Place	Daygen Slate
3 rd Place	Major Thomas

Elementary School Pins (Female)

2 nd Place	Ashkia Weaver
-----------------------	---------------

Middle School Pins (Male)

2 nd Place	Riley Baggett
-----------------------	---------------

Middle School Pins (Female)

1 st Place	Lauren Jordan
-----------------------	---------------

We are so proud of these kids and the rest of their team for their performance at the first shoot of the season.

We look forward to a great season!

GREETINGS FROM THE PCI BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Merry Christmas



2017

PBCI

**BOYS AND
GIRLS CLUB**

ANNUAL

FAMILY NIGHT

WHEN: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2017

WHERE: BAY MINETTE SKATING RINK

TIME: 6:30pm- 8:30pm

Please join us for an evening of family fun and skating. This is a free event for Boys and Girls Club members and their family.

Parents have to be present with their child to attend this event.

Light refreshments will be served.

There will be a fun photo booth on site free of charge.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Donna Koehrsen at 251-359-6890 or email at dkoehrsen@pci-nsn.gov.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!!

2017 Annual Celebration Gifts Available For Pickup Through October 5, 2018

Due to the cancellation of the Annual Celebration, the Cultural Department is distributing Tribal Member Annual Celebration gifts at the Kerretv Cuko Museum. All Tribal Members must present your Tribal ID to pick up your gift.

If you are picking up for someone else, you must have a letter from that Tribal Member and a copy of his or her Tribal ID.

Gifts will be available for Tribal Members to pick up until October 5, 2018.

ROLLINS USED CARS
Serving You For Over 30yrs
251-368-8353



Owner
Billy Rollin
251-294-6081
Salesman
Shane Rollin
251-359-0895
www.rollinsusedcars.com
Family owned for over 35 years

TITLE LOANS

We loan money on cars, motorcycles, ATV's, RVs, Boats, trailers, tractors, etc.

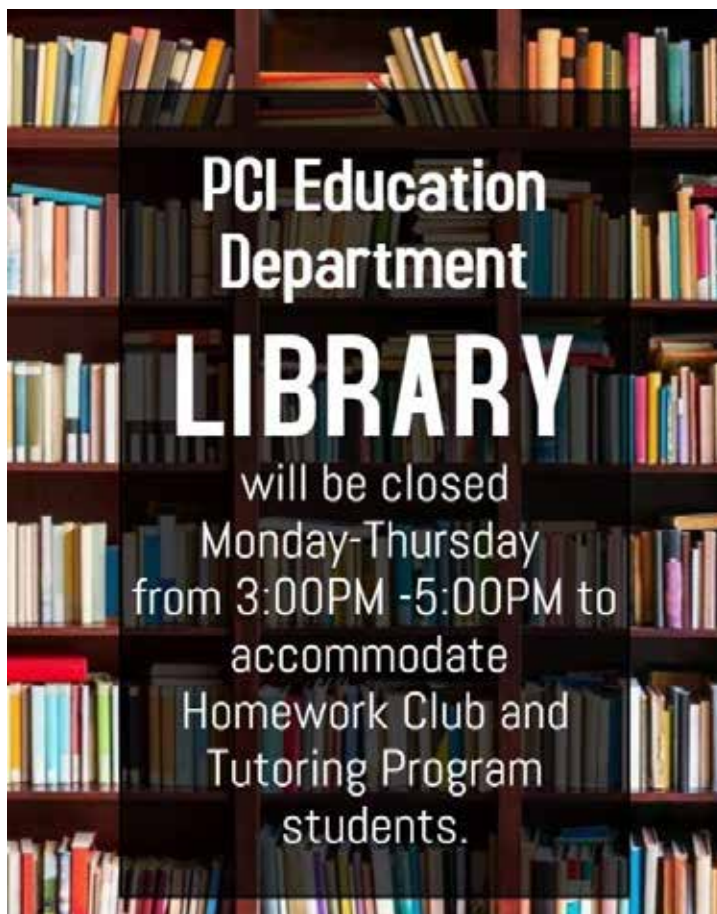
L.A. Cash

205 E. Church Street
Atmore, Alabama 36502
phone: (251) 368-0074

email: lacashllc@yahoo.com



Ask about our special rates for Tribal members



**PCI Education
Department
LIBRARY**
will be closed
Monday-Thursday
from 3:00PM -5:00PM to
accommodate
Homework Club and
Tutoring Program
students.

Welcome Stan DeWise

Mortgage Originator/184 Loan Specialist
251-945-3341 / 850-686-6811
stan.dewise@unitedbank.com



Enrolled Tribal Member
NMLS # 1322793

www.unitedbank.com/mortgage

United Bank
Mortgage Services



Loans subject to credit approval, other qualifications may apply.
*184 Program is only available to members on active tribal roll and in certain areas. See United Bank representative for complete details. United Bank NMLS# 494759

Searching for 2017-18 Tribal Member & First Generation High School Graduating Seniors Interested in Attending:

Cultural Exchange Abroad 2018

10 Day Trip
June 14th-June 23rd

Applications are due Friday, February 9, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. Please mail, email, or hand deliver applications to Mallory Martin.

Applications are available on Education's page of the Tribal web site, www.pci-nsn.gov, application may be completed in computer browser, then printed for submission. Applications are also available at the Education, Cultural, and Community Services Departments.

If you have any questions, join us for an information meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Food Pavilion on the Pow Wow Grounds.

CONTACT:

Mallory Martin
mmartin@pci-nsn.gov
251-368-9136 ext. 2930
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502
or
Magen Weaver
mweaver@pci-nsn.gov
251-368-9136 ext. 2021

Location: Canada



This trip is for Graduating Seniors who are interested in learning about Indigenous peoples in Canada.

THIS IS AN ALL EXPENSE PAID TRIP!!

Graduating Seniors must complete an application, 40 hours of community service, attend an onsite two (2) day course on your Poarch Creek Indian History and Culture, and successfully pass a drug and alcohol screening. If you do not meet all of the requirements, you will not be able to attend.

TEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY



**Tribal Members, 1st Generation,
and Tribal Household**

Ages: 13-17

**December 1
7-10 PM**



Wind Creek Casino Ballroom

Join us for a fun filled night of music, dancing, food, and gifts. Casual dress is encouraged but must be appropriate. Guest and parents are not allowed to attend the party. Teens will be supervised while in the ballroom.



NAL
print solutions

apparel | promotional products | printing | design

TARIS D. WICKIZER
Owner

o 850.637.1260
f 850.637.1289
c 850.512.3653

Taris@NALprint.com
www.NALprint.com



Hughes Pest Control

LIFETIME PRICE LOCK ON QUARTERLY SPRAYINGS
(251) 253-7242

**YOU'RE
ALREADY
A CAREGiver,**
*you just don't
know it yet.*



**At Home Instead, caring is our passion.
And it starts with our CAREGivers.**

We care about our employees as much as we care about our seniors and our community. You'll have the opportunity for a career driven by passion and get the support of a team who always has your back.



**Turn your
passion into
a career.**



**Visit [HomeInstead.com/PensacolaFL](https://www.HomeInstead.com/PensacolaFL)
or call 850.477.1947 to learn more.**

Each Home Instead Senior Care franchise office is independently owned and operated. ©2017 Home Instead, Inc.

IT'S FAMILY SCARECROW BUILDING TIME AT FRED L. MCGHEE EARLY LEARNING CENTER

The Fred L. McGhee Early Learning Center parents and students had a great time building scarecrows. What wonderful memories!!! Some photos have been cropped to fit available space.



William & Elijah Bailey



Stephanie White-Eagle,
Mollie, Luther, and
Maddie Bagwell



Regina & Sidney Brown



Terri Morris &
Avaiha Colbert



Bentley, Arionna, &
Nathan Dortch



Chastity Peebles with
Nevaeh & Chad Godwin



Shannon Snow &
Jace Gohagin



Glenda McCaw &
Blakely Lowe



Brittany & Kase Martin



Kelli Osgoode &
Sanora Martin



Janet, Maverick, &
Jacob McGhee



Edward Jarman, Hailey
Smith & Eli Newsome



Anthony & Elijah Peebles



Joey, Brandy, &
Aaden Rolin



Nikya & Nyla Rolin



Sophia & Brandi
Rutherford



Tina & Anthony
Schweiger



Rhionna & Bo Slate



Hayden Smedley



Stacey & Hayden White

ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW STAFF

The Environmental Department would like to welcome two new staff members, Chris Head, Environmental Specialist, and Sarah Mills, Environmental Technician. Other staff of the Environmental Department include Kristi Wheatherford, Environmental Director, Tiffany Janes, Environmental Specialist I, and Bernie White, Environmental Health Specialist. Welcome aboard Chris and Sarah!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2018!

- January 8, 2018 Spay and Neuter Program begins.
The program will run through March 30, 2018 unless funds have been exhausted prior to that date. Vouchers will expire July 27, 2018.
- February 19-26, 2018 Arbor Week Additional information will be available at a later date.
- April 21, 2018 Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics Event
Additional information will be available at a later date.

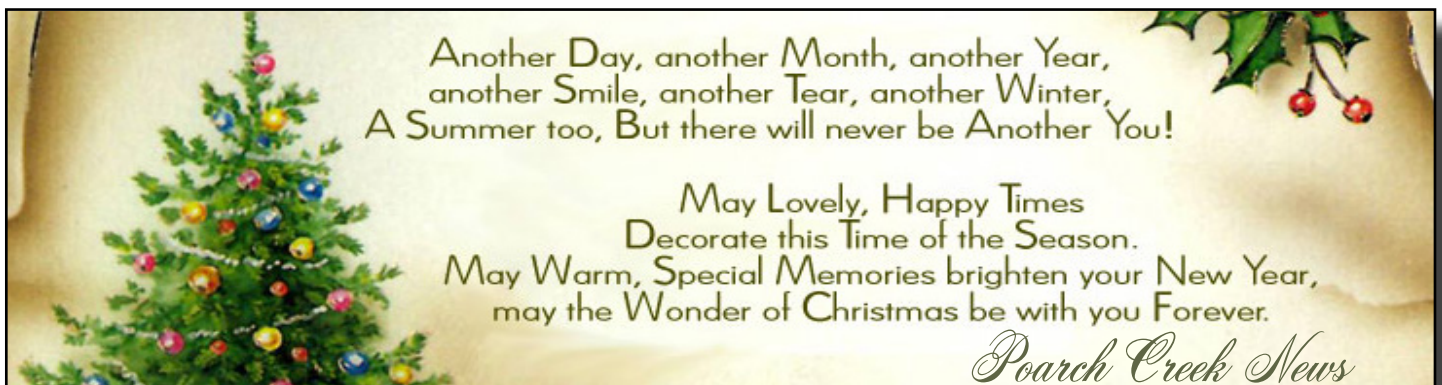


www.facebook.com/groups/PoarchCreekSpecialNeedsAutismAndLDGroup/

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.



The 2017 Kid's Christmas Party Information



“Christmas at the Wind Creek Cinema”

- The Family Services Department will host the 2017 Kid's Christmas Party at the Wind Creek Cinema on December 7, 2017 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.
- The same movie will be shown in all theater rooms except for one which will be reserved for Santa.
- The time for the movie to start will be staggered to allow everyone a chance to see the movie.
- Seating in each theater room is limited. Once a theater room is filled, the remaining participants will wait to see the movie at the next showing time.
- Food including a hot dog and a drink will be served prior to the movie starting. All other food items will be available for purchase.
- Plan to join us for this event and take time to enjoy the beautiful Christmas lights in the Wind Creek Casino's courtyard area.

Please complete the Kid's Christmas Pre-Registration form and return it to Michealine Deese (mdeese@pci-nsn.gov) by Thursday, November 2, 2017 by 5:00 p.m. Please let's not wait until the 2nd of November to turn in your form.

We would like for every child that is eligible to attend this event but you will have to turn in the pre-registration form.

Amanda Montgomery, Family Services Director

Family Services Department

Telephone number: (251) 368-9136 ext. 2600

Fax number: (251) 368-0828

HEALTH DEPARTMENT RECEIVES AN AWARD FROM USET

The Poarch Creek Health Department is honored to receive an award from the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) for our work on "Improving the Outcomes" for our patients as it relates to their healthcare and cancer screenings.

Our Team is called the Governmental Performance Reporting Act (GPR) team. We meet regularly and we coordinate care for our patients to receive their yearly screenings, immunizations,



education, tobacco cessation, diabetes, blood pressure control, and dental screenings. We have 23 measures that are in process each time you come to see us at the Health Department and all our departments strive to meet the goals.

We are very proud of the care that we are providing to our patients and we are continually improving our processes to meet the healthcare needs of the community.

AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY

This month the Poarch Creek Health Department is celebrating Mr. David Reid and his incredible journey to wellness.

His results have been miraculous! He has lost weight and started exercising. He is working hard to maintain his healthy lifestyle.

Thanks to his tenacity, he is off oxygen and many of his medications.



His team of healthcare support includes his physician, Dr Karen Flanagan, and Paula Daniel, LPN.

Job well done to our team and to Mr Reid...Congrats!!!!

Keep yourself motivated. You've got to be motivated, you've got to wake up every day and understand what that day is about; you've got to have personal goals - short term goals, intermediate goals, and long term goals.

Be flexible in getting to those goals, but if you do not have goals, you will not achieve them.

Gary Cohn

Protect the Circle of Life

Your Flu Vaccine Protects Me.
My Flu Vaccine Protects You.



It's Safe!

The flu vaccine is safe. You can't get the flu from a flu vaccine.



It's Serious!

Pneumonia and flu are leading causes of death among Native elders.



It Protects!

The flu vaccine protects you, your family and your community.

When you get your flu vaccine you can keep yourself healthy and keep from spreading the flu. Protect the circle of life.



Sign up today for the **2018 POW WOW CLUB**

Open to all Tribal Members and 1st Generation
Descendants

Youth Pow Wow Club

Ages 8-18

*(*Must be 8 years old by December 31, 2017*)*

Adult Pow Wow Club

Ages 19 & Older

Deadline to submit an application is **December 8, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.** Applications are available and must be returned to the Cultural Offices on Hwy 21 or mailed to:

Poarch Band of Creek Indians

Attn: Chris Blackburn

5811 Jack Springs Rd.

Atmore, AL 36502

For further information, please contact Chris Blackburn, Planning and Events Coordinator, at 251-368-9136 ext. 2052 or
Email: cblackburn@pci-nsn.gov.

CINDY MARTIN

Independent Beauty Consultant

(251) 359-4813 (C)

(251) 368-7304 (H)

cindymartin082458@gmail.com

cmartin47190@marykay.com

www.marykay.com/cmartin47190

Contact me for a complimentary makeover



**Scooters, power
chairs, lift chairs
and more!**

850-934-5217



**DAVID'S
PAINT & BODY &
SERVICE CENTER**

Highway 31 East • Atmore Alabama

- Complete Auto Body Repair
- Damage Free Towing
- Insurance Claim Work

**DAVID GIBBS
251-368-8060**

**24 HR. WRECKER
Fax: 251-368-6096**

**A1
Specialists, LLC**

P. O. Box 1075, Atmore, AL 36504

*Landscape Design • Land Clearing & Development
Irrigation • Fencing • All types of Painting*

Owners

David Gibbs

Rosemary Gibbs Powell

(251) 368-8060



DAVID MORRIS

Practicing Construction for
35 Years



Experienced in all
Construction



Alabama Home Builders
License



Licensed and Insured



Locally Owned

Contact David at
251.680.6885 or
DavidMorrisConstruction2004@gmail.com



IT'S TIME TO UPDATE FOR THE TAHO PROGRAM

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

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

- Copy of 2016 tax returns
- Social Security Card(s) of all persons listed on the application
- Tribal ID card(s)
- Letter of First Generation Indian Descendant, if applicable
- Custody verification, if applicable
- Homeless verification, if applicable
- Substandard living verification, if applicable
- Credit score of 550 or higher
- Must live in the Tribe's service area
- Must not have participated in any Homeownership Program in the last five (5) years
- Must qualify for very low income, low income, or over income;
- Must not have withdrawn from the TAHO Program or been declined in the past twelve (12) months
- Other required documents as required for application.

WE WILL START ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS ON OCTOBER 2, 2017 AND THE LAST DAY TO UPDATE WILL BE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017.





AMERIND 2017

Safety Poster Contest

Deadline for Posters:

January 12, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Posters must be turned in to the
Poarch Creek Indian Housing Office

Category Grades

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

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

All submitted posters must illustrate a "SAFETY" theme.

Children in kindergarten through the 8th grade during the 2017-2018 school year are eligible to participate. (Only one entry per child.)

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

PLEASE DO NOT USE LEAD PENCILS.

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

Eligibility Requirements Have Changed

Qualified Participants Are:

Tribal Member students K-8th grade, and families living in: Tribal Rental Units; TAHO homes; and Emergency Transitional trailers.

PCI Warriors and B.L.A.S.T. Tigersharks Swim Teams Earn Awards in Panama City Beach, Florida!

It was another great weekend for the Poarch Creek Indians Swim Team who joined with the Brewton Local Area Swim Team (B.L.A.S.T.) for the 2017-2018 Winter League. They attended the Panama City Speedo Beach Blast in Panama City, Florida on September 22-24.

The Tigersharks/PCI Warriors had a banner weekend winning high point runner up awards in the girl's 8-and-under, swimmers placing in the top 10, as well as swimmers who medaled in many other events.

Kylee Langham, daughter of Gia and Cade Langham, was awarded high point runner up champion in girl's 8-and-under age group and medaled in every event that she swam. Kylee moved up to the 9-10-year-old girls age division in October.



Kylee Langham

"Kylee continues to amaze me with what she can do when she steps on the block. Whomever she swims against she always does her best," Coach Sarah Allen said. "She has the drive of a champion and I am

very excited to see what she will do with her talent."

Other standout Tigersharks/PCI Warrior swimmers include Maci McGhee, Kamryn Langham, Cash Griffey, Aubree Wiggins, Tiffany Gookin, and Kadence Bailey. These swimmers medaled or received ribbons in many of the events that they swam in. Many of them are working towards making cuts (times) for Southeasterns that will be held in Huntsville, AL this year. They dropped time in all of their events as well.

"Each swimmer has improved tremendously in a very short period. They have excelled in each event and overcome every obstacle that they have been up against," Coach Sarah Allen said.

Submitted by Sarah Allen

Art by Cher www.artbycher.50webs.com

Cher Christensen
(505) 296-7723

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

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

**BEST VALUES
ON ALL MAJOR
CRUISE LINES**

ROYAL CARIBBEAN
CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE
CELEBRITY CRUISES
HOLLAND AMERICA LINE
NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE
PRINCESS AND MORE

CRUISE PLANNERS
Your Cruise and Land Specialist

JERRY REECE
FRANCHISE OWNER

YOUR TRAVEL SPECIALIST
707.407.3808
Jerry@LandAhoyCruising.com
www.LandAhoyCruising.com
Cruise Planners Becky Reece
FST# ST39068 / CST#2034468-50

PCST Warriors and B.L.A.S.T. Tigersharks Swim Teams Swim Big in Auburn, AL!

The Poarch Creek Swim Team joined with the Brewton Local Area Swim Team for the 2017-2018 Winter League. They attended the War Eagle Invitational in Auburn, AL on October 13-15. The Tigersharks/PCI Warriors had a great weekend dropping times and making Southeastern cuts.

Aubree Wiggins, daughter of Taylor Wiggins, competed in the 8 and under girl's division. Aubree placed 2nd in the 100 backstroke and also competing with 9-12 year olds as well.



*Mary-Ashlynn Williams, Kadence Bailey,
Abby Ross, and Aubree Wiggins*

This is Aubree's second time competing in Auburn and she dropped time on all of her events.

Other standout Tigersharks/PCST Warrior swimmers include Kamryn Langham, Kylee Langham, Kadence Bailey, Mary-Ashlynn Williams, Abby Ross and Tiffany Gookin. These swimmers dropped time and received personal best times on some of their events.

MT
MUSKOGEE TECHNOLOGY



**WELDERS
WANTED**

FOR MORE DETAILS ON THIS POSITION GO TO:
CIEJOBS.COM OR CALL 251-368-0819

**BLUEBERRY
PANCAKES**

Diner

Inside Creek Travel Plaza
251-368-0088

CCS
WETUMPKA



**Large Wine
Selection**
Quick and convenient

Directly across from
Wind Creek Casino Wetumpla

Your Health Matters

GATHER TOGETHER IN HEALTH



Eating for Performance and Pleasure

By Ashley McFate
Nutrition Specialist

We all have varying work schedules, health concerns or goals, not to mention our unique likes and dislikes. No matter our differences, one thing we all have in common: everybody eats.

Nutrition is the most powerful wellness factor within our control and one of the most influential decisions we make. Keeping this in mind, our food choices need to be both enjoyable and beneficial to our wellbeing and health.

Here are the seven optimal eating habits:

1. 20-Minute Meals: Take at least 20 minutes to

finish your meal. Be mindful of each bite. It takes the brain about that long to register fullness. Slowing down will prevent you overeating. When you wolf down your meal, you're also making digestion harder on your body. If you don't chew your food enough, your stomach will have to work harder to break it down into digestible pieces. This can lead to bloating and GI distress, also preventing your body from absorbing 100 percent of the food's nutrients.

www.mypciwellness.com

My PCI WELLNESS

Nutrition is the most powerful wellness factor within our control and one of the most influential decisions we make.

2. Minimal Distractions: The television, phone or the computer distract us and unconsciously encourage us to eat too fast. Focus only on the folks you're eating with and try looking down at every bite you take, even if you are eating at your desk. This makes you more aware of what you're eating, how many bites you have left, and how quickly you ate.

3. The 15-Chews Rule: Chew your food at least 15 times before swallowing and pause between those bites. Sit back in your chair and take a deep breath before taking another one, considering your level of fullness as you do so.

4. The Ratio: A typical breakdown of protein, carbs and fat is, for men, roughly 2300 to 3000 calories comprised of 30 percent protein, 40 percent carbs, and 30 percent fat. For women, aim for 1500 to 2100 calories comprised of four to six each of the same portions. Then, if your goal is to build muscle, swap out a few servings of carbs and fat for more protein; if your goal is endurance-based, swap a few servings of protein for carbs on training days.

5. Colorful Plates: The various colors of fruits and vegetables indicate different nutrients. Before you leave the produce aisle of the grocery store, check to see that your cart is filled with every color of the rainbow, and at dinner, think about what colors you haven't eaten yet today.

6. The 80/20 Rule: Small indulgences can provide a psychological break that can help keep you on

track. Follow your healthy eating habits 80 percent of the time and leave 20 percent for pure enjoyment such as a glass of wine or eating a slice of pizza with friends. Depending on what works best for you, let yourself off the hook for two to three full meals a week or for one smaller indulgence every night. If you're eating mindfully and with awareness, you'll know when you're overindulging.

7. Forgive and Forget: You're going to fall off the wagon. One secret of extraordinary eaters is how they respond to that. Have a clean slate policy: forgive yourself and begin again. Everyone has moments of impulsivity, and that's okay. No one meal is going to break your progress or disrupt your goal. Don't abuse it, but recognize those indulgent moments, be compassionate for yourself, then get back to your usual thing. That's what really keeps you on track in the long run.

Every now and then, check in with yourself. Consider what has been working, and what hasn't. If you struggled with eating mindfully or portion control, maybe you just concentrate on improving one skill for a bit. Remind yourself of all the progress you've made.

Please reach out with any questions you may have. I'd love to support you on your everyday nutrition goals.



SMALL DECISIONS MAKE BIG THINGS HAPPEN

Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Winners Selected

Tribal Court would like to thank everyone that participated in the Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest. A special thanks to the Boys and Girls Club for their help!

We had 160 posters entered in the contest. Posters were judged without names displayed by an employee from another department looking at art work and slogans.

All posters were displayed at the Fall Festival on Friday. The following is a list of the winners.

Age 5-7

- 1st Jackson Rackard (Age 6)
 2nd Lynn Crews (Age 7)
 3rd Karahgan O'Barr (Age 6)
 Honorable Mention - Rachael Case (Age 7)

Age 8-11

- 1st Josie Daughtry (Age 10)
 2nd Carson Wilson (Age 11)
 3rd Chloe Bailey (Age 8)
 Honorable Mention - Kylee Langham (Age 9)

Age 12-14

- 1st Koby Wooten (Age 14)
 2nd Khalia Inglemon (Age 12)
 3rd Hannah Johnson (Age 12)
 Honorable Mention - Kaylee Sawyer (Age 14)

Age 15 and up

- 1st Lucas Presley (Age 16)
 2nd Melissa Boatwright (Adult)
 3rd Malori McGhee (Adult)
 Honorable Mention - Brianna Bailey (Age 18)



First Place

Age 5-7

Jackson Rackard (6)



First Place

Age 8-11

Josie Daughtry (10)



First Place

Age 12-15

Koby Wooten (14)



First Place

15-Adult

Lucas Presley (16)

Over 200 Attend Punt, Pass, and Kick Event

The Punt, Pass and Kick event held October 24, 2017 was a huge success with over 200 people in attendance and 116 kids participating in the program. "I would like to thank my team for making sure this event went well." stated Keesha O'Bar Frye, Tribal Court Administrator.

Keesha also extended a big "thank you" to guest speaker, Mr. Jerry Sanchez and his church group, Kim McGhee, Rebecca Mills, Brittany Adams, Halle Peebles, Quentin Smedley, Mikey Griffey, Chris Phillips, Drug Court participants, and Recreation staff for all their help that night. Everyone did an excellent job and Tribal Court staff was grateful for their participation.



Are you 14-18 years old and interested in Law Enforcement? Want to experience what it's like?



Join the

Poarch Creek Police Department Explorer Post

Open to Tribal Members, First Generation, & those living in a Tribal Household



*** LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORER PROGRAM ***

Law Enforcement Exploring provides educational training programs for young adults on the purposes, mission, and objectives of law enforcement. The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities, and community service activities. The primary goals of the program are to help young adults choose a career path within law enforcement, gain training to be successful in a law enforcement career, and to challenge them to become responsible citizens of their communities and nation. Nationally, over 33,000 Explorers and 9,000 adult volunteers participate in Law Enforcement Exploring, and the program is also supported by the National Sheriff's Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.



The most popular Law Enforcement Exploring careers include:

- ***Police Officers***
- ***Federal Agents***
- ***State Police/Highway Patrol***
- ***Military Police***
- ***Correction Officers***

Typical Law Enforcement Explorer training includes, but should not be limited to:

Tactical Building Searches, Patrol Procedures, History of Law Enforcement, Criminal Law, Arrest Search & Seizure, Report Writing, Crisis Intervention, Ethics, Self Defense, Traffic Stops, Basic First Aid & CPR, Radio Communications Procedures, Handcuffing, Public Relations, Firearms Training, DUI Enforcement, Ride Along Program, Accident Investigation, Active Shooter Response, etc...

For Info Contact: Officer William Bailey

Email: bbailey@pci-nsn.gov

Phone: 251-359-0190

Winter Is Settling In! Make Sure Your Pipes Are Protected.

"It came without ribbons! It came without tags! It came without packages, boxes or bags!... Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! "Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas... perhaps... means a little bit more!"
~Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

Ol' man winter has settled in and that means we all need to make sure that our water pipes are protected. Water has a unique property in that it expands as it freezes. This expansion puts tremendous pressure on whatever is containing it, including metal or plastic pipes. No matter the strength of a container, expanding water can cause pipes to break. Pipes that freeze most frequently are:

- Pipes that are exposed to severe cold, like outdoor hose bibs (faucet), swimming pool supply lines, and water sprinkler lines.
- Water supply pipes in unheated interior areas like, crawl spaces, attics, garages, or kitchen cabinets.

- Pipes that run against exterior walls that have little to no insulation.

Protect your pipes from freezing by following these recommendations:

- Drain water from swimming pool and water sprinkler supply lines. DO NOT put antifreeze in these lines. Antifreeze is environmentally harmful, and is dangerous to humans, pets, wildlife, and landscaping.
- Remove, drain, and store hoses used outdoors.
- Add insulation to attics and crawl spaces. Insulation will maintain higher temperatures in these areas.
- Check around your home for other areas where water supply lines are located in unheated areas. Under kitchen and bathroom sinks. BOTH hot and cold water pipes in these areas should be insulated.
- Install specific products made to insulate water pipes like a

"pipe sleeve" or installing UL-Listed "heat tape", "heat cable", or similar materials on exposed water pipes. Newspaper, old towels or cloth can provide some degree of insulation and protection to exposed pipes - even 1/4" of newspaper can provide significant protection in areas that usually do not have frequent or prolonged temperatures below freezing.

Prevent frozen pipes by following these simple steps:

- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing.
- When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

Utilities would like to congratulate and recognize two of our employees! Trent McGhee recently obtained his Grade II Water Operator Certification and Rebecca Black has been recognized as the November employee of the month. Please help us celebrate these employees and their accomplishments.

All Poarch Creek Offices will be closed on Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th to observe the Christmas holidays.

All offices will also be closed on Monday January 1, 2018 in observance for New Year's.

As always, we will have someone on call to answer any utility related emergencies that may arise. If you have an emergency during this closure, please give us a call at (251) 446-4920.

The Utilities Board and staff members would like to wish you and your family a blessed and wonderful Christmas. We pray the

holy magic that filled that lonely stable so long ago still fills the air of Christmas today.

We hope each of you will receive the blessing of spending time with loved ones, and remember the real reason for the season.

Please contact our offices 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.



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.

Perks of Ownership

Tribal Members receive discounts for leisure or business stays.

Often it can seem like everything is getting more and more expensive. Then when you do find a great deal, it can make you feel exhilarated and special. That's exactly the reasoning behind the Tribal Member discounts offered at two of Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority's (CIEDA) TownePlace Suite Marriott hotel investment properties. Each property extends a 20% off retail rate to Tribal Members.

"We are pleased to be able to offer discounts for our Tribal Members at these investment properties. It is just another way we work to create value for our Tribe and its members," said James T. Martin, President/CEO CIEDA.

The first property is TownePlace Suites Marriott in Huntsville, Alabama. This hotel is situated right outside Gate 9 and is surrounded by local attractions including the Space and Rocket Center. The property is described as being a combination of Southern hospitality mixed with high-tech ventures and cultural diversity.

The second and most recently opened hotel is the TownePlace Suites Marriott at OWA in Foley, Alabama. This unique hotel is a one-of-a-kind design and the first one like this to be built. It is fashioned in a new and more upscale styling. You won't find another anywhere in the world. Conveniently located, it is walking distance from the Park at OWA and just around the corner from a multitude of shopping and dining options. Additionally, it is only a short drive from the Alabama beaches.

Both properties are extended stay hotels, and the Tribal Member discount can be used for leisure or business travel. To redeem your discount, you need to book your stay at a special booking site. The link to the site is <https://goo.gl/5jzyis>. You will be required to present your Tribal Member ID card at check-in.

By Jen Chism CIEDA Marketing Manager



To receive your discount,
book online at
<https://goo.gl/5jzyis> or
scan the QR code

First-Class TRUCK STOP



The Creek Travel Plaza (CTP) was voted the 2017 top independent truck stop in America, as ranked by the user of the Trucker Path mobile app. Last year, CTP landed just inside the top 25, ranking as the 24th best truck stop, independent or otherwise, in the nation. Last year was the first time CTP had scored high enough since opening to be included in Trucker Path's ranking of the top 100 truck stops in the country.

CTP opened their doors in 2012 as an independent truck stop, meaning they have no affiliation with any multi-store franchise or brand, and since inception, has prided itself on putting customer's first. CTP General Manager Tammy Smith was a team member from day one at CTP, and from many years in the industry knows that keeping the customers happy, comfortable and safe while traveling pays dividends in the long run. But she doesn't take the credit for this success.

"This achievement is a testament to our staff here. It takes effort and commitment on everyone's part to achieve the kind of customer service that merits national recognition," Smith said. "I am so very proud of our team!"



In addition to being ranked as the number one independent truck stop, CTP also was placed as the number two truck stop in the country (chain or independent), and for the second year rated as the number one truck stop in Alabama.

The rankings are compiled based on feedback and reviews from over 500,000 truck drivers who use the Truck Path app, which lists over 6,000 truck stops nationwide. The Trucker Path survey found that drivers preferred places

that have abundant parking, clean bathrooms and facilities, laundry services, free Wi-Fi and fair diesel prices. Truck stops that have restaurants with high food quality and sit down service, such as the Diner at CTP, scored the best regarding what users are looking for in a truck stop.

The truck stops are rated using a 0-5 point scale. The number one truck stop nationally, located in Texas, scored a 4.861 rating. CTP's score was 4.773. Only time will tell, but with this close of a margin, it could very well be that next year Atmore's Creek Travel Plaza may indeed achieve the ranking of the number one truck stop in the country.

By Jen Chism CIEDA Marketing Manager



GREAT ENDINGS RESONATE WITH NEW BEGINNINGS



Muskogee Inn Closes Its Doors

The Muskogee Inn, first purchased by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians (PBCI) in 1986 under the name of the Best Western of Atmore, was one of the few area hotels at that time. "When we took over the Best Western, the Tribe had just secured federal recognition the year before, and the gaming operations were just starting. Atmore was only beginning to emerge as a place to go for entertainment," said Rochel Martin, General Manager.

The hotel has been a fixture in Atmore for over 30 years, and the flagship business for Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authorities (CIEDA). "Back then we were actively seeking ways to diversify our holdings and to ensure we had jobs for our Tribal Members," said President/CEO James T. Martin, CIEDA. "The Best Western brand had national recognition, and this particular property already had a solid track record."

In 2009, it was decided to move to a private brand. Thus the Best Western was rebranded to be the Muskogee Inn. Moving away from a franchised national brand allowed more flexibility with the hotel's operation, and management was able to begin incorporating more native elements into the design aspects of the hotel.

During the following years, the exit 57 at I-65 would explode with a growth wave created by the building and successful expansion of Wind Creek Atmore. The area would experience an exponential increase in hotel rooms beginning with the addition of three additional hotel properties over the past seven years.

After much thought and consideration, the PBCI Tribal Council and the CIEDA Board of Directors decided to close the property. The Muskogee Inn's last day of operation was September 30, 2017.

"As the first major off-reservation investment made by the Tribe, it has been satisfying to see the evolution of our economic development efforts. The Muskogee Inn has served us well and has employed a so many people. It is great to see us move forward with this property," said Eddie L. Tullis, Tribal Council Treasurer.

By Jen Chism CIEDA Marketing Manager



Rochel Martin,
General Manager



Angel Caraway,
Assistant Manager

WELDING 101



"Moving Forward the Science of Manufacturing"

Welding is the process of joining metals by extreme heat. Its history can be traced back 2,000 years ago, the earliest being a Bronze Age example of small circular gold boxes made by pressure welding lap joints together. Today, welding is used extensively in light to heavy fabrication processes such as seen at Muskogee Technology (MT).

There are many types of welding including SMAW, GTAW, FCAW, and GMAW. Gas Metal Arc Welding commonly referred to as "MIG", and Gas Tungsten Arc Welding commonly referred to as "TIG", are utilized daily in Muskogee Technology operations. This process is commonly used in MT's light and heavy fabrication departments for products in industries such as wind energy, oil and gas, and shipbuilding. MIG welding is most suitable for fusing mild steel or common ferrous metals.

Another common process used at MT is TIG welding or Tungsten Arc Welding which requires a higher level of expertise from the operator. TIG welding is most commonly used for

carrying out work where a superior standard of finish is desired without needing to use clean up processes like sanding or grinding with nonferrous metals.

Stick or ARC welding is the most basic of all welding types. It is best suited for heavy metal size four millimeters and upwards and applicable in all weld positions. Welding is a highly specialized area of expertise.

At MT, welders fall into a classification scale that spans from a general Welder I up to Welder IV, the highest level of welding experience. Thomas Ardis works at MT North as a level IV welder with over 20 plus years of experience. He is currently the Shift Lead. He has been working with MT since 2002. When asked about what changes have been seen in the industry over the past few years, Thomas stated Muskogee Technology's growth and expansion have better positioned the company to more effectively compete and to produce higher quality products.

Regarding what he likes best about welding, Thomas likes "getting under the hood," and enjoys the solitude of welding. Welding represents a large portion of the manufacturing work done at Muskogee Technology, which is why dedicated welders are so important to the success and continued development of the organization.



Thomas Ardis



TIG Welding

By Jen Chism CIEDA Marketing Manager

Christmas **SALE** 25- 50% OFF!



**WE FINANCE*
& DELIVER!**

HOME
Style
FURNITURE

121 N. Main Street,
Downtown Atmore, AL
ACROSS FROM THE POST OFFICE
Open Tues-Sat 10am-6pm 251-368-8389

* w.a.c., see store for details.

From Poarch to Paradise

By: Danielle Sanspre, *WCH public relations specialist*
December 2017

In September, I had the opportunity to travel to Aruba and visit one of our newest properties, the Renaissance Resort & Casino Aruba. Here is an insider's guide that with any luck, will help you get the most out of your trip.

From the time you exit the airport, Aruba's adventures in paradise await you. Taxi travel is very convenient and reasonably priced. Aruba taxis charge by the distance - not by the number of people - and only allow five passengers per vehicle. A taxi ride from the airport to the Renaissance will cost you roughly \$17 and is the same whether you have 1 or 5 passengers.

Even though the official languages of Aruba are Dutch and Papiamentu, you find most of the locals speak English fairly well, especially the resort staff - a huge convenience when traveling. I have been to countries where a major language barrier did make my stay a little challenging, but this was not the case. You may notice that price tags in some stores or on menus seem a little high; the American dollar is worth almost double Aruba's currency, florin. The U.S dollar is widely accepted around Aruba, and while most places will have the florin and U.S dollar price listed, (the U.S amount will be the lesser of the two) you can always ask for assistance. Credit cards are commonly accepted around the island but be sure to notify your card company of your travel plans in advance.

**From the time you exit the airport,
Aruba's adventures in paradise
await you.**

Before booking your reservation, keep in mind the Renaissance Resort & Casino Aruba has two hotels; the Renaissance Marina and the Renaissance Suites, located a short walk apart. For those wanting to enjoy an adult only stay, the Renaissance Marina is your spot. The building only allows adults in the pool area and to stay overnight, but children are welcome to enjoy the shopping outlets in the Renaissance Mall. While the resort is not on the water, you can relax by the pool overlooking the beautiful streets of Oranjestad, or take the boat taxi located in the



Pictured above: Entrance to Renaissance Aruba Resort and Casino. The luxury resort was purchased by PCI Gaming Authority in late Spring of 2017

hotel lobby to the private Island. Aquarius Restaurant serves breakfast, lunch and dinner offering a buffet filled with Aruba specialties and seafood. For a more formal and intimate dinner try L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House, or venture to Blue for casual lunch and dinner options. Like to game? The Crystal is a 24 hour casino found inside the Renaissance Marina. Don't forget to book an appointment with Okeanos Spa and fully relax.

To use the amenities at the Renaissance Suites, such as self-service laundry and swim up bar, simply take a ride on the golf cart with valet across the street, or you may choose a short walk through the Renaissance Marketplace on your way. The Renaissance Marketplace has several dining outlets; the Dutch Pancake House and Casa Tua were two of my personal favorites. Do not fret if you are not wanting to step outside the box, Starbucks, Subway, and Dunkin Donuts are located in the Renaissance Marketplace, and Wendy's, McDonald's, Burger King and numerous other American favorites can be found around the island. Don't miss out on the latest blockbuster hit just because you are on vacation, the Cinema Aruba is a movie theater in the Marketplace playing new releases.

A major plus to staying at the family orientated Renaissance Suites is a larger swimming pool and private beach. Sole poolside bar offers a variety of drinks and lunch and dinner menus. Swing by the concierge desks located in lobby at each hotel if you are looking to go on an adventure outside of the resort. The concierge staff will help you book excursions, such as the Atlantis Submarine Dive, Natural Pool ATV Tour and the Jeep Safari. A tourist favorite is the Kukoo Kunuku Aruba Dinner and Nightlife Tour, taking you on an exciting bus

excursion of Aruba's night life. Bring your walking shoes if you want to sightsee around the beautiful island. I suggest going at dusk when the weather starts to cool down. The entire island is only 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, but is packed full of things to do see and do.

Like the hotels, the private island is divided into an adult only and family friendly section, Iguana beach and Flamingo beach. You can do a variety of activities on the private island such as scuba diving or snorkeling, or rent a private cabana and relax for the day. If deep sea fishing is on your bucket list, the Marina has plenty of boats ready to set sail.

Travel by public bus or taxi to explore other dining outlets and sights in Aruba. The Flying Fishbone and Old Fisherman won't disappoint, providing spectacular food and great atmosphere. Of course, there are several great eating outlets around every corner and plenty of shops to purchase your souvenirs.



Pictured above: Bayside view from Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino overlooking the exit channel for the private island water taxi.

If you're someone who enjoys festivals, Aruba is a great location for you. The annual techno music festival, Electrofestival, was just wrapping up upon my arrival, and the Annual Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival was kicking off when I departed in mid-September. Aruba host numerous festivals throughout the year, so you may want to make your travel plans accordingly.

Overall, I was very pleased with my experience in Aruba and I believe it will be a great investment for the tribe. Arthur Mothershed, Tribal Member and Vice President of Business Development for Wind Creek Hospitality, had this to say about the purchase, "Our Tribe embraced an expansion strategy in 2014.



Pictured above: Poolside view from Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino.

Wind Creek Hospitality looks for several things when considering an acquisition. Market, cash flow and management team are three main components. The Aruba and Curacao properties are certainly in viable markets and they provide free cash flow and have a strong management team who fits with our culture. We are excited to bring them into the WCH family and encourage our Tribal Members to visit and experience the resorts firsthand."

"The Aruba and Curacao properties are certainly in viable markets and they provide free cash flow and have a strong management team who fits with our culture."

- Arthur Mothershed, WCHVP of Business Development



Pictured above: An exterior view of the Renaissance Mall featuring designer retail including Cartier, Gucci and Louis Vuitton.

Hopefully, many Tribal Members will be able to take advantage of our discounted rates and see for themselves why Aruba is, 'One Happy Island'. I look forward to exploring Renaissance Curacao Resort & Casino in the future.

KEEP YOUR INFORMATION UPDATED

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.

RETURNED NEWSLETTERS

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 with Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2209.

Helen Boatwright
Marsha Colbert
Adam Countryman
Travis Daughtry
Jacqueline Gaines

Herman Lowrey
Veronica McGhee
Brandy Rolin
Jimmy Rollin
Katelyn Rondeau

Everett Sims
Quentin Smedley
Jarrad Tew
Ralph Turner
Robert Ward

The Tribal Member Benefits Department Has Relocated

The Tribal Member Benefits Department has relocated to the first modular office building across from the Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility effective September 5, 2017. This is the modular building previously occupied by Premier Family Eye Clinic. Phone: 251-368-9136 ext. 2209 Fax: 251-368-0490 Email: tmb@pci-nsn.gov



Edie Jackson
INDEPENDENT DESIGNER #22035
ORIGAMI OWL

251-253-5818
Jackson.edie@yahoo.com
Ediejackson.OrigamiOwl.com



Candlelight Compassions, LLC
Home Health Care
Lighting Your Way to Better Living

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

- Light Housekeeping
- Bathing and dressing
- Laundry
- 24 Hour Customer Service
- Activities
- Meal Preparation
- Transportation
- Medication Reminders
- Flexible Schedule
- Companionship

Office: 251-359-0562 / Cell: 251-504-0940

www.CandleLightCompassions.com

Poarch Creek News Satisfaction Survey

Please answer applicable questions below by ranking 1-5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Overall, how satisfied, or dissatisfied, are you with the <i>Poarch Creek News</i> newsletter? | 9. Which section of the newsletter do you like best? |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | _____ |
| 2. How satisfied are you with the layout of the newsletter? | 10. Which section of the newsletter do you like the least? |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | _____ |
| 3. How satisfied are you with the quality of the writing? | 11. What information or sections would you like to see included in the newsletter in the future? |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | _____ |
| 4. How satisfied are you with the overall content? | _____ |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | _____ |
| 5. How satisfied are you with the timeliness of the information presented in the newsletter? | 12. What sections do you think should be removed from the newsletter? |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | _____ |
| 6. How satisfied are you with the practicality and helpfulness of the information presented in the newsletter? | _____ |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | _____ |
| 7. How satisfied are you with your ability to submit information or articles for inclusion in the newsletter? | 13. If you own a business, do you advertise in the <i>Poarch Creek News</i> . (<i>Business must be 100% or 51% Tribal Member owned</i>) |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | _____ |
| 8. Do you feel the newsletter effectively provides information important to Tribal Members? | 14. If answer to #13 is No and you are a business owner and would like to run a free business card size ad in the newsletter, please provide your name and email below. |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | _____ |
| | _____ |

Do you have any additional comments?

Newsletter Delivery Option. *If you are a Tribal Member Head of Household and prefer to access the newsletter online and not receive a monthly issue of the newsletter through the mail, please provide your name and Tribal Roll Number below. If you have already selected this option, no further action is necessary. If you choose this option and change your mind, just notify us and your address will be added back to the mailing list.* _____

Please complete the survey and return to Poarch Creek News at 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502 by January 31, 2018. This survey is also posted in the Tribal Member Only Portal (TMOP), accessible to Tribal Members only, and may be completed and submitted from your computer browser.

