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2026

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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE of the POARCH CREEK INDIANS

creek corner



*A History
of Muklasa*

**UNITED STATES SPORTS UNIVERSITY HONORS
STEPHANIE BRYAN WITH HONORARY DOCTORATE**

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**United States Sports
University Honors
Stephanie Bryan with
Honorary Doctorate**
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SHARON DELMAR
Editor, Creek Corner

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

“The 250th anniversary of the United States offers an opportunity to reflect on the passage of time, but for the Poarch Creek Indians, it is also a reminder of a history measured not in centuries, but in millennia.”

“

A

s Americans gather to celebrate Independence Day and mark the nation's 250th anniversary, it is also worth reflecting on the fact that Indigenous peoples have called this land home for thousands of years. During the nation's founding, the Creek Nation was already a thriving and influential people, governing its communities and shaping the history of the Southeast. While America was finding its footing as a new country, the ancestors of today's Poarch Creek Indians were already part of a rich and enduring story that continues to this day.

As someone who has the privilege of telling the stories of the Poarch Creek Indians, I am continually inspired by the Tribe's deep roots and remarkable resilience. The 250th anniversary of the United States offers an opportunity to reflect on the passage of time, but for the Poarch Creek Indians, it is also a reminder of a history measured not in centuries, but in millennia. It is a story of endurance, adaptation, and an unwavering commitment to preserving a culture and community for future generations.

As you enjoy this July edition of Creek Corner, I hope you'll take a moment to reflect on the enduring story of the Poarch Creek Indians and the many generations whose perseverance, leadership, and vision continue to shape the future of the Tribe.

MVTO, SHARON DELMAR



TRIBAL LEADERS

The mission of the Poarch Creek Indians is to protect our inherent rights as a sovereign American Indian Tribe, promote our culture and beliefs, to help our Tribal Citizens achieve their highest potential, maintain good relations with other Indian tribes and units of government, acquire, develop and conserve resources to achieve economic and social self-sufficiency, and ensure that our people live in peace and harmony among themselves and with others.

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Robert McGhee, *Vice Chair*
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DIVISION SPOTLIGHT

PUBLIC SAFETY

*Protecting Life, Preserving Sovereignty,
and Strengthening Community*

Submitted by the PCI Public Safety Division

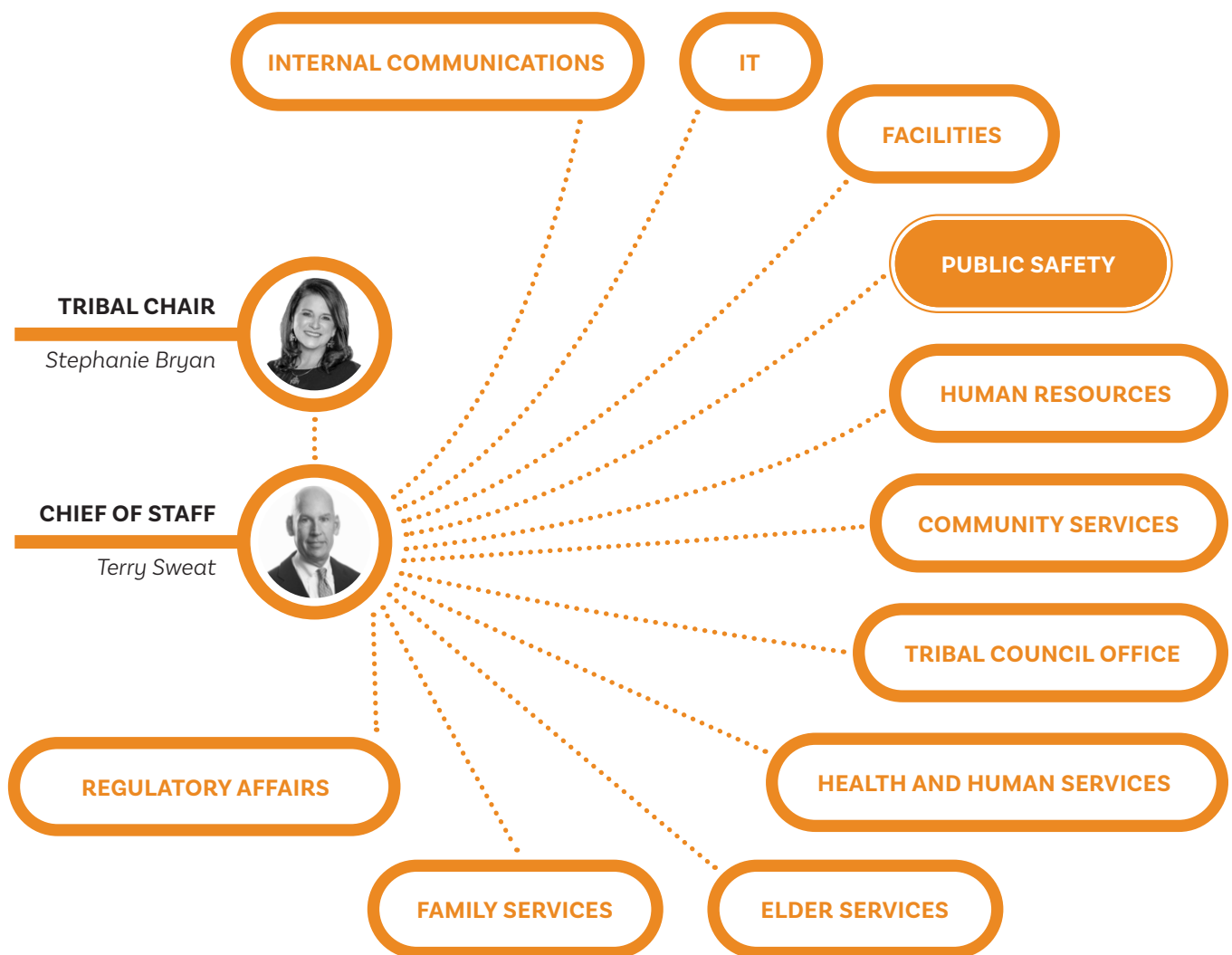
The Public Safety Division serves as a unified, mission-critical system responsible for protecting life, property, and Tribal sovereignty through integrated law enforcement, emergency response, disaster management, and judicial services. By aligning Tribal Police, Fire, Emergency Management (EMA), and Tribal Court under one coordinated structure, the Division ensures a seamless approach to public safety—one that moves from immediate response to long-term recovery, prevention, and community resilience.

At its core, the Division operates as an integrated public safety system designed to address the full lifecycle of safety and security needs within the Tribal community. This structure allows for continuous coordination between departments, ensuring that incidents are not only responded to efficiently but also resolved in a manner that supports accountability and long-term stability. The integration of these services reflects a commitment to delivering professional, culturally informed public safety operations that uphold the Tribe's authority and self-governance.

A key component of this system is the ability to maintain 24/7 readiness and operational response. Whether responding to emergency calls, fire incidents, or critical events, the Division ensures that trained personnel are prepared at all times to protect Tribal Citizens, visitors, and assets. This round-the-clock capability is supported by coordinated dispatch, patrol operations, fire response, and incident command protocols that enable a rapid and organized response to any situation.

The Tribal Police Department serves as the front line of enforcement and community safety. Officers provide patrol coverage across Tribal lands and enterprise properties while conducting criminal investigations and enforcing Tribal law. Operating within a complex jurisdictional framework, the department maintains strong partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, ensuring that public safety efforts remain effective and collaborative across multiple layers of authority.

Complementing law enforcement services, the Tribal Fire Department delivers critical fire protection and emergency services. Through fire suppression, rescue operations, and emergency medical response, the department plays a vital role in safeguarding lives and property. Beyond emergency response, the Fire Department emphasizes prevention through community education, inspections, and risk-reduction initiatives that proactively address potential hazards before they escalate into emergencies.



The Division's Emergency Management function expands this capability through an all-hazards approach to preparedness and disaster response. EMA is responsible for planning, coordination, and recovery efforts related to natural disasters, large-scale incidents, and critical infrastructure disruptions. By aligning with national standards such as the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS), the Division ensures interoperability with external partners while maintaining effective command and control in any emergency environment.

Central to the Division's mission is the Tribal Court, which provides judicial oversight and ensures that accountability is upheld under Tribal law. The Court administers both criminal and civil proceedings, reinforcing fairness, due process, and the rule of law within the community. Importantly, the Tribal Court also plays a significant role in promoting rehabilitation and long-term recovery through programs focused on treatment, supervision, and community wellness initiatives.

A defining characteristic of the Public Safety Division is its commitment to prevention and community engagement. Across all departments, efforts are made to educate the

public, reduce risk, and build trust with Tribal Citizens. These initiatives recognize that effective public safety extends beyond enforcement and response; it requires collaboration with the community to address underlying issues and create a shared responsibility for safety and well-being.

The Division also operates within a multi-jurisdictional environment, requiring continuous coordination with federal, state, and local agencies. This collaboration is essential to addressing the unique legal and operational complexities of Tribal public safety. At the same time, all actions are guided by a commitment to preserving Tribal sovereignty and ensuring that governance remains grounded in Tribal law and authority.

As the Division continues to evolve, current priorities are focused on strengthening leadership accountability, improving communication across departments, and enhancing workforce development and retention strategies. These initiatives are designed to ensure that the Division remains adaptable, resilient, and capable of meeting future challenges while continuing to deliver high-quality services to the community.



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LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

LEADERSHIP THROUGH SERVICE: THE CAREER OF BRUCE LEE

Submitted by the PCI Public Safety Division



BRUCE LEE

Division Director of Public Safety

Bruce Lee's career in public safety has been shaped by a simple but deeply rooted belief: public safety begins with people, and leadership is not defined by personal accomplishments, but by the people a leader develops along the way. From years of experience across multiple levels of law enforcement, he came to understand that the true legacy of a leader is measured by the strength, capability, and integrity of those left behind.

This philosophy did not emerge overnight. It was forged over decades of service beginning at the ground level—as a support employee and security police officer—and continuing through a long and diverse career that included patrol, investigations, and command leadership. In these roles, he learned that effective leadership required more than operational success; it required building people who could lead, adapt, and serve in increasingly complex environments.

That same belief was further tested and strengthened when he became the first Public Safety Director for the Poarch Creek Indians. There, he faced challenges tied to jurisdictional limitations that impacted the ability to fully protect the community and hold offenders accountable. He recognized early that protecting and serving required more than personnel and equipment—it required authority, partnerships, and a long-term vision for capability building.

Rather than accepting these limitations, Lee focused on developing both systems and people. Through collaboration with legal partners, law enforcement agencies, and policymakers, he helped strengthen the authority and effectiveness of tribal public safety operations by seeking state recognition for the police department. Thus improving law enforcement coordination and outcomes for the community.

While structural solutions were critical, Lee never lost sight of the fact that people—not systems—drive public

safety outcomes. Throughout his career, he has emphasized training, internal development, and the deliberate cultivation of future leaders. This commitment extends beyond law enforcement to all areas of public safety, including fire protection and emergency response services, where teamwork, training, and readiness are essential to safeguarding lives and property.

Across law enforcement, fire services, and emergency management, Lee has consistently reinforced that preparation, coordination, and leadership development are the foundation of effective service. He views every assignment, every promotion, and every training opportunity as part of a larger process—ensuring the organization grows stronger and more capable over time.

At the heart of this philosophy are the personal values that define his leadership style. Known for bringing compassion and integrity into every role, Lee has demonstrated that effective leadership is rooted in character as much as competence. These values guide his commitment to both his personnel and the community they serve.

As a leader, Lee has remained focused on a clear and enduring mission: protecting and serving others. This commitment is reflected not only in his actions, but in the systems he has helped build, the partnerships he has strengthened, and the people he has mentored throughout his career.

In the final analysis, his legacy will not be defined by titles or milestones, but by the strength of the organization and the people prepared to carry it forward. His approach ensures that leadership does not end with the individual, but continues through those developed to lead next.

True public safety leadership is not defined by authority alone—but by the people developed, the communities protected, and the systems improved for the future.



CONNIE VICKERY

PCI Police Chief Executive Assistant

37 YEARS OF SERVICE

CONNIE VICKERY'S COMMITMENT TO THE TRIBE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

By Sharon Delmar

For more than three decades, Connie Vickery has been a familiar face within the Poarch Creek Tribe, dedicating her career to serving Tribal Citizens and supporting the growth of Tribal Government.

What began as a full-time position on January 24, 1989, has grown into a remarkable 37-year career marked by service, leadership, and a deep commitment to community.

A Tribal Citizen with strong ties to the McGhee and Rolin families, Vickery's connection to the Tribe extends far beyond her professional career. She is the daughter of William Vickery and Larnicle McGhee Vickery. Her paternal grandmother, Lillie McGhee, was a sister of Chief Calvin McGhee, giving Vickery deep roots within the community she proudly serves.

Before joining the Tribe full-time, Vickery participated in the CIEDA program and worked in a building on the Pow Wow Grounds alongside Tim Martin and Vicky Sellers. Her first full-time position was as a clerk in the Public Services Department, which was then housed within the old Tribal Police Department.

Over the years, Vickery advanced through a variety of administrative roles, serving as clerk, secretary, department secretary, administrative assistant, and executive assistant. Today, she serves as Executive Assistant to Police Chief Chris Rutherford, providing critical support to the Tribal Police Department, a department within the Tribe's Public Safety Division.

Reflecting on her career, Vickery credits the people she has worked with for inspiring her to remain with the Tribe for nearly four decades.

"It's the people," she said. "The relationships and connections I've made through the years have meant so much to me."

Throughout her tenure, Vickery has witnessed tremendous growth and transformation across Tribal Government. One of the most significant changes has been the evolution of the Tribal Police Department and the establishment of the Public Safety Division. During her career, she has worked under eight police chiefs, beginning with Marvin Ray Reed and continuing through the department's growth under Chief Chris Rutherford, the first Tribal Citizen to serve as the Tribe's Police Chief.

Her daily responsibilities include assisting the chief, coordinating administrative functions, scheduling background checks, answering phones, and supporting departmental operations. While the work has evolved over time, her commitment to service has remained constant.

Among her proudest accomplishments is becoming a certified volunteer firefighter in 1991. Although she did not remain in the role long-term, the experience reinforced her desire to serve and protect her community. More recently, she found great satisfaction in contributing to the Tribe's 2025 History Project, helping preserve and celebrate the rich history of the Poarch Creek people.

When asked what has kept her motivated throughout her career, Vickery's answer was simple:

"I've always wanted to help the community and the people."

That dedication is reflected in the advice she offers newer Tribal employees. She encourages them to work hard, do their best, and consider building long-term careers with the Tribe.

Looking toward the future, Vickery hopes to see continued growth throughout the Public Safety Division, including expanded facilities to support the needs of its departments. She remembers when the Tribal Police Department consisted of just five employees and has watched it develop into an organization with nearly 50 employees dedicated to protecting and serving the community.

Outside of work, Vickery enjoys attending church, spending time with family, and treasure hunting at thrift stores. As the only daughter among seven children, she learned early the importance of resilience, hard work, and family—values that have guided her throughout her life and 37-year career of service to the Tribe.

When asked what working for the Poarch Creek Indians has meant to her, Vickery reflected on the opportunities it has provided to serve her people. "It gave me the opportunity to work with the people and be a part of the community," she said.

After 37 years of dedicated service, Connie Vickery's legacy is one of commitment, compassion, and unwavering support for the Tribe and its citizens. Her story serves as a powerful reminder of the lasting impact one person can make through a lifetime of service.

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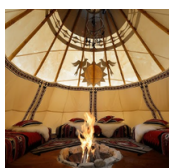
Compensation is based on content and quality as described below.

- Photos must honor Native American and Alaska Native people and culture.
- Quality should include a resolution of 300 dots per inch (DPI) or 300 pixels per inch (PPI).

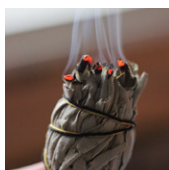
Selections will be made at the end of each month. Compensation will be processed during the following month.

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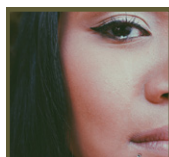
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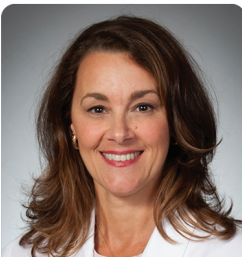
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The wolf species that coexisted with the ancestors of the Poarch Creek Indians was not the common gray wolf (*Canis lupus*), often depicted in films, but rather the red wolf (*Canis rufus*). The red wolf was smaller than the gray wolf yet larger than a coyote. The exact time when they disappeared from the southeastern United States remains unknown. One Creek elder recalled tales of the last wolf in the region being killed by settlers near Pineville Road, between Nokomis and Walnut Hill, sometime before the 1920s. Today, the red wolf is critically endangered, with only a few small groups remaining in North Carolina. The now extinct Florida black wolf (*Canis rufus floridanus*), shown below, would have also been common in the Southeastern U.S.



By Billy Bailey, Clayton Coon, Brandy Chunn, and Sehoy Barnett

POARCH 101: *A History of Muklasa*

Muklasa was one of the oldest and most influential tribal towns in the Upper Creek world. Its name survives in historical records under a wide variety of spellings, like Amooklasah, Muccolossus, Mucklesow, Mugulasha, and many more. Behind all those spellings stood the same Tallapoosa River town and the same people, remembered especially through the fame of one extraordinary leader: the Wolf King.

While many Alibamu and the closely affiliated Koasati people migrated westward in the 1780s, the Alibamu town of Muklasa specifically remained in the homelands on the Tallapoosa River until the conclusion of the Creek War of 1813-1814. The town had become heavily associated with Redstick resistance during the Creek War. By the nineteenth century, the old town declined along with many other ancient Creek settlements disrupted by American expansion.

While many tribal towns were formally relocated to Indian Territory in modern Oklahoma, Muklasa was not one of them. Instead, Redstick families of Muklasa moved south to Florida after the war to continue to fight with the Seminoles. Other known Muklasa ancestors moved south into modern Monroe and Escambia County to live on with the early Poarch Creek community. Today, descendants of Muklasa live on at least within the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Seminole Tribe of Florida, and Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

Betsy Elliot Moniac was from Muklasa and is one of our tribe's matriarchs. She was married to Redstick warrior Alexander Dixon Moniac (see the Creek Corner article on Sam Moniac from April 2026 for more information). Betsy is buried in Judson Cemetery on the Poarch Creek reservation. The Rolin, Gibson, and Moniac families go back to the children of this couple who intermarried with other Creek families. The picture shown is of Matilda "Tildy" Moniac Lomax, the youngest of Betsy and Alexander Dixon's six children. It's the only existing photograph of any of Betsy and Dixon's children.

There has been some confusion about what the name Muklasa means, but it cannot be understood from the lens of the Mvskoke Creek language. Muklasa was an Alibamu town, and in the Alibamu language, amookla simply means "my town" or "my village".

Muklasa's roots stretched far deeper than the Creek Confederacy itself. Historians and ethnologists have long connected the town to peoples encountered during the Hernando de Soto expedition of the 1540s. The names "Moculixa" and "Miculasa" appear in other Spanish records from the sixteenth century, and later Spanish expeditions recorded towns called Qulasa and Imocolasa in central Alabama near Alibamu and Koasati settlements. Muklasa belonged to a much older network of related towns spread through the Alabama, Tombigbee, and Black Warrior River valleys long before Europeans began describing a "Creek Confederacy."

By the early eighteenth century, Muklasa stood on the Tallapoosa River, northeast of modern Montgomery. In times of flooding, the Tallapoosa spread nearly eight miles from bank to bank around the settlement. The town occupied an important strategic location between the Tallapoosa and Alabama river systems, near the French sphere centered around Fort Toulouse and other important Upper Creek towns.

...continued on next page



PICTURED
Matilda "Tildy" Moniac Lomax,
the youngest of Betsy and
Alexander Dixon's six children.



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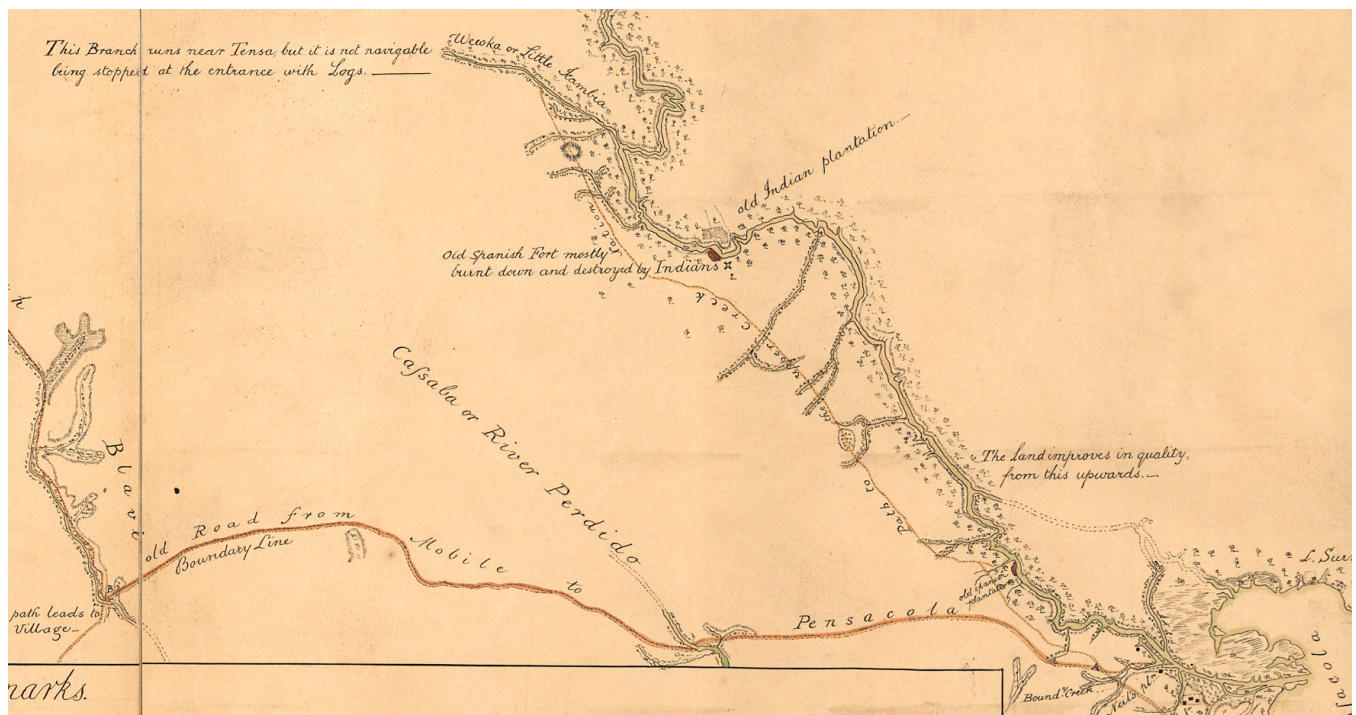
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PICTURED David Taitt recorded his travels in his journals and also created this important map in 1771. He recorded travelling along Little Escambia (Weeoka) Creek, which is where Poarch's own Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve is today. Weeoka is combination of the Creek and Choctaw words for water. You can see it listed on the map shown, where it says its branch lead near Tensa (Tensaw). This creek flows into the Escambia River, and just west of the Escambia you can see on the map a parallel trail that says "Path to the Upper Creeks". This is the southern end of the Wolf Trail. Notice that the map gives the native name for Perdido River as "Cassaba", or Kvsappv in Creek, which means north. If you take this river north, it takes you directly to Poarch at its head. From there, our ancestors could have kept following trails that were eventually converted into the Federal Road, which would take you up north to the central confluence of the Creek Nation's tribal towns.

The people of Muklasa were consistently identified as Alibamu. Though outsiders often lumped all Upper Creek towns together, the Creek Confederacy was a coalition of many different peoples and languages. Muklasa's residents appear to have kept strong Alibamu cultural and political identity while participating fully in Upper Creek politics.

Early traveler William Bartram and others recorded that Muklasa and several nearby Alibamu-Koasati towns spoke what they called the "Stincard tongue." The language scholar Albert Gatschet argued that "Stincard," an old English word meaning a foul-smelling or disliked person, was a teasing or insulting nickname used for outsider groups who spoke a different tongue, like Alibamu and Koasati. It eventually became a neutral way for outsiders to distinguish certain tribes from others. Gatschet noted similar patterns across North America, citing other tribes calling outside tribal groups names like "excrementers" and "arm-pit stinkers," and he speculated that references to stink or bad odor in the Southeast may likewise have been used the same way.

The Alibamu certainly were treated as an outsider group, and the Alibamu-Koasati dialects sounded different from the main Mvskoke trade language that outsiders identified in the region. Alibamu people had long felt pressure from the larger Mvskoke-speaking towns expanding westward from Georgia. Over time, the groups made peace and joined

together in the Creek Confederacy while still keeping parts of their own languages and identities.

The earliest French explorers along the Gulf Coast already knew of the tribal town of Muklasa. In 1700, French accounts recorded a man of the "Maugoulacho nation" who described dozens of towns stretching upriver into the interior and explained the expanding English trade network that was reshaping Native politics. English traders, he said, carried horses loaded with guns, cloth, powder, and trade goods into the interior towns in exchange for deer skins and captives taken in warfare. He also explained how slave raiding and warfare were devastating Native communities throughout the Southeast.

By the 1740s and 1750s, Muklasa had become deeply entangled in the imperial struggle between France and Britain. The French maintained Fort Toulouse nearby at the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, while British traders pushed westward from Carolina and Georgia. Creek towns found themselves balancing between rival empires, carefully leveraging both sides for diplomatic and economic advantage.

It was during this era that the Wolf King emerged. One British observer described him as "our old, steady friend of the Amooklasah Town." He appears again and again in records involving major diplomatic conferences, military negotiations, and crises between Native nations and colonial powers.

The Wolf King belonged to the generation of Creek leaders who mastered diplomacy during the height of French-British competition. He understood that European empires could be manipulated against one another to serve Creek interests. Unlike some leaders who committed fully to either Britain or France, the Wolf King often walked a careful middle line, supporting British trade while warning the British not to mistake friendship for surrender.

Observers noticed great hospitality in his town of Muklasa. Visitors arriving at towns were greeted with handshakes and peace pipes before being asked about their journey, their homeland, their families, and their purpose for traveling. The Wolf King would greet visitors and then order silence so they could rest and recover from travel before discussing serious matters the next morning.

British officer David Taitt described the Wolf King as an elderly and intelligent man, who claimed he might be nearly one hundred years old. When traveling long distances, Creek warriors often rode horses but personally carried kegs of rum and trade goods on their backs as well, including the Wolf King himself. Taitt noted how these people covered their skin with grease and herbal mixtures that gave their bodies a copper tint. He described the men as physically impressive, with carefully groomed hair and lots of adornments.

He said, "they pluck all the hair off their beards, and value high foreheads... what hair remains they plait or braid behind wearing a variety of things mixt with it, such as Strings, Shells, and feathers; some wear pieces of Metal and Shells to their Ears, which are almost always cut or Slit in uncommon Shapes, others have rings in the gristle of the Nose, and others large broad Bracelets round their Arms and Wrists. The young Children that attend them down go naked, their Squaws and themselves are fond of having their faces painted with vermillion (red) and black, in strange manners."

Muklasa became deeply involved in the growing conflict between Creeks and Choctaws during the 1760s. British records specifically mention Choctaw threats directed at "Wolf Kings Town." Choctaw war leaders reportedly promised to send hundreds of warriors against Muklasa and neighboring Puckantallahassee because those towns were believed responsible for killings during the war.

The conflict became brutal. Raiding parties struck isolated hunters, stole horses, captured prisoners, and carried out retaliatory killings. British diplomats moving through the Creek towns handled disputes involving stolen horses, murders, and trade tensions. The Wolf King himself frequently appeared in these records, filing complaints and attempting to manage relations between traders and Native communities.

David Taitt's journals from 1772 reveal that the Wolf King complained about horse thieves operating among the traders and demanded justice. He accused trader John Pigg of repeatedly stealing horses from Creek people. One stolen horse had even been sold in Pensacola after being falsely reported dead. The Wolf King's persistence forced British officials to intervene.

Muklasa was one of several busy centers of Creek trade, tied into trade routes stretching from Pensacola, Florida to Augusta, Georgia. Traders, interpreters, diplomats, and warriors constantly moved through the region. Creek headmen like the Wolf King had to balance diplomacy, trade regulation, intertribal warfare, and local justice all at once.

Muklasa's legacy lives on in the famous Wolf Trail, sometimes called the Wolf Path or Great Pensacola Trading Path. Historians generally agree that the trail was one of the major Creek routes connecting the Upper Creek towns to Pensacola, and that it was heavily used throughout the eighteenth century by Creek diplomats, traders, hunters, and war parties traveling between the Alibamu towns and the Gulf Coast. For Poarch locals, you can drive down Hwy 29 to Pensacola and know that you are retracing parts of the Wolf Trail, the same way your ancestors did.

The route became historically famous because of the Battle of Burnt Corn Creek in 1813. Red Stick warriors returning north from Pensacola with arms and supplies traveled along the Wolf Path when they were ambushed by militia at Burnt Corn Creek. The trail was mentioned by name as early as 1799 by U.S. Indian agent Benjamin Hawkins, who referred to the "Wolf Trail" in his journals while traveling near Burnt Corn Spring, so we know the trail crossed over modern Conecuh County on its way south toward Pensacola.

Some descriptions place the trail running from the Alabama River near Claiborne through Belleville and toward the Chattahoochee River, while others line it up more closely with the route of present-day Highway 29 between Brewton and Pensacola. Portions of the later Montgomery-to-Pensacola railroad may also have followed parts of the old path.

Most likely, the Wolf Trail was not a single road, but a network of connected trade paths branching through places like Burnt Corn Springs, Flomaton, and Pensacola. Smaller connecting trails linked the main trading route to the Federal Road and other important travel corridors across Creek country. The Wolf Trail was the major Creek artery connecting the Tallapoosa-Alabama tribal towns to Pensacola and the Gulf Coast world, where the competing empires of Britain, Spain, and France were all desperate for trade and peace with the Upper Creek interior.

The Wolf King played a large role in diplomacy between the Creek world and European nations. There was a tense struggle between the British and French for influence in the Southeast. At some point, French officials at Fort Toulouse offered rewards to any Indians willing to destroy the competing British trading house near Muklasa, which belonged to the trader John Spencer. Before long, a war party painted for battle approached Spencer's isolated post. The situation looked hopeless. A lone trading house deep in the Creek country stood little chance against armed warriors coming to burn it to the ground.

But when the warriors arrived, they found the Wolf King himself standing guard. The Wolf King calmly faced the approaching warriors and warned that he would shoot the

...continued on next page



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PICTURED This McKenny-Hall Portrait of Yvvhv-Harjo (Mad Wolf) does not show a man from Muklasa, an Alibamu person, or even someone from an Upper Creek Town. He was from the Oklawaha Tribe which likely descended from the Yamasee of the Lower Creeks, all part of the larger Creek Confederacy. He's included here not just because he shared a wolf (yvvhv) name, but because his portrait shows just one example of what red face paint could have looked like at that time, which the people of Muklasa definitely wore. He also joined the Seminoles, like many people of Muklasa would eventually do as well, so his descendants have possibly intermixed with Muklasa lineages to the present day among the Seminoles. This portrait accurately shows how our ancestors would have dressed in the early to mid 1800s.

first man who stepped forward. The challenge hung in the air. No warrior accepted it. One by one, the attackers stopped, and the war party turned away. Spencer's trading house survived because the Wolf King personally defended it.

European traders often were dependent upon Native alliances for protection. Men like John Spencer survived not because British power reached deep into Creek country, but because powerful Creek leaders allowed them to survive there.

The Wolf King's influence stretched far beyond his own town. In 1742, he traveled east to Savannah, Georgia to meet with James Oglethorpe. British officials noted with relief that he arrived "in mighty good Humour." The British badly needed Creek support against Spanish Florida, and the friendly appearance of the Wolf King signaled that at least part of the Upper Creek world was willing to cooperate with them.

Soon afterward, large delegations of Upper and Lower Creek leaders agreed to support British operations against the Spanish. Creek war parties moved south toward Florida, harassing Spanish-allied forces and helping contain resistance around St. Augustine. British records openly admitted that Creek warriors often accomplished more in the field than British soldiers themselves.

Yet the Wolf King's cooperation with Britain never meant submission. He remained fiercely protective of Creek land, Creek power, and Creek independence. British officials learned that friendship with the Wolf King came with limits in 1764, when he had to draw a line in the sand.

After Britain gained Florida from Spain following the Seven Years' War, the Wolf King traveled the Wolf Trail down to Pensacola with a group of about three hundred warriors and attendants. His arrival shook the British government in West Florida so badly that officials fell into open political chaos arguing over how to properly receive him.

The governor believed the Wolf King deserved full military honors. Lieutenant Colonel Walsh, the military commander at Pensacola, tried to seize control of the ceremony himself. What followed became an embarrassing struggle between British authorities, with accusations flying around of them undermining each other's authority. Records charged Walsh with taking charge of the reception to elevate his own prestige before the Creek Indians.

The dispute might sound petty at first glance, but British officials understood the stakes perfectly well. This was not a routine diplomatic visit. Three hundred armed Creeks sat outside their fort at Pensacola, watching the drama unfold. Native nations carefully judged European powers by displays of unity and strength. Any sign of weakness could have consequences.

The feud escalated until British troops were ready to fight each other in full combat, while the Wolf King and hundreds of Creek warriors watched, probably amused. British leaders were horrified by the whole scene and barely calmed the storm. The last thing they wanted was to look divided and unstable before one of the most powerful leaders in the Upper Creek world.

Britain had only recently taken possession of Florida, and its hold along the Gulf Coast was fragile. British officials were trying to remain in the good graces of their Creek neighbors. But the Wolf King left them with a chilling warning.

He declared that all the surrounding land around their fort was Creek hunting territory. If British settlers pushed too aggressively into those lands, he warned, the Creeks would "declare War & begin to Scalp the Settlers."

The Wolf King welcomed diplomacy throughout his life, but he never surrendered his people's right to defend their lands, their sovereignty, and their way of life, even against the power of an empire.

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THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS

By Sharon Delmar

A

s America approaches its 250th anniversary, *The Last of the Mohicans* (1992) offers a look at the world that existed before the nation's founding. Set during the French and Indian War in 1757, the film explores the relationships among Native nations, European powers, and colonial settlers in North America.

While not a Revolutionary War film, it provides valuable context for understanding the role Indigenous nations played in shaping early American history. The film serves as a reminder that Native peoples were active participants in the events that influenced the future of the continent long before 1776.

WHY WATCH?

- Provides historical context for the founding era.
- Highlights Indigenous perspectives.
- Features breathtaking scenery and a memorable soundtrack.

WHERE TO WATCH

Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, and Fandango at Home (availability may vary).

The Tribe is committed to doing its part to further Native arts through books, media, movies, fashion, and similar artistic outlets.

Share your recommendation with Sharon Delmar at sdelmar@pci-nsn.gov.



GOING FURTHER,
TOGETHER



ATMORE
POARCH
WETUMPKA





UNITED STATES SPORTS UNIVERSITY HONORS STEPHANIE BRYAN WITH HONORARY DOCTORATE AT 2026 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

By Lauren Giddeons & Karen Rodriguez

United States Sports University (USSU) proudly awarded an honorary doctorate to Stephanie Bryan, Tribal Chair and CEO of the Poarch Creek Indians, during the University's 2026 Commencement Ceremony held on May 2, 2026.

Bryan, the first woman elected to serve as Tribal Chair and CEO of the Poarch Creek Indians, also served as the University's distinguished commencement speaker, delivering an inspiring address centered on leadership, fairness, resilience, gratitude, and the lifelong value of teamwork.

Addressing graduates from across the country and around the world, Bryan celebrated the unique mission of United States Sports University as "the only one of its kind in our country," while praising the institution's commitment to preparing students for careers rooted in excellence and leadership through sport.

"I am so grateful that it is here in Alabama, right down the road from our Tribe's home in Atmore," Bryan said during her remarks. "Dr. Condon and the wonderful team he has assembled here have been so dedicated to preparing you for the opportunities ahead."

Bryan also commended USSU's creation of the Jim Thorpe Award, recognizing the University's efforts to honor one of the greatest Native American athletes in history and preserve his legacy for future generations.

"I believe that speaks volumes about the values of this University and the people who lead it," she said.

Throughout her speech, Bryan connected the lessons learned through athletics to the responsibilities of leadership and decision-making in everyday life. Reflecting on the story of Jim Thorpe and the importance of integrity, she encouraged graduates to lead with fairness and character as they enter the next stage of their careers.

"Life is not fair, but you can be," Bryan told graduates. "Being fair – making the right call at the right time – can make all the difference."

Drawing from her own experiences growing up on the Poarch reservation in Atmore, Bryan shared how sports shaped her life and leadership journey. She spoke about playing tribal stickball and competitive softball, emphasizing how athletics taught her discipline, humility, teamwork, perseverance, and how to both win graciously and learn from loss.

"We know that sport is a great equalizer – it doesn't matter where you come from, it matters what you do when you get there," Bryan said. "Brains aren't distributed by zip code. That's also true of grit, drive, and principles."

Bryan's personal story resonated deeply with graduates. As a single mother working two jobs while attending college, she never imagined one day leading the Tribe or receiving an honorary doctorate degree. Her determination eventually led her to win a seat on Tribal Council before becoming the first female Tribal Chair and CEO in the Tribe's history.

Today, Bryan oversees Tribal government operations and more than 40 businesses owned by the Poarch Creek

Indians while also serving on numerous national and statewide boards and advisory committees.

During her address, Bryan shared what she described as her personal “seven-point plan” for success — guidance she has given to her children and grandchildren throughout their lives. Her message encouraged graduates to know themselves, practice gratitude, read carefully before making decisions, lead with kindness, manage finances wisely, and remain connected to the people and communities who support them.

“The older I get, the more I know this to be true — life is a team sport,” Bryan said. “And it’s a lot more meaningful when we make opportunities to communicate, appreciate, validate, and share success.”

USSU President Dr. Steve Condon said the University’s Board of Trustees selected Bryan for the honorary degree in recognition of her extraordinary leadership, service, and influence both within Indian Country and across the state of Alabama.

“The Board of Trustees voted to honor Chairperson and CEO of the Poarch Creek Indians, Ms. Stephanie Bryan, with a Doctorate in Humane Letters and Management to acknowledge her ‘World Class’ leadership and exemplary skills in chairing and managing a large corporate business entity while representing a very special group of Indigenous Americans at the highest level,” said Dr. Steve Condon, President of United States Sports University. “She joins a very elite and select group of previous recipients who have distinguished themselves globally, as Chairperson Bryan embodies the very best of our culture and leads by example for the next generations of Americans.”



PICTURED Stephanie Bryan receives honorary doctorate from United States Sports University (USSU).

A lifelong member of the Poarch community, Bryan has helped lead transformational initiatives benefiting Tribal Citizens and surrounding communities, including expanded healthcare access, educational opportunities, elder care services, and community development projects. She also serves on boards including the U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee, the Indian Gaming Association, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama, Leadership Alabama, and the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama.

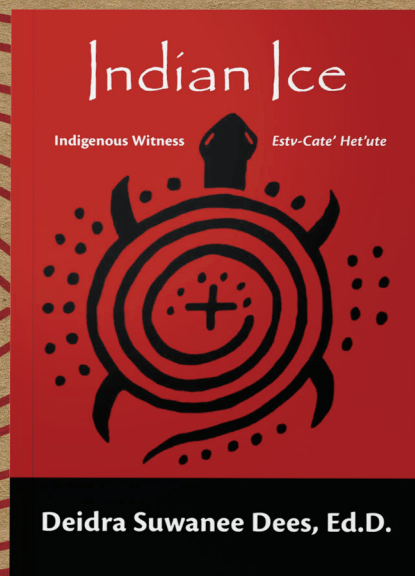
University leaders also expressed enthusiasm about future opportunities for collaboration between USSU and the Poarch Creek Indians, including initiatives that could elevate educational programming, leadership development, and community engagement throughout the region.

For more information about United States Sports University, visit www.ussu.edu.

PRE-ORDER INDIAN ICE

by Deidra Suwanee Dees

Search “Indian Ice” at gfbpublishing.org



Award winning Mvskoke/Scottish American poet and Harvard graduate Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees grew up in the American South learning how to suppress her Mvskoke heritage from outsiders. The poems in *Indian Ice: Indigenous Witness/Estv-Cate' Het'ute* bear witness to her transformative journey from suppressing her Mvskoke heritage to embracing her bicultural identity. Traversing a thirty-year span from 1994 to 2024, this remarkable collection addresses ice-cold colonial resistance alongside the fiery allurement of nature and nurture—decolonizing antidotes. *Heleswv heres, mvto.*

“Indian Ice is a marvelous collection of Indigenous poetry by Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees. Imbued with Mvskoke Creek culture, her dramatic verses bring us into the heart and soul of modern-day Native America. Read the compositions—and feel the flame.”

Dr. Walter Echo-Hawk,
Author of *The Sea of Grass*

ATTENTION TRIBAL CITIZENS 19 OR OLDER

PCI Housing Department will be accepting applications for the TAHO program (Special Selection) to build or buy starting July 1.

Maximum Amount \$240,000.00

Applications available at the Housing Department or on Roundhouse.

List of required documents for application is on Roundhouse.

Questions? Contact Shannon Peavy at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2045 or Wendy Davis at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2257

**Application
deadline
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STAY SAFE WHILE TRAVELING THIS SUMMER SIMPLE CYBERSECURITY TIPS FOR EVERY TRAVELER

Submitted by the PCI IT Department

The summer travel season is underway, bringing opportunities to explore new destinations, reconnect with loved ones, and enjoy a change of scenery. While most travelers remember essentials like sunscreen, reservations, and packing lists, cybersecurity is often overlooked. Fortunately, a few simple habits can help protect your personal information and devices wherever your summer adventures take you.

BE CAREFUL WITH PUBLIC WI-FI

Free Wi-Fi at airports, hotels, restaurants, and attractions can be convenient, but it may not always be secure. Avoid accessing sensitive information such as online banking or work accounts when connected to public networks. If possible, use your mobile data connection or a trusted virtual private network (VPN).

KEEP DEVICES UPDATED

Before leaving home, ensure your smartphone, tablet, and laptop have the latest software updates installed. Updates often contain security patches that protect against newly discovered threats.

ENABLE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION

Many online accounts offer multi-factor authentication (MFA), which adds an extra layer of security. Even if someone obtains your password, MFA helps prevent unauthorized access to your accounts.

WATCH OUT FOR TRAVEL SCAMS

Cybercriminals often take advantage of busy travel seasons by creating fake booking websites, fraudulent vacation rentals, and phishing emails that appear to come from airlines or hotels. Always verify websites before entering payment information and be cautious of deals that seem too good to be true.

BACK UP IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Before traveling, back up photos, documents, and important files. Store copies securely in the cloud or on an external device. If your phone or laptop is lost, stolen, or damaged, you'll still have access to your important information.

PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Be mindful of what you share on social media. Posting vacation details in real time can signal that your home may be unoccupied. Consider sharing travel photos after you return home.

ENJOY THE JOURNEY

A little preparation can go a long way toward keeping your personal information safe while you travel. By taking a few simple precautions, you can focus on making memories and enjoying your summer adventures with confidence.

Safe travels and happy summer!



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WIND CREEK SUPPORTS FEEDING THE GULF COAST CHEF CHALLENGE

By Amelia Tognoli

Wind Creek Hospitality was proud to sponsor and attend the 26th Annual Chef Challenge benefiting Feeding the Gulf Coast. Held at the Mobile Convention Center, this signature event brought the community together for an evening of exceptional cuisine, entertainment, and philanthropy, all in support of ending hunger along the central Gulf Coast. The Chef Challenge featured delicious samples crafted by talented local chefs, along with live entertainment and a silent auction. Guests had the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of culinary creations while supporting a mission that makes a meaningful difference in the lives of families across the region.

"I was honored to attend and support such a wonderful event that makes a meaningful impact on children in our community. Opportunities like this remind us how important it is to come together and give back," said Trina Rackard, Wind Creek Hospitality's Director of Sponsorship and Events.

This year marked a significant milestone as the event exceeded its goal, raising enough support to sponsor 220 children through Feeding the Gulf Coast's Backpack Program. This vital initiative helps ensure that children facing food insecurity have access to meals on weekends when school resources are unavailable. Wind Creek Team Members were honored to be part of such an impactful event. We are proud to partner with Feeding the Gulf Coast and support their mission to end hunger. Together, we are helping create a stronger, healthier future for the families and children we serve.

"Attending the Feeding the Gulf Coast Chef Challenge was an eye-opening experience that highlighted the power of community in the fight against hunger. It was truly inspiring to see how every dish and every donation help provide meals and hope for families in need," said Chimere Lambert, Wind Creek Team Member.

"Attending the Feeding the Gulf Coast Chef Challenge was an eye-opening experience that highlighted the power of community in the fight against hunger."

**CHIMERE LAMBERT,
WIND CREEK TEAM MEMBER**





GET READY TO CELEBRATE SUMMER ALL MONTH LONG AT OWA PARKS & RESORT

By Lauren Giddeons & Karen Rodriguez



July is bursting with sunshine, excitement, and unforgettable moments at OWA Parks & Resort! From thrilling attractions and cool water adventures to live entertainment and festive celebrations, there's no better place to make the most of summer with family and friends.

Beat the summer heat and dive into nonstop fun at **Tropic Falls at OWA**! Experience heart-racing rides and slides at the theme park and indoor water park, which was just voted *Top 3 Best Indoor Water Parks in USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice Awards*, and also recognized by *Travel + Leisure* as one of the *15 Best Indoor Water Parks in the U.S.* Come for the thrills and fun, then relax along the lazy river or catch a wave in the outdoor wave pool. Tropic Falls is the perfect summer escape for guests of all ages.

Downtown OWA is your destination for food, fun, shopping, and entertainment all summer long! Enjoy live music, unique shopping and dining, and family-friendly attractions in one walkable entertainment district, where there's always something happening. And be sure to stop by new favorites Ben's Pretzels and Voodoo Daiquiris during your visit.

Check out these July events you won't want to miss!

FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND PARTY

July 3 - 5

Celebrate Independence Day all weekend long at Downtown OWA with three days of live entertainment, festive activities, and family-friendly fun. Gather your crew and enjoy patriotic celebrations, summer vibes, and unforgettable memories during this exciting holiday weekend. Check our website for updated details at visitowa.com.

CELEBRATE TUKI'S BIRTHDAY

July 18

OWA's beloved mascot, Tuki the Toucan, is celebrating a very special birthday! Join the party at Tropic Falls on July 18th for a fun-filled day of birthday festivities, family activities, and special surprises as we celebrate everyone's favorite tropical friend.

July also brings an exciting lineup of live performances, music, and social events to **OWA Theater** and **Brandon Styles Theater**. From family-friendly entertainment to interactive experiences, there's always something happening to keep the summer fun going strong. Be sure to check out these special shows at the OWA Theater this month.

"SALUTE TO AMERICA AND HER VETERANS"

July 2, 3, and 4

Join us as we celebrate 250 years of America! This stage production will take you on a journey from the beginning to present day America, with stories, songs, images and dancing that boast how great it is to be an American, while celebrating and honoring our Veterans.

FLAMINGO MINGLE SOCIAL WITH DJ GOOD TYME

July 10

OWA THEATER'S 1ST ANNUAL ALT-ROCK FEST

July 18

An unforgettable night of nostalgic anthems, and pure alternative rock energy, featuring top national tribute acts celebrating legendary bands like Nirvana, Foo Fighters, Weezer, Smashing Pumpkins, and more.

July 23 and 24

Experience the magic of America's Got Talent winner Darci Lynne and her beloved puppet cast, including Petunia, Oscar, and Edna.

Summer fun is in full swing at OWA Parks & Resort, and July is packed with new experiences, exciting events, and unforgettable memories waiting to happen. Make this summer one to remember and discover all the fun that awaits at OWA Parks & Resort. We can't wait to see you there!

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CELEBRATING TOGETHERNESS

By Aya Prince

W

elcome back, everyone! I hope summer has been treating you all well; now is the time of year to relax and recuperate before fall hits, whether you're working, completing summer assignments, or staying at home. Now, last month, we highlighted leadership within our Tribal community. Congratulations to all of our newly elected Tribal Council Members!

I have no doubt they will serve us to the best of their abilities. Thank you to everyone who voted.

As I look into the future, I have nothing but hope and excitement for how this Tribe continues to grow and prosper. In fact, we have many reasons to be joyful this month. Since my school ended in May, I've found myself reflecting on how much I appreciate togetherness. What better time to recognize that than July?

July is a month of celebration; not only is summer in full swing, but Independence Day is right around the corner. July 4th, 1776 marks the signing of the U.S. Declaration of Independence nearly 250 years ago. While the Declaration of Independence founded a great new nation, many Native Americans at first disliked the document. It established the colonists who tried to take much of their ancestral homeland as the rightful "owners" of the country. In protest, certain tribes threw alternative gatherings on the Fourth of July, instead of participating in the colonists' parties. Specifically, the Arizona Navajo and the Oklahoma Pawnee utilize July 4th as a way to remember tribal veterans. Sun Dances (Lakota, Cheyenne), cultural commemoration festivals (Lumbee, Mattaponi), and Gourd Clan ceremonies (Kiowa) are a few other examples of alternative Independence Day celebrations, according to the Smithsonian. What will your family do to celebrate the Fourth of July? As you enjoy the time with friends and loved ones, take time to consider the Tribal history around the holiday.

The Word of the Month is...

ETOHKVLKĒT : GATHERING TOGETHER

Togetherness has always been a key part of who our Tribe is. From the Powwow to stickball games, we find ways to engage one another—and we have been doing that since the very beginning! Thanks to everyone who is a part of our community. Initiatives like Perdido River Meats, the Southeastern Indian Festival, and even the Environmental Education and Fishing Rodeo would not be possible without all of our constant support. This mirrors historical events, too, like the Trail of Broken Treaties, in which groups of activists marched on Washington to demand change for the benefit of tribes everywhere. Unity allows us to accomplish great things.

So, as you continue to move forward, please celebrate who and what matters to you. It is important to demonstrate your appreciation and care for them. That is, after all, why the alternative Independence Day celebrations began within tribal communities everywhere. Until next time!



AYA PRINCE

Poarch Creek Indians Tribal Citizen
and Creek Corner Columnist

S U P P O R T G R O U P

Freedom Within

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Peer-Led Addiction & Mental Health Support Group

Group Overview

Freedom Within is a safe space for healing, recovery, and transformation. We meet you where you are. You are not defined by what happened to you or where you have been. You are defined by where you are going and who you chose to become.

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You do not have to wait for perfect circumstances or for doors to open. Freedom begins now, within you. We grow through what we are going through.

What We Believe

Addiction is a response to pain, not a sign of weakness. Healing happens when we address what is underneath

Progress matters more than perfection. Grace is greater than shame. We heal in connection and practice hope.

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Connection is a core part of recovery. Peer support helps recovery grow.

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Facilitator: Elaine Sells, Recovery Advocate

Phone: 251-294-3258

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HOW TO BUY YOUR NEXT VEHICLE

By Bryan Fayard

H

ave you thought about buying your next car? This may seem like an odd idea, but always think resale (ATR) before making your selection. Ideally, buy a good reliable used car that will hold its value. You see, new cars are among the fastest depreciating things you can buy, i.e., they lose value quickly, especially in the first three years. As a matter of fact, a new car loses about ten percent of its value the minute you drive off the dealer's lot. That \$50,000 new car drops to a \$45,000 car instantly. That \$5,000 could pay for a nice vacation. For this reason, NEVER BUY A NEW CAR!

Automobile dealerships spent a record \$9.96 billion on advertising in 2025. They are enticing you to buy a new vehicle—if they can get you on their lot with all those shiny new cars that smell great, they'll throw everything they can at you, so you'll buy new. See, the dealership wants you to use your emotions when deciding and in doing so, you'll spend much more.

The good news is rapid depreciation evens out after about three years or so. A new car will lose twenty to thirty percent of its total value in the first three years and about fifty to sixty percent in the first five years. Knowing this about depreciation, consider buying a good, reliable car or truck that is about five years old. Let someone else take that rapid depreciation hit up front and you now get it at half price. A \$50,000 car can be yours for \$25,000. Furthermore, the rate of depreciation declines significantly after five years. You can buy a used car for \$25,000, drive it for five years or more, then sell it for about \$15,000. From a net price perspective, your used car only costs you \$10,000 (\$25,000 purchase - \$15,000 sale = net \$10,000).

On average a person owns about eight to ten vehicles throughout their driving life so imagine your savings if you approach each of your vehicle buying experiences from a net price perspective. Remember to ATR—always think resale. You could net upwards of a fourth of a million dollars over your lifetime using these techniques.

Search on Facebook Marketplace for used vehicles. Stay away from dealerships. Also, good research guides are Kelley Blue Book—KBB.com and nada.org.

Always remember the big three personal finance rules—first, save at least ten percent of everything you earn; second, PYF—pay yourself first; and third, establish an emergency fund of three to six months of your income.

**COME BY TO SEE ME, CALL
OR EMAIL ME AND LET'S BUILD
YOUR CUSTOM SPENDING PLAN.**

Bryan Fayard
251-368-9136 ext. 2504
bfayard@pci-nsn.gov

For more information,
contact Bernie White at
bwhite@pci-nsn.gov or
(251) 368-9136 ext. 2316.

ANNUAL RABIES CLINIC

Saturday, August 8, 2026
8am – 11am*
Fire Station #1

Jack Springs Road, Atmore

*or until vaccines run out

Dogs and Cats – up to two animals per Tribal Citizen, First Generation Descendant, or Tribal Employee. Animal must be at least 16 weeks old to receive vaccination. Animal must be secured in a kennel, cage, and/or leash. **Tribal Citizen or Tribal Employee must present Tribal ID. First Generation Descendants must show Tribal ID or copy of verification letter.**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
DEPARTMENT**

WARRIOR OUTREACH PROGRAM



The Warrior Outreach Program serves our relatives who are currently incarcerated or in rehabilitation centers by providing cultural, educational materials, resources and encouragement. We are committed to supporting your journey through connection to your Indigenous identity, healing, and or community reintegration.

If you know someone who meets these qualifications who would like to participate, please contact Rhea DeVilbiss at 251.281.8775.

Ask us about our mentorship and support program.

PROGRAM QUALIFICATIONS

To participate in the Warrior Outreach Program, individuals must meet the following criteria:

TRIBAL AFFILIATION:

- Be a PCI (Poarch Creek Indians) Tribal Citizen.
- Be a first-generation descendant of a PCI Tribal Citizen.

INCARCERATION/TREATMENT STATUS

Currently serving a sentence in an incarceration facility or enrolled in a substance abuse rehabilitation program.

LOCATION

Incarcerated or in treatment anywhere on Turtle Island, provided the facility has the ability to receive mail and correspondence programs.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Participation is completely voluntary. Must complete and return the program application, granting permission for correspondence with the Warrior Outreach Program. The Warrior Outreach Program does not offer legal advice.



EMPOWER. EDUCATE. SUPPORT.

Still Standing Because I Am a Warrior is dedicated to raising awareness about opioid and substance abuse. Understanding what opioids are and the risks they pose is crucial in combating this epidemic.



SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

The Poarch Creek Indians is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all children without charge. Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all SFSP activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination during the meal service. Meals will be provided at the site listed during the specified start and end times for meals.

Breakfast and lunch will be served beginning May 26, 2026, until August 6, 2026, Monday through Friday. No program on July 3, 2026, due to national holiday.

**Breakfast will be served
from 7:30am-8:30 am.**

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

**Location of service is
517 Martin Road, Atmore, AL**

*Contact Genia Boutwell at 251-368-9136 ext.
2242 for additional information.*

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax:
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email:
program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

STRONGHEARTS
Native Helpline

Call or Text:
1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483)
Chat online at:
strongheartshelpline.org

**24/7 safe,
confidential and
anonymous
domestic and sexual
violence helpline for
Native Americans
and Alaska Natives,
offering culturally-
appropriate support
and advocacy.**

@strongheartsv
Twitter Facebook YouTube Instagram LinkedIn

**DOORS
BY DESIGN**

Jenna Whipkey
Owner

850.207.3236
sales@doorsbydesign.net
Customdoorsdesigns.com

**Thinking of buying or
selling a home?
Let's Connect!**

RheaShea DeVilbiss
REALTOR®
251.281.7449

Assisting Tribal Members
Escambia &
Baldwin County, AL

kwalabama
GULF COAST
KELLER WILLIAMS



Internal Communications

5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502

CREEK CORNER

JULY 2026 IMPORTANT DATES

7.2	TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING TC Chambers	4:00 PM
7.3	TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES CLOSED Independence Day	
7.5	SUBMISSION DEADLINE August Issue	
7.7	TRIBAL COURT Tribal Courtroom	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
7.10	FAMILY COURT Tribal Courtroom	9:30 AM - 4:00 PM
7.16	TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING TC Chambers	4:00 PM
7.21	TRIBAL COURT Tribal Courtroom	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
7.24	FAMILY COURT Tribal Courtroom	9:30 AM - 4:00 PM
7.30-8.1	NATIVE CLASSIC SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT 444 Lynn McGhee Drive, Atmore	

OUR MISSION

Creek Corner is a monthly magazine produced by the Internal Communications Team of the Poarch Creek Indians. Our mission is to celebrate our community by sharing stories of culture, people, and achievements, while also providing meaningful updates for Tribal Citizens.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions for Creek Corner may be edited or declined at the discretion of the editorial team. Content is finalized one month prior to publication. The deadline for submissions is the first Monday of the month before the issue date.